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U.S. Agency for International Development



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U.S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20523

USAID's ENHANCED VITAMIN A EFFORT: SAVING LIVES AROUND THE WORLD

Introduction

For less than a penny a week per child, the deaths of as many as one million children under the age of five in developing countries could be averted. The cause of these deaths and also the leading cause of child blindness, is not a microbe or parasite, but a simple deficiency of a vital nutrient, vitamin A. Worldwide, more than 250 million young children and many of their mothers are vitamin A deficient, increasing the severity of common illnesses and their risk of death. USAID-supported research confirms that vitamin A is a powerful child survival tool, reducing overall child mortality by 23-34 percent. A more aggressive global approach to vitamin A delivery will extend the child survival impact of vitamin A.

The VITA Effort

Given these findings, USAID has launched VITA, an enhanced effort to reduce vitamin A deficiency. By coordinating efforts to enhance supplementation and food-based approaches, including fortification and nutrition education, vitamin A deficiency can be virtually eliminated. However, USAID cannot accomplish this alone. USAID is creating a multi-sectoral Domestic Alliance comprised of the private sector, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), private-voluntary organizations (PVOs), and civic organizations. Their combined

efforts and expertise will help to reduce child mortality by up to 30 percent over the next five years by improving vitamin A sufficiency in young children and their mothers. The VITA Domestic Alliance will create a leadership role for our domestic partners to shape the global agenda and to position the U.S. at the vanguard of the international VITA effort.

VITA Strategies

VITA will use multiple strategies to fight vitamin A deficiency by:

- Providing vitamin A supplements to young children and mothers, particularly in Asia and Africa
- Increasing the regular consumption of vitamin A-rich foods through dietary diversification
- Fortifying commonly eaten foods such as sugar, flour, and cooking oil with vitamin A

Areas of Potential Collaboration

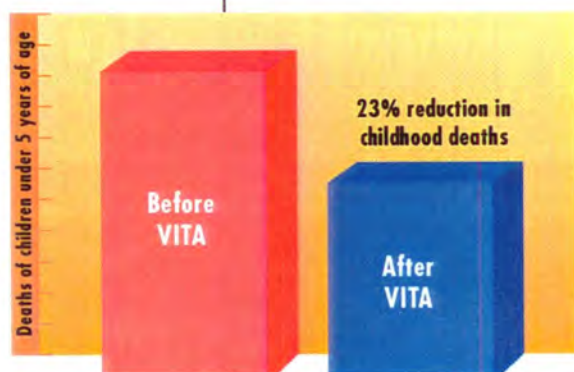
The following activities are the basis of the Domestic Alliance strategy to achieve VITA's objectives:

- Develop and market vitamin A-fortified foods in developing countries where the need and the market potential exist
- Provide assistance to U.S. companies at international, regional, and country levels to promote policies and programs, overcome barriers, and develop strategies to expand the distribution of fortified foods
- Enhance the quality and safety of foods produced in developing countries to meet international standards, thereby increasing the number of potential partners for joint ventures
- Work with host country governments to establish sustainable delivery systems, for example, through integration of vitamin A delivery into child survival and maternal health programs
- Support nutrition education campaigns designed to benefit all, particularly at-risk populations' consumption of vitamin A-rich foods
- Collaborate with our alliance partners to identify areas of mutual interest in research and technology development

Benefits to the Domestic Alliance

- Better collaboration with in-country food industries, multinationals and USAID missions to establish appropriate fortification programs and/or nutrition education/vitamin A marketing campaigns to improve public nutrition and potentially increase the market demand for vitamin A-fortified foods
- Increased capacity of host countries to: establish quality assurance and control of vitamin A products; monitor vitamin A status; and establish mechanisms for product promotion and distribution
- Appropriate food laws, regulations, and policies developed and adopted to facilitate the marketing and distribution of vitamin A products
- USAID assistance in consumer education and marketing to increase demand for vitamin A products
- Collaboration with USAID on market research and identification of emerging market opportunities in developing countries

*Child Survival:
Vitamin A Decreases
Mortality*



LESSONS WITHOUT BORDERS:

Local Problems, Global Solutions

OPERATION DAY'S WORK - USA

We sow the seeds of our future in the minds of the world's children.

Introduction

Individuals and organizations concerned about the need to continue America's leadership role in the world understand that domestic and global issues are interrelated. All nations, whether developing or industrialized, are inextricably interconnected by trade, travel, telephone and Internet.

If America is to maintain its leadership role in world affairs, it must continue to reach out and share its abundant energy, talent, and resources--and to show concern for those most in need of help. A twentieth century historical benchmark which exemplified this approach was the Marshall Plan. Now it is important to restate the U.S. leadership role in building a stronger global community among the upcoming generation of young Americans.

Borrowing from Norway, Denmark and Sweden, the three most generous and engaged nations when it comes to global involvement, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and a number of public and private partners are working to replicate a development education program designed to help young people recognize the importance of their role in the international community.

Operation Day's Work - Norway

Norway, like Sweden and Denmark, makes one of the world's highest per capita contributions to developing countries. Awareness about foreign assistance begins with a school-based program entitled "Operation Day's Work"--an annual fundraising effort organized by high school students to earn money for less fortunate counterparts in developing nations. This program began in Norway 34 years ago and now more than 900 high schools and 220,000 students participate each year. Annually, Norwegian schools have "International Week," in which students learn about a preselected developing country.

Norway's students not only raise government-matched millions, but also become fully immersed in all aspects of the country they have chosen, incorporating the study of that country into the school curriculum. The program raises student awareness about global economic issues, the importance of preventing wars, the impact of disease on populations and the necessity of democracy building. It also underscores the notion that we sow the seeds of our future in the mind's of the world's children.

It is important to impart this same spirit to American youth.

Who

In addition to USAID and the Government of Norway, the following organizations are interested in helping to bring Operation Day's Work to the U.S. All interested individuals and organizations are invited to join this effort.

Adventist Development Relief Agency (ADRA)
American Field Service (AFS)
America's Promise
American Refugee Committee
Close-up Foundation
Creative Associates, Washington, D.C.
The Humphrey Institute, Minneapolis, MN
Interaction
Inter-American Development Bank
International Youth Foundation
National Peace Corps Association
Partners of the Americas
Quest International
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Talk Radio News Service
Washington State Peace Corps Association
World Concern
World Learning, Brattleboro, Vermont
World Vision, Washington, D.C. and Seattle

When

The program will be announced in February in Washington D.C. Planning with local communities for first year activities will begin immediately.

Where

Several communities, including Minneapolis, MN; Thetford, VT; Seattle, WA and Washington, D.C., are interested in being first year pilot communities. Preliminary discussions are underway in each of these communities with several other communities expressing similar interest in the program.

1998-1999 Tentative Agenda

February 1998	Program launch
February - April 1998	Pilot Planning Underway
April 1998	Students from Pilot Schools visit ADRA Global Village on Washington Mall
October 1998	U.S. Students visit Norway to observe Norwegian program
November 1998	U.S. Students hold election to determine first year target country Norwegian students to visit and help with election
April 1999	First ODW Work Day

Operation Day's Work - USA

Under the auspices of *Lessons Without Borders*, USAID and several other organizations are working with the Norwegian government to adapt Operation Day's Work here in the United States.

USAID works with many domestic and international partners to improve the health and education of the world's poor, help stem population growth, promote democracy and protect the environment, stimulate local economic growth and food production, and respond to emergency situations. USAID's Legislative and Public Affairs Bureau is engaged in a variety of activities to help the American public better understand the issues facing people in developing countries, and also understand how helping people abroad brings direct and indirect benefits to us here at home.

In this context, USAID has formed a working group with a number of private sector organizations and individuals to bring to the U.S. an adaptation of the Norwegian program that has been so inspirational to generations of Norwegians.

While the initial effort is being spearheaded by USAID and its partners, it ultimately will be implemented by the schools and students themselves, working with local officials, NGOs and the private sector. A number of practical concerns about how the program will actually operate have yet to be decided but it is intended that many details will be determined at the local level with input from the national umbrella organization. Local participation is essential in shaping the program to fit the local situation.

There will no doubt be modifications to the Norwegian model in the way the program is implemented--we will most likely seek private funds as opposed to government funds to match students contributions, and the way in which students raise funds may be different as well.

How

The program will be piloted in several pilot schools in the first year and expanded to other communities in the future. The goal is to have Operation Day's Work - USA become a nationwide, annual event by the year 2003, with each program being designed and implemented at the local level.

Year one will be dedicated to establishing a non-partisan, multi-sectoral umbrella organization comprised of public and private sector agencies, teachers, students, parents and the business community, committed to planning and developing a model that can be replicated nationwide. The goal is to enable programs to be developed at and by the local community and run by the students so as to be most useful and consistent with the needs of the community. A national umbrella organization will articulate several common threads to which local programs must adhere, including but not limited to, same day observation, compliance with community service requirements and selection of one developing country project from nominations provide by national umbrella organization, to name a few.

Who

In addition to USAID and the Government of Norway, the following organizations are interested in helping to bring Operation Day's Work to the U.S. All interested individuals and organizations are invited to join this effort.

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American Field Service (AFS)
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International Youth Foundation
National Peace Corps Association
Partners of the Americas
Quest International
Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
Talk Radio News Service
Washington State Peace Corps Association
World Concern
World Learning, Brattleboro, Vermont
World Vision, Washington, D.C. and Seattle

When

The program will be announced in February in Washington D.C. Planning with local communities for first year activities will begin immediately.

Where

Schools will be identified in Grand Forks, ND; Minneapolis, MN; Vermont; and Washington, D.C., to serve as first year pilot locations. Preliminary discussions are underway in each of these communities with several other communities expressing similar interest in the program.

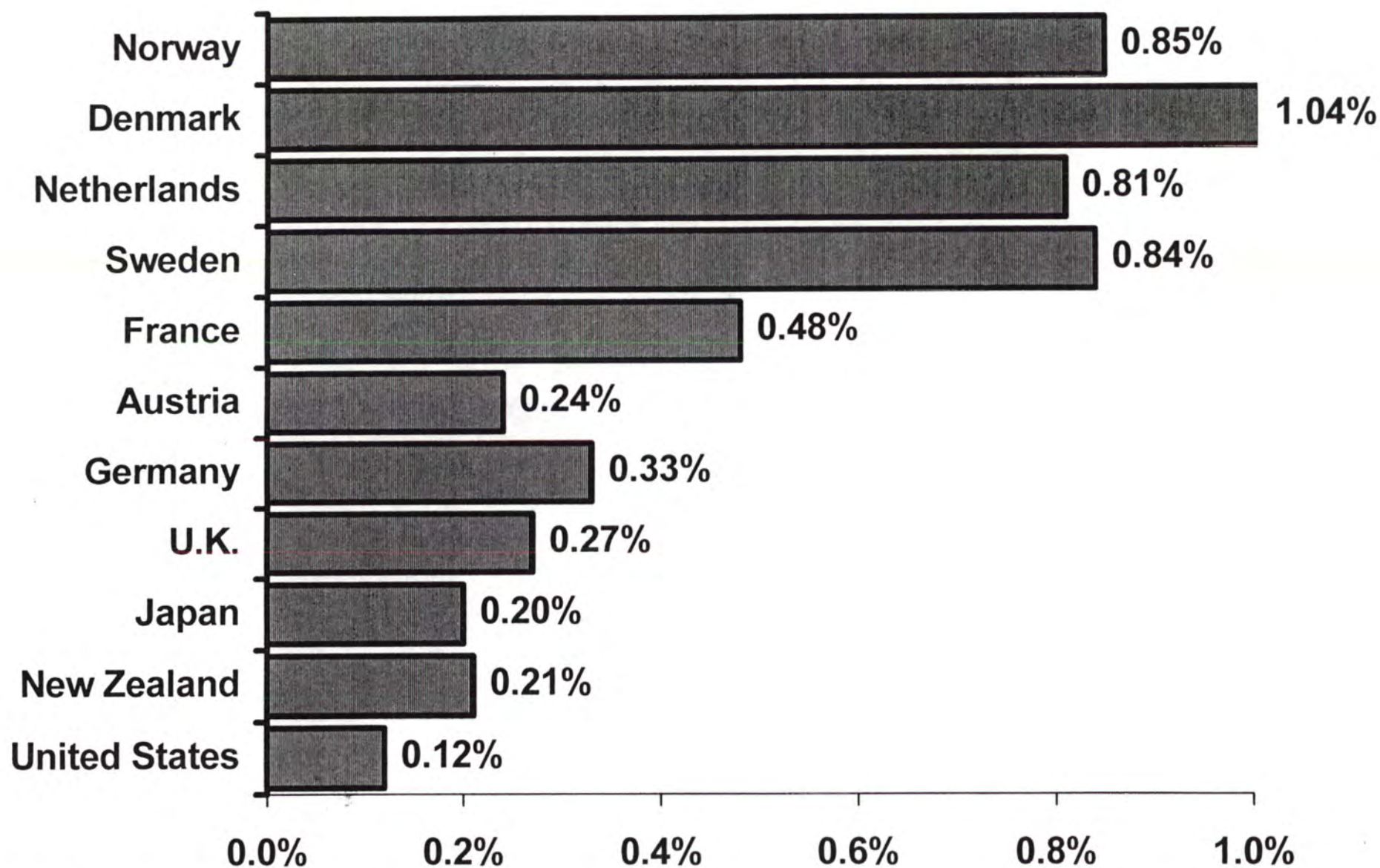
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April 1999	First ODW Work Day

OPERATION DAY'S WORK PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Operation Day's Work, which began in Norway in 1964, has its origins in the "Give a Day" campaign organized by students in Sweden two years earlier. Norwegian students, realizing that 1.3 billion people world-wide live in poverty, wanted to take action. The Norwegian School Student Union took the initiative, arguing that in Norway everyone is entitled to nine years of free schooling which prepares them for good jobs, while the majority of youth in the world have little or no education. They decided to do something. They convinced their schools to suspend one day of classes each year to allow them to work that day to earn money for their less fortunate counterparts around the world.
- Students also organized a week preceding their work day called "International Week," devoted to studying all aspects of their project country. In the first year of Operation Day's Work, thirty five thousand Norwegian students participated in the program. They worked in factories and offices, washed cars and windows, sold cakes and cookies, and raised \$15,000 for educational programs in Algeria.
- The program has grown by leaps and bounds. In the last three decades, Operation Day's Work has supported projects in 35 different countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. In 1996 a quarter of a million Norwegian students participating in Operation Day's Work raised over \$3 million which was matched by government funds, doubling the amount to a total \$6 million. Over the years, Norwegian students assisted in the construction of hospitals and schools, and donated millions of dollars in textbooks to needy children around the world.
- The money raised is matched by the Norwegian government and is donated to selected developing countries for educational purposes.
- Operation Day's Work is a contributing factor to Norway being the World's second highest capita contributor to aiding developing countries.

Foreign Assistance as a Percentage of Donor GNP - 1996



FEB. 13. 1998 5:19PM

MPLS MAYOR'S OFFICE

NO. 0878 P. 2

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
350 South 5th Street - Room 331
Minneapolis MN 55415-1393

Office (612) 673-2100
Fax 673-2305
TDD 673-2157

Sharon Sayles Belton
Mayor



February 12, 1998

J. Brian Atwood, Administrator
U. S. Agency for International Development

Dear Mr. Atwood:

Thank you very much for the briefings provided by your staff on *Operation Day's Work*. Such a program, implemented on a broad scale, would surely enhance public understanding of the need for connections with the world beyond our shores.

We would be very pleased to see Minneapolis serve as a pilot location for *Operation Day's Work-USA*. Our schools already have a number of international programs in place. The City's Youth Coordinating Board has the capacity to facilitate connections with all the agencies and institutions which serve youth. We believe we can provide the infrastructure that will make a success of a pilot program in Minneapolis.

We thank you for including Minneapolis in the list of cities which may host a pilot program for *Operation Day's Work-USA*.

Sincerely,

Sharon Sayles Belton
MAYOR

SSB:KRF



American Refugee Committee

W O R L D W I D E

World Headquarters

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Minneapolis, MN 55404-3305 USA
Tel: (612) 872-7080
Fax: (612) 872-4309
E-mail: arcnq@arcnq.org
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Anthony J. Kozlowski

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James Small
Mary Tjoevid
Carol D. Winslow

Program Offices

Bosnia-Herzegovina
Cambodia
Croatia
Guinea
Rwanda
Somalia
Sudan
Thailand

February 11, 1998

Curt Reintsma
USAID
Operation Day's Work—USA

Dear Curt Reintsma,

I write to you today in support of and to endorse the **Operation Day's Work** program. We at the American Refugee Committee feel this program is not only important but also necessary.

Today's youth have much to learn about the world, but they also have much to give. This program would allow thousands of young people to become involved with the world around them and to learn, at a young age, the world is indeed their home.

Perhaps it is the younger generation that understands how interconnected we all are today. It is time we let them take a lead.

Kind Regards,

Jules Hersman
Jules Hersman
Communications Director

NATIONAL PEACE CORPS ASSOCIATION

February 11, 1998

The Honorable Brian Atwood
USAID
Washington, DC
VIA Fax: 202/216-3237

Dear Mr. Atwood:

I want to express the full support of the National Peace Corps Association for the Operation Day's Work USA program. We have been involved with the early planning for the program, and we are enthusiastic about its potential.

As you know, the third goal of the Peace Corps is to "bring the world back home" and to help Americans better understand global interdependence. Therefore, our network of returned Peace Corps volunteers is already involved in similar activities throughout the country. I am quite sure many of our members would participate actively in the Operation Day's Work program if it is implemented.

Please let us know what we can do to be supportive.

Sincerely,



Charles F. Dambach
President

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

*The Humphrey Forum
Hubert H. Humphrey
Institute of Public Affairs*

*Humphrey Center
301-19th Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55455
612-624-5799
Fax: 612-625-3513*

February 13, 1998

J. Brian Atwood
Operation Day's Work
United States Agency for International Development
Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue
Room 6.10
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Mr. Atwood:

When Francis Howard called last month to tell me about Operation Day's Work she was convinced the project would fit right into our program at the Humphrey Forum. Since then, I've had a chance to talk with members of your staff and to read about Day's Work in the material they sent to us. Francis was right; Operation Day's Work represents the ideas we consider essential to our mission at the Humphrey Forum. I'm looking forward to working with you to bring the project to Minneapolis.

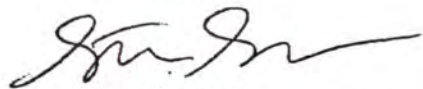
The Humphrey Forum is a museum and center of citizen education at the University of Minnesota's Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. We frequently work with Minneapolis teachers and students on issues of government and politics. We are especially eager to get together with the Youth Coordinating Board and the mayor's office to plan for a Day's Work in Minnesota.

The elements of community service and international relationships make the project immediately attractive to teachers. The way in which it connects our new citizens and recent immigrants with our Norwegian traditions makes the cultural impact of Day's Work especially compelling for Minnesotans. Finally, the project's support of educational initiatives in developing communities complements the work of many of our colleagues here at the Humphrey Institute.

I have spoken with Minneapolis School Board president Bill Green about Day's Work. We both expect other members of the Board, the district's administration, teachers and community members will endorse and support the effort. The course of study, the personal relationships, and the international understanding that can result from participation in the project will be particularly beneficial.

Thanks very much for including us in your discussion and plans. We're looking forward to contributing to a Day's Work in the spring of 1999.

Cordially,



Steve Sandell
Director, The Humphrey Forum

The Talk Radio News Service™

2514 Mill Road NW • Washington, DC 20007

Brian Atwood
Administrator
The Agency for International Development
Washington D.C. 20523

February 13, 1998

Dear Brian,

When we were broadcasting in Norway, we learned about "Operation Days Work," and we were determined to bring it to the United States. Listeners often express a lack of understanding of the need to support our global neighbors. We believe that learning about "Operation Days Work" and the national commitment and support that Norwegians give their global neighbors will help Americans make that connection.

Talk Radio News Service believes in this project, and we will do anything we can to make sure it is a success. Hopefully, we can help launch "Operation Days Work" by helping with publicity, donations of our time, and engaging the participants of other radio hosts and stations. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,



Ellen Ratner,
President



Kandy Stroud,
Vice President

Media Relations
ADRA'S GLOBAL VILLAGE
Washington, D.C.

NEWS RELEASE



RELEASE DATE: November 19, 1997

CONTACT: **Norma J. Sahlin**
301-680-6744 (voice)
301-680-5125 (fax)
202-214-2469 (pager)

ADRA's Global Village Comes to Washington, D.C., April 1998

WASHINGTON, D.C. (November 19, 1997) -- *ADRA's Global Village* opens on the U.S. Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C., April 16, 1998. This traveling exhibit features life-size living habitats so that children can learn about other cultures.

"We are looking forward to sharing *ADRA's Global Village* with children in the nation's capital in April," says Ralph S. Watts, Jr., President, Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA).

ADRA and the World Bank co-sponsor the village as a way to expand children's world views. *ADRA's Global Village* fosters an understanding of universal human needs, equality, interdependence, and the importance of cultural differences. The goal is to help children learn how to make a difference in a world shared with many peoples.

John Donaldson, U.S. Coordinator for External Affairs at the World Bank, explains the impact of the village. "Those of us who have had the chance to get to know other cultures have often wished that our friends and neighbors, and especially our children, could share these experiences. While we cannot transport everyone into these international cultures, *ADRA's Global Village* provides a powerful means to bring that experience to them."

The village contains 10 life-size habitats from around the world, including a southeast Asian stilt house, African Masai kraal, and Latin American choza. At learning stations, visitors discover the importance of clean water, beasts of burden, bridges, and marketplaces. They grind corn and rice and then participate in an information exchange with the

12501 Old Columbia Pike

Silver Spring, MD 20904

☎ (301) 680-6380

Fax: (301) 680-6370

world via Internet and satellite. After the tour, each child helps pack a box of supplies that will be sent to people in need.

"At the Pack-A-Box station, we talk with students about what they've learned and encourage them to think about how to help others," comments Casey Bahr, director of development education at ADRA International.

Based on past attendance, it is estimated that 50,000 children will visit ADRA's *Global Village* as part of scheduled school tours. Because of the location on the Mall near the Smithsonian Castle, an additional 100,000 people are expected to tour the village each weekend during the 21-day event.

"In order to handle these crowds efficiently, we will need about 2,500 volunteers," predicts Ted Wick, director, Office of Volunteers at ADRA International. "Volunteers at past locations were very enthusiastic about this project because the children and other visitors responded so openly."

For more details about how to volunteer for ADRA's *Global Village*, call the Office of Volunteers at ADRA International at 301-680-6738 or 301-680-5122. To schedule a school group tour, contact Carla Battle at 301-680-6382.

--The End--



12501 Old Columbia Pike

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U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT **PRESS RELEASE**

WASHINGTON, DC 20523
<http://www.info.usaid.gov>

PRESS OFFICE
(202) 712-4320

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Josh Block or Barbara Semedo
Tuesday, February 17, 1998

OPERATION DAY'S WORK -USA USAID TO ISSUE YOUTH CHALLENGE

Washington, D.C. -- The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) today launched an exciting new program designed to reach American children where they live and learn, and engage them in community service and international affairs.

The pilot program, *Operation Days Work USA*, is based on a Norwegian model. For over 30 years, young people in Norway's secondary schools have devoted one day in each school year working in their communities to earn money that is donated to educational projects in the developing world. *Operation Day's Work* is a highly successful program that has created a culture of global awareness and generosity among generations of Norwegians.

"We all remember someone or something from our youth that had a significant impact on how we as adults see the world and our place in it," USAID Administrator Atwood said. "It is my hope that students involved in *Operation Day's Work* will better understand the world and the necessity of working together to make a difference."

"This is a groundbreaking program for USAID," said Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D-VT). "*Operation Day's Work USA* will help Vermont students understand how the world works and how they can work in it. This is great for Vermont and the other pilot states and great for our children's future."

Rick Little, president of the International Youth Foundation, speaking to the importance of increasing global awareness and promoting a strong service ethic among youth, said, "*Operation Day's Work USA* offers a great example of how effective programs operating in different parts of the world can be shared and adapted to reach ever increasing numbers of youth."

The first year of the USA program will be devoted to helping the pilot schools plan their own programs by adapting elements of the Norwegian model. The goal is to have *Operation Day's Work USA* become a nationwide annual event by the year 2003 with each program designed and implemented at the local level. The sites selected to participate in the pilot program are: Vermont, Minnesota, Washington, North Dakota and Washington D.C.

"In Norway, teaching about foreign assistance and appreciation of the importance of foreign affairs begins at the junior high school level, with this program," explained Norwegian Ambassador to the United States Tom Vraalsen. "Students come away from this program understanding the world better and feeling more like a part of both the world community, and their own community at home."

Programs similar to the one in Norway are also in operation in Sweden and Denmark. All three Scandinavian nations are ranked as the leaders in foreign assistance to the developing world. The campaign in Norway, run by students for students, raises over \$3 million per year.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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VOL. CCXXXI NO. 77 EE/WO ★ ★ ★

TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 1998

INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://wsj.com>

Work Week

A Special News Report About Life On the Job — and Trends Taking Shape There

AMERICAN STUDENTS prepare to break a sweat for others.

At five public schools in five U.S. cities next year, students will spend a day working to support humanitarian projects in developing nations. As participants in "Operation Day's Work," sponsored by the U.S. Agency for International Development, 120 eighth-graders at Macfarland Middle School in Washington plan to do community-service work. Casey Wilson, an 11th grader at Thetford Academy, Thetford, Vt., says she would like to work outside that day, maybe as a landscaper.

Under the USAID plan, modeled after a 30-year-old Norwegian program, students donate the money they earn from private employers or sponsors to a foreign project. "This is a chance to educate American kids" about global issues, a USAID spokesman says. Miss Wilson, who heard of the program three weeks ago, says it "sounded like a cool idea."

PRESS ADVISORY

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WASHINGTON, DC 20523

<http://www.info.usaid.gov>

THE USAID PRESS OFFICE

(202) 712-4320

#98- 15

April 17, 1998

Contact: Josh Block

(202) 712-4320, Pager 1-888-721-1238

Operation Day's Work Students & Teachers to Visit Global Village:

Youth to Tour Developing World as Kick-off of Pilot National Program

During this unique, important learning activity, 120 MacFarland seventh-graders (next year's 8th graders), along with Operation Day's Work students and teachers from Grand Forks, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Vermont, will tour ten life-size habitats from around the world, including a southeast Asian stilt house, African Masai Kraal, and Latin American choza. The students will also pack care packages for refugees in need, and hear from international development experts from the United States and Norway, including DC Schools Superintendent General Julius Becton, a former director of USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance.

In Operation Day's Work, students choose a developing country, which they study using curricula researched and designed by student leaders; perform community service to raise funds; and they contribute these funds to a development project which they select themselves.

Operation Day's Work has been an annual event in Scandinavia for decades, and has increased social studies competencies in that country's youth, and is credited by adult Norwegians as having profoundly affected their understanding of global linkages and the importance of development cooperation. The students' visit to the Global Village will also initiate their involvement in Operation Day's Work (ODW-USA).

This is a good opportunity to tell the story of Operation Day's Work from the perspective kids who will be "seeing the world through their own eyes," and illustrate how exposure to other peoples' way of life and problems can profoundly change American students' view of the world and their role in it.

WHO: Operation Day's Work Participants - Teachers and Students from MacFarland Middle School in D.C. (entire 7th grade, and other pilot sites; Grand Forks, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Vermont.
USAID Deputy Administrator Harriet Babbitt
Norwegian Development Minister & Norwegian Ambassador to U.S.
Julius Becton, Superintendent D.C., Public Schools

WHAT: Students and teachers from Operation Day's Work pilot sites will tour the "Global Village," to see with their own eyes how people live in developing countries. *This will kick-off their involvement with Operation Day's Work, a new national service-learning program sponsored by USAID, the Norwegian Government and others, designed to engage American students in foreign affairs*

WHERE: THE MALL - meet at GLOBAL VILLAGE HABITAT REGISTRATION TENT
(across from Castle, near Carousel)

WHEN: FRIDAY, APRIL 17th - 2:45PM

###

Operation Day's Work -- Global Village Participants

Grand Forks

Teacher:

Chris Douthit, Schroeder Middle School

Working to develop program for Grand Forks Schools

Milwaukee

Teachers:

Jacqueline and Paul Muirhead

H:414/221-9617

Jacqueline Muirhead

teaches at Pius XI - Catholic High School (private)

Paul Bernard (Pablo) Muirhead

teaches at Shorewood Intermediate School (public 7th & 8th grade)

Shorewood Students:

Adam Ewing Clay, 14

Jordan Elizabeth Kroabic, 12

Pius XI Student:

Erin Beth Merkl, 16

Minneapolis

Teachers/Humphry forum staff helping plan program for Minneapolis schools. After participating in Global Village, will return to make it a reality in Minneapolis in collaboration with teachers school officials.

Ann Kjelsberg

w:612/624-5799

Claire Miller

w:612/624-0849

Vermont

The Thetford Academy

Teachers:

Byron Hathorn, Jr.

802/333-9176

Robin Pettingell

802/333-9882

Students:

Jordan Cole (male), 11th grade

Casey Wilson (female), 11th grade

Lily Hathorn, (female) 11th grade

Washington D.C.

MacFarland Middle School - Entire eighth grade
(this year's seventh graders)

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OPERATION DAY'S WORK USA

- A national program based on a Norwegian model and launched in the United States by the U. S. Agency for International Development and several other public and private partner organizations
- Goals of the program are to teach young Americans about foreign assistance and to help them recognize the importance of their role in the international community.
- The program will be piloted in Grand Forks, ND; Minneapolis, MN; Vermont and Washington, DC., and expanded to other communities in the future.
- The ultimate goal of the national umbrella organization is to have the program become a nationwide, annual event by the year 2003.

Common elements nationwide:

1. Date of service/work day
2. Selection of country and development project by participating students (through a voting process); nominations to be provided by the national umbrella organization.
3. Core curriculum on the selected country and development project, to be provided by the national umbrella organization
4. One local liaison to the national organization

Implementation Plan for the District of Columbia Public Schools(as of 3/17/98)

Suggested Schedule for Pilot Program:

March 31, 1998	Complete selection of the pilot school (Completed)
April 17, 1998	Students from DCPS pilot school visit ADRA Global Village on the Federal Mall
3:00 - 5:00 P.M.	
October, 1998	DCPS student (and possibly a teacher) from pilot school visit Norway to observe Norwegian program
November, 1998	DCPS students at pilot school hold election to determine target country/humanitarian project
Feb. or March, '99	First ODW Day

MacFarland Middle School 8th grade Chosen

Target Population for Participation:

All sections of Grade 7 or 8 in one middle or junior high school selected with the advice and support of the Assistant Superintendent for Middle/Junior High Schools and concurrence of the school principal. Preference is for grade 8, which is more grade-appropriate for the program. Grade 7 is more curriculum-appropriate.

Local Program Design:

DCPS students will engage in service learning activities on the designated day of "work." This means that the service will relate to their studies. The Corporate and Community Relations Office will identify sponsors who will make donations to the pre-selected development project, on behalf of the participating students. The DCPS Community Service Director will have high school students who are members of her Service Learning Youth Council to assist with the implementation of the program.

For additional information, contact: Janie McCullough or Patricia Tucker
202-724-4235

DISTRICT
OF
COLUMBIA
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Corporate, and Community Relations
415 12th Street, N.W., Suite 904
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(202) 724-4235 Fax: (202) 727-6314

February 13, 1998

Mr. J. Brian Atwood, Administrator
U. S. Agency for International Development
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20523

Dear Mr. Atwood:

I am writing to express the support of D.C. Public Schools in the effort to bring Operation Day's Work to the United States and specifically to the District of Columbia.

This represents a great opportunity to serve District of Columbia students by increasing their exposure not only to the broader global community but to students in other parts of the country also involved in this first year effort. We look forward to working with USAID, the planning group and the other pilot communities in exploring a program that will enhance the academic achievement of our students.

Sincerely,



Janie McCullough, Director
Corporate and Community Relations

JM:plt

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SECTION: Pg. ARC

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HEADLINE: Pilot program to encourage U.S. students to think about developing nations

BYLINE: JON FRANDSEN; Gannett News Service

DATELINE: WASHINGTON

BODY:

WASHINGTON -- Hoping to do for foreign affairs what Earth Day did for the environment, the United States is working with Norway and nonprofit groups to create a national program that would have students raise money for a developing country that they study in depth.

The U.S. Agency for International Development and the ambassador of Norway will announce Tuesday the pilot project for "Operation Day's Work -USA" Tuesday.

Three or four schools, and/or school systems, will be picked for the first U.S. Day's Work next April. Under consideration are Thetford Academy in Thetford, Vt., and school systems in Minneapolis, Seattle, Washington, D.C., and Grand Forks, N.D., said AID's Karen Anderson.

Supporters hope that the program will help to broaden the interests and education of American students, who generally demonstrate little academic understanding or interest in other countries and cultures.

"It is important that future generations understand the importance of U.S. leadership in the global community and that what happens in other countries has such an impact on what happens here," Anderson said.

The U.S. program will be modeled after Norway's 32-year-old Day's Work program. Each year, Norwegian students vote to select a project in one developing country.

Last year, for example, students across Norway chose to study Indians living in the Amazon jungles of Brazil. They learned about the various cultures, the vanishing rain forest, and arranged visits by Indians to Norwegian schools to discuss their way of life, said Kare Dag Mangersnes, a past president of Day's Work who will take part in the announcement of the pilot project, which Norway is helping to start with a grant of about \$ 20,000.

Students agree on a specific education-related project and spend a day doing errands, working for businesses, selling baked goods or otherwise raising money. In 1997, Mangersnes said, the project raised \$ 3 million to help create textbooks written in the language of the Brazilian Indians, train teachers and build schools in the Amazon.

Mangersnes said he believed Americans would embrace the program enthusiastically because "they are part of the same world that I am. And they are part of the same world as my Brazilian and South African friends. ... I am a privileged man. Most Americans are privileged as well. But many other young people are denied the rights that we have.

"It's a big world, but then, it's not. When you meet people ... they have exactly the same dreams as I have. This gives me a chance to do something to help them to get the same chance to do something for their own," he said.

Anderson added, "I envision this being similar to Earth Day. Just as every year on the same day schools hold Earth Day events, we will hold (Day's Work). They all will have the same theme, but every program is different and is developed by the community and its students."

Many details remain to be worked out, and some potential participants find the prospect of having the program in place for the first U.S. Day's Work next April daunting.

"I hope we will go ahead and take a piece that we can really handle and do it well, even if it is not as much as we would like to do," said Martha Rich, head of the Thetford Academy.

AID is working closely with International Youth Foundation in Baltimore, Md., to set up a steering committee that will both raise money to help get the pilot programs established, and to expand the program.

Norwegian students will work closely with the Americans, and U.S. students involved in Day's Work will visit Norway next October to see the program in action.

American schools will vote in November to decide which country they will study and help the following year.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: February 17, 1998

Feb 18 02:47 - APEDUC - Operation Day's Work - High school students to take part on global awareness project

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By HARRY DUNPHY
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) _ Pick a developing country. Learn all about it, then take a day off school and earn money to help an educational project in that nation.

Under a pilot program announced Tuesday, that's what high school students in five cities from Seattle to Thetford, Vt., will do starting this fall. The lead sponsor, the *U.S. Agency for International Development*, hopes to turn the project into a nationwide annual event in five years.

Operation Day's Work-USA is based on a model in use in Norway for 34 years to encourage global awareness and generosity among its youth. Norway raises more than \$3 million a year from the project and is contributing \$20,000 in seed money to get the United States started.

"I hope this program will help kick-start young people out of self-absorption, to get involved," said *USAID* Administrator J. **Brian Atwood**. "It's not going to be easy to start. But there's an opportunity to learn about the world and help other communities."

He said he hoped the program would help students understand foreign aid as Earth Day has increased awareness of environmental issues.

Kare Dag Mangersnes, a student who runs the project in Norway, recommended that students control the project at all levels as happens in his country. There are similar programs in Denmark and Sweden.

"This will probably lead to failures along the way but also will be crucial to this project's success," Mangersnes said. "It is very much about learning by doing."

Other cities where there will be pilot projects are Grand Forks, N.D., Minneapolis and Washington, D.C., said Karen Anderson, *USAID*'s director of public liaison. She said students would choose and research a country for a week in October and then do the day's work to raise money in April 1999.

(CAT:Education;)

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