Training & Microloans for <u>Women Entrepreneurs</u>

ESOLVE

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Owning a small business provides women with a sustainable way to move out of extreme global poverty, reduce child malnutrition, send children to school, and improve the overall quality of life for their families. We offer the training and support, they do the rest.

NETWORK

The Objectives:

1. Host four (4) Literacy and Micfrofinance training sessions for a total of 500 women affected by conflict in Eastern Congo during 2013

2. Empower the 500 women to launch their own small business though zero-interest microloans of \$100 USD





How it Works

First, women enroll in our financial literacy program, facilitated by two local economists. The women are trained in debt management, budgeting, financial negotiations, and banking services. Next, the women develop an individual business plan, with budget for start-up and personal expenses. Once their business plan is accepted, they receive their microloans.

Loan recipients self-organize into groups of five. In these co-operatives, women meet once a week to strategize about their businesses and support each other as they launch. They also meet one-on-one with field staff to chart their progress, and work to repay 10% of the loan every month. Additionally, women will share their challenges and successes in live-blogging sessions available on our website.

How You Can Help

\$10 allows 1 woman to blog about her experience

\$25 helps us pay 2 local economists to teach literacy & microfinance courses

\$50 pays school fees for 1 child to attend a year of school

\$75 covers cost of 1 woman to enroll in two-week literacy and microfinance training

\$100 covers the start-up costs for the small business of 1 woman

\$300 pays 1 months salary of local field staff to track progress, and meet with the women bi-weekly to monitor their loan-repayment status

Find more ways to support this program through our GlobalGiving campaign at: www.globalgiving.org/projects/resolvenetwork !



The total budget for our 2013 Microfinance Program is \$98,360 USD. This year, Resolve will put 500 women through microfinance training and give them a loan. The women are provided with a course book to reference throughout the year. Food, beverages and transportation are provided for each day of the trainings, to compensate for a day of lost farming.

The success of this program is evident with each woman-owned bakery, brick making business and farm peacefully operating in once conflict laden communities. Each woman in our program has risen out of the threshold for extreme global poverty, provided three nutritious meals per day for their children (in a country where most parents have to choose which child to feed on which day), and sent all school-age kids to school. Women in our programs create new opportunities, reinvent participation and redefine power in their communities.

EVELY woman is an agent for **PEACE**



Our Mission

Resolve empowers women most affected by conflict to reclaim their lives, rebuild communities, and build peace from the ground up. We target solutions at the root of violence: access to power and resources. Step-by-step, our three-tiered approach counters the cycles of violence that culminate in genocide.

The tiers build from Micro to Macro: (1) **Individual**, (2) **Communal**, (3) **Societal**. We start by empowering women survivors through literacy and microfinance. Then, together we rebuild communities and public services to address women's self-identified needs, such as access to clean drinking water, sanitary latrines, education, and more. Finally, we grow to societal projects addressing overarching regional issues such as security, health, and civic participation.

Learn more at www.resolvenetwork.org

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