Grant Request to Missions Committee for Spirit in Action

From Dennis Johnson

Nov. 13, 2019

Spirit in Action seeks to fulfill God’s promise for abundant life for all the world by supporting people in following their dreams of building a self-sufficient, sustainable future for themselves, their families, and their communities. Founded in 1996 by Del Anderson at the age of 90, Spirit in Action carries on the ministry of loving service that God brought through him.

SIA’s work is based on the belief that a small grant and sincere encouragement can enable people to tap into their own potential. On its website (www.spiritinaction.org) are the words “Micro grants, major change.” The main ministry of SIA is giving micro grants to assist people in poverty to establish ongoing businesses in the developing world, primarily in Kenya, Uganda, and Malawi. SIA also contributes to the support other NGO projects that serve African communities.

Dennis Johnson has served on the SIA board, and his wife Marsha served for eleven years as the first SIA coordinator. Both of them had the opportunity to travel to Africa in 2005 and to observe the work of SIA firsthand.

This request is for a money gift of $500 to support a joint project between Spirit in Action and the Hope for Relief organization in the town of Rumphi in northern Malawi. Hope for Relief is working on getting feminine pads to girls in school, to help them stay in school even when they have their periods. SIA executive director Tanya Cothran visited Hope for Relief this past summer, and she reports, “I visited them in June and was so impressed with the way they are connected to the community and are teaching the girls about entrepreneurial and financial management skills, in addition to providing them with pads. It’s just amazing the length that girls go through to get to school. They all walk from long distances and there is no water source right at the school, so even when they have pads for their periods, there is still the challenge of getting water and soap to wash them. The latest grant request we are considering from them is for the construction of two more changing rooms, which are the rooms that girls can use to wash and change their pads during school hours.”

This $500 grant from Faith Church would contribute to a larger request for $2500 to construct two more changing rooms. [See attached photos of changing rooms already constructed at another school and Tanya handing out pads.]

Richard Mwanjasi, the leader of Hope for Relief, will oversee the work and provide ongoing contact with Tanya Cothran, SIA executive director. Canaan Gondwe, the local SIA coordinator in Malawi, can also be called upon to visit and report. Tanya will forward reports about this work to Dennis so that they can be shared with the Faith Church community.





