

GOALS

Build a church for 800-1,000 members to provide shelter, as well as a place for worship. Completion is scheduled for 2015.

Improve school buildings for the many orphans and fatherless children.

Provide goats to widows for food and income.



Donate eyeglasses so widows can learn to read.

COST

Goat: \$50*

*Cost subject to change due to market value



CONGO
Widows
MISSION PROJECT

Women's Ministries
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE
OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS
401 Taylor Blvd. • P.O. Box 23165, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
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Place
Stamp
Here

CONGO

Widows

MISSION PROJECT

Northern California Conference Women's Ministries

MINISTERING TO WOMEN
in the church, in the community, and **around the world!**

The CONGO Widows MISSION PROJECT

Join us in making a difference in the lives of women and children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

Help build a church.

Thousands of Congolese people were baptized into the Adventist church during the 2012 ShareHim National Campaign, and the new members need a place to worship and reach out to their community. The NCC Women's Ministries Department is helping to finance a church that will seat 800-1,000 people.



Help create new floors for schools and build new school buildings.

Many schools in the Goma area of the DRC have large lava rocks as the "floors"—uncomfortable and painful for the barefoot students. The NCC Women's Ministries Department plans to provide smooth and level cement floors for schools. They also hope to raise funds to rebuild schools that have been constructed out of plastic tarps.



Help widows and their children become self-sufficient by providing goats.

Why goats?

- Goats are a valuable asset for families and communities around the world, but many people cannot afford them.
- Goats can graze even on poor, dry land unsuitable for other livestock.
- Goat milk can be made into cheese or yogurt to be sold.
- Goat manure can be used to fertilize gardens and fields.
- Goats have two or three kids per year, and the offspring can be sold or used to start a small herd.
- Families can use the extra money to pay for food, medicine and education.



4 WAYS TO HELP

You can help by giving \$50 to purchase a goat, providing financial independence for a Congo widow (all donations marked goats will only be used for the goat project). Any amount is appreciated for the goats, the church and the schools! Please help your sisters in Christ and their families.

- 1 By Check** - Send a check to NCC Women's Ministries, Congo Widows Mission Project, P.O. Box 23165, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Make checks out to "NCC Congo Widows Mission Project" or "NCC Congo Widows Mission Project Goats."
- 2 By Tithe Envelope** - Place cash or a check in a tithe envelope, mark it "NCC Congo Widows Mission Project" and put the envelope in your church's offering plate.
- 3 Online** - Log on to Adventist Giving.
- 4 With Your Prayers** - Keep the widows and orphans of the Congo in your prayers.



The idea for the NCC Congo Widows Mission Project came from a chance meeting in the cafeteria at the 2010 General Conference Session in Atlanta. NCC Women's Ministries coordinator Mary Jo Lauderdale met Pastor Gasore "Jean" Bazungu, ministerial secretary of the North East Congo Attached Territory (pictured with wife Phébé).

As they talked, Pastor Bazungu described the great needs of the 450,000

widows in his territory, including numerous Seventh-day Adventists. Many women have lost their husbands due to wars, HIV/AIDS and abandonment. Pastor Bazungu wept as he described how these women struggle to provide for themselves and their children.

Convinced that the meeting wasn't a coincidence, Lauderdale felt called to action. Since then, the NCC Women's Ministries Advisory Board has been raising money to help the widows. Some of these funds have been used to buy hundreds of goats. The income provided by a herd of three goats can make a Congolese woman and her children self-sufficient. A group of 12 local people purchase and oversee the distribution and training process for the widows to receive the animals.

In the summer of 2012, Lauderdale and three other women were part of a group that conducted evangelistic meetings in the DRC for a ShareHim National Campaign. During the series, 634 Congolese were baptized, and since then the total has reached 5,000. A board was set up to oversee construction of a church near the site where Lauderdale preached, and now the church's construction project is about 50% complete. The nearby Birere school is one of the main facilities for teaching English in the area, yet it has no floors and has plastic dividers for walls. Lauderdale hopes that construction will soon begin on this school and others.

Young women and girls involved with NCC Young Women's Ministries are collecting used eyeglasses and sunglasses for people in the DRC. A local Adventist eye doctor does the necessary refraction work. So far about 2,000 pairs of glasses have been sent. If you wish to donate glasses, please contact Mary Jo Lauderdale at maryjo.lauderdale@nccsda.com.

