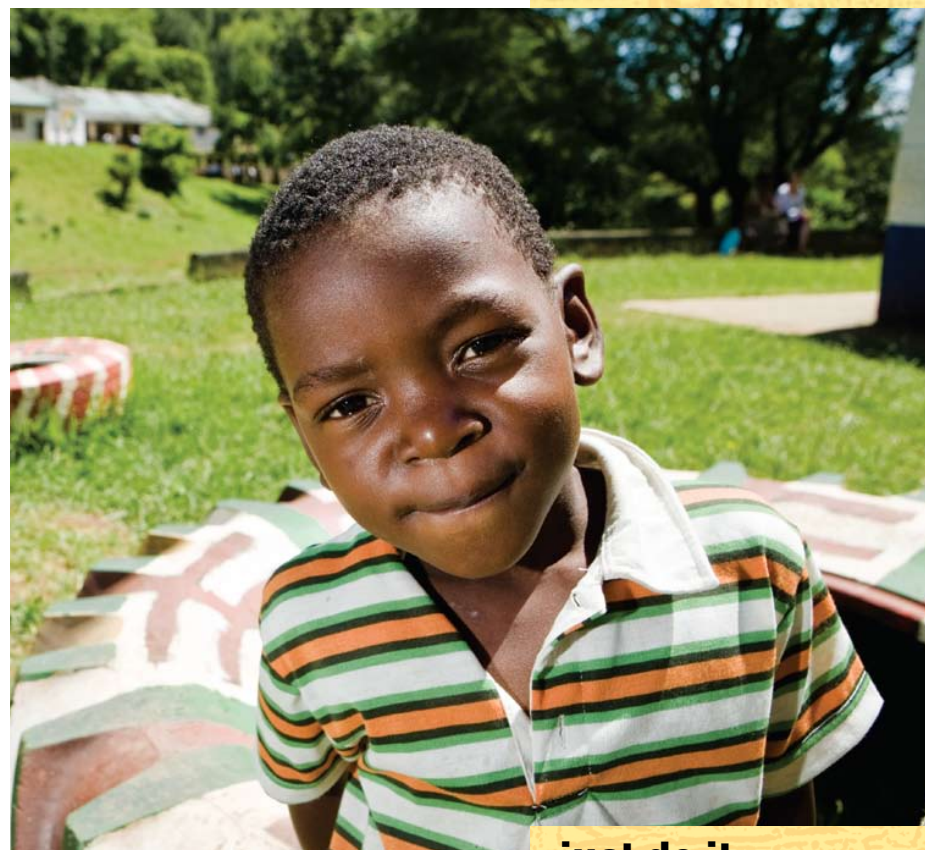


*Helping hands reach  
across the globe*

*Sandi Gauvin & Crystal Auffray*

Photos *Trevor Meier*

Photo of Stephen Lewis by *Scott Yavis*



*If you've never heard Stephen Lewis speak, you may be forgiven for not recognizing his name. But once you've heard his passion and conviction, you won't soon forget the man—or more importantly, his message. Articulate and eloquent, Lewis inspires, not just to think, but also to act.*

#### GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP OR HELP AT HOME?

In the wake of global warming's potentially calamitous effects worldwide, does it make sense to reach out to countries in serious need of foreign aid?

Should we be aiming to improve conditions in our own backyard before we focus our efforts on reaching out to countries in the Third World?

According to Stephen Lewis, without empowering those who most require the resources to combat the consequences of climate change, we are bound to suffer its devastating

repercussions at home. If we fail to recognize the gravity of the environmental and social circumstances presently occurring in developing nations, the negative effects will be far-reaching.

Whether it is through concern about our economy, individual activism, or global citizenship, we have the means to make a positive impact on less prosperous nations—and it is our social responsibility to do so.

What do you think? Should we be providing assistance and leadership to countries fraught with social, economic, and political hardships? What is the extent of our responsibility as Canadians?>>

## just do it

When a US poverty activist and friend instructed Stephen Lewis, to "stop whining and do something" about the scourge of HIV/AIDS in Africa, he did; the Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) currently funds well over 140 projects in 15 sub-Saharan African countries.

Among these projects are community-based health, welfare, and education initiatives as well as small loans financing, and all are dedicated to helping individuals, families, and communities that have been ravaged by HIV/AIDS.

The SLF website ([stephenlewisfoundation.org](http://stephenlewisfoundation.org)) not only tells stories about the many grassroots projects funded by the foundation in Africa, but it also provides suggestions about how other Canadians can get involved in "doing something."