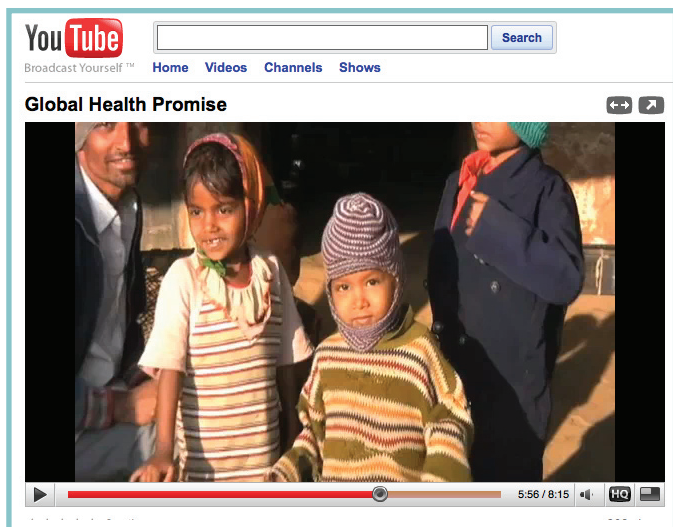


# PROMISE news

## NEW VIDEO!

If you have not seen it yet, please check out our video on our website or YouTube. In the video we hear from a friend, Jeri Williams, about her situation and that of her children when she was prostituted. Unfortunately Jeri's story is not unique but helps us understand that we need to help these mothers and children. We are very grateful to Chris Anderson and Lis Saunders for funding the project and to Dan Hyatt for all his efforts to produce such a great video.



*Global Health Promise on youtube!*

## FACEBOOK UPDATE

Earlier this summer, we challenged GHP supporters to recruit 2000 followers on facebook. We are proud and grateful to report our overwhelming participation, with more than 2,200 members to date! For GHP updates and news and to support our cause, invite your friends to join our online movement at <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/172650>

## OUR ADVISORS

We are very pleased to introduce our advisors: Gopalan Balagopal has just concluded his career with UNICEF as the Representative to the DPR Korea. He is now going to be living in Kerala, India. Dr. Virginia Feldman (Ginny) has worked with Brian since 2006, including collaborating on a study in Andhra Pradesh, India, which she discusses in our new video. Ginny is based in Portland, Oregon. Kelley Bunkers has worked extensively on issues affecting orphan and vulnerable children. Kelley is now based in Ethiopia where she is exploring options for a Global Health Promise study. We are very grateful for the support of our Advisors and look forward to their input as we move forward on our projects.

## PRESENTATIONS

Katherine and Brian continue to raise awareness about the situation of trafficked and prostituted mothers and their children through presentations at various meetings. Brian participated in a roundtable discussion on human trafficking at Catholic Charities national conference, which was held in Portland this past September. While Katherine was back in the US they gave a presentation at a seminar hosted by the World Childhood Foundation in New York City in October, where they had the honor of meeting Queen Sylvia of Sweden who founded the World Childhood Foundation. While in New York they also facilitated a workshop on the clinical care of victims of human trafficking at the Mt. Sinai Medical School in collaboration with the Mt. Sinai Global Health Center. In November, Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, invited us to give two presentations to students. Katherine gave two workshops at the Global Missions Health Conference.

## PROJECT UPDATES

**China:** We have recently begun discussing collaborating on a project based in Kunming. We hope to begin preliminary data collection in 2010. Jericho Project continues to seek opportunities for outreach. Meanwhile, there have been a couple of specific cases regarding individuals who have been trafficked to/from China.

**Nepal:** We continue to seek funding to open three drop in centers and provide medical care for 100 mothers and 200 of their children.

**United States:** Two years ago Brian started a drop-in center for prostituted women in Portland. He was only able to keep it open for six months but he has spoken with a number of people about re-opening the center in 2010.

**Jordan and Syria:** Due to the war, many Iraqi widows have become refugees in Jordan and Syria where they have been forced into prostitution to support their children. We have been working for several years to partner with organizations in both countries so we can help these mothers and their children. While we have had many setbacks in this project we will continue to pursue it.

## OUR SUPPORTERS

In September Jim and Patty's Coffee in Portland, OR, began a fund-raiser for Global Health Promise. Proceeds from one of their special coffee blends goes to support our work. We appreciate their support, and that of their customers. If you live in or near Portland, please stop by and pick up a pound of beans to support this work. <http://www.jimandpattys.com>

**New Partnerships:** The workshop at Mt. Sinai Global Health Center generated interest in an ongoing collaboration project linking a couple of organizations in New York City. We are also discussing projects for work in Bangladesh, Indonesia, and in India.

**To Our Volunteers:** If you have recently contacted us about volunteering to provide medical services, please be patient: we do not have funding to start some of our proj-

ects but we are going to try and find other opportunities for you in 2010. We have had quite a good response with many people interested in helping with our projects and that is encouraging! However, we don't have enough projects to use all of you at the moment. What we DO need at the moment are people to help with things such as literature searches, grant writing, and fund raising. Someone just volunteered to help us organize all of our contacts and handle other administrative tasks – Thanks Lori!

**Thank You!** Thank you to everyone for your support during 2009. We know it has been a challenging year for many people, but your generosity even during this difficult economy is greatly appreciated. We continue to do all we can for these mothers and their children with your support, as well as our personal resources.

### WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

I met Aries, who was 24 years old, one night in the summer of 2002 in New York City while doing outreach with colleagues. She had a drug addiction and was about seven months pregnant. I encouraged her to get in to see the doctor about her pregnancy. In January 2003 I received a call from one of those colleagues that Aries had been murdered. Apparently, after giving birth to a daughter in September of 2002, Aries was back on the street and in prostitution because she was unable to get treatment for her drug addiction. Aries's family was never found so she was buried in a potter's field, and her daughter became a ward of the state. While it has been nearly seven years since this prostituted mother was murdered, I wonder how her life and that of her daughter would have been different if there had been someone or organization there to help her during her pregnancy and with her addiction. It is one of the reasons we started Global Health Promise.

Two years ago I started a drop in center in Portland to help prostituted women. I could only keep it going for six months but I am very pleased to announce that we are planning to re-open the center in 2010. To support this project we are in discussion with the University of Portland's School of Nursing and are recruiting other volunteers. Our goal is to help all pregnant prostituted women and those who have children. We would appreciate your support: if you want to volunteer at the drop in center or help us financially, please contact Brian and we can discuss our needs and how you can help. Thank you in advance for your support.