



Global Child Nutrition Foundation

# GCNF Insider International

## July - Sept 2011

OUR VISION: "A WORLD IN WHICH HUNGER IS NOT A BARRIER TO CHILDREN LEARNING"

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## Global Child Nutrition Foundation

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*Established in 2006 by the School Nutrition Association (SNA) as a 501(c) (3) organization, against a backdrop of chronic hunger among over 350 million children worldwide and a growing food security crisis, the Global Child Nutrition Foundation (GCNF) seeks to build sustainable country-owned and operated school feeding programs in developing countries. The goal of GCNF is to help children reach their full potential by reducing childhood hunger, increasing the chances for all girls and boys to attend school, and to break the poverty cycle through school feeding programs linked to local farm production.*



### Letter from the President

A letter from Gene White, President.

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### GCNF Welcomes New Interim Executive Director

GCNF welcomes Stanley C. Garnett as new Interim Executive Director.

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## Letter from the President

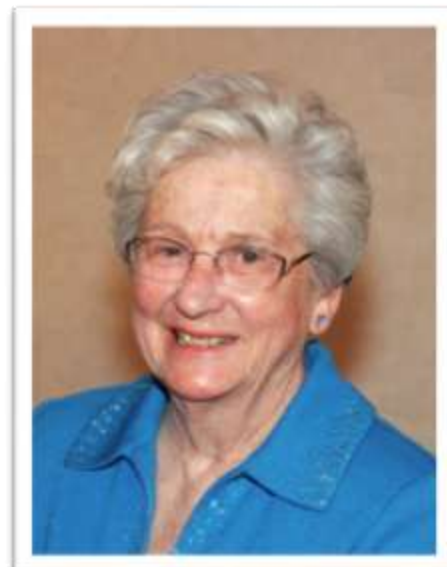
Through our work in developing and transitional countries, GCNF frequently receives requests for the case study of school feeding in the United States. We agree this information is needed and writing this history and case study are priorities on the GCNF fall agenda.

It is important to note that the U.S. did not always have a national school feeding program. It first started when volunteer parents and teachers brought food to school to feed needy children. The positive changes in school attendance and learning abilities became success stories that led other volunteers to start feeding children at school. Eventually schools began to operate and fund their own programs.

During the Great Depression in the 1930s the federal government provided the first food aid for

school meals in poverty areas. However, the great awakening came in the early 1940s when many young men were unable to serve in World War II due to nutrition related physical disabilities. This concern for national defense spurred passage of the National School Lunch Act in 1946, landmark legislation that established school nutrition programs as an integral part of the nation's educational program. GCNF's founding sister organization, the School Nutrition Association, was formed in tandem with this legislation.

During these intervening 65 years, the U.S. Congress has periodically revised this legislation and created additional new policies to further meet the needs of children. However, the philosophy and core values of the founding legislation remain firmly in place: All children have access to nutritious meals at school; school meals meet prescribed food and nutrition standards; school meals are linked to domestic farm production; and all school meal programs must operate on a non-profit basis.



These principles are the platform for school nutrition programs in the United States. And by producing a report that delves deeper into each of these principles, we hope to help other countries develop a school feeding program that can also become sustainable.

Sincerely,

Gene White, RD SNS



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## Nairobi, Kenya MoE

A quick stop at the Ministry of Education in the Machakos District.



## A Warm Welcome

Forum attendees receive a warm welcome from students in the Machakos District during the school feeding fieldtrip.

### FAST FACTS

# 60%

Percentage of deaths caused by malnutrition and hunger-related diseases. (Source: [The State of the World's Children](#), UNICEF, 2007)

# 98%

Percentage of the 925 million hungry people in the world who live in developing countries. (Source: [FAO news release](#), 14 September 2010)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more hunger statistics, visit: <http://www.wfp.org/hunger/stats>



*Stan sits with schoolchildren during the school feeding fieldtrip in the Machakos District of Nairobi, Kenya. May 2011*

## Foundation Features

### GCNF Welcomes Stanley C. Garnett, New Interim Executive Director

Stanley C. Garnett currently acts as the Interim Executive Director for the Global Child Nutrition Foundation, following a 40 year career of Federal service. Stan began his career in one of the first class of the Peace Corps in the Philippines before working for Catholic Relief Services (CRS), an international non-profit organization geared toward feeding programs in developing nations.

From 1965-67, Stan was posted to Vietnam, where he worked with feeding programs benefitting refugees and local orphanages. Shortly thereafter he was transferred to Africa where he administered feeding programs firsthand in Kenya and then Nigeria during the Biafra conflict in the late 1960s. Following his work in Nigeria, Stan was reassigned to work in Ghana where he was CRS Country Director, responsible for development work, including

school feeding programs. His work has reinforced the importance of food and nutrition in the development of the minds and bodies of children regardless of where they live.

Stan returned to the United States to work for the Food and Nutrition Service division of the US Department of Agriculture, from which he retired three years ago. After retiring, Stan has kept busy volunteering at the local food bank, driving for meals on wheels, and assisting in the last presidential campaign. He has also used his extensive professional experience to continue to advocate for child nutrition programs as an Executive Committee Board member of the Global Child Nutrition Foundation. He has attended the Global Child Nutrition Forum since 2009 and has also been highly involved in GCNF's latest school feeding projects in Angola and China.

Stan is married to his wife Eileen of 44 years and has three children and five grandchildren.

# Funding the Future

## Change Our World Wellness Event at ANC

During the School Nutrition Association's Annual National Conference (ANC) in Nashville, TN, GCNF held its annual *Change Our World* wellness event. More than 1,800 school nutrition professionals signed up to learn a few country line dances with the help of a local dance instructor.

Attendees boot scoot the morning away all while raising awareness for childhood hunger worldwide.

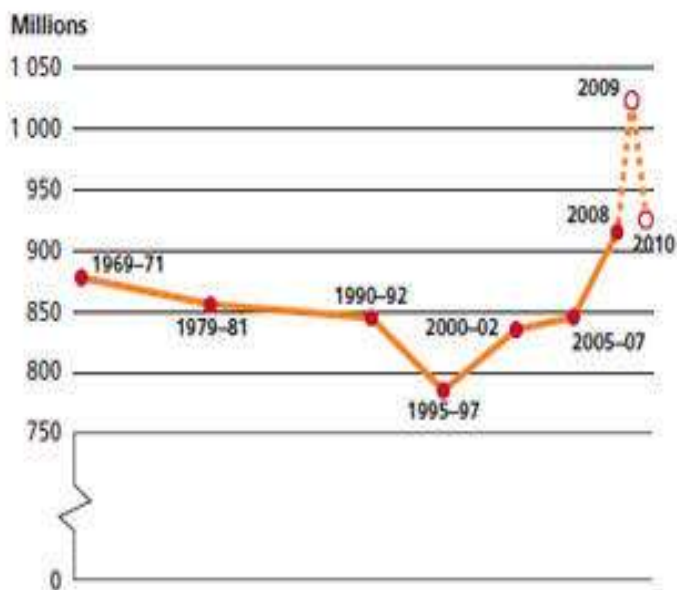
The highly coveted *Change Our World* event t-shirts were donated in part by Winston Industries and Schwan's Food Service, Inc.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on *Change Our World* events, please visit:

<http://www.gcnf.org/events/change-our-world/>



Worldwide hunger statistics. Source: FAO

## Social Media

[www.facebook.com/GCNFoundation](http://www.facebook.com/GCNFoundation)



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follow us on  
twitter

# Delegate Spotlight

## Edwin Paye Kakia, WIDE Liberia

Since the adjournment of the Annual Global Child Nutrition Forum last May in Nairobi, Kenya, I am pleased to update you on our present activities. The zest and potential for taking ownership of school feeding by community farmers in Liberia has been received with high enthusiasm by community members.

I have organized local community members who are engaged in Wet Land Rice cultivation and Cassava Production and are willing to grow and sell their products to our Local NGO, WIDE, to be donated to schools for feeding the pupils as an intervention before the Liberian government takes ownership.

Community farmers are eager to produce rice and sell it to WIDE. Liberia has a Tropical Rain Forest of about 43,000 square miles that has the potential to grow more food that could be used to feed its student population. At the moment, there are three counties in Liberia (Bong, Lofa and Nimba) that were selected for the pilot phase to begin this school term from August 31, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

WIDE key challenges are:

- Funding to buy from the local farmers
- Lack of storage warehouse facilities
- Rice Mill Machine

- Transportation (Truck) to bring the food to various warehouses
- Cassava Grinder

WIDE is a newly organized non – governmental organization duly registered with the Government of Liberia and is a member of the Women’s NGO Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL).

The organization aspires to address issues of women and adolescent girls’ human rights, empowerment, HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence (SGBV) prevention and response, in rural Liberia through the following objectives:

- Skills training program for women and girls
- Engage in the sensitization on the dangers of HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis
- Promotion of community farming for economic empowerment
- To create awareness of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and its harmful impacts
- To provide counseling for survivors of rape and other forms of sexual exploitation and abuse
- Advancing health and sexual reproductive rights



among women and adolescent girls

- Promotion of early childhood development

WIDE seeks to promote women and children’s rights through health, empowerment, capacity building and advocacy for peace and security.

The organization has professional and experienced staff that possesses the relevant qualifications in the above mentioned areas to respond to the overwhelming humanitarian needs.

*Do you have a school feeding story to share? If so, it may be featured in the next issue of Insider International!  
E-mail your story to:  
[jburke@schoolnutrition.org](mailto:jburke@schoolnutrition.org)*

# Funder Spotlight

## School-Link Technologies

School-Link Technologies has been a key supporter of GCNF since 2007. School-Link is an annual sponsor of GCNF's *A Possible Dream* Gala and in 2011 increased their support to \$10,000, joining the prestigious *Builder of Children's Dreams* sponsorship level.

One of four corporations to respond to GCNF's call for a steady stream of multi-year pledges in 2008, School-Link made a generous pledge of \$25,000 over five years. These precious dollars have been allocated to the Global Child Nutrition Forum, now entering into its 14<sup>th</sup> year, which is designed to assist developing countries to build and expand sustainable school feeding programs. At the annual Forum, government leaders from developing countries convene with school feeding stakeholders from the public and private sector and governmental, private voluntary and nonprofit organizations for technical assistance training, program planning, networking opportunities, and day-long school feeding field trips and *School Feeding Toolkit* workshops.

School-Link's CEO, Lawrence "Chip" Goodman has not only been an advocate for school feeding programs, but also for the linkage between school feeding programs and the market they provide for small holder farmers.

Goodman recognizes that, "Providing the right incentives to drive agricultural development in developing countries starts with creating new market demand that then expands capacity. There is no better way to increase demand than to serve home grown food to hungry school children."

Goodman has been committed to the success of the Global Forum since he first attended in 2008. He facilitated the introduction of GCNF to two experts who subsequently made presentations at past Global Forums. CP Das, the President of the Akshaya Patra Foundation presented in 2008 on Akshaya Patra's success in providing hot meals to nearly 1 million children per day in India. Another 200,000 hot meals have been added since then. Dr. George Abe, Director of the Applied Management Research (AMR) program at the Anderson School of Business, presented in 2010 on a research project undertaken by AMR graduate students. The students analyzed the Akshaya Patra Foundation's school feeding program to determine how the application of sound business practices could increase the cost-effectiveness of the program and expand its scale.

Currently, GCNF is entering into discussions with AMR, facilitated by Goodman, to engage AMR graduate students alongside counterparts in developing



countries in a school feeding program-based research project that will develop and transfer business skills and evaluate the means for continuous improvement in school feeding in the host country.

Speaking of his commitment to supporting GCNF's work to help developing countries build and expand sustainable school feeding programs, Goodman and his colleagues see an opportunity to transfer proven business methods to improve efficiencies in school-food supply chains. He is working with UCLA to develop a Management Development Institute and regional training, entrepreneurship development, and technology for accountability to better serve children in schools domestically and overseas.



# Board Member Focus

**Lloyd Le Page, CEO CGIAR**  
France

On September 1, the CGIAR news briefing entitled [“Famine in the Horn of Africa: Challenges and Opportunities for Mitigating Drought-Induced Food Crises”](#) was held at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya and was attended by several prominent guests and researchers. The director for policy at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Jeff Hill, participated in the briefing as did Lloyd Le Page, GCNF Board Member and Chief Executive Officer of CGIAR, Namanga Ngongi, President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), David Miano Mwangi, Assistant Director for animal production at the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) and Mark Gordon, Co-chair of the UN Somalia Food Cluster at the World Food Programme (WFP). The participating experts were [interviewed by more than 20 journalists](#).

[Namanga Ngongi, president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa \(AGRA\)](#) noted that “we have to adapt agriculture to the changing nature of our environment, change our market structures to accommodate and promote drought-tolerant crops and we should consider adjusting our food habits to make better use of crops that are adapted to the region”.

## Global Child Nutrition News

Title: School food lifeline under threat in drought-hit Kenya

Source: CNN International

Link: [http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/07/28/school.food.drought.kenya/index.html?is\\_LR=1](http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/africa/07/28/school.food.drought.kenya/index.html?is_LR=1)

Title: Guinea: Nutrition finds a place in agriculture plan

Source: IRIN: Humanitarian News and Analysis

Link: <http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?reportid=93169>

Title: Angola: School Meal Programme Covers Over 20,000 Children

Source: All Africa

Link: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201109070140.html>



[Lloyd Le Page added that](#) “modest investments in agricultural research that allow the world's most vulnerable people to take charge of their food security are far less expensive than constantly parachuting in food aid and humanitarian assistance. Yet donors and governments continue to fall short of their promise to boost investments in the farm sector”.

As a way to manage drought and less rainfall in the future, the panel suggested that a creation of commodity exchanges for food crops to help reduce speculation on food prices, insurance schemes that was broadened to include livestock, sustainable land management programs. Other proposed solutions to avert future food crisis was construction of soil banks and underground reservoirs. [Read more here.](#)

To see the whole briefing or listen to the audio, please visit the CGIAR [Focus: Horn of Africa](#) page.