



Resilience

African Grandmothers Facing Dual Pandemics and Climate Change

*Out of the plague, at the grassroots,
at community level, all these
grandmothers earnestly, urgently,
supernaturally, labouring to keep
their orphaned grandchildren going,
and they do! --Stephen Lewis*

The Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF) supports community-based organizations working on the frontlines of the AIDS pandemic in sub-Saharan Africa. SLF's partners are providing care and support to grandmothers who are raising their grandchildren whose parents died of AIDS. After creating gardens for food and selling their creative products, flooding and drought caused by the Climate Crisis has made their efforts even more challenging. COVID-19 has added a second pandemic to their lives.

Our presenters, Rita Hutton, a retired high school science teacher, and Pat McKee, associate professor emeritus at U of T, present a beautifully illustrated PowerPoint while they tell the inspirational stories of how the women have risen to their challenges of raising their grandchildren. Many of their grandchildren have now grown up and are taking part in their communities, as they continue to help the younger members of their families.



One of the *Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign* groups is Oomama, representing Oakville, Mississauga, and Burlington. As part of SLF, Oomama's presentations raise awareness of the resilience of the African grandmothers.

For more information,
and to book a
presentation, Contact
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