

## **Partnership's for Home Economics Disaster Assistance to Developing Countries Update, August 2012**

Submitted by Juanita Mendenhall, Coordinator

2012 has seen a great deal of progress in the development of the “Partnership's” Project. Thailand and Australia have officially been added to the Partners list along with the IFHE, AAFCS, IHES, CAHE and IFHE-US. Many more individuals have also committed to help and to educate others about the goals and needs of the Project.” However, there is still a lot of serious work to be done to harness the full potential of this effort into a true partnership that engages home economists around the world who are in place and ready to help when disaster strikes our home economics colleagues in developing countries. Simply stated, the purpose is to “Engage home economists around the world to be in place and ready to help when disaster strikes our home economics educator's in developing countries.”



Both at AAFCS in Indianapolis in June (picture at left) and Melbourne at IFHE Congress in Melbourne, our Partnerships Sales tables proved to be quite effective. Not only were the sales great because of the support of so many willing contributors and purchasers, but this avenue allowed us to “meet and greet” many people, providing an opportunity to gain support as we explained the work and purpose of the “Partnership's Project.” The funds in the IFHE-US “Partnerships”

account now stands at over \$4,260 and has been raised from the sales tables. A huge boost to the effort came from Dr. M.P. Masipa who brought an entire sales table full of items from Thailand to sell at Congress for the Partnership's Project (picture at right). What a wonderful show of support which is tremendously appreciated. We would encourage other groups to hold their own fund raisers to continue building the working capital for the project. This money is being set aside primarily for shipping of donated goods to disaster sites when applied for by those in need. Such funds can be held by a participating “partner” in a special fund such as the IFHE-US one in their own organization as the Caribbean Association and others are currently doing or the money can be sent to the IFHE-US treasurer so it can join other funds for this purpose. These directions will be spelled out in greater detail after the newly developed Advisory Board finishes developing protocol based on input from this summer's meetings. (Meeting minutes from Melbourne and a PowerPoint presentation are posted on the IFHE and IFHE-US websites.



This is a great opportunity for international involvement by professionals taking action at the local, state or Regional level, whether the action is a project for a classroom, one's community, or any group at all levels.

### **BE A PART OF THE PARTNERSHIPS PROJECT NOW!!**

We need small donated items for our “Partnerships Project” Product Sales Tables at various meetings. The money raised will help fund the “Partnerships Project” with money currently held by the IFHE-US and other Partner's as collection organizations. As more plans are laid, there may be other collection

sites. ANYONE can contribute by making and/or bringing items to AAFCS and IFHE-US or IFHE meetings and selling them to raise funds for THIS PROJECT. The US will again have a sales table at AAFCS in Houston in June, 2013. This will be the fourth year and it has proven to be very popular. Recently it was decided to expand the effort to all of the IFHE members, asking that they donate items for the “Partnership’s Sales Tables” at their upcoming meetings. For US meetings, simply get your donation to Juanita Mendenhall before the beginning of the meeting or bring it to the table when it opens. If you want to have your own conference sale of items, report all such actions to Juanita also so we can keep a composite picture. ( HINT: Involving students in making items works great!!) Requests for more information or expressions of interest to participate should be made to Juanita Mendenhall, IHES President, at [juanitam@usit.net](mailto:juanitam@usit.net)

