

## Congo Mission Network Special Emphasis Sub- Groups\*

**Health:** Point person is [Bill Rule](#) (who may be reached at [billnbethrule@comcast.net](mailto:billnbethrule@comcast.net)) and [Woody Collins](#).

The group will attempt to work with as broad a cross-section as possible of people and organizations in both the U.S. and Congo who are involved with CPC and CPK health programs and activities.

Per the minutes from their first meeting, the group will attempt to build, populate, and manage a web-based resource that can serve as a clearinghouse of information on health needs and projects in the areas of the CPC and the CPK. It is envisioned that Congolese persons and organizations will be able to bring their health needs and requests to this clearinghouse and interested current and potential donors will be able to search its database for information on those needs and activities.

Reason for group's formation: With the financial constraints facing World Mission, neither PC(USA) nor the Medical Benevolence Foundation (MBF) are able to perform this broad-based function. Unfortunately, the Congolese Presbyterian churches and related health organizations are feeling increasingly cut off from their traditional sources of support.

**Vulnerable Children:** Temporary Point Person: [Christi Boyd](#) while CMN searches among its membership. Per PC(USA) mission paradigm, staff resource networks but do not lead. Point Person and group would work closely with Christi Boyd.

Reason for the group's formation are two-fold:

1. Partners are re-strategizing for greater effectiveness and sustainability in their ministries for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). The process needs a more coordinated accompaniment from PC(USA) (World Mission and constituents).
2. Partners have expressed the need to expand trauma-healing ministries for children (THC) in conflict zones by allowing current THC facilitators to become trainers of THC facilitators. A THC curriculum geared towards OVC in general, including lessons dealing with witch craft accusations, is currently being drafted.

The sub-group for these different ministries with Vulnerable Children seeks to accompany partners through spiritual, material and financial support of their ministries in response to a changing landscape of approaches.

**Advocacy:** Point person: [Phyllis Green](#)

Point person works closely with [Douglas Tilton](#), PC(USA) Advocacy Resource for Africa, Jeff Boyd, and Catherine Gordon of PC(USA). Major effort is to craft an overture for General Assembly so that the Congo will remain at the top of PC(USA)'s priority list and so that local congregations can piggy-back on national policy.

Main focus is advocacy by CMN and local congregations directed towards Congress and the State Dept. Also, a goal is to educate one's local congregation and Presbytery re the importance of the DRC and advocacy on its behalf.

**Education** (called Build Congo Schools) [www.buildcongoschools.org](http://www.buildcongoschools.org); Point Person: [Jan Sullivan](#) (who may be reached at [sull1300@comcast.net](mailto:sull1300@comcast.net))

**Main focus** is communicating the education goals of the Congolese Presbyterian Primary and Secondary Schools to US partners and raising funds to address these goals. These goals are evaluated and established annually by the CPC and CPK Education Leaders. **The current goals are:** constructing durable school buildings, providing teacher textbooks; providing teacher training; improving girls' and orphans' school enrollment and retention with scholarships; and providing transportation for education supervisors.

**Point person** works closely with **Gwenda Fletcher**, CPC's mission co-worker for education; and with [Jeff Boyd](#), (who may be reached at [jeff.boyd@pcusa.org](mailto:jeff.boyd@pcusa.org)), the PC(USA)'s liaison with the CPK+; and the **Education Leaders** of the CPC and CPK. Part of the Point Person's job description is to facilitate involvement of and communications with PC (USA) members and others to support the education goals of the Congolese Presbyterian church-schools."

\*All groups should co-ordinate with [Jeff Boyd](#), World Mission Regional Liaison for the DRC.