



## Seven Local Nonprofits United in a Collaborative Fundraiser for Literacy and Education: Literacy Is For Everyone (LIFE)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Minneapolis—Seven, diverse, women-led, exceptional nonprofit organizations have united in an unprecedented collaborative initiative called LIFE. This inaugural partnership aims to amplify their impact on underserved communities in Minnesota, Haiti, and across Africa through a joint fundraising event at 5:30-8:30 PM on Friday, October 13, 2023, at The Dovetail Building in Minneapolis, 1307 2nd Ave N, Minneapolis, MN.

This landmark event, which includes food, beverages, a silent auction and more, not only aims to raise essential funds, but to raise awareness about the challenges faced in accessing quality education and essential resources.

“Sarah Drake’s Nanou’s Promise puts her passion for putting her artistic talents into actions that change lives half-way around the planet inspires us all,” said Mark Ritchie, former MN Secretary of State and chair of MN’s World’s Fair Bid Committee Educational Fund. “I am so grateful to Sarah Drake for this gift of hope and reminder of what we can do each and every day to make the world a better place for all.” Sarah is with herARTS in Action (MN and Burkina Faso). Fellow event collaborators Leslie Pitt (Project Lolo, Ghana) and Rosemond Sarpong Owens (Sanitation and Literacy Ghana, Ghana) are also authors.

Rosemond Sarpong Owens, 2022 recipient of the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award explained why the event is important: “Join us, the passionate and determined women of 'Literacy Is For Everyone', as we unite our voices and hearts to break down barriers and illuminate pathways to a brighter future. Together, we're weaving dreams of a world where every individual's potential is nurtured through the gift of education— because literacy is not just a skill, it's a beacon of hope we can all help shine.”

Education is at the core of the work of Robyn Coquyt (Africa Classroom Connection, South Africa), Erin Bagniewski (Africa Strong Inc, Uganda), Carol Pfleiderer (Holistic Ministry of Children of the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia) and Saintanne Tipton (The Lighthouse, Haiti).

The LIFE event is a collaborative initiative consisting of seven nonprofit organizations dedicated to promoting literacy and education in underserved communities working on the United Nations goal for education (SDG4). By combining their resources and expertise, these organizations aim to make a significant, lasting impact on individuals' lives. Through this joint fundraising effort, they aspire to provide essential educational opportunities to communities in Minnesota, Haiti, and across Africa.

Individually, these organizations have made remarkable strides in promoting literacy and education. However, they recognize that by combining their strengths and resources, they can achieve an even greater, lasting change. This diverse group of women represent their shared commitment to collaboration and their determination to make a significant difference in the lives of those they serve.

For further information and inquiries, please visit the [LIFE website](#) where you can also follow our journey and the incredible transformations that we can accomplish together.

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