

**December 11, 2008**  
**E-Connections**

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**Violence in Mumbai, India—LOVE in the Face of Hate**

As India and the world reel from the shocking violence of late November, we at IPM humbly offer our prayers and solidarity with all those affected. IPM Staff and Project Partners are all physically safe, although no doubt still feeling the effects of the shocking violence. We are proud to continue to work with and support individuals and organizations that foster justice, peace, and hope, rejecting the premise that violence is inevitable. Our Project Partners prove every day that peace through cross-cultural dialogue and understanding is possible.

In the words of Doctor Vimala Charles, IPM Project Coordinator in India, *"We need your prayers especially now, when we are facing a very uncertain tomorrow. When one of us thinks of what has happened and what is threatening us, [it seems] just opposite to what Gandhi believed in—nonviolence—no blood shed...Many families have been shattered. If we were just to sit back and think as human beings before we act many 'unjust events' could be avoided."*

In the face of this violence, we are challenged to respond not with more violence or hostility, but rather with love. The words of Martin Luther King, Jr. spoken some twenty years ago continue to guide us in facing hatred and injustice throughout the world.

*"Hatred and bitterness can never cure the disease of fear; only LOVE can do that.  
Hatred paralyzes life; LOVE releases it.  
Hatred confuses life; LOVE harmonizes it.  
Hatred darkens life; LOVE illuminates it."*

To express your solidarity, we urge you to consider making a donation to *HUM (Hindus United with Muslims)*, an IPM Project Partner in Ahmedabad, INDIA, just north of Mumbai, dedicated to bridging boundaries of faith and culture in this country so torn by difference to empower women and foster community grounded in peace. To donate online, go to: [http://partners.guidestar.org/controller/searchResults.gs?action\\_donateReport=1&partner=networkforgood&ein=43-1487311](http://partners.guidestar.org/controller/searchResults.gs?action_donateReport=1&partner=networkforgood&ein=43-1487311)

Thank you,  
Joseph F. Cistone  
Executive Director  
December 11, 2008

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## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference for Latin America & the Caribbean**

We are thrilled to announce an extremely successful 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference for Latin America & the Caribbean, held in Nicaragua from December 1 to December 3, 2008. This was a unique opportunity for our Project Partners from throughout Latin America & the Caribbean to gather together in one space to share ideas and provide feedback for one another as they all seek to strengthen their Projects. The objective of the Conference was to offer IPM's longstanding Project Partners a place to share their work experiences, reflect on their outcomes, discuss their future plans, and inform IPM's plans for actions and opportunities in the Region.

Over 35 people attended the Conference. After gathering first in November 2007, this year's Conference provided an opportunity for updates on both the challenges and successes of the last year, while setting goals for 2009. Many of these Projects had previously worked in isolation, not able to access a wider network of organizations working towards many of the same objectives. IPM plans to hold another conference in Latin America & the Caribbean in 2009, as well as hold our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference for Sub-Saharan Africa.

IPM received funding for the Conference from the Ostara Foundation and Mary's Pence. We are extremely grateful for the contributions of these foundations to facilitate this important opportunity for collaboration.

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## **First International Board Meeting in El Salvador**

IPM's International Board of Directors met December 4-7 in El Salvador for our first International Board Meeting. The meeting included a mini-Immersion Experience led by IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, during which Board Members visited with some of IPM's Project Partners in El Salvador. The meeting proved an exciting opportunity for the Board to experience firsthand the extraordinary work of our El Salvador based Project Partners. We were especially pleased to welcome Ana Greig, Project Coordinator for the *Soya Project* to the Board of Directors and to her first meeting. Ana is a Maryknoll Lay Missionary who lives and works full time in El Salvador, and we were thrilled to have her in attendance at the Board meeting. Three new Board members were elected at this meeting: Jim Kamphoefner of San Francisco, California, USA; Heena Shah of Gujarat, India; and Zoraida Soza of San Francisco Libre, Nicaragua. We were also pleased to honor Carol Findling with the Mayer-Strege Award and as IPM's 3<sup>rd</sup> Director Emeritus. This was the first time that the Board has met outside of the USA, and is representative of our strong growth towards being a truly international and indigenous organization.

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## **"From Despair to Elation"—IPM Supporter and Immersion Experience Participant, Tim McCarthy, Reflects on Kenya**

Go to [http://thebusinessofgood.org/newsletter/dec\\_newsletter\\_1.html](http://thebusinessofgood.org/newsletter/dec_newsletter_1.html) to read a recent reflection by strong IPM supporter and friend, Tim McCarthy of The Business of Good. Tim traveled with his family on an IPM Immersion Experience to Kenya in late November, his third Immersion Experience in the last four years. \*\*\*Read below\*\*\* for information about

Alice & Tim McCarthy's extraordinary challenge to other IPM supporters through their \$100,000 match campaign.

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### **2009 Immersion Experience Programs: Sign up now!**

Join us in 2009 on one of our open Immersion Experience Programs, listed below, or consider organizing a group of your own! Contact Laurie Rodney at [lrodney@ipmconnect.org](mailto:lrodney@ipmconnect.org) or +1.216.702.2514 for more information.

*INDIA: February 13-24*  
with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, and Mahesh Updadhyya

*EL SALVADOR "Educate the Educators": July 18-25*  
with Laurie Rodney and Sofia Baires

*WYOMING: August*  
with IPM Board Members, Chris Henry and Caroline Mills

*INDIA: October*  
with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, and Mahesh Updadhyya

*KENYA/UGANDA: October*  
with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, and Regional Staff

*NICARAGUA "Holiday with a Conscience" November*  
with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone, and Magda Lanuza

*ITALY: December*  
with IPM Executive Director, Joe Cistone

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### **Holiday Shopping at your Favorite Stores to Benefit IPM!**

Use [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) for all of your holiday shopping, and IPM will receive a portion of the profits *at no additional cost to you!* Stores like Amazon.com, Toys R Us, Target, Zappos, and many more offer a portion of proceeds to the non-profit of your choice. Simply type "International Partners in Mission" under "Who do you Goodshop for?" and IPM will receive up to 30% of the proceeds from your online purchases.

As always, bookmark [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine, and IPM will earn money with every search. Enter "International Partners in Mission" under "Who do you Goodsearch for?" and IPM will receive a donation for every search performed.

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### **Find us on Facebook**

Go to <http://www.facebook.com/home.php#/pages/International-Partners-in-Mission/15162862167> to become a "fan" of IPM on Facebook and be the first to see pictures

and video of recent Immersion Experiences. Also connect with other friends of IPM from around the world on our wall and discussion board.

Setting up an account is easy if you don't yet have one. Simply go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) to create a profile and account so you can connect with IPM.

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### **Donate Online through Network for Good: Donations to be Matched up to \$100,000 through Year-End**

For the second year in a row, IPM is thrilled to announce an exciting opportunity, made possible through the generosity of Alice & Tim McCarthy. The McCarthys are sponsoring a Match Campaign, in which all new or increased gifts will be matched, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$100,000.00 thereby doubling the impact of each eligible gift made through the end of the year.

This incredible generosity and heartfelt challenge to fellow IPM enthusiasts illustrates the degree of passion and commitment that the McCarthys and so many of our donors possess. We are excited about the potential of this challenge and are humbled by the positive impact this challenge will have on IPM in this difficult economic climate. In light of the current state of the global economy, it is especially critical that we meet the needs of our Partners as they continue their vital work. We are optimistic that this challenge will help us to do so. We hope that you will consider seizing this chance to double the power of your dollar at a time when this type of opportunity is so seldom offered.

To donate to IPM online through Network for Good, and contribute to this campaign, go to [http://partners.guidestar.org/controller/searchResults.gs?action\\_donateReport=1&partner=networkforgood&ein=43-1487311](http://partners.guidestar.org/controller/searchResults.gs?action_donateReport=1&partner=networkforgood&ein=43-1487311)