

## From the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board



Today, AED is one of the largest and most effective social change organizations in the world, with a reputation for innovative approaches to critical social problems and a demonstrated record of achieving successful results. Over the past year, AED has expanded its partnerships with foundations, corporations, and governments to improve the lives of people in need in more than 60 countries.

Through professional exchanges and study tours that enhance the skills of mid-career professionals, we have served people in another 90 countries. We continue to increase access to high-quality education, especially for girls in developing countries, promote the practice of healthy behaviors, and strengthen civil society. We have a growing set of enterprise development and microfinance programs, a relatively new area for AED.

We are focusing on accountability through two important initiatives: more resources for monitoring and evaluation to reinforce the high quality of our work, and creation of an internal audit department to identify and monitor risks, to refine policies and procedures, and to support AED staff training in effective risk management.

AED recently started new civil society and education projects assisting people in crisis in Darfur, Liberia, and Afghanistan. Given the security challenges in these countries, we have put new security measures in place to ensure the safety of all staff.

As careful and transparent stewards of donor funds along with AED management, the Board reassessed its responsibilities and functions over the past year to ensure the highest standards of nonprofit governance are met. We are pleased to report that AED continues to keep administrative costs low, with more than 90% of our funding going to programs.

We appreciate the continued faith and support of AED's many donor organizations and contributors and salute the work being done every day by our worldwide staff of 2,000. We look forward to the coming year with the expectation that these efforts will make a significant difference in helping to create a better future for all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward W. Russell".

Edward W. Russell  
Chairman of the Board

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberta N. Clarke".

Roberta N. Clarke  
Vice Chairman of the Board