

October 12, 2006

To the Communications Workers of America:

I am writing to offer my most heartfelt thank you for the warm welcome I received at your 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Las Vegas. Your energy and tremendous support has been so valuable to the Foundation since the first time Elizabeth courageously shared her personal story with CWA members at the 1990 national convention. I'm honored that our partnership has continued to grow and has allowed us to bring real results to more children and families living by HIV/AIDS.

Shortly after attending your convention I was one of 25,000 delegates in Toronto for the International AIDS Conference. I was encouraged that the world has begun to elevate the status of children in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Many of the high-profile speeches in Toronto highlighted the special needs of children, including those by Bill and Melinda Gates and former President Bill Clinton. Thanks to pioneers like Elizabeth Glaser and caring organizations like CWA, children are finally on the worldwide HIV/AIDS agenda.

But even those speeches acknowledged the ongoing failure to adequately prevent and treat HIV in children around the world. We are still reaching less than 10 percent of HIV-positive pregnant women with services that will prevent new infections in babies, and less than 5 percent of children living with HIV are receiving the medicine that can extend their lives. There is also a serious need for more research on pediatric AIDS, so we can continue developing better pediatric treatments and possibly a vaccine for children.

Although my experience in Toronto was sobering, I came away with a strong feeling of hope about what we have accomplished and the path forward. At one of the conference's key sessions, the Foundation announced that we have reached more than 2.1 million women and helped to ensure more babies are born free of HIV. We now also bring urgently-needed antiretroviral drugs to more than 63,000 adults and 5,000 children worldwide. This means mothers around the globe who were very ill, are healthy enough to take care of their children. Children living with HIV are returning to school. Families that were devastated by AIDS now have hope for the future.

Statistics like these are more than just numbers — they represent thousands of stories of hope in the fight against HIV/AIDS. But the number of people we're able to help today is just a tiny fraction of the millions of children and families without access to the care they need. We can and must do more.

Your generosity to the Foundation has been more than outstanding, and we are so grateful for all that you have done. Together, we have made great progress, but we must continue Elizabeth's mission until we have discovered better treatments, a preventative vaccine, and ultimately a cure for this deadly disease.

We can fulfill these needs with the help of supporters like you. Please visit our Web site at [www.pedaids.org](http://www.pedaids.org) to learn more about our work and ways to make a difference. By working together, we can send a clear message of hope and we can make a real difference in the lives of children and families around the world. . . Because every child deserves a lifetime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela W. Barnes". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Pamela W. Barnes

President and Chief Executive Officer

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation