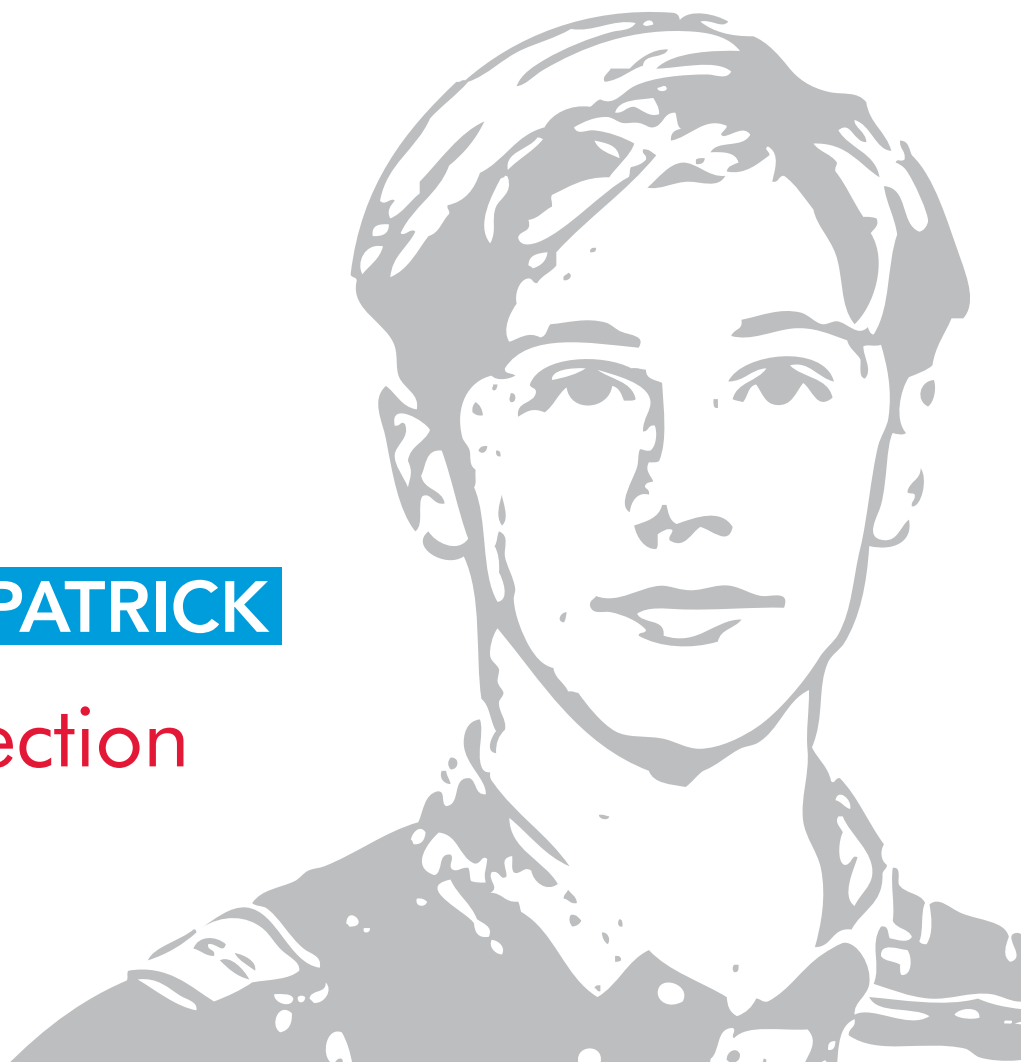




**PARTICI-PATRICK**

Africa Connection



**24**  
**Patrick**  
4 life pour la vie



## Africa Connection

### **Patrick's Wish**

- Story and suggested activities
- Map of Africa
- Pictures of Partici-Patrick medals being made

### **Grandmothers**

- Story and suggested activities
- Information sheet on grandmothers in Africa and the Stephen Lewis Foundation
- Contact: Bunty Swanson, Grandmothers to Grandmothers, Tel: 705-474-4044
- Suggested Reading: *Who Will Cuddle Them When They Sleep?* Written by Paige Pedlar

### **Mpunguzi Youth HIV/AIDS Resource Centre**

- Story and suggested activities
- Background information on the Centre
- Picture and description





## Patrick's Wish

To Africa, Patrick's parents went to share Patrick's wish. They travelled across an ocean, through grasslands and jungles to meet the village youth. While playing games and sports, the children learned about HIV and AIDS. They learned that good choices would keep them healthy. The villagers wanted to help keep Patrick's wish alive. The carvers carved a coconut shell medal to be given on Partici-Patrick Day of Champions. By working together, we are united in Patrick's Wish: **Zero AIDS**.

### **Suggested follow-up:**

1. Make a beaded necklace
2. Draw a medal
3. Trace route travelled on a map
4. Make up a game to play
5. Write a poem

## Grandmothers

Grandmothers are special people. In Africa, the Grandmothers are even more important in the lives of children. The Grandmothers look after their own grandchildren and the children from other families whose parents have also died. Sometimes 9, 11, 14 children live in one small mud thatched house. Who else is going to teach them to grow their own food, make their clothes, learn their family stories? Who will tuck them into bed each night and keep them safe?

Grandmothers are old, but try their best to get food for the children and pay for them to go to school. However, Grandmothers need help. The Stephen Lewis Foundation helps Grandmothers by paying them to do small jobs in their village. The Grandmothers know they are not alone. Grandmothers in North Bay and other cities in Canada are sending donations to help them take care of the orphan children. The Grandmothers want their grandchildren to be healthy and make good choices. In Africa, there are almost 14 million orphan children. By working together, we are united in Patrick's Wish: **Zero AIDS**.

### **Suggested follow-up:**

1. Locate countries in Africa where the Stephen Lewis Foundation helps
2. Read more about Stephen Lewis
3. Find out about the Grandmothers to Grandmothers



## Mpunguzi Youth HIV/AIDS Resource Centre

In 2007, Patrick's story was shared with the youth at the Mpunguzi Resource Centre, Dodoma area, Tanzania, East Africa. The youth at the centre learn about HIV/AIDS and the importance of making healthy life style choices.

Through song and dance, stories and drama, the youth teach the village communities what is true and what is false about HIV/AIDS. The Community centre is a place for the youth to meet, play sports, and enjoy their music. They also receive training in sewing and building and food production. After grade 8, most youth need to have a job as they cannot afford to pay the fees to go to high school. When they heard Patrick's story, they wanted to make Patrick their Patron. They promised to remember Patrick, especially in June every year. They know they are not alone. By working together, we are united in Patrick's Wish: **Zero AIDS**.

### Suggested follow-up:

1. Write a letter or make a card for the youth at the Mpunguzi Youth HIV/AIDS Resource Centre
2. Write 3 questions you would like to know about living in Africa
3. Make up a rap song on HIV/AIDS



Creating awareness about HIV infection and preventing the spread of HIV among youth was emphasized. More people are willingly learning their HIV status through voluntary counseling and testing. Community Care Coalitions were formed to care for people living with HIV and AIDS and orphans and vulnerable children. This has reduced the social stigma for orphaned people living with HIV and AIDS. Also, income generating activity groups are bringing hope to people living with HIV and AIDS and orphaned and vulnerable youth.

Mpunguzi youth chose Patrick, challenged by a disability, as their patron. *"We will put into reality his wish of a world with Zero AIDS"* said Mary the youth secretary.



Wear your medals proudly. They were made by hand by the Lewoh Youth Association in The Republic of Cameroon, Africa for Partici-Patrick 2009.



