

The Social Justice Fund (SJF) is one of the many ways the PSAC assists others from around the world on issues such as Human Rights and Equity. This assistance can be in the form of education, mobilization, and empowerment.

One of the events planned in 2017 by the SJF, is participation in the Stephen Lewis Foundation trip to Swaziland and South Africa, in support of the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign. The Campaign raises funds in Canada for the Stephen Lewis Foundation's work with community based organizations in Africa that provide both grandmothers, and the children in their care who are orphaned by AIDS, with the necessities of life, including counseling, nutrition, shelter, school supplies, and income generation activities.

In Durban, grandmothers from across South Africa will gather to collectively advance their demands and find strength and sisterhood in one another. South African grandmothers are the Gathering's organizers, and along with twenty other community-based organizations, have identified the issues they demand be addressed, including HIV disclosure, parenting, HIV testing, pensions, and land and inheritance rights.

The trip will include community-based partner visits to Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA) and Swaziland Positive Living (SWAPOL). Both groups work primarily with women, orphans, and children to support, counsel, educate, advocate, and empower them. It will be an opportunity to witness first-hand the impact of our Union's support and contributions beyond our borders, and to recognize the critical role played in holding families and communities together in the midst of the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

In solidarity,

Jacqueline Gujarati