



December 2008

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**CDLS Class of 2008**



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Please include my project code "SAICD" or "South Africa" in the memo line.

*"Like dreams, small creeks grow into mighty rivers."*  
Source Unknown



**Out of Africa: Season's Greetings from Selena**

**Dear Brett and Shannon,**

The weather in South Africa is warm and sunny. I'm back in the States for Christmas which means I'm experiencing the dark and sometimes cold days of winter for the second time this year. But despite the cold, my heart is warmed by reunions with family and friends. I look forward to time with my mom, who traveled from Canada to Nashville, and my brother Darryl and his wife Kate who will join my brother Wayne's family for Christmas.

**I am being refreshed as I meet with the amazing array of friends who have provided the way for me to serve in South Africa.**

I am also experiencing the favor of new friends who have joined my partnership team and hope to see more young leaders trained through the Community Development Leadership School (CDLS) in 2009.

I remain focused on building a stronger foundation of financial support, and will continue meeting and sharing the vision with people in the Nashville area through the first three weeks in January. Then I will return to the work in South Africa until late November 2009.

As I reflect on this past year, there is much to celebrate regarding the launch of the first five-month CDLS training program. I look forward to continuously encouraging these leaders and seeing how their impact spreads throughout their communities.

**At the close of the semester, we asked the students to complete a detailed survey regarding their experience with CDLS.**

Here are some of the remarks I would like to share:

(Q: Did this program meet your expectations?)

"This course was a milestone and turning point in my life."

"It exceeded my expectations."

"It has been quite an amazing Journey to be part of this pioneer class."

(Q: What did you find most valuable about the CDLS program?)

"Personal interaction with the lecturers and fellow class members."

"Practical skills and the theological basis."

"(1) The diversity of the courses and presenters: (2) The camaraderie among the students."

**Together we are shaping the vision and leadership skills of those with a passion to see transformation in the lives of those affected by poverty. Please take a look at the four minute promotional video to hear some student comments first hand:**

<http://www.youtube.com/user/cdleader>

**Best wishes to you and yours,  
and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

*With love and gratefulness,*

**Selena Headley**

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**2008 ILDI Fundraising Breakfast**

Pictured above (from left to right)

Volunteer coordinator Kandace Davies; Some ILDI Board Members: Brett Kozimor, Wendy Miller, Lee Feliciano, Monique Benjamin, Steve Robinson, Cristy Robinson (ILDI Executive Director), Shodankeh Johnson, and me.