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NEW NON-PROFIT ADDRESSES GLOBAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT "ONE VILLAGE AT A TIME"

**onevillage** Launches to Promote Local Sustainable Development  
and Community Empowerment Across the Globe

*New York, NY – November 8, 2011* – **onevillage**, a new non-profit focusing on global community empowerment, launched yesterday in an effort to support small-scale developmental initiatives that empower the residents of some of the world's most underdeveloped communities.

Founded by Jill Blumberg, Leia Welsh and Sarah Lindquist, **onevillage** focuses on four core areas: education, health care, infrastructure and economic development, and channels funds and expertise to underdeveloped villages through in-country program coordinators who know first-hand the needs of local communities.

"We started **onevillage** with the goal of promoting local, sustainable community development in some of the most underserved villages around the world, and with the belief that by listening to local residents, starting small and applying assistance and funds where needed, we could develop a model that not only creates healthy communities but fosters a healthy planet," says Jill Blumberg. "Our goal is to create community empowerment in each village that we serve by improving the lives of its residents and then ultimately to connect these villages as spokes so that we can build a support structure that spreads positive change locally, regionally and globally."

The community hub is a unique facet of the **onevillage** model; the hub can take on many forms depending on the individual structure of the community but regardless of its nature it serves as a focal point for the group's work. The hub may be a community health center, a garden, an after-school tutoring center or a combination of all three and serves not only as an outreach base for the group's activities but also provides a safe space for local residents.

The group's first project is located in Kpando, Ghana, where the founders first met as volunteers, and addresses the educational needs of the large orphan population through educational grants, scholarships and teaching support, among other project goals.

"It was important that **onevillage's** inaugural project start in Kpando, a village where myself and both of my partners have each volunteered and lived throughout the last 3 years," continues Blumberg. "The reception we have gotten not only from people of Kpando, but also from the local government officials and resident Chiefs has been incredible, and our ideas and model have been welcomed with open arms. Our first initiatives, including funding a sustainable

farming project for a village orphanage and the construction of a village community hub which will serve as the focal point of our efforts, are in their infancy but are already showing huge progress."

**onevillage's** mission is to promote local community development in a global landscape through education, health care, infrastructure advancement and economic growth with a focus on underserved villages in the poorest countries around the world. **onevillage** is based in New York City, with satellite offices in Chicago and Boulder. **onevillage's** status as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity recognized by the IRS is pending.

**onevillage** is actively seeking charitable contributions, sponsorships and/or partnerships, as well as individuals interested in getting involved. To find out more about **onevillage**, visit [www.onevillageglobal.org](http://www.onevillageglobal.org).

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