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## **PRESS RELEASE** **June 3, 2008**

### **ACRT ANNOUNCES ART FUNDRAISER FOR AIDS RELIEF IN AFRICA**

The Aids Crisis Response Team (ACRT), a non-profit organization, has announced an exciting fundraising effort to bring relief to people suffering from HIV/AIDS in poverty stricken areas in Africa. Local artists have generously contributed pieces including Paintings, Pottery, Jewelry, and many other unique works of art, which will be on display for one day only at the Chancery Gallery in Bracebridge, Ontario, Sunday June 8, 2008, from 11 am to 4 pm.

100% of the proceeds from this sale will support ACRT's upcoming trip to Nigeria, where the team will be distributing much needed medical supplies, help with the building of an HIV clinic, and provide education, training and programming.

According to Donna King, Assistant Director for ACRT, "HIV/Aids is a global crisis that now requires an individual response. People are dying unnecessarily every day without access to essential medicines, testing or even basic pain relief. Mothers are transmitting HIV to their babies because they cannot afford to buy formula. It can seem like a huge problem, too big to solve, but I believe that it can be by grass roots; ordinary people who really have the desire to help and are willing to get involved. Our team, and all of those who support us through our fundraising and events are helping to ensure that aid gets directly into the hands of the people who need it."

Local Artist and Photographer Terry Sebastian adds "this exciting event has garnered an excellent response from the art community locally and abroad. There will be pottery from Cathy Moffatt-Craig of Potluck Studios, paintings from dynamic artist Pat Whittle, and printmaker Krysia Bower. Other pieces include stained glass works from Susanna Ruthorford and a hand-made canoe paddle from PEI craftsman Gary Torlone. Jewelry designed by Jillianne King, and hand-painted porcelain by Marie Janisse-Deneau will also be on display. One piece that really stands out is a beautiful traditional hand-embroidered dress made in Africa."

*For more information please contact Donna King or Terry Sebastian at 705-788-9362.*

