

# Our Impact: Facts and Figures

- Over the past ten years, Vesper Society has invested \$7 million in U.S. and international projects providing health services and addressing social justice.
- We are providing key leadership for a groundbreaking initiative in Africa to tap the health assets of religious communities to fight the scourge of AIDS. The African Religious Health Assets Program (ARHAP) represents the leading edge of asset-based community development. Lessons learned here are valuable around the world.
- We are addressing global health policy through our work with the Carter Center, the new Oslo Center, founded by a former Norwegian prime minister, and the World Health Organization.
- While philanthropic and educational interest in the theme of vocation has grown in recent years, Vesper Society has emphasized the calling of lay people since our founding in 1965.
- We also practiced “social enterprise” long before the phrase became popular. Our ownership and operation of two hospitals through the mid-1980s generated revenue to support creative community building and leadership development initiatives.
- We founded one of the first home-based hospice programs in the Western U.S. in 1978.
- We convened individuals representing different sectors of Guatemalan society at a critical time to help put into practice the necessary conditions for the successful implementation of the Peace Accords that brought an end to its civil war.
- Our funds support the provision of mental health services for at-risk youth in Hayward, Calif.
- We support medical treatment for 60 people with AIDS in two rural South African centers with a unique life-saving approach. The Masangane Treatment Program ties daily anti-retroviral (ARV) drug therapy to the spiritual practices of a faith community.
- By 2007, we will help train 200 leaders in conflict situations around the globe to make peace through the practice of mediative dialogue. Dialogue for Peaceful Change deepens the role of faith in the process of peacemaking.



**believing in individuals, creating opportunities**