



latin america

india

indonesia

africa

asia



## Annual Report 2008

Afghanistan	Haiti	Peru
Albania	Honduras	Philippines
Argentina	Hungary	Romania
Bali	India	Senegal
Belize	Jamaica	Serbia
Bhutan	Jordan	Sri Lanka
Bolivia	Kenya	South Africa
Bosnia	Lebanon	South Korea
Brazil	Liberia	Santa Lucia
Cambodia	Macedonia	Tanzania
Chile	Mexico	Thailand
China	Mozambique	Tibet
Colombia	Myanmar	Uganda
Costa Rica	Namibia	Ukraine
Dominican Republic	Nepal	United States
Ecuador	Nicaragua	Uruguay
El Salvador	Pakistan	Venezuela
Germany	Palestine	Vietnam
Ghana	Panama	Zimbabwe
Guatemala	Paraguay	



# Our Mission

*Airline Ambassadors provides international relief and development to underprivileged communities around the world.*

Board of Advisors		Board of Directors
Dr. Patch Adams <i>Founder and President, Gesundheit! Institute</i>	Lelei LeLaulu <i>Former CEO Counterpart</i>	Nana Patricia McPeak <i>Chair, CEO Nana Cea</i>
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Francesco Frangialli <i>Secretary-General, World Tourism Organization</i>	Arvin and Eva Patel <i>International Entrepreneurs</i>	Headquarters Staff
H.E. and Mrs. Luis Gallegos <i>Ambassador of Ecuador</i>	Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris <i>Author, Biologist</i>	Nancy Rivard <i>Executive Director - PR</i>
Val Halemendaris <i>President, Caring Institute</i>	Hiroo Saionji <i>President, World Peace Prayer Society</i>	Jadine Leclair <i>Executive Assistant</i>
Prateep Ungsongtham Hata <i>Founder, Duang Prateep Foundation</i>	Dame Livia Silva <i>Ambassador-at-Large, Comite de excellence Europeenne</i>	Lynette Widdison <i>Humanitarian Missions/Logistics</i>
Kumar Ketkar <i>Editor, Maharashtra Times</i>	Reverend Desmond M. Tutu <i>Archbishop Emeritus of Cape Town</i>	Jean Barry <i>Website Administrator</i>
Annette Lantos <i>Director, Congressional Human Rights Caucus</i>		Arthur Ortiz, EA <i>Accounting</i>
		Bernadette Perez <i>Finance/Bookkeeper</i>
		Rachel DeSantis <i>Administrative Assistant</i>



## A Message of Thanks and Appreciation

Looking back on the accomplishments of this past year, we at AIRLINE AMBASSADORS are very grateful for your generous help and participation. With the help of our members and partners we have been able to personally improve the lives of an estimated 100,000 children in 21 countries last year.

We hand delivered \$3.5M in medicine, medical supplies, food, clothing and school supplies directly to children in need; and escorted 161 children for life changing surgeries and orphans to new homes. We established long term relationships between youth around the world and offered hope and education to children in 94 facilities, villages and refugee camps.

We also positively impacted volunteers with 210 inspiring opportunities to bring compassion into action. Our members deepened their understanding of global inequity, respect for diverse cultures and appreciation of our common humanity.

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS is the only international aid and development organization within the airline industry. We more effectively leverage capabilities within our industry to provide low cost transportation, transport of goods, customs or logistical coordination and direct aid delivery to disaster regions and children in orphanages, clinics and remote communities. We have grown to thousands of members that act as a human link connecting world resource to world need.

For every dollar donated in the year 2008, we delivered over eleven times this amount in humanitarian relief to thousands of children who are now depending on our help. This year, because of a relationship with the US Army Civil Affairs, we were able to move more aid than ever before. Our volunteers contributed over 98,000 hours of volunteer service and spent \$550,000 of personal income. With 2% of donations going to administration we have accomplished miracles.

We could not accomplish our work without the support of our volunteers, the airlines and local partners including dozens of non-profits, businesses and local governments. This letter of thanks and appreciation goes out to our benefactors who have generously contributed their resources, time and passion and to the children who await our help worldwide.

In Shared Dedication,

Nancy Rivard  
President and Founder



Thank you to our donors and sponsors for helping to create

## *A Mosaic of Miracles!*

### **\$25,000**

American Airlines  
FAMRI - Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute  
UNICEF

### **\$10,000 +**

ISTAT - International Society of Transportation  
Aircraft Trading Foundation  
Hernreich Family Foundation  
American Giving  
Patricia McPeak  
Susan Allen  
Dr. Nassrin Zahedi  
Leslie Sosnowski  
Steel Reinforcing

### **\$5,000 +**

Virtuoso/ Exotismo  
Deanna Frieze  
The Global Contribution  
Avis Budget Charitable Foundation  
James & Katherine Klien  
Nixon Peabody LLP  
Fine Living Network  
Rodrick & Sharon King  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP  
Regal Entertainment  
Carolyn Larson  
LDS Charities

### **\$2,000 +**

Bear Stearns Charitable Gift Fund  
Southern Iowa Econ Dev Association  
Emane Reis  
NBC News  
Hunaina Al-Mughairy  
Scott Sussman  
Wallaroo Hat Company  
Thomas Kroetch  
Fresh Produce Sportswear, Inc.  
Stanley/Marion Bergman Charitable Foundation  
Henry Schein, Inc.  
The New York Community Trust  
David & Sylvia Steiner Charitable Trust  
Howard Berk

### **\$1000 +**

Christina Andersen  
B.R. Guest Restaurants  
Barabara Pyle Foundation  
John Barraclough  
Black & Light Company  
Daniel & Michele Bonvalot  
Anthony & Samantha Branchinelli

Jean Charles  
Rohit & Sonal Chopra  
Steve Crane  
Ana Maria Cruz  
Scott & Darcy Durham  
Vanessa Faktor  
Christopher Grubb  
Hannah's Gold  
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Reaching Hearts for Kids  
Kristen Resnasky  
Robert Bothman, Inc.  
Susanne Setchell

Maulin Shah  
Peggy and Carson Shelly  
Eddie Smith  
Paul & Unique Sautier Vacation, Inc.  
Stay Awake Inc.  
Doug Stoup  
Daniel Susott

The Humpty Dumpty Institute  
The Ritz Carlton SF  
Transformation 2000  
Tree of Life Foundation  
West Marine Products Corporation  
Wings Financial  
David Yankelevitz



## From the President and Founder

Airline Ambassadors provides international relief and development to underprivileged communities worldwide.

### **AIRLINE AMBASSADORS INTERNATIONAL (AAI)**

is a non-profit organization affiliated with the United Nations and recognized by the US Congress. Inspired by the UN Millennium Development Goals, AAI provides a way for individuals to participate and contribute to humanitarian relief and development projects at home and abroad.

Our teams have made significant contributions to our world community, addressing issues of POVERTY & HUNGER, CHILD WELFARE, EDUCATION, DISASTER RELIEF, HEALTH and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.

Partnering with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), schools, churches, and civil society organizations, Airline Ambassadors leverages our affiliation with the travel industry to match world resource to world need. Thousands of members volunteer their skills, time, finances, and effort to become a direct link, providing humanitarian aid, tangible care and goodwill services.

How does Airline Ambassadors accomplish so much? We provide a structure for our members to volunteer and make a personal difference in the global community. Our members receive a venue to apply their unique interests and skills to helping others.

Our humanitarian model has unleashed creativity and resources heretofore untapped. In 2008, our volunteers contributed 98,000 hours of volunteer service and spent \$550,000 of personal income. They helped establish orphanages, schools, clinics, feeding programs, vocational training, and agricultural programs. Our volunteers even inspired a law that was signed by the U. S. President!



### **Our Vision**

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS has demonstrated that development assistance works best under the direction and invitation of those we assist. Creating opportunities for ordinary people to participate in international development and aid relief can be a critical element in determining the success of foreign aid programs politically and pragmatically.

Typically, relief and development organizations restrict donor involvement to contributions while making exceptions to high donors. They also rely on highly paid humanitarian professionals who restrict project visitation by ordinary citizens. While certain projects might certainly warrant such protocol, we believe that people from all walks of life have skills to offer in making communities whole again. Volunteers bring unique aspects that enrich personal relationships with the people they serve. The additional human resources we enable bridge vital gaps in assistance shortfalls that are increasingly apparent everywhere.

While there is not an abundance of resources in an increasing number of communities, there is an abundance of the human spirit we are placing, leveraging and nurturing.

### **The Airline Ambassador Elements of Service Include:**

- A greater leverage of resources that can be created by developing the "human element." This human element consists of a greater sense of responsibility with both the giver and the aid recipient.
- On-going volunteerism programs that provide vital resources to community development and disaster relief.
- Local independence; which is the ultimate objective of any development or aid.

We link the above elements of service with aid, funding and professional service delivery to provide training and education for our volunteers. Our model provides the "continuity of care" element emblematic of Airline Ambassador Projects in 52 countries.





Airline Ambassadors

Where we work  
52 countries since 1996



Value of Aid by Country

Argentina	\$2,521	1 missions
Bolivia	\$15,157	2 missions
Brazil	\$300	1 mission
Colombia	\$815,949	4 missions
Dom. Rep.	\$268,754	1 mission
Ecuador	\$2,7100	2 mission
El Salvador	\$708,366	7 missions
Ghana	\$5,000	1 missions
Guatemala	\$19,725	4 missions
Haiti	\$1,150,290	3 missions
Honduras	\$78,904	2 missions
Mexico	\$30,054	3 missions
Myanmar	\$2,000	1 mission
Paraguay	\$311,769	1 mission
Peru	\$56,243	4 missions
Philippines	\$1,617	1 mission
So Africa	\$1,052	2 missions
Trinidad	\$6,759	1 mission
Uganda	\$561	1 mission
USA	\$26,927	5 missions
Total	\$3,504,634	45 missions

This is the amount of in-kind aid, not counting  
Volunteer hours or travel expenses borne by volunteers.

● 2008 Mission Sites ● Previous Mission Sites

Giving Wings to Love...



**POVERTY & HUNGER**  
*addressing food security*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS is committed to help meet the needs of over half the world’s population that suffers from poverty and hunger. In 2008 we provided \$175,231 towards this focus, and initiated nutritional feeding programs in two countries and supported others we previously established.



We refurbished the kitchen and started a food program at Nkundusi Village, SOUTH AFRICA to provide ongoing nutritional support for orphans. We also donated funds to provide meals for over 100 children in Port-au-Prince HAITI. Prior to our assistance, many of these children were only getting one meal a day. We also continued missions to ARGENTINA to support our food programs at Todos por Una Sonrisa and El Honerito, which are now feeding hundreds of children each week. We provided the nutritional supplement “Manna” from NanaCea to Bloom Hospital in EL SALVA-DOR. The agricultural program we initiated on the Eastern Cape of SOUTH AFRICA, the Vulundela Project, continues to provide food and income to a population of 10,000.

**DISASTER RELIEF**  
*responding to human suffering*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS responded again when others could not. In 2008 we provided \$981,296 toward disaster relief efforts in our own country and abroad. We brought in the first airplane with relief and “shelter boxes” to MYANMAR after the Tsunami partnered with CAN-DO to hand deliver aid directly to flood victims in IOWA after terrible flooding there.



After powerful hurricanes pummeled HAITI, the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, AAI assisted the Governors office of New York and funded a 40 ft container of vitally needed supplies to Gonaieves. In December we filled a whole A-300 airplane with 30,000 lbs of rice, beans, hygiene kits, and disaster relief to six NGO’s in Port-au-Prince. AAI raised funds for fuel, members volunteered as pilots and flight attendants worked the American Airlines special humanitarian flight.

The US military Civil Affairs enabled us to provide substantial relief in COLOMBIA, GUYANA, and PARAGUAY after mudslides, earthquakes, etc. We completed this year a bathhouse in the village of Manajato, PERU, built for the victims of the earthquake there.

Tragedies, such as these in 2008, made us keenly aware of our fragility as a human family and of the difference we can make when we bring our compassion for one another into direct action. Our teams are still visiting the projects we initiated after the Tsunami. AIRLINE AMBASSADOR’S members continued to hand deliver supplies and funding to our projects in THAILAND. We also continued support to those suffering in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in LOUISIANA with dozens of AA employees assisting refurbishing houses in St. Bernard Parish.

**CHILD WELFARE**  
*sharing love and giving hope*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS visited over 250 orphanages, schools, handicapped facilities, hospitals and remote communities in 2008 delivering \$490,648 in aid supporting children’s welfare. We provided shoes, clothing, toys, arts and sports equipment and in many cases hosted a party where aid was given as part of the celebration. We found that many of the children had never before received a present, and with shining faces received their first pair of shoes, a soccer ball or musical instrument. Airline Ambassadors painted an orphanage and planted a garden with children in GUATEMALA, gave a pool party for orphans in EL SALVADOR, and conducted similar activities for children in BOLIVIA, COLOMBIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, PHILIPPINES, and the SOUTH AFRICA. Child welfare was addressed on nearly every mission this year.



We initiated this year a relationship with Email Foster Parents, and a focus on orphans and vulnerable children. We encourage members to sponsor children and program we provide trips to visit them personally. We began this program with the Future Light Orphanage in CAMBODIA and hope to expand this in 2009., AAI helped to establish long term relationships between youth through our Cards for Kids Program. Children in various countries were connected with their counterparts in the US at 6 different US elementary schools.

**EDUCATION**  
*investing in the future*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS delivered \$771,019 in programs on education in 2008, and supported schools in 19 countries. Many thanks to our members and partners we were able to refurbish Kiwanis Village in EL SALVADOR, continued support of the Temple of Dawn School in Bangkok, THAILAND, the first vocational training school of its kind in the country. We provided a student intern at the Duang Prateep Foundation, also in THAILAND and continued support to La Escuela de Milagros, the School of Miracles, to provide an education for children in rural GUATEMALA. We were able to provide school desks for children in INDIA and computers and supplies to schools in EL SALVADOR, PERU, MEXICO and VIETNAM. We also delivered school kits and supplies to the School we began at Kiwanis Village in Soyapongo, EL SALVADOR. On virtually every one of our missions we deliver school kits containing notebooks, pencils, sharpeners, scissors, etc. Restricted funds also provide funding for teachers salaries and school building projects. We raised funds at special events in Miami and New York to provide school supplies for HIV orphans at Nkundusi Creche, SOUTH AFRICA.



AIRLINE AMBASSADORS also co-sponsors an International School Competition on a global issue, stimulating creative thinking on solutions to global problems that affect us all. The 2008 Competition – *My Right to Decide*, challenged students and teachers to consider the roots of violence and how to shift the focus to peace and tolerance. Posters describing the competition were printed in five UN languages and distributed through the UN Information Center’s around the world. 349,000 children from 24 countries participated in the competition. Cuala Sigo, 17 from ROMANIA was awarded the grand prize of two round trip tickets provided by AAI.

**HEALTH and DISEASE PREVENTION**  
*from clinics to mountain-top villages*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS delivered \$700,926 worth of medications, supplies and equipment to 46 hospitals and clinics affecting thousands of lives in 2008. Our team of surgeons in COLOMBIA provided free medical care to our adopted orphanage, Nino por un Nuevo Planeta, and we were able to provide for the entire needs list of Hosptal de San Jose de Guaviere With Dr, Patch Adams, we provided “clown doctors” and traditional MD’s to service remote communities in PERU. Other member’s relayed life changing HIV medications to projects in GUATEMALA, thanks to our partner organization, Other Options. Thanks also to Project Cure, we were able to deliver specifically needed medications and equipment to hospitals in four countries.



Thanks to transport on JetBlue and American Airlines we brought teams of pediatricians to treat children in EL SALVADOR. The medical clinics we started in Juampas, HAITI continue to thrive and provide medical service to their communities. We continued our support to Erik Boultier School for the Deaf and a School for the Blind in BOLIVIA. Our teams delivered needed items, HIV medication, wheelchairs and other medical and physical therapy equipment to many clinics in rural communities and mountaintop villages.

AAI members delivered hygiene kits of soap, shampoo, washcloths, toothbrushes, etc. as part of each mission. This year we also completed our Health and Hygiene manual. Airline Ambassadors volunteers use the manual to teach basics such as hand-washing, tooth-brushing, the dangers of smoking, and importance of cleanliness, good nutrition and pure water. On medical missions, our teams also instructed on issues such as maternal and pre-natal health, breast exams, birth control, safe sexual practices and HIV protection. AAI members also volunteered their time to escort 161 children for life-changing medical care, not available in their home country.



**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
*building capacity in the developing world*

AIRLINE AMBASSADORS’ humanitarian efforts also lead to long term commitments and development projects. This year we provided community development support and services worth \$385,509. We built a medical clinic in the mountains of EL SALVADOR providing a focal point for medical services using local trainees servicing dozens of remote communities or “hollows” near the Honduran border. (Many thanks to the support from Gesundheit! Institute) We established wells and water purification devices to HAITI, HONDURAS and PARAGUAY providing pure water for the local communities, cooperative fishing boats for families in THAILAND and a program to employ disadvantaged youth in BOLIVIA. We continued support for our sewing program for indigenous women in GUATEMALA delivering many sewing machines, empowering the women to have begun their own business. Our vocational training program in construction at Kiwanis Village, EL SALVADOR and inaugurated a vocational sewing school for women of the village. We provided a three-month training course, and upon graduation, each woman got to keep her machine, giving her a way to generate income for her family.



Our CASA Corps developed the first ever international manual for building codes; the “*Where There Are No Doctors*” of building safety. This simple to use construction manual is entitled “*The Essential Elements of a Building Code*”. AIR-LINE AMBASSADORS CASA Corps team is comprised of architects, engineers and municipal officials from the highest level institutions in the U. S. With Rotary International and the Universidad de Catholica educational system, we partnered to send trainees from ECUADOR to a Connecticut municipal building department for such training. We intend to expand this successful pilot training program into other municipal building departments next year. Plans are in place for 2009 to build prototype structures in EL SALVADOR and ECUADOR as a teaching aid to train local professionals in proper building techniques. These programs build capacity at the local level and share valuable knowledge with developing countries.





We accomplish our mission through these five programs:

**Humanitarian Missions**  
AIRLINE AMBASSADORS coordinates between three and five missions per month. Members hand deliver medical supplies, first aid kits, school supplies, clothing, blankets, and medicine to refugee camps, orphanages, clinics, schools, and remote communities. We also provide opportunities for medical professionals, teachers, builders, clowns and others to share their unique skills and expertise to benefit local communities. In 2008, we delivered \$3.5 Million of humanitarian aid, directly impacting an estimated 100,000 children.

**Children’s Escort Program**  
AIRLINE AMBASSADORS contracts with various adoption agencies and nonprofits to provide volunteer escorts for children in need of medical care not available in their home countries or for orphans going to their new homes. These Airline Ambassadors are airline personnel who use their flight privileges to provide a loving and capable adult companion for these disadvantaged children at a fraction of the cost to adoption agencies, health care partners or individuals requiring our service. In 2008 we escorted 161 children, representing 5,921 service hours.

**Youth Program**  
Our representatives visit local schools and involve students in volunteer projects to serve both their local and global community. Students study geography, language, and social issues while developing cross-cultural relationships with their counterparts throughout the world. Since 1995 we have sponsored an annual international school art competition at the UN with our internationally acclaimed partner “Paz y Cooperacion” from Madrid to increase creativity and raise awareness about global issues. 2000 U.S. students and 28,000 international students participated in this program. In 2008 the theme was entitled “My Right to Decide”. The art theme focused students to think about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**Special Events and Conferences**  
AAI members volunteer at civic or charitable events at home and abroad. Participation at international conferences enriches members’ awareness of social and political issues and members can make an important contribution toward international policies. Volunteering at local civic and charitable events gives members a venue to contribute in their home communities as well. Our members participated at dozens of events this year, helping to bring goodwill and hands-on experiences into action. In 2004 we received accreditation with ECOSOC (the United Nations Economic and Social Council) and in 2005 we were granted status as a PVO (Private Voluntary Organization) with USAID.

**CASA Corps**  
The CASA Corps program within AIRLINE AMBASSADORS was established in 2001 after the CASA (Code and Safety Act of the Americas) was enacted. The program provides opportunities for architects, construction engineers, and building code officials to share knowledge with their counterparts in developing countries who are critically in need of safe building technologies. This “technology transfer” program facilitates building code development with an “adaption then adoption” philosophy and supports a consequent construction industry culture that is evolving from this initiative. The preventative approach of the CASA Corps program has a potential to save millions of lives in the event of earthquakes or other natural disasters.



2008 Financial Highlights

The following is a financial summary for fiscal year 2008. Airline Ambassadors full financial audit information is available upon request.

Statement of Activities  
Year ending December 31, 2008

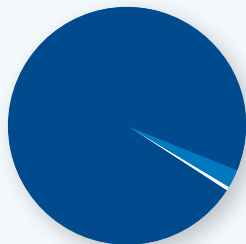
SUPPORT AND REVENUE Private Support and Revenue (“Public” support)	
Donated Goods and Services	\$4,394,122
Contributions	\$194,539
Special Events	\$95,505
Foundation Grants	\$25,362
Other Income	\$11,336
Interest	\$386

**TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT \$4,720,877**

Expenses	
Programs and Services	
Poverty and Hunger	\$183,866
Health	\$733,379
Education	\$807,175
Child Welfare	\$513,657
Disaster Relief	\$1,027,313
Community Development	\$403,587

Programs Total	\$3,668,977
Management and General	\$91,698
Fundraising	\$16,926

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,777,601**



Programs and Services	97.2%
Management	2.4%
Fundraising	.4%

**Donated volunteer hours 98,945  
valued at \$2,003,636.25**

\* \$20.25 p/hr www.independentsector.org



→ \$11

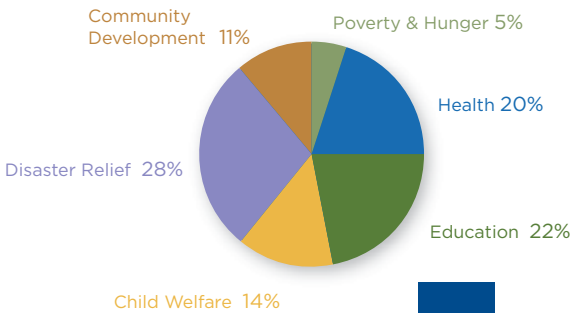


→ \$110



→ \$220

**In 2008, due to generous in-kind support, every \$1 donated to AAI resulted in \$11 of aid.**



Child Welfare 14%

3,792,762

3,636,599

3,593,279

7,009,264

**2005 2006 2007 2008**

QUANTITY OF AID DELIVERED

# Airline Ambassadors International

418 California Avenue • PO Box 459 • Moss Beach, CA 94038

(866) ANGEL-86 • (650) 728-7844 • fax (650) 728-7855

[www.AirlineAmbassadors.org](http://www.AirlineAmbassadors.org)



## Make a difference for children in need

Airline Ambassadors is the only charity of the airline industry.  
Every \$ of your donation is leveraged to directly help a child in need.

## Thank you again to our donors and sponsors!

American Airlines • FAMRI - Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute • UNICEF  
ISTAT-International Society of Transportation Aircraft Trading Foundation • Hernreich Family Foundation  
American Giving • Patricia McPeak • Susan Allen • Dr. Nassrin Zahedi • Leslie Sosnowski • Steel Reinforcing  
Virtuoso/ Exotismo • Deanna Frieze • The Global Contribution • Avis Budget Charitable Foundation  
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Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP • Regal Entertainment • Carolyn Larson • LDS Charities  
Bear Stearns Charitable Gift Fund • Southern Iowa Econ Dev Association • Emane Reis • NBC New  
Hunaina Al-Mughairy • Scott Sussman • Wallaroo Hat Company • Thomas Kroetch  
Fresh Produce Sportswear, Inc. • Stanley/Marion Bergman Charitable Foundation • Henry Schein, Inc.  
The New York Community Trust • David & Sylvia Steiner Charitable Trust • Howard Berk  
Christina Andersen • B.R, Guest Restaurants • Barabara Pyle Foundation • John Barraclough  
Black & Light Company • Daniel & Michele Bonvalot • Anthony & Samantha Branchinelli • Jean Charles  
Rohit & Sonal Chopra • Steve Crane • Ana Maria Cruz • Scott & Darcy Durham • Vanessa Faktor  
Christopher Grubb • Hannah's Gold • Tom Andrew Javits • Luxury Resorts & Hotels • Robert Millonig  
Sean & Kristen Mooney • Norwegian Cruise Line • Roslyn Parker • Pediatrician for Central America's Children  
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Institute • The Ritz Carlton SF • Transformation 2000 • Tree of Life Foundation  
West Marine Products Corporation • Wings Financial • David Yankelevitz  
*AND ALL OF OUR GENEROUS MEMBERS!*

Thank you ColorPrint for assistance with content and design of the 2008 Annual Report.