



MATTIE J.T. STEPANEK FOUNDATION
E-PEACE UPDATE ~ APRIL, 2011
WWW.MATTIEONLINE.COM

**Hello Peace Champions, members of Mattie's Peace Network,
and friends of Mattie's Foundation!**

General update:

The *Mattie J.T. Stepanek Foundation* has been busy with many projects, including the new brick order, the new website, new brochures, the early stages of our peace posters, collaborating with other organizations, visiting schools and presenting at conferences, and working the *We Are Family Foundation* during the 2011 Just Peace Summit.

Timely news:

- *Mattie's Foundation* will have a presence during the *March of Dimes April 30 March for Babies* event, which will be held in the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park in Rockville, MD. Mattie's mom, Jeni, will say a few words before the event as the Honorary Chair. We will have a table with Foundation information and free raffle tickets for a special item! If you are in the area, stop by and see us!
- The *For Our World Campaign* is moving forward, with the poem already translated into 20 languages. The goal is to translate the poem into as many languages as possible, and to have it posted on websites and bulletin boards around the world as the 10th anniversary of 9-11 arrives. Mattie wrote the poem on 9/11/2001, as his personal response to 'what now, what next' questions after watching friends die. He hoped one day the passage would serve as an international poem for peace, and the Foundation is working to make that a reality. If you speak another language, please consider submitting a translation. Once approved, it will be posted on our new website (coming VERY SOON) with your name, and a link to your website!

April message of inspiration:



Jeni Stepanek with the 31 new Global Teen Leaders who gathered in NYC to learn more about Mattie's message of hope and peace, and to learn about tools that will help them as peacemakers as they seek to tend to the basic needs of others.

During March, 31 new Global Teen Leaders gathered in NYC for the 2011 Just Peace Summit. In Mattie's final book, *Just Peace: A Message of Hope*, he writes that peace is a journey that begins within each of us, when we are 'okay' with who we are as a person, which grows from having our basic needs met. When we are okay with ourselves, it is so much easier to be okay with our neighbors, and to consider and balance their needs with our own needs. Each year, the *We Are Family Foundation* selects teens from all over the world who are working on peace projects to come and learn more about Mattie's vision for peace, and also learn about tools that will further their projects. They study written and spoken word, storytelling, photography, media and marketing, branding, and more. They are also paired with a personal mentor that will support them during their year as a Global Teen Leader. Since the program began in 2008, MILLIONS of people around the world have been positively impacted by these projects. Cumulatively, we have 87 teens from 39 countries, representing 6 continents. For more information about their projects or the program, visit www.threedotdash.org.

NOTE: You are receiving this communication because you signed up as a *Peace Champion* or as member of *Mattie's Peace Network* on Mattie's website (www.mattieonline.com), or because you have sent a communication to Mattie's mom about how Mattie's message of Heartsongs, hope, and peace have made a positive impact on your life. Please feel free to pass this communication along to others. If you do not wish to receive additional monthly e-Peace updates, send a request for your name and address to be removed from our mailing list to heartsongbooks@aol.com.