

ASPEN STAFF TOUCHING LIVES IN UGANDA

Aspen staff have been fabulous supporters of ISIS throughout our years of partnership. One such staff member is Susan Cannarella who has been an avid ISIS supporter ever since her visit to Kiwoko Hospital in 2008. Susan works in the Property Facultative team in the Rocky Hill office, and this is her amazing story:

I am employed by Aspen Re America, a reinsurance company based in Rocky Hill, CT. As part of our global corporate and social responsibility programme, Aspen has committed to donate annually to The ISIS Foundation, a non-profit organisation whose mission is to make a positive difference to the lives of children in the developing world, specifically in Nepal and Uganda. Aspen provides funding for ISIS projects in a rural bush hospital, called Kiwoko Hospital, in the Luwero Triangle region of Uganda.

In September 2008 I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to visit Kiwoko Hospital with nine other colleagues from the US, London and Bermuda to observe and engage with ISIS projects on the ground. It was a lifelong dream of mine fulfilled. While there I witnessed the great work being done to help the children and families of this region. There is still so much that needs to be done to alleviate the pain and suffering. This was a life altering experience and I vowed to do all I could to help.

One day a week a craft group meets at the hospital. This group is comprised of women who are HIV positive. These women make items to be sold at the hospital craft shop to support their families. One of the crafts I saw them making were rolled paper beads using recycled paper. This inspired me to make jewellery incorporating these beautiful and unusual beads.

I began making bracelets and earrings using paper beads purchased from the craft ladies in November 2008, and have continued ever since. I combine the paper beads with base metal, glass, wood or crystal beads to create unique bracelets and earrings. I sell this jewellery and send one hundred percent of the profits from all sales to Kiwoko Hospital through The ISIS Foundation as a fulfilment of this vow, with Aspen matching my donations.

Susan's support is a testament to the amazing partnership between ISIS and Aspen. We are grateful to have Susan and other committed Aspen staff like her working to support ISIS and Kiwoko Hospital.