

Press Release 12 May 2004

SURF raise 10k through GiveNow.org for survivors of genocide

Survivors Fund (SURF) raised over £10,000 online in April for the survivors of the Rwandan genocide, simply by linking to GiveNow.org, the credit card giving website from AOL UK and CAF (Charities Aid Foundation).

SURF placed the link to GiveNow.org on their site to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda, where one million lives were lost in one hundred days. As SURF's website links directly to GiveNow.org, supporters can make online donations, quickly and securely, by credit or debit card. The charity hopes to use the money to provide free anti retroviral treatment for the women and girls who face a drawn-out death sentence from AIDS as a result of a systematic rape campaign during the genocide.

"The general public have responded generously, not only by signing SURF's petition on www.survivors-fund.org but by donating online." says SURF Director Mary Kayitesi Blewitt. "The money raised will be used to provide widows with this medication, which will not only save lives but is vital for the economic regeneration of Rwanda itself. By becoming healthy, women will be able to return to work and therefore provide for their dependents."

GiveNow.org will be celebrating its second anniversary on 1 July 2004. Since its launch two years ago, the website has gone from strength to strength, helping to raise hundreds of thousands of pounds for good causes.

As well as enabling charities to receive secure online donations, GiveNow.org helps them to promote their cause to millions of potential new supporters by enabling them to post regular news stories about their work and activities.

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For all Press enquiries contact Vicki Pulman at CAF Tel: 01732 520 094 or 01732 520 120.
Outside of office hours please call Tel: 0774 044 9491.
Email: pressoffice@cafonline.org Website: www.cafonline.org