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Fwd: smiling black men are in, lol Inbox X

-- Forwarded message --

Check out Justin! I OI

From: Justin Garrett Moore <jgm35@columbia.edu>

Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2009 at 5:51 PM Subject: smiling black men are in, lol

My picture is right below Nelson Mandala's, Iol. I thought it was cool/funny...

Anyway... still another encouragement to microlend, even a little bit can make a difference... this South African fund sounds interesting...

10)

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ontact

Invite

-- Forwarded message --

From: MicroPlace <questions@microplace.com>

Date: Wed, Aug 12, 2009 at 5:32 PM

Subject: Praised by Mandela, Shared Interest Launches on MicroPlace

To: jgm35@columbia.edu



Praised by Mandela, Shared Interest Launches on MicroPlace



Building a Just Society in South Africa



The movement to end apartheid was constructed by ordinary people like Nelson Mandela. Shared Interest launched an investment on MicroPlace in celebration of Mandela's 91st birthday, in hopes of engaging everyday Americans in the continued fight to build a just society in South Africa. Mr. Mandela acknowledged the role that Shared Interest has played in helping disenfranchised South Africans rebuild their lives. Shared Interest provides technical assistance and financial tools and has been at the forefront of the fight for economic and human justice in South Africa.

"Invest to Right the Wrongs of Apartheid" on MicroPlace

Investing is more than dollars and sense says MicroPlace investor Justin Moore

By Justin G. Moore

A little over one year ago I started looking for new ways to diversify my investments. As the declining economy led to interest rate cuts on my regular savings and money market accounts, I wanted to find if there were other places to invest my money aside from regular bank accounts or bonds with limited returns.





Inspired by the idea of helping other people while helping myself with a return on my investments, I looked into whether or not microlending was something I could do and found MicroPlace.com. In total I have invested over \$2,500 in various funds averaging a return of about 3%; that is more than my bank currently offers for a money market account at 1.5%

In April CBS Evening News did a story on the microlending trend gaining traction, with the help of services like MicroPlace, here in the United States. In their investigation, they were able to track money I invested to one of the funds' recipients in a village near Lima, Peru, where a woman named Paulina used a microloan to help operate her business making artisanal ceramic pieces. The help financing her business allowed her to employ others and send her son to college - all with what many middle-income Americans would consider a small sum. According to MicroPlace, the money I have invested has helped at least four people like Paulina run their businesses and improve the lives of their families and communities. It is wonderful to know that my small recurring investments of twenty or fifty dollars here and there can have such a big impact. As microfinance continues to gain traction as a viable method of empowering people and supporting both financial and social responsibility, communities all over the world and hopefully here in the United States will be able to benefit from even the smallest of investments.

Watch MicroPlace featured on the CBS Evening News with Katie Couric!

©CBS EVENING NEWS

(http://tinyurl.com/smallinvestments)

The Cast of the CBS Story



"It always amazes me what faith in a person's abilities unleashes. A microloan is a symbol of that faith and has the potential to enable people like Paulina to fulfill their aspirations and transform their lives."

- Ashwini Narayanan, GM, MicroPlace



"I want to help the people of my country, especially women to be independent."

- Mariala, Edyficar Treasurer



"I don't know what I could have done without the loan. I put my son through school. I can't believe my benefactor is so young!"

- Paulina, successful entrepreneur



"I am part of Paulina's family. I am so proud of her success and what she has been able to achieve. I am glad to have been involved with her business."

- Manuel, loan officer, Edyficar



Graduation Promotion

Loans Enabled: 210

Lives Touched: 1,050

Gift:



TOTAL IMPACT



Loans Enabled: 1,088



Lives Touched: 5,440*



Regions Helped:

Africa: 940 Latin America: 1.840 North American: 885 Furasia: 340 South Asia: 655 Southeast Asia: 780

*Based on average family size of 4.5 people

MicroPlace investments:



up to 6% ...AND you help someone work her way out of poverty

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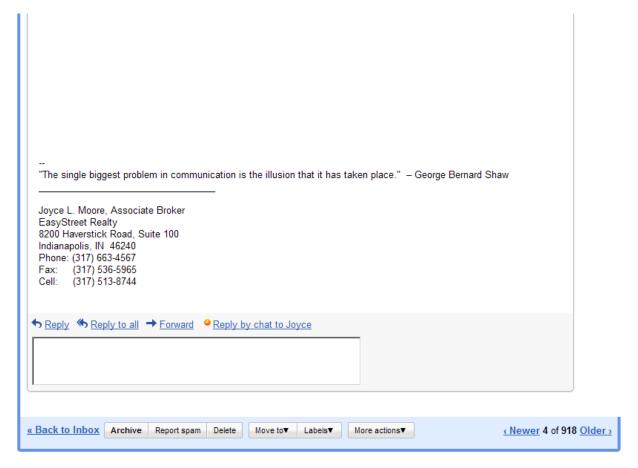
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