



Infinite Family: Keeping in Touch

April 2010

In the News:

Katy Keck named University of Phoenix Volunteer Leader

CONNECTIONS Event April 6
Freedom Day in South Africa

**Next Online Open House,
a 30 minute webinar on
video mentoring**

**May 13 at 7pm
May 14 at 11am**

Register Now

View the Infinite Family blog.

infinitefamily.blogspot.com

Contact us or make
a donation at:

infinitefamily.org

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Infinite Family is a 501c3
non-profit charity.

Katy Keck receives University of Phoenix™ Volunteer Leader Award

Katy Keck, Chair of the Infinite Family Board of Directors, was named one of just ten national University of Phoenix Volunteer Leader Award Honorees, an award given by HandsOn Network/Points of Light Institute and the University of Phoenix.

The award, announced last night in Washington DC during the National Volunteer Week festivities, celebrates the first anniversary of the landmark Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act, which authorized the largest expansion of national service in America in decades. This award includes a \$10,000 grant which Katy has designated to Infinite Family.

Katy's volunteer work with Infinite Family is a motivating force for volunteers, donors and staff. She has inspired her friends, family and business partners to become active change agents in the campaign to impact youth in South Africa. Her tireless efforts, insight and ideas, professional and organizational skills, big heart and buoyant sense of humor are a daily source of inspiration.



With an estimated 55 million youth orphaned and affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty in sub-Saharan Africa, Keck feels that Infinite Family's mission to connect a caring adult mentor to children affected by HIV/AIDS and poverty is critical. She believes that by creating these connections, children will begin to define their lives by what they have to gain, not by what they have lost.

She has been the lead volunteer for Infinite Family since it began. With her professional background in finance and event planning, she has produced the organization's fundraising events, pulling together dozens of volunteers, sponsors and in-kind donors. Over the course of four years, her efforts have generated more than \$200,000 in donations. In addition, IF benefits from Keck's leadership in developing marketing and communication tools, development and fundraising, and her ability to recruit volunteers and video mentors.

IF's leveraging of technology to connect adults around the globe to youth growing up alone in Africa is an inspiring step towards ensuring that every child has a mentor. Katy Keck is a 2010 University of Phoenix Volunteer Leader honoree because of her dedication, faith, willingness and selfless efforts to make sure that every child who needs a mentor, no matter where they are, can find one.

Congratulations, Katy!

CONNECTIONS at blvd

Infinite Family hosted a special evening of networking and fundraising at **blvd** in lower Manhattan.



More than 200 people sipped cocktails, snacked on yummy hors d'oeuvre and (net)worked the room of young and younger professionals. Everyone had a

chance to view the Internet-based video platform through which Infinite Family

mentors connect with their Net Buddies (teens and pre-teens in sub-Saharan Africa) for weekly one-on-one video conversations.

Additionally, five supporters (several actors and some outgoing IF supporters) did dramatic readings from some of the South African teens' blogs, which touchingly describe their lives and express their hopes and dreams.

Proceeds from the evening support Infinite Family's video mentors who provide "face-to-face" guidance through their Buddies' turbulent teen and pre-teen years.

To see additional photos from this event, become a [FAN](#) of Infinite Family on Facebook.

Photo by Theodore Samuels

South Africa's Freedom Day: 16 Years of Celebration After Centuries of Oppression

On April 27th each year, South Africans commemorate the anniversary of their first democratic, multi-racial elections. In 1994, each citizen of South Africa, regardless of race, was able for the first time to freely cast their vote. Previously, under apartheid laws, only whites had that right.

Freedom Day celebrates the liberation of the people of South Africa from white minority domination. When South Africa was liberated both the oppressor and oppressed were liberated. As Nelson Mandela pledged, "Never again would a minority government impose itself on the majority".

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