

Hyun Jin Moon's Global Peace Foundation: See How Families and Communities Are Transforming Lives Worldwide

James Flynn
May 5, 2026



Global Highlights

Stronger Together: Faith, Families, and Communities



“When families are strong, communities are strong, the world changes.”

— Linnes Chamadenga, GPW Peacebuilder

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Nurturing Families, Empowering Women, Advancing Peace in Kaduna

GPF Nigeria and GPW implemented a transformative program equipping women leaders with values-based and economic tools to build resilient families, reduce violence, and drive sustainable peace from the household to the community.

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Advancing Peacebuilding Through Women and Families in the Philippines



GPF Philippines is advancing community peacebuilding through its Women and Families Program, with initiatives including the Heal a Heart Project, community outreach, school support, and partnerships that empower women, strengthen families, and promote a culture of service.

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Montana Hosts 7th Global Peace Forum Advancing Community Reconciliation

Global Peace Foundation's Cross Community Reconciliation Project brought together diverse community members in Billings for its 7th Global Peace Forum, featuring dialogue

sessions, shared storytelling, and the graduation of 20 participants committed to building trust, empathy, and social cohesion through grassroots peacebuilding.

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Strengthening Families for a Sustainable Future



GPF India convened leaders, scholars, and community members in New Delhi to highlight the vital role of families in advancing sustainable development, social cohesion, and a shared vision of global unity.

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Together for peace and a better world; One Family Under God



“There is no peace without development, no development without peace, and no lasting peace without respect for human rights.”

— Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations (2007–2016)

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From Silence to Story Nights: Reflecting on Linnes’ Family Ties Initiative this International Day of Families

Anu Lama
May 1, 2026



Linnes Chamadenga, a Global Peace Women Sunshine Family Volunteer, organizes an innovative program to bring families closer in Malawi.

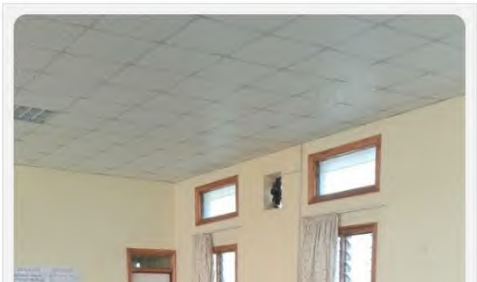
Linnes Chamadenga is from Malawi. In her Chiradzulu community, she

noticed something routine in the everyday lives of many families, yet deeply heartbreaking.

Families were technically living under the same roof, but they were no longer truly living together. Parents and children rarely spoke beyond errands, responsibilities, and instructions. Grandparents felt unheard. Siblings shared rooms, but not connection. Silence at the dinner table had become normal.

Distance was slowly pulling families apart, and it was the children who felt it most. Families were struggling with poor communication, cultural barriers, and the relentless demands of daily life. Children were growing up in homes where emotional connection was fading, and with it, their sense of belonging.

Linnes saw this widening gap within families and



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recognize
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stake.
When
families
stop
talking,
children
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begin
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name.

Taking
matters

into her own hands, Linnes did something powerful. As a Sunshine Family Volunteer with Global Peace Women (GPW), she started the Family Ties Initiative (FTI), a project rooted in family connection and peacebuilding. Through storytelling nights, playful intergenerational activities, and deeper conversations among families in the community, family members began to rediscover one another, and parents reconnected with their children.

Grace, a mother of three, shared, “Before, we just co-existed, eating in silence, everyone on their phones... Now we have ‘story nights’ where we share our highs and lows. My youngest even calls it ‘our magic time.’” Read Linnes’s full story here: <https://globalpeace.org/gpw-sunshine-family-volunteers-rebuild-family-ties-in-malawi/>

Linnes’s story is a powerful reminder of how disconnected modern family life can become. As we commemorate the International Day of Families on May 15, we at Global Peace Foundation (GPF) and Global Peace Women (GPW) are proud to support peacebuilding that begins at home.

Her story also reminds us that this challenge is not unique to Malawi. Around the world, many parents struggle to stay meaningfully connected with their children. Linnes did not begin with a large-scale project. She started small, as a volunteer with GPW, asking a simple but important question: How can families reconnect with one another, between parents and children, among siblings, and across generations?

Children thrive when families stay connected, when stories are shared, and when home feels safe. This is where peace begins. This is where child well-being begins. While we often talk about well-being in terms of schools, healthcare, and protection systems, we can sometimes overlook the most basic and fundamental unit of all: the family.

This matters deeply because the family is where children first learn dignity and respect. It is where they learn trust, build confidence, and begin to



Linnes Chamadenga, a Global Peace Women Sunshine Family Volunteer, organizes an innovative program to bring families closer in Malawi.

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prepare for the world.

GPF and GPW are proud to support transformational initiatives that begin with the family, the fundamental unit of society. The Women and Families in Peacebuilding initiative is built on the truth that peace begins at home, where values such as respect, empathy, and responsibility are first learned. Peacebuilding begins by strengthening family bonds, because when families are peaceful, societies are transformed. Children become emotionally safer and are better prepared to grow into adults who build peace.

Strong families remain one of the most enduring foundations for child well-being, social cohesion, and lasting peace.

Linnes credits much of the initiative’s success to the values of GPW, which inspired her to see families as the foundation of societal peace. “When families are strong, communities are strong, the world changes.”

Now Linnes is on a mission to expand her project, partnering with more organizations and envisioning family-bonding initiatives in every district of Malawi. In the meantime, she celebrates the small victories: the father who now asks his children about their day, the grandmother who finally feels heard, and the families who have rediscovered one another, one story at a time.

As we commemorate the International Day of Families, we at GPF remain committed to supporting families and communities. After all, peace begins in the home, and families are the first builders of it. Through a range of initiatives under Women and Families in Peacebuilding, GPF and GPW continue to invest in families as a pathway to peace.

If you would like to support our continued efforts in women and families in peacebuilding, please visit: <https://globalpeace.org/?campaign=524075>

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GPF Nigeria and GPW Strengthen Families as a Foundation for Peace on International Women’s Day 2026 in Kaduna

Wairimu Mwangi
April 24, 2026

The Global Peace Foundation (GPF) Nigeria, in partnership with Global Peace Women (GPW) and the Hope for the Village Child Foundation, marked International Women’s Day 2026 with a community-focused program in Kaduna State that brought together 74 participants, including 60 women leaders, to strengthen families and promote sustainable peace through practical and values-based approaches. Held on March 17, the program moved beyond commemoration to address underlying drivers of instability at the household level. Anchored in the vision of One Family under God, the initiative emphasized that peacebuilding begins within families and extends outward into communities. Through a combination of interactive learning, economic empowerment, and values formation, participants were equipped to take on leadership roles in fostering both social cohesion and resilience.

A key feature of the program was the integration of drama and dialogue to explore real-life family dynamics. Participants engaged with scenarios addressing gender-based violence, financial decision-making, the impact of harmful practices, and creating space for reflection and shared learning. These sessions reinforced the concept of the family as the “school of love and virtue,” where values are first learned and practiced.



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GPF Nigeria Senior Program Manager, Mr. Abdul Ahmed, and GPW Coordinator, Mrs. Lois Hayab, during the event, shared the vision of One Family Under God

Complementing this values-based approach were technical sessions on Cereal Banking and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA). These models provided participants with practical tools to improve household food security and financial stability. By learning how to collectively store grain and access low-interest loans, the women gained new strategies to reduce economic vulnerability and support long-term investments such as children’s education.



Participants at the training venue

Participants described the training as both practical and transformative. “Before this training,

I viewed peace as something managed only by leaders, but I now understand that peace begins in the home,” said Murna Dauda. “The practical sessions on VSLA and cereal banking have given me the tools to secure my family’s financial future. I am now empowered to move from a state of survival to a lifestyle of ownership and service within my community.”

Amina Ahmad, a community women leader, highlighted the impact of the program on family relationships. “This program has addressed the most critical challenges we face, particularly regarding gender-based violence. The drama-based approach opened our eyes to the ‘school of love’ that every family should be. We are seeing a real shift in how husbands and wives relate, and we are committed to sustaining these values-based models for a more cohesive society.”

Mrs. Lois Hayab, GPW Nigeria coordinator, reminded participants, “If there is no peace in the home, it will inevitably result in a lack of peaceful coexistence in the community and the nation.”

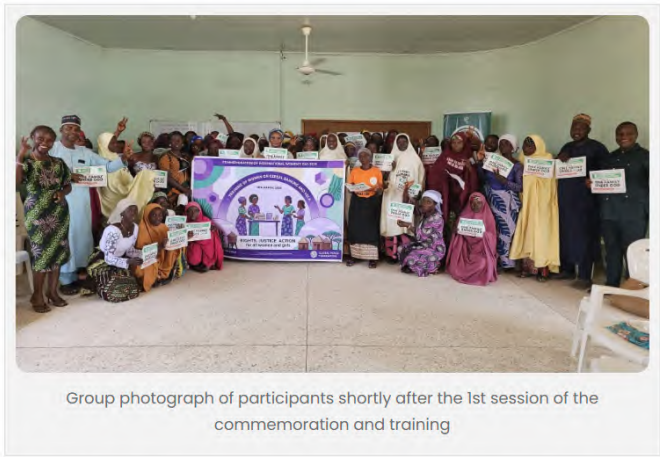
The outcomes reported following the training reflect significant behavioral change. Thirty participants indicated that gender-based violence had ceased within their immediate family circles, alongside a reduction in harmful practices such as female genital mutilation. Participants also reported a shift in priorities, with increased focus on education, savings, and long-term family well-being.

In addition to these social impacts, the program strengthened economic resilience among participants. Through the adoption of Cereal Banking and VSLA models, women are transitioning

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banking and fair trade, women are transitioning from individual financial vulnerability to collective security. Grace John, a participating leader, noted, “By teaching us to ‘dream big’ through cereal banking, you have helped us protect our harvests and our children’s education. This is a roadmap for sustainable development.”



The program also demonstrated strong potential for sustainability and scale. Of the 60 women trained, 43 are already applying the knowledge gained to lead similar initiatives within their communities. Through step-down trainings and peer-led engagement, the model is being replicated across different wards, fostering a growing culture of service and shared responsibility.

This initiative reflects the Global Peace Foundation’s integrated approach to peacebuilding, which combines character and leadership development, interfaith collaboration, and community-driven solutions. By empowering women as agents of change within their families and communities, the program contributes to building more cohesive, prosperous, and peaceful societies.

Explore how the Global Peace Foundation and [Global Peace Women](#) are advancing the central role of [women and families in peacebuilding](#), and join the movement to strengthen communities.

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Global Peace Foundation Philippines Strengthens Peacebuilding through Women and Families

Wairimu Mwangi
January 17, 2026



Group photo from the Heal a Heart Project

Global Peace Foundation (GPF) Philippines continues to advance peacebuilding

at the community level by empowering women, strengthening families, and fostering a culture of service through strategic partnerships and grassroots initiatives. Through its Women and Families Peacebuilding Program, GPF Philippines works with women leaders, schools, volunteers, families, and partner organizations in service-driven peacebuilding initiatives to address social needs while reinforcing the role of families as foundations of peaceful and resilient communities.

In December 2025, the program focused on advancing women’s leadership, strengthening families, and promoting a culture of service as key pillars of sustainable peace. A major activity was the ‘Heal A Heart Project’ held at the Philippine Heart Center, which reached 120 pediatric heart patients and their families. Conducted in collaboration with Inner Wheel Clubs of the Philippines District 380 and other partners, the activity provided toys, meals, and essential items, contributing to the emotional well-being of children undergoing long-term medical care while supporting families during a critical time

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critical time.

In Rizal Province, GPF Philippines participated in an outreach activity in Sitio Calumpit, Macabud, Montalban, reaching one hundred families through the distribution of Noche Buena packs and essential food items. The initiative was implemented alongside the GPF Philippines All-Lights Village project, where families also received solar lamps and street lights, improving household safety and access to lighting while reinforcing community solidarity.

Support for education stakeholders was also prioritized through gift-giving activities for ten public schools, benefiting more than six hundred teachers. Donations, including food items provided through corporate partners, were integrated into school-led Christmas celebrations, recognizing the role of educators in nurturing values and social responsibility among children.

In Cardona, Rizal, the Women and Families Peacebuilding Program conducted

its annual Christmas gift-giving activity, reaching fifty families through door-to-door distribution of food items and basic supplies in partnership with volunteers and private sector donors.

In addition to service delivery, the program engaged in advocacy and partnership-building efforts, including participation in the global “Orange the World” campaign to end violence against women and children. Through coordination meetings and joint activities with women-led organizations, GPF Philippines strengthened collaboration aimed at advancing women’s participation in peacebuilding and decision-making at community and organizational levels.

Across all activities, the program reached an estimated 1,200 beneficiaries, including women leaders, children, families, teachers, and schools, supported by cash and in-kind contributions totaling over PHP 535,000. Partner organizations reported increased interest and commitment to continued collaboration within the Women and Families Peacebuilding Program.

These initiatives reflect the Global Peace Foundation’s broader approach to peacebuilding, which places the family at the heart of sustainable peace and community development. GPF recognizes that families are the first “school of peace,” where the foundational values of love, empathy, respect, and moral leadership are learned and practiced.

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Group photo from the outreach project in Montalban

Peace begins in the home, and when families model these values, they extend harmony, understanding, and resilience into their communities and societies at large.

Discover more about GPF’s work in the area of [Women and Families in Peacebuilding](#).

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India Marks International Day of Families 2025: Strengthening Families for a Sustainable Future

Shaivya Pathak
August 3, 2025



Dr. Markandey Rai, the chair of GPF India (left), at a commemoration for International Day of Families.

Global Peace Foundation (GPF) India marked International Day of Families 2025 with an inspiring gathering at its office in New Delhi, focusing on the theme “Family-Oriented Policies for Sustainable Development: Towards the Second World Summit for Social Development.” The event brought together scholars, community leaders, peacebuilders, and senior citizens to reaffirm the family’s critical role in building peaceful and resilient societies. Dr. Markandey Rai, Chairman of GPF India, opened the program by emphasizing the family as the “school of love and virtue,” where essential values like respect, empathy, and responsibility are first nurtured. Drawing from his own experience growing up in a large joint family, he illustrated how shared responsibility and mutual respect within families serve as a foundation for social cohesion. He also highlighted the global principle of “we are one tribe,” echoing international ideas like Ubuntu, Hongik Ingan, and Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, which promote the vision of the world as one family.

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Dr. Priyaranjan Trivedi, Founder Indian Institute of Ecology and Environment and Founder Chancellor of IGTAMSU and Global University Nagaland & President, Confederation of Indian Universities, captivated the audience by unveiling a creative poster filled with inspirational quotes celebrating family life. The poster visually and intellectually reinforced the enduring values of togetherness, mutual care, and ethical upbringing rooted in the family structure.

The round table discussion that followed featured distinguished speakers such as Dr. Surendra Pathak from L. J. University, who stressed the importance of a family-based education system where core values are taught at home and individuals learn to identify themselves as members of the larger human family. Dr. Rekha Udit, President of the Women International Network, highlighted the vital role of women in sustaining families and called for policies that empower women within family units. Dr. Vipin Kumar, General Secretary of Vishwa Hindi Parishad, spoke about reviving Indian spiritual and cultural values in family life, such as selfless service and faith. The event was further enriched by active participation from members of the Senior Citizen Society, whose heartfelt contributions added wisdom and emotional depth. One senior member notably recited two Hindi poems he wrote on the spot that poignantly expressed the importance and evolution of the family system.

A symbolic tree plantation ceremony underscores the family's role as the root of sustainability, symbolising growth, nourishment, and environmental responsibility.



Reflections and group sharing allowed participants to connect their personal experiences with the broader goal of embedding family values into development strategies. The program concluded with reaffirmed commitments to placing families at the center of social development, especially in times when family structures face growing challenges.

The event resulted in increased awareness among

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participants about the essential role of families in sustainable development and social harmony. It inspired a renewed dedication to strengthening family bonds and fostering values-based living. Attendees gained a deeper appreciation of how strong family systems contribute to emotional well-being, social responsibility, and intercultural unity. The rich dialogue and creative expressions also contributed to the formation of preliminary policy recommendations for the upcoming Second World Summit for Social Development in Qatar on November 4-6, 2025. By bringing together diverse voices and experiences, the program upheld the vision of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and reinforced GPF's mission to build lasting peace through strong families and shared human values.

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Engaging diverse local stakeholders with a community-driven peacebuilding approach

In conflict zones as well as communities with longstanding divides, the Global Peace Foundation recognizes that effective peacebuilding initiatives require the full engagement and leadership of local stakeholders. Hence, GPF works with community members, faith leaders, and local officials on community-driven peacebuilding initiatives to establish dialogue, build trust, and forge lasting relationships by affirming universally recognized principles and shared values, which are the foundation for social cohesion on all levels of society.

Strengthening our shared identities and common aspirations as members of the human family establishes a basis to resolve identity-based conflict, often based on race, ethnicity, and religion. Engaging diverse local stakeholders with a community-driven peacebuilding approach, Global Peace Foundation facilitates building understanding and reconciliation in communities disrupted by conflict and division.

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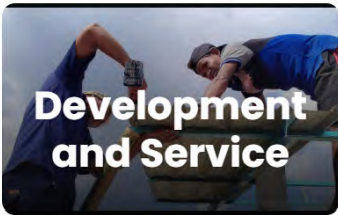
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