

ABOUT BEADFORLIFE FOUNDERS:

TORKIN WAKEFIELD:

Torkin Wakefield, BeadforLife Director, has been a social activist since her college days. Her career of public service started as a Peace Corps volunteer in India. Working collaboratively, Torkin has co-founded many organizations that help poor or marginalized people. These include AIDS, Medicine and Miracles, a national organization of education and community building for people living with HIV/AIDS, Wellspring, a holistic healing center, The World Sits Down to Dinner, a hunger-advocacy experience, Hollyhock Retreat Center in British Columbia, and BeadforLife.

Torkin was the director of People's Clinic, a clinic for the medically indigent. As a psychologist and public health administrator, her life interests span personal health and well being to cultural and social change at the community and national level.

An inveterate traveler, Torkin has lived and worked in India, Nepal, Mexico, Kenya, and Uganda. Torkin's ability to involve others in creating a better world makes her projects dynamic and effective. She weaves the power of the story and the vision of a better world to release the inherent generosity of people in the resource-abundant world.

Torkin has two adult children and one grandson and is married to Dr. Charles Steinberg, an AIDS physician. They reside part-time in Kampala, Uganda and part-time in Gold Hill, Colorado.

DEVIN HIBBARD:

Devin Hibbard co-founded BeadforLife and currently serves as the North American Director. She previously served as the first Uganda Director. Devin's life mission involves helping North Americans understand their connection to the rest of the world and how they can help fight global poverty. Her work for the past ten years has related to international development and global issues, both in the US and abroad.

Devin's past experience includes Associate Director of the Better Safer World Campaign, a public advocacy campaign on behalf of nine large development NGOs, Director of Facing the Future, an organization creating curriculum on global issues, and independent consulting with TalktoUS, AIDS training organizations, and others.

Devin is deeply grateful to be part of BeadforLife, and humbled at what the Uganda women have to teach us. The fact that this goes beyond generating income to actually connecting people across continents makes this the coolest job she has ever had.

Devin has an MPA in international development and non-profit management and has lived in India and Uganda and traveled all over the world. She is married to Mark Jordahl, and is the proud mother of Nile Cassim, who was conceived in Uganda.

GINNY JORDAN:

Co-founder of BeadforLife, Ginny Jordan has been involved in the health profession for the past 30 years. She has been a practicing psychotherapist, group facilitator, hospice care worker, and health advocate. She partnered with Torkin Wakefield to create the World Sits Down to Dinner, a hunger-awareness program that was offered in several cities through the country.

Ginny is also involved in poverty-eradication/income-generation projects in the Andes of Peru and in the Amazon of Ecuador. She is on the board of the Cricket Island Foundation, whose mission is dedicated to youth empowerment, multi-generational learning and leadership development.

Ginny is deeply moved by the power of one person's choice to make a difference in an ever-changing, struggling world. She loves to travel and connect to other cultures, bringing a curiosity and desire to learn to all she meets.

Ginny also has an MFA in poetry and enjoys writing. She is currently working on her first book. Ginny lives in Boulder, Colo and has three beautiful grown children.