

### VIP FRIENDS OF AFRICA



1. **Oprah Winfrey** – The only black billionaire, Oprah is the most philanthropic African American, donating time and money to issues impacting many Africans. Her Angel Network charity accepts contributions to assist African children stricken by poverty and AIDS. Oprah recently invested \$40 million in a school for young girls in South Africa, to help them overcome economic disadvantages.
2. **Bill and Melinda Gates** – Bill and Melinda Gates initiated The Gates Foundation in partnership with the Rockefeller Foundation, to improve agricultural productivity in Africa. Focusing on green technology, the foundation hopes to reduce poverty and hunger. The Gates Foundation has already donated over \$100 million to this effort.
3. **Barack Obama** – The first black president of the US, Obama has focused on alleviating problems faced by African nations. After visiting his father’s Kenyan village, Obama urged Kenya to eliminate government corruption. During his African tour, Obama also spoke about developing a more effective response to the AIDS epidemic in Africa.
4. **Bono** – A major proponent of eradicating the AIDS pandemic, rock music superstar Bono launched several concerts with proceeds benefiting AIDS awareness and research. Bono also supports improving trade with Africa as a means of helping the struggling countries repay national debt. In 2007, Bono received the Liberty Medal for his activism.
5. **Mia Farrow** – A UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador, Farrow focuses on bringing attention to the crisis in Darfur. Since 2007, Farrow has been active with the Dream for Darfur campaign, which has emphasized China’s support of the Sudanese government. During the 2008 Olympics, Farrow went so far as to broadcast from a Sudanese refugee camp.
6. **Peter Gabriel** – Appalled by human rights violations, rock luminary Peter Gabriel co-founded WITNESS, which provides equipment and training to local organizations worldwide so they can document human rights abuses. Along with Nelson Mandela, Gabriel is a member of Global Elders, which works objectively to solve international conflicts. In 2007, Gabriel launched a YouTube video for human rights.

