



# POSITIVE DEVIANCE INITIATIVE

NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 8  
SEPTEMBER 2011

## Maman Lumieres “Illuminating Mothers”



*Mothers and children participating in PD Hearth sessions as part of Pathfinder’s Maternal and Child Health Project in Burundi. Photo courtesy of Pathfinder International*

Every now and then we come across great stories of work being done by other organizations and partners which highlight how Positive Deviance works in the field and which demonstrate the dramatic impact that Positive De-

viance can have on improving people’s lives. Most recently, **Pathfinder International** featured a two-part “**field journal**” entry by Sarah Eckhoff in their **July newsletter** about villages in Burundi where a group of women in the community, termed “maman lumieres” or “illuminating mothers” are helping their peers to overcome maternal and child malnutrition as part of a PD Hearth project (a component of Pathfinder’s Maternal and Child Health Project.)

Eckhoff’s captivating narration takes you to the bustling streets and steep hills of Burundi and highlights the great work of the maman lumieres who are working tirelessly to reduce malnutrition and improve the health of mothers and children in their communities. **Click here to link to Eckhoff’s Day One Field Journal entry, which links to Day Two.**

## Positive Deviance Hearth Orientation in Laos

From July 25-29, 2011, Monique Sternin facilitated a Positive Deviance Hearth Orientation Workshop in Vientiane, Laos which was funded by **World Vision Canada**. The objective of this workshop was to orient participants to the PD-Hearth Model. Participants learned how to distinguish where PD Hearth is appropriate, and how to describe implementation steps for PD Hearth. **To read more about the workshop and see photos from the event, click here.**



*Participants at the Positive Deviance Hearth Orientation Workshop in Laos hold up calorie-dense foods prepared in PD Hearth sessions to meet the needs of growing children.*



Monique Sternin, co-founder of the Positive Deviance Initiative, and her son Sam Sternin recently wrote an article about Positive Deviance for the RSA Journal (Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts.) The article provides a great overview of the approach and is especially helpful for those new to the approach who are trying to understand Positive Deviance. **Read the article here.**