

# City of Lewiston Press Release – Two Pages

**Members of the Media:** Below is a press release announcing an **August 30<sup>th</sup> press conference with Mayor Laurent F. Gilbert, Sr., and Atlantic Global Aid (AGA) helping to spread the word of needed aid for people in Somalia and Kenya. Attached is a photo supplied by AGA that shows the dire conditions currently in those countries.** Any media coverage that you could render would be greatly appreciated, and the media is urged to attend the August 30<sup>th</sup> press event. Thanks, Dottie

## **PRESS RELEASE August 26, 2011**

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### **CONTACT:**

Dottie Perham-Whittier  
Community Relations Coordinator  
City of Lewiston  
513-3000, X3205  
TTY/TDD: 207 513-3007  
[www.lewistonmaine.gov](http://www.lewistonmaine.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE CONTACT**

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**LEWISTON:** *“The fact that 29,000 children died within a 90-day span in Somalia and Kenya is something that cannot be ignored,”* notes Mayor Laurent F. Gilbert, Sr.

Gilbert will be hosting a press conference on **Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**, to highlight what is occurring within those countries and the importance of transporting medical supplies and nutritional supplements to those areas. Gilbert is partnering with Atlantic Global Aid (AGA) to get the message out, and the press event will

be held at **10:30 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at Lewiston City Hall, 27 Pine Street.**

AGA is a Maine-based non-profit established in 2010 for the express purpose of bringing medicines, supplements and supplies, and medical personnel and volunteers to Africa. It is also the first Maine-based charity to have an office on the ground in the Horn of Africa. In addition to providing needed supplies/nutrients, AGA focuses on building capacity for sustainability through regular humanitarian missions, youth empowerment and education programs, and health care training and mobilization.

AGA is also in partnership with **Partners for World Health**, an entity dedicated to improving health care in the developing world by improving the medical supply chain.

Many local individuals have come on board with AGA's outreach, several of whom will speak at the August 30<sup>th</sup> press conference. In addition to Mayor Gilbert and AGA Executive Director Dr. Abdifatah H. Ahmed, others speaking include:

- ❑ Elizabeth McLellan, **President of Partners for World Health**
- ❑ Jean Kahn, CNM, **Vice President of AGA Board of Directors**
- ❑ Jim Lysen, AICP, **AGA Board Member**

Ahmed adds, ***“Our vision is to help foster a healthier life for people in selected areas of both urban and rural Africa who are suffering from the negative effects of malaria, TB, pre-natal vitamin and mineral deficiencies, and complications due to dirty water and lack of proper hygiene.”***

The United Nations has declared a famine in regions of Somalia that are facing the worse drought in six decades, and an estimated 9 million people from the East Horn of Africa are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

Ahmed notes that some Somali Americans have families and relatives ***“back home”*** so what is occurring is ***“very crucial to us.”***

Individuals who wish to learn more about Atlantic Global Aid and/or contribute online to their efforts may visit [www.atlanticglobal.org](http://www.atlanticglobal.org) In addition, information on Partners for World Health can be found at [www.PartnersforWorldHealth.org](http://www.PartnersforWorldHealth.org)

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