



### **ABWE Investigation Update – May, 2012**

Over the last eight weeks, the GRACE team has conducted a series of interviews with ABWE MKs who were not able to meet with us in Philadelphia last November. These interviews have produced extremely valuable information regarding the actions of Donn Ketcham, and valuable insight relating to the institutional responses by ABWE. We want to take this opportunity to reiterate our thanks to these MKs who have talked with us so candidly concerning such difficult and emotionally wrenching matters. GRACE continues to be greatly encouraged by the support of the MKs for this process, but more importantly, for one another.

GRACE is now preparing to begin interviewing those who were adults in leadership or on the field in Bangladesh. This next phase of the investigation will include interviews with the parents of MKs, ABWE staff members, current and former ABWE leadership (including current and former administrators and board members), and anyone else who had an association with Donn Ketcham that is relevant to this investigation. These interviews will take place throughout this summer and early fall, and will include in person interviews, as well as interviews via telephone and Skype. In the past weeks, GRACE has worked with ABWE to finalize its responses to our previous request for documents. GRACE anticipates receiving these agreed upon documents prior to interviewing certain ABWE personnel. Once this phase of the interviews is complete, GRACE will spend the remainder of the fall engaged with any necessary follow up interviews, as well as providing Donn Ketcham an opportunity to meet with our team.

Unfortunately, an investigation of this magnitude, spanning over 20 years and involving dozens of individuals, is not one that can be completed in as short a time as most would wish. The GRACE team continues to work diligently and consistently to collect facts, as well as follow up with the myriad of issues that surface as a result of our interviews and document reviews. At the time GRACE was retained by ABWE on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011, we clearly conveyed that subject to unanticipated issues, this investigation would take approximately eighteen months. In fact, this time frame was notated when ABWE officially

announced its engagement of GRACE. Though some unforeseen matters have surfaced during the past year, it is the full intent of GRACE to conclude this investigation by late this fall, and to have a Final Report delivered within the first month or two of 2013.

Finally, GRACE recently encouraged ABWE to postpone any visits with MKs and/or victims of abuse by Donn Ketcham, until after the conclusion of the investigation and the delivery of the Final Report. Our primary rationale for this position is that such meetings would be premature in light of the fact that information is still forthcoming regarding the issues related to the abuse perpetrated by Donn Ketcham and ABWE's response. Waiting until after the Final Report has been delivered will place all parties on equal footing during such critically important visits. Furthermore, GRACE has also advised ABWE that such post investigation meetings should only take place if, and only if, the MK and/or family members desire such a meeting. GRACE is happy to announce that ABWE has agreed to postpone these visits until after the conclusion of this process. ABWE Executive Administrator, Al Cockrell, has expressed a desire to send a personal letter to the MKs expressing ABWE's desire to assist with any counseling needs that may exist. GRACE is encouraged by this positive step on behalf of ABWE, and has expressed a willingness to help in whatever way possible to facilitate the delivery of these letters.

As always, if you or anyone you know may have information pertinent to the issues of this investigation, please contact GRACE at [netgraceinfo@gmail.com](mailto:netgraceinfo@gmail.com). GRACE continues to appreciate much needed prayers as we continue toward the completion of this process.