Mother Knows Best

Ryan Lewis’s HIV-positive mom wants to build 30 health centers.

June 25, 2014 By Trent Straube

Hip-hop duo Macklemore & Ryan Lewis are promoting a cause that’s close to home: the 30/30 Project. Lewis’s mom, Julie, contracted HIV in 1984 from a blood transfusion during childbirth. She had two more kids before being diagnosed with the virus in 1990 at age 32. Today, she considers herself lucky. She’s doing well on meds, and her children were born negative. To celebrate three decades of life since her diagnosis, she’s launching the 30/30 Project, an initiative to help women, children and families around the world who don’t have health care. “The Lewis family,” as Ryan explains on 3030project.org, “is raising funds to build health centers worldwide that will stand strong for at least 30 years.” They’re partnering with Construction for Change to build the facilities, and other groups will help staff them. The debut project kicks off in Malawi. “I want to do something big,” Julie says. And so can you. Visit the website to donate.

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