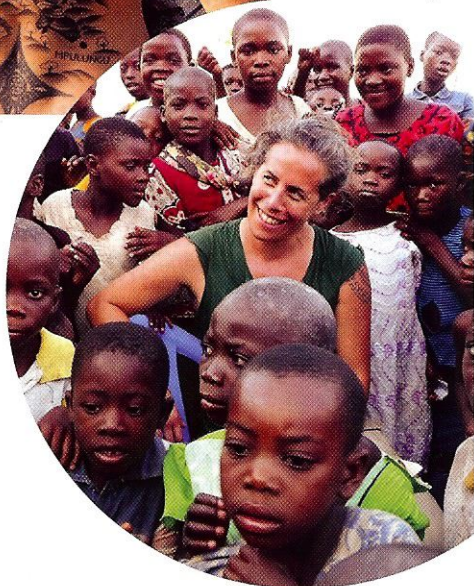
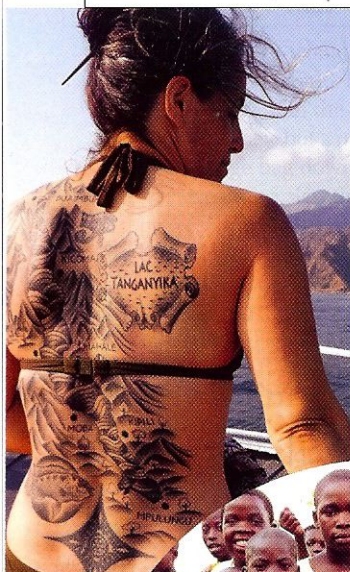


9 FOR ALL MANKIND

This year ELLE honors nine women who are educating, rebuilding, doctoring, employing, and sustaining the world



AMY LEHMAN, 38, FOUNDER OF LAKE TANGANYIKA FLOATING HEALTH CLINIC

THE PROBLEM: The remote Lake Tanganyika Basin, where 3.5 million people live without access to basic health care. **BIG IDEA:** A ship—a floating clinic—to provide medical services around the basin. **LIGHTBULB MOMENT:** Lehman, a surgical resident on vacation at the time, got stuck at Lake Tanganyika in a typhoon and realized, *These people need a hospital.* **BUT:** She has to raise \$25 million to build it. (Lehman and her small team have already treated 300,000 people.) **GENIUS MARKETING MOVE:** She tattooed a map of the region on her back. **MANTRA IN A CRISIS:** "Never lose your sense of humor in central Africa. The minute that happens, you're toast."—*ALLISON DAVIS*

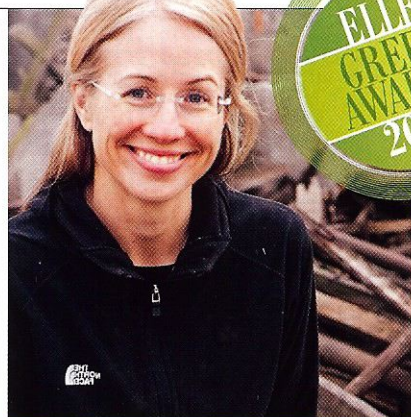
NINA DUDNIK, 35, FOUNDER AND CEO OF SEEDINGLABS.ORG

THE PROBLEM: On a Fulbright at the Africa Rice Center in Côte d'Ivoire, molecular biologist Dudnik was struck by the lack of equipment in the labs she visited. "You walk into a lab in a national university and there's nothing in it." **BIG IDEA:** Back at Harvard in 2003, she began sending repaired and unused microscopes, test tubes, and other equipment overseas. Four years later, Seeding Labs was born. **MANTRA IN A CRISIS:** "An Italian saying that basically translates, 'You asked for this bicycle; now ride it.' I need to remember how much I really want to be doing this when it gets frustrating and hard." **UNEXPECTED UPSIDE:** "Privileged U.S. scientists see how much can be done with little to no resources." —*A.D.*



ROBIN SMALLEY, 55 COFOUNDER AND INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR OF MOTHERS2MOTHERS

THE PROBLEM: "We have medical interventions [to treat AIDS], but African women don't know about them." **BIG IDEA:** Use her TV producer skills to scale up m2m, which trains and pays HIV-positive women to be "mentor mothers" to other afflicted women ("think Alcoholics Anonymous"); to prevent mother-to-child transmission; and to keep HIV-positive women healthy. **HER MOST USEFUL SKILL:** "From working in TV [*Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*], I knew how to sell a story." **WHAT STORY DID SHE SELL?** "Fewer babies are born with HIV in the U.S., UK, and Europe combined than in some African clinics." **PROOF THAT M2M WORKS:** "We employ 1,800 HIV-positive moms in nine countries. We're reaching 20 percent of the global population of HIV-positive pregnant women."—*CORRIE PIKUL*



ELIZABETH A. HAUSLER, 42 FOUNDER AND CEO OF BUILD CHANGE

THE PROBLEM: Shoddy construction in poor, earthquake-prone countries. **BIG IDEA:** Analyze design flaws that make buildings vulnerable to earthquakes and train local builders how to tweak plans to make structures resistant to damage. **LIGHTBULB MOMENT:** "I was studying civil engineering and I could see myself working for a developer, making them a lot of money. Then September 11 happened, and I was motivated to do something good for the world. So I spent about a year in Gujarat, India, assisting with post-earthquake reconstruction." **HER MOST USEFUL SKILL?** "Engineering is definitely useful, but when I start laying bricks, I get instant respect." **PROOF THAT BUILD CHANGE WORKS:** "After the 2007 earthquake in West Sumatra, we worked with over 600 families. We left the area, there was another earthquake in the same place, and none of the houses that we had helped rebuild had any damage. We revisited the villages after about six months, and others were building houses using techniques that we'd taught."—*C.P.*



DEB LEVINE, 48, FOUNDER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INTERNET SEXUALITY INFORMATION SERVICE (ISIS)

THE PROBLEM: "I think I have an STD," or "Our condom broke. Now what?" **BIG IDEA:** A text-messaging service that allows teenagers to text questions about sex anonymously and get answers back almost instantly. **HOW DID SHE GET STARTED?**