

In Memory of  
**Dr. Joella H. Gipson– Simpson**  
January 8, 1929– January 31, 2012



On January 31, 2012 Ray of Hope lost one its brightest stars– Dr. Joella Gipson. Joella was Professor Emeritus in the College of Education at Wayne State University, Principal Investigator for numerous U.S. Department of Education and the National Science Foundation grants and a 2 time Fulbright Senior Scholar (Belize and Romania). She was an avid volunteer, philanthropist, international traveler, Rotarian and one of the founding Board Members of The Ray of Hope Foundation.

A true believer in doing for others, Joella had the rare and unique gift of making each and every person she interacted with feel important. Whether in a Rotary meeting in Brazil, sitting in a Chief’s office in Western Kenya, working with one of her over 26 Doctoral and 80 Master’s advisees or chatting with a fellow traveler on a tour in Thailand– her grace, smile, warmth and keen intelligence always left you feeling better for having interacted with her.

Joella was one of the strongest advocates for Ray of Hope. Her leadership and grace opened many doors around the world and helped us to gain funding for early projects like the Shiseno Primary School Well Project, Water Harvesting for Bware Junior Academy and literacy projects that brought textbooks, supplies and funding to schools in rural Kenya. She is greatly missed by all, but most of all by her daughter, Teresa, our Founder and Executive Director.

**The Ray of Hope Foundation**

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*ROH is a 501c3, Tax ID # 20-0817019*

For more information about our programs

Please visit our website [www.rayofhope4all.org](http://www.rayofhope4all.org) or write us at [admin@rayofhope4all.org](mailto:admin@rayofhope4all.org)