



Childhood



How Canadian Feed The Children supporters make childhood a better place

>>Spring/Summer 2006

Special delivery for healthier children

\$13 million worth of medicine saves lives

The World Health Organization reports that 11 million children die every year before their fifth birthday, with most deaths due to only a few causes: pneumonia, diarrhea, measles, malaria and neonatal causes. The reality of these statistics and a deep desire to save young lives led Canadian Feed The Children to ship over \$13 million worth of medicines around the world



CFTC's Christina Sempebwa (left) proudly unboxes children's medicine for the Mulago Clinic

late last year to children who need them.

Medicines shipped included anti-parasitics, antibiotics, pain-relievers, oral rehydration salts, TB drugs, new HIV/AIDS drugs, vitamins and treatments for diarrhea, severe allergies and skin conditions.

This past January, a 40-foot container, holding \$3.6 million worth of medicine, arrived in Kampala, Uganda. Much of the shipment was destined for



Parents and caregivers line up for medicine and nutrition at the Mulago Pediatric Clinic, Kampala the Pediatrics Infectious Disease Clinic of the Mulago Hospital. CFTC has long been a supporter of the Mulago clinic, funding a program for children with HIV/AIDS aimed at improving the health of infected children through regular monitoring, access to medication and access to nutritional supplements.

On January 17, CFTC's Field Representative for Uganda, Christina Sempebwa, handed the life-saving cargo over to Mulago's pediatrics and child healthcare department chief, Dr. Philippa Musoke. As reported in Uganda's The New Vision newspaper, Dr. Musoke said children living with HIV/AIDS not only needed anti-retrovirals, but also required drugs that would help in fighting opportunistic diseases. She hailed Canadians for the assistance, saying it was a great

honour to the department and hospital. "We thank you for the generous contribution. We hope that the partnership between us and organizations like yours continues to grow," Dr. Musoke said.

Through a partnership with other non-government agencies that are committed to improving access to health care in developing countries, CFTC was able to procure the high-quality medicines at a vastly discounted cost. In addition to shipping to Uganda, just over \$10 million worth of medicine was shipped to communities in Cebu City, Philippines and La Paz, Bolivia for treatment of the preventable diseases that too often claim lives. All of us at CFTC thank our dedicated donors, who have made this shipment possible, for giving vulnerable children the chance of a healthier life.

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Chickens come first, then the eggs

Orphanage henhouse brings food, income

An egg-citing new program recently hatched in Haiti. Most CFTC supporters have heard the story of Maison d'Espoir (House of Hope) orphanage, just outside Port-au-Prince. Longstanding and new donors have donated generously to help us feed 300 children every day; give first aid and medical care; pay teacher salaries; and provide school supplies, benches and desks for the children.

As of March 2006, a sturdy new henhouse on the orphanage grounds is filled with healthy, productive hens - thanks to our



donors. CFTC Field Representative Madsen Gachette, a Haitian agronomist who knows his chickens, brought in hardy varieties of Issa Brown, Rhode Island Red and Plymouth Roc Barre chicks, which are now producing a bounty of eggs. The henhouse project adds much-needed protein to the children's diets, and excess eggs are sold for income within the local community to maintain future egg production - a perfect cycle that fortifies kids' health and their environment.

Nutrition is a life-long lesson

Good food in the classroom and community

Almost 1 in 6 children live in poverty in our country today. This dismal statistic is reported by Campaign 2000, a cross-Canada public education movement to build awareness and support for the 1989 all-party House of Commons resolution to end child poverty in Canada by the year 2000.

"In developing countries or here in Canada, malnutrition affects the way a child's brain develops. This means the longer a child has to wait for regular, nutritious food, the more difficult it will be for that child to lead a normal life."

Pat Dacey, CFTC Program Manager for Canada

As a Campaign 2000 member, Canadian Feed The Children is doing what we can to fight for change and to help children receive nutritious food on a regular basis. With classrooms and community centres being ideal settings to serve up nourishing snacks and meals, our 2006 Canadian programs address child nutrition in partnership with school

boards, daycare centres and community groups.

Thanks to donor support, we provide school- and community-based nutrition to economically depressed communities in the Regina area through our partnership with Regina Education and Action on Child Hunger (REACH). Our nourishment programs also reach out to children through community partnerships in Thompson, Manitoba; St. John's, Newfoundland; and Little Burgundy, Quebec.

Because Aboriginal children make up a disproportionately large number of children living in poverty in Canada, they are natural targets for our nourishment programs. In partnership with the Saddle Lake Boys and Girls Club, located in the heart of the Saddle Lake First Nation community in Alberta, we provide daily evening meals for children living on the reserve, with monthly meals served to both parents and children. As our Saddle Lake partner reports, "Food has long-standing cultural implications: welcome,

belonging, inclusion, equality, nurturing and respect. This means we can build resiliency through a very acceptable medium that increases our chances of



A happy beneficiary in Regina

long-term success! The possibilities and opportunities are endless..."

Read more about our Canadian programs at www.canadianfeedthechildren.ca

A Message from Jim Dahl, Executive Director



Jim and friends in Sucre, Bolivia

I'm honoured to be in the position to tell you and all our supporters that we are having a truly remarkable effect on families and communities around the world. With the shared goal of improving children's lives, you and Canadian Feed The

Children are accomplishing great things - in many different and important ways.

I've just returned this month from Bolivia, where I was fortunate enough to meet many of the children we support. It was difficult to hear their stories -

so many tragic circumstances of living on the streets - and to see the desperate poverty they've had to endure. But getting to know our local partners and seeing first-hand how comfort, nutrition, medical care and education are simply

transforming these kids was inspiring. Every time I was in a new community, meeting more children whose lives were literally saved through the programs we support, I thought of the many Canadians back home who had made the decision to reach out to children through us. I felt I was seeing things through your eyes - witnessing how life-changing events can occur when people care enough to act.

Whether these changes are taking place in La Paz, Bolivia; Kabonge, Uganda; or Saddle Lake, Canada; we can be proud of our alliance of action. Of course, there are greater needs every day and more

children who need our help, which is why your continued support is vital. We are committed to bringing big changes to small communities - effectively, for the long term, and with children's well-being at the heart of all we do. Thank you so much for being on this journey with us. Your contributions speak, and act, powerfully for so many precious children.



Tsunami Emergency Aid Saved Lives

When the December 2004 tsunami crisis ravaged the lives of millions of people, Canadian Feed The Children used a collaborative approach to help survivors in Indonesia, one of the region's hardest hit countries.

Working with Save the Children Canada, who already had programs in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, we were able to help provide life-saving emergency supplies and services to the city. "We were very pleased to work with Save the Children Canada and were proud of the impact our collaboration had in the field," said Gale Thomas, CFTC Director of Programs. "Our donors wanted to help, and our partnership with Save made it possible for them to do so." CFTC usually provides emergency support in countries where we currently work, but the magnitude of the crisis dictated a response, and the partnership we developed for urgently needed aid was an effective result.

Real Children. Real Hunger. Real Change.



Every year during the dry season, Besir Getir's four small children were fighting to survive. They, like many families in their small village in Ethiopia, didn't have enough food to eat. But because of CFTC's generous donors, Besir received seeds, tools, agricultural training and two goats. Today, his children are thriving and for the first time ever his family is facing a future without the threat of starvation. On behalf of the Getir family, we thank all donors who have contributed to our Ethiopia program, as well as the Canadian Auto Workers Social Justice Fund, IDRF and the Howick Foundation for their part in funding this project.

Under construction in Ghana, West Africa

Goli Primary School underwent extensive rehabilitation in 2005 with repairs to the roof, floors, windows, drainage and a fresh coat of paint. Desks were also supplied to make the school a safe and encouraging environment for learning.



Construction begins on a classroom at Nyinbali Community where community members provided the labour for the project. Both of these projects are part of Phase II of the Basic Children's Needs and Women's Empowerment program, funded in part by Alberta's Wild Rose Foundation.

Cultivating a caring corporate culture

Behind every good business are caring people. Employees at LAWPRO, a Canadian provider of insurance products and services for the legal profession, have contributed generously to Canadian Feed The Children for more than five years. This past year, LAW-

PRO employees got together to raise money for CFTC through a luncheon, silent action and sales of a cookbook produced by staff members. This year, the money will be used to purchase eight oxen to support farming families in Ethiopia. Employee matching programs are a highly effective

way for companies to inspire philanthropy and caring within their organization, while making a worthwhile contribution to communities.

For more information on these programs, please call Andrea Hill, Development Co-ordinator, 1-800-387-1221, ext. 241.



CFTC Donor Relations Co-ordinator Louise Barton, at your service

Introducing Louise

Your contribution to CFTC truly helps children live better days and build stronger futures, and we hope to make your experience as a supporter as rewarding and meaningful as possible. As CFTC's Donor Relations Co-ordinator, Louise Barton is here to do just that. She is dedicated to the children we serve and the supporters who enable our work. Louise welcomes your contact and is ready, willing and able to help with any questions or concerns you may have. You can reach Louise during business hours, Eastern Time:

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Toronto area: 416-757-1220, ext 255

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