



J.M.J. Children's Fund of Canada, Inc

NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the U. N.

NEWSLETTER Christmas 2020

Dear Friends, it's that time of the year again when we celebrate the birth of the wee Child in a stable. He was poor like the children we try to help, and His mother and St. Joseph looked after Him, as we are trying to look after our hungry and needy children, around the world. Recently, we have received reports from India and Ghana, and the children look well and cared for. Enjoy!

Sr Josephine Selvi SMA writes:

Greetings from the
Sisters of Maria
Auxilium,
Chennai! (India)

Hope you are all doing well by the Grace of the Almighty God amidst the critical situation the entire world is facing. We are also doing well. The children and their family members are also safe. How is the situation now in your country? In India the Covid-19 Pandemic is still spreading.

Educational institutions are not yet open. Children are studying through online classes. We submit this activity and utilization report with grateful hearts for your financial support towards the welfare of the disadvantaged children under our care at this dangerous situation.

We have carried out the necessary interventions during the Pandemic situation. As the poor people are always vulnerable to any natural disasters and issues, our children's families also lost their livelihood during the lockdown period and suffered for their basic needs. Therefore, we have provided all the necessary requirements for the children and their families. On 08.08.2020 we distributed rice and cash of Rs.3000/- as part of relief service to the children. On 21.11.2020 we have distributed clothes, Books and note books to all the children. Children and their families were very happy by the support. We have conducted sessions on health care and awareness on Covid-19 Pandemic.

Extracts from Sr Selvi's report

We are happy to submit this project report for the amount received from JMJ for the welfare of the disadvantaged children under our care. On

behalf of the children, we express our whole hearted thanks to you for your generous support for the benefits of our target children.

We have received INR 192,198.00/- during the month of July 2020. We have decided to provide the needs of the children such as school supplies, clothes for Christmas, food items, snacks and medical needs, but due to Covid-19 Pandemic we had taken alternative measures as they were in need of our support during the Pandemic situation, itself.

The families lost their livelihood for the past 8 months therefore we distributed rice, Books, Notebooks, clothes and INR 2000/- cash for each child for their



needs. Educational institutions are not reopened and our children are studying through online classes. The awareness program on Covid-19 Pandemic has created very positive impacts among the children and the parents of the two target areas – Annuppampattu and Kaniyambakkam villages, as well as to people of the intervention area.

SEMINAR ON HEALTH CARE

Considering the importance of the health status of the children in our target areas, a seminar on health care had been conducted for the children and their parents with the help of the qualified sisters and an awareness was created on health aspects especially about Covid-19 Pandemic. Particularly to take care of the health, and some precautionary measures were given for them about cold, cough, headache and fever.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic situation, we have distributed to children and their parents medicines for common diseases like cold, fever, headache, as well as vitamin tablets etc. We have also conducted special medical checkups, and done Corona tests for the children and their family members with the help of a qualified doctor and a medical team. None of them was infected by the Corona virus. Around INR 15,000/- has been spent towards this intervention.

Sr Monica E Otoo of Ancilla School, Wa, Ghana, West Africa, writes:

I should, on behalf of beneficiary children, their parents and on my own behalf, like to thank



all our generous sponsors and all at JMJ for what you do for our children, families and the Congregation of the Handmaids of the Holy Child Jesus. The majority of the children left on the program are twins and orphans. Each of them has a painful story and experience and need support to even survive. Without your timely intervention some of them may not be living. They need you even more now as they grow and their needs grow with them. With you there and us here, the future keeps looking bright for these otherwise condemned to perpetual poverty, deprivation, illiteracy and ignorance.

Our prayer is that God blesses you for your kind generosity. May He give you more than you give us. (*Photo above: Sister Monica Otoo, on right*)

Extracts from Sr Otoo's report (Ghana)

Schools have been in lockdown since March due to the spreading of the coronavirus pandemic. That means our children have been home for a long time, and will remain home until January, according to government's directive. These have been very difficult times for our children because



school has been there for them – they have protection, friends, and food. A lot of them are going through hunger, deprivation and all forms of suffering. We continue to support them as best we can. Children are receiving internet learning. School fees, books and uniforms have already been paid for, so our children will have no problem when school resumes in January. Also, as you may notice from our Report, instead of paying boarding fees as we have always done, we decided to give our children money for food. Without JMJ, this would not be possible.

Please note that Stephanie E., Ernest C. and Stephanie E. have completed the Senior Secondary School, and will not be part of the sponsorship program in the coming academic year – 2020/2021. This time their final examination was delayed because of the covid 19. The examination came off in September instead of June. If all goes well, they should be beginning their tertiary education in January. In their places, we are recommending Maureen M., JHS 1, Denis D., Primary 4, and Baloye S., Primary 6. whose personal data, we will be forwarding to you as soon as possible. We would be very grateful if they are considered for inclusion in the sponsorship program.

We, at J.M.J., understand that this pandemic has totally disrupted your routines as it has ours, but children around the world are also affected. If you would like to continue helping or consider helping for the first time, you may send a cheque to: **J.M.J. Children's Fund of Canada Inc., P.O.Box 20051, 322 Rideau St East,**

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 9N5

I am most grateful to Dr. Craig Laferrière for all his help in drafting this Newsletter.

May the good Lord bless you and your families in these very difficult times. And have a merry, merry Christmas!

Helping Children Help Themselves since 1972.

P.O.Box 20051 322 Rideau St East , Ottawa, Ontario Canada K1N 9N5