



# JMJ Children's Fund of Canada

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

## NEWSLETTER Spring 2022

Dear Friends, we are living in difficult times. While we hoped the end of the COVID-19 pandemic was at hand, the world has been thrown again into confusion by an autocrat with intentions of turning back the clock on a failed empire. This wave of lawlessness has been sweeping the world and has also affected the projects we support, especially in Haiti. This is a spiritual war, and now is the time to declare our allegiance. Now is the time to continue performing good works. We thank our donors for their continuing help to support children's needs.

### Celebrating JMJ's 50th Anniversary

JMJ celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1997. Here is an excerpt from the 1996-1997 Annual Report.

*When the JMJ Children's Fund was founded at Christmas time in 1972, there were only three of us packing cloths and supplies for the orphanage in Korea, in a large storeroom kindly provided by the Ottawa Citizen. Subsequently most of our efforts were geared toward fund-raising to meet a commitment to help the orphanage in Korea, where the Sisters has been praying for help.*

*Over the years, JMJ Children's Fund has assisted an orphanage in Ghana, refugees during the Vietnam war, a home for children in Ecuador and a Clinic for handicapped children in Chad. Now, we continue to support schools in Haiti and Malawi, and orphanage in Congo-Kinshasa and 2 students on scholarship in Dominican Republic. These will be reported more completely under desk reports.*

*Until 5 years ago we took part in Charity Bazaars at the various malls – Carlingwood was the most profitable. But now the malls not longer encourage this sort of activity. We held art exhibitions and sales, utilizing the work of Ottawa artists. Other*

*sources of funds were periodic raffles which helped us meet out commitments. All of this takes devotion, time and sacrifice on the part of our Board members and their friends.*

### Letter from Sr Nicole Beaulieu m.i.c.

According to our archives, our love story with JMJ Children's Fund started more than twenty years ago. Dr. J Ferrari has always been our contact person, and a very generous one each time we asked for help.

She is always an inspiration to us when we receive her kind words of encouragement and feel her compassionate heart for the most unfortunate children. Immense gratitude to Dr. Ferrari and to all the benefactors of JMJ!

JMJ has mainly helped our poorest missions in Haïti and Africa. We have 8 schools in Haïti with a total of 6142 children and Africa (Malawi and Zambia) counts 2 primary schools and 4 kindergartens with a total of 813 children. We, the Missionary Sisters of

the Immaculate-Conception firmly believe that education is the only way to lift a country out of poverty. We also do our utmost, through education, to instill in the children human and Christian values and bring them to know our God and be grateful for the gift of Life.



Korea's orphans with gifts from Ottawa

Photo from the Ottawa Citizen, January 17, 1973 of children from the Little Flower Orphanage in Pusan, Korea, who benefitted from JMJ's work, the first project among many that have since followed.

In Haïti, the JMJ grants went to children affected by disasters, like the earthquake of 2010, the hurricane Matthew in 2016 and the earthquake de 2021 where two of our schools were completely destroyed in the South, les Cayes. Moreover, at the same time, every year JMJ has helped our Center of Scolarisation which uses the classrooms of the regular program of the morning, for children-in-service and over-aged students who study in the afternoon. The children-in-service are orphans or children of big and poor families who have temporarily been given to other families to help with domestic chores in exchange of board and lodging. Very often these children need psychological help which JMJ has provided. Other schools have also benefited from resources of JMJ for students who cannot pay their school fees. Those who have reached secondary school are forever grateful to the benefactors.

In Africa, JMJ has continuously assisted our Immaculate Heart of Mary Kindergarten, Chipata, Zambia. There, the children helped are orphans whose one or the other parent died of HIV-AIDS. Very often the orphans are taken care of by the grand-parents or other members of the family or village. It goes without saying that these children need support for proper clothes, school supplies and school fees to go to school. Even if the endemic HIV-Aids has decreased significantly in the last years, many people still suffer and die from this disease.

Congratulations to JMJ who has, during these last fifty years, greatly contributed to the betterment of our humanity. Our society may think it is a drop of water in the ocean of world problems, but in the eyes of God I am convinced it is GREAT and you are GREAT!

## Ghana

Dear Mr. Modderman,

Many regards from Ghana. Please find attached report on the last sponsorship grant; of US\$5852.17. The support was used for the education, feeding, transportation and health needs of the blessed children. Children stayed and

participated in learning without any interruptions. On behalf of the beneficiaries, their families and on my own behalf, I would like to thank you sincerely for this very good support you have given us over several years which is changing the lives of many here. May God continue blessing you for the good work you do. (signed) Sister Monica

## Finally a word from Haiti

Nous sommes là, grâce à Dieu. Nous gérons des situations difficiles. Les enfants sont toujours à Croix-des-Bouquets comme dans une prison puisqu'on ne peut oser circuler dans Les rues. Heureusement l'école est sur la même propriété. Nous sommes obligées de loger certains enseignantes et élèves qui viennent des zones bcp plus à risque. Ce qui est plus encore plus dure pour nous: des bandits armés ont volé la voiture du Foyer pendant que le chauffeur a été acheté des médicaments dans la Zone de l'hôpital général au centre Ville.

C'est le cahos ce que nous vivons en Haïti ces temps ci . Bien des choses à vous. Union de prière

## Translated

*We are still here by the grace of God. We are managing difficult situations. The children are still in Croix-des-Bouquets like in a prison, since one cannot dare to walk in the streets. Fortunately, the school is on the same property. We are forced to accommodate some teachers and students who come from areas that are more at risk. What's even harder for us: armed bandits stole the school's car while the driver was buying medicine in the General Hospital Zone in the city center. It's the chaos that we live in Haïti these days. Best wishes. Let us pray*

*(signed) Sr Adrienne Janvier, Fdm*

**Please support the work** of JMJ Children's Fund by a cheque sent to PO Box 20051, 322 Rideau St East, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 9N5

OR INTERAC e-Transfer of funds. Please use the following email:

jmjchildren [JMJDdonate72@gmail.com](mailto:JMJDdonate72@gmail.com)

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