



# JMJ Children's Fund

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

## NEWSLETTER Christmas 2024

Dear Friends, how do you like our new banner? It was selected from amongst 12 options created by DALL-E3, the AI image creator now available in Bing. When I was younger, I thought that computers were the fulfillment of the prophecy in Revelation 13:15, "He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak..." I was fortunate to have learned how to program computers. But when children are faced with the computer algorithms of click-bait, they are susceptible to intimidation and control. That is why I support age restrictions on access to online social media. What do you think?

### Introduction to JMJ Children's Fund

Please forward this newsletter to friends and family to introduce them to JMJ.

JMJ Children's Fund of Canada Inc. was founded in response to an appeal from an orphanage in Korea, which appeared in a series of columns by Charles King, in the Ottawa Citizen at Christmas time, 1972. The people of Ottawa in their usually generous fashion responded, by donating clothing and school supplies to the Citizen. When this was sorted, there remained 14 cartons of clothing and school supplies. Canadian Pacific Airlines (now defunct) agreed to carry these cartons as far as Tokyo. Japanese Airlines took it from there to Seoul, and Korean Airlines to Pusan. That was the beginning.

Since then JMJ has been involved with numerous projects to help children from the entire globe.

In 1997 JMJ Children's Fund became a member in special status of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

JMJ Children's Fund focuses on the education of needy children who can eventually grow up and develop to become Administrators of hospitals like our Elizabeth from Ghana whom JMJ took under its wing when she was a little 12-year-old girl whose father had been murdered. Some others just grow up to lead normal lives.

JMJ also had projects in Haiti helping the children orphaned by the Hurricane that hit in 2010; in India, Haiti, and in Uganda where with the financial help and encouragement of one of our

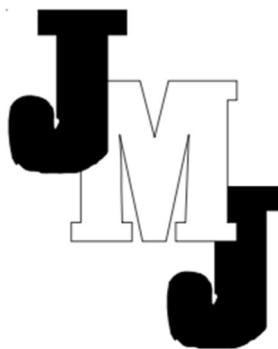
members, JMJ helped to provide potable water, latrines and a kitchen to feed the students in a high school at the request of our members who had visited there.

Children cannot learn on an empty stomach, so we feed them and treat their maladies, as well, when required.

From the beginning, JMJ has been operated by volunteers. There are no paid staff. Our meetings are held in one another's homes. We have tax-free status with Revenue Canada, and issue receipts for all donations, for taxation purposes.

For additional information, please see our website:

[www.JMJChildren.ca](http://www.JMJChildren.ca)



Banner from 1997



### Update on Foi et Joie Haiti

Translated from the report in French

Sponsorship Project for the educational retention of vulnerable Children in Haiti: Campaign in Canaan and Bedou.

Current status:

Among all the activities planned as part of the project, we have already achieved several important milestones, such as:

- Identification and selection of students who benefit from the program
- Sending circulars to parents of beneficiaries for the awareness meeting

The postponement of the start of the school year until October delayed the choice of beneficiaries. In general, children do not come to school in Haiti at the start of the school year; you sometimes have to wait weeks to get an idea of the attendance. Thus, it was only at the end of October that we were able to finalize the list of project beneficiaries.

Disturbances in Port-au-Prince, particularly in the Tabarre area where our national office is located, have disrupted our activities. For example, after selecting beneficiaries, we had to finalize meetings with parents and grant funding. Unfortunately, activities in Port-au-Prince are paralyzed, making it difficult for the office to conduct transactions.

Faced with these difficulties, we have taken and we intend to take a set of measures to overcome them. Thus, we have already adjusted the calendar to compensate for the delay caused by the start of the school year. In addition, to compensate for the socio-political crises in Port-au-Prince, we intend to send funds to the directors of the centers for the supply of foodstuffs

Submitted by Père Francky, SJ

### B the Hope for Haiti

In 2023 JMJ sponsored 5 children with B the Hope for Haiti. Here is an update on their situation.

October/November has been a very blessed time allowing me to finally get back into Haiti. The political situation, or lack of it, has blocked me out for sometime, but I finally received permission to cross the border.

Despite the difficulty finding ingredients for our food program, we have been able to modify while still keeping our menu filled with nutrition, the very best medicine to keep our kids healthy. Our agriculture program continues to teach our children food security, as well as supplying our kitchen with some of the ingredients needed.

A partnership between our Director and myself has started bringing critical thinking teaching into our classrooms. The memorization of past years is being replaced with more innovative learning, allowing our children to learn problem-solving skills and developing their own ideas to make change.

Our upgrade to the water system last year has been worth every penny. Water samples and bacteria testing has come back with flying colors and we have a reputation for the best water in the area. This is critical in keeping our most vulnerable free from potentially fatal disease.

The Haiti we see on the news is not the Haiti of the Northeast where we serve. Our schools operate daily, and our children can walk to school safely. We continue to move forward with construction, education, food/ water programs, and healthcare to empower our children for the future. With almost 600 students we know we could never do this without the support of our Canadian donors. We are so thankful to all of you and ask that you keep our Haitian children in your heart.

With much gratitude,  
Joanna Baumgartner  
B the hope for Haiti

### Annual General Meeting January 22, 2025

Please take note that the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Corporation of JMJ Children's Fund of Canada will be held on January 22nd at 3:00 pm by Teams meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to:

1. Receive and consider reports and accounts prepared by the Treasurer;
2. Ratify all motions passed by the Board during the preceding year;
3. Transact other business as may come before the meeting.

Please contact Dominic Ferrari for the Teams link if you plan to attend.

We need persons on the Board of Directors. If you would like to volunteer your services, please contact Dominic Ferrari at (613) 565 4779



Once again, thanks to all those who have been so generous with time, prayers and donations over the past year. Whenever a thank you letter arrives from overseas, we remember all who make it possible for JMJ Children's Fund to help. You are also included in the prayers of those in India, Haiti, Ghana, Uganda and Zambia.

If you would like to continue helping or consider helping for the first or whatever time, you may send a cheque to **J.M.J. Children's fund, P.O.Box 20051, 322 Rideau St East, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1N 9N5**

OR INTERAC e-Transfer of funds. *Remember to include your contact details in the message or in a separate email.* Please use the following email:

[JMJDONATE72@gmail.com](mailto:JMJDONATE72@gmail.com)

To use a credit card, please visit our page at CanadaHelps:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/jmj-childrens-fund-of-canada/>