



JMJ Children's Fund of Canada

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

NEWSLETTER Christmas 2022

Dear Friends, The Christmas Season reminds us how blessed we are to be living in a society that values the teachings of Christ; but the world is facing many crises as we await His return: the war in Ukraine and other parts of the world, the grief many have suffered from the COVID-19 pandemic, the high rate of inflation that is impoverishing young and old alike. We have not only to hold fast, but to extend our hands to those in need, especially the children, who, in spite of our worries, are the happy future for us all. May the Joy of this Christmas Season be shared with those we have the privilege to share it with.

Report to ECOSOC

You may have noticed in the heading of these newsletters that JMJ is in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC). What is this organization, and what consultation does JMJ provide?

ECOSOC is the centre of the UN development system, conducting cutting-edge analysis, agreeing on global norms and advocating for progress. Their collective solutions advance sustainable development. The U.N. has a committee on NGOs (non-governmental organisations) and tracks the activities and initiatives of the NGOs in support of the Millennium Development Goals set by the UN, which include: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger; Achieve universal primary education; Promote gender equality and empower women; Reduce child mortality; Improve maternal health; Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases; Ensure environmental sustainability.

JMJ's quadrennial report for 2018-2021 included a description of our aims and purposes, significant changes in the organisation, contributions to the work of the U.N., participation in meetings of the U.N., cooperation with other U.N. bodies and support for above-mentioned Millennium Development Goals. To this JMJ reported,

"JMJ Children's Fund contributed to MDGs 4 and 5 in Haiti, Ghana, Zambia and India by providing nutritional and educational care to 740 children (boys and girls) during the reporting period. MDG 8. In India JMJ supported an after-school program for mostly girls."

You can learn more about ECOSOC by visiting their website.

Update to JMJ Bylaws

We also reported to ECOSOC that in February of 2022 JMJ updated the Bylaws of our organization adding the role of a Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) reports to the Board of Directors and is a volunteer position (non-remunerative). The CEO will develop high-quality



business strategies and plans, ensure strategy alignment with objectives, lead with an example, recruit new volunteers and board members, play a key role in motivating and engaging volunteers, staff, beneficiaries and prospective donors, oversee all activities, including but not limited to, meetings, minutes, financial reports, annual reports, newsletters, fund raising activities, banking and fund transfers, web and social media activities, engagement with donation recipients, engagement with donors. Craig Laferriere (yours truly) was elected to this position by the Board.

Helping Children Help Themselves since 1972.

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

Update from Zambia

The name of Mary Immaculate Kindergarten was changed to Mary Immaculate Academy (MIA) on 4th July 2018. The name of the school was changed in order to accommodate the primary school levels. It was a yearly cry of parents and guardians especially after every graduation of the kindergarten, to let their children continue the kindergarten and primary education at this Catholic School under the administration of the Missionary Sisters of the Immaculate Conception (MIC Sisters).

As a result, there are two sections at the school, the kindergarten section and the primary section. The high quality of education at Mary Immaculate Academy has continued to spread even beyond the city of Chipata.

As a purely Catholic school, Mary Immaculate Academy has become a preferred school for most parents and guardians for their children's education in the Chipata. Sr Nicole Beaulieu

The History of JMJ in Ghana

We cannot, single handedly solve the problems of the whole world, but we can in our own small ways, improve some of the challenges of life. And that exactly is what we, with support and encouragement from JMJ try to do in the youngest and most economically disadvantaged region in Ghana - Wa, the capital of the Upper West Region. We find ourselves in an agrarian society in a savannah grassland with one rainy season span April to August each year. Yield for agricultural activity is so low due to the sporadic nature of the rains. Poverty is thus found in its entire ramification.

It's already about a decade since we've known and enjoyed the kind generosity of JMJ, and we are and will ever remain grateful to God for given us you. Opting for poor children and acknowledging their painful situations forced us to look externally for support to continue caring for children who needed care and help- the orphaned, sick, poor, abused,

deprived, abandoned, marginalized children and those with disabilities. The plight of these vulnerable little ones moved us to do something for children.

The Ancilla program in Wa, Ghana, came about as a result of the hardships children suffered. We are sustained by your constant intervention. With JMJ on our side, we have been able to brighten the little corner we find ourselves. Children have been taught and helped to break the cyclic poverty of their families. Who thought children from extremely

poor homes and educationally disadvantaged communities could succeed so well at learning. Sr Monica E. Otoo

Unauthorized use of our name

We were surprised to find the name of JMJ Children's Fund on a couple of websites we didn't authorize or even know, and that they were asking for donations using our name. Since they never contacted us,

it is not clear what they would do with the funds if they collected any.

When we requested these third-party organizations to stop using our name without our consent, they insisted that they were legally allowed to do this. We will be registering a complaint with the Canadian Revenue Agency and Privacy Commissioner.

We have only authorized CanadaHelps to collect funds for us, and we manage our webpage on the CanadaHelps website. We encourage our donors to send funds directly to us by cheque or Interac e-Transfer, but if you would like to use a credit card, please use CanadaHelps.

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:

JMJdonate72@gmail.com

Or visit our page at CanadaHelps: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/jmj-childrens-fund-of-canada/>



Helping Children Help Themselves since 1972.

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