



Fall 2019

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Project Restores Health and Dignity in India

From the start of our work in India, Chalice has been supporting local communities to address issues related to sanitation. Through sponsorship, our gift catalogue and community projects, Chalice donors helped communities build toilets and other facilities to improve hygiene and access to safe drinking water. In July 2017, Chalice started a WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) project to build safe and hygienic outdoor bathrooms for the poorest of the poor in six sites — Tamil, Madurai, STAR, Kerala, Bangalore, and Imphal.

An overwhelming success, this project built 478 latrines in 31 villages. Families also received a personal hygiene kit, a supply of seeds/ seedlings for a small kitchen garden, training on proper hygiene practices as well as cleaning supplies and training on the cleaning and maintenance of their latrines.

Each family was also shown how to reuse the wastewater from washing their hands to water their gardens.

The recipients are overjoyed with

their new outdoor bathrooms. For many, the idea of building their own individual toilet was a farfetched dream. The recipients have reported feeling a sense of dignity and are relieved they no longer have to worry about monsoon season, animals, insects and other dangers while relieving themselves.

Mrs. Shanmugavalli lives in a multi-generational family home with her son and his family - eleven family members in total. Her grandchildren used to get sick frequently due to open defecation and poor sanitation practices. After the orientation given by the program coordinator, the family became aware of the importance of hand washing to prevent disease. "I am not afraid of illness now," she says. "I am able to wash my hands properly and give good baths to my grandchildren."

Thank you donors for raising \$283,592 to complete this project! Your generosity has restored the health and dignity of 1912 beneficiaries in 31 Indian villages. We are look-



The Virahalur family proudly poses with their new latrine.

ing forward to our next WASH project which will benefit schools in Tanzania.

Share God's Love this Christmas

At last year's Christmas celebration, children at our Orissa site in India put on a skit for their families and friends. Alone on stage stood Mary and Joseph, but no infant Jesus. Visitors coming with gifts for the child repeatedly asked "Where is Jesus?" To the crowd, Mary and Joseph announced, "Today Jesus will not be born again in the manger but in your hearts, in your families, in your villages and society. So, share your gifts to all the poor and needy." The gifts that had been brought for Jesus were shared with young actors representing those in need, and everyone rejoiced. The skit concluded with the message: "Christmas is an event of sharing God's love."

Through your generosity, you truly share God's love with the sponsored children and their families at Christmastime by making it possible for every site to have a celebration.



Sponsored girl receives Christmas gift at our CMAVIL site in Paraguay.

While every culture has its own unique traditions, most celebrations include a special meal, music, dancing, colorful attire and much laughter. Most also celebrate a special Mass. It is also common for sponsored children and their siblings to receive a gift, usually a practical item such as hygiene products, clothing or a grocery hamper.

In many sites, the message of "sharing God's love" is put into action well beyond the party. In Bolivia, children participate in the tradition of posadas, in which they visit the homes of people in their community, sing carols, pray the rosary, and offer a special blessing. Christmas cheer spreads through the community like sunbeams, and the families who receive the visits say it is their most anticipated day of the year.

Every child deserves to experience the joy and excitement of Christmas. Your contribution to the Christmas

fund will enable every site to make the Christmas season a time of happy memories and community togetherness. The Christmas fund ensures that no person is excluded from the merriment. You can make your donation by mailing the paper slip included in this newsletter, by phone, or at Chalice.ca.

If you have any suggestions for stories or photos you wish to see featured in our newsletter, please mail them to:

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:

Heather Little, Editor *Chalice*

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Faces of Faith

GSA1265 Sirisha

MAY 30, 2001
Sirisha lives in Amaravathi, India with her father and sister. Smart and focused, she is determined to make a difference in her community by becoming a teacher.



VP01072 **Ebehati**



APRIL 15, 1950
69-year-old Ebehati
lives alone in a one
room apartment in
Songea, Tanzania.
He is in poor health
and has lost the use
of both his legs. He
currently relies on
the kindness of

neighbours but desperately needs a sponsor.

SGC11452 Naomi

DEC 24, 2002
Naomi lives with her father and two sisters in Wote, Kenya. The death of her mother has greatly affected the family. Smart and ambitious, she wants to be an information technologist.



TON2883 Ken



MAY 25, 2011
Ken lives with his parents, three brothers and sister in Manila, Philippines. He studies hard so he can get a good job and build a house for his family to live in. Sponsorship

will ensure he achieves his dreams!

ODI1201 Paul

FEB 12, 2003
Paul lives in
Mpulungu, Zambia
with his father, three
brothers and two
sisters. Calm and focused, Paul is learning
braille and doesn't let
his visual impairment
hold him back.



LBL3122 **Falabdina**



OCT 28, 2010
Falabdina lives in
Latiboliere, Haiti with
her parents, three
brothers and three
sisters. Sponsorship
will give this active
and happy girl the
hand up she needs.

LBL3125 **Jean**

SEP 16, 2009
Hardworking Jean dreams of working in construction when he grows up! He lives with his parents and brother, sponsorship will keep Jean in



Sponsorship Supports Nazar's Ambitious Goals

Nazar, from our Pochaiv site in Ukraine, faced many difficulties and changes in his early childhood. When Nazar was only two years old, his parents separated, and his father left the family behind. Nazar's mother was battling cancer, and just one year later, passed away.

After his mother's death, Nazar was left in the care of his two older sisters, Mariana, 10, and Lilia, 18. "Lilia took on her mother's responsibilities so that her younger siblings wouldn't be sent to an orphanage," says Halyna, our Pochaiv site director. It was challenging for Lilia to provide for Nazar and Mariana on her own, so she turned to our Pochaiv site for assistance.

When Nazar was sponsored, it made an incredible difference for him and his sisters. The siblings were able to afford more nutritious food and household essentials. Nazar was also able to attend school, and receive the support he needed to shine in the classroom.

Growing up, Nazar struggled with his mental health. He took part in our site's psychological support sessions, which helped him immensely. He also eagerly participated in many other site activities such as community events and celebrations.

After high school graduation, Nazar



went to medical college to become a dentist. His hard work earned him his diploma, which he proudly graduated with this past June. Nazar has already found his dream job at a local hospital, and is currently working Congratulations Nazar!

there with joy and determination. "Nazar is happy and he's incredibly grateful to his sponsors for the opportunities they gave him," says Halyna.

That Wishbook Feeling



There was nothing quite like cracking open the new Sears Wishbook as a kid, thumbing to the back and quickly dog-earing the pages with the many The school children take great care of their cow.

toys that would eventually be added to a Christmas list. It may look a little different, but for our sponsor sites they feel that same buzz of energy each year when they make their lists – five goats, 50 chickens, 25 hygiene kits and a water tank please!

Last year St. Xavier's secondary school at our Neema sponsor site in Tanzania was so happy to receive two cows through the gift catalogue to improve nutrition for the girls residing in the boarding school. Now the girls will have enough milk for their daily needs and those with special nutritional needs are able to supplement their diets. The cooks are also very happy to have their own source of milk so they can make a popular high protein local yogurt known as maziwa lala.

Through the gift catalogue the site was also able to repair, paint, and attach solar lighting at the girls' hostel so they can do their homework and study each evening.

Give a gift that makes a difference this Christmas. Rediscover that Wishbook feeling through the Christmas gift catalogue today. Keep an eye out, our catalogue should arrive in the mail in the next couple of weeks or you can order gifts online at chalice.ca/donate.

God's Love is Present and Active

In this issue of our newsletter you will see the many ways your generosity helps the children, families, and communities with whom we work. In the communities there is the story of how we have built latrines and offered training that is so important to the health and hygiene of families. One story tells how sponsorship, in conjunction with the Christmas catalogue, brought one sponsored family the self-reliance and financial security that brings such great joy to see. And if there is anything that brings us joy it is when we see how sponsorship can help one child overcome the barriers to achieving their hopes and dreams.

While your story may highlight the wonderful achievements of our sponsored children, your actions here at home are so important in helping achieve our mission. For example, one story tells how her child's birthday gave the opportunity for a mother to give back to those in need while another story tells about the deep and meaningful relationships sponsorship can create.

Stories like these show how God's love is present and active in our world. These are the stories that give us hope and remind us of all that is good.

Father Patrick Cosgrove, President

school.

Sponsorship Impacts Lives Forever

The first impression you get when you speak to Sharleen Dickson is one of warmth, humour and compassion. After that it becomes very clear that she is a dynamic problemsolver who gets things done. Sharleen has been sponsoring with Chalice since 2008. She decided to attend mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Surrey, BC which wasn't her parish. A Chalice deacon was presenting a sponsorship appeal, "There was someone there with a table of folders and I just said ok - I will take one," she says. "I always sponsored children, if they aged out of program I would say, 'just add another!'"

In September 2011, Sharleen (who owns a travel agency) planned a trip to Kenya and decided to meet her two sponsored children, James and Eunice, "Since James was in Starehe Boys School in Nairobi he was easy to send stuff to," explains Sharleen. "Whenever I had clients going to Kenya I gave them stuff to take to Starehe. One of my clients even started to sponsor two children in South America."

The following year her daughter also went to visit James and he became like one of the family. After finishing school, James entered the military and invited Sharleen to attend his graduation ceremony. "A month prior I just decided I had to go. I found out the driver I arranged to take me that day had a brother who had been sponsored by Canadians through Chalice," she said. "He drove me to the gradua-



Sharleen and James at his graduation.

tion and then to the Saidia Children's Center to meet the two girls I currently sponsor."

She didn't know the center was an orphanage and was devastated because she had no gifts for the other children. "I picked up one of the little ones - his name was Bayden, he was 18 months old. He was so cuddly I just loved him," she explains. "I said I would be back, this little one just touched my heart and as a grandma I had nothing for him. I could not get him off my mind and knew I had to go back."

Sharleen travelled back to Saidia for

a week in June, visiting the children's center and a preschool built by Chalice. "I was so impressed to see how well all the programs work," she said. "So many programs are in place for the children at the preschool and on the weekends for the older children."

Ever ambitious, Sharleen arrived with six suitcases of supplies for the children! With the help of her friends she carried blankets, school supplies, books, duffle bags, soccer balls, hockey jerseys, and dental hygiene supplies.

Already planning her next visit, Sharleen is busy gathering clothing, books, and school supplies, and is looking for musical instruments. "I have decided that my piano will not travel well," she jokes. "I want to ask a local ukulele group to do a fundraiser for me." She is also currently taking ukulele lessons to teach the kids.

When asked why she continues to go back she answered, "I have to go back because I feel such closeness to the children. I have one grandson here but probably 50 of them there, and I just love my little babies. My grandson here has everything - my babies there do not."

Sharleen's message to other sponsors is simple, "Have absolutely no doubt in your mind as to how much good your sponsorship is doing. All these children want is an education and something to eat. If you could only realize how little you have to give to impact someone's life forever."

Faces of Hope

HMR1391

Epsy FEB 12, 2009

Epsy wants to be a teacher when she grows up. She lives in Munnar, India with her parents and brother. Her parents also take care of her grandparents because they are aging and ill.



TER5416 **Maksym**



SEP 04, 2013

Maksym wants to be president when he grows up! He is being raised by his grandparents because his dad died and his mom wasn't able to care for him.

FAP4321 Estela

JUN 20, 2011
Estela wants to be a nurse so she can take care of those who are sick. She lives in Teculután, Guatemala with her parents and brother. Help Estela achieve her dreams through sponsorship.



TER5422 Ulyana



JUL 29, 2006
Ulyana is creative and determined. She lives with her mother, brother and sister in Pidvolochysk, Ukraine. Sponsorship will give Ulyana the stability she needs to succeed in school and achieve her dreams.

IVF2854

MAY 24, 2010 Ivanna lives in Kosiv, Ukraine with her disabled mother and brother, her father abandoned the family. She is bright and caring, loves math class and drawing animals.



CAN1932 Ruben



OCT 29, 2001
Help Ruben become a priest! He is currently in the seminary but needs a sponsor to continue his studies. Ruben is praying every day that a sponsor will join him in his journey to serve the Lord.

SEN1145 Roberto

JUNE 21, 1947
72 year-old Roberto is in poor health, suffers from kidney disease and uses a wheelchair to get around his one room house in Cañete, Peru. Sponsorship will give Roberto a sense of security and dignity.



Nurturing Independence Through Sponsorship



Centro Esperanza, our sponsor site in Chiclayo, Peru helps hundreds of families each day through the sponsorship program. One mother in particular is a shining example of how sponsorship can benefit the whole family. Everyone who has had the pleasure of meeting Alvina Rosa knows how hard she works for her family. Her eyes sparkle with a hopeful outlook; she is very responsible and always supportive of other mothers in need.

To say she keeps busy is an understatement! In addition to caring for her family of nine children - six boys and three girls with her husband Roselí who repairs footwear for a living, Alvina Rose runs a small store out of her home and also works as a domestic worker twice a week.

Two of her sons were sponsored in the past and now her youngest daughter, Rosita, is 19 years old and is getting ready to retire from sponsorship. She will soon start classes at the National University of Lambayeque.

Alvina Rosa has fully embraced every opportunity afforded to her as her children have gone through the program.

In 2016, her daughter Rosita, motivated by the new family funding model for sponsorship funds, had an idea to use some of her sponsorship money to buy candy to sell out of their home. They started with a few treats and some beauty products and gradually with their profits were able to add more products.

Rosita taught her mother how to

account for sales and save profits. Every week they would replenish their stock and reinvest their earnings in more products. Over the past three years Alvina's small business has grown – expanding to sell fruits, dairy products and soda. Thanks to Chalice's gift catalogue they also received a refrigerator.

Alvina Rosa is proud of her

accomplishments.

Alvina Rosa's entrepreneurial spirit, paired with a little help from our donors, helped establish her independence. She knows she will be just fine once Rosita's sponsorship ends and is eternally grateful to the Chiclayo Project, her children's sponsors, and all her Chalice friends.

Bowl for Chalice

It all started with an idea. Chalice Champion Andrea was organizing her daughter's bowling birthday party and thought, "Why not do a bowling fundraiser for Chalice?" She didn't know if it was going to be a success but decided to give it try.

"I needed 16 bowlers minimum so I was hoping to at least get that," she said. "I booked the bowling alley, made a poster and sent it out to my family and friends. I slowly started to sell the tickets and I was happy when we reached 16 as I knew the event was going to happen." When all was said and done she was thrilled to discover 40 bowlers had signed up for the event.

On the day of the event the

weather didn't look promising, "We were expecting a major snow storm that day so I was worried that people wouldn't come," she explains. "I prayed to God to take care of the weather and He did."

The event was a great success. Participants enjoyed bowling, pizza, a bake sale, 50/50 draw, raffle, and door prizes. "The best part was that while having fun, we helped to raise \$800 to feed many hungry children," said Andrea. "I received great feedback about the event and many people suggested that we do it every year. I'm already looking forward to organizing our 2nd annual Bowl for Chalice Fundraiser!"

For information on planning a



Chalice fundraiser please contact ligiaangulo@chalice.ca or call 1.800.776.6855.

Andrea with her husband Massimo and daughters: Sophia and Stephanie.

Ghanian Jollof Rice



If you ask a West African where to find the best Jollof rice (a one-pot dish popular in many West African countries), be prepared for a spirited debate between team Nigeria and team Ghana. In 2015 the introduction of Jollof Rice Day (August 22) only increased the competitive fervour with Nigerian and Ghanian Jollof rice dishes squaring off at various festivals around the world. Make this tasty version from our staff in Ghana and let us know what you think!

Ingredients

- 4 large onions
- 4 tbsp. vegetable oil (preferably palm oil)
- 8 tomatoes (or two medium tins of diced tomatoes)
- 4 tbsp. tomato paste
- 6 cloves garlic
- 1 large (2 medium) bell pepper
- 2 tsp. curry powder
- 1 small ginger root or 1 tsp. ginger powder

- 3 Maggi cubes, crushed (African spice, look for it in the international food section of your grocery store.)
- 2 chillies (optional)
- 1 tsp. each ground white and black pepper
- 2 1/2 cups long grain rice, rinsed
- 1 cup mixed vegetables (carrots, peas, etc.)
- 11/2 cups water

Preparation

- 1. Chop 2 onions and place in medium bowl.
- 2. Chop the remaining 2 onions and tomatoes, and add to blender; add 2 spoons of the tomato paste, chopped or crushed ginger, chopped bell pepper and chillies to the blender, and blend until smooth. Transfer to a separate bowl.
- 3. Heat the oil in a large, heavy pot over medium heat.
- 4. Once the oil is hot, add onion and fry until medium brown (after about 2 minutes). Add 4 tbsp. of the tomato puree and remaining tomato paste and cook until all moisture is cooked out and the puree starts to dry out (about 5-8 minutes).
- 5. Add the curry powder and crushed cubes, and the rest of the tomato puree. Cook for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the stew is deep red in color.
- 6. Add the mixed vegetables and stir.
- 7. Add the rice and water and stir. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to low; cover the pot with foil and a lid.
- 8. Simmer for another 30 minutes, until the rice is cooked through and the liquid is absorbed.
- 9. Let cool a bit, then serve.