



KENOLI
Ken And Oli Johnstone Foundation

Annual Report 2013-14

VISION

Vulnerable people, including women and youth, become self-sufficient and empowered, which leads to greater social justice in the countries where we work.

MISSION

Ken and Oli Johnstone Foundation is a private Canadian foundation that works to alleviate poverty and hunger by supporting organizations that build community self-sufficiency and advance human rights in Latin America.

The Foundation was established in 2007 and its assets come from the estates of Ken and Oli Johnstone of Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Remarks from the Board

WE WORK in the poorest countries in the western hemisphere: Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The continued thoroughness of the Foundation’s review process has resulted in credible organizations proposing worthwhile projects that make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable people.

In our first year, the Foundation supported four groups. Now we support 30 organizations doing amazing work in alleviating poverty and hunger and advancing human rights. While we only have room in this report for a few lines about each group’s work, success stories appear within all of them.

Over the years, we have seen development: people obtaining clean drinking water, fewer malnourished children, families accessing enough food for their needs, women becoming leaders, children receiving an education, youth developing technical skills, and women learning to read and write. We are proud of all of our partners’ work!

However, some of the most powerful examples of development are finding one’s voice. We see poor women farmers now organized and speaking up at municipal councils and the national congress. We see courageous human rights defenders speaking out against arbitrary confiscation of lands or abuse of authority. This empowerment of people is the most exciting change to witness, as it ultimately leads to social justice.

KEN PHILLIPS • CHAIR, KENOLI FOUNDATION • TRUSTEE FOR KEN & OLI JOHNSTONE FOUNDATION

Kenoli Team

- Vera Radyo
- Magda Lanuza
- Gabriela Quintanilla
- Edwin Escoto
- Andrea del Pinal
- Tatiana Cortez



Some of the Kenoli team in Nicaragua: Edwin Escoto, Magda Lanuza, Vera Radyo, and Ken Phillips

El Salvador

EL SALVADOR experienced a military coup in 1972 and a civil war from 1980-92, which left a very violent society with high levels of poverty. 34.5% of the 6.3 million inhabitants live in poverty. While still high, the homicide rate has decreased from 70 violent deaths to 41 per 100,000 inhabitants¹ with recent developments. We have seven excellent partners in El Salvador working in food security, nutrition, health, opportunities for women and youth, human rights, and consumer rights.



Residents of Santa Marta commemorate the massacre of 150 people by the military in 1981.



ACIDES women preparing their products for sale.

ACIDES

Supporting the Economic Initiatives of Rural Women, \$8,500

ACIDES works to alleviate poverty and exclusion. In this project with Kenoli, they are strengthening three micro-enterprises of rural women in Panchimalco. ACIDES provides business management training and technical assistance in product diversification, developing a visual corporate identity, and participation in commercial events.

ADES

Human Rights Defenders Network, \$32,000

ADES provides a wide range of programs in Cabañas to assist the most excluded people to achieve their basic rights. In this project, ADES has established an emergency fund to assist human rights defenders. They train 450 youth and 100 community leaders in human rights and build a network of human rights defenders. ADES also airs radio programs on human rights, provides legal assistance where human rights have been violated, and prepares an annual report on human rights in the region.



Carlos Bonilla and Francisco López view the messages of solidarity against the crimes committed by the military in 1981.

¹ All the statistics in this report come from United Nations agencies (i.e. UNDP, UNICEF, UNODC) and the World Bank.

APRODAE

Strengthening Local Development, \$20,000

APRODAE is a community development organization working with rural communities in San José Guayabal. In this project, APRODAE works in four villages with 100 vulnerable people. They provide technical assistance for building 50 improved stoves, 50 small poultries, and eight demonstration plots of soybean. APRODAE also provides training in nutrition and healthy cooking.



A small poultry in Loma Chata that was built with APRODAE support.

ASOCIACIÓN CENTRO PARA LA DEFENSA DEL CONSUMIDOR (CDC)

Toward a Healthy Future, \$10,000

CDC promotes consumer rights and sustainable consumption by supporting consumer movements, research, and advocacy. With Kenoli's support, CDC prepared a study of five public schools about food programs to move towards eradicating the consumption of junk food in public schools. Schools and government welcomed their study, which showed urgent actions are needed to avoid malnourishment and obesity in children.



Tania Tobar of CDC presenting the results of the study to students.



Gloria Aparicio, community promoter in the Mangle project, is harvesting her tomatoes.

ASOCIACIÓN MANGLE

Diversified Production and Commercialization, \$66,380 over two years

Asociación Mangle supports the development of communities that live in the biosphere reserve of Jiquilisco Bay, bordering on the Lempa River. In this project, Assn. Mangle improves the living conditions and food security of 70 impoverished families in five communities by providing technical training on sustainable agriculture, and corn production and processing. They also have built a greenhouse, small poultries and a farm for the commercial production of chickens.

FUSANMIDJ

Improving Family Nutrition, \$60,000 over two years

FUSANMIDJ strengthens vulnerable populations through provision of training, leadership development, and advocacy. In this project, they are improving the health of 100 malnourished children by training their mothers on healthy nutrition. FUSANMIDJ also trains eight new community health promoters, works with 10 families to plant soy and peanuts to improve local access to protein, collaborates with four public schools on educational campaigns, and purchased a new vehicle.



Mothers and children participating in the FUSANMIDJ program enjoy a healthy lunch.



The Kenoli team views the eggs, which now provide protein for the children and a source of income for the centre.



A farmer showing Guadalupe (FUSANMIDJ) and Vera (Kenoli) the peanut crop he is growing.



CENDIMOR youth playing soccer.

CENDIMOR

Gaining Self-sufficiency!

CENDIMOR is a small organization that supports children living in extreme poverty in the rural villages of Soyapango. Over the past two years, CENDIMOR did not need Kenoli support as they were successful in obtaining funds for economic initiatives (a vegetable garden and poultry and tilapia farms) that support their sustainability. In addition, the National Technical Training Institute provided youth training. What great successes!

Guatemala



GUATEMALA experienced a long civil war (1960-96), which continues to affect the country today. Over half (54%) of Guatemala's 15 million inhabitants live in poverty, and 60% of the population is Indigenous. The country has the highest rate of child malnutrition (48%) in Latin America and the highest rate of gender inequality in the region at 0.54.² The educational level of the population is the lowest at four years of schooling.³ We have seven terrific partners in Guatemala working on women's empowerment, human rights, food security, holistic rural development, economic development, educational opportunities for children, and Indigenous land rights.

ADEMI women preparing the soil for seeding.

ADAM

Economic Empowerment of Women in Xeabaj II, \$23,500

ADAM supports the economic development of rural farmers. In this project, ADAM works with Mayan women living in extreme poverty in the community of Xeabaj II in Sololá to strengthen their economic initiatives and to provide literacy training. The women manage revolving funds for steers, grain silos, organic worm composts, and vegetable production. The women have become more empowered, strengthened their vulnerable economic situation, and attracted other funds into their community from government and non-profit sources.



With ADAM's support, the women of Xeabaj II raised funds from the municipality to build this new community centre.

ADEMI

Strengthening Mayan Women's Autonomy, \$70,000 over two years

ADEMI is a Mayan women's organization that supports local community development towards a fair and harmonious society. ADEMI works with 300 women and 400 youth in 12 Indigenous communities in the rural areas of Chimaltenango. Their work strengthens organic food production, native seed banks, a network of community health promoters, nutritional practices of children and pregnant women, and local advocacy efforts.

- ² Gender in equality reflects women's disadvantage. 0 indicates that women and men fare equally and 1 indicates that women fare as poorly as possible.
- ³ Education is measured by mean years of schooling, which indicates the point where half the population has more years of schooling and half has less.



Display of produce grown by ADEMI women.



CASASITO

Scholarship Program and Educational Fund, \$59,000 over two years

CasaSito increases educational opportunities in rural areas so that Indigenous children living in poverty can attend school. Kenoli sponsors scholarships, workshops, and counseling for 20 high school and university students. Kenoli also provides nutritional support for 40 vulnerable children at Semilla de Esperanza y Amor (SEA) in San Mateo Milpas Altas and supports their Theatre of the Oppressed program.



Kindergarten children at the SEA school.

14 year old Julia introduces the program for Kenoli, while Herlinda Mendez of CONIC looks on. ▶

Children at SEA enjoying their nutritious lunch.



CONIC

Sustainable Farming in Mayan Communities, \$65,000 over two years

CONIC is a national organization of Mayan farmers. In this project, they work to improve the lives of 170 Mayan families living in poverty in seven communities in Chimaltenango. They strengthen skills in community organizing, sustainable farming, food security, nutrition, gender equity, and advocacy.



Juana Mux has a healthy crop of cabbage.



COMUNDICH

Strengthening Indigenous Ch'orti' Authorities, \$22,000

COMUNDICH is an Indigenous organization that works in Chiquimula to eliminate discrimination and uphold human rights. Kenoli supports COMUNDICH to strengthen six Indigenous mayors, establish two land and natural resources management councils, and strengthen educational efforts to recognize Indigenous people's rights.

Rodimiro Lantan of COMUNDICH points out the lands that were re-claimed.

FUNDENOR AQ'AB'AL

Promoting Sustainable Agriculture in Las Verapaces, \$30,458

FUNDENOR is an Indigenous organization that facilitates holistic and sustainable development with local solutions that are in harmony with nature. They work with 700 people in 15 communities to provide training on ecological farming, family gardens, animal breeding, and community coordination.

Lucia Mó Laj prunes her healthy garden ▶



The Kenoli team meets with Carlos del Cid of UDEFEGUA (2nd from right) in the emergency shelter for human rights defenders.

UDEFEGUA

Emergency Support for Human Rights Defenders, \$52,000 over two years

UDEFEGUA supports human rights defenders in Guatemala by monitoring, investigating, and reporting attacks against defenders, as well as providing them with protection. In this project, Kenoli supports UDEFEGUA to provide emergency assistance, a safe house, and psychological support for threatened human rights defenders and their families. UDEFEGUA received the Alice Zachmann prize in the US for its work in defending human rights. Congratulations UDEFEGUA!

ACHIEVING IMPORTANT MILESTONES!

ADEMI, CONIC, and COMUNDICH are Indigenous Mayan organizations that have achieved major successes. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

ADEMI was awarded the United Nations Equatorial Prize as an effective organization in improving food security and food sovereignty, thereby decreasing malnutrition.



CONIC has been successful in lobbying government to achieve a 75% reduction in land debt for Indigenous people, provide assistance with sustainable farming practices country-wide, and build roads and schools in some communities.



COMUNDICH has been successful in reclaiming Indigenous Ch'orti' lands and building recognition of Indigenous mayors, including the first female Indigenous mayor.



BOLIVIA is a landlocked country with a population of 10.2 million inhabitants. It is the poorest and least developed country in South America. 51% of the population lives in poverty, and 15.6% lives in extreme poverty. Most of the population (62%) is Indigenous. The life expectancy is only 67 years, and gender inequality is relatively high at 0.47. However, the educational attainment is the highest of the countries that we work in, with an average of 9.2 years of schooling for the adult population. In Bolivia, we are working with USC Canada partner, PRODII, in the areas of empowering women and increasing food security.



PRODII participant shows the produce he has grown. ▶



As a result of certification, farmers like Marina (selling) and her mother Celia (brown hat) can label their products ecological.



Products that the farmers of Northern Potosi produce and sell.

USC CANADA AND PRODII

Sustainable Livelihoods in Uma Uma, \$26,320

USC Canada works in a global context to address mounting hunger and environmental challenges. USC works with their Bolivian partner, PRODII, to secure sources of food and livelihoods for small-scale farmers in the very remote and isolated Uma Uma region of Northern Potosí. PRODII has been successful in promoting agro-ecological practices and saving native seeds. They have also commercialized some food products, the most successful of which is “Api de Oca,” which is now used in school feeding programs. The participating farmers no longer need to travel long distances to buy vegetables as they have greater diversity of food sources, increased incomes, and generally feel that the nutrition and education of their children has improved.

Third Ecological Producers Forum in Northern Potosí, \$3,500

Kenoli is contributing to the Third Ecological Producers Forum in Northern Potosí that includes farmers, government officials, field technicians, non-governmental organizations, and academics. As a result of the first two forums, social organizations and local and national governments are giving more importance to organic production. Farmers can now earn two different seals of certification, one for “in transition” and a second for “ecological production.” For farmers, these are valuable seals of approval that also provide better prices.

Honduras



Children in ANDAR's preschool.

HONDURAS is the most violent place on earth with a homicide rate of 90.4 violent deaths per 100,000 inhabitants. The country experienced military rule from 1963-83, and in June 2009 had a coup d'état, leading to political instability and human rights abuses. 60% of the population lives in poverty with nearly 18% living in extreme poverty,⁴ making it the poorest country with which we work. We have seven amazing partners who are working under very difficult conditions. They are working on women's empowerment, the support of vulnerable preschool children, technical training for youth, food security, economic development, and holistic community development.

ADROH

Strengthening Lenca Women's Capacities, \$19,500

ADROH works with rural Lenca communities to achieve holistic sustainable development. In this project, ADROH trains 40 Lenca women in organic farming, trains another 40 women on political advocacy, and assists them to prepare and negotiate proposals with local authorities. ADROH also conducts a radio campaign about their work.



18 year old Yisvy Reyes used revolving funds from ADROH to raise pigs and grow organic vegetables, including this yucca.



Boy in ANDAR's pre-school engaged in his schoolwork.

ANDAR

Children & Family Development Centre, \$44,000 over two years

ANDAR works to strengthen families and communities. In this project, they foster children's rights to an education by providing a preschool for 50 vulnerable and malnourished children in Marcovia, Choluteca. They also train 20 mothers in Siempre Vivas⁵ methodology, train 20 fathers in gender issues, and foster community coordination.

⁴ Extreme poverty is defined by the UN as living on less than \$1.25/day.

⁵ Siempre Vivas is a training program for rural women with little education to help them understand gender roles and build their self-esteem and self-confidence. It was developed by ANDAR and is used by many organizations in Central America.

ASOCIACIÓN DE MUJERES DEFENSORAS DE LA VIDA

Women Working for a Better Life, \$18,200

Asociación de Mujeres Defensoras de la Vida (AMDV) works with women to integrate them into the political, economic, social, and cultural life of their communities. In this project, they train 150 mothers and 200 children on nutrition and healthy eating, family gardens, communal bank guidelines, and the building of 40 improved stoves.



Eva Hernández and Teodosia Sarmiento show the “tule”, a type of palm, that they use to make crafts for sale.

Eva Hernández weaving a “tule” mat.



Maria Matamoros views the large sweet potato Gloria Cruz has grown.

CODIMCA

Empowering Rural Women, \$16,328

CODIMCA is a national women’s organization that improves the conditions of women’s lives. For this project, they trained 30 rural women in Siempre Vivas methodology, provided workshops on developing communal banks, and supported seven women’s groups in developing income-generating activities. CODIMCA is also working through Vía Campesina to promote agrarian reform.

GRUPO JUVENIL DION

Mobile Technical Training Workshops, \$61,190 over two years

Dion provides technical training and holistic education for vulnerable young people. In this project, they provide mobile workshops in bakery and hair dressing for 120 young people in three rural villages. Along with over 400 hours of technical training and practice, the youth receive assistance to find employment or training to start up their own small businesses.

Tatiana Cortez of Kenoli buying bread from Gualquiria Cáceres who established her own bakery with training and support from Dion.



VECO MESOAMÉRICA (VECO MA) AND ASOFAIL

Higher Living Standards for Small Farmers, \$20,000

VECO MA works with ASOFAIL in Honduras to contribute to better living standards for 285 small farmers in Intibucá. Activities include strengthening the productive capacity of small farmers, strengthening the capacity of the processing centre CICOM, training in entrepreneurial activities, and selling to formal markets. ASOFAIL has been successful in selling to and negotiating terms with major commercial markets in Honduras.

Balbina Amador of Vecinos Honduras shows the worm compost used to fertilize plants.



Participants at an employment workshop in Azabache organized by Vecinos Honduras.



6 Michael Newman of World Neighbours Canada supported the Vecinos Honduras programs for over 20 years and passed away in 2013. The program was named in his honour.



Juan Alberto Gonzalez of ASOFAIL shows his strawberry crop.

VECINOS HONDURAS

Holistic Community Development, \$50,000

Vecinos Honduras empowers vulnerable people in rural and remote communities to holistically manage their development. In the Michael Newman⁶ program, Vecinos Honduras works with over 600 families in the El Guano and Azabache areas to promote holistic development through food sovereignty, community health, local participation, and empowerment of women and youth.

“I thought I couldn’t do anything!”

After she graduated from high school, Fanny Dubon had many doors closed to her. She was delighted when Grupo Juvenil Dion offered its bakery training in her small rural community. She said to the Kenoli team, “Poverty is a state of mind. I thought I couldn’t do anything! Dion gave me this unique opportunity. Now I can contribute to the family income. It has built my self-confidence and self esteem.” Fanny has gone on to study at university. We are proud of you, Fanny!



Nicaragua



Manyel Rugama of the Colectivo youth group with his vines of passion fruit.

NICARAGUA suffered two civil wars between 1967-90. It has a population of six million inhabitants of which 42.5% live in poverty. The average annual income is \$2,579 per person. Educational levels are low; the adult population has an average of nearly six years of schooling. We have seven wonderful partners in Nicaragua working on women's empowerment, food security, clean water and sanitation, youth leadership training, and holistic community development.

CEPROSI

Strengthening and Improving the Quality of Women's Lives, \$37,330 over two years

CEPROSI improves the lives of impoverished women in three rural communities in Nindirí, Masaya. In this project, they provide training in healthy homes, including building improved stoves, pilas for water collection, and simple irrigation systems. They also train women in health and nutrition, strengthen 45 family gardens, develop worm composts, and work with youth on gender equality issues.



Susana Ampie shows worm compost being made inside a used tire.

Juan Carlos Arce talks with youth about gender and anti-violence issues.



COLECTIVO DE MUJERES RURALES ATC

Empowering Rural Women and Youth, \$20,000

Colectivo works in rural areas of Matagalpa to improve the living conditions of women working in the coffee fields and mills. In this project, Colectivo trains 20 young adults to defend their labour rights, trains 20 women and 20 men in issues of domestic violence, and supports 35 youth in income generation activities, organic farming, and handling revolving funds.

Kenoli team meets with the Colectivo staff and youth group.



Alba and Maria Elizabeth dry the beans that they later sell at their store (left).



Materials provided by El Porvenir to learn about sanitation. ▼



Children at El Zarzal school wash their hands with their teacher's help.

EL PORVENIR Community Educators Network, \$54,000 over two years

El Porvenir improves rural living conditions through water and sanitation projects. In this project, Kenoli supports the training of 60 new community educators and 120 teachers, airing radio programs on hygiene and sanitation, testing water quality, and conducting school and public education campaigns.



Kenoli team talking with people in Las Cruces about their work.



Manuel Zelaya of Las Cruces in Yalaguina explains the community map.

FEDICAMP Improving Rural Food Security and Advocacy, \$61,000 over two years

FEDICAMP supports rural economic development in northern Nicaragua. In this project, FEDICAMP works with 285 families in 18 rural communities to strengthen food security and improve the diets of these rural families. They provide technical training in agro-ecology and nutrition, strengthen native seed banks, and train local COMUSSANs—municipal food sovereignty, security, and nutrition committees.



ASOCIACIÓN QUINCHO BARRILETE

Restoring Children's Rights, \$37,932

Los Quinchos works to prevent all forms of violence against children and youth. In this project, they work with 100 children vulnerable to abuse or the sex trade in Managua. They promote school enrollment and retention, and provide technical training in baking, hammock making, and arts and crafts. Los Quinchos also organizes community fairs, provides training to strengthen family relationships, and provides educational sessions on the new family violence law.

Children participating in the after-school program show their art work.

ODESAR

Production and Consumption of Healthy Food, \$80,000 over two years

ODESAR empowers impoverished people through sustainable local development. In this project, ODESAR works with 300 families in eight rural villages in Esquipulas, Matagalpa, to reduce poverty and empower local people through programs on community organizing, food security, gender and reproductive health training, hygiene and sanitation (installing 80 water filters, 50 latrines, 50 waste water treatment, and four chlorination systems), and rural youth leadership.



Maria Moya of the village of El Rodeo shows her crop of taro root produced with residual water.



A woman in El Porton village offers Marcia Aviles of ODESAR food that she has learned to cook.

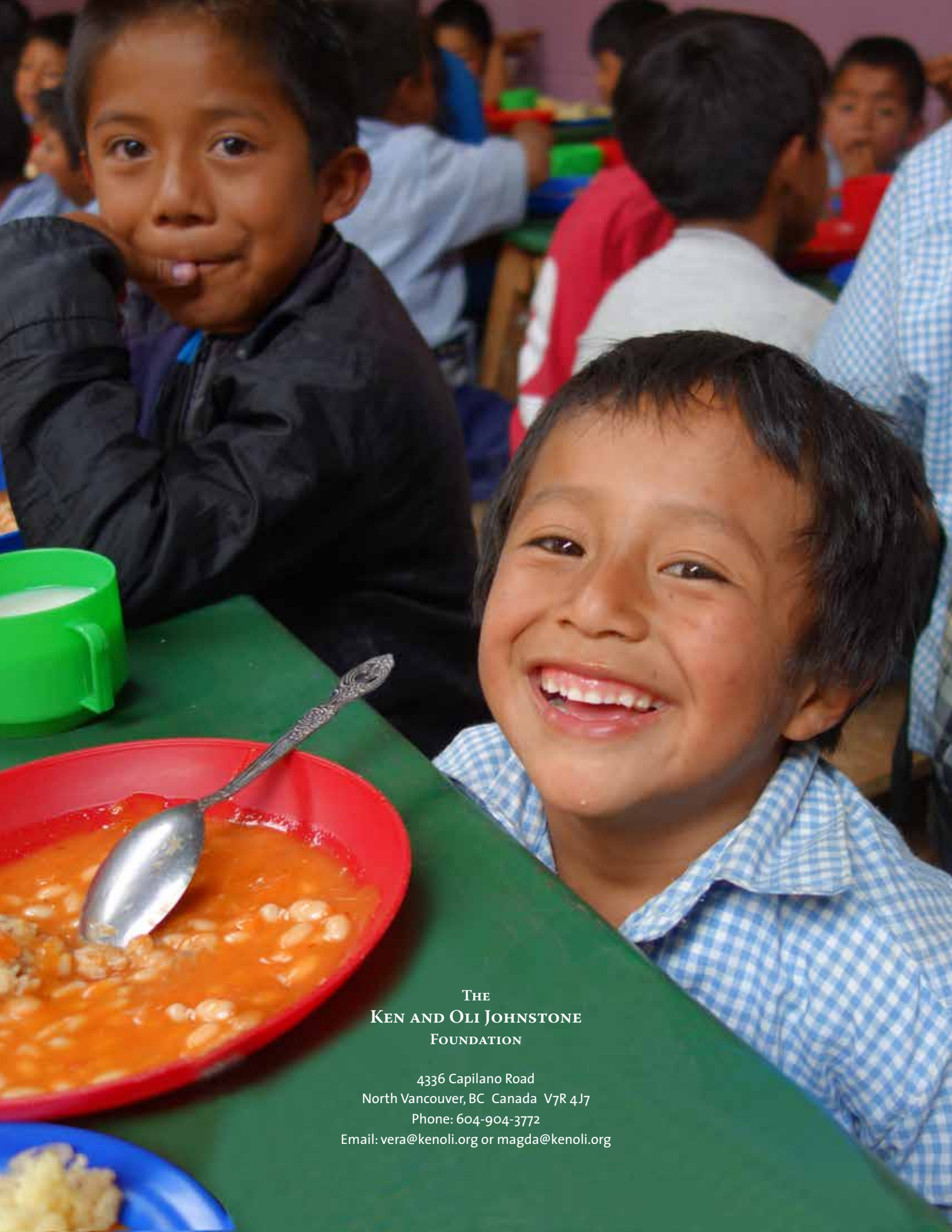
CEPROSI – Diversifying Its Programs!



CEPROSI is a small women's organization that has substantially diversified its programming in recent years and had many successes. With the help of Kenoli and their own fundraising, they opened a revitalized women's centre this past year.

Congratulations, CEPROSI!

The executive committee of CEPROSI on the opening day of the renovated women's centre.



THE
KEN AND OLI JOHNSTONE
FOUNDATION

4336 Capilano Road
North Vancouver, BC Canada V7R 4J7
Phone: 604-904-3772
Email: vera@kenoli.org or magda@kenoli.org