

KENOLI

Ken And Oli Johnstone Foundation



ANNUAL REPORT 2009
FOCUS ON CENTRAL AMERICA

KENOLI

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The Ken and Oli Johnstone Foundation is a Canadian charitable trust whose assets came from the estate of Ken and Oli Johnstone of Vancouver, BC.

The mission of the Foundation is “to help people help themselves to improve the quality of their lives and that of future generations.” The primary focus of the foundation is international development.



REMARKS FROM THE BOARD

The Foundation has much to celebrate as we complete our second full year of operation! We are beginning to see the results of the projects we have funded. We have more than doubled our portfolio of organizations by adding 14 new groups in 2009. The Board chose Central America as a strategic focus and we began shifting our grant making to this region.

We are pleased to introduce Ms. Magda Lanuza, our new Latin American Coordinator. Ms. Lanuza is a Nicaraguan by birth and lives with her family in El Salvador. She has extensive experience in development issues and is fluent in both Spanish and English. Magda has a Master's degree in international development from Brandeis University, Boston, US and a Bachelor's degree from Nicaragua in English translation.

The thoroughness of the Foundation's review process has resulted in credible organizations proposing worthwhile projects which make a difference in people's lives. More people now have clean drinking water. Women are learning leadership skills and better supporting their families. Young people in Nicaragua are engaging with local authorities to improve their communities. And much more!

We look forward to 2010 as we continue to build upon our work in Central America!

KEN PHILLIPS
Chair Kenoli Foundation
Trustee for the Ken and Oli Johnstone
Foundation



Magda Lanuza, Latin American Coordinator



2009 KENOLI PARTNERS

CENTRAL AMERICA

Over 41 million people live in Central America, a region that has been plagued by civil wars for two decades. While peace accords were signed in the early 1990's, they did not solve the historic and social inequalities. Widespread poverty persists in the region, with the poorest countries being Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. One fifth (21%) of the population of the region¹ lives in extreme poverty – on less than \$1/day.

Insecurity poses a major challenge in the region with high rates of homicides, especially in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. Violence against women and lack of opportunities for youth are concerns in all countries. Sexual exploitation of children is a significant concern in Costa Rica and Guatemala.

Poverty is highly concentrated in the rural areas and more extreme in indigenous zones, where 93% of the population is poor. Droughts, floods, increasing food prices, food dumping and poor government support is deepening poverty in the rural areas.

ONE FIFTH OF THE POPULATION OF THE REGION LIVES IN
EXTREME POVERTY – ON LESS THAN \$1/DAY.

HONDURAS NICARAGUA GUATEMALA EL SALVADOR



¹ All country and regional statistics in this report come from the United Nations: UN Development Program; Food and Agricultural Organization; UNESCO and UNICEF

GUATEMALA

Guatemala has a population of 13 million people, making it the most populous of the Central American countries. Over half (54%) of its population lives in poverty and 15% live in extreme poverty.² Nearly half (48%) of the population is indigenous Maya and nearly 90% of Mayans live in poverty. Guatemala has a high illiteracy rate (32%) as the government invests little in education. Only 30% of children complete grade three. Over half the population (53%) lives in rural areas. In 2009, the country experienced a severe drought and 145,000 families lost their crops. Guatemala has the highest rate of child malnutrition (53%) in Latin America.



² The UN defines poverty as living on \$2/day or less and extreme poverty as living on \$1/day or less.

GUATEMALA



ADEMI

FOOD SECURITY
US \$8,064

ADEMI is an indigenous women’s organization that was founded by widows who experienced the brutality of the civil war. They work with 400 rural, impoverished and excluded Mayan women. Kenoli support allows ADEMI to implement a food security project with 45 women and their children in department of Chimaltenango. They aim to improve women’s and children’s nutrition by rescuing native seeds, demonstrating how to cook healthy food and by preparing a proposal to involve local authorities in supporting food security.



ADEMI healthy cooking workshop

CASA SITO

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
US \$10,000

Casa Sito works to increase educational opportunities in the rural areas of Guatemala while supporting community infrastructure. This program is providing scholarships, workshops and psychological counselling to 55 junior high and high school students living in Sacatepéquez and La Primavera Ixcán, who would not otherwise be able to attend school.

Some of the Casa Sito scholarship students and their parents/family



SEFCA

YOUNG FARMER’S TRAINING SCHOOL ON AGRO-ECOLOGY
US \$10,228

SEFCA helps to empower rural indigenous communities who are living in situations of marginalization and exclusion. They are running a training school on agro-ecology, “Maquín y Tot,” which is intended to build youth leadership in food security with 25 young farmers who will then train other young farmers in their communities in Alta Verapaz and Sacatepequez.

SEFCA youth leaders



CONIC

FOOD SECURITY THROUGH FAMILY GARDENS
US \$12,073

CONIC is a national organization of Mayan farmers that works with 655 communities in 13 departments in Guatemala. The project sponsored by Kenoli will improve the lives of indigenous men and women in 8 communities in Chimaltenango by recuperating sustainable practices in family agriculture to deal with the food crisis and rural poverty.

- ▶ Mayan women with CONIC
- ▼ CONIC agricultural work





EL SALVADOR

The republic of El Salvador is the smallest and most densely populated country in Central America, with 6.7 million people. In the 1980s and early 1990s, El Salvador was torn apart by civil war that was sparked by extreme inequality. While a ceasefire was negotiated in 1992, the scars of war have contributed one of the most violent societies in Latin America. Poverty continues to plague the country as nearly a quarter of the population lives in extreme poverty. One in six children suffers from chronic malnutrition. 90% of the country's natural water is contaminated and half the population drinks untreated water. Social disruptions and family breakdown have increased as emigration has sky-rocketed. One in five Salvadorians now lives outside the country.



Malnourished children at CENDIMOR's school

CENDIMOR ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING US \$2,500

CENDIMOR is a local Salvadorian organization that supports children living in extreme poverty in the Soyapango area. The organization provides pre-school and after school education, as well as, nutritional support. Kenoli is supporting CENDIMOR to build its organizational capacity through the development of a three year strategic plan, an operations manual, a new computer, an updated accounting system and a proposal to government for ongoing funding.



Doctor assesses malnourished child

FUSANMIDJ IMPROVING WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S NUTRITION US \$7,910

FUSANMIDJ works to strengthen marginalized people through training, leadership development and advocacy. The goal of this project is to improve the health and nutrition of 40 malnourished preschool children and their mothers. The women will participate in training sessions and then train another 50 mothers. The group is also coordinating medical check-ups for the children and facilitating presentations at local schools.

HONDURAS

Honduras, with a population of 7.5 million, is the poorest country in Central America and has had periods of military rule (1963-1983 and 2009). Nearly 70% of the population lives in poverty. Over half (53%) of the population lives in rural areas and most rural people (79%) live in poverty. Income disparity in the country is huge.

Malnutrition, poor housing and infant diseases are widespread. Poverty, chronic unemployment and the prospects offered by drug trafficking have contributed to high levels of crime.

L'Esperanza agricultural work



WORLD NEIGHBOURS CANADA SOCIETY

L' ESPERANZA RURAL DEVELOPMENT \$20,000

World Neighbours is working with Vecinos Mundiales Mesoamerica to strengthen the capacity of marginalized rural communities in the Danli municipality. The work to date has exceeded expectations, growing from 6 to 10 communities and from a projected 369 families to 661 families. Results are already seen in food security, rural livelihoods, health, micro-finance, sustainable natural resource management and local capacity.

Chorti women and babies



Our truck transport to the Chorti villages



CHORTI RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN COPAN RUINAS \$30,000

The Chorti are situated in the mountains of Copan and are the poorest group in Honduras. 70% of children under five suffer from malnutrition and 42% of people over 15 years of age are illiterate. 40% have no potable water. Vecinos Mundiales is working with 6 communities and 315 families to meet their basic needs. The work has begun in the areas of healthy homes and rural livelihoods.

Typical stove in Chorti village



Improved stove with ventilation



NICARAGUA

Nicaragua has a population of 5.6 million and is one of the poorest of the Central American countries. Over half of the population (62%) lives in poverty and a third (32%) lives in extreme poverty. Almost half the population lacks access to safe water and 83% do not have adequate housing. Nearly a third of the children under 5 years of age show signs of malnutrition. One in two women has admitted to being abused. Unemployment and underemployment is very high and even higher in the rural areas where it reaches 70%. Many leave the country for temporary jobs in Costa Rica or El Salvador.



ASOCIACION LOS QUINCHOS PREVENTING THE SEX TRADE US \$12,000

Los Quinchos works to prevent all forms of violence against children and adolescents. The organization also promotes the reintegration of abused children into society by helping to strengthen families and communities. The Kenoli sponsored project will provide 80 children and youth, who are vulnerable to the sex trade, with educational workshops, sports, arts and cultural opportunities in three community houses in Managua. Los Quinchos will also educate the community on the importance of preventing domestic and sexual violence.



Los Quinchos organizing street children

CEPROSI ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING US \$1,000



CEPROSI women discussing their work in the past year

CEPROSI is an organization of women who are working to improve the lives of families in the impoverished community of Nindiri, just outside of Managua. The women work in the areas of health, holistic medicines and sustainable livelihoods. Kenoli support enabled CEPROSI to have a learning exchange with another very successful women's organization, so that they could build their organizational capacity and develop a three year strategic plan.

FUNDACION DESAFIOS

NICARAGUAN NETWORK OF RURAL YOUTH “WITH A RIGHT TO A FUTURE”

US \$12,000

Desafios works to empower youth through communications, leadership training and citizenship participation. Kenoli support is contributing to the creation and strengthening of the Nicaraguan rural youth network (RENIJUR), so that the rural youth will become involved in the development of their communities and influence public policies. Over 800 youth are involved and they are already beginning to impact their communities.



Desafios communications workshop



Rural women's workshop

Participants at Venancia gender workshops

GRUPO VENANCIA

WOMEN'S SCHOOL ON GENDER AND CITIZENSHIP

US \$7,000

Venancia provides training to women in northern Nicaragua and assists women who have suffered violence. Kenoli support is contributing to training 30 women in leadership skills and community participation, so that they become active promoters of development in their communities.

RURAL WOMEN'S COLLECTIVE

EMPOWERING WOMEN COFFEE WORKERS

US \$3,125

The Collective of Rural Women works to improve the living standards and working conditions of women working in the coffee fields and mills. This project is providing training on human and labour rights for 50 marginalized rural women, developing of a follow-up plan and supporting improvements in office administration.

SOUTH AMERICA

BOLIVIA

USC CANADA

LIVELIHOODS IN AGRICULTURE IN UMA UMA, NORTHERN POTOSI
\$20,000

Bolivia is the poorest country in South America and Northern Potosi is one of the poorest regions of the country where 72% of the population lives in absolute poverty. USC Canada is working with PRODI to secure sources of food and livelihoods for small scale farmers. They are working on crop diversity, increasing agricultural production and market opportunities to increase household incomes.



ASIA



THAILAND

TIDES CANADA FOUNDATION /
KHOM LOY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION
MONTESSORI TEACHER TRAINING
\$20,000

This project is making a significant difference in the lives of ethnic minority preschool children in northern Thailand, who do not have a culture of literacy and are marginalized in Thai society. In one year, children showed an impressive increase of 21% in language, math, social, physical, intellectual and emotional skills. As well, their teachers showed a 23% improvement in overall performance. This is our second year supporting their work.



AFRICA



ETHIOPIA

WATERCAN

SANITATION FACILITIES AT SINBIRRO
CHERECHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

\$15,000

Only 22% of Ethiopia's 80 million people have access to clean drinking water and only 13% have access to sanitation facilities. WaterCan is working with the Oromo Self-Reliance Association in Ethiopia to build two blocks of 6 units of sanitation facilities and to provide hygiene education to 1,200 students and their families at Sinbirro Cherecha primary school in Ethiopia.



GHANA

CANADIAN CROSSROAD INTERNATIONAL (CCI)

DECREASING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
IN GHANA

\$84,000 OVER 2 YEARS

CCI is working with WILD AF – Ghana to raise awareness of the Domestic Violence Act in three regions in Ghana. Simplified educational materials have been produced and 75 legal literacy volunteers trained. The public education campaign has reached about 5,000 people and 1,500 people have attended the village workshops. The judiciary is being trained and a court watch program has been implemented.



KENYA

AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION SOCIETY (ACCES)

MODEL VILLAGE AGRICULTURAL
AND INCOME GENERATION PROGRAM

\$10,000

ACCES is dedicated to assisting young Kenyans obtain the skills and education needed to benefit themselves and their society. With Kenoli support, ACCES is working in four villages in Kakamega District, Western Province of Kenya to increase the food supply, increase incomes and improve the health and nutrition of families. Preliminary results are very promising.

SIERRA LEONE

VICTORIA-TAIAMA SCHOOL PROJECT

AHMADIYYA PRIMARY SCHOOL COMPLETION

\$15,000

Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in Africa. A group of teachers in Victoria BC formed a society to improve the learning conditions of the 600 students of Ahmadiyya Primary School in Taiama, Sierra Leone. They have built five classrooms, a well, a block of latrines and a garden at the school. Kenoli funds will assist them to complete a second block of five classrooms.

Students at Ahmadiyya Primary School



SWAZILAND

CANADIAN CROSSROAD INTERNATIONAL (CCI)

GIRLS EMPOWERMENT CLUBS
\$20,000

CCI is working with the Swaziland Action Group Against Abuse (SWAGAA) to counter the damaging effects of gender based violence and HIV/AIDS amongst girls in Swaziland. With Kenoli support, SWAGAA established five girls' empowerment clubs, which have proven to be successful in increasing the girls' self-confidence and leadership skills. This second grant will assist in the formation of three more clubs and a sustainability plan.

Girls empowerment club meeting



“IN GIRLS’ CLUB I LEARNED THAT I HAVE A RIGHT TO EDUCATION, TO SHELTER, TO FOOD AND THE RIGHT NOT TO BE ABUSED”

– STUDENT FROM A SWAZILAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



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