

# Kenoli Annual Report 2010

Focus on Central America



# KENOLI

Ken And Oli Johnstone Foundation

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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, British Columbia. The foundation was started in 2007.

The Foundation works to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease in developing countries by supporting groups that build community self-sufficiency and empower women and children.

# KENOLI

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## REMARKS FROM THE BOARD

2010 has been a remarkable year for the Foundation, as we have firmly established our work in Central America. We are concentrating on the poorest countries: Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. We are also supporting some projects in Bolivia, South America and in Africa.

We now have 26 local partners who are making big differences in the lives of the people with whom they work. Their work in food security is vital given the high rates of poverty and unpredictability of climatic conditions.

Through our partners, women are being trained so that they can better support their families, children are overcoming malnutrition and staying in school, youth are learning leadership skills and improving their communities. We see the results first hand during our visits and the results are truly impressive!

We continue to keep our administrative costs low. Kenoli Foundation only has two staff members, Magda Lanuza and Vera Radyo, both of whom work out of their own homes in El Salvador and Canada, respectively.

We are truly grateful for the dedicated work of our partners, the effectiveness of our staff team, the commitment of our Board and the support of our advisors around the world. I am confident that we are making a difference in the lives of the people we touch!



Magda, Ken, Marvin Arauz, Mayor of San Ramon, Nicaragua and Vera

### KEN PHILLIPS

Chair Kenoli Foundation  
Trustee for the Ken &  
Oli Johnstone Foundation

### STAFF TEAM

- Vera Radyo, Program Director
- Magda Lanuza,  
Latin American Coordinator

# 2010 KENOLI PARTNERS



# CENTRAL AMERICA

Our work focuses in 4 countries in Central America: Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua. The combined population of these countries is similar to that of Canada – about 33 million. However, the living conditions are dramatically different with deep pockets of poverty where people struggle to meet even their most basic needs. Over half the population lives in poverty (\$2/day or less)<sup>1</sup> and a high percentage of these live in extreme poverty (\$1/day or less). Child malnutrition is high in many areas. Women, indigenous and rural populations suffer the most. In 2010 the situation became even worse for rural populations as climate change brought heavy storms that wiped out crops.

Violence and drugs also pose major challenges in the region with high rates of homicide, especially in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. It is against this backdrop, that our partners do amazing work to improve the lives of the people that they touch.



<sup>1</sup> All country and regional statistics come from the United Nations: UN Development Program, Food and Agricultural Organization, UNESCO and UNICEF.

# GUATEMALA

Over half of Guatemala's 13 million people live in poverty. Nearly half (48%) of the population is Mayan and 90% of Mayans live in poverty. We have 6 amazing partners in Guatemala and their work is tackling the problems of food insecurity and lack of educational opportunities.

## ADAM – Economic Development in Xeabaj II – US \$17,275

ADAM is an organization with considerable expertise in local economic development. The community of Xeabaj II is composed of Mayan families that were relocated high in the mountains after Tropical Storm Stan in 2005. They have limited infrastructure and limited opportunities. This project aims to strengthen their community organization and improve family incomes. 20 steers were purchased, are being tended to and will be sold, with the proceeds going to a community revolving fund and the 40 women involved in the project.



Two Mayan women tend to their steer



Women present their proposal on food sovereignty to the local authorities.

## ADEMI – Food Security with Native Seeds – US \$8,044

### Tropical Storm Agatha Relief – US \$4,500

ADEMI is an indigenous women's organization which implemented a food security project. Fifty women were trained in nutrition and cooking healthy foods as well as rescuing native seeds. They also developed three proposals on food sovereignty that were presented to local authorities at high profile public events. During the implementation of this project, parts of Guatemala were devastated by Tropical Storm Agatha and Kenoli provided ADEMI with additional funds to support over 100 families with emergency food supplies (92), seeds (77) and clothing (70).

## CONIC – Food Security through Family Gardens \$12,073 Tropical Storm Agatha Relief – US \$11,600

CONIC is a national organization of Mayan farmers. In this project they planned to work with 40 families, but interest was so high, over 200 indigenous families in 9 communities participated. To deal with the food crisis and rural poverty, staff provided training in sustainable agricultural practices. In addition, Kenoli supported CONIC in assisting 270 families devastated by Tropical Storm Agatha with emergency food rations and seeds to re-plant their crops.



Mayan ceremony with 4 types of corn



A farmer shows his garden produce

## Casa Sito – Scholarship Program US \$11,986

Casa Sito increases educational opportunities in rural areas so that indigenous children living in poverty can attend school. They provide scholarships, workshops and psychological counselling to students who would not otherwise be able to attend school. In 2010, Kenoli supported 32 students who overcame many obstacles to their education. The students developed greater independence and self-esteem and 90% of them successfully completed their year of studies with a 70% average or better. We are again supporting 32 students for the 2011 school year.



2011 Casa Sito scholarship students

## SEFCA – Young Farmers Training School on Agro-Ecology – US \$10,228



SEFCA helps to empower rural indigenous communities who are living in poverty. They provided agricultural training in Alta Verapaz and Sacatepequez for over 100 youth, who then trained another 60 youth in their native languages. The youth organized community wide food security campaigns in 14 villages. Three of the youth groups began small micro-enterprises: two in poultry and another with pigs.

## Save the Children – Demonstration Schools – US \$20,000

Save the Children works to ensure lasting, positive change in the lives of children in need. In this project, Save the Children worked with 10 rural and remote schools to train 83 teachers in innovative methodologies and provide creative learning resources for 2,284 students. As a consequence, the teachers are now using more facilitative teaching styles and the children have learned to read for pleasure and improved their communication skills.



# EL SALVADOR

El Salvador is small densely populated country with 6.7 million people. The scars of the civil war have left a very violent society with high levels of poverty. Over half (58%) of the population lives in poverty and nearly a quarter of the population lives in extreme poverty. We have four terrific partners in El Salvador, of whom two are new. They are working in the areas of food security and violence prevention.



*Before*



*After*

## JUANCITO

Juancito only weighed 24 lbs. at age 4 and was diagnosed with malnutrition. Thanks to FUSANMIDJ's program, he gained 4 lbs. and 4 cm. in 6 months. He has made excellent physical progress. One factor that still keeps him vulnerable is the lack of running water in his house.

## APRODAE – Food Security and Community Development – US \$5,443

APRODAE is a local community development organization working with rural communities in San Jose Guayabal. This project will involve training community members on food sovereignty and improving the living conditions of 10 families in three communities through small poultries.



## FUSANMIDJ – Improving Children’s and Mother’s Nutrition – US \$20,000

FUSANMIDJ works to strengthen marginalized people through training, leadership development and advocacy. In 2010, their project assisted 40 malnourished children and their mothers. The mothers learned new skills and 95% of the participating children gained enough weight and height to no longer be considered malnourished. Truly a remarkable achievement! This new project will work with 70 malnourished children and their mothers and will train 12 community health promoters.



Mothers trained by FUSANMIDJ serve a nutritious lunch to the school children.

## CODITOS – Youth Leadership - US \$5,030

CODITOS is a local community development organization in Tonacatepeque. They are addressing the lack of opportunities for youth and increasing violence. CODITOS is training 35 youth in leadership skills with the aim of impacting municipal authorities. A number of public events and a forum are planned in 2011.



Children in CENDIMOR's preschool eat a hearty breakfast.

## CENDIMOR - Municipal Children’s Policy – US \$3,860

CENDIMOR supports children living in extreme poverty through provision of child nutrition, preschool education and tutoring support. This project is aimed at reducing violence in Soyapango, one of the most violent municipalities in El Salvador. They are raising awareness amongst parents of the risk factors for children and engaging them in the development of a municipal policy on children’s rights.

# HONDURAS

Honduras has a population of 7.5 million and is the poorest country in Central America. Nearly 70% of the population lives in poverty. Political instability since the coup d'état in June 2009 and high levels of violence continue to negatively impact people's lives and the country's development. We have four wonderful partners in Honduras and three of them are new. They are working on empowering women, children and communities.



Ellena and Domiciana, Board members of CODIMCA

## CODIMCA – Empowerment of Rural Women - US \$8, 070

CODIMCA is a national women's organization that works to improve the conditions of women's lives, in particular those of rural women. CODIMCA is part of Via Campesina Honduras, a network of farmers organizations. In this project they are working with 130 women in El Paso, Santa Barbara and Copan in the production and marketing of grains, vegetables and other products. They are also providing workshops on agrarian reform and food sovereignty.

## World Neighbours Canada / Vecinos Honduras Rural Community Development \$20,000

World Neighbours Canada is working with Vecinos Honduras to strengthen the capacity of remote rural communities in the Danli area of El Paraiso. The project involves 365 families in 9 communities in holistic community development. In the last three years, they have achieved impressive results in the areas of food security, health, community organization, micro-finance, and natural resource management.



Piggery in Laureles as part of the Vecinos Honduras project



Slicing plantain to make into chips for sale



Native seeds T-shirt

## ANDAR – Children and Family Development Centre - US \$10,000

ANDAR works to strengthen families and communities. In this project, they are providing a pre-school program for vulnerable and malnourished children in Marcovia, Choluteca. They are providing nutritional support for the children, workshops for the parents and linking with municipal authorities.

## ASOHMUN – Rehabilitation of the Baraudas Women - US \$2,000

ASOHMUN is the black women's association of Honduras. They are working with black women who have immigrated with their families to the capital and have become street vendors of coconut bread. ASOHMUN works to assist them to improve their living conditions by refurbishing an industrial oven and providing tools and assistance.

# NICARAGUA

Nicaragua has a population of 5.6 million and is the second poorest country in Central America with over half of the population (62%) living in poverty and 70% of its rural population is poor. We have eight amazing partners in Nicaragua working on food security, clean water and sanitation, empowering women, training youth and preventing violence.



*Until she was 60 years old, Eusebia had never eaten lettuce. She is a single mother with two disabled adult children and was too poor to afford many vegetables. Thanks to ODESAR, she now has a healthy vegetable garden with lots of lettuce, beets, carrots, onions, tomatoes and other vegetables and fruits. She now has enough to feed her family and even sell some.*



## Colectivo de Trabajadores – Empowering Women and Youth US \$5,374

The Collective of Rural Women works to improve the living conditions of women working in the coffee fields and mills. They are the local organization of a national organization of small farmers named ATC. In this project they are training 50 women on employment rights and 50 rural youth in organizational skills. They have also negotiated child care space in two coffee farms.



## CEPROSI – Improving the Lives of Women – US \$5,150

CEPROSI works to improve the lives of women in the impoverished rural communities of Nindiri, just outside of Managua. In this project 30 women were trained in permaculture and now have productive vegetable and fruit gardens. 16 women were trained in healthy cooking using soy and greens; and 17 improved stoves were built. A one year follow-up is built into the project.



## Fundacion Desafios – Youth Leadership Training – US \$18,370

Desafios works to empower youth and to stem the exodus of youth out of the country due to a lack of opportunities. In this program, they are strengthening the Nicaraguan rural youth network in San Ramon and Juculapa, Matagalpa. Youth are being trained in leadership skills and they have impacted their communities in the areas of: health, environment, arts and municipal policy.

**El Porvenir – Community Educators’ Network**  
US \$11,700



El Porvenir works to improve rural living conditions through sustainable development with water and sanitation projects. In this project, they are strengthening the community educators’ network through training 200 people, conducting a public education campaign, and organizing school presentations and contests on the topics of clean water and sanitation.



**FEDICAMP – Diversification of Rural Family Agriculture**  
US \$12,948



FEDICAMP supports rural economic development in northern Nicaragua. In this project, they are supporting food security and nutrition for 50 families in 14 remote rural communities through family gardens. In addition, they are working with 80 farmers to establish 8 community native seed storage facilities.

**Asociacion Quincho Barrilete – Restoring Children’s Rights & Preventing the Sex Trade – US \$12,000**

Los Quinchos works to prevent all forms of violence against children and adolescents. In this project, they have worked with 160 vulnerable children and youth in three neighbourhoods in Managua to decrease the potential for sexual exploitation. As a consequence of the program, 82% of the children successfully improved their grades in school and passed, three youth sports teams were formed, 85 children participated in dance classes, all children learned about the risks of sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/ AIDs; and 54 seriously at risk children received specialized counselling and other supports.



### ODESAR – Food Security through Vegetable Gardens and Nutrition Education - US \$12,800

ODESAR works to empower impoverished people through sustainable local development. In this project, they are working in three rural communities of Esquipulas, Matagalpa to reduce poverty. 60 women are involved in the producing diversified backyard gardens and learning more about nutrition. In addition, they are conducting a public education campaign on healthy eating.

### Men's Association Against Violence Training Men to Stop & Prevent Violence – US \$12,000

The Men's Association Against Violence works to change attitudes, values and macho behaviour in Nicaraguan men in order to promote a more just and equitable society. They are working in Tipitapa, a town with high rates of violence. They are involving men, community leaders, students and the public in educational sessions to prevent violence against women and children. In addition, 10 facilitators will be trained, who will then train others.



# SOUTH AMERICA

## BOLIVIA

Bolivia is a landlocked, largely rural country that has a population of 9.5 million. It is the poorest and least developed country in South America. 65% of the population lives in poverty and 27% live in extreme poverty. Most of the population (63%) is indigenous.



Harvest of organic vegetables.

### USC Canada – Livelihoods in Agriculture in Northern Potosi – \$20,000

USC Canada works in a global context to address mounting hunger and environmental challenges. USC Canada is working with their Bolivian partner PRODII to secure sources of food and livelihoods for small scale farmers. They have 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 buy vegetables, have a greater diversity of food sources, have increased their incomes and generally felt that the nutrition of their children has improved.

### Canadian Crossroad International Women’s Empowerment through Communal Banks – \$30,000

Canadian Crossroads works to create a more equitable and sustainable world. Their partner in Bolivia, ANED, is a development financial institution that contributes to the social and economic development of rural populations. In 2011, this project will establish 62 communal banks in the Chuquisiaca, La Paz, Potosi and Santa Cruz regions of Bolivia. It will enable 700 women to improve their skills, strengthen their entrepreneurial activities, increase their incomes and better support their families.



Tomasa is delighted to find out from her loans officer that she has just been approved for a loan.

# AFRICA

## KENYA

African Canadian Continuing Education Society – Model Village Agriculture Project – \$12,000



Agricultural plot at the school

ACCES is assisting young Kenyans to obtain the skills and education needed to benefit themselves and their society. Last year's model village agricultural project was very successful in its work in three villages in Kakamega District, Kenya. The food supply increased, incomes increased and the health and nutrition of the 170 participants improved. As a consequence, the three participating schools are becoming independent and will no longer need ACCES's financial support. Kenoli is supporting ACCES to implement a similar process in three more villages in 2011.

# SWAZILAND

Canadian Crossroads International Girls Empowerment Clubs - \$11,070

This is our third year supporting the amazing Girls Empowerment Clubs in Swaziland. Eight clubs are supporting 280 girls to gain self-confidence and become better equipped to resist abuse and protect themselves against HIV/AIDS. The program won an innovation award at the Gender Justice and Local Government Summit in South Africa. As well, the girls participated in a high profile national event, "Enlightenment Expo" bringing attention to issues of abuse. Two more clubs will be started in 2011.

# GHANA

Canadian Crossroads International Decreasing Domestic Violence – \$84,760 over 2 years

The goal of this two year project was reducing gender-based violence in Ghana. The project trained 75 legal literacy volunteers who raised awareness about the Domestic Violence Act (DVA) in their communities. Simplified educational materials were produced and distributed at village meetings. Public education campaigns were conducted, reaching about 8,000 people. In addition, 60 judges, lawyers, police, other judicial personnel and traditional leaders were trained in the DVA. A court watch program provided a basis for targeting prevention efforts, by identifying statistics about offenders. Participants reported they are now better equipped to support advocacy for better implementation of the law.



Brochure with simplified information about the Domestic Violence Act



Girls making a presentation at the Enlightenment Expo



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