

ANNUAL REPORT
2009
CONTRIBUTE TO SOLUTIONS



Change for Children provides a vocational training program with Amani Children's Home in Tanzania. In this year, CFCA has four African projects in Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Uganda.

Photo credit: Joe Ventura

Cover photo credit - Lorraine Swift



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2008/09

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Making an impact

This has been a year of celebration, strengthening, and growth. In these challenging times, Change for Children, our volunteers, our members, or donors, our staff and our partners have remained optimistic and dedicated to changing the world for the better. Collectively, we have worked hard to strengthen and grow our capacity to bring about change.

It has been a year of celebration because, in spite of a global economic recession, we have been both optimistic and ambitious. As a result of our attitude, our passion and hard work we have been able to make the world a slightly better place and make changes in the lives of many people. Through our initiatives, Alberta youth have taken up the cause of global justice, rural communities in Nicaragua have access to clean water, and marginalized youth in the global south are given educational opportunities.

It has been a year of increasing our capacity to do good work. We have a competent and informed board which is both passionate and skilled. We have engaged new volunteers and created opportunities for them to contribute their talents. Our donors have found new and innovative ways to contribute and make a difference. Our dedicated staff continues to amaze as they develop their skills and find ways to help us achieve ambitious goals

It has also been a year of growth. More volunteers are become involved with Change for Children. New positions have been created and new staff members have joined our organization. Donors have become increasingly generous and our member ship continues to expand.

These are truly exciting times for Change for Children, and it is by design, not by accident. We have been guided by the leadership of veteran Change for Children volunteers like Eugene Ulmer, Sharon Strong, Delmy Garcia-Hoyt, Michael Hoyt, and Cecily Mills who have reminded us that where we come from must continue to shape where we are going. This year we will honor Clarence and Jenny Visser, for their life time of involvement and commitment to our movement. Change for Children also lost Edward Carson this past year, one of our founding members but his legacy will also continue to shape our work.

In a year of many downs, Change for Children has experienced many ups. Our volunteers and staff can take satisfaction in knowing their time has made the world a better place. Our donors can take pride in knowing that their contributions are being well used and bringing new found hope and opportunity. Thank you for your contribution to our work and furthering our vision of supporting human dignity, healthy communities and global justice.

Erick Ambtman
Board President-Change for Children Association

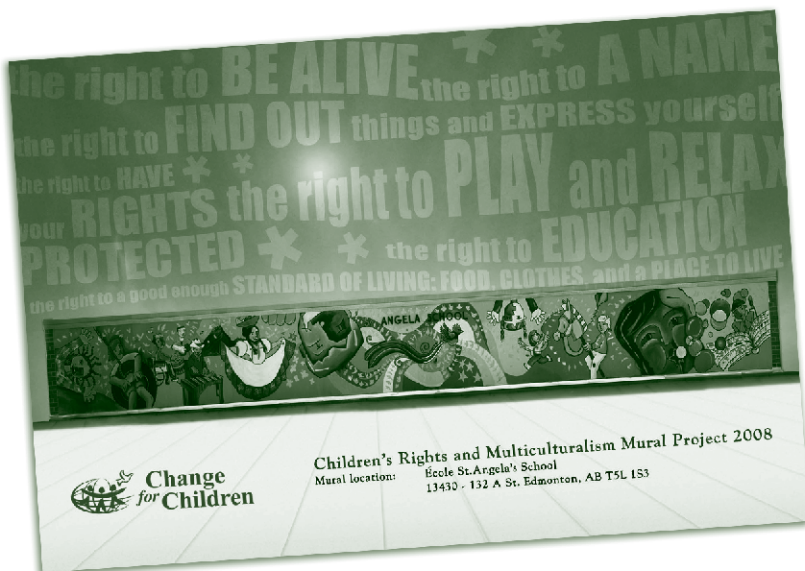


Photo credit - Joel Higham

Children's Rights and Multiculturalism mural project 2008 in partnership with École St. Angela's school to honor the legacy of Edward Carson, founding CFCA member. Thank you to all the generous artists and donors whose support made it possible.

STAFF

2008/09

PROGRAM MANAGERS (full time)

Fiona Cavanagh
Public Engagement and Education

Lorraine Swift
International Projects

Shelaine Sparrow
Funds Development

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Shaun Devine - Book Keeper

Trina Moyles - Rural Roots Youth Coordinator

Ravi Jaipaul - Rural Roots Assistant

Erin Prout - Administrative Assistant



Photo credit - Mark Chatenay

Change for Children works with marginalized indigenous populations in remote areas on projects to help them develop their own land management, disaster prevention and preparedness plans and self government initiatives.

Contributing to Solutions

Improving Access to Water:

Over seventy-five communities and 35,000 people now have access to clean water in various communities in northern Nicaragua as well as in Romano Village in Sierra Leone. Our water projects also include health and hygiene programs, reforestation, municipal water management and the distribution of low-wood-consumptions stoves to ensure sustainability.

Improving Access to Education:

In Guatemala we completed construction of our fourth primary school in the Comitancillo region and also supported school construction projects in remote regions of Nicaragua and Sierra Leone. In these countries, millions of children do not attend school because they live in remote areas and cannot travel long distances to school when they are young. The construction of primary schools in communities that do not have them provides hundreds of children with access to quality education in their indigenous languages.

Promoting Community Health:

People in isolated and marginalized communities often suffer from poor health and need access to health services, either through the provision of community health programs delivered by local health promoters or through the provision of transport and home care. In Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, our community based health programs help communities to solve their own health concerns and establish a collective resource for community members to draw on in cases of health emergencies and for medicines.

Promoting Children's Rights:

Innovative artistic programs to reach children and youth at risk in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Peru and Uganda have been successful at educating girls and boys to stand up for their rights, empowering them to seek safer vocational alternatives, improving their self esteem, and inspiring them to be active citizens in charge of their own future.

Project HOPE: Volunteers from Grant MacEwan College's Project HOPE Team fundraised an impressive \$25,000 before traveling to Nicaragua to help with infrastructure construction in the jungles of BOSAWAS.

Photo credit - Caitlin Jackson

Supporting Indigenous Rights:

By facilitating the development of land management, risk management and disaster preparedness plans with indigenous populations, our projects empower indigenous communities to continue on their paths to self government and sustainable economic development in protected areas. In addition, supporting bi-lingual educational initiatives with indigenous populations helps indigenous peoples to preserve their culture and language in an age of increasing globalization.

Working to Preserve and Protect the Environment:

Community educational initiatives emphasizing sustainable resource use, environmental conservation, pollution prevention and technological innovation have inspired and empowered many communities to reduce their consumption of resources and implement development programs which facilitate a sustainable future.





MEXICO:
Partners: Fundacion Comunidad in Morelos & Caminamos Juntos in Morelos.

With CFCA support, these Mexico-based organizations work with women in vocational training, health promotion and providing educational opportunities.

EL SALVADOR:
Partner: CEBES (Christian Base Communities of El Salvador)

A collective social health fund provides access to essential health services, traditional medicines, transport to the capital city for clinic visits and follow-up home care for communities in need.

NICARAGUA; BOSAWAS Biosphere (with photo)
Partners: Centro Humboldt, ADEPCIMISUJIN, MAKALANA.

Support for local indigenous initiatives in land management, self government, community infrastructure and environmental protection in the BOSAWAS biosphere reserve.

NICARAGUA; Esteli and Managua (with CIDA Logo)
Partners: FUNARTE, INPHRU, CIDA

FUNARTE and INPHRU employ their inspiring art education methodologies, using muralism, theatre, dance and music to get at-risk youth involved in programs that educate them about violence and HIV/AIDS and engage them in educational campaigns to combat these risks.

NICARAGUA: 70 communities in Chinandega, Esteli and Leon (with photo and CIDA Logo)
Partners: Centro Humboldt, CIDA

This project reaches 70 rural communities in north-western Nicaragua where access to potable water is a major challenge. Not only does the project build water systems, it involves the community and the governing municipalities in developing a strategy to sustainably manage them to benefit generations to come.

GUATEMALA: (with photo and WRF Logo)

Partner: AMMID: The Association for Maya-Mam Research & Development

Primary school construction projects which offer bi-lingual indigenous language education for these marginalized populations.

HONDURAS: (with WRF Logo)
Partners: Alianza Verde

Programs which empower indigenous women and youth to participate in community development initiatives and land management plans in protected areas.

PERU: Lima (with WRF Logo)
Partners: Manos Libres, WRF

This project engages young women on issues of self-esteem and safe sexual practices by developing a series of Radio dramas and a health promotion campaign.

BOLIVIA: Potosi (with Photo & CIDA Logo)
Partner: CEPROMIN, CIDA

Vocational training, workplace safety, workers rights education and scholarship opportunities for children working in the Cerro Rico silver mine in Potosi.

BRAZIL: Maceio, Alagoas (with WRF Logo)
Partner: FUNDANOR, WRF

A long-time CFCA partner, FUNDANOR offers innovative programming to help children gain vocational and educational skills that will help them towards building new lives off of the street.



SIERRA LEONE: Romano Village
Partners: Romano Village, Tamaraneh Society Edmonton

Current projects in the village include the construction of a water well and a health clinic, as well as ongoing support for the primary and secondary schools.

TANZANIA: Moshi
Partners: Amani Children's Home, Hands Across Africa

This shelter, in the town of Moshi at the base of Mount Kilimanjaro, houses nearly 60 children who otherwise would be living on the street. Here the children are provided with a safe and loving home along with education, health care and vocational training.

UGANDA: Mbarara
Partners: Ainembabazi Children's Project - Uganda and Edmonton

This project offers responsive programming for the children of Mbarara who are being dramatically affected by the HIV/AIDS crisis and raising awareness about the crisis in Uganda

MOYAMBA
Partners: Moyamba Rehabilitation Clinic, Hands Across Africa

Working with CFCA, Hands Across Africa has been able to support this clinic, which provides much-needed rehabilitation therapy, prosthesis and counseling to people injured in the war in Sierra Leone, in an area where there are few other medical services.



CFCA partners with an impressive group of 15 Canadian based community organizations working to raise funds and awareness about projects in the developing world. This photo is of our health project in El Salvador that is supported by CEBES Edmonton, one of our El Salvador partners in Canada.

Photo credit - Raul Rivera



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international





Photo credit - Erin Prout



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

"I personally think that after 23 years of teaching and arranging field trips, the Rural Roots events are perhaps the most rewarding ones that I have ever involved students in. I truly believe that every student who has so far attended a Rural Roots activity has been positively impacted in a way that will last a long time and for some, a lifetime"

Nancy Fontaine, Eaglesham, Alberta

Connecting Communities

The impact of Change for Children is the result of the deep and active engagement of our community in Canada. Each year our Education and Public Engagement program works to build knowledge, skills and a desire for individuals and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

Engagement at CFCA is about connecting people with one another, providing opportunities for Canadians to meet the regions and partners to whom we are committed, to hear stories of what those communities envision as their future. It is about creating spaces for dialogue about issues that impact us: education, environment, health and human rights.

2008/09 was a rich year in connecting Albertan and Canadian communities with our 16 international partners. Our web of relationships spanned greater distances, and greater numbers of people. There have been remarkable moments such as a new initiative called the Video Conference for Hope. This powerful example of creative use of technology brings youth and schools across

North America together with our international partners via video conferencing. This initiative founded by Queen Elizabeth High School in Alberta is an international forum for dialogue about globalization, climate change, and the right to education. It engages students of all ages in greater awareness and actions to assure global access to education.

This year also saw the unveiling of a large scale mural about children's rights created as a tribute to the incredible work of long time teacher and global educator, Edward Carson. His commitment enriched the Education program at CFCA since its beginning and will continue to do for decades to come.

Our programming has grown this year and there has been an increase in the number of programs, and the number of beneficiaries impacted. Thank you to the many partners, sponsors and contributors that have made this possible, from artists to businesses to teachers across Canada.



For three days, CFCA hosted the 4th Annual Shape Your World Youth Conference with record attendance from 27 communities. Severin-Cullis Suzuki opened the event and Rafa Tellez-Lazo from our partner FUNARTE, closed with his life story of art, education and poverty elimination in Nicaragua.

Photo credit - Erin Prout



Photo credit - Jerry Keenan

CFCA worked with Alberta based organization, Kindness in Action, to send 2 delegations consisting of over 40 volunteer dental professionals to Esteli and Managua, Nicaragua, where the teams provided basic dental care to communities in need. Change for Children also worked as a partner to implement an oral health project in Bosawas, and train health promoters to increase oral hygiene and knowledge.

Investing in Communities

Happiness is not so much in having as sharing. We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.

- Norman Macewan

We are indebted to donors who in 2008 worked with us to raise 1.2 million dollars that was invested in 253 communities in 14 countries globally. These donations reached the poorest of the poor and helped them to develop solutions to their problems and to find ways to satisfy their basic needs. Funds raised were also used for programming to increase knowledge of Canadians of issues that impact the Global South.

Our youngest donors this year, a couple of five and six year old boys, demonstrated that the act of giving is more than financial, but that contributions are multiplied because they also generate awareness and involvement of whole communities, of friends, and of families who are inspired by the giving.

Besides giving dollars, our donors also offered rich ideas and enthusiastic encouragement. They contributed to building a community that works hard to ensure their gifts contribute to achieving solutions to poverty and injustice, and creating a community that participates in and celebrates in those accomplishments.

Funding partnerships with foundations and agencies such as Christmas Futures, the Wild Rose Foundation and Grant MacEwan's Project Hope, have continued and expanded in 2008. This year has been marked by the implementation of new and creative fundraising strategies.

Queen Elizabeth High School became a new partner that connected us to a network of schools in North America working to raise funds to support global school building projects. Our newly launched birthday club invites many Canadian kids to raise funds for kids in need globally. And this year we again worked with art and medical student partners to raise funds for international health projects in El Salvador in the 3rd Annual Doctors and Derrieres, now a well established and high profile event in the City of Edmonton; And for all you golfers and corporate sponsors out there, the Joffre Lupul and Friends Golf tournament is now officially an annual event. Due to increased capacity in fund development and financial management, we are able to work with more partners and to respond to the many opportunities that our engaged and committed donor community make possible.

As we move into an uncertain financial climate, we encourage our community to invite others to become part of our extraordinary network of friends and supporters. The work of Change for Children is the work of thousands of persons in this province, across this nation and around the world, who share our vision, and who share whatever gifts they have in whatever way they can.

Ziggy Bessai and Michael McCarthy collected donations in lieu of gifts as part of CFCA's Global Kids birthday club. Their donations supported the construction of a school in Comitancillo, Guatemala.

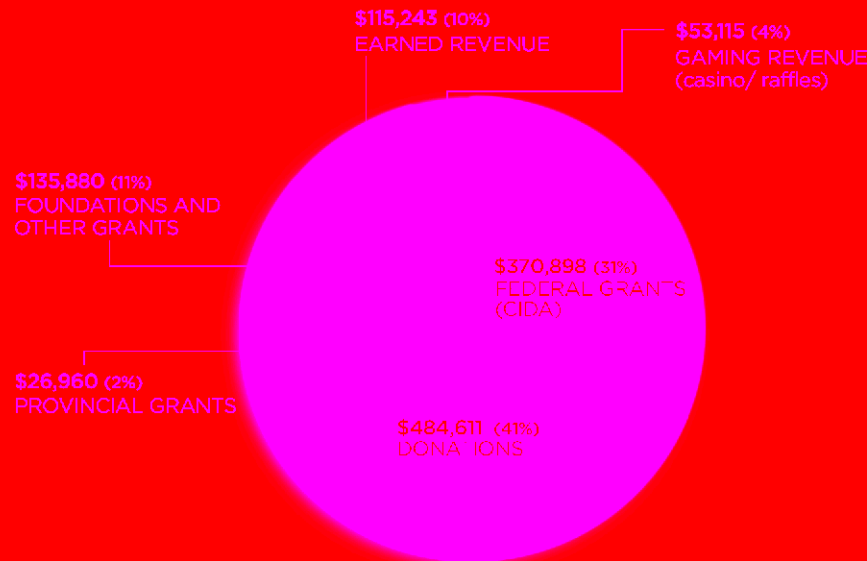
Photo credit - Jane McCarthy



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Financial information is for the period April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009 and this page was taken from audited financial statements. Copies of audited financial statements are available by request from Change for Children Association.

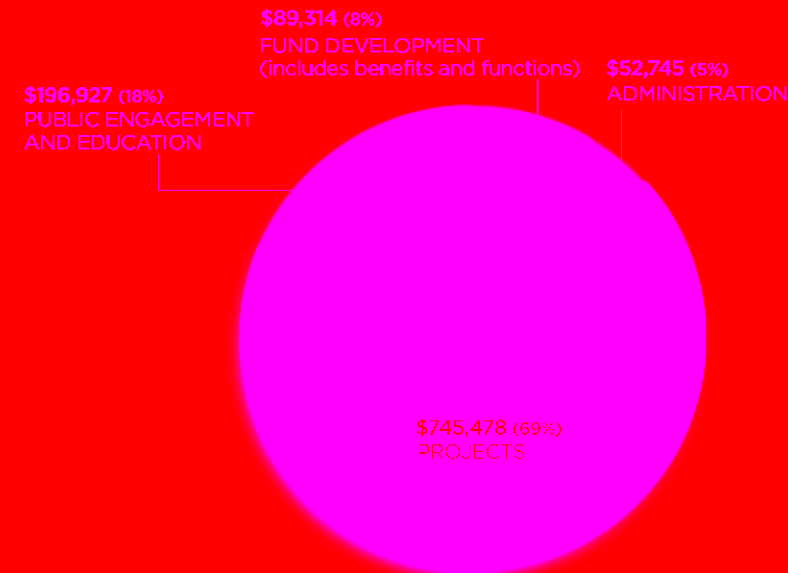
\$1,186,707 TOTAL REVENUES



Above revenues do not include donated good and services valued at \$8,703

CFCFA opened the year with \$294,006 in Projects Fund and \$35,021 in the General Fund.

\$1,084,464 TOTAL EXPENDITURES



HUMAN DIGNITY, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES, GLOBAL JUSTICE

Change for Children is an Edmonton based organization that works in Latin America and Africa to achieve sustainable community development. Our global projects are defined and implemented by our partners and are committed to gender equality, environmental justice and supporting indigenous perspectives. In Canada our education program involves Canadians with the projects and issues of most pressing concern for our international partners.



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 Registered Charitable Organization No. 11884 9496 RRO001



Contribute to Solutions

In addition to the generous support of hundreds of individuals, families, schools congregations and small businesses, the work of Change for Children was assisted by contributions from:

CFCFA CONTRIBUTORS

Federal Government

Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) Partnership Branch
 NGO Project Facility
 Stand Alone Public Engagement Fund

Provincial Government

Employment, Immigration and Industry- S.T.E.P Program
 Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta (WRF) International Development Program

Non-Government

AG Venture Farms Ltd.
 ATA Local 54
 Bellerose Composite High School
 Bishop Croteau Charitable Foundation
 Body Shop Foundation
 Christmas Future Foundation
 Congregation of Notre Dame
 Edmonton Catholic Teachers, Local 54
 Fath Group/O'Hanlon Paving
 Fellowship Christian Reformed Church
 Fort McMurray Public School
 Fortis Alberta
 Flaman Foundation
 Grant MacEwan College
 Groot Farms Ltd
 International School of Macau
 INTI Designs Ltd
 Kindness in Action
 Marathon Marine Manufacturing
 Nunastar Ltd
 Power Engineering Books Ltd
 Queen Elizabeth High School
 Saskatchewan Council for International Cooperation
 St. Anthony's Parish
 St. Francis Xavier Parish
 Student Union-University of Alberta
 United Way Capital Region
 University of Alberta, Augustana Campus
 Victoria Global Village Society
 TELUS Dollars for Dollars Program
 Worthington Properties Inc.

Canadian Project Partner Organizations

Ainembabazi
 CEBES- El Salvador Society of Edmonton
 Chilean Canadian Community
 Grant MacEwan College Student Association- Project Hope
 Guatemala Solidarity Committee
 Hands Across Africa
 Kindness in Action
 Pedals for Pasos
 Tamarineh Society

Volunteers

Thank you for your partnership, Change for Children could not exist without the time, knowledge and skills you have given to the organization.