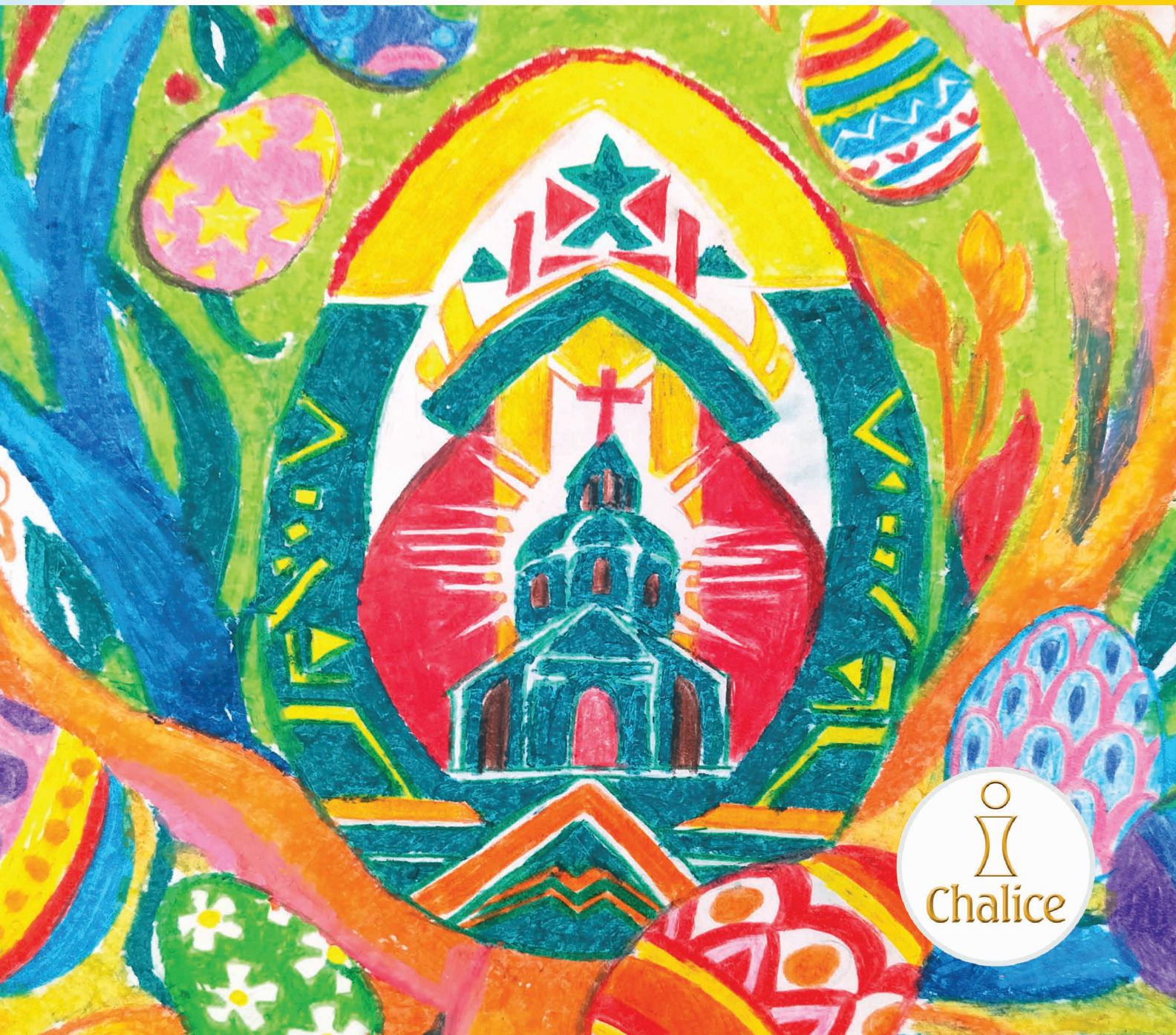


# CHALICE CANADA

## NEWS MAGAZINE

Spring 2025



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Chalice offers many options to support our shared mission to reveal God's love in action.



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## Our team is ready to assist you!



**Catherine Ludovice**  
catherineludovice@chalice.ca



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**Our Website** [chalice.ca/plan-a-gift](http://chalice.ca/plan-a-gift)

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# Thanksgiving from Trials to Triumph

Our struggle against poverty is an economic resistance movement. Some excellent charities focus on doing one thing very well, and their one-time response can be just what a person needs at that moment. Within this Spring Magazine, you will discover that our resistance takes many forms, and responds to many challenges, depending on local conditions and circumstances.

In one place, Chalice drills a borehole for water, in another, we offer medical surgery. At another time, a library needs books, or struggling children need special educational help, or mothers need small micro business training. With every small act, we resist and turn the cheek to the hand of poverty that

strikes. Though sometimes hit hard, "we are not yet beat."

With Chalice, you accompany ordinary families living under many economic threats that can at times can seem overwhelming -- even frightening -- or sometimes just ordinary. Like in Ukraine where heat is needed in the winter, or in Tanzania, where they need school lodging or meals.

From all these threats, small and great, we have triumphed with humble acts of resistance, of loving kindness and with smiling faces. All in the name of Christ from whose chalice we drink with thanksgiving and joy.



**Father Patrick  
Cosgrove,  
Founder and  
President at  
Chalice**



Spring 2025

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## Camille's Creative Vision Celebrates Resurrection and Renewal

Camille has known our sponsor site staff since she was five years old – and even then, her favourite thing was art.

Now 22, she's in her fourth year of a bachelor of science in IT at her local university. But her interest in software and computers complements the artist's soul of her childhood.

"I've always had a passion for art, like drawing and designing, as they provide me with a creative outlet and allow me to express myself in meaningful ways," Camille says.

She grew up with her parents and two brothers in a rural town about an hour north of Manila, where her



dad provided for their family as a three-wheeler driver. She was sponsored when she was five through what is now Chalice's Bulacan site, as was her older brother, Jonas.

We chose Camille's kaleidoscope of the "joyful Spirit of Easter" to be the cover of our 2025 Spring news magazine.

"I put a church with a cross in the middle to represent the religious part of Easter, focusing on Jesus Christ's resurrection," Camille says. "Around the church, I added decorated eggs to symbolize new life. I also included flowers and leaves to

*"I've always had a passion for art"*

represent spring ... which stands for new beginnings."

At the cusp of completing her education, Camille looks ahead to her own new beginning, while also looking back with gratitude.

"I would also like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my sponsor, for her generous support and encouragement. Her sponsorship has been a great source of inspiration and I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity she has provided me to continue my education and pursue my passion for art."

### Year one of nutrition program underway

Through Tondo's feeding program in the impoverished Baseco community, 500 preschool-aged children eat a healthy meal, 260 days a year. That's an estimate of 130,000 meals a year. Many begin the program visibly malnourished, stunted, and anemic; by the end, they are flourishing, physically and socially. Parents are deeply grateful.

### School breakfasts and lunches help students thrive.

Every day, the 401 students of the Liceo de Bethlehem eat a nutritious breakfast and lunch, thanks to Chalice's nutrition program. That works out to about 70,000 meals a year! The Samar site's nutrition program also oversees community and household vegetable gardens and provides food for sponsored elders.

### Samar site completes construction on 15 houses.

About 30 sponsored children, 54 siblings and 29 parents moved into their new concrete house this year. The Chalice housing project's

homes are "dazzling blessings" says site director Maricel. One mother, Teresita, says "my family will not worry as to where to evacuate... and strong winds will not worry us anymore."

### More than 3100 sponsored children, teens, and parents learning to 'Bidabest' [Be the Best].

A thousand sponsored youth in our Tondo site attend monthly talks about topics like relationships, drugs, and online safety. 60 sponsored children and their siblings receive tutoring, and 400 grade 10 and 12 students are attending career seminars.





## Heartfelt Thanks as Community Restores Beloved Parish Centre

St. Charles Borromeo Parish is the nerve centre of the community of Cochabamba, Bolivia. Chalice family circles meet, train and socialize there. It hosts Chalice’s PENNT site afterschool support program, where students come after school every day to do homework, share a snack, and have fun. The centre also hosts a children’s soup kitchen from Monday to Friday, whose lunch program has been going on for more than 10 years.

Litzi, a mother of four, is the caretaker of the centre. Her children are part of the PENNT program, and they attend Mass there as a family. “It is a joy for me to be part of all the activities that are organized here,” she says. “This centre has many stories to tell. Here we

laugh, we cry, but we always get together to share.”

Over the years, Litzi saw Bolivia’s rainy seasons come and go, bringing heavy rainfall and humidity. Each time, new leaks appeared in their roof, and new cracks down the walls. Everyone was growing increasingly concerned about an impending health hazard.

“We saw with great sadness during the rainy season that our beloved center suffered from the inclement weather,” Litzi says. Thanks to Chalice supporters, the PENNT site launched a project to restore St. Charles to its safe and sturdy self. “Thank you for repairing our roof,” she says. “I am very grateful to the sponsors of Chalice, and to the parish, for having cared for us and our families.”



### ‘Healthy Children, Happy Families’ Campaign a Success.

Through the gift catalogue, Tukuy site partnered with a hospital to set up a mobile unit of internists, GPs, a geriatrician, and a dentist. More than 950 sponsored children and elders, and 271 community members, got a checkup. More than 480 sponsored children received preventative dental treatment and 153 people were referred to specialists for more specific care.

### Teens and families becoming healthy habits role models.

The Amanecer site ran a series of workshops for 105 families in topics like health communication, risk factors for disease, and mental health/social skills. 200 families enjoyed the site’s Family-Community Health Fair, where they learned about disease prevention, lifestyle risks, and public health.

### Life resumes after catastrophic mudslides.

Three families in our Guadalupe site with sponsored children lost everything. One mother, Basilia, had recently invested her savings in a restaurant business – and lost it all. Through Chalice’s critical needs fund, the families

replaced essentials such as roofing, beds, and blankets. Basilia has reopened her business.

### Nutrition program hitting health targets.

58 diners come to the Sucre site’s Rodolfo dining hall every weekday to eat a nutritionist-approved meal. Almost 60 children are under the age of six. Thanks to their hearty lunches, recent checkups found that 74 percent of the diners had a normal nutrition status.





### Two-year healthcare program for 60 elders complete.

An occupational therapist, nurse, psychologist, Chalice fieldworker, and a social worker gave each of the 60 seniors two years of in-home care and therapy. "The comprehensive health project for seniors has been a success," Arica site director Veronica says. "[They] felt accompanied and valued. Thanks to rehabilitation, seniors have greater independence and mobility. [The visits] improved their self-esteem and reduced anxiety."



### Disaster relief for wildfire survivors

The deadly wildfires in Valparaíso destroyed Santiago sponsored families' houses and left them without drinking water, electricity, food, and clothing. Chalice's disaster relief fund delivered 50 tents, stoves, inflatable mattresses, hammers, solar lanterns, clothes, food boxes, and water drums to 50 affected families of sponsored children.

### Creating bonds within and among families.

Santiago's team embarked on a series of family workshops, discussing topics like leadership, budgeting, sewing, relationships, mental health, and self-confidence. "The great thing about this journey," says Norma, a fieldworker, "is the smiles of the children, the words of gratitude, the expressions that show so much affection. Those faces invite you to continue on this very human work that Chalice does for the 'poor of Christ.'"

## Little Children Embrace the Message of Easter

At an Easter faith activity, the Arica site staff were in for a heartwarming surprise. They had gathered young children from three communities and gave them some Easter-themed colouring pages. While the children coloured, the site staff spoke about the meaning of the holiday and Christ's resurrection.



"The first thing that surprised us was that most knew that Jesus had risen," says Veronica, Arica site director. Building on this, the staff helped the children understand that Jesus was in their hearts. They weren't sure how much was sinking in, and the staff moved on to face-painting and other games. When it was time for prayer, they offered intentions for their families and communities.

"The amazing thing was that we asked them to pray for a dear priest who was very sick," says Veronica. A four-year-old piped up: "I am going to ask Jesus to take care of him because Jesus is in my heart, and he listens to me."

## Gift Catalogue Knitters 'Giving Back'

Yarn was a popular gift catalogue item for artisan parent groups. One, the Arañitas Tejedoras (Weaving Spiders) knitted 20 x 20 centimetre "love squares," and donated them to a charity for Valparaíso fire victims. The squares "will be transformed into blankets to reach the neediest people," says Santiago's project manager Jesmarina. "Whether in hospitals, or those who have lost everything in fires, or those who are homeless." The blankets will "shelter them in such cold times with that love with which they weave."





## Transformative Training Rewrote Halyna's Story

For almost 20 years, Halyna has seen only her limitations. When she was in her early 20s, she lost her hand in a workplace accident. "All my dreams and plans seemed to be unachievable," she says.

Shortly after, her first daughter, Oksana, was born with cerebral palsy and visual impairment. In the light of her amputation and Oksana's special needs, Halyna realized how her society underestimated and undervalued people with disabilities. Sadly, Halyna internalized the message that she was useless and pitiful. "I didn't like myself," she says. "I became easily irritated and buried all my dreams."

Halyna wonders if that would have been her state of mind for the rest of her life; thankfully, she had the

chance to take part in the Ternopil site's "Family Resilience in Conditions of War" mental health program for mothers. Thanks to Chalice supporters, over two years, she and 90 other parents took part in workshops and private sessions with a psychologist. They learned how to spot and care for the effects of trauma and post-trauma, communication skills, and parenting tools to help navigate their children's upbringing in a conflict zone. All parents also received one-on-one counselling.

"These trainings have radically changed my life," she says. "I felt



like I was born for the second time. I start dreaming, planning my life, setting, and reaching goals. I wish I'd had learned that 15 years ago."

"Thanks to the sponsorship program I can develop and change. You have changed not only my life, but my entire family's life."



### Vulnerable families stay warm.

With the soaring price of firewood, the most vulnerable families in our Pochaiv site were only heating their homes once every 20-30 hours. Through Chalice's home heating program, 120 families (with 200 children) had enough firewood for warmth and cooking. "Thanks to your care," says social worker Yuliia, "our families will now be warmed - not only by the warmth of the house, but also by your kind heart."

### Valuable help before critical exams.

Our Lviv site offers a professional tutoring program for sponsored Grade 12 students preparing for national exams that will determine their access to higher education. This year, 20 students received 144 hours of free tutoring from qualified (and usually expensive) instructors. It was a success! Fourteen entered higher education, seven earning free tuition.

### Gift catalogue boosts libraries.

Lviv site bought books for three school and community libraries and renovated the school library. "All the purchased books will find a grateful reader," says library director Nadiia. "They will become an important part of our library's collection and will help to ensure the educational process, spiritual growth, and revival of culture."

### Opening doors to work with English classes.

Thanks to the gift catalogue, 11 parents of sponsored children took English classes to give them a boost in an unemployment crisis. "This is a new step," says Roman, the Pochaiv site director. "Wartime will pass, and they will have chances to have better jobs."



**Feeding children sustainably.**

Through Chalice’s school farming program, three schools in our Konta site now cultivate at least five acres of either maize or beans. Since launching, they’ve harvested 16,000 kilograms of maize and 1,000 kilograms of beans, which have been cooked for their daily lunches.

**Supporting struggling students.**



To address low national exam scores, Nandom site used the gift catalogue to supply 200 textbooks and 150 sets of classroom furniture for 14 schools. Nandom site saw a 90 percent reduction in school dropouts.

**Borehole transforms Konta site school and community.**

Staff and 367 students at St. Benedict’s school had to carry gallons of water from their homes to school, and were forced to close every time children were thirsty. Chalice drilled a borehole to provide clean water for the school, improving health, hygiene, farming, and school-feeding programs essential for the students’ and community’s development.

# Outpouring of Support Funds Barbara’s Critical Surgery

Barbara is a music-loving high-schooler, a highly engaged student, and an active member of her church in Nandom, Ghana. She has worked hard for six years to be able to say that.



The Nandom sponsor site requested, and received, support through Chalice’s critical needs program to pay for Barbara’s surgery. A leader in the site, Castro,

got in touch with Bernice as quickly as he could.

When she was 12, Barbara started getting pain around her hips. Several scans at multiple hospitals didn’t show anything unusual. Years passed, and Barbara could no longer stand or walk. At last, an MRI revealed a spinal tumour. Her doctors referred her to a neurosurgeon in the capital city, Accra, for immediate surgery.

“They were so overwhelmed upon receiving the good news,” he says. They booked the surgery.

But her surgery was a private expense and came to thousands of Canadian dollars. This was an unmanageable sum for her mother, Bernice, who’d suspended her street vending business to care for Barbara. She had spent all her savings, and she was unable to pay for this surgery.

Barbara’s operation was a success, “and her recovery has been remarkable,” says Castro. “She has returned to school, eager to continue her education and pursue and achieve her future goals.”

“We celebrate the difference made in Barbara’s life,” he says, “and the lives of those around her. Her story is a testament to the power of hope and resilience and a shining example of the impact that can be made when we come together to support those in need.”

**Daily lunches boosting schools.**

As a result of Chalice’s nutrition program, Bankpama kindergarten enrolment increased by 80 percent, and 60 percent at neighbouring Kuukyileyir School. For the lower three primary grades at Bankpama, enrolment increased by a quarter, and 35 percent at Kuukyileyir.



# Faces of Hope



## Archita

**RLP1214**

BERHAMPUR, INDIA

Mature and caring Archita lives with her single mother and little brother in an oceanside town in eastern India. At nine, Archita wants to be a 'good doctor' someday, and she knows that a Chalice sponsor will support her mother to afford her education.



## Ranjana

**THY1840**

TAMIL, INDIA

That girl zipping past you is Ranjana, riding her bike to her grade six classes. Ranjana likes to read, play, and help her mother, who is alone after her husband's death. Their whole family knows that a sponsor will bring joy and encouragement.



## Anishpa

**RLP1213**

BERHAMPUR, INDIA

The fifth of her parents' six girls, Anishpa is determined to pursue her passion for teaching. By sponsoring her education, we can help pave the way for this 11-year-old to become a successful teacher and inspire others around her.



## Andrea

**BCO1924**

TONDO, THE PHILIPPINES

At just ten years old, Andrea dreams of becoming a doctor. Raised by her devoted aunt, a vegetable vendor, Andrea's dreams of helping the sick come with many challenges. With support for her education, compassionate Andrea can reach her full potential.



## Elise

**BCO1918**

TONDO, THE PHILIPPINES

Grade two student Elise loves to play hide and seek - and with future dreams of becoming a police officer, she's already honing her detective skills. Education and healthcare are essential for Elise and her five siblings, two of whom are hearing impaired.



## Mariana

**GDL2153**

GUADALUPE, BOLIVIA

Mariana's mother describes her six-year-old as very cheerful, fun, and curious. There seems to be nothing Mariana can't do; she loves games, painting, dancing, sports, math, languages, and animals (especially her kitten, Mimi). A sponsor will help this Renaissance girl



## Luz

**GDL2152**

GUADALUPE, BOLIVIA

Six-year-old Luz is her parents' 'princesita' (little princess) because she's their only girl with two brothers. Luz is affectionate, calm, studious, and close with her family. They face obstacles, but with the help of a Chalice sponsor, they can overcome them together.



## Brightness

**NEM1654**

NEEMA, TANZANIA

Brightness lives up to her name even when shadows loom. She lives with her grandmother and brother, since injuries from an accident left her mother with limited mobility. But it hasn't dimmed six-year-old Brightness's dreams to become a teacher one day.



### Celebrating Luis Amigó site's 17th anniversary.

All the Chalice family circles planned and prepared treats, decorated, and made posters of their patron in heaven, Father Luis Amigó. "The activities began with a prayer in listening to the Word of God and in an attitude of gratitude to God," said Heidi, a fieldworker. "A special moment was dedicated for each family to raise a prayer for their sponsors." Then came the lighter-hearted business of hula, soccer, piñatas, "which brought joy to children" says Heidi.



### Skills for the future.

Nearly 170 sponsored youth and mothers took part in livelihood skills workshops, thanks to Chalice's gift catalogue. Seventeen sponsored students learned electrical and 21 learned hat-making. Several mother groups took artisanal baking, costume jewelry, soap-making, and pastry-making. "Both mothers of families and young people," says Sr. Romelia, "want to generate income to help their own family and create collective savings."

## Daily Meals Foster Growth and Confidence



Our Luis Amigó site works in one community with a particularly high rate of childhood malnutrition. With the support of Chalice donors, the site built the Andrés Girón Community Dining Room. Over 10 years, the dining room has provided children with a balanced diet, helping to restore weight, and improved nutritional status.

Every day 50 children facing acute nutrition problems eat daily meals at the dining hall. "Children show a good appetite, and enjoy the food offered in the dining room," says Sr. Romelia, Luis Amigó site director. The staff could also see that, through play and team activities, the children also improved their social skills and self-esteem.

"They look happier and happier."

They also visited each of the children at least once in their homes, making important contact with their parents/guardians, and verifying

that the children's progress and healthy habits are continuing. "The home visits have been opportunities to evaluate the good practices of food preparation and schedules," says Sr. Romelia, "avoiding any food relapse in the children of the dining room."

Staff ran multiple parent training sessions throughout the year, which mostly mothers attended. Topics included the importance of eating fruits and vegetables, starting family gardens, malnutrition, prevention of food poisoning, and food safety/hand hygiene.

Seeing a need, they also did a talk about self-care with mothers, which was a significant boost for their moods, social skills, and emotional management. They also celebrated Women's Day on March 8. "Empowered mothers of families," Sr. Romelia says, "express among themselves appreciation, value, and acceptance."

# Faces of Hope



**Michael**  
**NBB2075**

NANDOM, GHANA

Soccer-loving Michael is growing up with his farming family of eight. School fees are a constant challenge. But at five, Michael has the clear ambition to be a police officer and bring justice to his community. A sponsor will ensure his parents can afford to educate their children.



**Gregory**  
**SAI2204**

SAIDIA, KENYA

In his rural farming town, seven-year-old Gregory shines. With a love for learning and a passion for soccer, Gregory stays on top of his studies and chores. His hardworking single mother knows a sponsor will help her son have a future as bright as he is.



**Rayaan**  
**SGC1418**

STAREHE, KENYA

At just 15, Rayaana knows that she can bring change for her struggling family. Her academic achievements landed her a spot at Starehe Girls Centre. With seven siblings looking up to her, Rayaana is focused on becoming an engineer and making her sponsor and family proud.



**Fabian**  
**NBB1778**

NANDOM, GHANA

With a love for soccer and excellent grades, 12-year-old Fabian strives to become a police officer, determined to change his community. His parents, both farmers, struggle financially and pray that Fabian's connection with a sponsor will help him and his five siblings finish their education.



**Nayila**  
**VIL3062**

CMAVIL, PARAGUAY

Nayila and her parents are a small but united trio. The diligent girl enjoys her grade one classes, especially math. Her father is a farmer and has limited financial resources. They know a good-hearted sponsor will make a tremendous difference in Nayila's life.



**Edgar**  
**LAS1542**

AYOLAS, PARAGUAY

Edgar isn't a fussy eater, but he lights up when his mother makes noodles! At 23, Edgar is on the autism spectrum, loves playing guitar and attending school with peers. Chalice sponsorship helps adults with learning disabilities access inclusive education, work, and social activities.



When you become a sponsor, you connect directly with a child and show them that their future matters.

call us  
1.800.776.6855

## Sponsor a Child Now

Monthly	\$42
Yearly	\$504





Aurelio decided to enroll his sons in our Sucre sponsor site's Villa Margarita Dining Hall, which serves balanced and hearty meals to about 60 children and teens every weekday.

Sending his children to the Sucre site's lunch program "gave him peace of mind, knowing that Milder and Jhamil Anderson now have access to regular, nutritious meals," says Sister Sandra, our Sucre site director.

"Jhamil Anderson, the youngest, initially struggled with eating because he often felt lonely," she says. But now he chows down with no hesitation, and he's a healthy weight

"I am very happy and grateful," says Aurelio. "They are happy to attend the Dining Hall and love sharing with their friends. They never want to miss a day, and I no longer worry about my children's meals... I know they won't go without eating anymore."

## Good Food and Peace of Mind on the Menu at the Villa Margarita

Milder and Jhamil Anderson live with their single father, Aurelio, who works in construction and sometimes must travel for jobs. When their father travels, the boys are left alone, with Milder, the elder at 13, struggling to cook nutritious meals for himself and his brother. They sometimes go without food.

## Lunch buddies fight hunger

Fight food insecurity and famine today.

[chalice.ca/ladles-and-love](http://chalice.ca/ladles-and-love)



## A Reunion to Remember:

# Dorothy and Maria Spark Friendship in Canada

It was 2004, and Dorothy went to Mass, as usual, at her local parish in a neighbourhood of Edmonton. It was that day that she heard about Chalice and the difference she could make in the life of a child.

At the back of the church, she 'met' Maria, a five-year-old girl living with her mother, grandmother, and two siblings in a small city near Chalice's Ternopil site. As Dorothy became her sponsor, she made the prayerful commitment to support Maria throughout the year as well as send birthday and Christmas gifts.

Meanwhile, Maria and her family were facing significant challenges. Her mother, Myra, and grandmother were raising three children on their own. Their one-roomed home was cramped and damp. Myra's monthly income was approximately \$100 Cdn per month.

"Chalice's support proved transformative for Maria and her family," says Dorothy's daughter, Thérèse. "Quarterly food packages, household items, and school supplies alleviated the financial strain on the family. Their home community also rallied around them, assisting with home renovations to create a healthier living environment."

Over the years, Maria's and Dorothy's bond deepened. Sponsorship "opened a window to a broader world," Thérèse says. Maria and Dorothy wrote to each other, and through Dorothy's depictions of life in Canada, Maria's imagination opened to a world beyond her community.

The years progressed, and when war broke out in 2022, Maria was a young woman. She applied for sponsorship to emigrate to Canada, and



*"Opened a Window to a Broader World"*

a community group in Kenora, Ont., helped her move to her new home.

Once she arrived in Canada, Maria wanted to see if she could connect with Dorothy, the first Canadian to

show her love and support. Through some online research, she found a number for Dorothy's daughter-in-law. She reached out, and everyone was overjoyed to hear from her.

"Their emotional reunion marked the beginning of a renewed relationship strengthened by years of correspondence and mutual longing," says Thérèse. "Maria promised Dorothy that she would come visit her and thank her in person."

The following summer, Maria, her mother, and her sister arrived in Edmonton, and they met Dorothy at long last.

"It was an emotional reunion for all," says Thérèse. Maria thanks Dorothy for her unwavering support and credited her as "the driving force behind her dreams."

"True to her compassionate spirit, Maria now 'pays it forward' by sponsoring a child through Chalice, embodying the organization's mission of empowering families and communities."



# Together We Build Hope for Haiti's Children

Our St. Dominique sponsor site is the closest site to Port-au-Prince. The gang activity throughout Haiti is a daily trial. Violence forced them to move their Foyer Ecologique Pierre Salvetti orphanage from Titanyen - their community just outside the capital - to a safer location within the city.



"We were displaced with over 60 children and staff members in Port-au-Prince," says Wendell, St. Dominique site director, "and faced the overwhelming challenge of finding a safe place to stay, feeding everyone, and continuing the education of our children."

Contributions from Chalice supporters "have made a profound impact on the lives of the children in our care."

Through our Haiti relief fund, Wendell covered rent for the new orphanage location for eight months, as well two houses for male and female youth who are still under the shelter's care, and a new site office location. They furnished and stocked the

kitchens in the orphanage and transition houses.

The fund ensured the orphanage had enough food, clean water, hygiene supplies, and the 50 school-aged students' tuition fees, school supplies, uniforms, and books. For the 260 sponsored children who do not live in the orphanage, their families received extra funds for food.

"Thanks to your unwavering support, we have been able to ensure a safe and stable place for the children, provide food and essential educational supports that allow the children to attend school and pursue their academic dreams to work towards a brighter future," Wendell says.

Your generosity has not only provided immediate relief but also laid a foundation for stability and growth for the future. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to our mission and for standing with us every time we need mostly during these challenging times in Haiti."

## 'Feed a family' gift helps amid famine conditions.

"A great food crisis is raging in the country," says Haiti South site director Br. Marcelin, "children are malnourished." Thanks to the gift catalogue, sponsored children can eat at least one hot meal a day. "Families do not have enough words to show their recognition towards supporters of the Chalice sponsorship program."

### Medical program catches serious illnesses early.

Haiti North site arranged medical checks for 1,700 sponsored children, focused on typhoid fever, H-pylori, and intestinal parasitic infections. Twelve-year-old Rodjina finally got a diagnosis and treatment of a serious cardiac condition. "This medical care would not have been possible without the support of Chalice and its generous donors," says her mother, Junia.

### Parents embracing education in Haiti South.

For many years, the field workers have counselled parents on the importance of formal education, and now they're seeing a shifting mentality towards prioritizing school fees in their family budgets. "We see a big difference compared to previous years," Br. Marcelin says. "We can say that we have won this fight."





# Paul Builds His Family a Future

Paul doesn't look back fondly on the years when nine people – that's three generations – squeezed under their leaky straw roof. Both Paul and his wife, Jessi, are daily wage labourers. Before any of his six children were sponsored, he wasn't able to provide his family with enough food, good clothes, or medical treatment. He was never able to even consider educating his children.

Paul said the math was simple - "No labour, no income, no food," Paul says. During the rainy season, it was tough to get work, and he says that sometimes they went to bed without food.

Paul's greatest grievance was always their rundown house. "During the rainy season we could not sleep peacefully because the

straw thatch was leaking," he says.

When Paul met Chalice's Orissa site, he was astonished that someone who did not know his family would support his daughter, Monalisha, so generously. Their family's burdens of hunger, education costs, and medicine were lifted.

But Paul still dearly wanted to improve his house. With the support of his fellow sponsored parents and staff, Paul launched construction of a new house. Soon, he moved all eight of his family members into it. He even added a small extension to run a convenience store from his home. His shop ends his reliance on seasonal labour jobs. Now, he earns an income every day and can take in more than 40 percent more



than minimum wage. Monalisha, meanwhile, is in Grade 12, and "she has an ambition to become a nurse," says Paul.

"We are happy that Chalice has changed our living standards and restored our dignity in the community. Thank you, Chalice, for your generous support."



## Through the gift catalogue, 399 families have new livelihoods.

Parents in our Kerala site have started goat herding, buffalo and cow raising, small shop management, and beekeeping. Other parents set up a convenience kiosk, a tailoring shop, and a lunch-making centre.

## Twenty-nine graduating sponsored students launch careers.

"Some notable placements," says Sr. Amala, Madurai site director, "include roles as nurses, chefs in Germany, junior assistants, lab technicians, teachers, receptionists, and supervisors in spinning mills." She believes their sponsors "significantly impacted the children's lives, providing them with the skills and opportunities needed for a brighter future."



## Families tackle 'vegetable inflation' with homegrown harvests.

The price of fresh produce in our Orissa site has become prohibitively expensive. In response, the site taught 391 families to grow their own kitchen gardens to feed their families. "[The gardens] reduced their expenses for vegetables and saved [money] being used for family needs." This exceeded the site's goal of 300 family gardens.



# More than Milk and Money, Goats Restore Family Dignity

After a rough period in her life, Emily moved her four children to live with her mother in the village of Kikambala, Kenya. Despite her efforts, she struggled to feed her family, and her three school-aged children had to drop out of school. Out of concern, Emily's neighbours contacted the Mombasa site to nominate Emily's children, Omar and Mealy, for sponsorship.

"Sponsorship has become a blessing in this family," says Sr. Janefrances, site director. The children returned to school and Emily covered their daily needs.

This year, Omar's sponsor sent his family a gift of funds over and above his regular sponsorship, known as a 'special money gift.' Emily decided to buy two goats, male and a female.

The female goat has been named 'Furaha,' which means happiness in Swahili, and the male goat was named 'Bidii,' meaning hard work. Although it seems like Happy is doing much of the hard work! Happy has given birth to twins, and the "homestead is full of goats," Sr. Janefrances says. They had nine by the time of writing.

"These two goats have transformed the economic



situation in the family," she says. "The family is able to get milk that is used at home and for sale to their neighbors." When they choose, they can sell the goats too, with an asking price of \$80-\$120 Cdn.

"The family is happy now that they can afford to smile. The sponsorship program has healed the wounds of the past and restored their dignity through the gift of special money."

## Gift catalogue reaches the margins.

The Baraka site team reached out to 43 highly marginalized families in a neighbouring village. They enrolled children from each family in school and paid tuition for a year, and secured health care and medication for those with chronic illness. Twenty-two young women from the community attended a site-run tailoring workshop.



## Chalice continues and expands Saidia site nutrition program.

Now, more than 300 sponsored and 700 community children across four primary schools eat one hot meal a day. They've even been able to grow some of their own meals: Njeru Primary's farm produced 7,500 kilograms of maize and 1,100 kilograms of beans.



## Rural Mikinduri communities drink clean water.

More than 2,100 students at Akaiga, Miurine, Our Lady of Mt Carmel, and Kamuyine primary schools had no access to clean water. Thanks to Chalice supporters, four borehole wells are flowing. They now drink and wash conveniently and confidently.

## School in Nairobi slums keeps up with curriculum.

Grapesyard teachers and students "were overjoyed" with a shipment of new books and teachers guides from Chalice, after a national curriculum overhaul. Nairobi site director Edwin says the materials mark "the first time they had access to such materials for their grade."



## Blas's Sponsor Supports His Dream of a Unique Dual Career

Blas wants to help people -- from head to toe.

"My dream is that I can someday have my own hairdressing salon and also study a degree in physiotherapy and kinesiology," he says.

The 18-year-old student from our CMAVIL site has been sponsored since he was four years old. "During this period, I have gone through several situations in which the CMAVIL site has supported me at all times," Blas says. Since age 12, he and his sister Maria Eugenia have been living with their grandmother, Felina, and are eager to assist her with household expenses as adults.

To that end, Blas took a six-month barbering course alongside his regular high school studies, earning not only a certificate of completion, but a top performance award. Blas chose health sciences in high school, excelling in physics, chemistry, and natural sciences, which will aid his university and career goals.

He has nothing but gratitude for his sponsor for having encouraged



him to persevere in his studies in the face of a home life that is sometimes unstable.

"The only thing I can say today is thank, thank you for being there for me at my worst moment," says Blas. "Thank you for reaching out to me when I needed it the most, thank you for being with me and being my support in my affliction, and simply thank you for being there!"

"My commitment is to be there for my sister; to continue my life honestly and to fulfill my dreams and you are part of that!"

## Grant funds relieve families in medical emergencies.

Public hospitals chronically lack medication, tests, and equipment. In emergencies, families must turn to expensive private health care. Through Chalice donors' grant funds, the site offers timely responses, says Don Bosco site director Fabiana, "offering relief to individuals needing treatment ... and peace of mind to their families who cannot otherwise obtain these medications."

## Cleaner hall, cleaner diners.

Thanks to the gift catalogue, the 80 daily diners at Chalice's Pukavy lunch program and the volunteer cooks have a safer and cleaner place to work and eat. They built a sturdier security fence, added two stainless steel prep tables, and better food storage cabinets. Each of the diners also received hygiene kits. Aside from the daily meal, site director Sor Miguela wants the diners to "enhance their...cleanliness, manners, [and] foster gratitude through prayer."



## Parents and youth keep 'endeavoring together.'

Now in its second iteration, the CMAVIL site's 'Endeavoring Together' skills training program offers a wide variety of popular courses in craft and job-ready skills. A small sampling of the course statistics shows that 119 people took part in music classes, 50 in industrial electrician installation, 60 in customer service, 50 in English, 25 in traditional Paraguayan cooking, and 58 learned to grow their own family vegetable garden.





# Entrepreneurial Spirit Shines as Women Complete Dream Building Program

Eight women. 16 weeks. Eight new businesses.

In the Chiclayo site, the effort and perseverance of eight entrepreneurial women have borne fruit," says Greta, Chiclayo site director. They all worked hard to complete the "Dream Building" program, organized by the local cultural centre and our site's community partner, the Centro Esperanza.

Each of the women are involved in the Chalice sponsorship program. Through the four-month course, they learned about business strategy, finance and marketing. They were joined by the Chamber of Women Entrepreneurs, who shared their experience and leadership tips.



"This program not only provided technical tools," Greta says, "but also promoted self-confidence and creativity." Delidia's business is her homemade picarones, a Peruvian doughnut delicacy. For Delidia, this program has proven to be a turning point. "This course helped me improve my business," she says. Thanks to the program, she decided to rebrand, feels more confident



with her finances, and feels empowered to innovate with her product.

"Her business, now with a recognizable brand, allows her to see her profits clearly and explore new opportunities," Greta says.

Liliana, who creates handmade soaps, had a similarly transformative experience. "I am very happy with all that I have achieved," Liliana says. "I use high-quality, natural ingredients. Now I know the value of my product and have even managed to sell in bulk for events," she proudly shared.

"This achievement not only represents the growth of individual businesses," says Greta, "but also the strengthening of a network of entrepreneurial women who are transforming their lives and the lives of their families. In the Chiclayo site, the power of learning and collaboration continues to drive dreams into reality."

## Eight families feeling secure.

Through the gift catalogue, eight families of sponsored children made much-needed improvements and renovations to their homes, and for some, their small businesses. Many had been made uninhabitable by Cyclone Yaku, which caused widespread destruction in March 2023. The families, "will live in more dignified and safer conditions." Chiclayo site director Greta says, "and with greater protection from the rains that are hitting our city."



## Casa Chalice' dining hall exceeding targets.

In the last quarter alone, volunteer cooks at Chalice's nutrition program at the Santa Ana dining hall served up 11,385 lunches, 120 percent of their target. Our Cañete site's program serves a nutritionally balanced, hearty meal from Monday to Friday to 139 children and 74 elders. The program also offers support, counseling, and advice on health, hygiene, and nutrition issues. During regular checkups, health care staff referred diners for further medical treatment.



## Dreams of a Boys' Hostel at St Xavier's Gain Momentum

Ever since the Sisters who run our Neema site arrived in Mkongo -- a remote village that had no running water, electricity, or roads -- they've been transforming it. They've established schools, health-care centres, gardens, and more. The secondary school is called St Xavier's. A few years ago, the Sisters built a girls' hostel to protect their female students from their long, dangerous walks to school. Their grades notably improved when they took up residence. But their male students had their own challenges. Arriving at school tired and hungry, their concentration, and grades, suffered. They clamoured for a boys' hostel, too. "A full-fledged boy's hostel is the dream of St. Xavier's School," says Sr. Celine, Neema site director. "The extended hands of Chalice are helping us to fulfill this dream."

Ever the builders, the Neema site launched into a multi-year construc-



tion project to build a 16-bedroom hostel for 64 boys. The new hostel has 8 bathrooms, a shower room, an infirmary and 18 individual toilet rooms. Older students and nearby parents pitched in wherever they could, and built security fence, which makes everyone feel safe.

At the hostel, the boys will have healthy meals and a better chance of staying to the end of grade 12.

"It is true that the completion of this boy's hostel, the face of the school and the Mkongo village, will change."



### Gift catalogue expands carpentry classroom.

The Mbinga site runs a carpentry skills program for high school grads who are interested in trades but cannot afford college. When they complete the Mbinga program, they're equipped with both the skills and the materials they need to start a career. Through the gift catalogue, the site is extending the workshop building to create an indoor practical classroom, sheltering learners from the annual monsoon season.

### Chandarua Primary students get double the nutrition support.

Through two Chalice programs (Neema nutrition and eRoots) food-insecure children receive a hot meal at school each day. This year, their eRoots farm produced three acres of corn, and the Neema site supplemented their pantries with staples. "All students of Chandarua school can get food, stay healthy, and focus on their studies," says Sr. Celine. "There has been a drastic reduction of children being absent from school due to hunger."



### New school nutrition program for five- and six-year-olds.

Each day at 7 a.m., 53 little children arrive at St. Theresia Pre-School. Their families are food insecure -- the hungry children were often listless and some acutely malnourished. Now, through Chalice's nutrition program, the children eat a cup of porridge at 10 a.m. and a hot lunch at noon. Their health, energy levels, and concentration are improving, and the daily meals have cut rates of absenteeism and malnutrition.



# Vital Staples Fuel Success for Children and Elders

Our Serenje sponsor site conducted a needs assessment across the communities they serve. They were not surprised by the results: families and the elderly were struggling with severe food insecurity.

“Last year we didn’t have enough rainfall to make our crops grow normally,” says Monica, senior headwoman of one of the villages, “because of this our children -- instead of going to school -- they will be going to look for casual work to the few people with food, and in the end, may stop school. I am very sure if the nutrition program will be funded our children will be encouraged to go to school.”

## Children with albinism are free to play.

More than 100 children have albinism at Chalice’s Kawambwa site and they’re prone to burning and developing skin cancers. But sunscreen is rare and expensive. Thanks to a special summertime fundraiser, Chalice gave each child their own 12 bottles of broad-spectrum sunscreen. “Our children are just like all children -- they love to play,” says Sr. Agnes, Kawambwa site director. “They must remember to protect their beautiful, delicate skin.”



The site staff were also concerned about seniors. “We find elderly people who have no-one to care for them and they live beyond poverty levels,” says Sr. Catherine, site director. “Many vulnerable individuals in our communities are struggling to cope.”

“These elderly people have no strength to work for themselves to earn a living, only depend on divine providence and well-wishers.”

Thanks to Chalice supporters, the Serenje team has bought hundreds of kilograms of staples like beans, corn meal, tomatoes, cabbages, soy, and cooking materials. This keeps five school lunch programs humming. With enough food, children’s attendance and grades are improv-



ing. Likewise, the sponsored elders who receive regular hampers of staple groceries are visibly healthier.

“We are grateful to the donors who have supported the children and elderly members in our communities.”



## School farms feed children and garner market profits.

The Serenje site’s eRoots farms grew a bounty, including eggplants, cucumbers, peppers, beans, carrots, and corn. They sold 150 heads of cabbage and fed the remaining 500 heads to the children. Their market profits, about \$380 Cdn, went straight into sustaining the farming program. “The garden has enhanced food and nutritional security,” says Sr. Catherine, “and has helped to preserve indigenous knowledge and culture.”

## Gift catalogue hammer mill is a community blessing.

Zambia relies on hydro power, and a historic draught is causing frequent power outages. One community was struggling because their mill – in high demand to pound corn – was electric. Thanks to the gift catalogue, they have a dependable hammer mill that won’t shut off in a blackout. “The hammer mill brought joy to the community,” says Sr. Catherine.



**Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Non-Consolidated Financial Statements**

To the Board of Chalice (Canada):

**Opinion**

The summary non-consolidated financial statements, which comprise the summary non-consolidated statement of financial position as at June 30, 2024, and the summary non-consolidated statements of operations and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited non-consolidated financial statements of Chalice (Canada) (the "Organization") for the year ended June 30, 2024.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary non-consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

**Summary Non-Consolidated Financial Statements**

The summary non-consolidated financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in the preparation of the audited financial statements of the client. Reading the summary non-consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited non-consolidated financial statements and the auditor's report thereon. The summary non-consolidated financial statements and the audited non-consolidated financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited non-consolidated financial statements.

**The Audited Non-Consolidated Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon**

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited non-consolidated financial statements in our report dated December 9, 2024.

**Management's Responsibility for the Summary Non-Consolidated Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary non-consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary non-consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the audited non-consolidated financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standards (CAS) 810, Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

January 3, 2025

Chartered Professional Accountants

**MNP LLP**

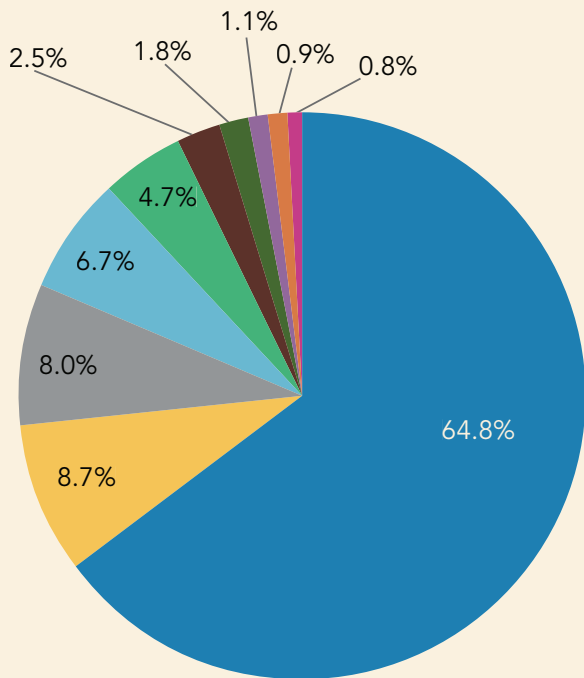
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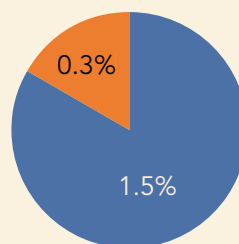
[MNP.ca](http://MNP.ca)

**Revenues**



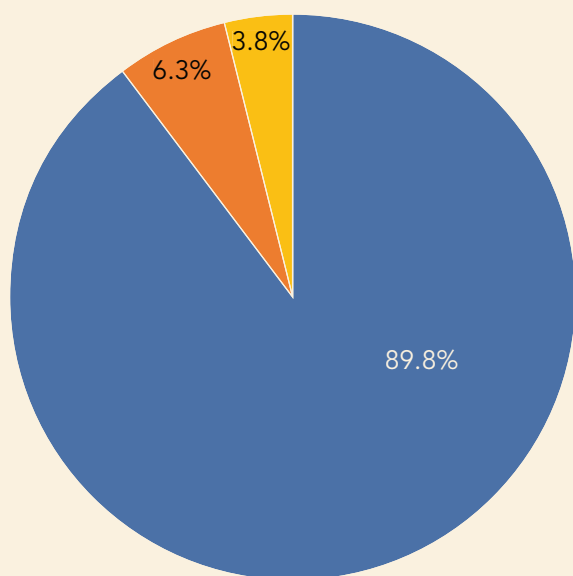
- Sponsorship
- Community projects
- Gift Catalogue
- General donations
- Special gifts
- Urgency fund donations
- Investment Income and other
- Christmas contributions
- Grants to sites
- Endowment

**'Other' Revenues**



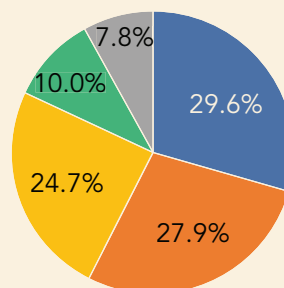
- Investment Income
- Miscellaneous

**Expenses**



- Program
- Fundraising
- Administration

**Program expenses by area**



- Africa
- Asia
- Latin America
- Ukraine
- Haiti

**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Financial Position**  
*As at June 30, 2024*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets	6,199,295	10,269,653
Investments	9,160,388	6,487,738
Due from Chalice, Inc.	594,894	454,035
Capital and intangible assets	3,581,667	3,128,871
	<b>19,536,244</b>	<b>20,340,297</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities	4,089,191	6,475,358
Deferred contributions	933,424	779,322
	<b>5,022,615</b>	<b>7,254,680</b>
<b>Fund balances</b>		
Invested in capital assets	3,581,667	3,128,870
Restricted	5,197,120	5,088,502
Unrestricted general	5,734,842	4,868,245
	<b>14,513,629</b>	<b>13,085,617</b>
	<b>19,536,244</b>	<b>20,340,297</b>

**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Operations**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2024*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Revenues</b>	<b>35,778,250</b>	<b>34,656,032</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>34,181,027</b>	<b>33,093,137</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures before amortization</b>	<b>1,597,223</b>	<b>1,562,895</b>
<b>Amortization</b>	<b>169,211</b>	<b>149,892</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>1,428,012</b>	<b>1,413,003</b>

**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Changes in Fund Balances**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2024*

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Fund balances – beginning of year</b>	<b>13,085,617</b>	<b>11,672,614</b>
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	<b>1,428,012</b>	<b>1,413,003</b>
<b>Fund balances – end of year</b>	<b>14,513,629</b>	<b>13,085,617</b>

## Giving Happiness through the Chalice Gift Catalogue



Just like mothers and fathers, the staff of the Saidia Children's Home in Gilgil, Kenya, want to find little ways to make their beautiful children feel special and loved. But as a charitable orphanage, there is rarely the means. In these moments, the Chalice gift catalogue can seem like a fairy godmother.

"Each of the 52 children at the Home received a gift of their heart desires," says Everlyn, Saidia site director. Receiving the gifts made the children "feel special in a way that comes once in a blue moon."

"I am writing this letter to inform you that I received two toy trucks," says twelve-year-old Wycleff, with gravitas. "I even found two underwears [sic] and a handkerchief. I am asking God to bless you because of your kindness."

The children were ecstatic over their new bicycles too! "Everyone was enjoying themselves and everyone was happy," says one child. But then, as in the case with well-loved bicycles, they broke.

A spirit of fatalism prevailed. "We thought that it was the end of it," the children say. But then another surprise.

"We got a Godsend person to come and repair the bikes," the children say. "We are very happy that you did this for us. We give you a wonderful thank you from the Saidia children."

"Words are not enough to express our thank you," says Everlyn. "Your effort and support are highly appreciated; it touches the lives of our children in ways that reaches their hearts."



Give a gift:  
[chalice.ca](http://chalice.ca)



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

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