

# SPRING NEWS MAGAZINE

CHALICE CANADA



# The gift that can't wait

chalice.ca



urgent  
intermediate  
support



Support children waiting for sponsorship.



One of the best parts of our site staff's jobs is the moment they get to tell a new family that their child is going to be enrolled for sponsorship. The parents and guardians are grateful for the financial assistance for their child's care. The children are excited to have a new 'godparent,' a friend who will be helping them go to school.

The staff gather the necessary information and send it to Canada so that their child can get connected with a sponsor. This process can take weeks or months – a long time to wait for this lifechanging support to begin.

That's where the 'While We Wait' fund comes in. Through this fund, the child and their family can begin participating in the program from the moment they're enrolled. Their guardian begins meeting with their Chalice family circle, receiving regular funds, and taking the first steps to a much brighter, healthier future. The child gets the same support as their sponsored friends, until their own Chalice sponsor comes aboard.

Food insecurity, and even famine, is a constant and growing challenge in our sponsor sites all over the world. Crop failure, inflation, unemployment, and conflict are pushing more families into daily hunger.

Chalice's nutrition programs focus on each country considering its own needs as each community is different. There are school lunch programs, community dining halls, and food hamper deliveries. Interwoven with the meals, there are cooking classes, nutrition education, check-ups, medication, prayer, and fun!

To support these dynamic diners, Chalice is introducing Ladles & Love, a monthly giving program.

For \$20/month, you will support a hungry child or elder.

Become a Lunch Buddy today and ladle up some love for someone in need.



LADLES & LOVE

## Help fight hunger today!

Become a lunch buddy for \$20





Spring 2024

**CHALICE CANADA**

Mailing Address:  
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**In this Issue...**

In Kenya, Brenda Receives the Gift of Education	4
For Kim, Chalice Sponsorship Bursts with Colour and Joy	5
Afraid for His Family, Ihor Got the Care He Needed	6
Aspiring Chef Yimmy Sees Bright Future	7
After Tragedy, a Family in India Rallies with a Little Help	8
Faces of Hope	9, 11
Sponsor and Psychologist Dr. Adrienne Shares the Gift of Listening, Presence	10
Lucy Says Mental Health Program 'Gave Me Value'	12
Financial Statements	13

*"I am eternally grateful to the Chalice family for their love and support"*

Brenda, pg 4

# In Kenya, Brenda Receives the Gift of Education

If there's one thing Brenda has it's confidence. She introduces herself as "a brilliant young woman, aged 20, and the third born in a family of five."

"Life has never been easy for me and my siblings," Brenda says. She grew up in a one-room wooden home in Chalice's Mikinduri site in Kenya. Her father was a cobbler and leatherworker. Her mother was a farm labourer.

"My parents could not provide for us due to the low income they earned," Brenda says.

"Getting basic necessities and education was like a dream to me. Many are the days I was an absentee in school for lack of fees."

But "this did not hinder me from being the top pupil in the class," she says, her confidence shining through.

She was six years old when she was paired with a Chalice sponsor. "This changed my life and that of my family for the better. I was assured to get a good and quality education."

With her sponsor's support, she graduated from high school in 2021. She earned a spot in a Bachelor of Education program at a local university.

It was a dream come true – but money got in the way once again.

"Brenda is a bright young girl who is determined to change her life and that of her family," says Carolyne,



**Brenda is working towards her B.Ed. thanks to her sponsor and the gift catalogue.**

Mikinduri site director.

She and her team were determined to encourage Brenda and her future. They nominated Brenda to receive the gift of post-secondary support through the Chalice gift catalogue.

Thanks to everyone who gave a 'Continuing Education' gift, Brenda has not missed a class. "I am eternally grateful to the Chalice family for their love and support," she says.

Brenda's sponsor and the gift catalogue have lifted her whole family.

Her mother, Janet, is a very active member of her Chalice family circle, dubbed 'Athwana.'

"She has been getting loans from the group," Brenda says, "which has helped her start some projects like chicken rearing and kitchen gardening which have increased her income. She can now cater for basic necessities and pay school fees for my younger sister."

"Thank you, Chalice, for bringing hope to children who come from humble families."



2023

**TOP 100 CHARITY**

Charity Intelligence's Highest Rated Charities

# For Kim, Chalice Sponsorship Bursts with Colour and Joy

When Kim was asked to paint an image of 'sponsorship,' his mind filled with vibrant, joyous images.

"The hot air balloon is the representation of Chalice for me," says the 16-year-old artist. "It symbolizes hope, journey, love, and being light and free."

Kim was sponsored through our Tondo site in the Philippines when he was six years old. From the get-go, he was always showing up for the site's programs and events.



"During one of these activities," site staff say, "he caught the attention of a facilitator who noticed his talent for drawing and acting. Because, even in Grade 1, he had already joined art contests."

"This became his passion – expressing his thoughts through drawing."

He set his eyes on the Philippine School for the Arts for his high school. His mother wasn't so sure. Eunice, the Tondo site director, paid his family a visit to help address her questions and concerns. Reassured that her son would receive a high-quality education, she gave Kim her blessing.

"With the support of his Chalice sponsor, he successfully entered the school," staff say. Today, he's in grade 11, and occasionally takes on art commissions to help offset



**Kim is one of ten artists featured in *Through My Eyes 2024*.**

his expenses. He spends his winnings from art contests to cover his allowance and art materials.

"As a sponsored child for over nine years, my journey has been significant," says Kim. "Chalice has played an important role for my family and me."

"From financial assistance to creating joyful memories, I am grateful," he says. He fondly remembers field trips, summer workshops, games, festivals, meal programs, Christmas festivities, and even dental check-ups. He also deeply values "the opportunity to attend a great school where I am today."

His joy illuminates the artwork he contributed to Chalice's "Through My Eyes" 2024 gallery of artwork by sponsored children.

"It is adorned with small and colorful hands, representing me and my fellow sponsored children. Then, it is headed towards a bright city, indicating a promising future for all of us."

"I am filled with so much joy when I look back on my memories, and I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to Chalice for making this program possible and helping us here in Tondo."



**Ihor helps his son, Vadym, with his homework.**

Other than some swelling that was expected, Ihor went home to recover in good condition. His surgeons recommended exercises, physiotherapy, and regular follow-ups. But the expenses remained.

“Desperate, I turned to the Pochaiv site with a request to receive assistance under the critical need program.”

Chalice donors generously responded. “This will help him to continue rehabilitation,” says Roman, Pochaiv site director, “as well as have money in savings to pay for food and utilities for his family while he is not working.”

“Ihor just cried,” Roman says of the moment Ihor received the money.

## Afraid for His Family, Ihor Got the Care He Needed

Ihor is out of work, his job lost to the war in Ukraine. The 43-year-old widower has spent his winter caring for his children, Inna and Vadym, at home.

“My children are participants in the sponsorship program,” Ihor says, “and I am grateful to God for it.” Inna and Vadym are part of the Pochaiv site, in western Ukraine.

On a chilly February morning, Ihor was in his yard, carrying a log to chop for firewood. He slipped, the log fell from his shoulder, and landed on his left shin.

He went for first aid at a local clinic, but after a week he was still in great pain and couldn't walk on the leg. He went to the hospital where X-rays showed his leg was fractured.

“I had no money for the operation,” Ihor says.

Now he couldn't even keep looking for work while he recovered. “There were only savings that were allocated to food and paying the bills.”

But he knew he needed medical help.

“Without a doctor's intervention, I could have been disabled for the rest of my life. I was afraid for my children,” he said.

“Then, I dared to spend the saved money on my treatment, leaving our family's future in God's hands.”

He was admitted for surgery. The surgeons inserted a plate and screws.

“He was indescribably happy that God had mercy on him, and that you were able to help him.”

He now attends appointments every three weeks to track his progress. He is healing well, and already getting around on crutches.

“I am incredibly happy that this surgery took place and that I am now at home,” he says. “I help my daughter Inna do some of the housework that can be done while sitting. We cook together with the children, and I help Vadym with his studies.”

“Thank you, that there are people thousands of kilometres away who are not indifferent to other people's fates. I am convinced once again, that God has unlimited power to work through people in this world.”

# Aspiring Chef Yimmy Sees Bright Future

Yimmy and his mother, Clesy, are elbow-to-elbow in their narrow kitchen. She's chopping chicken and he's dicing vegetables.

It's their shared language.

Yimmy was sponsored through our Cañete site in Peru when he was seven years old. Over the years, his sponsors have helped his family afford school materials, food, and home repairs.

He may only be 15 now, but he's already launching his career. The aspiring chef began culinary school along with his high school studies this year.

"My dream is to be a great chef," Yimmy says.

He says that's not just in his city, but in grand and far-flung places. It's not for the glory. "More than anything, I do it for my family," he says. "They have always supported me, and it would be a great reward to honour them with that work."

He especially looks up to his mother, Clesy. "She is always a very hard-working person, and I really like that part of my mom," he says.

Their admiration is mutual. "I am already very proud," Clesy says. "He is very dedicated in everything he does, and makes me feel proud,



**Yimmy and his mom, Clesy, are both starting their culinary careers.**

content, happy."

By a turn of providence, Chalice offered a six-month cooking and baking course for mothers this year. Clesy signed up immediately.

"My mom was really inspired," says Yimmy. "She didn't miss any classes, she stuck to it."

Clesy and fellow mothers graduated in December 2023. Now, she's already running her own business.

"I'm very happy with these six months of classes," she says. "I've

learned to prepare desserts, and I'm already working, I'm already receiving orders."

She likes that all the income from her new business is her own contribution to the household economy, and the burden doesn't lie solely with her husband.

"I'm proud of myself, of what I'm achieving," she says.

"I felt very impressed when my mom started studying and when she started to be an entrepreneur," Yimmy says. Seeing her "dedicating herself to doing something new inspired me to continue."

He can help her prepare her orders now, like starting the dough for creamy caramel dulce de leche cookies or chopping onions for empanadas.

"I am very grateful to my sponsors," says Yimmy, "because they are very great people, loving. Thank you so much for the support you give, not only to my family, but to all the families that in this site.

"For the kind affection they have shown me, for much support they have given us, I thank them very much and I send them a big hug."

# After Tragedy, a Family in India Rallies with a Little Help

Amit and his parents, Bisanti and Jiban, had a comfortable rhythm until a few months ago.

While Amit was at his high school, his father wove handicrafts made of cane, and his mother worked as a domestic helper, despite a chronic illness.

Their income was low, and Bisanti's medical bills were steep. But Amit's Chalice sponsor was always reliable and the family managed.

But Jiban started to have a few health troubles. Fearing more unaffordable medical costs, he kept his concerns from his wife and son.

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*“But by the grace of God, they received gift catalogue funds for nutrition.”*

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When he visited the Assam, India, sponsor site office, his frailty showed. Staff urged him to go to the clinic, but he replied, “Let my wife get well first, then I will go.”

Jiban waited too long. He died of cancer in the summer of 2023.

Bisanti was beside herself. Her husband's death was not only a devastating loss, but financial ruin.



**Amit and Bisanti are grateful to stock their pantry with essentials.**

“Due to their traditional custom, for a month his mother could not go out of the house,” says the Assam site staff. Bisanti couldn't work. The pantry emptied out.

“They didn't have money in their hand to purchase food for the whole month,” staff say.

“But by the grace of God, they received gift catalogue funds for nutrition.”

Chalice's gift catalogue always features 'Feed a Family' gifts. For several years, that gift has been

matched up to \$100,000 by an anonymous donor. For Amit and Bisanti, it was, literally, a godsend.

“They purchased food items for their survival during those days,” say Assam staff. “They were very grateful to Chalice.”

“We have no words to thank Chalice for being God's love for my child,” Bisanti says, “and giving him hope to complete his studies.”

“Thank you, Chalice, who give your full hearts and minds to support us.”

# Faces of Hope



**Louis**  
**CAN2259**

Cheerful Louis just wants to have fun. The kindergartener loves to play ball, go for walks with mom, and eat ice cream. Louis lives with his mother and aunt in our Cañete site, Peru. Sponsorship will help Louis start school strong.



**Flavia**  
**MDO1396**

Aspiring lawyer Flavia has many artistic hobbies, like painting and dance. She's 16 and in grade ten. She lives in a girl's home run by Chalice's Amanecer site partners in Bolivia. She loves it when her brother visits.



**Veronika**  
**LVI2731**

Veronika is an acrobatic champion! The avid gymnast took second place in last year's regionals. At 11, she knows she's destined to be a coach. Veronika lives with her parents, uncle, and sister in Lviv, Ukraine.



**Arthur**  
**TER5786**

Arthur is the second youngest of 11 children. He loves to play Lego and ride his bike with his friends. The only thing he knows he wants to be when he grows up is kind! The Ukraine war makes it difficult for Arthur's family to make ends meet.



**Liam**  
**GDL2075**

Liam is a very friendly four-year-old. His mom says he is very sociable, super affectionate and above all, very polite. He lives with his parents and three siblings in La Paz, Bolivia. Sponsorship will help Liam start life strong.



**Susan**  
**VDM2823**

Susan may only be seven, but she loves school so much she knows she'll be a teacher someday. Maybe in literature, her favourite class? Susan lives with her parents and brother in a humble house in Paraguay.



**Levis**  
**ASE2511**

Nine-year-old Levis likes caring for sick friends, so naturally he wants to be a doctor. When he's not playing soccer with his friends, it's fetch with his dog. His parents are small-scale farmers. His favourite food is fish because they live by Lake Victoria, Kenya.



**Pricillar**  
**LNC1364**

Active, brilliant, and hard-working Pricillar is in grade two. She lives in Wa, Ghana, with her parents, who are farmers. Her favorite subject is science. She dreams of becoming a nurse one day to support her family and the country.

# Sponsor and Psychologist Dr. Adrienne Shares the Gift of Listening, Presence

God whispered to Dr. Adrienne Witol as she sat in the pews at Mass.

The Sunday after her father-in-law died, a deacon came to her parish in Ottawa to talk about Chalice sponsorship. She had never heard of Chalice before.

"It just felt like God was sort of saying, 'Hey, this man we really loved and cared for is gone, but we can take that love and care but someplace else. And this is where I want you to put it.'"

She and her husband sponsored a child immediately. But for Dr. Adrienne, there was a greater tug. She had been praying for a way to use her skills as a counselling psychologist to help families in developing countries. When she learned of Chalice, it seemed like God was dropping a big hint.

"When we heard Chalice at that Sunday Mass and there was that funny, little voice and [I thought] 'this doesn't make any sense, but OK.'"

In her day-to-day work, Dr. Adrienne works with children who are patients or survivors of cancer and brain tumours. "I've always wanted to be a tool for easing pain and suffering," she says.

Growing up spending holidays with her mother's family in Mexico, Dr. Adrienne was always keenly aware that less developed countries lacked many of the mental healthcare options we enjoy. For us in Canada and the U.S., topics like stress management and self-care are common parlance. For many, it's brand new.

After hearing God's little voice, Dr. Adrienne reached out to Chalice and was connected to leaders in our



Latin American sponsor sites. With her command of Spanish, it seemed like a natural fit.

At the same time, COVID-19 upended our lives and spread death, fear, misery, and trauma across the world. Staff in our sites struggled with burnout, post-traumatic stress, and carried the sorrows of each child and parent heavily.

Over the course of several Zoom workshops, Dr. Adrienne created an online space for site staff from Bolivia, Peru, Guatemala, Paraguay, and Chile to develop skills to care for their own mental health, and in turn, that of the children and families.

She is convinced that you don't need a degree to be an effective counsellor.

"When it comes to counselling in a general sense, we're all the same if we know how to listen and

be present."

"We did lots of work on listening skills, and validating, that being present is enough. You don't have to have solutions. That's not what our role is."

A key skill she teaches is helping adults and children find ways to calm and root themselves when they start to spiral into panic or stress. A breath, a prayer.

"We spent lots of time talking about things we can do in the moment really fast," she says. "How, if I sigh, my heart rate drops and I'm ready to say, 'I'm ready to be with you.'"

Dr. Adrienne recognizes that as much as she wanted to offer valuable tools and techniques, the real power of her Zoom workshops is the time they created for site staff to share, support, and inspire one another. "I'm amazed and awed at what happened when they came together."

As is always the case when you act in love and compassion, Dr. Adrienne feels like the one who received the greatest gift.

"Really, the person who got the most was me," she says. "I needed to see that this little bit of information I have, it's nice, it's useful, but there's great work going on over here."

Someday soon, she hopes to travel to some of the Latin American sites, continuing to offer her "little bit."

As she responds to God's call for her, she encourages others to listen for their own, unique, way to offer their talents. If God is whispering, just say 'OK' - and see where he takes you next.

# Faces of Hope



**Ashitha**  
**HMC1319**

Ashitha is in grade three and knows if she studies well, she can be a doctor in the future. She likes to draw, colour, and tell her friends stories. She has a small garden at home in Kerala, India. She especially loves her white roses.



**Edmund**  
**MHC1663**

Edmund lives with his mother in a one-room house near our Serenje site in Zambia. The primary student walks to school every day with his friend. He enjoys drawing, games, and soccer, of course! He dreams of being a doctor after high school.



**Anna**  
**MG1397**

Anna wants to be a politician, so it helps that she likes civics and religion classes best. After school, the 14-year-old likes playing games with her classmates and helping around the dormitory where she stays during the school year. She lives in Mbinga, Tanzania.



**Jobit**  
**HMC1320**

Nature-loving Jobit likes English and environmental science classes best. The grade one student lives with parents and grandparents, in Kerala, India. Jobit likes to help his mom look after their goat and water their vegetable garden.



**Carl**  
**SAM3745**

Carl is eight years old and in grade two. He likes reading and writing and hopes to become a firefighter someday. Carl lives with his parents and two sisters in rural Samar, Philippines. Sponsorship will help him finish his education.



**Khaira**  
**BCO1301**

Khaira's dream is to become a teacher so she can teach others to read and write. She's in grade two and likes her music, art, gym, and health classes. Khaira is seven years old, the eldest of three, living in Manila, Philippines.



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

(801)	Monthly	\$42
(802)	Yearly	\$504



# Lucy Says Mental Health Program 'Gave Me Value'

A year ago, Lucy struggled to find hope. A tumultuous marriage left her with depression.

She and her two children moved from Peru to Santiago, Chile. It was in Santiago where she met our Chalice site staff. Her children, Mayte and Max, were sponsored.

Even before the pandemic, the Santiago site staff were reading alarming mental health statistics in Chile. They've only worsened since.

COVID-19 left loss, isolation, and disruption. Staff see a new 'pandemic' in families – one of stress, anxiety, and depression.

In response, the Santiago site created a program focused on mental health for children, teens, and their families. The Chalice-supported program lasted six months, and 350 people participated.

Through a series of workshops, a psychologist helped families better navigate stressful or negative situations and manage difficult emotions.

Lucy signed up. Listening to the psychologist, she began "to realize that she is very valuable, to increase her self-esteem," says Santiago site staff. She saw that "with communication and respect, she could give herself the place she deserved in her family."

"Before I felt like a little isolated little ant," Lucy says,



**Lucy and her children are growing closer and stronger.**

"and now I don't. I feel strong enough to make myself respected and delegate responsibilities for the good of my mental health."

Equipped with more knowledge and tools, she could help her children understand their emotions and change the dynamics at home.

The psychologist's affirming words transformed Lucy's entire self-image. "They gave me value [and] helped me to be another person, to discover a better version of myself," she says.

"Thank you, Chalice, for everything you give us. May God bless you always, so that you can send us these workshops!"

## Thank You from Chalice

In our newsletters, we are invited to enter the world of one of our sponsored children, a parent, or sometimes a donor or sponsor. Through them we also glimpse into their hearts. We see how ordinary people can hear voices from within and how they can respond to moments of hardship and challenge.

Together, they inspire and remind us how God can enter our lives through the loving kindness of others. As Ihor put it, "I am convinced once again, that God has unlimited power to work through people in this world." The reader will also glimpse how Chalice 'layers' our efforts to meet the many ways poverty impacts

lives. Through sponsorship, we are welcomed into the lives of elders, children, and parents in an ongoing relationship, which allows us to 'be there' when there is a specific challenge.

In Ukraine, using donations to our critical needs program, we were able to reach out to Ihor when a broken leg during a time when the war was already limit-



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

ing his capacity to care for his family. Through our skills-building program, we helped Clesy take a cooking and baking course for mothers so she could open a small home business. Meanwhile, donations to our gift catalogue 'Feed A Family' gift helped feed Jiban's son after his death.

"We have no words to thank Chalice for being God's love for my child."

Who are these people who hear the cry of the poor? People like Dr. Adrienne and people like you. I too have no words to thank you. Still, "thank you." In you and through you, God has unlimited power to work - in deeds of loving kindness.

**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, 2023, 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, 2023.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary non-consolidated financial statements are a fair summary of the audited non-consolidated 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 November 21, 2023.

**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

December 19, 2023

Chartered Professional Accountants

MNP LLP

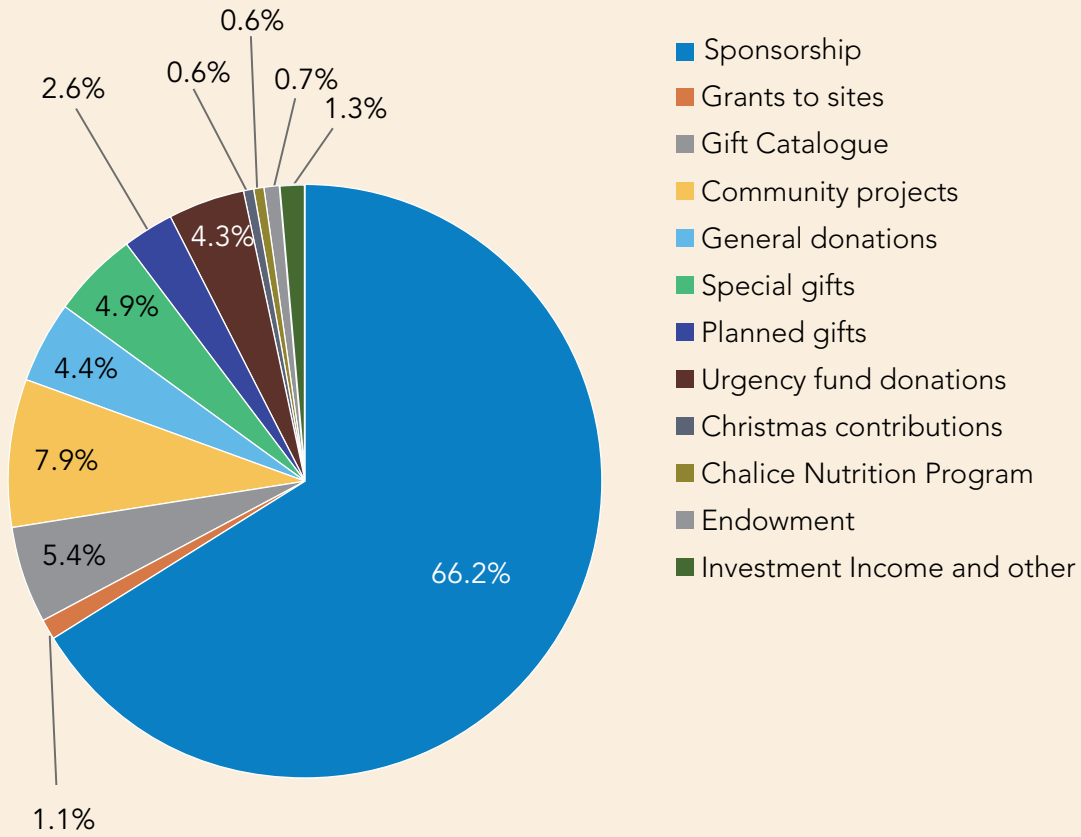
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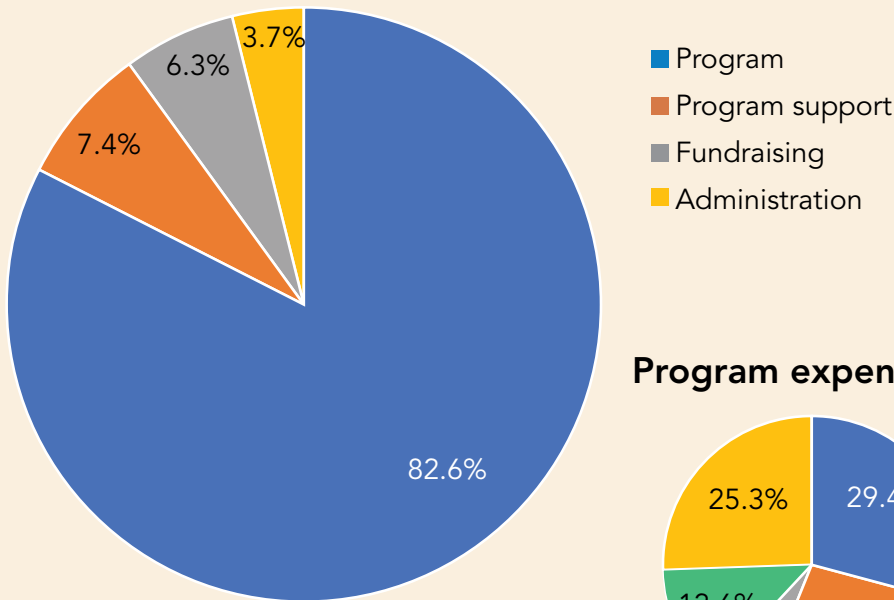


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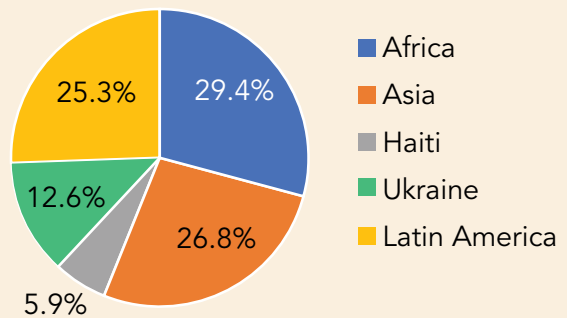
**Revenues**



**Expenses**



**Program expenses by area**



**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Financial Position**  
*As at June 30, 2023*

	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets	10,269,655	8,602,036
Investments	6,487,738	4,762,997
Due from Chalice, Inc.	454,035	819,571
Capital assets	3,128,870	2,972,535
	<b>20,340,298</b>	17,157,139
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Current liabilities	6,475,357	4,689,885
Deferred contributions	779,322	794,638
	<b>7,254,679</b>	5,484,523
<b>Fund balances</b>		
Invested in capital assets	3,128,870	2,972,535
Restricted	5,088,504	4,631,038
Unrestricted general	4,868,245	4,069,043
	<b>13,085,619</b>	11,672,616
	<b>20,340,298</b>	17,157,139

**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Operations**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2023*

	2023	2022
<b>Revenues</b>	34,656,032	33,725,117
<b>Expenditures</b>	33,093,137	34,852,721
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures before amortization</b>	1,562,895	(1,127,604)
<b>Amortization</b>	149,892	142,075
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</b>	1,413,003	(1,269,679)

**Chalice (Canada)**  
**Non-Consolidated Summarized Statement of Changes in Fund Balances**  
*For the year ended June 30, 2023*

	2023	2022
<b>Fund balances – beginning of year</b>	11,672,616	12,942,295
<b>Excess of revenues over expenditures</b>	1,413,003	(1,269,679)
<b>Fund balances – end of year</b>	13,085,619	11,672,616

# Leave a legacy of love

A gift in your Will continues Chalice's mission to help children finish school and access a world of possibilities.

- You can write a Will at any age!
- Gifts to charities leave a legacy of love.
- Leave a gift in your Will to Chalice and fill their world with possibilities.

## Call Us

**1.800.776.6855**

Peter Gordon

## Our Website

**chalice.ca**



Chalice is a Catholic international aid charity focused on child, family, and community development. We work closely with lay people, religious missionaries, and local communities to serve children and families living in extreme poverty. CRA Charity Registration # 13759 1012 RR0001

*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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