

Terms of Reference

1. To assist and encourage teacher organizations, with the possibility of enabling teachers to see different types of organizations.
2. To provide scholarships or grants to assist students to obtain teacher training in their own countries.
3. To assist and encourage teachers from developing countries:
 - who will be teaching in their own countries;
 - who have been sponsored by their own teacher organizations to obtain a special goal;
 - who are pursuing further education in (a) Ontario or (b) another part of Canada.
4. To assist schools in developing countries.
5. To offer hospitality and friendship to students in Canada from other countries.
6. To advise OTF on matters relating to international educational assistance through liaison with provincial, federal and international agencies.
7. To screen requests for aid from the Blanche E. Snell Fund and to allocate moneys in this fund.

Summary of Year's Work and Project Priorities

India -- Mark Twain described it as *"the one land that all men desire to see, and having seen once, by even a glimpse, would not give that glimpse for all the shows of all the rest of the globe combined."* I have never travelled to India, but I know many people who have had this privilege; and all those I know would agree with Twain. While the world celebrated the story of a slumdog millionaire this year, and teens everywhere danced and sang to *Jai Ho*, we here at OTF also confronted many images of Indian children, their teachers, their educational needs, and their schools.

Of the 279 requests for project funding processed by the International Assistance Committee this year, 180 emanated from India. Almost all of these came from the south eastern province of Andhra Pradesh, and almost all sought funding to cover the most basic educational needs of impoverished and dispossessed children: pens; pencils; school bags; slates; note books; school clothing. Unfortunately, by the time we reached the 91st of these requests, the Committee was compelled to inform successive applicants that we had exhausted all remaining funds for support in their area for the rest of the school year. As we plowed through the many, many requests for school materials, we noticed that we entered a semi-automaton mindset, barely reading the words on the page anymore, or absorbing the many details provided, which served

only slightly to differentiate the applications. You know how it is. We had deadlines to meet, summary tables to create, reports to write. And just as we lulled ourselves into believing that we had become hardened to the pages and pages of requests for assistance, we received an application from an organization bearing the innocuous title, “the Voluntary Action For Integrated Development Society” (VAFIDS) in Cuddapah District. VAFIDS described itself as a non-government, not for profit organization, made up of mostly women volunteers. Their request was for \$700 to provide educational and vocational training for 40 children of the lower castes, who perform tasks deemed “too ritually polluting” for the upper castes. The aim of the project, they told us, was to rescue, rehabilitate and integrate the children into the mainstream education system. On the first page of their application, they identified the children in their target group as including manual scavengers, street sweepers, sewage and garbage cleaners, grave diggers and dead body watchers. And although they warned us, by printing in bolded letters that the work done by these children is “**the lowest occupation in the world**”, still we were unprepared for what came next. The standard OTF form innocently asks applicants to briefly describe the project in terms of their perception of the needs. Here is what they told us:

VAFIDS found out of its surveys, observations that in the target locations, the so-considered lowest social stratum Harijana and Girijana caste children even at their innocent youth age and youth start their day gathering human excreta from individual or community dry toilets with bare hands, brooms or metal scrapers into wicker baskets or buckets, then carry the solid and liquid human excreta on their head, shoulders or against their hips into dumping sites or water bodies. Many of such girls are forced into prostitution and victims of sexual abuse. Some youth are forced to get into the gutters as drowning into the flowing drainage water to remove the blocks of the stream. They are drowned (immersed) up to the chin with the hazardous chances of slipping or falling down, bitten by some poisonous worms, insects, other creatures, infection of bacteria and virus etc. The scavenger children are also forced to remove dead animal carcasses. Some of them have died of carbon monoxide poisoning as a consequence of underground sewage work, open gutter work and septic ditch or septic tank work. Their health is at risk. They have to work at the cost of their childhood, schooling, health, healthy growth, human dignity and development.

It is difficult to imagine children living and working in such misery. For the members of the International Assistance Committee, as we considered this and other applications, we felt a sense of profound deficiency, for we knew with certainty that we could not possibly provide adequate funding to all of the worthwhile requests we received. At the same time, however, we felt a renewed conviction of the importance of our work.

The following section of this report provides a summary of all funded projects this year, both in India and elsewhere in the developing world.

Funded Projects

As noted above, OTF’s International Assistance Committee received a total of 279 requests this year – our largest amount to date. Just to give the Governors an idea of the exponential jump in applications that this number represents, last year we received 128 requests which, up to that

point, constituted our largest number. In 2006-07, we received a total of 98 requests, and in 2005-06, we received 68.

Of the 279 requests we received this year, we were able to approve funding to 156, although all were funded at reduced amounts to enable us to make the funds stretch as far as possible and to benefit as many people as possible. A complete list of the funded requests appears below. More in-depth summaries of all the received requests appear for the Governors' reference in **Appendix H, pages H-1 – H-77.**

The following projects received funding during 2008-2009:

2008-2009 International Assistance

1. \$380 to the St. Joseph's Church Catholic Mission in Nellore District, India, to cover tuition and school fees. (#1)
2. \$380 to the R.C.M. Elementary School in Guntur, India. (#2)
3. \$380 to the Ngele Primary School in Middledrift, South Africa, to purchase two computers and a photocopier. (#3)
4. \$380 to the Comprehensive Rural Development Welfare Society in Rapur, India, to establish a Primary Education Programme for Rural Poor children. (#5)
5. \$380 to the Social Action and Value Education Trust (SAVE) in Guntur, South India, to continue running three preschools for marginalized children. (#6)
6. \$380 to the Ave Maria Mahila Mandali in Nellore, India, to support the purchase of text books and other basic school supplies. (#7)
7. \$380 to the Jeevana Mariya Jyothi Rural Development Social Service Society in Cuddapah District, India, to provide free study materials to 25 impoverished children in 1st to 5th Class in five elementary schools. (#8)
8. \$650 to the Nomvume Junior Primary School in Alice, South Africa to construct four classrooms, a principal's office, staffroom and toilets. (#9)
9. \$380 to the Society for Integrated Development Action in Nellore District, India, to support the education of 33 impoverished students, some of whom are orphans. (#11)
10. \$650 to the Rural Women Development Society in Guntur, India, to support the education needs of 180 impoverished female students. (#13)
11. \$650 to the Assisi Ashram in East Godavari, India, to purchase study materials, school uniforms and toiletries. (#15)

12. \$380 to the Lingeletu Care Child Centre in Alice, South Africa, to provide preschool education and health care to 21 children at Ngqele II Location. (#16)
13. \$380 to the Sri Prakash Yuvajana Sangam in Andhra Pradesh State, India, to provide educational materials for schools in three villages in Kadapa District. (#17)
14. \$380 to the Mfiki Lower & Higher Primary School located in a rural and impoverished area in Middledrift, South Africa. (#18)
15. \$380 to the Khulakahle Educare Centre in King William's Town, South Africa, to purchase educational toys, outdoor school equipment, furniture, teaching aids and indoor equipment. (#19)
16. \$380 to the Umzamomhle Day Care Centre in Alice, South Africa, to provide for the educational needs of mentally challenged children. (#20)
17. \$380 to the Nkobo-Nkobo Old Age Centre in Alice, South Africa, to provide preventative and educational programs to approximately 85 beneficiaries including 40 elderly, 15 orphans, 10 disabled children, 20 of whom have HIV/AIDS. (#21)
18. \$650 to the Foundation for the Abandoned (Home for Boys and Girls) in Manila, Philippines, to provide for the educational needs (tuition fees and school materials) of 76 students. (#22)
19. \$650 to the The Haven for the Angels in Manila, Philippines, to provide a safe home and an education for the 187 children aged 6 to 12, who are under the care and tutelage of the organization. (#23)
20. \$650 to the Jasmin Child Development Center in Antipolo City, Philippines, to cover the education expenses of the 162 children (128 elementary & 34 secondary) serviced by the Center. (#24)
21. \$650 to the Ebenezer Educare Centre for Able & Disable at the Thembisa Location in Dimbaza, South Africa, to provide for the developmental and intellectual growth of 87 children aged 0 to 5. (#25)
22. \$380 to the Community Development Society - Slum Children's Primary Education Programme in Cuddapah, India, for its 'Slum Children's Primary Education Programme' project. (#26)
23. \$650 to the Golden Touch Homes in Manila, Philippines, to support the educational needs of 210 orphaned, neglected, abused, and physically or mentally handicapped children. (#27)
24. \$650 to the Mercy Childhood Care in Manila, Philippines, to support the educational needs of 185 children aged 0 to 6 years. (#28)

25. \$650 to the Society for Rural Poor Development in Cuddapah, India, for its Untouchable Children Development Programme Through Education with Day Care Center in Rural Areas project. (#29)
26. \$650 to the Society of Christu Jyothi Sisters in Cuddapah, South India, to purchase study materials for the students at the remote Karunagiri Nirmal Bhavan Orphanage and RCM Upper School. (#30)
27. \$650 to Our Lady of Lourdes R.C. Mission in Rayavaram, India, to help provide educational materials, teaching materials, playing things and furniture for four elementary schools and one high school. (#31)
28. \$380 to the Auckland Lower and Higher Primary School in Alice, South Africa, to purchase computers and printers. (#32)
29. \$380 to St. Anthony's Mission in Nellore District, India, to establish a study centre at the Rajupalem Village in Pottisreeramulu. (#33)
30. \$380 to the Society for Rural Reconstruction - Literacy Programme for Poor Children in Rural Areas in Kadapa, South India, to purchase education materials. (#34)
31. \$380 to the Social Action for Abused Kids in Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila. The organization has embarked on a program to educate and rehabilitate girls aged 7 to 17 who are victims of sexual abuse and forced prostitution. (#35)
32. \$650 to the Home of Refuge (Home for Streetchildren in Manila, Philippines, to help provide for the educational and general needs of the students at the Home. (#36)
33. \$650 to the Christian Children Mission (Home for Boys and Girls in Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila, Philippines, to provide for the long-term residential care and education of the children serviced by the Mission. (#37)
34. \$380 to the Saki's Primary School in Middledrift, South Africa, to help introduce a computer science program for Grades R to 7 into the curriculum for 2009. (#38)
35. \$380 to the Rural Development and Social Welfare Society in Sarvepalli, South India, to help provide an education for underprivileged primary and upper primary school children. (#39)
36. \$650 to the Sizamile Training Centre in Dimbaza, South Africa, to care for and provide life skills training for intellectually impaired and disabled children, many of whom have cerebral palsy. (#40)
37. \$650 to the Arogya Matha Church in Krosuru, India, to help provide for the educational needs of approximately 100 children. (#41)

38. \$380 to the Hansenites Charity Mission in Antipolo City, Philippines, to cover the tuition and school expenses for the 34 students who live with their leper parents at the Mission. (#42)
39. \$650 to the Joy Orphanage Center in Antipolo City, Philippines, to pay for the tuition fees and educational needs of the 950 children serviced by the orphanage. (#43)
40. \$380 to the Rayalaseema Rural Women Welfare Organisation in Cuddapah, India, to provide literacy materials to 25 children in the Rayalaseema region. (#44)
41. \$380 to the Rural Integrated Development Society in Cuddapah, South India, to establish a day care centre for 30 children. (#45)
42. \$380 to the Diocese of Guntur - Child Development Study Centre to provide educational material and clothing for 50 - 60 student beneficiaries of a newly established study centre in Katrapadu village. (#48)
43. \$380 to the Rayalaseema Grameena Sankshema Samstha project in Kadapa District, India, to purchase school materials, clothing, games kits and cultural programmes, and to pay for tuition fees. (#49)
44. \$380 to the Philippine Foundation for the Blind in Manila, Philippines. The foundation is currently responsible for supporting 39 blind students. (#50)
45. \$380 to the Khanyisa Educare Centre in King William's Town, South Africa, to erect a larger building for the Centre. (#51)
46. \$380 to the Cuddapah District Girijana Grameena Vyavasaya Karmika Seva Samajam in Cuddapah, India, to provide study materials, school fees and school clothing for 25 impoverished children. (#52)
47. \$650 to the Immaculate Conception Parish in Manila, Philippines, to support the Free Preparatory Education program that benefits 120 pre-school children. (#54)
48. \$650 to the Good Heart Day Care Center in Antipolo City, Philippines to build additional classrooms. (#55)
49. \$650 to the Great Knowledge Learning Center in Manila, Philippines, to provide educational supplies and school uniforms for 426 children. (#56)
50. \$380 to the Sarvajana Seva Sadan in Kadapa District, India, to provide educational courses and vocational skills for 50 dropout girls and child labourers from the slums of Muradianagar area. (#57)
51. \$380 to the Building Hope for Children organization in Manila, Philippines, to provide educational materials for 245 unwanted, neglected, abandoned and orphaned children. (#58)

52. \$380 to the Rural Development Women Welfare Society in Kadapa District, India to provide books, stationery and study materials for 58 underprivileged street children and child labourers at a day study centre in Yerraguntla. (#59)
53. \$380 to the Rural Harijan Welfare Development Society in Andhra Pradesh, India, to supply educational materials and school uniforms to 30 children in the Thummalauru Village of Pendlimarri Mandal in Kadapa District. (#60)
54. \$380 to the Rural Activity Development Society in Andhra Pradesh, India, to provide educational materials and school uniforms to 30 impoverished school children in three rural villages of Kadapa District. (#61)
55. \$380 to the Holy Cross Convent in Vizianagaram District, Andhra Pradesh, India, to support the educational needs of 24 impoverished children aged 7 – 13 in Makkuva Village. (#62)
56. \$380 to the Sandya Yuvajana Sangam in Kadapa District, India, to provide educational materials, school bags and clothing to 30 handicapped children in Tadigotla Village. (#63)
57. \$650 to the St. Michael's Boys' Home and Sahayamatha Parish in Guntur District, India, to help support vocational training for 100 boys at the Don Bosco Technical School and Printing Technology training for girls in the Parish. (#64)
58. \$650 to the Good Samaritan Educational Mission in Silang Cavite, Philippines, to replace computers, furniture and educational materials and supplies that were destroyed by a fire in October 2008. The Mission assists some 150. (#65)
59. \$650 to the St. Anthony's Elderly Center - Center of Hope in Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila, Philippines, to support the ongoing educational needs of the 134 children who are wards of the Center. (#66)
60. \$650 to the Community Development Society for Weaker Sections in Kadapa District, India, to supply one Education Promoting Centre in each of five villages in Proddatur Block with books, slates, pens, blackboards, and playing materials. (#67)
61. \$380 to the Roxeni L/H.P. School in Alice, South Africa, to help provide fencing, construct toilets, acquire a second water tank and purchase a computer. (#68)
62. \$380 to the Backward Community Literacy - Development Society in Cuddapah District, India, to purchase note books, text books, stationery, school bags and school uniforms and teaching materials for 32 children in the villages of Kamalapuram Mandal. (#69)
63. \$380 to the Rosary Charitable Trust in Vijayawada, India, to provide for the educational needs of 56 orphan children from three remote parishes. (#70)

64. \$1,000 to the Nirmala Hrudaya Seva Samstha in Guntur District, India, to help provide for the educational needs and vocational training of 200 physically challenged, orphaned and abandoned children and to help with school building construction. (#71 & #151)
65. \$380 to the Association for Integrated Development in Kadapa District, India, to provide educational materials and clothing for 25 rural children of the Dalith Christian Community in Masapet. (#72)
66. \$380 to the St. Xavier's Educational Society in Nellore District , India, to provide for the educational needs and boarding costs of 30 children in a boarding school in the town of Muthukur. (#73)
67. \$380 to the Rural Women Village Development Society in Nellore District, India, to help provide for the educational needs of 30 impoverished school-going children in Venkatachalam Mandalam. (#74)
68. \$610 to the Voluntary Organization of Rural Development Society - Navajeevan Special School for the Deaf in Kurnool District, India, to sponsor advanced teacher training in hearing impairment for three of the school's teachers. (#75)
69. \$650 to the Masizame Training Centre in Mdantsane, South Africa, to help provide training in life skills for the 145 intellectually and physically impaired children and youth who are serviced by the Centre. (#76)
70. \$380 to the Weaker Sections Organisation for Rural Training and Health (WORTH) in Sankarapuram, Kadapa, India, to upgrade a National Child Labour Special School to serve as a residential shelter for 20 of the poorest students. (#77)
71. \$380 to the St. Cecilia's Church in Secunderabad, India, to provide books, stationery, school fees and clothing for 15 impoverished children. (#78)
72. \$380 to the Arogyamatha Church in Ballepalli, Khammam District, India, to provide for the educational needs of 62 children from the tribal villages surrounding the remote parish. (#79)
73. \$380 to the Adarsha Jyothi Mahila Mandali project to purchase text books, note books, pens, pencils, slates and school uniforms for 40 children from four villages of the Gopaveram block of Kadapa District, India. (#80)
74. \$380 to the Labour Welfare and Rural Development Society in Kadapa District, India to purchase educational materials and artificial aids for 30 impoverished and disabled school children from the Repalle Village in Porumamilla Mandal. (#81)
75. \$380 to the Sri K. Pitchi Reddy Educational & Welfare Society in Kadapa District, India, to purchase text books, note books, erasers, school bags, pens, pencils, slates and school uniforms for 30 rural children in Vempalli Mandal. (#82)

76. \$380 to the Sunlight Youth Association in Kadapa District, India, to help support the educational needs of 25 impoverished children from two villages in Dinne Mandal. (#83)
77. \$380 to the Consecrated Organisation for Rural Development (CORD) in Nellore District, India, to establish a child care centre in Dasari Palli Udayagiri Mandal. (#85)
78. \$380 to the Nellore Environmental and Economical Development Society's school in Kavali Mandal, Nellore District, to provide for the educational needs of 50 children. (#86)
79. \$380 to the Pragathi Harijana Mahila Mandali in Cuddapah District, India, to provide educational material and school uniforms for 40 students in Pulivendla Mandal. (#88)
80. \$380 to the Jansi Mahila Mandali in Kadapa District, India, to provide for the educational needs of 40 vulnerable and abused children from the rural areas. (#89)
81. \$380 to the Cuddapah Rural Development for Youth Welfare Samithi Children's Study Center in Vempalli area, Kadapa District, India, to provide educational materials for underprivileged child labourers in 1st to 5th Class. (#90)
82. \$380 to the Association for Poor People's Livelihood & Employment in Proddatur, Kadapa District, India, to support a day school for 35 children. (#91)
83. \$380 to the Bhavana Rushi Yuvathi Mandali in Kadapa District, India, to provide study materials and clothing for the 50 impoverished children at the Crèche Centres in Seethapuram Village and Nandanagar Village in Vontimitta Mandal. (#93)
84. \$380 to the Voluntary Action for Integrated Development Society in Cuddapah District, India, to provide educational and vocational training for 40 children. (#94)
85. \$380 to the Weaker Section Welfare Society in Medak District, India, to educate 50 children aged 6 to 15, who are currently in situations of child servitude, child labour, bonded child labour, or working children in the mines and quarries of Kodur Mandal. (#95)
86. \$380 to the Human Effort for Life Promotion (HELP) - Street Children Development Project in Nellore District India, to provide shelter, education and technical training for 30 street children, some of whom have AIDS and some are physically handicapped. (#96)
87. \$380 to the Action for Rayalaseema Rural Integrated Development Seva Niketan in Chinna Chowk, Kadapa District, India, to provide educational materials for 40 illiterate children between the ages of 5 and 14 years. (#97)
88. \$380 to the Rural Agricultural Development Welfare Society in Kadapa District, India, to provide for the educational needs of 30 children from poor rural areas. (#98)
89. \$380 to the Grameena Vikasa Seva Sangham in Chittoor District, India, to provide educational materials for 60 children from three villages. (#99)

90. \$380 to the Integrated Developmental Education Activate Society in Cuddapah District, India, to provide educational materials for two early childhood centres in rural areas of the District. (#100)
91. \$1,000 to the Bilingual Elementary and High School in Freetown, Sierra Leone, to build a larger structure to house the school and to continue construction of the school assembly hall. (#101)
92. \$650 to the Canadian Food for the Hungry International to help rebuild the Musema Secondary School in Burundi, which was destroyed as a result of conflict between army and rebel forces. (#102)
93. \$650 to the Educate the Children's project to rebuild an elementary school in a rural village in Umuaka, Eastern Nigeria. (#103)
94. \$380 to the Cuddapah District Grama Seva Samithi in Andhra Pradesh, India, to provide educational materials for 30 children in Masapet, Cuddapah District, and also to purchase artificial limbs for 8 of the children who are disabled. (#104)
95. \$380 to the Rural Development Social Service Organisation in Nellore District, India, to provide educational materials and school uniforms to 30 impoverished girl children in three villages in the District. (#106)
96. \$1,000 to the Howard Hospital (The Salvation Army) for the Nyachuru Secondary School in Zimbabwe to purchase text books, school equipment and furniture. 200 of the 360 students are AIDS orphans. (#108)
97. \$380 to the Village Social Welfare Development Society in Nellore District, India, to establish 7 additional adult education centres in Venkatachalam and 5 non-formal education centres for children in the area. (#110)
98. \$1,000 to the Canadian Teachers' Federation to support the gender sensitization workshops offered by the All India Association for Christian Higher Education (AIACHE) in 10 colleges per year. (#111)
99. \$1,000 to the Canadian Teachers' Federation for the HIV/AIDS program of the Support Activities in Poverty Eradication and Health (SAIPEH) in Kenya, to implement new HIV/AIDS awareness workshops. (#112)
100. \$1,000 to CTF to be disbursed amongst the following five projects:
 - a) SAARC Women's Network in India, Nepal and Sri Lanka (#113)
 - b) ASEAN Women's Network in Indonesia, Sarawak, Thailand and the Philippines (#114)
 - c) All India Primary Teachers' Federation (AIPTF) Bursaries for Women in Education Program (#115)
 - d) Bursaries for Women in Education Program, Mongolia (#116)
 - e) Sierra Leone Teachers' Union (SLTU) Bursaries for Women in Education (#117)

101. \$650 to the Tanzania Education and Micro-Business Opportunity Project initiative to provide text and reference books for the Community Library in rural Tanzania. (#121)
102. \$380 to the Good Samaritan Child and Youth Care Centre in East London, South Africa, to repair the roof and to purchase a mini bus. The Centre is a residential facility for 50 abandoned, neglected, abused and orphaned children. (#122)
103. \$380 to the Good Shepard Night School in the villages of Kusugal and Hebsur in Karnataka State, India, to purchase furniture and education materials. (#123)
104. \$650 to the Holy Angels School - Centro Padre Arturo in San Jose de Ocoa, Dominican Republic to purchase reading books for the younger school children. (#124)
105. \$380 to the San Jose Parish School to construct a parish school in Rancho Arriba, a rural area 30 kilometers from San Jose De Ocoa, Dominican Republic. (#125)
106. \$1,500 to the Canadian Physicians for Aid & Relief for the following two projects:
 - a) to support the third phase of the Karatu Primary School Rainwater Harvesting Program in Tanzania. (#126)
 - b) to support an Alternative Basic Education (ABE) project for the children of the Gumuz indigenous people in Dibate, Ethiopia. (#127)
107. \$380 to the Mahila Association Service Society (MASS), to provide an education and nutrition program to lower caste children in the Chittoor District of Andhra Pradesh, India. (#128)
108. \$380 to the Society of Human Action for Emancipation of Poverty through Health, Education and Rural Development to support the education of 25 illiterate children aged 3 – 5 in the Chirala area of Prakasam District, India. (#129)
109. \$380 to the Integrated Rural Community Welfare Development Organisation in Kadapa District in Andhra Pradesh, India, to support a primary education program for poor, rural children. (#131)
110. \$380 to the United Communities Development Consortium to support its child labourer rehabilitation project in the Vemula area of Kapada District, Andhra Pradesh, India. Funds will be used to purchase educational materials for 30 needy students at a day school. (#132)
111. \$380 to the Friends Youth Association in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, India, to provide nutritional food and hygiene supplies to adolescent girls in the District. (#133)
112. \$380 to the Best Village Development Sangam in Chittoor District in Andhra Pradesh, India, to improve the infrastructure of schools in the area and to provide supplementary nutrition to the children in those schools. (#134)

113. \$380 to the Ngwabeni Junior Primary School in Alice, South Africa, to purchase outdoor play equipment for the underprivileged children attending the school. (#135)
114. \$380 to the Janaparishad Non-Profit Development Organization to purchase educational materials and school uniforms for 40 tribal children aged 5 to 14 in Doulatha Puram in Kapada District, India. (#136)
115. \$380 to the Notenga Day Care Centre in Alice, South Africa, to purchase tables, chairs, mattresses, outdoor equipment and heaters for the classrooms and educational toys. (#137)
116. \$380 to the Rural Community Welfare Development Society in Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, to establish an adult education program in five villages in Muthukur Mandal and to provide educational materials for 30 impoverished children in the village of Srikanth Colony. (#138)
117. \$380 to the St. Paul's Catholic Church in Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, to purchase educational materials and school uniforms and to pay school fees for 25 children in the surrounding villages. (#139)
118. \$650 to the Masibambane Home for the Disabled Children in Debe Nek, South Africa, to cover the costs of paving the area to make it accessible by wheelchair and to the disabled children using crutches. (#140)
119. \$380 to the Integrated Rural Women Welfare and Educational Development Social Service Society Pre-Primary Education Programme for Betterment of Rural Poor Children in Kapada District, Andhra Pradesh, India. (#141)
120. \$380 to the Women Welfare Organisation to establish a child care program for literacy development for 50 orphaned children in Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh, India. (#142)
121. \$380 to the Glorious Women Empowerment to support the educational needs of 25 physically handicapped students in five schools of Kallur Mandal in the Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh, India. (#143)
122. \$650 to the Cultural Action for Literacy and Awareness to help establish four early childhood development centres for Yanadi tribal children in Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, India. (#144)
123. \$380 to the Mother Mahila Mandali in Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, for the village poor children literacy material project administered by the women's voluntary organization, benefiting 50 children aged 4 to 7. (#145)
124. \$380 to the Rural Education Welfare Development Society in Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh, India, to continue supporting the educational needs of impoverished students. (#146)
125. \$380 to the Zamani Training Centre in King Williamstown, South Africa, to support the skills training of special needs children. (#147)

126. \$380 to the Cildara L/H. P. School in Middledrift, South Africa, to purchase a computer. (#148)
127. \$650 to the Amicales des enseignants et des enseignantes du lycee de Babong in Cameroon, to erect a building to house a library. (#149)
128. \$380 to the Society for Peoples Education and Economic Change (SPEECH) organization in Nellore District, India, to provide free study materials to 25 poor and deserving students. (#150)
129. \$380 to the Community Development Society in Nellore District, India to distribute educational materials and school uniforms to 30 poor rural children. (#152)
130. \$980 to the Riverton Family Centre in Riverton, Jamaica for the following two projects:
 - a) Family Literacy Program to train the facilitators and to purchase books and materials to establish a program that will help provide literacy and numeracy training on an ongoing basis to the 5,000 + families residing in Riverton (#153)
 - b) to purchase activity and program materials for the The Riverton Camp and International Leadership Exchange program (#154)
131. \$380 to the Lamani L/HP School in Alice, South Africa, to build a security fence for the school and school garden, and also to burglar proof the office, storeroom, staff room and computer room doors. Funds are also needed to improve school conditions by purchasing computers and a photocopier, as well as sports uniforms for the girls and boys teams. (#155)
132. \$650 to the SAI Educational Rural & Urban Development Society (SERUDS in Kurnool District, India, to provide educational materials to children at a rehabilitation and treatment centre for the disabled at Leprosy Colony, Kurnool. (#156)
133. \$400 to the Martinez School for the Deaf and Blind in Quezon City, Philippines, for the educational needs of 78 deaf and blind children and adults. (#200)
134. \$400 to the Mazenod Conference Centre in Mazenod, Lesotho, provide for the educational needs of young ex-offenders. (#203)
135. \$400 to the De Jesus School for Autistic Children in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide for the educational and developmental needs of 84 autistic children. (#218)
136. \$400 to the St. Agnes Home for Battered Women and Children in Manila, Philippines, to provide for the educational needs of the 1,230 abused women, 140 children in day care centers and 67 grade-schoolers. (#225)
137. \$400 to the Solidarite Jeunesse in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, to purchase school supplies. (#236)
138. \$400 to the RMM Sanctuary for Male Youth Offenders in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide rehabilitation for the 98 male youth between 7 and 12 years of age currently serviced by the centre. (#243)

139. \$400 to the SCG Rehabilitation for the Handicapped in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide for the educational, medical and mobility aid needs for 87 scholars. (#246)
140. \$400 to the Happy Hope Day Care Centre in Hogsback, South Africa, to fence off the school and establish a playground, to furnish the classroom, provide a heater for the classroom, build two outdoor toilets and to purchase educational toys and aids. (#247)
141. \$400 to The Gift of Smile for Children with Harelip and Cleft Palate in Antipolo City, Philippines, to support the educational needs and tuition fees for 138 children with facial defects. (#249)
142. \$400 for the Library and Community Centre project in Aklanpa, Bènin, Africa, to purchase books created in Bènin and other French-African countries, and to complete the building of the library that has already begun. (#250)
143. \$400 to the Chico's Deaf Center in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide support services such as interpreting, tutorials, traditional and non-traditional therapy, speech therapy and referrals for various needs of deaf students. (#253)
144. \$400 to the Friendship for Polio Victims Mission Center in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide for the educational needs of 88 polio afflicted school children aged 8 to 16 years. (#254)
145. \$400 for the (tree planting) project of the Lycée d'Akwa Nord in Bonamoussadi Douala in the Cameroon, to plant 200 trees, providing shade, an orchard and a botanical garden at the high school of 3,400 students. (#272)
146. \$400 to the Cultural Caregiving for the Disabled project in Antipolo City, Philippines, to provide for the care and educational needs of 138 disabled persons. (#276)
147. \$400 to the Project Teach/Konbit Pwof project in Haiti, to help cover the cost of accommodations for practising Haitian teachers to allow them to attend a seminar offered by Project Teach. (#278)

TOTAL DISBURSED: \$71,500

Summary of Countries of Origin for Funded Projects

The funded projects were located in the following countries:

Country	# of Funded Projects	Country	# of Funded Projects
Asia	2	Jamaica	2
Benin	1	Kenya	1
Berundi	1	Lesotho	2
Cameroon	2	Mongolia	1
Dominican Republic	4	Nigeria	1
Egypt	1	Philippines	37

Ethiopia	1	Sierra Leone	2
Haiti	1	South Africa	33
Honduras	1	Tanzania	5
India	180	Zimbabwe	1

TOTAL NUMBER OF COUNTRIES: 20

In addition to the above, the Committee also continued its work as the trustees of the Ontario Lesotho Educational Sustaining Fund and the Blanche E. Snell Fund.

Blanche E. Snell Estate Fund

This fund was established by Blanche E. Snell to provide an opportunity for foreign students or educators who are enrolled in an educational institution in Canada, and who indicate their intention of returning to their own countries to work within an educational environment. Grants are made from the accrued interest in the fund.

Both last year and this, we did not allocate grants from this Fund since low interest rates in recent years have led to a decline in the amount of money available for disbursement. Having now allowed interest to accrue in the Fund over a two-year period, we will be in a position to offer grants from it next year. We will create a promotional flyer in the fall, and distribute this to graduate schools of education in the province.

Ontario Lesotho Educational Sustaining Fund (OLEF)

The intent of this fund is to assist needy students in Lesotho to pursue their education, particularly in the area of teacher training. This year, the amount available for disbursement to Lesotho from OLEF was \$1,328.22. The funds were sent to Father Urbain Mailhot of the *Centre Missionnaire Oblat* in Montreal, who is our conduit for sending funds to Lesotho.

Summary & Recommendations

Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first and longest-serving Prime Minister, is famous for having said, "*Crises and deadlocks, when they occur, have at least this advantage; that they force us to think.*"

At several points this year, the members of the International Assistance Committee felt like we were facing a crisis of sorts, as we confronted head-on the challenge of finding a fair and equitable way of processing the overwhelming number of requests we received. Although the projects were completely worthy, and fell well within the terms of reference of the fund, it was simply beyond our budgetary capacity to support all of them. We asked ourselves what would

be the most reasonable and just way of determining our support – Date received? Number of individuals benefitting? Country of origin? In the end, as I have indicated above, we were obliged plainly to cut off all of the requests from India received beyond early December; a decision that was the only way forward for us, but which nevertheless weighed heavily on our hearts. Beyond this choice within no choice, we wanted to ensure that we responded with full humanity and empathy to those we were not able to assist. This, I believe we did.

We thank the Governors for recognizing the importance of our ongoing work in international assistance once again this year. The Committee members feel privileged and honoured to be part of this noble endeavour on behalf of the Federation.

Fatma Ibrahim, Chairperson
International Assistance Committee

Committee Members

Alphonse Yongoua	AEFO
Fatma Ibrahim	ETFO
Micheal Wozniak	OEFTA
Marianne Saade	OSSTF