

Making a World of Difference

Your love is being put into action around the world by more than 34,000 Priests, Brothers and Sisters known as Salesians. Salesian Missions touched the lives of over three million poor young people in 2008 through the orphanages, shelters, hospitals, clinics, nurseries and schools it operates in more than 130 countries.



YOUR GIFTS AT WORK IN OVER 130 COUNTRIES

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| AFRICA | Guinea Conakry | Uganda | Macao | SOUTH AMERICA | Belarus | Russia |
| Angola | Ivory Coast | Zambia | Mongolia | Argentina | Belgium | San Marino |
| Benin | Kenya | Zimbabwe | Myanmar | Bolivia | Bosnia-Herzegovina | Scotland |
| Burkina Faso | Lesotho | MIDDLE EAST | Nepal | Brazil | Bulgaria | Serbia |
| Burundi | Liberia | Azerbaijan | Pakistan | Chile | Croatia | Sicily |
| Cameroon | Libya | Iran | Philippines | Colombia | Czech Republic | Slovakia |
| Canary Islands | Madagascar | Israel | Sri Lanka | Ecuador | England | Slovenia |
| Cape Verde | Malawi | Kuwait | Taiwan | Paraguay | France | Spain |
| Central African Republic | Mali | Lebanon | Thailand | Peru | Georgia | Sweden |
| Chad | Morocco | Syria | Vietnam | Uruguay | Venezuela | Switzerland |
| Congo | Mozambique | Turkey | NORTH AMERICA | Venezuela | CARIBBEAN | Ukraine |
| (Brazzaville) | Namibia | Yemen | Canada | Cuba | Hungary | Vatican |
| Congo (Democratic Republic) | Nigeria | ASIA | United States | Curaçao | Ireland | OCEANIA |
| Egypt | Rwanda | Bangladesh | Mexico | Dominican Republic | Italy | Australia |
| Equatorial Guinea | Senegal | Cambodia | CENTRAL AMERICA | Haiti | Lithuania | East Timor |
| Gabon | Sierra Leone | China, People's Republic | Costa Rica | Puerto Rico | Madeira | Fiji |
| Ghana | South Africa | Hong Kong | El Salvador | EUROPE | Malta | Guam |
| | Sudan | India | Guatemala | Albania | Montenegro | Papua New Guinea |
| | Eritrea | Indonesia | Honduras | Andorra | Netherlands | Samoa |
| | Ethiopia | Japan | Nicaragua | Austria | Poland | Solomon Islands |
| | Gabon | Korea | Panama | | Portugal | |
| | Ghana | | | | Romania | |

 **salesian missions**
 2 LEFEVRE LANE • NEW ROCHELLE NY 10801-5710
www.salesianmissions.org
www.FindYourMission.org

SALESIAN MISSIONS 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



The Salesian Philosophy

In the tradition of their founder, St. John Bosco, the Salesian objective is to teach young people various trades that will help them find decent jobs and become self-sufficient, contributing members of society.

The Salesians insist that the needy help themselves in whatever way they can, even minimally. They do not encourage dependence or paternalism but strive to live up to the working maxim, *"helping others to help themselves."*





From the Director's Desk...



Dear Friend,

With my first full year as Director of Salesian Missions completed, I am proud to share with you a multitude of achievements and countless blessings. As a result of our vital work, over three million boys and girls around the globe were fed, educated, and given a loving home - millions of poor youngsters who would otherwise have no chance for a decent future.

Together, we have helped them realize how wonderful life can be. Your prayers and generous support help us teach them to be concerned for their neighbor, to grow in knowledge, and become good citizens in their community. As indispensable partners, we strive to banish poverty, ignorance, and sickness from the lives of the young, and continue to explore new and effective ways to live up to our maxim of helping others to help themselves.

The enclosed 2008 Annual Report is a witness to your generous assistance and sacrifices. In spite of the economic woes, you decided to act... to make a difference... to provide hope for a destitute child. You were there in more than 130 countries around the world with over 34,000 Salesian Fathers, Brothers and Sisters. Together we reached out to the children of the world: easing their pain, nourishing their bodies and minds, giving them the chance to live decent and dignified lives. But, this is only the beginning of what we can accomplish together.

This past year, we took an exciting and ambitious new step towards hopefully reaching out to more good people like you with our first-ever public awareness campaign. Perhaps you've even seen our short television ad promoting our work and our new Website: www.FindYourMission.org. I invite you to visit our site, and enjoy our videos and mission stories. Or you can find us on Facebook, and even follow us on Twitter. All this latest technology is new to me, but its potential is amazing. How wonderful it is to know that we can encourage so many people, so quickly, to help make this world a better place!

If the poor youth you have helped through Salesian Missions could speak to you now, they would say "THANK YOU" for the chance you've given them to live better lives and "GOD BLESS YOU" for all your prayers and support. So many of today's forgotten children will realize a happier and healthier tomorrow, and I know you will continue to work by our side to make that a reality.

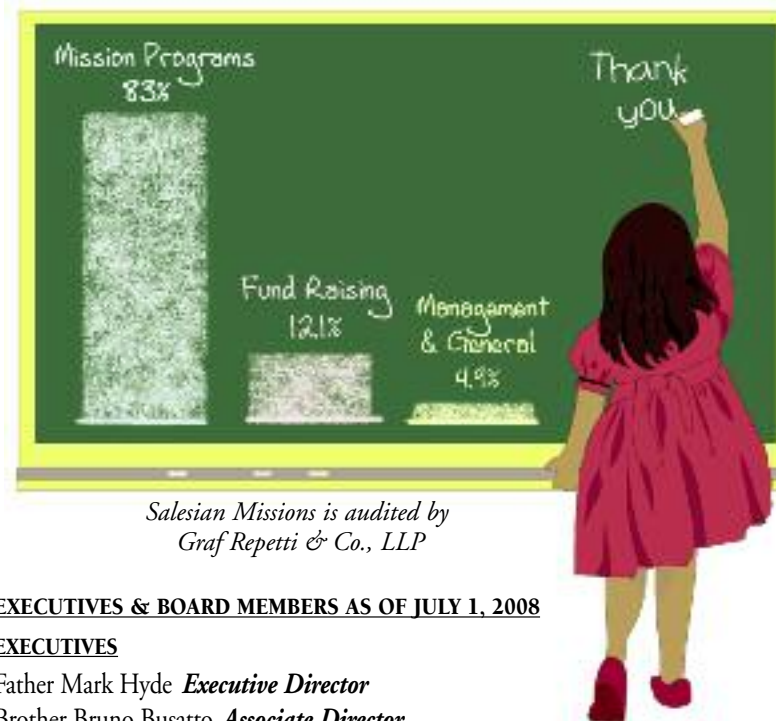
May God bless you and those dear to you abundantly. You have my sincere thanks and assurance of my prayers.

Gratefully yours,

Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B.

Distribution of Funds

How Salesian Missions allocates its financial resources



EXECUTIVES & BOARD MEMBERS AS OF JULY 1, 2008

EXECUTIVES

Father Mark Hyde *Executive Director*
Brother Bruno Busatto *Associate Director*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Very Rev. Thomas Dunne *Provincial* Father Mark Hyde *Director*
Brother Thomas Dion *Economer* Brother Bruno Busatto *Associate Director*

These Executives and Board Members serve without pay.

SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Private Support

The generous offerings of individual Americans account for most of the aid dispensed by Salesian Missions. They are received primarily through direct mail solicitations.

Schools, community groups - both secular and religious - foundations, private agencies and companies which offer matching funds account for the remaining portion of private funding.

Support From Host Countries

In line with the Salesian policy of not creating a passive dependence on outside help, Salesian Missions has fostered an attitude of "helping people help themselves." Salesian Missions seeks and obtains local funds, as well as assistance for its social programs from individuals, businesses and governments of host countries. These funds are not reflected in the distribution chart above.

International and United States Agencies

Salesian Missions expresses its thanks to *Feed My Starving Children* for its help in the Salesian overseas school lunch programs. Also, Salesian Missions would like to acknowledge the U.S. Department of Agriculture for its assistance in implementing a food for education program in Cambodia.

Salesian Missions has also received grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development, the United States Department of State, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and several other U.S. Foundations. Matching grants have also been received from the Belgian Government through COMIDE, a European NGO.

Statement of Activity

SUMMARY OF SUPPORT, REVENUE & EXPENDITURES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Support & Revenue</i> | |
| Public Support | \$ 49,082,227 |
| Federal Funding | 4,628,028 |
| Investment Income | <u>-3,741,499</u> |
| TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE | <u>49,968,756</u> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Expenditures</i> | |
| PROGRAM SERVICES | |
| Mission Support | 30,035,911 |
| Educational Ministries | 4,993,740 |
| Religious Ministries | <u>11,532,081</u> |
| TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES | <u>46,561,732</u> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>SUPPORT SERVICES</i> | |
| Management & General | 2,801,726 |
| Fund Raising | <u>6,754,037</u> |
| TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES | <u>9,555,763</u> |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURES | <u>56,117,495</u> |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| SUPPORT & REVENUE | |
| OVER EXPENDITURES | <u>-6,148,739</u> |

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>NET ASSETS</i> | |
| Unrestricted/Board Designated | 12,893,290 |
| Temporarily Restricted | 4,859,765 |
| Permanently Restricted | <u>1,867,354</u> |

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| TOTAL NET ASSETS | <u>19,620,409</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|



Trade & Agricultural Schools

A strikingly distinctive contribution of Salesian Missions is its 559 Trade/Technical schools and 91 Agricultural schools serving youth in developing countries. Through the teaching of job skills and agricultural science, poor youngsters are able to earn a decent living while contributing to the betterment of their own communities.

Trade schools feature regular four-year courses designed to result in qualified workers able to take their place in industry. Some skilled trades commonly taught are tool and die-making, printing, mechanics, electronics, welding, dressmaking, woodworking, computer and office skills.

In rural areas, knowing how to farm can make the difference between eating and going hungry. Since their beginning, the Salesians have made special efforts to help those in rural areas do a better job of feeding themselves and others in their communities. Agricultural schools have become centers for training people in modern farming methods and new marketing techniques.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In 2008, the Don Bosco Training Center opened in Ahungalla, Sri Lanka offering hope to countless children. Youngsters learn trades such as tool and die-making, information technology, welding, machinery and motor repair.

And in the Philippines, specialized agricultural centers are teaching youngsters modern farming skills as well as how to use and maintain machinery that make tilling, planting and harvesting more efficient.



Education

By far the most important contribution that Salesian Missions has made to the youth of the world is in the field of education. In 3,408 schools around the world, the Salesians help over two million young people develop their personalities to the fullest so as to attain intellectual, emotional and spiritual maturity.

No stronger and more effective means of breaking the cycle of poverty and underdevelopment exists than education. For well over a hundred years, the Salesians have experienced how education gives the impoverished a sense of personal dignity and worth through their skilled work and consequent contribution to society.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: After being forced to close a few years ago due to inadequate staffing, the Dominic Savio Primary School reopened in Papua New Guinea in 2008. Nicknamed "The Miracle School," it offers hundreds of youngsters opportunities that will improve their lives now and in the future.



Moral and Spiritual Direction

John Bosco was a zealous priest who believed that the only way to truly battle poverty, illiteracy, and hunger was with reason, religion, and kindness. His educational process was a pathway of prayer, liturgy, sacramental life, and spiritual direction. To this day, this is the foundation on which all our youth programs and school curriculums are built. The result, hopefully, is young people with good morals, a respect for life, and a lasting faith. Also, our Seminaries around the world are shaping young men into future Salesian Fathers and Brothers who will be tomorrow's leaders of faith and morality. Currently, we are fortunate to have over 3,300 candidates in our Seminaries who have been called by God to serve His church.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Without the Salesian Chapel Program, many people in the most remote and rural areas would not have a proper place to worship. With the help of good people in the USA, Salesian missionaries around the world were given the funding to start construction of 42 chapels in 2008.



Salesian Lay Missioners

In the last 28 years, the Salesian Lay Missioner (SLM) program has sent over 350 lay men and women to work alongside the Salesians in over 20 different countries. SLMs work in some of the most impoverished areas on Earth: Bolivia, China, Ethiopia, India, Myanmar, Rwanda, Sudan, among many others. It is a unique opportunity to give one's talents, skills, and time in the hopes of giving new hope to those in need. But as it is with all Salesian works, the ingredient most essential to having success is a caring and loving presence.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: For the last two decades, Sudan has been ravaged by Africa's longest and bloodiest civil war. With relative peace now, the country is faced with the immense task of rebuilding what was destroyed: schools, churches, infrastructure, etc. With the guidance of the Salesians, the Salesian Lay Missioner program sent the first two volunteers to work in the city of Tonj. While there, the SLMs worked at one of the Salesian schools teaching and helping to organize activities for the hundreds of children whose childhood was so tragically halted.



Medical Assistance & Healthcare

The Salesians extend their work to the ill and disabled through 216 clinics and hospitals located mostly in rural areas. These facilities offer children and families a source for emergency medical care, routine check-ups and medications.

The Salesians also manage counseling, treatment and community outreach programs relating to HIV/AIDS, hygiene, mental illness and even Hansen's disease (leprosy) which is still present in South America, Asia, India and Africa.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: The Foyer-Lakay Program in Haiti provides urgent medical care to poor and homeless children who have nowhere else to go. Many of these youngsters are victims of violence and abuse and are now safeguarded from further harm. The program also gives them the opportunity to attend class and participate in recreational activities.



Emergency Relief

One of the ever-growing activities of Salesian Missions is emergency relief. Time and again, the Salesians have become involved in emergency efforts wherever there are victims of natural disasters, tragic circumstances or civil strife. Some of the current activity includes relieving famine in Africa, assisting flood victims in India, offering refugee assistance in Europe, and feeding undernourished children in the Philippines and in the slums of Haiti.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Homes, schools and businesses were destroyed due to widespread flooding in Santa Catarina, Brazil in late 2008. More than 160,000 individuals were without electricity, clean drinking water and other necessities, while many others were forced to flee their homes. Salesian communities in the area offered immediate assistance by providing food, clothing and shelter to the victims of the disaster.



✧ Not just caring for the poor children of the world but also teaching them to care for themselves! ✧

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Family Assistance and Development of Women

Guidance, counseling, and assistance for troubled families are important features of the Salesian social outreach programs. This activity is centered in 850 nurseries and in the many Salesian parishes and youth clubs. A stable and happy family life is the foundation for a healthy society. That is why it is one of the main concerns of the Salesians.

Half of the Salesian Family is composed of dedicated women, the Salesian Sisters, who give their lives for the education and advancement of women. In a variety of programs from elementary schools through college, the Salesian Sisters provide excellent educational opportunities for girls and women.

The outstanding quality of their training enables their alumnae to qualify for jobs on every level of production and management.

In addition, the Salesian Sisters are active in many social programs directly geared to working women, their issues and their advancement.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In 2008, Salesian lay missionaries worked with young mothers in Bolivia providing information regarding health and hygiene issues specific to women and young children. For many of these women, it was the first time anyone discussed these topics with them. The lessons will have a lasting effect as these young women can now teach others in their communities what they have learned.

Children of the Streets

One of the phenomena of modern times is the great increase of children living on the streets in the cities of underdeveloped countries around the world. The Salesians have addressed this problem by providing youth shelters and homes, which offer food, clothing, counseling and educational opportunities. Efforts are also made to reunite these children with their families if possible.

The Salesians are also active in communities with educational seminars and child-advocacy programs that promote and protect the well-being and the rights of these vulnerable boys and girls.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In 2008, the Lumbre Center opened in Madrid, Spain. Collaborating with the Daughters of Charity, it offers coursework, vocational training and specialized guidance to help at-risk youth identify and prepare for a career. Disadvantaged children will improve their chances of becoming contributing members of society and having a positive influence on others in their community.



Youth Clubs

Youth clubs are a very important sector of Salesian service to the young. Generally, they function side by side with Salesian schools and serve all the youngsters of an area, whether or not they attend the schools.

Their objective is to keep the young occupied in constructive activities during their leisure time and, through organized projects suited to age, to contribute to their growth and maturity. Several of the youth clubs have small medical clinics and, where needed, a lunch program to protect children from malnutrition.



2008 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In Angola, the Don Bosco Sports Project extends athletic opportunities to needy children, teenagers and young adults living in squalid conditions. Children have also been able to play soccer, the country's most beloved sport, for the first time. This program has become successful because the primary requirement for participation is regularly attending class. It promotes social inclusion and emotional development, increasing the self-esteem of each child.



The Mission...

John Bosco was more than a priest from northern Italy. He was a priest who heard a special call to bring all young people to the awareness that God truly loves them. But John Bosco was not a man who was content only with words. By his actions he stood against an anti-religious age and reached out to the orphaned and abandoned children of the streets. He taught them working skills, restored their dignity, and gave them direction towards a positive and moral life.

John Bosco's philosophy was practical: Love what the young love! This sincere identification with the young effected a confidence and trust that would reach thousands of poor children in his lifetime, until his death on January 31, 1888, at age 72. Forty-six years later he was declared a saint. Saint John Bosco's legacy lives on today in a way that even he - a man of great vision - may have never imagined.

"It is not enough to love the young. They must know that they are loved." - St. John Bosco



Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B., Director of Salesian Missions, on a recent visit to one of our missions in Ecuador. He is seated with Henry, a child of the streets, now being cared for in a safe Salesian shelter.

The Beginning

It was the mid-1850s and times were bad for religion. The radical government in Italy was closing convents and monasteries and showing contempt for religion.

In the midst of this turmoil, a young priest wanted to begin a religious society of Brothers and Priests to help him care for poor youth. He knew that the government would never allow this. So with gospel shrewdness, he made friends with the Minister of Internal Affairs (who had written the anti-religion laws), and learned how he could get around the laws and establish a religious society.

Finally, on December 18, 1859, this young priest named John Bosco and eighteen young men - who were once poor street children he cared for - began a new society. John Bosco called them the "Salesians" after St. Francis de Sales, Bishop of Geneva, whom he had always admired for his kindness and religious zeal.

A new era in caring for young people had begun.

*"He who welcomes a child in My name, welcomes Me."
- Luke 9:48*

The Mission Today

With Priests, Brothers, and Sisters numbering more than 34,000, the Salesians serve almost three million youth in over 130 countries. The Salesians improve the lives of poor youngsters through the teaching of skilled trades and scientific agriculture. There are 225 Salesian orphanages and shelters, 216 hospitals and clinics, 850 nurseries and 3,408 schools. Of these, 559 are vocational and technical, 91 agricultural, 1,440 high schools, 23 colleges, and 1,295 elementary schools.

In all these various programs, the spirit and the memory of John Bosco live on. The men and women who have followed in his footsteps have dedicated their lives to be friends, counselors, and educators of poor young people.