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 2009 through the orphanages, shelters, hospitals, clinics, nurseries and schools it operates in more than 130 countries.
From the Director’s Desk...

Dear Friend of Salesian Missions,

While preparing this Annual Report, I reflected on what we accomplished this past year. Thanks to the generosity of caring people like you and the dedication of over 34,000 Salesians around the world, three million boys and girls will have the chance for a much brighter future. We are blessed to have good friends like you!

As caring partners, you should find joy in knowing that together we are making a difference in the lives of so many children. They are cared for in a safe and healthy environment, while learning skills they need as they mature. This will not only have a positive impact on their lives, but they can make a difference in the lives of others in their community. Through our continued partnership, I’m hoping we can banish poverty and other hardships so these youngsters can experience the joys of childhood and prepare for the future.

The enclosed 2009 Annual Report is a testimony of your generous assistance and sacrifices. We know many individuals are going through economic hardships, which makes your support that much more meaningful. You have continued to open your hearts to needy young people to make our life-saving work possible.

I will continue to be a responsible steward of your financial offerings and our Salesians will continue to feed, clothe and educate as many poor young people as possible. I am hopeful that through the kindness of the human spirit, poor youth everywhere will be able to live a life of dignity and be treated with the respect they deserve.

I am sure that the many children and families who have been touched by your generosity and prayers say “THANK YOU” and are comforted in knowing that you care so much about them. Please be assured that they remember you in their prayers... as I also do.

May God bless you and those near and dear to you with His love. Thank you for partnering with us to make our world a better place.

Gratefully yours,

Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B.

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

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Distribution of Funds
How Salesian Missions allocates its financial resources

LEADERSHIP
Father Mark Hyde, S.D.B.,
Executive Director of Salesian Missions, Inc.
Brother Bruno Bu perso, S.D.B.,
Associate Director of Salesian Missions, Inc.
Very Rev. Thomas Dunne, S.D.B., Provincial of Eastern U.S. and Canada
Brother Thomas Dunn, S.D.B., Economist of Eastern U.S. and Canada

These individuals also serve on the Board of Trustees. They do not receive any salary or 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 Hungry 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 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.

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Statement of Activity
SUMMARY OF SUPPORT, REVENUE & EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

Support & Revenue
Public Support $ 34,778,228
Federal Funding 8,039,675
Investment Income 3,678,415
TOTAL SUPPORT & REVENUE 46,497,318

Expenditures
Program Services
Mission Support 18,232,440
Education Ministries 5,290,327
Religious Ministries 12,316,369
TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES 35,839,136

Support Services
Management & General 2,218,497
Fund Raising 3,870,193
TOTAL SUPPORT SERVICES 6,088,690
TOTAL EXPENDITURES 43,947,826

Support & Revenue over Expenditures 2,549,492*

NET ASSETS
Unrestricted/Board Designated 14,981,155
Temporarily Restricted 8,072,318
Permanently Restricted 1,872,144
TOTAL NET ASSETS 24,925,817

* This excess is due to gains on investments held for future use. These funds have already been assigned for distribution in 2010.
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.

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 1,408 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.

Moral and Spiritual Direction

John Bosco was a zealous priest who believed that the 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.

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.

2009 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In 2009, the Salesians helped construct new homes for displaced youngsters and their families, provided job training of new trades to those left unemployed and helped farmers recover.

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.

2009 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: In 2009, Salesians were preparing to establish a mobile clinic for survivors of the civil war in Sri Lanka. It will include two pediatricians, three medical doctors and five nurses. Youngsters will have reason for hope as they receive medical care in a safe and healthy environment. This is an important first step in the healing and rebuilding process.

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 Salesian missionaries in over 20 different countries, such as: Bolivia, China, Ethiopia, India, Myanmar, Rwanda, and Sudan. It is a unique opportunity to give one’s talents, skills, and time in the hopes of giving new hope to some of the poorest children on earth. But as it is with all Salesian works, the ingredient most essential to having success is a caring and loving presence.

2009 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: Last year the SLM program expanded its presence to 3 African nations: Ethiopia, Rwanda, and South Africa. Three SLMs volunteered in Ethiopia, assisting Salesian missionaries at food distribution centers, primary/secondary schools, street children outreach, and sports programs. In Rwanda - a country ravaged by genocide only 15 years ago - 2 SLMs began working with the Salesians in Kigali at a boarding/vocational school as well as working on self-sustainable farming techniques. In South Africa the first SLM was sent to work at the LoveMatters program – a program aimed at addressing the AIDS pandemic of the region.

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

2009 PROJECT HIGHLIGHT: The City of Hope project in Zambia, Africa has provided a safe home for needy and troubled young girls and young women since 1993. Salesian Sisters help them recover from abuse and trauma with counseling, love and guidance. Through education and the promotion of life skills, they become independent members of society. Generous donations have allowed housing and school construction to continue, and by 2009 over 140 women and girls have been provided a doorway to a brighter future.

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 antireligious 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

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—beged 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 apostolic zeal.

A new era in caring for young people had begun.

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.

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