



CATALYST

GIVING EDITION WINTER 2024

**SPONSORSHIP
SUCCESS STORIES**

**ENCOUNTER KENYA
TRIP HIGHLIGHTS**

**SPECIAL PROJECTS
PROGRESS**

...and More!



international
child care
ministries



After 16 years in a role, some may be tempted to focus on the “same old, same old”. The verse that called me to this position was Isaiah 58, and it is a passage that still rings true to me today. In fact, it is becoming even more meaningful to me the longer I dwell on it. Every time I am on a Zoom call with a national leader, or see a WhatsApp message from a regional leader sharing a child’s story, I see Holy Spirit inspiration everywhere I look. I can honestly say that even after 16 years, my days are never boring or tiring!

The international trips that I take are full of learning about cultures, building bridges, and most importantly, interacting with the children. Partnering with our leaders is such a joy to me, and knowing that our children are in the care of gifted, compassionate, Jesus-loving people, is beautiful I am honoured to serve with each and every one of them.

Thank you for being an active participant in the program! Without you, ICCM Canada would not exist, and thousands of children would not be cared for holistically. Whether you choose to sponsor, or are contributing to a special project, such as a food fund, water filters, or helping a university student with their tuition fees, you are changing the trajectory of a child’s life. As you read through the stories in this issue of The Catalyst, I hope that you are inspired by the huge difference that you are making in the life of a child, their family, their community and their country. There are so many opportunities to give, partner and pray for our children. May God use you for His purposes to the ends of the earth!

Paula Moriarity
ICCM Director, Canada

TABLE OF CONTENTS



WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1966, International Childcare Ministries (ICCM) is a non-profit organization partnered with the global Free Methodist Church. Through child sponsorship and community programs, ICCM seeks to meet needs, both physical and spiritual, among children in the developing world.

06 KENYA

08 ENCOUNTER KENYA HIGHLIGHTS

12 GHANA

14 CAMBODIA

17 ENCOUNTER CAMBODIA 2025

18 BURUNDI

21 WUNDERS

22 HAITI

24 SRI LANKA

25 ETHIOPIA

ABOUT US



Activating Change Locally to Impact Children Globally

Poverty is more than physical hunger — International Childcare Ministries invests in the whole child. We know that community transformation occurs when its future leaders are fully supported.

A WORLD WHERE EVERY CHILD IS LOVED, SAFE, AND FREE TO DEVELOP HIS OR HER GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL

We believe that transformation happens when people come together. Thanks to support from churches and individuals worldwide, we are able to operate in the following countries.

COUNTRIES

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| • Brazil | • Ghana |
| • Burundi | • Haiti |
| • Cambodia | • India |
| • DR Congo | • Kenya |
| • Ecuador | • Philippines |
| • Ethiopia | • Sri Lanka |





KENYA

THE IMPACT OF THREE COWS

Rev. Patrick Musigali, School Director

Animal Project Progress In Light and Life Free Methodist Academy

On behalf of the Light and Life Academy, I take this opportunity to write a brief report on how beneficial the animal project has been to our school community. In 2014, the ICCM office gave us a gift of three cows in the school. These cows have continued to multiply and benefit the school in a variety of ways.

First, the animal project has provided opportunities for our students to learn how to rear domestic animals. With the introduction of the new curriculum, agriculture is one of the pivotal subjects taught in the school. Children are learning practical skills in feeding, cleaning, and general management of farm animals.

We can't forget to acknowledge another benefit provided by these cows, which is the production



Students pose for a photo with one of the cows

of compound manure! This manure is used to fertilize pastures, reducing the cost of feeding the animals. So far, about ten tonnes of compound manure have been produced from the cow's dung.

In Kenya, tea is a very popular drink, especially to be taken during breakfast and brunch. Kericho, where the school is located, is home to many



A student adds feed to the cow's trough

farms where tea is grown for local use and export. Thanks to our cows, students, teachers, and workers at the school are able to enjoy quality tea with the added health benefits of milk! Recently, the school has also been able to supply enough milk to be consumed during the National Pastors' Wives and Female Pastors Seminar, a four-day seminar hosted by the school.

We deeply appreciate these gifts from ICCM. In June of 2022, we received an additional cow, which has been named Monica. We like this cow because of its productivity— even though it is not a pure breed, it is able to give us ten litres of milk per day. In August of 2022, Monica calved her first calf, and as of today she has calved three times! The first calf was distributed to one of the church members. The other two calves are still in the school, one of which is seen in the picture below.



Paula (left) with Purity (right)



Achieving Dreams

Paula Morarity

I met Purity when I traveled to Kenya for the first time in my role at ICCM, back in 2009. While we were visiting classrooms, the school director asked if a student would pray for the visitors. Purity quickly put up her hand, and prayed the most powerful prayer that I had ever heard from a young child! Since that day, she has held a special place in my heart.

Purity Nchore

My name is Purity Nchore from Kenya, and I am a beneficiary of the ICCM sponsorship program. I am immensely grateful for the sponsorship that paved the path of my education journey. Through your generosity, I was able to focus on my studies without financial challenges, and ultimately achieved my dream of becoming a pharmacist. This sponsorship not only alleviated the financial burden, but also instilled in me a sense of determination to give back to the community that supported me.

As a practising pharmacist, I aspire to further my education in the field of radio pharmacy, and make meaningful contribution to the advancement of healthcare. I am profoundly thankful for the opportunities that you have afforded me— I believe that my journey stands as a testament to the transformative power of sponsorship. I hope my story will inspire others to support aspiring professionals on their paths to success.



Visiting the Rift Valley



Encounter Kenya team meets ICCM Kenya staff



Praying with Kenya alumni



encounter KENYA TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

Encounter trips are a unique way to experience the impact of ICCM's mission in a specific country. Touring schools, meeting sponsored children, and fellowshiping with local believers are just a few of the opportunities the team had during Encounter Kenya in 2024!



Helping to assemble Wunders kits



The team visits a classroom

SHARNTELLA MEETS THE ISAAKS

Anne Ngaruiya, ICCM Kenya

We drove deep into the Mautuma region, along a steep and rocky road winding through dense green vegetation growing along the roadside. One can only imagine the car, filled with infectious laughter, warm smiles, and beaming faces as the Isaaks excitedly prepared to meet Sharntella, who until today they only knew through pictures and letters. It felt like an adventure ready to unfold, full of surprises and plenty of emotions. In Kenya, January is usually hot and dry, but this year was different—rainy and windy, with a chill in the air. The Isaaks loved the weather, they said it was warm and therefore wore t-shirts like it was summer!

Eventually we arrived at the serene and peaceful homestead where Sharntella lives with her family. A crisp breeze greeted our senses as we took in the sight of the two houses, one mud-walled with a grass thatched rooftop, the other a black painted wooden house. As we alighted from the van, smiling faces greeted us with open arms.

Sharntella is the youngest in her family of seven. She loves dogs, especially her own dog named Tiger. She also

loves reading, and playing soccer after school. In fact, her mother says that Sharntella once crafted a paper ball using materials collected around the homestead. The Isaaks brought her a new soccer ball from Canada that she now uses to play every day!

After introductions were complete, the Isaaks joined Sharntella's family and friends in a large tent outside, where they were served a feast of local foods. Food sharing in Kenya is a ceremony that brings people together and creates long-lasting bonds, and today was no exception! Laughter and smiles filled the air as the families enjoyed the mealtime conversations.

Sharntella was filled with joy and gratitude and her smile stretched from ear to ear. She was astounded that individuals from a distant land could be so generous. When it was time to say goodbye, no one wanted to leave. We exchanged gifts, and took pictures and videos, wishing we could pause the moment in time. Both families will surely carry with them memories of this day to last a lifetime. We pray their story will help to inspire others to do something amazing for a vulnerable child!

Sarah Kane, ICCM Sponsor

As a member of the board for ICCM Kenya, I had the opportunity to travel to the country as part of the Encounter Kenya trip. I enjoyed exploring the country, and visiting various schools in both urban and rural areas. I was thrilled to get to know these children, as well as ICCM Kenya alumni who are now in college, and to witness the benefit that ICCM sponsorship has had in their lives. One young woman, who grew up in one of Nairobi's slums, had always dreamed of working for an NGO. Now, she is a staff member at ICCM Kenya. I had a wonderful time speaking with her and learning more about her journey! Visiting Kenya revealed in a personal way the significant impact that this ministry is making on the lives of countless children.



YOU ARE INVITED!

ENCOUNTER CAMBODIA 2025

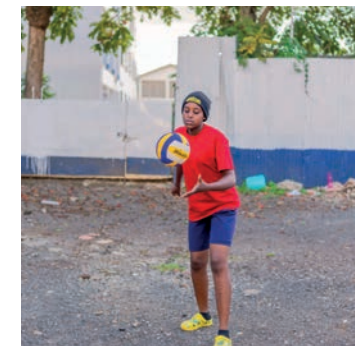
Encounter Cambodia will take place in May of 2025. See page 17 for more information.



David Kane, ICCM Sponsor

I was invited to the trip by my sister, who is on the ICCM Kenya board, and a friend of mine who grew up in Kenya, is a pastor and is also on the ICCM Kenya board. During our Journey, we traveled from Mombasa on the Indian Ocean all the way to Kisumu on the banks of Lake Victoria, stopping along the way in Nairobi, Kericho, and Eldoret. As we traveled throughout the country I was struck by its natural beauty, the friendliness of its people, and their motivation to improve their country. The students that we met were eager to learn in spite of their circumstances, and parents worked hard to provide a better life for their children. We met with graduates of the ICCM program, learning how it had enabled them to make a positive impact in their communities.

I was also struck by how God is moving among the Kenyan people. We visited neighbourhoods in the predominantly Muslim city of Mombasa that resounded with the words of Jesus on Sunday mornings, and visited a church in Kericho that had constructed a three story building in order to accommodate all the children who arrived for Sunday school each Sunday morning. We also saw God at work in repairing relationships that had been damaged by ethnic violence. I am so glad that I accepted the invitation to participate in the Encounter Kenya trip! The opportunity not only allowed me to explore a beautiful country, but also gave me insight into the ways God is working in Kenya.



YOUTH CAMP-OUT!

Anne Ngaruiya

The day had finally dawned! For some, it was an ordinary Monday morning, yet for the students of Moi Girls High School, it carried a weight of anticipation and excitement. As the sun stretched its golden fingers over the horizon, excited students streamed in to the school, eager smiles ready for the week's adventure.

We were expecting close to four hundred sponsored high school children to attend the camp, coming from many different regions of the country. As they began the drive to the capital Nairobi, the youth were ecstatic, some of them had never been to the "City Under the Sun" as many call it. The learners were excited to see the skyscrapers and towering buildings, the clean streets chocked with traffic as far as their eyes could see, and the colourful but loud minibuses popularly known as "Matatus," which serve as the primary mode of public transportation.

One by one the students were registered, oriented and assigned their rooms for the five

nights they were going to be in the camp. Excited chatter and laughter filled their rooms that night after dinner, no one wanted to retire to bed. The following day started early with the students gathering for the morning worship service, loudly praising His name and giving Him glory!

The theme for the camp was the "Wise Beginning" from Proverbs 9: 10, which says "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding." The students had opportunity to interact with speakers and counsellors on various topics, including youth and ministry, adolescence challenges, relationships, drug abuse, sexuality, social media and mental health, and career choice guidance.

As the camp came to a close, the youth expressed how it impacted their lives in ways they could have never imagined! In fact, close to a hundred students gave their life to Christ! Praise the Lord!



Voget Free Methodist Basic School

James Donkor, Ghana National Coordinator

OBJECTIVES

- To offer** the best form of spiritual and moral education to children, based on Christian values, and at affordable cost.
- To stand out** as a Christian mission based on the principles of love, honesty and compassion, witnessing to parents who have not accepted Jesus Christ as their Saviour.
- To equip** the next generation with practical skills needed for the future development of the nation.

THE 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR

At the close of the 2023/24 academic year, the Parent/Teacher Association and management of the school resolved to start the Junior High School program for the new year, using the Church auditorium as a classroom. The school has reopened and the required teaching staff have been employed. Reports reaching the school management from parents whose children had to be sent to other schools for lack of classrooms are positive. These students are continuing to excel academically, and their new teachers are impressed by their exemplary behaviour.

The school has much positive impact in the community. The relatively low fees paid and the flexible mode of payment compared to other schools in the area lessens parents’ financial burden. People in the community are happy for the existence of the school, as the students and the staff patronize the



A Student copies lines from the Lord’s Prayer

surrounding businesses. The school also allows church members the opportunity to witness to parents in their community who have not accepted Christ. Church members mingle and interact with parents during Parent/Teacher Association meetings, school programmes such as career day, African Union Day, and on graduation days.



CHALLENGES

The school’s limited resources and classroom space make it difficult to accommodate the students in their junior high and high school education. As a result, the graduates of the first 6 grades were sent to other schools at the end of the 2023/24 academic year. Transportation is another challenge, as the mini bus used to bring students to and from school is unreliable and breaks down occasionally.



“FEED THE HUNGRY, AND HELP THOSE IN TROUBLE. THEN YOUR LIGHT WILL SHINE OUT FROM THE DARKNESS, AND THE DARKNESS AROUND YOU WILL BE AS BRIGHT AS NOON.”

ISAIAH 58:10



56

Total school enrolment
as of August 31, 2024

29

Girls enrolled in
nursery-grade 6

27

Boys enrolled in
nursery-grade 6

CAMBODIA



T-SHIRTS DONATED BY CANADA

We are very thankful to Canada's Cornerstone Church and Shiloh Church, for your hearts of gold for our children! The T-shirts that you donated have provided around 500 children from the Houses of Love, Joy, and Peace, as well as staff, with new uniforms each year.



Holistic Child Development

Philip Phearak Nak, Cambodia National Coordinator

The Cambodia Child Care program runs three different centres to support children in their physical, mental, and spiritual development— House of Love, House of Joy, and House of Peace. These centres not only care for children's physical needs, but also provide them with many opportunities that they might not get at home, such as learning activities and outings with friends. Here are just a few ways that the program is impacting children's lives.



PHYSICAL

Every month, the program gives out rice and other grocery staples, for children to bring home to their families. We also provide children with snacks every time they attend a program. Staff members visit children and their families to learn how we can better help them, while offering prayer, encouragement, and an invitation to attend the Sunday Service.

EDUCATIONAL

From Monday to Friday, we hold supplementary primary school classes. Topics include math, Khmer literature, English language, hygiene and morality. A mix of fun and educational activities are provided by staff, and older kids help the younger ones by playing with them, reading books and the Bible together, and doing crafts.

SPIRITUAL

Of course, spiritual development is a very important part of our ministry. We run weekly programs and activities to teach the children important spiritual truths from the Bible. On Sundays, the younger children join Sunday School, and the high school students join in the service at the church.

SOCIO-EMOTIONAL

Our children are also equipped with Socio-emotional development opportunities within the community. For example, each month the children collect and clean up trash in the villages around the centre, to teach them about taking care of the environment. Also, every year, we arrange field trips and excursions for our children, where they can learn and have fun together. Recently, children went to a water park!



Movement

In House of Love Youth

Praise the Lord! There were 2 children from House of Love joining Movement Leader's Training in June 2024. MLT is a training program affiliated with the Free Methodist Church, and focuses on reaching students for Christ. It is a great opportunity to learn more about the goals and vision of being a believer, and we hope in the future they will reach many more people for His kingdom.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Pray for our staff**, that they will have wisdom from the Lord to serve in these ministries.
- **Pray for our children** and their families, for their financial support, safety, and health, and that they would come to believe in Jesus.
- **Pray for the development of our program**, that we will be able to reach as many children as possible.



\$150
HAIR CUT SUPPLIES
FOR HOUSE OF
LOVE

Life Skills Project

Philip Phearak Nak, ICCM Cambodia

One of the ICCM programs in Cambodia is the Life Skills Project. This project aims to teach youths practical skills, while discovering and developing their God-given talents. Some of the skills that are being taught are woodworking, gardening, hair cutting, and concrete and brick work. It is our hope that these skill projects will help to prepare children for their future careers.



RIPPLE EFFECT

Sokleap Tray

My name is Sokleap Tray. I have four siblings, and I am the first child in my family. My father's business bankruptcy and debt greatly impacted our family situation, and there were days when we didn't have enough food to eat. However, through God's grace, I was selected as a sponsored child at ICCM House of Love during my primary school years! The sponsorship program has been a tremendous blessing in my life. It provided me with the opportunity to stay in school until I graduated from high school, ensured I had daily nutritious meals, and nurtured my faith and relationship with God.

After completing high school, financial constraints prevented me from pursuing higher education, but I fervently prayed for guidance despite the challenges. Eventually, I received a scholarship from the Free Methodist Higher Education Ministry, and studied Sociology at the Royal University of Phnom Penh. After graduating in 2009, I gained extensive experience in social work and organizational management in Cambodia. From 2011 to 2018, I served as the Regional Director for a

local organization, overseeing child holistic development programs across five provinces in Cambodia. In 2017, I established the Love Foundation to raise funds for food security, school supplies, and medical treatment in support of vulnerable and economically disadvantaged individuals within our churches and communities. Subsequently, from 2019 to 2023, I founded a local organization with the goal to empower local churches to sponsor children, and provide essential life skills education and economic support.

In 2024, I became Country Director for The Set Free Movement in Cambodia, working towards combating human trafficking and fostering community-based solutions. Additionally, I volunteer for various organizations, including ICCM Cambodia (chairman board committee), Cambodia Church Planting Center (board committee), FMC Cambodia (BOA), FMC Higher Education Ministry (board committee), and sometimes I preach in my church. I've had the opportunity to travel to Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, and



encounter CAMBODIA

MAY 2025

We are excited to announce that Encounter Cambodia is set for May 6-18, 2025! We have been planning and preparing with our Regional Coordinator, Belle Villanueva, and our National Coordinator, Philip Nak in Cambodia to arrange this mission trip. Encounter trips are a very personal journey of learning about ICCM and FMC projects in Cambodia, as well as an opportunity to build relationships with our leaders & kids, learn about Cambodian history, and discover deeper cultural values. The pinnacle of the Encounter trip is the opportunity to meet your sponsored child and their family! You will see where they live and through a translator, you will be able to converse with them.

The estimated cost for this trip is \$3,800 and is dependent on flight prices. If you are interested in joining the Encounter Cambodia team, please contact paula.moriarity@fmcic.ca for more details!



several states in the USA. My journey has been shaped by the support of ICCM, and their investment in both my education and faith has transformed my life and that of my family. Through God's grace, we have overcome financial challenges, allowing my siblings to complete their university degrees and find successful careers. While my father has yet to accept Christ, we continue

to pray for him, trusting that God's plan will unfold in his life as it has in ours. I am profoundly grateful for the blessings bestowed upon me by God, my church, the higher education ministry, ICCM's sponsors, and supporters. Their contributions have enabled me to achieve my dreams and make a positive impact in my life, my family, and my community. God bless you all!



Community Projects & Programs

Nadine Mahoro, Burundi National Coordinator



Pupils attend class at the primary school



Pupils in the secondary school class



Children receive school materials

VBS & YOUTH BIBLE CAMP

Vacation Bible School (VBS) and Youth Bible Camp takes place during the summer holidays. In both programs, youths come to study the word of God, as well , sing, dance, and play games. These moments help children and young people to grow deeper in their relationships with Jesus, as well as to form friendships with other children and young people. The two Bible schools during children's' vacation have been a great impact for Sunday school teachers and children alike. What is learned there continues to impact them as they put spiritual truths into practice in their home lives. This summer, in addition to being taught from the Word of God, the youths shared meals together and learned about hygiene, as well as assisted the

community in fetching water, bringing firewood for the elderly, visiting out-patients in the neighbourhood, and more.

SCHOOL MATERIALS, UNIFORMS, AND TUITION

School materials, uniforms, and school fees are all important for a child's education. It is not easy for many parents to afford these items for their children. If a child is sponsored, they receive these items, allowing them to stay in school, and making it easier for parents to send other siblings to school as well. Sponsored children are able to succeed because they are provided with what they need for the whole school year's studies.

FAMILY PROJECTS

Family projects are small projects that help both parents and children. They include small business, agriculture and livestock projects. When a child attends the program, it benefits the entire family, diminishing financial insecurity and equipping the parents with sustainable income. They are taught to grow rice, beans, corn, avocados, pineapples, sugar cane, and more. For livestock, they are provided with pigs, goats, rabbits or chickens. These projects are transformative in many families lives.



Young women receive Wunders kits

CHRISTIAN RELIGION EDUCATION

Schools of the Free Methodist Church receive books with foundational Christian beliefs and teachings. Children are taught from these, as well as from the Bible in school alongside their other courses. This develops their spiritual life, and prepares them for discipleship and evangelism.

CONCLUSION

Each of these projects is very important to our children's holistic development. Cost of living has been rising in Burundi over the last year, making it even more difficult for many families to provide their children with education. We are seeing the impact of when a child is sponsored- it helps the child, their family, the church, and eventually even the country! VBS and Youth Bible Camp teachings are encouraging children and young people to stay in school and build their bright futures. We are very grateful for the ICCM Support and prayers, and we are hopeful for the future. Thank you to the sponsors for putting a smile on the children's faces. May God bless you!



Playing with the goats



BUSOMA PORRIDGE

Children receive Busoma Porridge to bring home each quarter. The locally produced blend of corn, soybeans, and sorghum is both delicious and highly nutritious.



Helping an elderly widow

INDIVIDUAL IMPACT



Sandrine Niyonsenga

Since being sponsored in first grade, I was able to complete my education and graduate from high school. Today I am a secretary in our local church.



Onesime Niyobuhungiro

I am 27 years old, and have 6 siblings. My parents are farmers and could not afford to put us all in school. Then I was sponsored from 4th grade until high school, and went on to earn a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration.

Paying It Forward

Nadine Mahoro is the National Coordinator for ICCM Burundi. Thanks to her efforts, funds are put into action through Burundi's ICCM schools and programs.

My name is Nadine. Born into a family of seven, I have two brothers and two sisters. My father is a pastor, and my mother is a secretary and teacher, though they are both retired now. I myself am married and have three children.

I serve in my local Free Methodist church, and I love working with women and children. I sing in the women's choir, and also am an assistant Sunday school teacher! My background is in

social work and community development, and I have a bachelor's degree in counselling.

I heard about ICCM for the first time when I was a refugee in Kenya back in 2000. I was sponsored for two years until I graduated high school. For a time, I worked for Hope Voice Radio at Hope Africa University as a Presenter, before joining the local ICCM team in Burundi. I learned of the position through the Bishop and the secretary in my church, who told me all about ICCM and the work that they do. After an interview with the ICCM executive committee, I was hired!

Since joining the team, I have met many godly people, and was amazed in my heart to realize the extent to which serving children is one of my passions in life! Talking and listening to them, meeting them in the field, and even meeting with the team on Zoom is such a blessing experience. I hope to be a blessing to children, to the church, and also to ICCM through this role. I believe that this is an opportunity to learn more about Children's Ministry, as well as what God really wants me to do in my life. I look forward to God's wisdom and guidance, as I serve him in this ministry.

I thank God for the wonderful work being done for children through ICCM. God bless you!



Wunders

Equipping girls and women to thrive

Yvonne arranged young women participating in a Wunders training in a circle. "Ok, pretend you are a teacher... and you are an Auntie from church. Bella, pretend you are the nurse," she said as she assigned each person a role in the circle they had formed. She then asked one participant to stand in the middle as the others joined hands. Yvonne explained that each of them represent a part of the social safety system for the young woman in the middle. Yvonne then instructed the young woman in the middle to try to "break through the safety net". Because the women had created such a strong chain, the one in the centre couldn't break out. Even when she tried to run harder at the "safety net," the rest of the women worked together to keep her safe in the center. **This illustration reminds us of the immense power and potential of community.**

In many countries, it is considered taboo to speak about menstrual periods, and many girls stop attending school if they cannot afford menstrual products. Wunders equips girls and women to thrive, through locally-made, sustainable menstrual health supplies, and community-based education. Our local sewing and distribution centers produce sustainable, reusable menstrual



health kits, which are then distributed at ICCM and Free Methodist World Missions connected schools and churches, as well as other locations such as teen pregnancy centers and women's conferences.



The community circle learning activity

Each of our partners play a role in protecting those most vulnerable, and together we are helping to create social safety nets for girls around the world. We primarily distribute and connect with students through ICCM. Since we began trainings in June 2021, Wunders has equipped over 2,400 girls and women in Kenya, Togo, Malawi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, Zambia, and Ethiopia with menstrual health kits, as well as important health and human trafficking awareness training.

Wunders is a program of the Set Free Movement. Learn more at wunderspartners.com.





Haiti Providence University

Jean Marc & Michelle Zamor

There are many reasons to celebrate the victories of the past year! We are extremely grateful for God's faithfulness to His word—we are not just common optimistic people or faithful followers of positive thinking philosophers; our convictions are grounded in our relationship with the almighty God through Jesus Christ and our faith in His words. The fact that the doors of the university remained open, and classes were held throughout the academic year is in itself a great victory. In addition, the Ministry of Health renewed our accreditation for the school of nursing! Though this was an extremely hard and difficult process, thanks to God we received the highest accreditation possible and very high marks for our nursing

program. We were also able to develop a nursing lab for our students. The rate of completion of the students in all schools and programs has improved compared to previous years, and our students are getting employed by the best businesses and organizations.

We are witnessing an increase in demand for admission, but the availability of space to welcome the students and

to offer quality education remains a concern. We have been offered a property to purchase, and it has great potential for new classrooms. The total cost, including purchase, closing fees, and renovation is about \$350,000. Such an acquisition would help address this concern allow us to provide more students with quality education. Finally, we are concerned about human resources, particular staff and faculty retention.

"OUR CONVICTIONS ARE GROUNDED IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE ALMIGHTY GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST AND OUR FAITH IN HIS WORDS."

This year we would also like to increase the number of academic majors we offer. Dependent on resources, we would like to offer new programs in computer science and other technologies. We are looking forward to grow the Port-au-Prince campus by installing more social and academic infrastructure. We would like to see a growth in the scholarship programs available as well, as the population is living in an extreme poverty situation. Total yearly cost for one student, including room and board is about \$4000, and the affordability of this can be daunting for many people. We have so many talented young men and women who would love the opportunity to fulfill their dreams.



Is a Christian university located on 200 rural acres west of Port au Prince. Since opening in 2011, the university offers degree programs including Business Administration, Education, Nursing, and Theology, and holds classes both on campus and online.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Among the graduates from the school run by Pastor Jean Marc Zamor were two ICCM sponsored children, who are among the best students in their final year.



Neika Joseph

I greet you in Jesus' name! It's a great joy for me to finish my studies. Today is my graduation day and I would like to take this opportunity to thank

ICCM for supporting me for so many years. Now that I've finished high school, I'm planning to go to university to study nursing. Please pray for me that this dream becomes a reality.



Sephirin Angelika

I greet you in the name of the Lord! The first time I was offered a scholarship I was in 2nd grade. The reason that I am graduating today is thanks to your support,

and so I would like to express my gratitude to ICCM for their continuous support of my education. Today is my graduation and after passing my exams, I'm going to study Economics.

Summer Camp

The Summer Camp was a big success! We thank ICCM for its contribution to the event. It was a time of both fun and learning, as the children learned Bible verses, new spiritual songs, as well as arts and crafts. At lunch time, they all sat down at their table to enjoy their meal together.

The instructor Corisma Angeline also taught on a subject that will help children throughout their lives:

"Some children may lose their parent, or both may have moved to another country, forcing the child to go and live with their uncle or aunt or grandmother or somebody else. At this point the person in question should not treat you badly, but treat you as a person because it is the circumstances of life that make it so. I urge you not to lose heart, but to continue trusting God and working hard at school to become what you'd like to be in life."



SRI LANKA



Program Evolution in Sri Lanka

Pramila Pradeepan,
Sri Lanka National Coordinator

What began as a humble initiative to provide the most basic necessities for the pastors children has blossomed into a transformative force in Sri Lanka. Across the country, dedicated pastors have found themselves torn between their calling to ministry and their responsibilities to their own families. With the demands of pastoral work often consuming their time and energy, the needs of their children sometimes fell by the wayside. Enter ICCM – a lifeline for these families, providing support and assistance where it was needed most.

In the early days, ICCM focused on addressing immediate needs such as school fees and nutrition. However, as time passed and we grew, so did our aspirations. From

helping children navigate the complexities of school to guiding them through the challenges

of college, the program recognized the importance of education in breaking the cycle of poverty in Sri Lanka. ICCM eventually expanded its scope to include scholarships for higher education, opening doors to a brighter future for deserving students, offering opportunities for higher education, and supporting the families of devoted pastors across the country. Today, as three students stand on the cusp of earning their degrees, their achievements stand as a testament to the unwavering commitment of ICCM towards these kids.

But the work of ICCM extends beyond academic pursuits. Understanding the importance of holistic support, ICCM has undertaken various projects to ensure the well-being of pastors' children. From distributing essential supplies during times of economic hardship, to envisioning future initiatives like the upcoming rooster and chicken project, ICCM continues to innovate and adapt to the evolving needs of the community. In a country where opportunities can be scarce and challenges abound, ICCM shines as a beacon of hope along the path



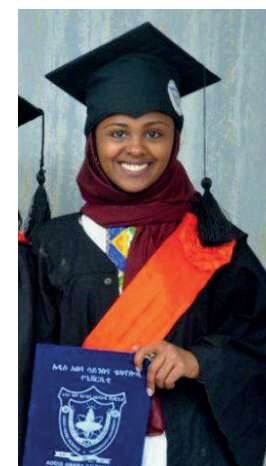
Grocery items that are distributed



Top row images— highlights from this year's school and summer camp programs in Sri Lanka

towards a brighter future for the children of Sri Lanka. Through its tireless efforts and unwavering dedication, ICCM has not only transformed lives but also fostered a sense of community and belonging that transcends boundaries and barriers. Through the generosity of kind-hearted individuals, sponsorship, special project, and scholarship funds have poured in, ensuring that every child in the program receives the support they need. Special recognition is due to Sister Paula, whose unwavering dedication and support have been a cornerstone of ICCM in Sri Lanka since the beginning. Alongside her, Sister Lucia and countless other compassionate souls have worked tirelessly to ensure that ICCM thrives in Sri Lanka, even amidst the most challenging circumstances. Their selfless contributions have not only transformed the lives of the pastors' children, but have also illuminated the path to a brighter future for generations to come. May God continue to bless them for their kindness and generosity!

ETHIOPIA



Sofia Eshetu



Hana Kifle



Loza Jembere



Lidiya Kinfe

ELIMINATING BARRIERS

In Ethiopia's Muslim schools, girls are not given opportunities to go to university. In light of this, the ICCM school displays signs on the property that say "Learning Benefits Everyone." It is wonderful to see women not only graduate the ICCM program, but successfully go on to university programs!

The women pictured above are recent alumni of university engineering programs. For each one of them, this is a truly remarkable achievement! Please continue to keep the Ethiopian schools and students in your prayers. Bright minds such as these truly are the future of the country!



INFLATION RATES	
Canada	1.6%
Haiti	34%
India	5.5%
Ethiopia	30%
Sri Lanka	17%

Cambodia and Kenya maps courtesy of: FreeVectorFlags.com

AN UPDATE FOR OUR CURRENT SPONSORS

Thank you for your support!

Your sponsorship dollars are making a tangible difference in the lives of countless children across the globe. Please note that as of January 1, 2025, **the cost of sponsorship will be increasing from \$40 to \$45/month.**

Why is the cost of sponsorship changing?

Paula Moriarity

Since the pandemic in 2020, the world has changed. I still find myself sanitizing my hands and being hesitant to give hugs. More noticeably, global economics continue to be impacted, with inflation on the rise in many countries. When I talk to our national and regional coordinators, they continue to struggle to pay for the basic necessities and many of our projects. Additionally, currency exchange rates result in higher costs to run our programs.

We want to give children every opportunity to attend school, to be fed, to be socio-emotionally healthy, and most importantly, to have a deeper relationship with Jesus. After discussing different options with our global leaders, we have decided to increase the sponsorship amount, in order to maintain the current quality of the program and alleviate some of the financial stress. Your sponsorship continues to make a difference in your child’s life, as well as their families and communities. We continue to pray for our children, that God’s light would shine through them as they grow in Him.

REMINDERS

Up-to-date Information

If you are a current sponsor, please ensure that your correct address, phone number, email, bank account information, or any other important information for tax purposes. If your information changes, please contact us to update it!

Digital Updates

As stewardship is important to us, we want to let you know that you are able to sign up for receiving digital updates, including child letter and picture updates and issues of Catalyst, by emailing iccm@fmcic.ca This is an environmentally friendly and cheaper alternative to mailing, so if you would prefer to receive updates via email rather than physical copies, please let us know.

Your Letters & Gifts

Sponsorship is so much more than money—it’s about connection! You can connect with your child by sending letters and gifts, especially around Christmas or their birthday. If you would like to send a special gift, we encourage sending money as the family will know best how to spend it for their child. It can take some time for letters or gifts to arrive in your sponsored child’s country, so be sure to give at least two months in advance of the holiday or birthday to ensure they receive it on time! Visit our website for more details.

Tax Receipts

Tax receipts are issued in February. Feel free to give our office a call if you have any questions, or if receipts have not arrived by mid-March.

Legacy Giving

You can continue to give to your child or children by designating funds to ICCM during estate planning. If you would like to learn more about legacy giving, and how your estate can contribute towards a brighter future for children around the world, please contact our office for next steps.

Administration

When giving, you can designate funds for ICCM administration, which helps us to expand the program both in Canada and globally. These funds allow us to reach more children, as well as to build stronger partnerships with other organizations.

detach and mail to ICCM

DONATION FORM

ACCEPT MY DONATION TO: \$ AMOUNT

<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to the Burundi food fund	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fund Cambodia Life Skills projects	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Assist Ghana & Congo classroom expansions	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support Sri Lanka chicken coop project	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to scholarships for university and college in Sri Lanka	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Support Wunders in Kenya	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to the Haiti food fund	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Eden Reforestation Project in Haiti	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Contribute to scholarships for university and college in Haiti	

TOTAL AMOUNT:

☐ Contact me about sponsoring a child for \$45/month

☐ I have enclosed a signed cheque and would like the funds to be distributed as I have indicated:

Signature:

Print Name:

TURN OVER TO COMPLETE DONATION →



THANK YOU!

To complete donation, mail this form to:

International Childcare Ministries
4315 Village Centre Court
Mississauga, ON L4Z 1S2

If you received this publication in the mail, please ensure that your address below is current. If not, please update it using this form, or by calling the ICCM office at 905-848-2600 (ext. 224).

☐

My address has changed! Please use this address for all future mail:

First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

City:

Province: Postal Code:

Phone:

Email:

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YOUR PARTNERING DOLLARS

Financial accountability is important to us. ICCM reviews its policies and conducts domestic audits annually. Reports, stories, pictures, and videos are received regularly from our overseas program coordinators, to ensure that funds are being used effectively and children are benefiting.

Partnership (receiptable):

80% benefits your child with food, education & clothing, including cost of delivery to the child or child's school.

20% is directed to ICCM Program Development Costs, to support services, leadership, & development.

Special Projects/funds (receiptable):

95% of your one time donation goes directly to the selected project. For more information on current active projects, please visit our website.

Child Gifts (non-receiptable):

100% of funds go directly to the child for their birthday or Christmas gift.

Ways to Donate

Credit Card payments, available online by visiting childcareministries.net, or by scanning the code below

Cheques, written and mailed in quarterly, semi-annually, or annually.

Pre-Authorized chequing and credit card transactions, set up for monthly automatic withdrawal from your account.

Give Online →

childcareministries.net/special-gifts



CONNECT WITH US

INTERNATIONAL CHILD CARE MINISTRIES

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www.childcareministries.net