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*April 2008*

## **Canada Mathare Education Trust 2007 Annual Report**

For the Canada Mathare Education Trust, 2007 was a year of excitement and growth. Relationships with Canadians and Kenyans were forged and partnerships strengthened. Despite political unrest in Kenya, CMETrust and the Mathare community's commitment to education remain steadfast and renewed. As we move forward, we also look back to acknowledge our accomplishments and reconfirm our dedication to the goal of enhancing education in Kenya, one child at a time.

### **CMETrust Annual General Meeting:**

On Saturday, April 26 2008, The Canada-Mathare Education Trust held its AGM. Members of the Board of Trustees and volunteers met together to share and celebrate the many exciting things that have happened in the life of CMETrust over the past year.

CMETrust is pleased to announce that Amy White, Consuelo van Beek and Selina Young were elected to sit on the Board of Trustees.

### **President's Report:**

Victoria Sheppard, CMETrust founder and President presented a report to the AGM, highlighting the diverse activities that the Trust and its members have been engaged in over the past year. Her report acknowledged "where we've been" and "where we're going". Highlights included:

- Where we have been
  - Education in Bloom: CMETrust's first event in Ottawa held in May, which raised over \$3,000 and featured a speech from the Deputy Kenyan High Commissioner
  - Submission of several foundation funding requests including 26 sponsorship packages requesting funds to support the production of a CMETrust outreach documentary (which will be shot by Owen Sheppard this summer), resulting in a successful grant of \$5,000 from the J.K. Morrow Foundation.
  - CMETrust is celebrating the successful proposal for funding from the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation for the establishment of a pilot CMETrust University Chapter at McGill University (\$2,740) in partnership with the Canadian Field Studies in Africa Program. CMETrust representatives Victoria, Heather and Mel travelled to

McGill in November to introduce the program to students and received a positive response. However, due to the unfortunately political conflict and unrest in Kenya this year, McGill students cancelled this segment of their trip, and therefore the pilot launch has been postponed.

- CMETrust's participation in the Government of Canada Wide Charitable Campaign blitz day was a huge success, resulting in over \$2,000 in support to be received over the next year!
- Ottawa CMETrust supporters celebrate Victoria Sheppard's birthday with a 'Scholar Crawler' event, raising \$500.
- CMETrust makes its debut on Facebook! Join the 'Friends of CMETrust' today and keep up to date on Trust events and news.
- Victoria Sheppard's site visit to Mathare in December provided a rich opportunity to meet with the Trust's Kenyan Agents, CMETrust students and parents, and potential partners and supporters including Rotary club and MYSA. The trip also provided the opportunity to purchase a variety of Kenyan crafts that were a big hit at CMETrust events this year.
- CMETrust and Victoria Sheppard were featured on several media spots including CHUO's Afrika Revisited with Sarah Onyango, CBC Radio Metro Morning (Toronto) and CBC The Current (National). Victoria spoke about the Kenyan election crisis and the importance of education, especially for those youth living in Mathare.
- Hearts for Smarts 2008 event held at the Oasis Spa in Toronto raised over \$11,000, which enabled the creation of 12 new CMETrust scholarships.
- Owen Sheppard spoke to interested members of the Leaside United Church Outreach Committee about the work CMETrust is doing in Mathare and Canada.
- The Rhymes and Dimes for Kenya event in Ottawa welcomed musical talent Mighty Popo, featuring Zaki Ibrahim for a lively performance at Barrymore's Music Hall on March 1. Adrian Harewood, host of CBC Radio One's All in a Day (weekday afternoon's in Ottawa) was the MC of a wonderful evening, which raised over \$7,500. The event was promoted on both All in a Day, and by Alan Neal (host of Bandwidth) during his Thursday morning appearance on Ottawa Morning (with Kathleen Petty).
- Afiya Francisco, CMETrust Secretary, held an ultra-successful Beauty Product Sale at work and raised \$1,000.

## **CMETrust Kenya Agents Report:**

CMETrust's Kenyan Agents are an integral part of the organization, without whom, CMETrust could not provide scholarships and support to students living in Mathare. Benedict Kiage, Titus Kuria and Charles Omondi work tirelessly to support the Mathare community and to fight for the opportunity for Mathare youth to attend secondary school. The following is their report to the AGM Board:

### **Report of the CMET Trust Organization in Kenya as of April 2008 by CMET Kenya Agents**

#### **A Revolution**

It has been a rough time for any Kenyan in the last couple of months. A lot of ugly and despicable things have taken place during that time. But a couple of positive things have also happened. One of them is the fact that some new beneficiaries and the previous ones have all gone back to school thanks to CMETrust.

Earlier on in the year nothing seemed to work and none of us back here could have imagined that today we would be forwarding you a report of all the activities we have undertaken so far. But here we are happy and grateful to have our nation back to normalcy.

What could have gone so wrong? What caused all this mayhem? One would ask. What we have observed as Kenyan Agents is that all these young people who were wrecking havoc were either uneducated or idle. Both of the reasons are inter-related in one-way or the other. Where are we getting to with this? Simple, initiatives such as CMETrust are here at the right time to give our community a good foundation and hopefully a better future. It's an avenue to help some Kenyans have a brighter future and hence enable them make more informed decisions. In other words, CMETrust is a revolution happening...a positive one that we all should be proud and grateful about.

"Be the change that you would like to see", Mahatma Gandhi said. This is a change that we are all seeing!

#### **Activities:**

##### **Mobilizing the Applicants**

This entailed researching and contacting the suitable candidates for the interview. It was done in the whole of Mathare. Before any contact was made, the prospective interviewees were checked on their ability on how they have been doing both in class and in the slum and its development. Others were considered due to their willingness to learn and to share their different talents.

## **Interview**

The interview day saw about 12 students come in and fill the forms that will take them to places. It was a good day and everything went well according to plan. It took place at the MCEDO school.

They looked somehow worried about the outcome, but we tried to calm them down the best way we knew. All in all, it turned out to be a great day and a superb event.

## **Boys and girls to School**

This time around it was not a very rosy affair taking the students back to school. However, after carefully checking out the situation we set our journey to take the students to school. The first stop was Khwisero then Wiyeta and finally Wanga'pala. All in all, we had 12 students who we registered in the different schools. We eventually sent another 6 students in regards to the funds we had at bank. Now we are getting 2 more students as well. We are hoping the new government will continue with the plans they had started of decreasing the school fees. This will enable us take care of the current number of students.

## **April Holiday**

All students but the form fours came back to Nairobi for the holiday. We are going to meet them on Friday and then probably we will do their planned activities on Saturday and/or Sunday. So we are looking forward to a busy and eventful weekend.

## **Achievements:**

We have 20 new beneficiaries. It makes us and the community more than happy to see the students going to school and talking about it when they come back. It keeps all of us more motivated and encouraged.

## **Challenges:**

The challenge was getting the students to school. The transport system was temporarily halted. We lost some money, personal belongings but we all came out safe and sound.

The other challenge is the selection as this time around a lot of people have realized that CMETrust exists. So it has been a difficult task to leave out other students who equally need this opportunity. We hope we could get more opportunities for the others who never got the chance to join.

**Goals:**

Our main goal is to make sure that all the students are well taken care of and that we support them in their bid to perform well in their end of year exams.

We also aim to make sure that the students give back to the community once they are back for their respective holidays. This will serve as the link between them and the community and will also popularise CMETrust's name.

**Way forward:**

We are looking forward to offer our all wherever and whenever we are needed. We are also looking for local organizations that can chip in and support a couple of more students. This is just a thought that we have, but we will advice you more about it once we have all the nitty-gritties worked out.

**Appreciations:**

Our sincere gratitude goes to Victoria the President, The Board of Trustees and every one else who has in one way or the other helped CMET Trust reach to the needy and help us realize our most treasured dream.

We also thank the trust for giving us the chance to manage their activities back here in Kenya and for the honorariums.

We hope you all have a positive and fruitful meeting today. Until we speak again, so long.

Asante sana...Thank you!

Benedict Kiage  
Charles Omondi  
Titus Kuria

**Financial Report:**

Prepared by CMETrust Treasurer, Heather Arnold

**Fiscal Year 2007 (January 1 – December 31, 2007)**

(all amounts rounded to the nearest dollar)

**Revenue**

Total tax receipted donations	\$12,207
Total amount received from other registered charities (The Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation)	\$2,740
Interest/Investment income	\$39
Total revenue from fundraising	\$16,388

**Total revenue** **\$31,374****Expenses**

Disbursement of funds for scholarships	\$12,300
Honorarium for Kenyan Agents	\$1,200
Advertising and Promotion	\$367
Travel	\$129
Interest and bank charges	\$60
Office supplies and expenses	\$70
Fundraising expenditures	\$3,620
Other expenditures	\$1,666

**Total Expenditures** **\$19,412**

Total In-Kind Donations 2008 \$7271

**Total Assets December 31, 2007** **\$11,962**

### **CMETrust 2007 Scholarship Recipients:**

- Elma Atieno
- Irene Akoth
- Angela Akoth
- Edith Nafula
- Everlyne Auma
- Jacqueline Otieno
- Miriam Ndunge Muli
- Olengalo Ketty
- Olyence Akinyi
- Owour Victoria Akinyi
- Wambua Rosemary Mweni
- Erick Ayuke
- Erick Otieno
- Micah Adie
- Mohammed Malicha Boru
- Owino Samson Omondi
- Richard Wambua
- Simon Kang'ethe

### **CMETrust Per Student Expenses (rounded to Canadian):**

Every CMETrust scholarship is guaranteed for all 4 years of high school. It covers the annual costs for a student attending a secondary boarding school in Kenya, which includes tuition, in addition to a number of other school fees, and transportation (“Annual Subtotal”). Also, each new scholar has school supplies purchased for him or her once, at the start of their high school career (“First Year Expenses Subtotal”). Below is a breakdown of these costs.

<b>Student Expenses</b>	<b>Kenyan Shillings (KSh)</b>	<b>Canadian Dollars (\$)</b>
Annual School Fees*	30,000	500
Annual Transport	3,000	50
<b><i>Annual Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>33,000</i></b>	<b><i>550</i></b>
Uniform	3,500	60
Books	2,000	40
Box	600	10
Passport Photos	150	2.50
Mattress	800	15
Blanket	300	5
Pillow and pillow case	250	4
Sheets	350	6
Padlock	170	3
<b><i>First Year Expenses Subtotal</i></b>	<b><i>8,120</i></b>	<b><i>135</i></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>KSh 42,000</b>	<b>\$ 685</b>

\*It should be noted that the Government of Kenya promised and has begun to implement secondary school tuition subsidies of up to 10,265 KSh. per student per year, paid directly to each institution based on their enrolment numbers. Therefore, we will be re-evaluating our costs per student for 2009 (hopefully we will be able to offer even more new scholarships), once the Government program has been in place for a year and our Kenyan Agents feel relatively confident it will not suddenly be cancelled.