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## Canada Mathare Education Trust 2008/9 Annual Report

For the Canada Mathare Education Trust, 2008 was a year of partnership building and evolution. CMETrust strengthened its already existing partnerships this year, while boldly embarking on new ones in Toronto, Ottawa and in our newest chapter location, Kitchener-Waterloo. 2008 also marked an extremely momentous occasion- the graduation of 4 of CMETrust scholars from their respective secondary schools. This achievement has brought renewed energy to the Kenyan Agents of CMETrust, as well as the growing base of support in Canada including volunteers and generous donors. It is with this great sense of pride that CMETrust present its report of 2008 and look forward to the year ahead with the anticipation of more graduation celebrations to come.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Victoria Sheppard, CMETrust Founder and President presented her report to those present at the 2008 Annual General Meeting on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> 2009. The report provided an overview of the activities of the Trust throughout the year, and some visioning for the year ahead. The Highlights include:

- Where we have been:
  - Submission of an article to the Tanamakoon Alumni Newsletter, the Green Canoe, to inform and reach out to a common network of many CMETrust board members and volunteers.
  - Volunteer, Owen Sheppard, travels to Kenya to begin filming *CMETrust: Together*, a 5-minute outreach video. The film production was completed in January 2009.
  - CMETrust entered into a 3-year user agreement with TicketWeb to support our online ticket sales for events.
  - CMETrust meet with the Leaside Rotary Club in Toronto as a continuation of the Trust's past involvement with the Rotary Club system, and the Toronto-Eglinton Rotary Club in particular
  - CMETrust Ottawa chapter presented Rhyme & Dimes, the summer edition. The evening featured Zaki Ibrahim, in partnership with District Six Music. The event raised \$1,482.39 net.

- The Gordon Foundation agreed to extend its grant for the CFSIA-CMETrust project, which was delayed as a result of political instability in Kenya during the period in which the project was to be carried out. Work plan was developed and approved.
- Board Member, Megan McCoy, and volunteer, Melanie van de Water, travelled to Kenya to complete a 2-week Board visit. While in Kenya, the delegation visited the boarding schools where CMETrust scholarship recipients attend school, meet with the scholars and their parent/guardians and purchased Kenyan merchandise to be auctioned off during upcoming fundraising events.
- CMETrust registered with CAF America, so that US corporate donors can receive charitable tax receipts. This registration is important so that the Trust can take advantage of corporate matching-fund programs.
- CMETrust engaged with the Government of Canada Wide Charitable Campaign (GCWCC), through an e-mail appeal, and at Natural Resources Canada Blitz Day.
- CMETrust Ottawa chapter members had a booth at the WIAM's One World Film Festival.
- CMETrust published Volume 3 & 4 of CMETrust News and distributed to supporters, volunteers and partners.
- CMETrust is the recipient of funds raised through third party fundraising including: a Pumpkin Carving Contest (Ottawa), Holy Trinity School's Sharing Day (Toronto) a Leaside United Church speaking event (Toronto), a Pastoral Care Information Event at Kingsway-Lambton United Church (Toronto), The Great Glebe Garage Sale (Ottawa) and Ottawa Race Weekend (Ottawa).
- Submission of funding requests to the Leaside Rotary and Toronto-Eglinton Rotary clubs; both successful at \$2,400 from each club. Submission of a request for matching funding to Scotiabank; not successful.
- CMETrust President participated in the Canadian Coalition for International Co-operation (CCIC) Charity Law workshop held in Ottawa.
- CMETrust Kitchener-Waterloo Chapter held its inaugural meeting.
- A presentation was made to two groups of senior high school students at Holy Trinity School during their 'Science Day' event.
- CMETrust celebrated as 4 of the Trusts' Scholars sat the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) and passed.

- CMETrust Kenyan Agent, Charles Omondi, moves to Canada. The Board accepted the Agents' recommendation that the remaining two Kenya agents carry-on as is and that a replacement for Charles was unnecessary at this time.
  - CMETrust delivers a pre-departure orientation and risk awareness presentation at McGill, for Canadian Field Studies In Africa (CFSIA) program students travelling to Kenya in March
  - CMETrust Board Member, Laura Macchione, made an unofficial visit to Mathare Valley Slum and MCEDO school, accompanied by 3 CMETrust supporters from Canada
  - Production is completed on *CMETrust: Together* video
  - The third annual Hearts for Smarts Fundraiser was held in Toronto in February, raising approximately \$7,000 towards the creation of new scholarships
  - CMETrust announced that 9 new scholarships will be granted, bringing the total scholarships recipients for 2009 to 37
  - CMETrust premieres *CMETrust: Pamoja* at the Black History Month African Film Fest in Ottawa and displayed a booth
  - CMETrust participated in the 2009 Toronto Timeraiser event in order to recruit new volunteers
  - CMETrust and D6 signed a formal partnership agreement
  - CMETrust delivered a photography workshop and photo session with the Trust scholars in Mathare. Students learned how to operate the camera and frame a photo. Students took photos of their lives in the slum, capturing images representing their fears, challenges as well as their hopes and aspirations.
- Where we are going:
    - Kitchener-Waterloo Chapter is planning its first fundraiser event, Cheers for Children
    - Follow up with McGill's CFSIA 2009 students including partnering with Daraja on an event in Montreal, report back to the Gordon Foundation and signing a partnership agreement with the CFSIA program
    - Pursue Board Development funding for the purchase of a teleconference pod to facilitate Board meetings with members in Toronto and Ottawa.
    - Future fundraising events including a Kenyan CMETrust volunteers are planning an evening of East African DJs to be held in Toronto in September 2009, a Montreal based event, and a continuation of events in Ottawa

- Development of Teacher kits to be used in combination with the *CMETrust: Together* video and other short documentaries
  - Consideration of a second Toronto annual event
  - Continued partnership developed with Rotary, Schools (Holy Trinity, Richmond Hill & Leaside High School, Toronto) and approaching other High schools (St. Clements, Toronto & Ashbury College, Ottawa) and Universities (East African Students Association at Carleton University & OttawaU)
  - Future possibilities for Board visits to Kenya (Laura Macchione to be relocating to Uganda and Amy White, work term in South Africa)
  - Pursue continued funding from the F.K. Morrow Foundation for a 2010 Board visit
  - Website renewal and update
  - Participation in the Camp Tanamakoon Alumni weekend charity fair
  - Pursue funding from Scotiabank employees program
  - Establishment of a sub-committee to research and follow-up on a possible post-secondary scholarship program that CMETrust graduates could tap into (Eg. Mined reCreations & HVSF)
- Challenges & Lessons Learned:
    - Kenyan Agent, Charles Omondi, moved to Canada and therefore will be unable to continue in this role. The Board agreed that for the time being, the remaining two Kenyan agents would be able to absorb the additional work.
    - The question of post-secondary scholarships arose as CMETrust celebrated the graduation of 4 of the Trust sponsored scholars. The decision was made that at this time the Trust's mission will remain, as focused on secondary school scholarships. Post-secondary scholarships will be investigated by a sub-committee and individual donors independently.
    - CMETrust passed a decision to revoke 7 scholarships as a result of scholars not meeting the expectations that come along with receiving a CMETrust scholarship including attendance in school, proper conduct and successful completion of course work. With the guidance of the Kenyan agents, the Board decided that scholarships will be revoked if it is decided that students have not fulfilled their responsibilities, but that students will have a chance to appeal this decision – to date none have.
    - CMETrust is interested in attracting media attention in order to bring attention to the issues of urban poverty and education in Kenya, as per the Trust mandate. Finding ways to attract this attention is an ongoing challenge and something the Trust aims to develop strategies for moving forward.

## **CMETRUST OTTAWA CHAPTER REPORT:**

Prepared by: Consuelo van Beek, Ottawa Chapter Co-Chair & Member of the Board

The CMETrust Ottawa chapter is growing and attracting new volunteers with diverse skills and backgrounds. The yearly 'Rhymes & Dimes' event is well established and Ottawa volunteers and supporters have been keen to extend the chapter's fundraising efforts with several third party fundraising events and participation in public forums that are in line with the mission of the Trust. The Ottawa chapter has formed an Executive Committee and is establishing subcommittees for various Trust initiatives.

### **Activities:**

- Rhyme & Dimes Summer Edition; Raised \$1,482.39
- Participated in the Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Challenge Campaign
- Recipient of third party fundraising proceeds including a Pumpkin Carving context (\$632), Black History Month African Film Fest (\$176), Ottawa Race Weekend (\$2,402) and Great Glebe Garage Sale (\$1,200).

### **Where we are going:**

- Speed dating event with the proceeds going towards CMETrust
- A Gallery/Photo Exhibition event in support of CMETrust
- Recruitment of another Ottawa-based Board member
- Touring Photography exhibit
- Development of a media strategy
- Reaching out to an older demographic as well as maintain engagement with the current demographic
- Investigate a future partnership with Ashbury College

## **CMETRUST KITCHENER-WATERLOO REPORT:**

Prepared by: Shari DeCaire

The CMETrust K-W Chapter official formed and had its inaugural meeting this year. The chapter consists of a very committed group of 8 volunteers. The first fundraising event planned by the chapter and hosted in Kitchener, Cheers for Children, is planned for June 2009. Despite the challenges inherent with running a new event, in a new city, with new potential sponsors, the KW chapter is positive, and energetic. The aim of the KW chapter is to engage new people with the work of CMETrust and run a yearly event that will be exciting, enjoyable and yield the highest possible result for the Trust. With 2009 being the first year of the event, the KW chapters hopes to learn from the first experience and work to improve the bottom line for the event in future years based on the lessons learned.

## **KENYAN AGENTS REPORT:**

The CMETrust Kenyan Agents represent CMETrust in Mathare and carry out the work of the Trust on the ground. They are a dedicated group of individuals who deeply believe in the mission of the Trust and in the youth living in Mathare Valley Slum. It is with this deep passion and commitment that the agents carry out their work, which is integral to the organization. The following is the Kenyan Agent Report from 2008:

### **Report of the CMET Trust in Kenya as of May 2009 by CMET Kenya Agents:**

#### ***Pride***

“My niece is now a learned lady, she finished form four and even can operate a computer”, a guardian of one of the alumni members was overheard boasting to a group of her friends. Our elders always taught us against being proud and always reminded us that pride in many a times comes before a thunderous fall. But this one of this lady was a different kind of pride, a positive one, a candid one. The pride that comes after success and you just want to share with the whole world around you.

The conversation went ahead when one lady asked the proud aunt, “and how did your niece go about getting this education as we all know that it was always difficult for you to school her?” “The Trust” she said. She continued to explain that her niece was a lucky girl after she got a chance to be part and parcel of the CMETrust Scholarship program, which catered for her secondary education and even provided her with an opportunity to join a computer college.

This is just one testimony out of many more out there in Mathare of what the CMETrust has been able to accomplish after been around just for a few years. Success back here in Mathare is measured in many ways and one of them is education; basically how far your children and close family members have gone education wise. Only the parents who are able to cater for school fees for their loved ones belong to this clique. Others have always being left to be mere spectators or cheer leaders. But now we have four lucky, proud guardians out there who can also be counted among the few. This is the kind of pride that CMETrust has brought about in a short period, we can only stand there and count our blessings.

#### **Activities**

In last one year or so we have managed to do activities touching on different areas of our community; from clean-ups, sports, photography, personal growth and self-esteem. We have let the students do most of the planning and execution of the activities at the same time offering the necessary support and guidance.

The list below arranged in a descending order shows the activities we have been able to do in the said period:

- June 2008 – The Documentary begins (Courtesy of Owen Sheppard)
- July 2008 – Megan and Mel Visit

- August 15<sup>th</sup> 2008 – CMETrust Students – Parents/Guardians Meeting @ MCEDO
- 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2008 – Clean Up Exercise @ Mathare Slums
- 28<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 – Discipline and Presentation Skills workshop @ MCEDO
- 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 – Clean Up & Sports Gala
- 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2009 – Interview of the would-be beneficiaries
- 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 – CFSIA Visit to Mathare
- 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 – Photography Workshop
- To get more information on activities mentioned above, kindly refer to our earlier reports

### **Achievements**

First and foremost we have all to appreciate that we have been around for the past three years or so, a feat many organizations have not realised in many parts of the world. We have done a lot with the students who have eventually matured in their own right both educationally and personally. This is in terms of self-esteem, confidence and presentation skills. The beneficiaries have also been more aware of their immediate surrounding and how to take care of it.

The other huge achievement is the fact that we were finally able to kick off the photography project after planning for it for sometime. It is something that many people in the slums would kill for just to be part and parcel of it. We have to say this one is a life changing moment for some of the beneficiaries. We hope it will go on and be an annual arrangement. In this project we see a lot of positives come with it both for the trust and the beneficiaries.

All in all, we have to mention that the graduation of four of our beneficiaries was the biggest achievement that has ever happened to the CMETrust so far. No one saw this coming this soon and this one is not a small feat. In fact it is the biggest achievement we should all raise our glasses to. We just hope this is a beginning of bigger things to come in the near future.

### **Challenges**

The issue of a big number of needy students vis-à-vis opportunities in the trust is still with us this year. But we can only hope that there will be more opportunities in the future.

Another issue that has been with us since the start is the number of boys as compared to the ones of the opposite gender. We have always ended up with a number of girls being greater than the number of boys. In the spirit of gender balance, we would like to balance this, but it has been a tall order to find a good number of qualified boys as compared to girls. But we also hope that this issue will be solved in the near future. We are still looking for the best way to handle it.

Unfortunately due to unavoidable circumstances we had to cut lose 7 of our students from the program. This was due to the fact that they failed to keep up with the set rules and regulations of the trust. They were simply not up to the challenge of being a CMETrust beneficiary. We hope that this issue would never pop up again as it throws everything else out of balance. But we hope that this step we took served as a lesson to others who are already in the trust and the others who are willing to join us.

We have to thank the president and the board for supporting us while we faced and acted on this dilemma.

### **Goals**

As mentioned above in the matter of the boys being less than the girls, we hope by the end of this year to have found a way of finding suitable number of boys who are qualified and meet all the standards set by the trust. We have to work with various partners i.e. schools, youth groups and the community at large to address this issue.

The other goal we have is the issue of registration. We are still looking for ways to register the trust locally so that it can be recognized as a registered entity by the government of Kenya and the related authorities. We are still at the preliminary level and we will keep you all updated as time goes by.

### **Way forward**

We hope that this relationship with the CMETrust Board, agents, partners and friends will continue like it has always been. This will enable the trust to grow and provide more opportunities for children in Mathare.

We also hope that we will achieve our set goals by consulting the concerned authorities and coming up with concrete outcomes.

### **Appreciation**

As always, we would like to appreciate the support from the CMETrust President, the whole board and friends from Canada from their continued support. We would also like to thank all our partners locally for their unrelenting support. Without you all CMETrust wouldn't be where it is today.

Keep up the great work.

God Bless!

CMETrust Kenya Agents: Benedict Kinage, Titus Kuria & Charles Omondi (now former agent and living in Canada)



## **CMETRUST FINANCIAL REPORT 2008:**

Prepared by CMETrust Treasurer, Heather Arnold

Fiscal Year 2008 (January 1 to December 31, 2008) [\*all amounts rounded to the nearest dollar]

<b><u>Revenue</u></b>	<b>2008</b>
Total tax received donations	16,397
Total amount received from other registered charities	19,891
Interest/Investment income	230
Total revenue from fundraising	15,592
Revenue from sales of goods or services	1,576
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>53,686</b>

<b><u>Expenses</u></b>	
Disbursement of funds for scholarships	18,000
Honorarium for Kenyan Agents	2,400
Advertising and Promotion	604
Travel	4,191
Interest and bank charges	473
Office supplies and expenses	483
Fundraising expenditures	11,221
Other expenditures	3,201
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>40,573</b>
Total In-Kind Donations	11,001
<b>Total Assets December 31</b>	<b>25,076</b>

<b><u>Grants</u></b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
<b>F.K. Morrow Foundation</b>			
Film project (all funds spent in 2008)	5000	5000	0
<b>Gordon Foundation</b>			
Partnership with McGill	2740	224.87	2515.13

(96.23 spent in 2008, all funds must be spent by December 2009)

**Comments on Financial Report:**

- Revenue and expenditures in all areas increase in 2008 over the 2007 amounts.
- Bank fees and charges reflect the charges for wire transfers (\$45 each transfer) and the charges associated with the type of account CMETrust has. As such, we get charged for deposits and cheques cashed above our monthly limits.
- The total amount received from other registered charities includes funds received through Canada Helps
- The interest/investment income earned was earned from the CMETrust ING High Interest Savings account.
- In 2008, CMETrust provided scholarships to 38 students. The cost per student in previous years was \$600 (which would amount to \$22,800). However, 2008, the Kenyan government started subsidizing a portion of secondary school tuition. Our per student costs were reduced to approximately \$474 per student for a disbursement of \$18,000.

### **CMETRUST COST PER STUDENT EXPENSES:**

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 in 2008 the Government of Kenya began implementing secondary school tuition subsidies of up to 10,265 KSh. per student per year, paid directly to each institution based on their enrolment numbers; our costs per student for 2009 has been re-assed accordingly.

### **CMETrust 2008 Scholarship Recipients:**

- Elma Atieno (Grad)
- Irene Akoth (Grad)
- Angela Akoth
- Edith Nafula
- Everlyne Auma (Grad)
- Jacqueline Otieno
- Miriam Ndunge Muli
- Olengalo Ketty
- Olvence Akinyi (Grad)
- Owour Victoria Akinyi
- Wambua Rosemary Mweni
- Erick Ayuke
- Erick Otieno
- Micah Adie
- Mohammed Malicha Boru
- Owino Samson Omondi
- Richard Wambua
- Simon Kang’ethe
- Asha Njambi
- Eunice Waruguru
- Helen Wanjiku
- Irene Wangari
- Janet Ogonga
- Josephine Akoth
- Lilian Akinyi
- Lilian Atieno
- Mary Wamaita
- Monica Njeri
- Nzioki Faith Mueni
- Sharon Atieno
- Stella Wanjiru
- Tabitha Okoth
- Wairimu Virginia Wanjiru
- Winnie Mueni
- Collins Ochieng
- Jonah Odhiambo
- Nashon Luvohwa
- Simon Gachugu