

English Translation
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Dear Friends,

The **Christian Children's Fund of Canada** (CCFC) comes to you with this *Annual Report*, to inform you about the actions carried out during the 2009 Fiscal Year, and with the firm conviction that, through the results that have been achieved, you may experience the fruits of the work of organizations and communities that have united in the search for child-centred development.

Close to completing 50 years of international work and 15 years in Paraguay, today our work is oriented toward the support of community development programs with a rights-based approach. With an annual investment of more than a million Canadian Dollars in the country, we have been able to build synergies and to carry out actions that contribute to improving the quality of life of boys, girls and families who live in communities in situation of poverty. For CCFC all of this is only the beginning: the first page of a story that seeks to contribute to the eradication of poverty.

In alliance with 6 local partner organizations, we work in areas with high rates of vulnerability and poverty. Together with these organizations, we bring to life the strategic plans that guide our actions: papers that have been transformed from simple documents to become the tools of development. These documents give form to the projects and dreams of organized communities that participate in the search for solutions to those problems which impede the full exercise of their rights.

With this report, we put in your hands not only a document, but pages that contain the commitment of organizations, communities and families to work for a better present and a more promising future.

Recalling the well-known phrase “*United we are strong*”, we humbly add “*United we are strong, and able to make a difference*”.

Thank you for letting us to share with you the ideas and actions contained in this material.

Ms. Cynthia Egüez
Country Director

Cooperation for Development

OUR ORGANIZATION

The **Christian Children's Fund of Canada** (CCFC) was established in Canada in 1961 as an international organization that helps children. With the experience gained from over 47 years of work, learning from best practices and with the responsibility of promoting sustainable actions to improve the quality of life of boys and girls, their families and communities; CCFC is currently oriented toward child-centred Community Development.

CCFC came to Paraguay in 1995. Working in alliance with local partner organizations, it supports actions that contribute to guaranteeing that boys, girls and their families have full exercise of their rights.

CCFC supports programs that foster participation and that strengthen capacities to carry out sustainable community development processes. There are currently 18 programs being implemented in 41 communities in situations of poverty, in alliance with 6 local partner organizations. Actions are focused on 5 sectors: *Strengthening Institutional and Community Organizations*; *Education*; *Health & Nutrition*; *Water, Sanitation & Hygiene*, and *Sustainable Livelihood Development*.

Cross-cutting themes that are incorporated in the activities of the five sectors are Gender, Environment, and Children's Protection.

Programs are located in the following Districts... (See map)

- Villa Hayes
- Benjamín Aceval
- Villeta
- Ypané
- Limpio
- Luque
- J.A. Saldívar
- Itauguá
- Caacupé
- Arroyos & Esteros
- Cnel. Oviedo
- Caaguazú
- Villarrica
- Mauricio J. Troche
- Asunción

SPONSORSHIP

The **Christian Children’s Fund of Canada (CCFC)**, through its sponsorship system, ensures the allocation of financial support from donors to the boys and girls who need it most. Although it is possible to define specific criteria according to the needs of each country, some general criteria for sponsorship of a child include: family income; size of the family; and the parents’ economic situation. When a boy or a girl has a sponsor, the entire family and community benefit. The Sponsorship system makes it possible to obtain the financial resources needed to support programs, which are implemented in a way that fosters the participation of boys and girls (sponsored and non-sponsored), their families and the whole community.

Sponsorship brings different cultures together, which adds value to its actions. In Paraguay, CCFC currently has more than 7,800 boys and girls enrolled in the sponsorship system, and plans to continue growing. This number makes it possible for CCFC’s cooperation to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of approximately 46,500 people.

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCES

The **Christian Children’s Fund of Canada (CCFC)** is a member of the “*ChildFund Alliance*”, which brings together 12 international organizations that have in common that they work to address the problems, caused by poverty, that affect children in more than 55 countries.



In 2006, CCFC initiated a strategic alliance with another member organization of the *ChildFund Alliance*: the **Taiwan Fund for Children and Family (TFCF)**. This international organization also seeks the well-being of boys, girls and families in situation of poverty, currently reaching 31 countries, thanks to the contributions and donations of the people of Taiwan.

The alliance between CCFC and TFCF makes it possible to support more programs in Paraguay, thereby reaching more boys, girls, families and communities. Programs currently supported by CCFC with funds from TFCF are located in the districts of *Ypane* and *Caaguazu* (implemented in partnership with DEQUENI); in the district of *Villarrica* (implemented in partnership with CCAB) and in the district of *Mauricio Jose Troche* (implemented in partnership with HUNETC).

CCFC'S CURRENT PARTNERS IN PARAGUAY*

- ASOCIACIÓN HUNETC
- CENTRO CRISTIANO ASISTENCIAL BETEL (CCAB)
- FUNDACIÓN DEQUENI
- FUNDACIÓN KO'EMBOTA
- FORTALESER
- SERVICIO VOLUNTARIO MENONITA

* *In alphabetical order.*

Strengthening Institutional and Community Organizations

Experience has shown that programs can generate lasting change only when they contribute to a process in which people acquire or strengthen their knowledge, abilities and confidence, so that they themselves can bring about the changes they want to see in their communities.

The **Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC)**, through this sector, seeks to strengthen community organizations (parents' committees, neighbourhood committees, or others) so that they may assume leadership of their own process of development. Members of the community themselves identify the problems that need to be solved and the program accompanies their efforts to do so, whether it be to claim their right to have access to basic services, or to design a project and seek funding.

Through special projects, members of the community learn that they themselves have the power to bring about positive change in their lives. Capacities are installed and strengthened during the process, in such a way that the community may continue on their own.

Many communities have no public places where meetings may be held or to carry out program activities. Where such need exists, CCFC and the partner organization provide support for the construction of a community centre. Fostering community empowerment, CCFC contributes with the cost of building materials, while the community acquires the land and provides labour, for example

A LOOK AT THE RESULTS

(April 2008 to March 2009)

- 30 community groups have been formed and strengthened; there are 336 members of parents' committees, 160 members of neighborhood commissions, and 75 members of water committees.
- 2 community centers were inaugurated, providing space for community participation, and 5 more are under construction.
- 8 special projects were implemented: 1 community "soup kitchen" for children, 6 playgrounds, and improvement of 2 community centers.

Education

The **Christian Children's Fund of Canada** (CCFC) and its partner organizations are committed to assuring that boys and girls can fully exercise their Right to an Education.

Education means greater access to opportunities, better employment and an increase in a community's literacy rate. With the help of the partner organizations, CCFC not only raises community awareness of the importance of educating boys and girls, but also strengthens the capacities of fathers, mothers and teachers in order to assure an education with quality.

Within this sector, CCFC and its partner organizations work together with families and community members to develop solutions to overcome obstacles to basic education, such as lack of infrastructure, lack of school supplies or of educational materials, inadequate teaching methods, or the lack of parental involvement. There is also an effort to assure that school support classes are available for the boys and girls who need them, through the schools or community centres.

Early stimulation for boys and girls is essential for their academic development. The 6 local partners implement a technique known as "**Learning Through Play**" (LTP), in which fathers and mothers are also involved, training them to accompany the growth of their sons and daughters.

"PARTIDI" (*Street Soccer*)

Everybody plays. Everybody wins.

In Alliance with the "**Centre for the Development of Intelligence**" (CDI), CCFC and the partners DEQUENI, HUNETC, and CCA BETEL, have implemented the "**Partidi**" Project in which 1,143 boys and girls participated during this period.

"**PARTIDI**" is an educational project of CDI that uses soccer as a tool to generate community learning opportunities for boys, girls and youth from different contexts, offering an educational approach centred on the person and his or her development as an agent of social change.

A LOOK AT THE RESULTS

(April 2008 to March 2009)

- 2 classrooms were constructed and 26 have been improved or equipped.
- 327 parents participated in training on good child-rearing practices.
- 883 children participated in early stimulation activities, including *Learning Through Play* (LTP).
- 4,467 children participated in school support classes during the 2008 school year.
- 4,004 children received school supplies.
- 2,776 children received school uniforms and 2,591 received shoes.
- 3,421 children received a nutritious snack at school as a result of the program.
- 3,752 children and youth participated in artistic/cultural activities.
- 2,970 children participated in sports activities.
- 1,604 children and 1,182 parents participated in training on Children's Rights.
- 501 children and youth participated in computer training.
- 117 teachers participated in teacher-training workshops to improve teaching methodologies.

Health & Nutrition

Boys and girls have the right to adequate healthcare. The **Christian Children's Fund of Canada** (CCFC), in cooperation with partner organizations, promotes programs that contribute to assuring community access to available healthcare services. At the same time, programs strengthen a community's ability to seek out options that facilitate healthcare for all its inhabitants, implementing activities such as training for community health promoters, or the opening of first aid posts in those communities that have no pharmacies nearby.

Programs supported by CCFC are oriented toward prevention, through vaccination, anti-parasite medications, vitamins, education in practices for good hygiene and raised awareness of HIV/Aids. The height and weight of boys and girls are monitored, and special attention is given to those who are malnourished or at risk. Malnourishment, in addition to being caused by the lack of food, is also the result of a lack of information; that is why our programs include training on aspects of nutrition and on the food that boys and girls need in order to grow up healthy. Also, the consumption of vegetables is promoted through community or family vegetable gardens.

Annually, CCFC receives important batches of medicine, which are distributed in each country of operation. These medicines reach boys, girls and communities for free, as part of this sector's activities. This year, in addition to the delivery of medicines to partner organizations, they also reached the *Ministry of Health & Social Welfare* (MSPyBS), the *Secretariat for Childhood and Adolescence* (SNNA) and the *First Lady's Office*, in order to contribute to the work of government organizations responsible for ensuring the Right to Health.

Between November of 2008 and February of 2009, CCFC distributed in Paraguay more than 1 million chewable pills of *Albendazole*, 275 thousands pills of *Amoxicillin*, more than 3 thousand bottles of *Ampicillin*, 500 thousand coated pills of *Ferric-Sulphate*, 200 thousand coated pills of *Ibuprofen*, 740 thousand coated *Multi Vitamin pills*, 200 thousand pills of *Vitamin C*, among others to prevent and treat common childhood illnesses.

A LOOK AT THE RESULTS

(April 2008 to March 2009)

- 3,148 children received medical check-ups, and 135 children received treatment for special health problems.
- 714 children received dental care.
- 3,397 children were vaccinated.
- 12,302 community members (6,040 children) received anti-parasite treatment and complementary vitamins.
- 3,266 children participated in activities to learn good hygiene practices (tooth-brushing and/or hand-washing)
- 4,274 children received nutritional diagnosis; of these.
- 6,025 children benefited from nutritious snacks (other than school snacks),
- 1,560 children received lunch through the programs.
- 256 parents received training on proper nutrition, and 76 attended cooking classes.
- 11 community and 76 family gardens were established and maintained to produce vegetables to improve family nutrition.
- 421 youth and adults participated in classes on the prevention of Hiv/Aids and other STDs.
- 1 health post was built and inaugurated as a result of program activities and in alliance with other organizations and local government
- 64 community health promoters were trained to provide first aid and other basic health care services.

Water, Hygiene & Sanitation

Access to clean water and a healthy environment are essential for good health. The investment made by CCFC, partner organizations and the community in potable water and sanitation results not only in the reduction of diseases, but also saves time; when water is not available, it's often necessary to walk long distances to fetch it (with all the risks that that implies, especially for women, boys and girls).

Access to clean water also makes it possible to practice good hygiene, to grow vegetables or to raise animals.

Programs supported by the **Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC)** in this sector promote the importance of caring for water resources and of good hygiene, both important components to achieve good health. Boys, girls, parents and other community members are trained in appropriate hygiene practices, construction of latrines, and other environmental sanitation practices to prevent diseases. Other activities include community clean-ups to prevent dengue fever and other diseases, and tree-planting to protect the environment.

A LOOK AT THE RESULTS

(April 2008 to March 2009)

- 132 families with access to potable water, and a total of 678 families since 2007.
- 400 persons attended classes on the importance of potable water and the proper use of this resource.
- 315 youth and adults, and 1,223 children, participated in activities on the importance of the environment for health and well-being.
- 63 community clean-ups were held in 16 communities, with the participation of 436 community members
- 11 tree-planting campaigns were held with the participation of 608 persons, including 335 children; 2,045 trees were planted.

Sustainable Livelihood Development

In order to promote self-management processes in the community, families need sustainable ways to generate income. Actions such as those implemented in this sector provide lasting solutions to help those who most need it; in this way they are able to learn to maintain themselves and contribute to the community's economy.

In this sector, Micro-Enterprise Development programs encourage members of the community to generate their own businesses and to develop their technical abilities. Some have access to micro-credit to strengthen existing small businesses, while others participate in production projects.

The Sustainable Livelihood Development sector also includes vocational training for youth and adults, offering opportunities to learn skills in computing, plumbing, electricity, sewing, hairdressing, and others. This improves employability as well as the ability to generate income.

Currently, 5 of CCFC's 6 partner organizations in Paraguay offer activities related to this sector in their programs, and the majority of participants are women.

A LOOK AT THE RESULTS (April 2008 to March 2009)

- 137 community members received micro-credit; 81% of recipients were women.
- 68 adults and youth received training in computer skills.
- 250 adolescents, youth and adults completed vocational training programs.
- 120 persons received training in vegetable gardening for income generation.

CCFC's Investment in Paraguay

Fiscal Year 2009 – (April 2008 to March 2009)*

(Left of the pie)

Health & Nutrition
98,377.86 9%

Sponsorship System
53,055.29 5%

Sustainable Livelihood Development
46,496.51 4%

Water, Hygiene & Sanitation
13,055.32 1%

Special activities
for cross-cutting themes
957.43 0%

(Right of the pie)

Partners' Operating
Costs

102,680.12 9%

Education
140,632.96 12%

Strengthening Institutional and Community Organizations
134,591.12 12%

Special activities and celebrations
194,228.62 17%

Coordination and implementation of programs
371,484.71 32%

Total 1,155,559.94 100%
(Amounts expressed in Canadian Dollars)

(Left column)

Health & Nutrition

- Development and strengthening of skills and abilities
- Community mobilization
- Construction
- Supplies for health and nutrition
- Medical treatment / special funds
- Campaigns

Sponsorship System

- Boys and girls enrolment & data forms
- Annual Letters / Cards
- Translations
- Local trips for monitoring
- Child Progress Report forms
- Trainings for partners and communities in sponsorship system
- Other expenses

Sustainable Livelihood Development

- Development and strengthening of skills and abilities
- Community Mobilization
- Construction
- Supplies and materials
- Other expenses

Water, Hygiene & Sanitation

- Development and strengthening of skills and capacities
- Community mobilization
- Construction
- Supplies
- Strengthening of potable water systems
- Other expenses

Special activities for cross-cutting themes

- Environmental protection
- Gender's equity

Partners' operating costs

- Office supplies
- Communication (telephone, internet)
- Administrative salaries
- Other expenses (bank expenses, utilities, rent, maintenance and repair, other expenses)
- Social Security / other taxes

(Right column)

Education

- Development and strengthening of skills and abilities
- Community mobilization
- Construction/improvement of infrastructure
- Educational supplies
- Others (sport supplies, school uniforms, scholarships, other expenses)

Strengthening Institutional and Community Organizations

- Development and strengthening of skills and abilities
- Community mobilization
- Training of partners' staff
- Construction
- Funds for acquisition of assets – community
- Funds for acquisition of assets – partner
- Start-up funds (new programs)
- Networking
- Public Relations activities
- Participatory Analysis/ Mid-Term Evaluation
- “*Partidi*” (street soccer) Program
- Special Funds

Special activities and celebrations

- Special celebrations (Day of the Child, Three Kings' Day, etc)

Coordination and implementation of programs

- Counterpart contribution for salaries of:
 - Program Coordinators
 - Community Promoters
 - Teachers/Educators
 - Doctors/Nurses
 - Sponsorship Staff
- Social security/Other taxes
- Other (Social Workers, Micro-Enterprise Consultants)
- Transportation expenses
- Staff Uniforms (shirts, jackets)
- Other expenses

(*) This investment does not include operating expenses of the Country Office: 100 % of the amount indicated here is delivered to the partner organizations for program implementation.

CCFC around the World

Working in alliance with local partner organizations, CCFC currently reaches Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania, India, Sri Lanka, Nicaragua and Paraguay.

OUR MISSION

Christian Children's Fund of Canada (CCFC) reaches out around the world to children in need, families and communities of all faiths to demonstrate Christ's love.

Working side-by-side with our colleagues in developing countries, we emphasize child and community development starting with basic assistance and leading to programs stressing self help and eventual independence.

OUR VISION

Striving as a worldwide team, we are creating a future of hope for children. We are renowned for our compassion for children of all faiths and cultural backgrounds. We are inspired by Christ's example of personal, caring love

OUR VALUES

Results, Respect, Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence



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