



CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST

Annual Report - 2016

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This report of CanAssist activities in 2016 was compiled by
John A Geddes, Trustee and Director of Operations for CanAssist
March 2017.



Governance

The CanAssist African Relief Trust (CAART) was registered as a Canadian charity in April 2008. Our Charitable number is 8325 18211 RR0001.

Trustees for 2016 were:

Cathy Cleary

John Geddes

Evelyn Bowering

Michael Dent

Susan Potvin



We had an incredibly busy year, with record donations and project activities. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our many donors, both individual and corporate. Without your help we would not be able to carry out our mission to help impoverished communities in Eastern Africa.

When we chose the name CanAssist in 2008, we thought that we could provide Canadian assistance to impoverished areas in Africa. Barrack Obama had popularized the "Yes we can" slogan and we thought we would add to it as "Yes we can assist." It has also become clear that we can help concerned

and generous Canadians who want to help but are not sure how. By acting responsibly and efficiently we can assist our donors to find a channel to steer their charitable donations to improving the well-being of African men, women and children.



Contact Us

The CanAssist trustees are always happy to receive feedback, suggestions, and financial support for the work we do in East Africa. You can contact us at:

CanAssist African Relief Trust,

P.O. Box 1385, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. K7L5C6

Email address — info@canassistafrica.ca

Follow us on our website or social media links:

Web site — <http://canassistafrica.ca>

Twitter — @canassistafrica

Facebook group page — CanAssist African Relief Trust

A brief overview of CanAssist projects in 2016

St Catherine School, Siaya District, Kenya

In 2016, with financial assistance from OECTA and RTO, CanAssist helped construct a new building at the St Catherine School in Kenya. The building was officially opened in early January 2017 when CanAssist Trustee John Geddes and Nancy Grew visited the school.



Hope School, Mbita, Kenya

CanAssist funded installation of a water tank at the "lower" Campus of the school and continued to provide money to construct school furnishings.

School supplies

Thanks to financial support from the Ontario Teachers Federation, our Safari group was able to bring school supplies to several of the schools we visited early in 2016.



Kaswanga School, Rusinga Island, Kenya

We worked with the school board and teachers at this girls boarding school to construct a unique sanitation complex. The terrain proved difficult but we persevered and the building was officially opened in early January 2017. CanAssist will continue to work with this school to improve sanitation for the 200 secondary school girls who attend the school.



SP Geddes ECDC, Osiri Village, Kenya

An energy-efficient Envirofit stove was purchased for the SP Geddes Early Childhood Education Centre in Osiri Village, Kenya. The school reports a dramatic savings on wood to fuel the cooking of school lunches with this stove.



Adam Nkuyan School, Rift Valley, Kenya

With specific help from RTO, OECTA and ETFO, CanAssist constructed new classrooms and furnished them at this rural Maasai school that was one of our first project associates in 2008.



Hope for Youth School, Mukono, Uganda

Throughout 2016, we worked with this school to complete the building to be used for teachers' accommodation and a health room. Furnishings for the new teachers' accommodations were provided with funding from the Grant family of Kingston. This proved to be a big project but we were happy that by early 2017, the building was ready for occupancy. CanAssist also provided school supplies to H4Y thanks to the generosity of students at the Rideau Public School in Westport, Ontario.

In the spring we built a kitchen building - the Whistle Stop in memory of student Denis and equipped it with an energy efficient Envirofit stove.



Kayenje Elementary School, Uganda

We received an urgent request from this school to help construct girls latrines to replace the old ones that had collapsed. Later in 2016 we built latrines to service the boys at the school as well.

Kabuhinzi School, Ukerewe Island, Tanzania

Early in 2016 CanAssist funded construction of latrines at this school and as the year drew to a close we were in the process of building teachers accommodation at the school with funds provided by ETF0.



Kanyala Little Stars, Rusinga Island, Kenya

In mid-2016, this school, a long time associate, suffered extensive damage when part of the roof was torn off two classrooms in a severe wind storm. CanAssist came to the rescue to provide money to repair the damage.

Ndori community, Kenya

CanAssist funded installation of water tanks and latrines at three schools in Siaya District of Kenya, Wambua Elementary School, Obwaya Primary School, and Nyalunya Secondary School. In addition CanAssist purchased an Envirofit stove for the Nyalunya Secondary School kitchen.



Ramula Secondary School, Kenya

This secondary school with 150 students was in desperate need of a kitchen facility to prepare their lunches. They were using an open fire on the dirt floor of a small building. We built them a new kitchen building and installed an Envirofit Stove. They have been delighted with the new facilities. The head teacher reports that there has been an 80% saving on required wood fuel to cook lunches - good for both the environment and the school budget.



Olimai Clinic, Uganda

CanAssist funded installation of a security fence and gate around this health centre in rural Uganda.

Volunteers in Mission for Children (VMC) – Jonathan Holiday School

CanAssist has been happy to team up with Heather Haynes' Worlds Collide initiative to help fund development of a school near Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo. Early in 2016 we funded construction of a security fence around the property and later in the year we teamed up with donors who wished to help the Holiday family honour the late Jonathan Holiday with construction of school classrooms. This proved to be our largest single project of 2016. The outcome was most satisfying, however, with three very well-built classrooms at this facility. Late in the year we started construction of latrines for the school and these were in progress as 2016 drew to a close.



Mukono Technical Business Institute

This very busy and successful vocational training facility for young adults in a rural Ugandan community was in need of a kitchen to provide food for the students and teachers. The school was able to contribute a significant portion of the labour and some materials and the kitchen was built. We added an Envirofit stove to the mix and they were most pleased with the outcome.



Murera Group

With support from the Grey Gates Foundation in Vancouver BC, CanAssist funded construction of school desks for three schools in Ruiru District of Kenya.

Kenya Help

In 2016, CanAssist also continued our association with Kingstonian Nancy Stevens and her Kenya Help organization to support the Womens' Vocational Training Centre in Ngong, Kenya. Nancy's supporters had raised funds for a wonderful new building that was completed and opened early in 2016 and later in the year they provided funds for CanAssist to build a security wall around the compound and some pig pens so the group could raise livestock for income generation. We will continue to work with Kenya Help in 2017 to improve this facility.



2016 Financial Summary

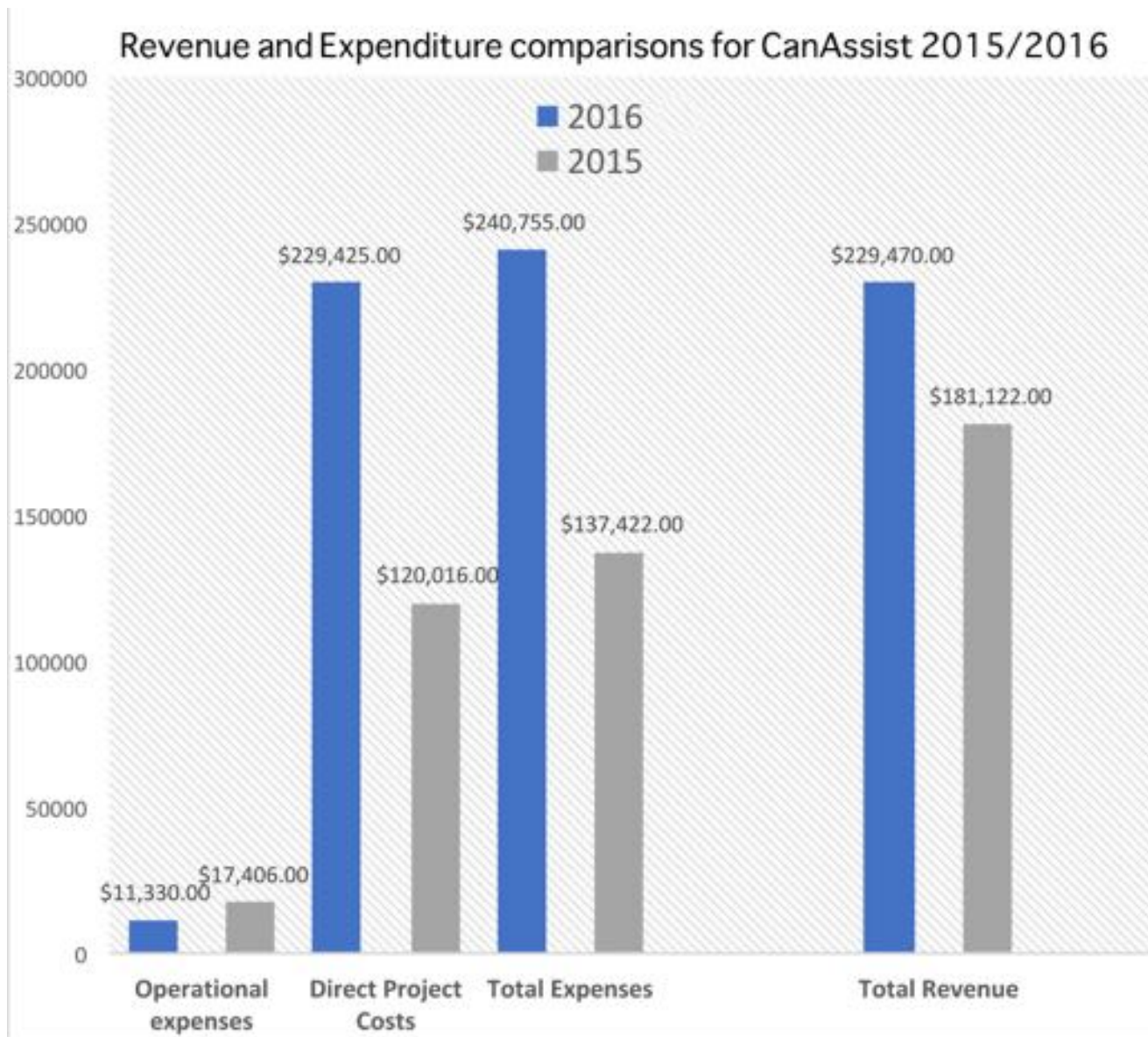
2016 was a busy year for CanAssist. Our revenues and expenditures for the year increased substantially over 2015. This brought with it increased work to supervise and administer our project activity. Despite this, our Canadian overhead expenses remained below 5% of our total expenditures. We started the year with a substantial bank surplus and are happy to have finished 2016 with net assets of \$131,023 to fund projects we have committed to for 2017.

Statement of Operations - CanAssist 2016

<u>Revenue</u>	2016	2015
Donations	\$229,355.00	\$ 171,716.00
Other fundraising	\$115.00	\$ 9,406.00
Total Revenue	\$229,470.00	\$ 181,122.00

<u>Expenditures</u>		
Bank charges and interest	\$ 1,715.00	\$ 709.00
Fundraising	\$ 624.00	\$ 7,252.00
Liability insurance	\$ 1,738.00	\$ 1,738.00
Office and general	\$ 3,343.00	\$ 2,914.00
Telephone	\$ 963.00	\$ 558.00
African Field Rep expenses	\$ 1,037.00	\$ 2,367.00
Professional fees (Acct)	\$ 1,910.00	\$ 1,868.00
Total operating expenses	\$ 11,330.00	\$ 17,406.00
Project costs	\$ 229,425.00	\$ 120,016.00
Total Expenses	\$ 240,755.00	\$ 137,422.00
Excess Revenue over exp	\$ (11,285.00)	\$ 43,700.00

<u>Summary</u>	2016	2015
Operational expenses	\$ 11,330.00	\$ 17,406.00
Direct Project Costs	\$ 229,425.00	\$ 120,016.00
Total Expenses	\$ 240,755.00	\$ 137,422.00
Total Revenue	\$ 229,470.00	\$ 181,122.00



The financial summary of CanAssist African Relief Trust (and any other Canadian Registered Charity) may be found on CRA's website.

The financial books of CanAssist are prepared by Michael Dent, (treasurer and trustee) and unaudited financial statements for 2016 were produced by Collins Barrow, Chartered Accountants.

In addition to our many private supporters, we received generous support in 2016 from the following organizations/groups.

- The Sasamat Foundation, Vancouver, B.C. Canada
- Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO)
- The Ontario Teachers' Federation (OTF)
- Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETF0)
- English Catholic Teachers' Association of Ontario (OECTA)
- Mackenzie Financial Corporation
- RBC Global Assessment Management
- Bridgehouse Asset Managers
- Greygates Foundation, Vancouver B. C. Canada
- Greene Foundation, Vancouver
- Kingston Community Foundation
- Students at Glenburnie Elementary School and Rideau Public School (Westport)
- Peak Group, Montreal Quebec
- Frank Family Foundation



Challenges and successes

Once again our low Canadian dollar relative to other international currencies has increased project implementation costs. Our donors, however, have responded generously to support our ongoing work and we are delighted to have had a banner year, both in terms of revenue and project activity. Our revenues for 2016 exceeded 2015 by nearly \$50,000. Throughout 2016 we funded a record \$229,000 in project activity.

We have also been grateful for donations from various Ontario teachers' organizations and other Canadian foundations. A list of these can be found on page 14. We work hard to maintain a secure donor base of individuals who are enthusiastic about the work we do and also to continue to deserve the support of these other organizations.

In 2016 our trustees spent many hours working on strategic planning that will insure sustainability of CanAssist. Over the upcoming year, we will add new trustees and distribute management tasks to be sure that our mission can continue. We will also be increasing the responsibility and autonomy of our valued field representative, Daniel Otieno. Dan has been with us for a few years now and has become the strength of our CanAssist backbone in East Africa. Although loading Dan with more work increases our African expenses, we are glad to say that our Canadian Administration expenses have remained low, at less than 5 percent. This means that 95 per cent of every donation dollar is spent in Africa.



2016 Safari of CanAssist Supporters to East Africa

Early in 2016 a group of 22 CanAssist supporters set out on safari to visit several CanAssist associate sites in Kenya and Uganda. We appreciate the energy and organization of Gabriella Zamojski who arranged logistics and made this opportunity happen. We visited ten different schools that have been supported in one way or another by CanAssist and enjoyed fellowship and music and laughter with our African friends. Many of the photos in this report were captured during that trip. Here are just a few more.



Teachers' accommodation in rural African Schools

The CanAssist African Relief Trust (www.canassistafrica.ca) has worked with many communities in East Africa to provide infrastructure support to both elementary and secondary schools. We have built classrooms and provided furnishings, latrines and improved water sources. Our mandate is to provide tangible and sustainable infrastructure but not to fund programming, salaries or ongoing maintenance expenses.

We realize that classrooms, although absolutely necessary, are not the only key link to provide education. Motivated teachers are an essential component.

Most of the schools CanAssist has supported are in remote rural areas. Because there is a relative dearth of educated adults in these regions, the teachers often come from other communities. Their salaries are low - the equivalent of about \$180 Canadian per month for government-paid teachers but much less, as low as \$100 a month for the locally run rural schools. From that, the teachers from distant communities must find and pay for accommodation so they can be close to the school.

In an effort to attract and maintain qualified teachers, the schools try to offer accommodation to their teachers who come from other districts. Sometimes having some sort of teachers' housing is demanded by the Ministry of Education but the government provides no financial support to the school to achieve this. The buildings may be simple iron-walled structures; some are stone block buildings with



Latrine constructed at the Kabuhinzi school with CanAssist funds in early 2016.

a few rooms in them, shared by up to 6 teachers. Before we constructed a new building at the Nkuyan School, four men shared a room in a small building. Cooking was done outdoors. Their toilet is the school pit latrine.

In 2015, CanAssist supported the construction of teachers' accommodation at two schools, one at the Nkuyan School in a very remote Maasai community in Kenya and another at Hope for Youth School in Uganda. The Nkuyan building is a simple iron-sheeting structure. The building at Hope for Youth is more permanent and also has a room that will be used as a Health Room for student care.

In 2016 CanAssist with support from the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario constructed a teacher's accommodation building at the Kyabazaala School in Uganda. In early 2017, CanAssist has started construction of a teachers' housing unit at the Kyabazaala Elementary School in Uganda.

CanAssist recognizes the importance of having adequate housing for teachers at rural African Schools. Help to construct teacher accommodation is high on most school request priority lists. Simple shared dormitory-like buildings, owned by the school allow the schools to attract and retain qualified teachers. CanAssist understands that this as an important element to enable these African schools to provide education to children in these remote areas.



This room was home to four teachers at the Nkuyan School before CanAssist funded construction of a new teachers' house.



The CanAssist teachers' accommodation at Kabuhinzi School, completed in December 2016.



Teachers at the Kyabazaala Elementary School in Uganda welcome a CanAssist visitor with the gift of a fresh local pineapple.



CanAssist visitors cut the ribbon on the new teachers' house at the Hope for Youth School in Uganda. 13/02/16

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



NANCY STEVENS CELEBRATES THE OPENING OF THE CANASSIST-SUPPORTED, KENYA HELP WOMENS' EMPOWERMENT CENTRE IN NGONG, KENYA ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 22, 2016. CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS ACHIEVEMENT.

CanAssist helping other Kingston groups that work in Africa

In the past few months, CanAssist has spread its influence to include three other Kingston-based groups that work in East Africa. We have been happy to coordinate infrastructure projects that will support the work that they do in their respective communities.

In cooperation with Nancy Stevens and her Kenya Help organization, CanAssist has completed

construction of a Women's Empowerment Centre building in Ngong, Kenya. This facility will provide vocational training for vulnerable girls and women.

CanAssist recently partnered with Cathy Cleary and Elizabeth Good to install latrines at the small Kabuhinzi School on Ukerewe Island, Tanzania where we built a classroom in 2015.

We have also helped Heather Haynes and Worlds Collide in Goma, Democratic Republic of Congo to construct a much-needed stone security wall around their property for the Tchukudu Kids Home.

CanAssist has been delighted to partner with these friends and their donors to help support African communities.



THE NEW LATRINE AND HAND WASHING STATION AT KABUHINZI SCHOOL ON UKEREWE ISLAND.



WORKMEN BUILDING A SOLID STONE FENCE AROUND THE TCHUKUDU PROPERTY IN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO



DAN OTIENO, CANASSIST'S AFRICAN FIELD REPRESENTATIVE WITH EDWINA KWALLA FROM THE KENYA HELP WOMENS' EMPOWERMENT CENTRE

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



LUNCH FOR THE 250 STUDENTS AT HOPE FOR YOUTH SCHOOL WAS BEING COOKED OVER AN OPEN FIRE AT THIS MAKESHIFT KITCHEN AREA. THE NEW CANASSIST BUILDING WITH A FUEL-EFFICIENT STOVE WILL BE A GREAT IMPROVEMENT TO THE SCHOOL AND SAVE FIREWOOD (AND MONEY).

What's cooking at CanAssist?

Firewood is becoming less available in many African communities as it is being used for charcoal production and is often the only source of household cooking fuel. Schools have trouble finding the money to purchase firewood for cooking rice or greens or porridge for a mid-day meal to students –often the only meal available to kids throughout the day.

Our associates at the SP Geddes School in Kenya have reported that the fuel-efficient Envirofit stove provided by CanAssist in early 2016 has been able to reduce the consumption of firewood by up to 80%.

CanAssist is now constructing kitchen buildings and fuel-efficient stoves at four additional rural schools in Kenya and Uganda -

Hope for Youth (Uganda), Ramula and Nyalunya Secondary Schools (Kenya) and Mukono Technical Business Institute school of vocational training (Uganda).

Your ongoing support of CanAssist work makes this possible and we thank you for your continued trust in our ability to help in East Africa.



"Thanks for supporting this project. We are building a permanent structure that will last for over 50 years, given the un-compromised use of quality building materials"
Ronald Lutaaya, MTBI



THE MUKONO TECHNICAL BUSINESS INSTITUTE HAS BEEN ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE NEARLY HALF THE COST OF BUILDING THIS KITCHEN AND AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDE PRACTICAL VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR STUDENTS AT THE SCHOOL.

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



WE EXTEND THANKS TO THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY CONTRIBUTED TO OUR 2016 CANADA DAY CHALLENGE.

THERE IS STILL TIME (UNTIL JULY 15) TO HAVE YOUR DONATION MATCHED BY THE SASAMAT FOUNDATION OF VANCOUVER BC. ACT NOW.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE WWW.CANASSISTAFRICA.CA

OR JOIN OUR CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE.

Happy Canada Day!

In this turbulent time of Brexit and the US election circus, we can pause to reflect on July 1, how fortunate we are to live in Canada.

Indeed, when we see how others struggle for basic amenities like clean water, adequate sanitation, health care and education, we are reminded that we have lucked out to be living in Canada where these basic services are taken for granted.

We also are a country of tolerance and compassion and part of that character is shown in the way we assist others less fortunate.

CanAssist is currently working to install latrines at a girls school in Kenya and a school in rural Uganda and water catchment in two others. We are embarking on installation of a security fence for a clinic in Uganda, and are constructing school

furnishings for three schools. We are completing a classroom at a Kenyan school and planning one at another. We will soon build teachers' accommodations at a Tanzanian school and are planning for six classrooms in conjunction with World's Collide in the Congo.

We rely on your ongoing support to accomplish these goals.

Happy Canada Day.



CANADIAN FLAGS FLY PROUDLY AT SEVERAL EAST AFRICAN SCHOOLYARDS WHERE CANASSIST HAS HELPED.

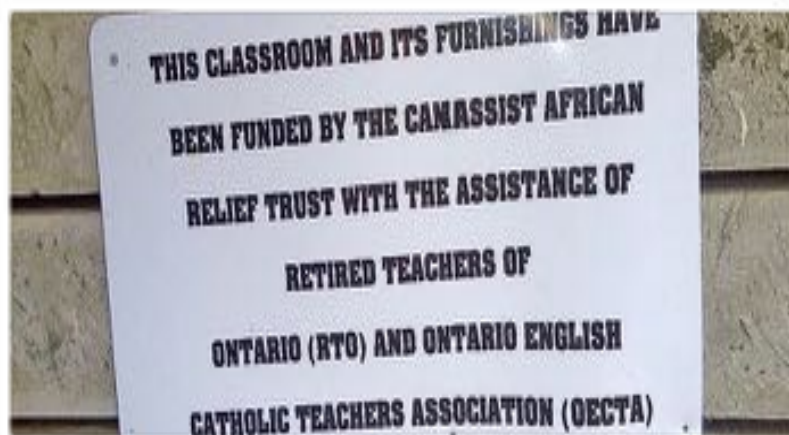


CAN ASSIST HAS FUNDED SEVERAL INITIATIVES AT THE OLIMAI HEALTH CENTRE IN RURAL UGANDA.



CANASSIST HAS PROVIDED WATER AND SANITATION TO THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN IN EAST AFRICAN SCHOOLS.

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CANASSIST, CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE

WWW.CANASSISTAFRICA.CA

OR JOIN OUR CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR CAR RALLY ON OCTOBER 1 IN KINGSTON! (DETAILS TO FOLLOW ONLINE.)

Thanks to our many supporters

As teachers in Ontario prepare their classrooms for a new school season, we acknowledge their support over the past few months with school projects in Africa.

CanAssist has recently received generous support from the **Retired Teachers of Ontario (RTO)** and the **Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA)** that has helped construct and furnish a new classroom at the Adam Nkuyan School in a very remote rural Maasai community in Kenya.

The **Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO)** have also provided funding that will soon be used to construct a teachers' accommodation at the Kabuhinzi School on Ukerewe Island, Tanzania.

Before the end of the last school year, students at **Glenburnie Elementary School** raised money to supply furnishings for an upcoming set of classrooms at the St Catherine School in Kenya.

Many of you contributed to our July Challenge with gifts exceeding our goal and we received a matching donation of \$17,500 from the **Sasamat Foundation** of Vancouver B.C.

We are already using these funds to continue the work we do to improve access to education for African children.

Our heartfelt thanks for your ongoing generous support.



STUDENTS IN THE CANASSIST CLASSROOM AT THE ADAM NKUYAN SCHOOL - AUG 2016.



WATER CATCHMENT SYSTEM AND HAND-WASHING STATION AT THE HOPE SCHOOL, MBITA, KENYA



CANASSIST-FUNDED GIRLS LATRINE AT THE KAYENJE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN RURAL UGANDA.

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL AT THE JONATHAN HOLIDAY SCHOOL IN GOMA, DRC.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CANASSIST, CHECK OUT OUR WEB PAGE OR JOIN OUR FACEBOOK GROUP PAGE - CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST.

CANASSIST APPRECIATES YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT.

A Thanksgiving treat for CanAssist

In the past few months, CanAssist has teamed up with Kingston artist, Heather Haynes and Worlds Collide to improve access to education for vulnerable children in the Democratic Republic of Congo – a new geographic outreach for us. We are very satisfied with the outcome.

On Canadian Thanksgiving Monday, a school opened at the Tchukudu Womens' Group compound in Goma, DRC. We have been delighted to see

the smiling faces as kids who would otherwise have no access to education are sitting in three brand new "state of the DRC art" classrooms.

This has been made possible by private donations from friends of the Holiday family as they honour the memory of their late son Jonathan.

The **Jonathan Holiday School** is now open! Our next challenge is to

fund rainwater catchment and sanitation facilities for the school.

CanAssist continues to work in several communities in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and now Congo with a focus to improve educational opportunities or health.

A heads up - two CanAssist donors will team up to match donations to CanAssist in conjunction with Giving Tuesday. Stay tuned and double the bang for your buck.



CARPENTERS CONSTRUCT DESKS FOR THE SCHOOL. THE PROJECT PROVIDED WORK FOR LOCALS.



THE HOLIDAY SCHOOL PROVIDES AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATION WHERE NONE EXISTED BEFORE.

GivingTuesday



November 29, 2016

DECEMBER 2016

CANASSIST AFRICAN RELIEF TRUST



We are delighted to report that our matching campaign in Giving Tuesday week resulted in over \$30,000 in donations and that both the Frank Family Foundation and the other donor who were going to match a total of \$20,000 have increased the match to a full \$30,000. It is also remarkable that there were no fundraising expenses to CanAssist for this campaign. Zero. Every dollar of donation for that week will be spent in Africa.

The money raised will go, in part, to the Jonathan Holiday School in Democratic Republic of Congo, the Kyabazaala Elementary School in Uganda, the S.P. Geddes ECDC in Osiri Village, Kenya, the Kenya Help Women's project in Ngong, Kenya, the Maasai Girls Training Centre in Kenya, and a few other smaller school and community projects in East Africa.

If you missed a chance to participate in this, you can still qualify for a 2016 tax receipt if your donation reaches us by December 31. Happy Holidays and good vibes for 2017.