Season’s Greetings from the staff of ADRA Canada

Why I Helped

I donated to the Tsunami fund, not because I had to, but because when I saw the horrible event that had taken place, it made me think about us. As a rich country, think of $5 as, enough to, maybe buy lunch. People in Sri Lanka would be thankful, and it would last, about a week. It made me feel selfish, and sad, sad, because of the devastation, and because of how little I had done about it since the event had happened. Once I got involved, I felt like I had helped, even though in a small way. I think God has blessed us, not just for ourselves, but to help others, and show them Christ through us, just think of all the people who prayed for help. The money we sent gave them hope, faith, and an answer to their prayers.

by Ali McKay
6th Grade Student
College Heights Christian School
Lacombe, Alberta

To Our Donors

The year 2005 has almost gone and it has been quite a year for ADRA Canada! We have had the largest disaster in modern history, the Asian tsunami, to deal with and then recently the hurricanes in the southern United States.

Of course, our main thrust at ADRA Canada is development where we enable people to stand on their own feet and improve their lives which are often stranded in poverty. The main cause of suffering in our world is not disasters but poverty, which is very real to approximately two billion people. Without your continuing support of ADRA Canada we would not be able to work to alleviate poverty in so many places!

Many thanks to all our supporters across Canada for making our work possible in development and disaster response. Have a wonderful holiday season, and let us all join together in praying that our Lord will return soon to end all this world’s suffering and take us home to be with Him!

K. Oliver Lofton-Brook
Executive Director
ADRA Canada
Oshawa, Ontario
ADRA National

Breakfast Club - Aldergrove, British Columbia

Last year in April, a young man walked into the breakfast club at an inner-city school in Aldergrove, BC. He was currently in high school. Our breakfast club serves inner-city elementary school children each morning. The young man was a previous “breakfast club kid.” We were a bit surprised to see him there and discovered that he had run away from home the night before. He looked tired and hungry. It was nice to know that out of the few places he could have chosen to go, he chose the safe haven of the breakfast club where he knew he would be taken care of physically and emotionally. After breakfast, his family was contacted, and he was reunited with them. We knew we had made a difference in his life.

People Helping People - Calgary, Alberta

Jacob is a five-year-old boy whose family had fallen on hard times. Jacob and his father would come to the People Helping People ministry on Sunday afternoons when the family had exhaust- ed their resources. They would partake of the food offered to them and take some home to Mom, who was quite ill. Before leaving for home, Jacob and his dad would always come over to thank us for helping them. For a little more than a year they came at least twice a month, and then they seemed to disappear. Four or five months later, Jacob and his dad were back, but this time they did not come to eat. They came to tell us that Mom was healthy again and had a job at the hospital. They had just stopped by to let us know that they were back on their feet and to express how much they appreciated our help. We haven’t seen them since, but we pray that they are still doing well.

It is the privilege and duty of Christians to help our brothers and sisters in times of need. People Helping People, a community service of Garden Road Seventh-day Adventist church in Calgary, is out on the street every Sunday afternoon providing hot meals to low-income families and the homeless of the Forest Lawn area. Clothing and toiletry items are also distributed as they are available.

Morning Coffee

This is a true story shared by a project leader in Ontario.

I go to the club (gym) about 6 o’clock each morning and work out for about an hour before heading off to work. On my way to work I always meet homeless people, not smelling very good or dressed well — many with no proper coat, etc. Often I meet this guy who asks for money. I give him a dollar. It’s not much, but at least he can buy a cup of coffee or something.

One morning in January he met me and handed me his cup of coffee saying, “It’s for you!” Looking into the cup, I noticed it was less than clean; but his gesture was overwhelming. In the back of my mind I asked myself, “What would Jesus do?” I believe Jesus would have accepted the drink, so I did also. What’s important is to demonstrate compassion and love in action so this homeless man can see Jesus in me.
ADRA Global
Assistance for the Physically Challenged - Yemen

When both six-year-old Hagir and her younger sister Nasim were born with cleft palates, their father, Ali Ibrahim, didn’t know what to do. He and his wife now had seven children, and he had already sold everything the family owned to pay for corrective surgery for the girls’ older brother who had also been born with a cleft palate. Ali says, “I had long forgotten about doing anything to help my daughters, until one day my brother-in-law called.” The brother-in-law told Ali about a program through ADRA and CBR that could help the girls. At first Ali didn’t know if he should believe the story, because it seemed too good to be true, but he visited the CBR office where arrangements were made for the girls and him to travel to the private hospital in Sana. Hagir and Nasim were admitted for five days, and their surgeries were very successful. Ali and his family are thankful to Allah, ADRA and CBR for providing the treatment Hagir and Nasim needed.

East African Mission Orphanage Water Project - Kenya

When little Wendy arrived at East African Mission Orphanage, she was suffering from tuberculosis and a wound from an operation on her neck that refused to heal. Her young mother had died of AIDS, and her only living relative was her great-grandmother. The great-grandmother was struggling to put food on the table for herself and five children, and so Wendy and her siblings came to live at the orphanage.

After many months and plenty of care from the orphanage staff, Wendy has recovered completely. This past September Wendy turned four and began attending the orphanage preschool. Ralph, the orphanage director, describes her as a “little ball of energy” and reports that she and her siblings are doing extremely well.

Education Project - Mongolia

Through this project, classes in health, life skills, and basic literacy and numeracy training are offered for Mongolian children who aren’t currently attending school.

Dulamsuren is eleven-years-old and used to attend school, but he had to drop out because of an injury he sustained falling off a horse. Now he attends the ADRA tutoring centre and says, “I have a lot of friends. It is very nice for me that I sing a song, draw the pictures and read the tales. I want to attend [the] next level of training.”

Tserennadmid is thirteen years old and walks four kilometres to attend training. “I learned to write and read thanks to this training,” he says. “In the future I want to study at the secondary school level eagerly.”

Chantsaldulum lives with her mother, brother and younger sister. She attends training and especially enjoys the classes in life skills. “I communicate with my younger sister and brother properly,” she says. “And thanks to the health training, my younger sister and brother wash their teeth and hands very often. I [understand that] I have to be healthy to study well.”
ADRA National

Adventist Health Screening

The results are coming in, and the stats are amazing! The Ontario Conference has taken a leading role in initiating Adventist Health Screening. A committee of ten members from across Ontario are responsible for the overall organization of the program. Three trainers have been busy keeping up with the requests for training, and volunteers have been actively screening the public in malls and fairs.

If you are not familiar with AHS, here is a brief outline of what is done. Volunteers receive training and offer blood pressure or body mass index (BMI) screening. Participants complete a registration form before being screened. They provide personal contact information, some lifestyle indicators, and are given an opportunity to request health programs. Church volunteers enter the information into a database and contact those that requested programs when they are being offered.

Not everyone who is screened requests a follow-up program, but many do. Windsor, Leamington and Chatham churches partnered and conducted five screening events this summer. Now plans are underway to offer two CHIP programs and one vegetarian cooking school. The table below shows the results from the five screening events these churches conducted.

If your church is wondering how you can serve the community, AHS is an excellent “needs assessment.” For more information on AHS, call Sandy at ADRA Canada 1-888-274-2372.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># of People</th>
<th>Program Requested</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Smoking Cessation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69</td>
<td>Vegetarian Cooking</td>
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<tr>
<td>68</td>
<td>Coping with Stress</td>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Marriage Enrichment</td>
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<tr>
<td>71</td>
<td>Healthy Lifestyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Coronary Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Grief Recovery</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>Depression Recovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Other</td>
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ADRA Global

Our Home in Togo

“...I didn’t know that children [could] be educated without beating them, shouting and insulting them. For every mistake of my children, I trouble[d] people’s rest [with] my shouting and insults. I thank ADRA for changing my life and helping me to be a good mother and wife. Now I discuss everything with them, I have time to play with them and each of them feels well when I am at home. The home atmosphere changed with my life.”

by Aziawo Eya from Tchekpo Deve

Attention Readers

We welcome your story submissions for the pages of Global Impact. Tell us about:
- the ways your church/community supports ADRA Canada
- experiences people have had with ADRA Canada
- how ADRA Canada has impacted your life

Please don’t hesitate to contact us if you have a story to share.

Global Impact

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