



## Crafters Raising Funds for Hope for Orphans-Congo

Hope for Orphans-Congo was co-founded by Magellan Luanda and Dan Maki. In 2009, these two men started fundraising to help orphans in Congo, specifically in the village that Magellan was born and raised in, Kikamata. Slowly, but surely as money was raised the walls of the orphanage building were raised. In a year and a half, the building was completed and six orphans became the first residents. Within a few months, there were twelve children and today there are 32 children living at the orphanage in Kikamata.

From the beginning, the directors wanted each child to have their own bed. The building has six bedrooms with two sets of bunkbeds in each room which means there is enough space for twenty-four children. Hmm... there are enough beds for 24 and the orphanage has 32 so where do the rest sleep you might ask. The woman that we had living in the building with the children became very ill and had to return to Goma. Our agent hired a young man, named Luka to take care of the boys at night and billeted the girls to various homes including his own home.

Of the 32 children being cared for, 15 have sponsors which donate \$30 a month for their care and schooling. This leaves 17 children who do not have sponsors and so the charity is constantly looking for ways to raise the funds to care for them. One of the ways is through "word of mouth". People hear about the charity and chose to donate directly or through Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC) which Dan and Hazel promote at work.

The United Way received the funds from employees giving through GCWCC beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> and send the charity 80% of the funds in two payments; one in August and the next one in February. It is not easy to find out through the United Way how much has been donated until the first cheque arrives. Because of this, it is difficult for the charity to include this money in its budget planning in December.

In 2013, Hazel, an avid crafter decided to try to raise funds by selling crafts at Christmas Craft fairs. She with the help of others attended five craft fairs. The amount after expenses donated to the charity was \$2,306. These funds were donated to the charity to use where it was most needed.

In 2014, four craft fairs organized by others were attended. One craft fair was held at the Maki's home. A long-time friend of Dan and Hazel's who lives in Oregon volunteered to host a vendor table at the ladies conference she was attending October 9 to 11, 2014. A box of things was mailed to her from Ogdensburg \$31.00 CAD and she mailed Hope for Orphans-Congo a cheque for \$350 USD (\$395 CAD). In addition, Judy, Betty, Theresa, as well as others sold merchandise to co-workers, family and friends.

We would like to say a great big THANK YOU to all of you who helped to make the Crafter's Fundraising at huge success!!! Drumroll, please.... the grand total raised for Hope for Orphans-Congo in 2014 was...

□

# \$2455.43

October 9-11, 2014	Ladies Conference (Linda O.)	\$395.00	
November 15, 2014	Peter D. Clark (nursing home)	\$136.40	
	Richmond Public School	\$401.55	
November 29, 2014	Almonte General Hospital	\$325.00	
December 6, 2014	Alta Vista Public School	\$243.00	
December 13, 2014	My house	\$95.00	
	Other sales	\$1621.30	
	Donation received by mail <sup>1</sup>	\$100.00	
	Total		\$3317.25
	Minus		
	Cost of craft supplies*	\$605.68	
	250 plastic boxes**	\$115.14	
	Table rental fees	\$110.00	
	Shipping fee	\$31.00	
	Minus total expenses		<u>-\$861.82</u>
	GRAND TOTAL donated to Hope for Orphans-Congo		<u>\$2455.43</u>

\*We have a lot of craft supplies left for next year. I don't think the cost of craft supplies will be very much in 2015.

\*\*These boxes were much cheaper if we bought a bulk of them. This is a pre-paid expense for the coming years.

Ideas:

Sponsor child in orphanage

Second dormitory

Clinic fees \$600

Scholarship fund

Animals Cows \$500, Goats \$50-\$70

Goat shed

Mattresses \$70

Supplies (wash tubs, pots, mirrors)

Inverter \$250

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<sup>1</sup> A person who met us at Richmond Public School sent a \$100 donation by cheque in lieu of a gift for a loved one. We also received an email from a young lady who attended the Ladies Conference Linda was at. She said that she has always wanted to go to Congo and isn't able but she would like to help. Just yesterday, we received an email from a family in Richmond, they met us at a Craft Fair and they want to help, too. A lot of great advertising is happening.

The charity now has an Airmiles number and we have extra cards and can get extra cards if anyone is interested or if you know of someone who would be interested. Also, if you transfer your Sobeys points to Airmiles this week the charity will receive 50 bonus Airmiles.