



Annual Report 2010-2011

La Salle International Foundation, Inc.



Sister Rosa (right), a member of Solidarity with South Sudan, talks with villagers about improved agricultural techniques in Riiminze, a village in South Sudan's Western Equatoria State. [Photo: Paul Jeffrey]

Highlights of the Year

- *Supporting Solidarity with Southern Sudan*
- *Looking toward Youth At-Risk*
- *Linking with other Lasallian NGOs*



Supporting “*Solidarity with South Sudan*”

In June of 2010, the southern area of Sudan split from the north to become Africa’s newest country: South Sudan. This action followed a referendum vote in which 98% of the Southern Sudanese favored secession. This split was made possible through a 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) brokered by the international community after almost 20 years of civil war and nearly 2 million people died.

Thanks to the CPA, peaceful conditions in 2006 permitted *Solidarity with South Sudan* to begin establishing its community houses and instructional centers so that educational programs could be offered to the people of South Sudan. Communities were established in Juba, Malakal, Wau, Yambio, and Riiminze.



La Salle International has assisted *Solidarity with South Sudan* since its very beginnings by funding school construction and scholarship efforts for the people of South Sudan. [Photo: Paul Jeffrey]

Personnel for the program came from supportive congregations who asked members to offer 3 years of service to *Solidarity with South Sudan*. As a result, the program currently has approximately 27 individuals from 17 different countries participating as instructors. Lacking available human resources, a number of congregations have supported the *Solidarity with South Sudan* program by providing financial support or in-kind services. In some cases, such as with La Salle International during the past four years, the work of development officers has been donated to the cause.

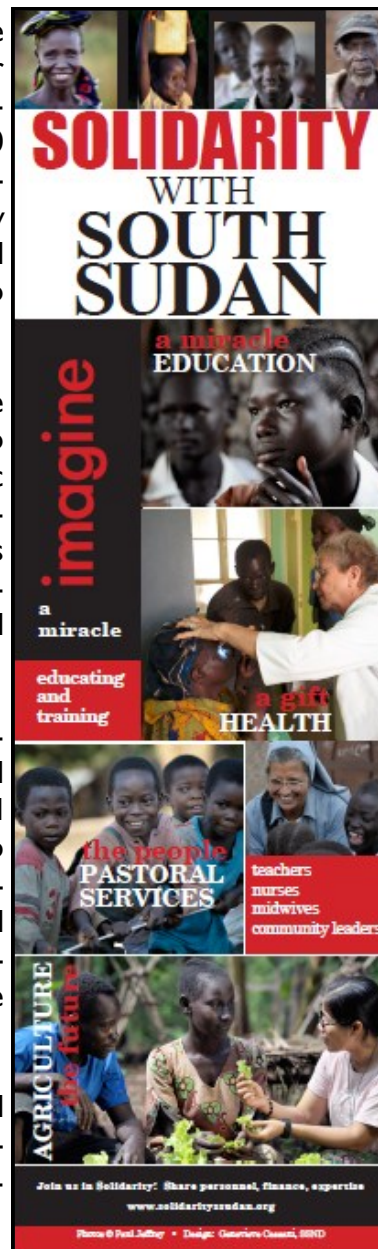


Educationally, *Solidarity* has the largest professional teacher training program in the country. This program serves 800 teachers, offering primarily in-service training; soon, *Solidarity* will activate newly constructed facilities in Malakal and Yambio for pre-service instruction.

In the area of health, there are approximately 75 students who are resident at the Catholic Health Training Institute campus in Wau. These students are receiving training to become internationally certified registered nurses.

Agricultural training is occurring in Riiminze where local farmers are receiving additional knowledge concerning crop techniques, hybrids and farming. A community plot afford them the opportunity to practice their skills and contribute to the community good.

Pastoral services are offered around the country in peace-building, women's empowerment, and pastoral leadership.





Lasallian Responses to Youth At-Risk

Following the direction of the General Council, the development emphasis for the Institute in the next several years will be on youth at-risk programs. Around the world, there are over 300 Lasallian

youth at-risk centers which focus on children who are educationally excluded, children of immigrants, refugee children, street children, orphans, adjudicated youth, incarcerated youth, drug addicts, emotionally or physically unstable youth, sex



In the Makpandu refugee camp, displaced youth play games organized by a pastoral team which has accompanied the youth since the beginning of the camp in 2008. [Photo: Paul Jeffrey]

slaves, child soldiers, HIV positive children, and otherwise marginalized youth. Many of these programs started by the De La Salle Brothers who were involved in other educational apostolates but who found an unmet social problem which desperately needed attention. Accordingly, these programs were born from critical local need. Such programs often are located in developing countries and many of the programs and offerings for youth at-risk teeter daily on the precarious edge of financial insolvency.

To highlight the work which is being done by these various programs, the Institute published Bulletin 253 entitled



“Children and Youth At-Risk: A Lasallian Response.” This publication highlights a number of programs around the world and offers a comprehensive listing of Lasallian efforts to address the needs of disenfranchised youth.

In its efforts to strengthen such programs, the International Lasallian Solidarity and Development Commission has identified close to a dozen programs which will form the basis for collective action by the various Lasallian NGOs around the world. Work is progressing to identify the various programs’ components and to draft case statements which can be used by the NGOs for requesting funding assistance. The programs were selected on the basis of their service to diverse groups of youth, the country in which they are located, the strength of the program, and their ability to move towards economic self-sufficiency. It is hoped that these programs will serve as a model for other Lasallian youth-at-risk programs and that their success could be replicable to other youth-at-risk programs. La Salle International will continue to work towards obtaining funding for these programs and for other programs around the world.



Vignettes from inside the protective walls of the Intiganda program in Rwanda, where street children find a safe haven for them to live, educationally advance themselves, and receive the medical and psychological attention of a professional staff.

Developmental Cohesion

The efforts of La Salle International Foundation have merged with other similarly oriented, mission-driven Lasallian NGOs. The umbrella group which brings all of these development areas together is the International Lasallian Solidarity and Development Commission, which falls under the director of Brother Pedro Arrambide as Chair of the Solidarity and Development Secretariat in Rome. Brother Jorge Gallardo serves as the contact person for the Commission with the General Council.

To assist with this effort, a new umbrella organization was



A modified "Star of Faith" was selected to distinguish the efforts of the Solidarity and Development Secretariat. To show mission collaboration, the logo was also approved for use by La Salle International Foundation.

formed: "De La Salle Solidarietà Internazionale Fondazione - Onlus."

The nine Lasallian NGOs and foundations who were invited to be founding members of this Onlus included: Casa Generalizia dei Fratelli delle Scuole Cristiane [Roma, Italia]; La Salle International Foundation, Inc. [Washington, USA]; Education et Développement [Parigi, France]; Istituto De Hermanos De Las Escuelas Cristianas (La Salle) [Madrid, España]; Región Latinoamericana Lasallista - RELAL [Bogota, Colombia]; District du Canada Francophone [Québec, Canada]; Trustees of The De La Salle Brothers District of Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea [Bankstown, Sidney, Australia]; Provincia Italia della Congregazione dei Fratelli



delle Scuole Cristiane [Roma, Italia]; Région Lasallienne Africaino-Malgache – RELAF [Abidjan, Costa d’Avorio].

The first meeting of the ONLUS was chaired by Brother Álvaro Rodríguez Echeverría, President of the Management Council in March 2010. The bylaws were approved and work of the Onlus was outlined.

Together, the newly established Onlus and the other Lasallian NGOs such as PROYDE (Spain) and the Lasallian Foundation (Australia) will work together on projects of importance to the Institute. Collaborative work on *Solidarity with South Sudan* and other projects have already proven this joining of efforts to be a productive one for the Institute. Many granting organizations look more favorably on proposals where NGOs are working together to achieve their goal.



Photo: Paul Jeffrey

Around the world, Lasallian institutions are educating youth in 80 different countries. The collaborative work of the De La Salle International Solidarity Foundation—Onlus and the International Lasallian Solidarity and Development Commission will enable Lasallian NGOs, such as La Salle International Foundation (Washington DC) the opportunity to work together on projects which advance both the Institute’s mission and that of their own foundation.



Sponsorships

The following activities, programs and institutions were sponsored from monies donated to La Salle International between July 1, 2010 and June 30, 2011.

Saint Joseph's Boys' Village
Genguvarpatti, India
Operational Support / Human Svcs.
\$ 1,425



Solidarity with Southern Sudan
Malakal, Southern Sudan
Operational
\$ 1,600.81



Solidarity with Southern Sudan
Malakal, Southern Sudan
Scholarships
\$ 14,602.49



Ocean Tides, Inc.
Narragansett, RI, USA
Educational Support
\$ 729.98



Henamulla Pre-School
Colombo, Sri Lanka
Operational educational expenses
\$ 1,425.00





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Bahay Pag-asa Center
Cavite, Philippines
Educational support
\$ 500.00



Social Center for Women's Promotion
Anosibe, Madagascar
Construction grant
\$ 60,000.00



St. Mary's Boys' Secondary School
Nyeri, Kenya
Child Rescue Program
\$ 549.53



Okou Nursery School
Entebbe, Uganda
Construction Grant
\$ 1,500.00



La Salle Secondary School
Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, S. India
Student scholarships
\$ 950.00

Finances

In accordance with our status as a 501(c)(3) public charity, a 990-EZ has been filed with the Department of the Treasury for the tax year beginning 1 July 2009 and ending 30 June 2010. Our EZ-990 has also been filed with the Department of Regulatory and Consumer Affairs, Washington DC. Total revenues received by La Salle International during this time



amounted to \$98,729. Of this, \$86,253 was distributed to charitable causes and, when combined with net assets or fund balances from the previous year, \$54,174 of assets remain in the Foundation. There are no restrictions, conditions or limitations on these funds regarding their future use. All gifts have been acknowledged and funds tracked. Copies of all 990s are available from La Salle International and our books are open to public inspection.

The Foundation is grateful to our benefactors who have partnered with us in assisting worthy global projects.

Considerable development work has resulted in the direct financial assistance to *Solidarity with Southern Sudan* by a number of foundations and governmental agencies. During the past year, La Salle International worked with the following granting agencies in obtaining initial and/or ongoing support for *Solidarity with Southern Sudan*: Caritas - Spain; Caritas - Asturias; Caritas - Austria; AECID - Spanish Government, Winrock International, Conrad Hilton Fund for Sisters, Catholic Relief Services, Dominican Peace and Justice Fund. La Salle International thanks these generous sponsors for their support of teacher training, health care instruction, pastoral services and agricultural education programs.



Looking Ahead

As of December 31, 2011, the development services of La Salle International will no longer directly be working with *Solidarity with South Sudan*. La Salle International has been pleased to have been affiliated with this wonderful inter-congregational program. As a result of the support the program has received, its service to the people of South Sudan has been transformed from a hopeful dream to a successful reality. Presently, there is an increased ability of the project to retain and attract donors for Solidarity with South Sudan, and La Salle International now will focus its principal efforts on other similarly worthy projects.

As we look ahead into the 2011-2012 year, the orientation of the Foundation will move towards supporting youth at-risk initiatives. La Salle International will be working with other Lasallian NGOs in seeking funds to support target global projects addressing the needs of youth. Preliminary collaborations have already been initiated and this emphasis on youth at risk represents the direction given by the De La Salle General Council and the La Salle International Board.



Finally, another change next year will be the relocation of the Executive Director to Rome. His principal responsibility will be to assist with a strategic planning project for the 2014 General Chapter. Notwithstanding, he will continue to manage the Foundation remotely from Rome, returning occasionally to the United States for business as necessary.



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