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Newsletter 2 of 2017

Dear IAAR-sympathizer

With pleasure we send you this second letter with some news about our activities.

Heartfelt thanks to so many collaborators who put us in the spotlight with their vigor and splendid initiatives.

1. THANKS FROM PRH-BENIN FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF TWO PROJECTS: FORMATION OF THE ACCOMPANISTS OF SCHOOLCHILDREN AND FORMATION OF PRH-COLLABORATORS

Project: PRH-collaborators' training (Maurice, the coordinator explains)

"Our PRH-team in Benin is being fortified with twenty active collaborators. They are cooperating with one of two PRH centers in Benin: the headquarters of the organization on one hand and the center "PRH Potentialités et développement" on the other. They are helping us organize courses and guaranteeing presence in the two centers making sure everyone feels at home.



On the left: Cecile, a PRH-collaborator

On the right: educators and collaborators - March 19



Among them there are also a few promoters of PRH who help us materially.

On the picture, you see me with a couple who donated a refrigerator for the center.

Cecile (picture above on the left) has written out the project for the formation of the young accompanists who help the schoolchildren from less fortunate districts to prevent them from dropping out of school prematurely and to assist them in succeeding at school.

We also organize formation gatherings for the most active collaborators. On March 19, we had a meeting with 15 collaborators and 3 educators. In this manner, we are stimulating each other in our commitment".

Project: Formation of the accompanists of school children (Maurice continues...)



"The project with the schools follows the course as set out. About thirty youngsters are being assisted on a regular basis. This year we have held two meetings with accompanists, parents and children, all together, in order to motivate the youngsters to let themselves be guided to prevent failure at school and helping them to better succeed in life. At the first meeting, there were 219 youngsters of the age group 12 to 20 years old, and at the second, in another neighborhood, 154 attended.

Our collaborators were assisting as well. In this way PRH is also contributing to the social development of our country through these actions in the 8 different districts.

The PRH team is very thankful to IAAR. Your help is a great support to us in our initiatives to aid the social development of Benin!"

2. SUPPORT TO PRH IN ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe is a country with many natural resources that are mainly used for export, but unfortunately the yield does not always end up in the right hands. 95% of the active population is jobless. The economy is moving along at a very slow pace, especially since the worldwide crises of 2008. Banks have little money available and even if someone earns 500 USD per month, he/she is only able to withdraw 50 USD per week. Many people are trying to survive through the clandestine economy.



Our aid to Zimbabwe is not new. In our first newsletter of 2016 we mentioned, and reported on the Musasa project (victims of domestic violence) for which we were able to get subsidies from the city Antwerp. The two educators Bernadette and Dawn, presented this formation.

The project has been completed, but as a result of the positive outcome, IAAR will continue to support their PRH-formation.

From March 28 to April 9, the local educators received extra on-the-spot training and support. For this, IAAR paid the travel and lodging expenses for two educators from Belgium.

A four-day workshop for educators and collaborators took place. At the same time, together with them, some brainstorming was done to look for new possibilities to continue expanding the PRH-formation, taking into account the difficult local economic situation.

Very successful meetings were organized with specific target groups like doctors, women's groups and a workshop for the general public.

IAAR will also finance extra workshops for the formation of the PRH-collaborators and future educators this year.

3. THE IAAR-EVENT OF APRIL 22 IN ANTWERP, BELGIUM

Below a few pictures of the pleasant meeting between collaborators, sympathizers and those interested in the functioning/activities of IAAR.



Bart and Lutgard shared their experiences looking back on their trip to Congo and the projects in Kinshasa. Information concerning the functioning of IAAR, sales of the souvenir stand, freshly baked waffles and a nice piece of cake were the excellent ingredients of pleasant encounters and enthusiastic visitors.



Thanks to the entire team of volunteers who were utterly committed, and who are continuously creative in their ideas and projects to promote PRH, and to encourage others to support the projects of their own choice.

4. A FINE INITIATIVE TO THE BENEFIT OF LEUVEN-CENTRAL PRISON

Joost, a PRH collaborator, was able to realize a project for IAAR in the bank where he works.

Annually the employees are given the opportunity to hand in a project for a good cause from which 10 winners are chosen, and IAAR was one of these.

We received € 5000 and Joost also obtained the 'staffmember's prize' of € 1000.

This amount is intended entirely for the formation of those serving long-term sentences in Leuven-Central.

Thank you very much Joost!



4. NEWS FROM PAPUA-NEW GUINEA

In May, the team of PNG received two weeks of extra formation and accompaniment following the request of their coordinator. IAAR financed the trip and lodging of two educators.

The workshop, "My body and my growth as a person" was presented to the collaborators and educators. There were 15 participants. This was followed by a week of formation, and the general assembly for the educators.

The entire team was hospitably lodged in the convent of Martha in Madang, one of the educators. It is located near the ocean, bordering the rainforest. A daily thunderstorm with heavy rain, temperatures of 30 to 35° C and very active mosquitoes, are day to day elements there.



The collaborators are those better off in their society: nuns (clerics), teachers, pastoral workers... They are determined to further enable the PRH-education in their own community.

Many ordinary people live right in the middle of the rain forest. They often have very little schooling, are addicted to a fruit they simply have to pick from the trees but which in fact is a soft drug and very addictive (bitternuts). If they combine this with alcohol they become aggressive and dangerous. Consequently, the crime rate is high, especially in the evenings and at night. awareness of their own self-worth is a necessary point of departure. In this regard, PRH is able to make a contribution.

Some among you may remember the request from the PNG educators, a few years ago, to help support the PRH-education to prisoners in the prisons.

Philippa (photograph) was one of them in the prison of Mendi.



Paulus-Maria made it possible for her to follow several PRH-courses and also to embark on MPV.

Later on, she was transferred to another prison, quite remote, and temporarily contact with her was no longer possible.

In the meantime, she has been released from prison after 8 years, and has been reunited with her two children who are now 10 and 13 years old. She herself is now 39 years old.

She was present at the course in Madang and is determined to continue her education. She has been severely affected by those years in prison, but is courageously moving on.

She is extremely grateful for the support and the faith in her not to give up, helping her to continually make the choice for a better life despite the difficult circumstances.

The educators: Rita, Martha, Grace, Paulus-Maria, Bernadette



The entire PNG-team is thankful to IAAR for the regular support, and that they may continue to count on us.

5. FINANCIAL RESULTS OF IAAR IN 2016

Below we want to present an overview of our most significant revenue and expenses:

Revenue:

Legacy: € 143.976

Donations for the public funds (book about making choices): € 37.964

Donations for the funds of the PRH-Int congress: € 30.142

Donations for the Latin American funds: € 27.000

Donations for the PRH-Ireland funds: €16.500

Donations for running projects: € 22.276

Membership fees and unspecified donations: € 15.097

Expenses:

General expenses and taxes: € 4.490

Algeria: € 833

Benin: € 2.263

Congo: € 12.819 (Thanks to extra donations)

Congress Bordeaux: € 22.061

Egypt: € 500

Indonesia: € 4.900

Haiti: € 1.633

Morocco: € 375

Latin America: € 1064

Leuven Central: € 1.380

Papua New Guinea: € 1.500

Publications: € 300

Tanzania: € 6.124

Thailand: € 750

Zimbabwe: € 2.324

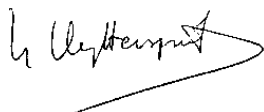
South-Africa: € 5.279

As you can conclude yourself, it was a year of solid income for which we would sincerely like to thank the generous donators for their commitment!

It gives us the space to render help where it is most needed, but at the same time, to stay heedful as befits a good 'head of the house.'

Heartfelt thanks for your faithful support.

We will keep you informed!



Magda Uyttersprot,
President
www.iaar.eu