



Photo Credit: Rajendra Shaw

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Thank You for Your Support!

As you read through your newsletter, I hope you'll remember that your generosity is absolutely essential in empowering women and men around the world to become more self-sufficient. You ensure people are able to rebuild their lives with dignity as they recover from

natural disasters, deal with the effects of climate chaos, and the everyday struggle of the injustice of poverty. Your support provides hope in the face of adversity.

In solidarity,



Robert Fox

Thank you for being a part of the Oxfam Canada Family.

Bring Back Our Girls

A few months back you probably remember seeing the news stories about the abducted school girls in Nigeria. Unfortunately it is stories like this one that remind us just how important girls' education is.

Education is a critical tool to help promote equality for women and girls around the world. It's essential in helping to bridge the issues of poverty and discrimination against

Photo Credit: Safiya Akan



women. In order to move forward, it's crucial that girls' education is protected and promoted by all means possible. All women, no matter their age, deserve an education which will provide them with all of the same opportunities that men are afforded. At Oxfam, women are at the heart of everything we do.

According to Oxfam's Nigeria Country Director, Chichi Okoye, conflicts like this one...

"have the potential to destabilize the whole region and should not be seen as a Nigerian problem alone."

This is why your support of Oxfam Canada is so important. Your generosity is vital in helping to promote women's rights and ensure that all girls have access to an education and a brighter future.



Imelda who was helped by the generosity of donors like you.

Recovering from Haiyan

Typhoon Haiyan wreaked havoc across the Philippines last November, killing more than 8,000 and destroying millions of people's homes and livelihoods.

All told, there were an estimated 4,000,000 people that were forced from their homes because of Haiyan. Initially our focus was on providing life-saving assistance including clean water, toilets, and food. Thanks to donors like you, Oxfam has been able to reach more than 730,000 people in need.

Currently we're focused on helping people meet their needs both now, and into the future. This includes finding new ways for families to support themselves, and helping with rebuilding and resettlement projects. We spoke to one woman, Imelda, who had made a living selling fish, but saw her livelihood washed away in the typhoon:

"The winds were sudden and incredibly strong. I was so scared. I told my children to stay together. My house was totally destroyed. My boat was crushed by a tree."

Oxfam has now established boat repair stations, repairing more than 660 boats (including Imelda's). She said:

"My heartfelt thanks to Oxfam, I am so glad we have received support. Thank you to the donors. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Stamp Out Poverty

Volunteering is a great way to be a part of Oxfam's work. Bill Woodley has been an Oxfam volunteer for more than 30 years. He is the coordinator of a program called "Stamp Out Poverty".

Each year, Oxfam collects used stamps, which are sorted and sold to collectors around the world. Since the program started in 1980 it has raised over \$300,000.

Last year, Bill and other volunteers helped Oxfam Canada raise \$20,000 through this program, which contributed to two projects supporting women farmers in Central America. More than 700 women farmers in Nicaragua received money to help them develop agricultural businesses and become leaders in their communities. This was only possible through the generosity of our stamp volunteers and donors.

If you're interested in learning more about Stamp Out Poverty please visit our website: <http://www.oxfam.ca/stampoutpoverty>.

Bill Woodley, a long-time volunteer coordinator for Oxfam Canada's Stamp Out Poverty program.

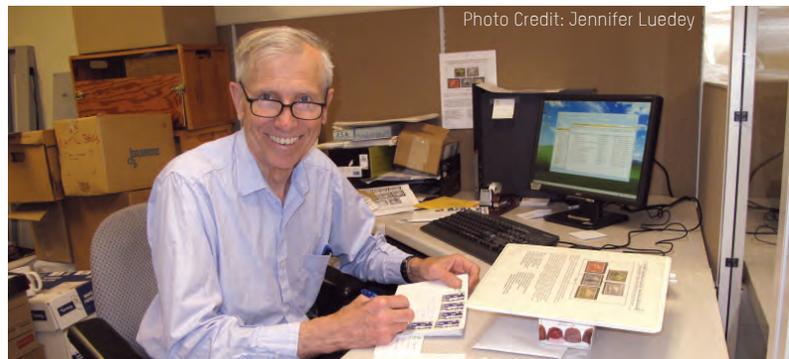
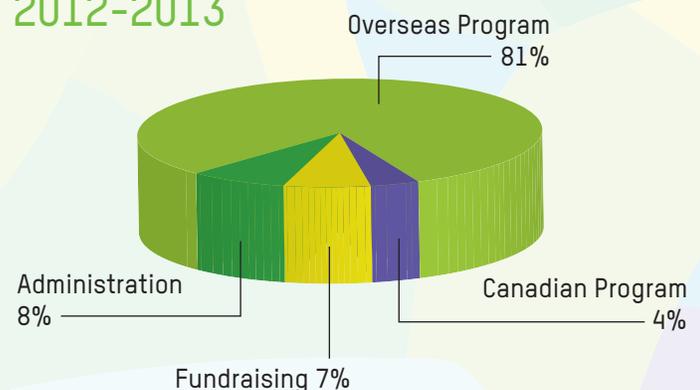


Photo Credit: Jennifer Luedey

How Your Donations Worked in 2012-2013



Climate Change and Hunger... How You Are Helping!



Photo Credit: Percy Ramirez

Climate change is threatening to derail the fight against hunger, and our global food system is unprepared to cope with this. Your support has helped farmers adjust to climate change, to ensure they can still produce the food needed to sustain their families and communities. Farmers like Virginia Ñuñonca.

Virginia is a farmer from a tiny village in Peru. She participated in an Oxfam-funded program designed to help farmers adapt to climate change. Now more than three years on she's been able to expand her irrigation system, triple her pastureland, and purchase additional dairy cows. By selling her milk and cheese she's now earning a steady income for the first time. And this is all thanks to generous donors like you.

Oxfam is building more programs like this so that even more farmers see the success Virginia has. The programs focus on leadership, self-esteem, and gender equality. And they empower

farmers around the world, helping so many in their local communities.

It may surprise you to learn that 43% of agricultural workers in developing countries are women. But many women are denied what they need to adapt to climate change, making it even harder for them to get ahead. Virginia recently said:

"Before the workshops, I was afraid of men. I felt that men had more rights than I did. But learning about gender I learned that we're all equal – men and women both. Now I'm not afraid."

Breaking through gender barriers is essential in ensuring farmers in developing countries can be self-sufficient, even when climate change may make things more difficult.

80%

of agriculture worldwide and 95% in Africa is rain-fed, putting it at the mercy of changing rainfall patterns and intensity.



World grain reserves are at historically low levels. If extreme weather events hit, prices can skyrocket, triggering major food crises.



Global seed diversity declined by 75% in the last 100 years – depriving farmers of crop varieties better suited to changing weather patterns.

20



Of 20 African countries who committed to spend 10% of their budgets on agriculture, only 4 have met the target.

Oxfam Canada Recognized for Rape Prevention Efforts

"Sometimes it's like people are used to it (rape). That it's normal. Also, many think the person being raped is to blame, that they did something wrong and got raped." Attitudes like this still exist in many communities around the world. And Oxfam is working hard to change this type of thinking.

Oxfam recently won a 2014 Civil Society Innovation award for our work with Rape Crisis Cape Town Trust,

which is working with teenagers in South Africa to help educate them about why rape is wrong. They work with peer leaders at schools to help bring change in their communities. One of these peer leaders said:

"It is my responsibility to help them see that they are wrong in many things they think. It is not true that women are to blame for rape. We must change this."

Shifting attitudes around rape is vital in the fight for gender justice. Your support is essential in improving the lives of young people in South Africa and around the world.



Photo Credit: Rajendra Shaw



Photo Credit: Tom Greenwood

Leave a Lasting Legacy

There are many different ways to support Oxfam Canada, and one of them is by leaving a bequest gift in your Will. Dick Evans did just that following his time on Oxfam Canada's Board of Directors from 1999 to 2010. Through his involvement he "learned about the connections between the local and the global and was thoroughly engaged by the work of Oxfam internationally as well as in Canada."

Achieving the goal of addressing poverty and inequality and improving the world we live in can be challenging. Dick truly believes that:

"the Oxfam International family stands out as a federation that tackles the challenges professionally, fairly, and vigorously."

He's happy to have made the decision to leave a legacy to Oxfam. And in addition to his bequest, he continues to make annual donations. If you're interested in leaving a gift in your Will please contact Mira Claxon at 416-648-6390.

Your Support Going Further!

Are you familiar with Oxfam's SharePlan monthly giving program? It's an easy way for you to make small monthly contributions to support Oxfam's work around the world. Elaine Browne joined the program three years ago and wanted to share why she's so proud to be a SharePlan member.

Elaine was originally encouraged to join by her daughter, who is also a SharePlan donor. Elaine is inspired because:

"Oxfam doesn't just give charity to people, they empower people to help themselves."

We asked her what she would say to someone considering joining SharePlan and she said "It's easy, and I feel good knowing that Oxfam can count on my support. You don't have to give a lot either, any amount is appreciated."

If you are not already a SharePlan donor, please consider joining today. See the enclosed reply form or go online to www.oxfam.ca/donate/monthly-giving

Regional Summit — *Connect to your Oxfam community, share skills and get organized!*

This event for our supporters includes a networking reception, a full day of issue-based workshops and skill-building sessions; and a half day members-only session for communities to create action plans for fall activities.

Registration is open mid-summer and the summits will take place in Halifax, Ottawa, Toronto, Saskatoon, Calgary and Vancouver. For more information, please contact Kelly Bowden, National Public Engagement Officer at (613) 237-5236, extension 2235, or by email Kelly.bowden@oxfam.ca.