

TERRE DES HOMMES ALSACE

ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY

Direct assistance to children in need



Photo Angola - Avril 2016 - Danielle Grumet



Have a look at our new website
www.terredeshommes-alsace.com

Editorial...

Christmas is coming and our printer has already offered us a gift by providing us with a full-color print, THANK YOU !

Since no member of the Board of Directors has stepped forward to take over the presidency of our association, following Gérard Romeder's health problem, I have accepted this responsibility once again. Terre des Hommes Alsace is my family and my life mission!

The life of our association is very intense between project management and fundraising activities. Full steam ahead for Madagascar with a beautiful and effective mission from Drs Bernard De Geeter and Jean Flori, a new building for our partners in Antananarivo and the Rixheim Scouts in action in the field. New rules in India, more boys and girls in the same structure. A law that is not easy to put in place with additional costs that are incurred on top. The tour of the projects by the new South India manager as well as a short visit from our partner in Alsace! Maison Chance is in constant motion with Dak Nong's new project to help even more people in need. Educational projects in Senegal and Haiti are working well and are very important for the future of many students. On September 9, Sister Alphonse Marie Eppinger, founder of the Congregation of the "Soeurs du Très Saint Sauveur d'Oberbronn", our long-standing partners in Angola, has been beatified. Angolans dream of a better life in a rich country, undermined by corruption, a plague that currently limits our efforts to improve our structures. The projects in Peru are running well and Jean-Jacques Kieffer is back on the board of directors to ensure the interim management, at the request of Irénée Vallat. She left the board because her professional activities do not allow an effective work in favour of the children in our projects. Two Brazilian partners, delighted by our activities, our commitment and the beauty of our country, visited us. This visit is an investment for the future, it is necessary to understand how our association works to be even more effective in the field.

The volunteers of Wattwiller, a group that has been active for a long time, are here to introduce themselves. At the end of the year, many activities mobilized the large family of volunteers with the 21st walk and the 20th lottery evening in Muespach-le-Haut, the October days in Mulhouse, the "orange" operation outside supermarkets and in schools, the first Christmas markets, and projections to illustrate our work. And perhaps finally soon the new shop, so much awaited by the volunteers of the clothing section, the project is moving forward!



At the time of writing, the Easter bunnies for the 2019 edition have already been ordered. Do not hesitate to contact us to support this action, in schools, works councils, shops, communicants, those to be confirmed,... There is energy! This is only possible thanks to you, our donors, sponsors, volunteers and friends. Let's continue this beautiful work together and talk about it around us! THANK YOU to all of you and happy holidays to you and your loved ones. Be sensitive, and offer SOLIDARITY, for unique, irreplaceable children.

Simon Rey



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Agenda...

Agenda 2018

Saint Nicholas market

Novembre, 30th to December 2nd
at Riedisheim and Sierentz

Christmas markets

December 14, 15 and 16th at Rixheim
December 20th at Mulhouse

Agenda 2019

Cochonnailles

Sunday, 27th January for lunch time at the Riedlin hall,
rue du stade 68220 Hégenheim

General assembly TDHA

Saturday, 30th March, salle du Trèfle, Rixheim

Traditional hike of TDHA

Tuesday, 8th May



Sommaire

Zoom on

| | |
|---|-----|
| | 4-8 |
| Legacy, Life insurance : giving hopes | 4 |
| Testimonial from the Wattwiller group | 5-6 |
| The Companions of Rixheim at Madagascar | 7-8 |

Projects

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| | 9-23 |
| ACB | 9-10-11 |
| « A beating heart » at Madagascar | |
| Brazil | 12-13-14 |
| A testimony from our guests | |
| Haïti | 15 |
| The last news | |
| North India | 16 |
| Some new regulations | |
| South India | 17-18 |
| A first visit | |
| Madagascar | 19-20 |
| The last news | |
| Peru | 20-21 |
| Some news from Miséricordia | |
| Senegal | 22 |
| Some news | |
| Angola | 22 |
| A nice ceremony | |
| Vietnam | 23 |
| A new project at Dak Nong | |

The sponsoring

24

Zoom on...

Legacy, life insurance, sponsorship: giving hope ...

Terre des Hommes Alsace is trying to support the most precious thing to humanity – its children.

We have been fighting this battle for over 40 years; in Angola, Brazil, India, Madagascar, Haiti, Senegal, Peru, Vietnam and also here in France because poverty, malnutrition and abuse knows no boundaries.

All of our actions involve more than 10,000 children, who each day rely on you to eat, be cared for and go to school, or simply have the right to live.

Individual : what are the questions you may be asking yourself ?

A legacy is defined as a transfer of assets that takes place after the death of the donor to the benefit of a legatee. You can choose to bequeath all or part of your property to an association such as Terre des Hommes Alsace, stipulating it at the time of writing your will. Terre des Hommes Alsace is recognized as a charitable organization and as such can receive bequests without having to pay death duties

Life insurance is an investment that allows you to grow money over time. You can establish an association such as Terre des Hommes Alsace as beneficiary of your life insurance policy.

By giving to our association, you have the guarantee that the totality of your donation will be donated to the children we support throughout the world. Talk about our association with your notary/solicitor, he will explain the necessary procedures to you.

We are of course at your disposal to accompany you, with respect and discretion, in this generous and altruistic gesture.

And companies – you can support our Association through sponsorship!

Sponsorship is a process that allows a company to donate, in the form of financial or material assistance, to an association. In return, the company can benefit from a tax reduction.

Emmanuel Lassiat

Last information related to your donations

With the taxation at source, nothing changes

Tax reductions for donations made in 2018 will be honored. When you declare your 2018 income in the spring of 2019, you will indicate, as in previous years, the amount of your donations. In absolute terms, the tax reduction related to donations to associations is maintained and the sum concerned will be fully returned by the tax services by the summer of 2019.

TESTIMONIAL FROM THE WATTWILLER DISTRICT VOLUNTEER GROUP



The Wattwiller district volunteer group was created in 1968 when five ladies with big hearts started activities by finding godfathers in the village for the children supported by the association Terre des Hommes Haut Rhin, at that time chaired by Mr. Pierre Bollinger of Uffholtz.

They then sold Christmas cards, organized collections in front of churches or tourist places (in aid of Friuli, Agadir or India), picked up, sorted and sold clothes, helped to organize galas.

Gradually, volunteers from other villages (Uffholtz, Cernay, Berrwiller, Hartmannswiller) joined the group. Other actions were organised (sales of oranges in schools, Christmas sales in theatres, sales in various markets) jointly by the Wattwiller team (which, under the leadership of Annette Schroeder, made cakes, arrangements and Christmas wreaths) and that of Uffholtz (led by Gaby Hummel who was in charge of the markets with setting up the stands and organizing price for the raffles).

Currently, our calendar of events is as follows:

- 'Foire du printemps' at Uffholtz on the 1st May and if this is cancelled the 'braderie de printemps' at Cernay in June,
- 'Marché aux puces' at Wattwiller in August
- Sale at Trois-Epis in September (every other year), alternating with the youth group and with the help of Annette Bedez and her team,
- 'Braderie d'automne' at Cernay in October,
- Sale at 'la basilique de Thierenbach' with collection at the service in October,
- Orange sale at Cora Wittenheim in Octobre and at Halles de Cernay in November,

Regretably the Christmas sale (pastries, flozere arrangements, advent wreaths and gifts) had to be stopped as preparation became too onerous.

We formed a very important group a few years back. Unfortunately, due to a number of factors (sickness; old age, young people moving away for studies or family reasons) some of our members have left us. But we can always count on volunteers from other sectors (Artzenheim, Thann, Mulhouse ...) to support us, and we are always ready to support the actions of other groups when needed.

A big thank you to Annette Schroeder who took charge



of all the events when Gaby Hummel could no longer manage the markets. She is the one who stores, arranges and sorts the prizes for our raffles, who prepares the various cakes for sales, who collects donations for markets and clothes for TDHA, who contacts the volunteers to prepare the schedule and finally who is delighted when she can deliver good revenue to TDHA, knowing that the funds raised will be used wisely and, most importantly, fully.

We are sharing this message in good faith to all the occasional donors we meet at our events hoping it will be heard and will help encourage future donations or future volunteers.

A big thank you to all the volunteers for their commitment and, above all, a big thank you to the faithful and generous donors that we regularly meet on our stands.

Solange Freyburger



The Rixheim Companions Mission to Madagascar :

In August 2018, the Rixheim Companions, joined Dr Ramanantsialonina Joro Mahefa, Director of ASERN, in Antananarivo. This association has been supported for more than a decade by Terre des Hommes Alsace. In our luggage there were nearly 200kg of educational and medical material provided by TDHA for the program in the Madagascan capital.

the keys of the house to Mr. and Mrs. Rabenarivo. At this ceremony, Dr. Joro spoke in Malagasy and French. He explained the importance of this house for the development of its new occupants, arguing that it should mark the beginning of a more serene and stable life. The mother, whose sincere smile conveyed joy, exclaimed: "Now you are all part of our family! ".



Alphonse Rabenarivo's family with his brother Dr. Joro, and other members of ASERN, as well as all 11 Rixheim companions, August 17, 2018

Alphonse Rabenarivo's family with his brother Dr. Joro, and other members of ASERN, as well as all 11 Rixheim companions, August 17, 2018.

Once on site, we split into 2 teams; one of 5 and one of 6 people

The first consisting of Lionel, Victor, Augustin, Mathias, Quentin and myself dedicated 16 days to building a home for the Rabenarivo family, whose children are supported by the association of Dr. Joro. The goal was to build a safe home for this couple and their 4 children, who had been living in a slum of less than 6 m². During the project, we worked with Donald and Pascal (respectively assistant accountant and the guardian of ASERN). It was an interesting and surprising experience because of the techniques and materials used. Indeed, all our tools (from sieve for sand to trowels for concrete, and even the ladder for the roofing) were made on site!

On Friday 17 August 2018, we had the joy of handing over

The second team, composed of Marie, Meline, Zoé, Nathan and Louis was in charge of a mission to help with education. Between August 2nd and 17th, more than 100 young ASERN beneficiaries were able to perfect French. Through different exercises including workshops and dictations as well as games and songs, the team has diversified the educational material available for the ASERN beneficiaries.

On our last day, the children danced to traditional Malagasy music but also to songs learned with the educational team, such as the famous "Another world" by Téléphone. Before leaving the capital for good, the children sang a very moving "It's only a goodbye" in Malagasy for us.

Our Madagascan experience was also marked by the 3 hours daily taxi-be (local public transport). We faced difficult sanitary conditions in





the streets of the Malagasy capital. On rainy days, a gray, foul-smelling mud covers the pavement; It contains among other things animal dung, butcher's offal and pieces of plastic. However, despite these challenges, we are convinced that we made the right choice in living and sharing the daily life of the capital's Malagasy for whom the taxi-be is key part of everyday life!

In conclusion, we had unforgettable experience and learned a lot from the Malagasy people. The staff of ASERN, led by Dr. Joro, deserves a lot of praise. Indeed, Antananarivo, considered as the dirtiest city in Africa by Forbes magazine, is a particularly harsh environment where epidemics of plague and cholera proliferate each year. However, it is also a unique place because of its energy and the activity resides on every street. As young

adults, we are very happy and proud to have accomplished this mission. It is the culmination of 10 months of work and was only possible thanks to the unwavering support of the association Terre des Hommes Alsace and in particular of its vice-president Brigitte Flammen. Through this experience, we became aware of the importance of solidarity among peoples. This ideal, at the heart of scouting, has guided us to Madagascar: we now have to continue to live this ideal as we travel along the 11 separate paths our lives will take!

Les Compagnons



PROJECTS

ACB « A Beating Heart » Madagascar



2018 Mission with Dr. Bernard De Geeter and Dr. Jean Flori:

The programme for Dr. Bernard De Geeter: The training in cardiac ultrasound with the two doctors from Madagascar who had come to Strasbourg for internships in early 2018 was continued.

During the 2018 mission, 63 children underwent pediatric cardiology examinations and 6 will have to travel to the capital Antananarivo for a first consultation with Dr. Nivo. The cardio pediatricians from Reunion regularly come to the Capital to work with Dr. Nivo in caring for the island's children with cardiac disease and conduct additional examinations. In principle, the children will be transported to France by 'la Chaîne de l'Espoir' to have their operations.

The programme for Dr. Jean Flori, pediatrician specialising in neonatology:

For his second visit, Dr. Flori accompanied the pediatric and neonatology team every day. He attended the staff meetings and reviewed files with the doctors. Each afternoon was reserved for training in topics requested by pediatricians.

On leaving Fianarantsoa, we left a portable ultrasound machine on site to allow the doctors to continue the screening work. The device was delivered officially including the signing of a memorandum of understanding concerning its use. This ultrasound is the only one of this quality in the whole of Madagascar and is the pride of the whole team.

This mission could not happen without the support of Strasbourg doctors who maintain their efforts, even in the most trying conditions. Thanks to them



ACB

Dr. De Geeter reviewed the case of Laurent who was refused by 'Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque' because of his age; he is over 15 years old. The doctors from Reunion had agreed to operate on him (endoluminal dilatation of narrowing of the pulmonary valve using interventional catheterization) and we were waiting a response from them indicating a proposed date and cost.

At the end of August this young man was operated on Reunion Island and he was able to return to his home in Madagascar in late September.

Another child reviewed was 5-year-old Sergio. He was planned to have surgery via 'Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque' in September 2017. But his situation had changed unfavourably before departure (poor saturation). Because of this he was subsequently rejected by 'Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque'. Dr. De Geeter, however, remains convinced that the operation is possible, and the family were prepared to fly to Paris for consultation and operation if necessary. Bernard phoned a cardiac surgeon, who is ready to discuss with the family and schedule the open-heart surgery in the process.

Sergio: the adventure continues

It is on 19 September 19 that Sergio and his dad came to France for a medical appointment. We found them at Marie Lannelongue Hospital in Plessis-Robinson; a hospital specializing in the childhood cardiac diseases. The appointment was organized by Dr. De Geeter, who helped things run smoothly.

Sergio had to have further examination so that the surgeons could be sure of the feasibility of the operation. It is the age of the child that was the concern. Discover the happy end of this story on the following page !

Meeting with 'La Chaîne de L'Espoir'

From September, the responsibility for the children who need operations will pass from 'Mécénat Chirurgie Cardiaque' to 'La Chaîne de L'Espoir'.

Following the training of doctors in ultrasound, we hope that children from the hospital of Fianarantsoa can benefit from better care.

The purpose of the meeting with 'La Chaîne de L'Espoir' was to discuss the basis of the collaborations. The results were very encouraging.



In Madagascar, Dr. Joro will be responsible for the practical part of the care for the children sent by the pediatric doctors of Fianarantsoa.



ACB

The very last news of our project « A Coeur Battant ».

Laurent, the third from the left, has returned to Madagascar. He is cured, and his smile reflects his happiness. Without the stubbornness of Dr. Bernard De Geeter, he would still be waiting for a miracle in Fianarantsoa.

With his illness treated, he can look to the future and we wish him a long and happy life. He and his family pass their heartfelt thanks to the donors and volunteers of Terre des Hommes Alsace. Dr. De Geeter followed closely the intervention of Laurent which in Reunion and was continuously updated by the surgeons who performed the operation.

Fond'Action Alsace has been recognizing local personalities since 1986 and this year we were invited to their gala. Dr. Bernard De Geeter was celebrated this year and was awarded a magnificent trophy by Mrs. Brigitte Klinckert, President of the County Council of Haut-Rhin.

Dr. Bernard De Geeter has worked alongside TDHA for many years and he fully shares the values of our association. For TDHA, each child is unique and irreplaceable and when asked "How many children have you been able to save?", the doctor replies "one at a time..."

Little Sergio is also unique for his parents...

And there is great news. His operation has taken place. This little boy was refused support twice due to errors but finally been treated. He was perfectly curable but due to various errors he was refused treatment and support twice – he has lost 3 years just waiting. He is now in Paris being cared for after his open-heart surgery. It took a lot of energy to turn the tide, seek funding, and bring him to France. Bernard De Geeter calls him Sergio Leone. We hope the great American filmmaker will watch over him.

He already has a guardian angel in the shape of Dr. De Geeter.

Brigitte Flammel

Sergio



Brazil

An invitation to get to know Terre des Hommes Alsace

On April 28, 2018, a dream takes shape. What seemed so far away, ends up approaching, literally in the sense of the word, going to meet, knowing.

We departed carrying curiosity in our luggage, wanting to know more about those people who live so far away and help us to manage the projects we support on this side of the Atlantic, in the Brazilian north-east, and more specifically, in the Sertão de Pernambuco. It is an arid region, inhabited by humble and joyful people. Despite the consequences of drought, where water is even recorded by droplets, the inhabitants still have hope. When the first raindrops appear, the vegetation rejoices, reborn, reaffirming the certainty that life resists everything, showing that we must live it with joy and hope and the certainty of better days. It is from here, from this land, that we left for Alsace, a region in the north of France, a land of wines, cheeses, flambé pie, but above all a land of welcoming, friendly people who have discovered that life has more meaning when we turn to missions of sharing, to help promote the life and dignity of those who need it most. The journey was a combination of expectation, joy, and

excitement. Our dream came true, but we never imagined that the journey would go beyond our dreams, we plunged at every moment into a reality so close and at the same time so far away. It was 21 days of knowledge, discoveries, sharing and testimonies. Here is what we have gathered, in three points :

1 - Solidarity, a rule of life:

Looking at the structure of the Terre des Hommes Alsace organisation, this made us think about the fact that ordinary people, without receiving any reward, give of their time and work for others, people who are unknown and distant, and who may never have the opportunity to get to know us. The answer came to us in such a simple way, that it does not correspond to the opulence attributed to the French but to humanity and solidarity. We were able to understand that distance is not an issue when the motivation is sharing or the desire to reach others. This was evident during our first meeting with the Board of Directors. The people present joined not only for a meeting, but for a discussion that took us to different places in the world where Terre de Hommes is present: "A Heart Beating" in Madagascar, the orphaned children of Peru and of India, the children of the School in Angola, and so on throughout Africa, Asia and South America. In every corner of the world, a little solidarity, in every face a little gratitude, and the recognition of every person, even if they



Brazil

have little, always has something to give, and that people who have knowledge, can always and always learn. And especially in this field, the President of the organization, Simon Rey, has made us understand that solidarity is not only the idea of serving or giving what we have in excess, but, essentially, "a rule of life", which amplifies the pleasure of living, which transcends borders, showing that there are no unbreakable barriers when the dimension is serving.

2 - Availability and pleasure of service

Another point we noticed was the availability of people in Alsace, wherever we went we could see a spirit of solidarity, either in the shops, in the Church, in the street where we met a collaborator, a volunteer, always with a smile, showing us that the dimension of work is not only the Board of Directors, but it mobilizes the whole region, that all participate through partnerships, donations, disclosure, through the desire to collaborate with certainty and joy to see the results.

We have seen fraternity, which, by scattering throughout the world, may not materialize, but it brings closer the condition of equality, freedom, it helps to promote the emancipation of people who, in their social exclusion, are sometimes conditioned by submission to groups that dominate territories and exploit human life. There are those who live in poverty, in deplorable, if not subhuman, living conditions, and help comes from afar, because local leaders and institutions are unable to provide the essentials for the development of human life. Terre des Hommes Alsace succeeds in doing so, bringing hope and helping to initiate change. Today we have bread, water, school, hospitality, health, cultural promotion, and with that, a chain of people who are ready to build bridges, provide manpower, know and help, because they have understood that we are unique and that "we are responsible for those we have tamed" and those who have been tamed will never forget, they will grow in the recognition of fraternity, they will find maturity in seeking new conditions of life.

I can see this from the projects developed in Salgueiro, because today there are young people who attend universities and who serve as an example for their families. The help from Terre des Hommes Alsace has not made them dependent, on the contrary, it has contributed to their emancipation, they have understood that poverty is not a rule, but a condition that can be overcome and with a greater willingness and commitment. This is the work developed at PROAC (Community project to help adolescents), children and young people who finally have education, sport, culture and citizenship, become entrepreneurs of life and often manage to overcome the conditions that were imposed on them until then. This is also the case with the work developed by the Cristo Re-

dentor Crèche, which focuses on ensuring the food and care necessary for the development of children, but without losing sight of the training of these small beings who will have to face the challenges of this world.

3 - And, in addition, the beauty of the country...

And, last but not least, we couldn't help but talk about the beauty of the place. France enchants the imagination and fascinates the world with its beauty, the centre of European culture. But the immensity of this beauty cannot be described, it must be lived. It is not only a space, but a whole that brings together nature, culture and people. We were delighted with every place, everything, but most of all, we were delighted by the solidarity of the people.



Antoine Saint Exupéry in the beauty of his literature did not imagine that he would give the name to an organization that helped to discover the world through solidarity. We have seen, known and learned to know with the eyes of the heart, because as Exupéry himself said, "the essential is invisible to the eyes". Thank you Terre des Hommes Alsace! Thank you Brigitte Flammen for making hearts beat faster, also in Madagascar. Irénée and the children of Peru who smile because they have a home. Jacques Flammen, education which means liberation for the children of Senegal. Pierre-Antoine Rosemary, the care of children in South India who revive the hope of life. Emmanuel Lassiati, the children of Vietnam will certainly be literate and will thank you for this opportunity. Danièle Grumet, the children of Angola smile with tenderness in the orphanage. Neil Greener who contributes to the school strengthening of Haiti's children in the perspective of a better life. Gérard Romeder, North India certainly thanks for all the work done. To all the members of Terre des Hommes Alsace, we express our gratitude, our thanks to the associates, partners, volunteers, those who

Brazil

work for solidarity at the heart of this beautiful association. And, please, a strong and sincere thank you to our partner and friend Simon Rey, currently President of Terre des Hommes Alsace and responsible for projects in Brazil. Pernambuco and Bahia, the children and adolescents who are welcomed at PROAC, the Crèche de Pernambuco, Lar da Menina in Bahia, Brazil thanks wholeheartedly and as the poet says "true love does not fear attrition, the more we give, the more we receive". We know that there is no greater force than love, no doubt that love is the driving force behind Terre des Hommes Alsace. We thank you very much !

Ana Neide de Barros - Pedagogue and Member of the Board of Directors of the N. Sra. do Perpétuo Socorro Social Centre and PROAC ;

Maria Vilaneide Barros - Pedagogue - Head of the Cristo Redentor Daycare Centre.



Haiti

What is happening in Haiti ?

The new school year had just started and our partner, Inter Aide, are currently visiting the project we are supporting in Lamielle, a semi-mountainous region of Haiti not far from the Dominican border.



The area in which the project is based contains 36 schools of which 26 started in the programme for 2016/2017. For the school year 2017/2018, 2 schools of these schools dropped out, but 3 other schools joined the programme. Consequently 27 schools and 3875 children were supported through the last school year. The support provided includes teacher training along with books and other materials.



Unfortunately, assessments during the year have indicated the academic level of the pupils is not particularly high. One of the reasons for this is the high turnover of teachers. This has a number of causes. Often the school director is not an educator and not academically qualified to manage a school; there is a low payment rate for the school fees which results in inconsistent salaries for the teachers precipitating staff turnover; often students are hired as teachers and they leave when they find a better opportunity.

As the programme enters its third year, it will continue to work with the school directors and the parents. The aim is to improve the level of support from the parent to the schools and to help them understand the importance not only to have their children enrolled in school but also that they attend. The support of the parents is seen as crucial to the success of the project.

Neil Greener

North India

WE ALSO FOLLOW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW REGULATIONS !

The care and protection of children has been a significant driver in India, and the Juvenile Justice Act was passed by Parliament in 2015 and subsequently rolled out. All non-profit organizations like Howrah South Point, one of our partners, have been impacted.

This new regulation has led to significant changes and in this article we shall share with you what has been done. As a reminder, Terre des Hommes Alsace is involved at the Bakuabari site covering the Manus Domini and Nir-mala Nivas houses. However, the Mogradangi centre located approximately 10 kilometers from the Bakuabari one should not be overlooked; the two are complementary and we always visit both of them when we are in the region.

On 22nd Dec 2017 big changes were made impacting Bakuabari and Mogradangi homes. First of all to run a home it is compulsory to be registered under the Juvenile Justice Act 2015. One provision of the new act is that boys and girls can no longer reside in the same compound using one common entrance. So from now on Mogradangi home will be dedicated for girls and Bakuabari for



boys; the capacity of both homes is 50 for children with special needs. Currently Howrah South Point have a temporary certificate issued by the authorities for 6 months' but this was valid only until 29th June 2018. A permanent registration has been applied for and is still under evaluation in Kolkata.

An additional complexity is transport for the children to get to school. Primary section girls attend the School at



Mogradangi while boys attend Manus Domini School at Bakuabari which means 20 girls are sent from Bakuabari to Mogradangi School and 12 boys from Mogradangi to Manus Domini Special School. This requires a lot of organisation. Another challenge is the availability of staff to take care of the children on the bus.

In addition, with the construction of the highway, the local roads are now in bad condition resulting the buses needing frequent maintenance. The other cost impact is the higher fuel consumption. Altogether the cost of transportation has risen about 4000INR (ca. 49 €) per month.

An additional request still needing implementation concerns the installation of CCTV cameras at each entrance.

This new regulation is not going to change and we can't exclude that more demanding ones will be implemented in future. The role of Terre des Homes Alsace is to regularly assess the situation with its partners and whenever possible adjust its support. We have been collaborating with Howrah South Point for many years and the door is always open for communication between TDHA and Howrah South Point.

G erard Romeder



South India

I am happy to write my first article on South India. I had the chance to go there in June to meet the teams of Chezhan, our Indian partner TDHCore. A short week allowed me to cover all the projects supported by TDHA and I now understand a little better the needs of those we support.

I am proud to work with Chezhan and his associates. Their focus on the quality of education as a pledge of investment for the future of the children has really touched me.

A typical day in Tamil Nadu:

2:00 Arrival of Asmita *, 14, during the night. Following a report, the girl was found living completely destitute in the street with her sick mother and younger brother. She was 5 months pregnant after being raped by 2 boys. The child protection services of TDHCore took the necessary steps to ensure she was taken in as an emergency and received the necessary assistance during pregnancy. She gave birth in August. She is currently in the Puspam home for long-term rehabilitation.

5: 00 The girls wake-up and get ready to go to school. The cook finishes the preparation of their lunch for their lunch boxes. There is a last glance at the lessons before drinking a glass of milk freshly delivered by a villager on a bike. The older ones help the little ones to put on their uniform and to comb their hair.

6: 00/6: 30 School buses pick up the children. Some go to public schools, others to private schools, and some



pursue higher education.

Avani is not feeling well this morning and will not go to school. She has Aids but she will receive treatment. She is not worried because she knows she is in good hands

Some 80km in the countryside, Ravanan is already on his bike bought thanks to TDHA. He is happy as it is faster to go to school this way; before he needed 2 hours on foot. He knows that many children have already had bad encounters on their way to school; he feels safer on his bicycle. This summer he moved to a small house funded by TDHA. It is a gift from heaven for his very poor family because he used to live in a little dark hut that is not very practical for homework. He and his brother have their schooling supported by TDHA.

9:00 Closer to Javadhu hills, in the mountains, little Senthur recites the alphabet. He is happy to return to class with his new teacher paid for by TDHA donations. The previous teacher appointed by the government did not come into this remote area.



South India

10:30 Nilavan is in her hydrotherapy session. He is disabled and it helps him a lot to relax his limbs. Specialized educators, paid by TDHA will make him with his motor skills and he will end with a yoga session.

14:00 Already back in the bus home, Sandhiya knows that there is an event tonight and is happy to put a nice dress. She lives in one of the Puspam houses and feels good thanks to the TDHA donations that help maintain the healthy home, buy her clothes and pay for her schooling.

15:30 Manojini is struggling to learn his lessons, tomorrow she has test. As she goes to the primary school in the neighboring village, she will walk with the women in charge of her group. Kanmani quietly revises her nursing class in the dormitory.

17:00 Amulu is looking forward to seeing his 'sisters' for basketball training. She is happy to put on her new shoes financed by TDHA; the old ones were very worn. She thinks about the last match they won and that motivates her to continue her studies in the sport.

18:00 a group of children finish their homework on the basketball court. Another group receives mathematics support classes from the teacher.

19:30 The girls are dining together in the lobby of their house. On the menu rice and lentil curry. Priya is happy because tonight we are celebrating her birthday. There will be a cake for her and every child will say something nice to her; and most of all they will be able to dance.

**The children's names have been changed for the text.*

« I am a girl from Puspam homes. Thanks to my life here, I was able to study at school and become a specialized educator. Today I am employed by the center for young disabled people »



Floods in Kerala, Immediate Support of TDHA

Following the disastrous floods in Kerala, the neighboring region to Tamil Nadu, our partner took the initiative to send 15 people to provide food and assistance to those in need. We supported this effort with an exceptional donation of € 2,000 which made it possible to target remote villages where the government were unable to act. Clothes, towels, soap, baby milk powder, and first-aid drugs were distributed. The situation is slowly returning to normal.

அகத்தின் அழகு முகத்திலே.

(Tamil proverb) agatthin alhageu mugathilé. - The inner beauty is seen on the face.

Pierre-Antoine
Rosemary



Madagascar

Great news about our partners in Antananarivo: in September they will have moved to their new building.

They will not have any regrets to leave the astronomically high rents of the old building.

The new building is very functional; even if there is less space outside, the premises will allow each professional to find a place.

All existing facilities such as latrines, courtyard, washbasins will be dismantled and installed in the new house.

All families will continue to benefit from the services of the center, even if for some the journey time will be more significant.

I am really happy for my partners because the working conditions will be much better for both staff and beneficiaries.

The total cost of the new building was 58,000 euros of which 30,000 euros was contributed by Terre des Hommes Alsace.

Both meals and healthcare will continue to be provided to the children during the moving period to avoid any hardship.

The living conditions for people is not changing in a positive way. The level of poverty in the population is growing more than ever such that it is a problem for all.

During each mission, we are used to meeting the beneficiaries of our projects and each time we are amazed by the inhuman conditions in which people live.

We meet families who live and work in a dump. They search through the rubbish to extract a kind of soil they pack in bags of cement sold at 1000Ar (0.26 euros) the bag or 2000Ar (0.52 euros) for 3 bags. Everyone works, even the little ones, each and every day from sunrise to sunset.

For the children the center will allow schooling, food and care. However, parents must still be convinced because their children are a work force.

Change is hard to put in place and there are not many prospects on the horizon.

More than ever our structure is a little corner of blue sky for these children.



Madagascar



The Fianarantsoa Project

Sister Madeleine, who is in charge of our projects in Fianarantsoa, has restructured the programs we support. 160 children (sometimes with their little brothers and sisters who are not yet in school) are welcomed daily for a lunch composed of rice and legume vegetables; twice a week there is a little meat and fresh vegetables from the garden. The children also participate in growing, watering and harvesting vegetables and salads.

All of these children come from extremely poor families with single mothers, which is why Sister Madeleine has set up micro-credits for mothers in order to get the family out of poverty.

160 malnourished children

Once a month, bush families from far away come to get milk powder for their poorly nourished children.

The surveillance of this by the sisters is very rigorous; they have even built constituted files. To verify the identity of the child there is a copy of the birth certificate and a photo, information about the child and the mother (breast-feeding not possible etc ...). In case of the death of the parents, the sisters ask for the death certificate.

Using these types of observations, it is possible that this help really benefits the children.

Saint Joseph's Centre: home to èà children with cerebral palsy

We attended the inauguration of the building for disabled children at the Saint Joseph Centre. TDHA financed the construction of this building in 2017.

The Saint Joseph Centre was created by Sister Barbot who was committed to achieve a good level of care for children with mental disabilities. There is no other such structure in the Fianarantsoa region.

Children are brought to the centre daily by a bush taxi and spend the day in there. Education is organized considering the disability of children and their skills that we are trying to develop.

This is a small overview of our projects achieved thanks to the generosity of donors and the work of volunteers. Thank you all for your precious aid.

Brigitte Flammel

Peru

A short note from Peru

We learnt last October of the departure of Sister Alejandrina who was in charge of the Misericordia orphanage at Puente Piedra. She has been given a new assignment by her congregation. In fact, she will indeed leave the country for the Democratic Republic of Congo where she will manage an orphanage in an underprivileged area. We have been close to her during many years and everyone who has come to know her have benefited from her kindness, spontaneity, common sense, and sense of order as well as her concern for the well-being of the children.

Terre des Hommes Alsace thanks her for all her years of dedication and wish her courage and plenty of success in her new mission.

She will be replaced by Sister Elizabeth who is not a new-comer to Misericordia since she was previously responsible for the college located within the orphanage area. She will now be our primary contact and we wish her all the best in her new mission.

Christmas and the end of the year are approaching, and the children are already busy preparing for the events. They are especially contributing to the sewing and pastry making.

We wish them all a Merry Christmas as well as a Happy New Year 2019 !



J.J.Kieffer

Soeur Alexandrina



Sister Elizabeth

Sénégal

The canteen of Gamadji Saré

Class has resumed at the village school and the canteen will welcome 560 children daily for lunch. As usual, it will be difficult the first week, the time being spent on finalizing the organization. During my visit in January I had the opportunity to discuss various problems with my partner. The building that houses the various supplies is in rather bad condition; the roof of the place where the women prepare the ingredients needs repairing every year following the strong winds. Regarding the cooking of food, wood as an energy source is becoming more and more problematic (it is rare and therefore more and more expensive). Not being Santa, I could not solve the problem immediately. So, I asked Djiby SARR to prepare a project that he will present to our board of directors next March when he visits. During his stay with us, he will have the opportunity to participate in our general assembly and the voluntary activities related to the operation "Easter rabbits" in local schools.

The henhouse has been enlarged and will produce more broilers for sale or consumption in the canteen. In the pedagogic garden, nurseries have been set up and the plants will be transplanted to the field when they are ready. In the field, Daouda continues his work of maintenance and preparation for the next growing



Photo visit Sénégal 2018

Jacky Flammen

Angola

Elisabeth Eppinger was a French nun, founder of the Sisters of the Most Holy Savior and recognized as blessed by the Catholic Church. Nicknamed "the ecstatic of Niederbronn", Mother Alphonse-Marie was beatified on September 9, 2018 in the cathedral Notre-Dame in Strasbourg.

We were invited to the ceremony by Sister Daniella, our partner in Angola. Sister Alphonse-Marie was the originator of the congregation of the Sisters of the Most Holy Savior often called the Sisters of Niederbronn. The order is dedicated to caring for the sick and the poor. It was a very beautiful ceremony in the presence of nuns from all over the world and there were speeches in many different languages.

It can be said that the spirit of this nun is maintained by the sisters who manage our programme in Huambo, Angola and have come to the rescue of the abandoned children.

For those interested in this event, you will find several sites with more information including Wikipedia and France3 Alsace.

The religieuse will be the first one to be beatified within the diocese of Alsace.



Danielle Grumet

Vietnam

Aquaponics adapted for the disabled at the new Maison Chance Social Centre in Dak Nong

The Maison Chance Association, managed by Tim Aline, welcomed its first beneficiaries to Dak Nong: orphaned children, disabled people of all ages and young people in difficult circumstances. To help these people feel useful, it is important to involve them in the operation of the center. Thus, adapted gardens have been installed using aquaponics.

Aquaponics is a type of closed loop culture system that combines plant cultivation and fish farming. The term is a combination of the term "aquaculture", which refers to the rearing of fish or aquatic organisms, with the word hydroponics which refers to the cultivation of plants with mineralized water

The system works by transforming fish waste into nutrients by nitrification and then using the aquarium water to provide these to the plants. Once filtered by the plants, the cleaned water returns to the aquarium. This ecological and economic micro-ecosystem allows the benefits from both fish farming and agriculture to be realized.

Aquaponics saves 80% of the water needed for traditional agriculture, but also produces fresh fish and organic vegetables throughout the year. In addition, the floor can be used permanently without being replaced. All sorts of sprouts, leafy vegetables, tubers, vines, flowers and ornamental plants can be grown using this system, while freshwater fish such as catfish, tilapia or eel can be raised.

The installation consists of a 750-liter aquarium, surmounted by eight 100-liter vegetable trays and is particularly adapted to disabled people because it is elevated. Every year, an aquaponics module can provide about 56 kg of vegetables and 180 kg of fish to feed the beneficiaries and employees of the Social Center (spinach 8 harvests / year; tilapia fish 4 harvests / year).

The installation of each module costs 1000 €. Thanks to the help of Terre des Hommes Alsace, Maison Chance has just installed 3 aquaponics modules

Emmanuel Lassiart





Angola – Avril 2016 – Danielle Grumet

TERRE DES HOMMES ALSACE
Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

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Terre des Hommes Alsace is committed to follow the law 78-17 dated January 6th 1978 related to the treatment of informations (www.cnil.fr) and the way to handle personal data which you may have to let us know.

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