

2008  
ANNUAL REPORT



Marist International Solidarity Foundation ONLUS



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## FOREWORD

With pleasure I present the first annual report of the Marist International Solidarity Foundation Onlus describing the foundation's activities during this, its inaugural year.

FMSI, simply put, was founded to benefit children. Taking as its inspiration the mission and charism of the Marist Brothers of the Schools, FMSI seeks to encourage and establish healthy, safe and supportive environments which will encourage children and young people to grow and succeed in life. Having access to a quality education which prepares children and young people for life is a right no child or young person should be denied, especially if they lack the material and human resources needed in order to succeed.

The Marist Brothers, a Catholic religious Institute of men, was founded in 1817 by Marcellin Champagnat in LaValla, France, not far from Lyon. The times were difficult. The French Revolution had overturned all that was once familiar in society. By the time Fr. Champagnat took up his duties as curate of the parish church in LaValla in 1816, France was struggling to overcome the political, economic, social and spiritual upheaval which followed the revolution ...a revolution which began twenty-seven years earlier, in 1789 ...the year of his birth. Much had been unraveled; much needed to be done.

The inconsistent and poor quality of education especially in the rural areas in and around LaValla, was a constant worry to Fr. Champagnat. He believed that every child and young person, but especially the poor, needed to read, write, think and be able to use the resources around them to become "good Christians and good citizens."

In founding the Marist Brothers however, he gave his followers a truly revolutionary vision of how to proceed with their educational mission. "To bring up children properly," he said, "you must love them, and love them all equally." Respect, encouragement, and a family-like environment were important elements in providing an integral education; ...one that prepared children and young people for life, and life to the full. The education he wanted to give was a holistic one ...one that fed the whole person ...body, mind, and soul.

Today, the Marist Brothers and thousands of dedicated lay colleagues who work alongside them can be found in over 78 countries of the world. You will find them teaching in

*"There can be no keener revelation of society's soul than the way in which it treats its children...Our actions and policies, and the institutions we create should be eloquent with care, respect and love."*

Nelson Mandela, 1994

primary and secondary schools and in universities. You will find them working in informal educational settings, in programs, shelters, and centers for troubled and homeless youth. You will find them wherever children and young people can be found, walking alongside them, sharing their experiences with them, helping them to discover the person they are and to become architects of their own future.

While the Marist Brothers go about doing what they do best at the grassroots level, FMSI works to assist and to complement this work through

- advocacy for the rights of children and young people before the United Nations in Geneva,
- funding educational projects that are meant to improve the life of children and young people in developing countries,
- education and animation for child rights; and
- work with partner organizations and other groups who, like FMSI, want to contribute to a world fit for children.

This year, 2009, is the 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. FMSI joins with its partner organizations and groups all over the world working to assure that children and young people enjoy the rights listed in this almost universally accepted international treaty and its optional protocols. They will find in FMSI an ally and a friend in the work that lies ahead.

Respectfully,

**Br. Dominick Pujja, FMS**  
President



## 2008, A YEAR OF TRANSITION... A YEAR OF ESTABLISHMENT...

With the notarization of its statutes on October 24, 2007, the Marist International Solidarity Foundation, whose aim is the benefit of children and young people through the promotion of their human rights, especially the right to education, was established in Rome, Italy.

Some months later, on February 5, 2008, FMSI received notification from the Agenzia delle Entrate that it was recognized as an ONLUS organization: non-for-profit organization with a social purpose.

On April 30, 2008, the third and final benchmark in the recognition process for the establishment of a foundation within Italian civil society was reached when we received notice from the Prefettura di Roma, Ufficio Territoriale del Governo, that FMSI was now listed in the register of juridical bodies.

### A time of review...

FMSI was an idea that evolved over time. In 1995, the Bureau of International Solidarity was established as an office of the General Administration of the Marist Brothers of the Schools to encourage a higher level of commitment from its members to the work of solidarity with the poor and to assist its members in developing countries to find funding for their solidarity projects among the poor.

In time, BIS's mandate grew to include a host of activities related to education and animation for justice and solidarity, project funding, project coordination, support for campaigns, and networking with other like-minded groups.

In 2004 an extensive review of BIS programs was conducted by an international team (1). The team's findings confirmed much of the work BIS was doing, especially in the area of

(1) Marist International Review Team / Bureau of International Solidarity / Report to the General Council, 10 June 2004.



*"The mission of the Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale is to promote innovative thinking and practical initiatives for the benefit of children and young people, especially those considered most vulnerable and neglected.*

*FMSI works to establish a better world for children where their rights are respected and protected, where they can grow and mature in safe and healthy environments, free from violence and fear, and where their future is bright and rich with opportunity".*

FMSI's mission statement



FMSI Onlus



project funding, education, networking. It also offered some recommendations that would give more focus to BIS work and would eventually give birth to the establishment of a new entity: the Marist International Solidarity Foundation. While BIS had served the Institute well up to the time of the review, new challenges called for a way to work and to present itself before the international community. It was time for BIS to refocus its programs and attention on the first concern of the Institute, namely children and young people, especially those most in need.

**A time of transformation...**

The strategic plan (2) which followed the review was clear and straightforward. While confirming much of the work that BIS had been doing, it also challenged the bureau to:

- Renew the focus on children and young people, especially those most in need of our attention;
- Advocate and lobby for Child Rights in Geneva before the United Nations;
- Establish strategic partnerships with Franciscans International, BICE and other like-minded child rights NGOs;
- Seek additional funding sources within the public sector; and
- Adopt a more public (NGO) image with greater accountability and transparency.

As BIS worked to implement the new direction, it became clear, that a new entity needed to be formed... one that was

The FMSI logo design features a globe printed in light blue, a color associated with the UN and organizations which focus on human rights. The globe represents the international scope of the foundation. Two smiling, confident faces, one of a small child and one of an older child or young adult, appear in the foreground surrounded by stylized letter “M” in red-orange, a color used by organizations dedicated to children in their logos. The “M” gives definition to the two faces and is meant to highlight the foundation’s “Marist” identity. In capital block-letters “FMSI”, printed in a darker blue, stands to the right of the globe and the faces. Under the letters “FMSI” is found the phrase: Per il Bene dei Bambini... For the Benefit of Children. Below the design is the full name of the foundation including the “ONLUS” mark, the Italian acronym which stands for, “non-for-profit organization with a social utility purpose.”



(2) Strategic Plan 2005-2009 / Implementation Plan / BIS Review.



recognized by civil authority... one that would be recognized by the international community in Geneva as a voice for child rights... and one that would be accountable for its decisions. Under the direction of the General Council, and with the help of sound legal counsel, and the signature of the legal representative of the General House, statutes for the Marist International Solidarity Foundation were drawn up, formally read before an Italian notary on 24 October 2007, and then filed with Italian authorities.

#### **A time to get established...**

Establishing a foundation takes time. With the Foundation's statutes filed and the Council of Administrators named, the Foundation's first president, Br. Dominick Pujia, led the FMSI staff through the sometimes tedious work of establishing and developing the administrative tools, operational procedures, and the programs they would need to carry FMSI forward.

#### **Administration Activities...getting organized**

As with any new entity, this first year of operation was taken up with the practical details of getting established. Bank accounts were opened, a new accounting program was introduced, contracts with the General House covering the use of space, equipment, and assignment of personnel were put in place, an investment firm was contracted to manage the patrimony, translations of the foundation's statutes were begun, and internal procedures and protocols governing how the foundation operates were put in place.

Aware of the foundation's need to present itself favorably before public entities, the Council of Administrators over the course of two meetings (January and June) met to review reports of the foundation's activities, discuss and establish policy, review accounts and financial matters, and discuss matters relevant to the growth of the foundation. The Council of Administrators also approved the text of the foundation's mission statement, reviewed plans for the foundation web site ([www.fmsi-onlus.org](http://www.fmsi-onlus.org)) and adopted a logo which was designed by a professional graphics company (Gubernet.com).



## **ADVOCACY FOR CHILDREN IN GENEVA**

The primary focus of the Marist International Solidarity Foundation is the well-being of children and young people, especially those who are poor and marginalized, victims of violence or exploitation, those unable to realize, for whatever reason, their right to a better future, of which the right to an education is indisputable.

In order to address the root causes of these and other unjust situations which children around the world face, FMSI maintains a secondary office in Geneva, Switzerland, the home city of many UN "human rights mechanisms" such as the UN Human Rights Council, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the treaty body which monitors the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the 189 nations which signed the treaty.

Besides housing many UN member state diplomatic missions in and around the city, Geneva is a center for many human rights NGOs and several UN system bodies, including the International Labor Organization (ILO), the World Health Organization (WHO), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The decisions and actions of these bodies have an effect on billions of people around the world, including children.

To be faithful to its mission, FMSI must be present in Geneva. There it can participate in UN conferences, meet with members of various national diplomatic missions, and take part in working groups along with other human rights NGOs when their discussions, decisions, and actions will affect children and young people. To such discussions and decisions FMSI, acting as a conduit, can offer the expertise and experience of the Marist Brothers and their colleagues who are working on the grassroots level with children and young people every day in their respective countries.



Our presence in Geneva began several years ago before FMSI was incorporated into civil society. Then we operated under the name of the Marist Bureau of International Solidarity (BIS), an office of the Marist General Administration. In 2005 we signed a memorandum of understanding with Franciscans International (FI), an NGO of the Franciscan Family which made it possible for us to establish an office in Geneva (37-39 Rue de Vermont). Beside technical assistance, FI's Advocacy Team offered us the professional assistance and advice we needed to begin our advocacy work for child rights.

In October 2006, Br. César Henriquez (El Salvador, Province of Central America) joined the BIS team in Rome as the Child Rights Advocacy Officer. In 2007, with the help of the Province of L'Hermitage, a Marist community was established in Geneva making it possible for Br. César to move to Geneva and to give full-time attention to the work he had been assigned. The community of three brothers, now located in Meyrin, a suburb of Geneva, as a sign of support for the work going on before the UN, has made child rights a major focus of its communal activities as well.

This past year, Br. César visited two diplomatic missions, Guatemala and El Salvador, to discuss issues related to child rights. In January he also prepared a statement for Guatemala's Universal Periodic Review. This statement was co-signed by the Conferencia de Religiosas y Religiosos de Guatemala (CONFREGUA), Save the Children-Guatemala and Franciscans International. In June, at the end of Guatemala's UPR, an oral statement was presented by FI and FMSI.

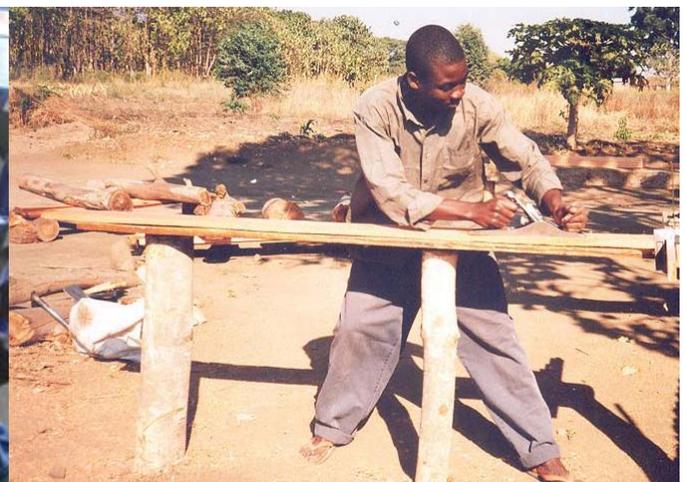
During the year Br. César was also part of a working group which prepared a document entitled Education in Emergencies. The document was presented at a

"Discussion Day" in September, a program sponsored by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child to encourage discussion on issues affecting children.

FMSI co-signed a statement which was delivered on 22 January to the Human Rights Council: Rights of the Child: Request for better protection for children exploited at work and children in conflict with the law (A/HRC/7/NGO/4). In June 2008, FMSI co-signed a statement prepared by Christian-Inspired and Other faith-based Organizations to the High-Level Conference on World Food Security and the Challenge of Climate Change and Bio-energy. The conference was held in Rome.

Br. César's work as FMSI's first Child Rights Advocacy Officer laid a foundation for which we are all grateful. In November, Br. César returned to his home province to take up a work that allowed him to be in more direct contact with children and young people. No doubt the child rights perspective acquired while working in Geneva as FMSI's Child Advocacy Officer and pursuit of a Master of Advanced Studies in Children's Rights at the Institut Universitaire Kurt Bösch, will benefit him and the young people he encounters. Prior to Br. César's return to El Salvador, FMSI announced his replacement. Br. James Jolley (Australia) will take up the position of FMSI Child Advocacy Officer in Geneva in September 2009, once he completes his commitments in Australia where he coordinates the educational program for several aboriginal schools in the Diocese of Darwin.

In closing this section which has dealt with the FMSI Child Rights Advocacy activities, it is important to note an interesting event which will have a significant effect upon our work in the coming years. In October, prior to his departure, Br. César, accepted the invitation of Franciscans International to gather information on the right to education





in Vanuatu for the country's upcoming Universal Periodic Review process. Then he contacted our Marist leadership in Vanuatu to see if they would become involved in the periodic review process. He received a positive response.

With the help of local leadership in the Marist District of Melanesia and the encouragement of Marist Asia-Pacific (MAPS) office in Australia, a meeting involving educators and young people was held in Vanuatu to gather information on the government's human rights obligations toward children and young people as enumerated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Based on the grassroots realities around them, the group gathered information on the issue of the right to an education. They then wrote a report and sent it to Franciscans International.

Following the procedures outlined by the Human Rights Council, the report was sent to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and was included in the combined "stakeholder's report" containing information provided by five other stakeholders in Vanuatu civil society (A/HCR/WG.6/5/VUT/3) for the Universal Periodic Review process.

## PROJECTS DEPARTMENT: PROJECT FUNDING THROUGH FMSI

With the help of the Institute of the Marist Brothers, our major donor, and donations from individuals and school groups, FMSI approved funding for 20 small projects in 2008.

In keeping with the objectives enumerated in the foundation's statutes, FMSI supports a limited number of small projects each year coming from Marist partners and other colleagues mainly in developing countries. These grants are administered according to established internal procedures in order to guarantee transparency and legitimate use of the funds. The small grants program has established guidelines for the processing, evaluation and review of requests and the allocation of grants. Ms. Sara Panciroli, FMSI's Secretary General, coordinates this program. Twenty projects were approved in 2008\* for a total amount of 56,930 €.

\*Projects number 20/08, 21/08, and 22/08 were approved in December 2008. Funds for these projects were transferred in January 2009 after the project holders returned the signed contract agreeing to follow guidelines for the use of the grant. The actual disbursement during 2008, consequently, was 47,180 €.

### SMALL PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING IN 2008 (Euros)

Project	Title	Country	Partner	Grant
01/08	Formation course for educators	Colombia	Community of S. Egidio	3 427
03/08	"Seeds of Hope" Program	Cuba	Marist Brothers of Cuba	1 412
04/08	School books	Madagascar	Marist Brothers/DIDEC	3 208
05/08	School books and library computer	Malawi	Zomba Catholic School	3 235
06/08	School improvement and resources	Pakistan	St. John Vianney Boys' HS	3 170
07/08	Construction of a security wall	Congo DR	Marist Brothers PACE	3 090
10/08	Educational project in Bucharest	Romania	ACUMA Onlus	3 150
11/08	Furniture for orphanage	Colombia	Misioneras Eucaristicas	3 185
12/08	Musical instruments for youth	Ivory Coast	Marist Brothers of Korhogo	3 349
14/08	Association for children and women	Senegal	Marist Family of Senegal	3 400
16/08	Latin-American Forum on children's rights	Ecuador	BICE	3 461
17/08	Administration block construction	Malawi	Champagnat Youth Centre	3 461
18/08	Classroom block building	Malawi	Nkhwangu Community	3 461
20/08	Support for orphans	Zambia	Salesian Sisters	3 540
21/08	Day Center/ small computer room	Romania	Marist Brothers Bucharest	3 230
22/08	Computer laboratory	Kenya	Marist Brothers PACE	2 980
DON 1/08	General needs at the Nike Centre	Nigeria	Nike Centre for Disabled	430
DON 2/08	Construction of school latrine	Nigeria	Province of Nigeria	1 266
DON 3/08	Sargodha school facilities improvement	Pakistan	Sargodha Catholic HS	2 233
DON 4/08	Basic needs for refugees	Congo DR	Marist Brothers Bobandana	2 242
<b>Total</b>				<b>56 930</b>



## PROJECTS DEPARTMENT: 3rd PARTY PROJECT FUNDRAISING AND COORDINATION

Our large project funding program takes a different approach from our small projects program. For the most part, small projects are funded directly through the foundation's resources.

When it comes to larger projects, FMSI works with third-party funding agencies to secure funding for projects coming from our Marist partners and colleagues in the developing world. Ms. Angela Petenzi, FMSI's full-time Macro-Project Coordinator, leads this effort.

Once a 3rd party donor has been identified and agrees to support a project, FMSI respects the will of the third party funding agency to deal directly with our partners in the field. The transfer of funds is made by the 3rd party agency directly to the Marist partner following procedures and conditions set by the donor agency. Once this is done, FMSI takes a coordination role, assisting both the partner in the field and the third party funding agency with communications, oversight, and reporting.

In 2008, FMSI was able to assist our Marist partners in the field to secure 663,003 € for mainly educational projects.



PROJECTS FUNDED BY 3 <sup>rd</sup> PARTNER AGENCIES IN 2008 THROUGH FMSI (Euros)				
Project	Title	Country	Partner Agency	Grant
KEN 01/08	Training of teachers in Africa	Kenya	Missio Aachen (Germany)	13 000
MAL 12/06	Renovation of school facilities	Malawi	Misean Cara (Ireland)	87 775
ZAM 20/06	Vocational training in Kalulushi area	Zambia	Italian Bishops Conference (Italy)	74 915
ARG 14/08	Training for leaders of child social organizations	Argentina	Italian Bishops Conference (Italy)	6 372
PAR 04/08	Shelter for basic needs delivery	Paraguay	PMK Kindermissionswerk (Germany)	20 000
HON 23/07	Literacy courses for disadvantaged young people	Honduras	Schools mission collection (France)	1 200
IND 05/05	Classrooms for Dalit school	India	Castilla-La Mancha / FERE (Spain)	56 010
PHI 04/06	Training for Marist members in Asia	Philippines	Dutch Donor/Italian Bishop Conference	190 000
SYR 02/08	Renovations of youth centre in Alep	Syria	PMK Kindermissionswerks (Germany)	14 000
TIM 12/07	Comprehensive educational system	East Timor	Italian Bishops Conference (Italy)	199 731
<b>Total</b>				<b>663 003</b>



written by representatives of various Geneva based NGOs, committees, and groups who are working in the field of human rights and social development.

Besides its publications, members of the FMSI staff gave several presentations to students and staff of the Marist schools in Rome, Genoa, and Naples. Presentations on the work of the foundation were also given to members of SED (Solidaridad, Educación, Desarrollo) the Marist Spanish NGO which visited our Geneva Office. FMSI also made presentations to several international groups of Marist leaders meeting in Rome.

Along with two partner organizations, Franciscans International and Edmund Rice International, FMSI received a grant from Missio-Aachen to hold a training course for members from each of our respective organizations in Bangkok, Thailand on the topic of the UN System and Child Rights. The training course was scheduled for November 2008, but was postponed until July 2009 due to a change in personnel. A report on this event will follow in the 2009 Activities Report.

## ANIMATION AND EDUCATION

The upcoming 20th Anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and our advocacy work for child rights in Geneva were the driving force and focus of several publications and training events sponsored by FMSI during its inaugural year.

FMSI published one newsletter during the year. The newsletter gave information on the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child, the work of the Geneva Office, and reviews on the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

In November, FMSI published its annual Advent reflection booklet. Built around the liturgical readings for Advent, the season set aside for Christians to reflect on the coming of the Jesus, the 2008 Advent text featured reflections on various rights enumerated in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. These reflections, 26 in all, were

## NETWORKING AND PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Realizing that many voices speaking together as one improves the likelihood of effecting positive change in society and of being heard by those who can influence change, FMSI acts as a coordinating body for a Marist network with contacts in over 78 countries around the world...that world being those countries where the Marist Brothers are present.



FMSI Onlus



Besides its internal network of the administrative units in countries where the Marist Brothers are present, FMSI has established institutional relationships with four international human rights organizations which FMSI considers as partners. These partner agencies are:

**Franciscans International (FI)**

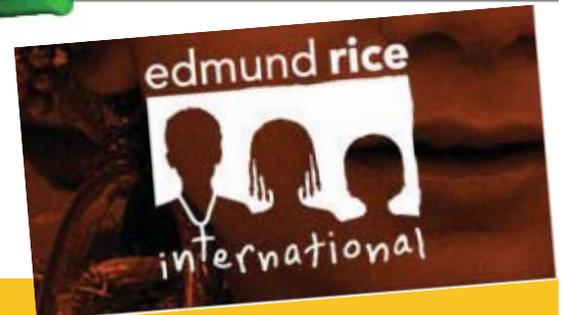
Franciscans International is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) with General Consultative status at the UN, uniting the voices of Franciscan brothers and sisters from around the world. FI operates under the sponsorship of the Conference of the Franciscan Family (CFF) and serves all Franciscans and the global community by bringing spiritual, ethical, and Franciscan values to the United Nations and international organisations.

**Le Bureau International Catholique de l'Enfance (BICE)**

The International Catholic Child Bureau is a non-governmental organization (NGO) concerned with the rights and well being of children everywhere. It has consultative status with the UN. FMSI is one of 66 member organizations that make up the BICE network.

**Edmund Rice International (ERI)**

ERI is a faith-based NGO, drawing on the living traditions of two Catholic Congregations: Presentation Brothers and Christian Brothers. ERI is a global network of people determined to promote and protect the rights of Earth and its peoples. They work in over twenty-five countries to ensure that marginalized children and their communities can build healthy partnerships with their local ecosystems and can access education and the services they are entitled to from their societies.





## SED

Beside the three Geneva based human rights non-governmental organizations with which FMSI has cooperation agreements, FMSI has maintained a long-standing and favored relationship with SED, our Marist NGO in Spain. As the three letters of its name suggests, SED focuses its attention in three areas: solidarity, education and development. We meet each year in December to share information on our projects in Africa and Latin America, plan activities, and discuss upcoming events we want to support.

## A TIME TO LOOK AHEAD

With the first year of the foundation completed, we can now look ahead to the future.

In September 2009, we will resume full time operations in Geneva with the arrival of Br. James Jolley as FMSI's Child Rights Advocacy Office. The work achieved by our contacts in Vanuatu for the country's Universal Periodic Review of human rights commitments, signals a direction the FMSI will take in the years ahead. FMSI has already contributed to the UN's Universal Periodic Review of Cambodia.

For our work in Geneva to continue, FMSI will need to apply for and receive its ECOSOC credentials. These UN credentials will allow FMSI to operate more independently within the UN system... to speak and act on its own accord.

Our success thus far is due, in part, to the partnership agreement we have with Franciscans International in Geneva. It is under their umbrella (their credentials) that we speak and for this we are grateful. Yet, we do look forward to the day when we can speak as FMSI and join our Geneva partners, and the rest of civil society involved in advocacy before the UN, as equals.

Given the present global economic crisis, we will work as best we can to continue our commitment to funding projects which will benefit children. It shows our commitment to do what we can to make the world a better place for children in a direct way. Likewise, our efforts to secure funding in partnerships with 3rd party funding agencies will continue. Here too, we show our commitment to making the world fit for children in the building of schools and centers for children and young people in developing countries where the need is greatest.

FMSI is working hard to fulfill its mission. All of us at FMSI—the Foundation staff, our Board of Administrators, our partners and donors—all of us believe it is a worthwhile venture. The children, especially those who are considered poor and vulnerable, deserve nothing short of our full attention. They are our future and our hope for a better world.



## ANNEX I INCOME AND EXPENSES

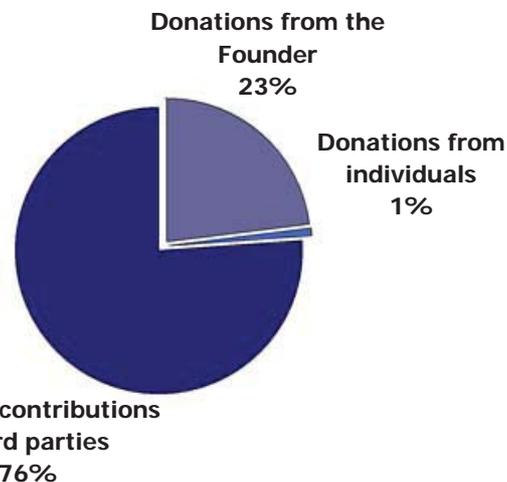
FINANCIAL SOURCES	Amount in Euros
1. Donations from the Founder	201 210
2. Donations from individuals	6 568
3. Indirect contributions of 3rd parties	663 003
<b>Total</b>	<b>870 781</b>

### NOTES

The chart reports the financial resources put at the disposal of the Foundation, directly and indirectly. Some brief notes will help interpret the figures.

Figures referring to points 1 and 2 are reported according to the 2008 Balance Sheet reviewed by the Board of Auditors and approved by the Foundation's Board of Administrators. The complete balance sheet is published on ([www.fmsi-onlus.org](http://www.fmsi-onlus.org)).

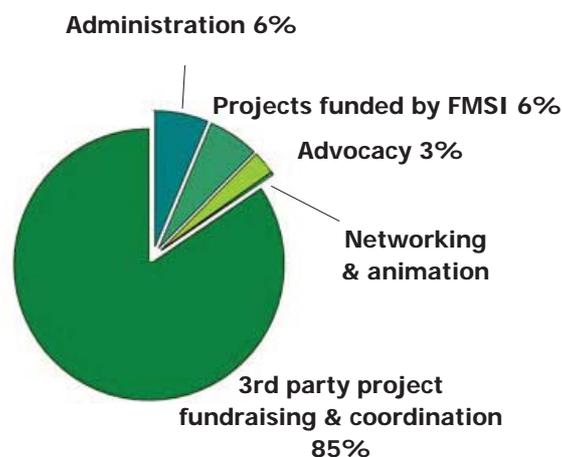
1. Donations from the Founder correspond to the money transferred during 2008 to the Foundation by the Institute of the Marist Brothers of the Schools. The Institute established FMSI and is its principal donor. This figure does not include the "in-kind" contribution of the Institute to the Foundation: the loan of staff, offices, services and some on-going operating expenses related to the office.
2. Donations from individuals refer to donations received by the Foundation from private individuals, friends and supporters of the Foundation willing to contribute to its solidarity projects. Accordingly, the money was deposited



in a special dedicated account, and was distributed as small grants to FMSI's projects as listed in page 9 of this report.

3. Indirect contributions refer to the financial resources that were indirectly put at the disposal of the Foundation by third party funding partners for projects presented to them for funding. These grants did not pass through FMSI accounts but were instead transferred directly to our project holders in the field by the third party donor. FMSI considers these grants as indirect contributions to the work of the Foundation. See page 10 of this report for a list of those projects funded by third party donor agencies thanks to the work of FMSI on behalf of our partners in the field.

RESOURCES MOBILIZED <i>(one's own or third parties)</i>	Amount in Euros
1. Administration & operating	50 723
2. Projects funded by FMSI	47 180
3. Advocacy for children in Geneva	22 500
4. Networking and animation	1 439
5. 3rd party project fundraising & coordination	663 003
<b>Total</b>	<b>784 845</b>



### NOTES

The chart reports how the Foundation spent the money that was put at its disposal, both directly and indirectly, by area of activity.

1. Administration and operating refers to those expenses associated with the everyday management of the Foundation. This figure includes administrative costs required by rules which govern the establishment of non-

for-profit organizations recognized in Italian civil society (accounting controls and transparency). This figure does not reflect rental of office space or salaries, which are provided by the Founder as part of its annual in-kind donation to the Foundation.

2. Projects funded by FMSI refers to the projects that the Foundation granted from its own resources, mainly through the micro-projects program (see page 9).

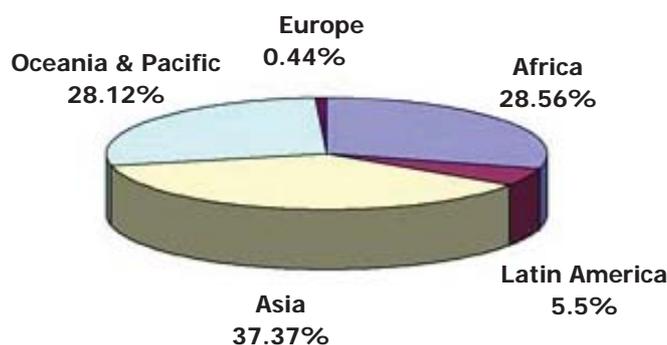
3. Advocacy for children in Geneva refers to the expenses of maintaining a workpost at the Franciscans International's office in Geneva, and the support of related services.

4. Networking and animation refers to organizational affiliation fees and expenses for the production of animation materials.

5. Third party project fundraising and coordination corresponds to point 3 of the Financial Sources chart. As stated in the above note, these grants are not managed by the Foundation and do not pass through Foundation accounts. We include them in this report as an indirect contribution to the work of the Foundation, thereby giving a more complete picture of the Foundation's fundraising and coordination activity with respect to project funding.

### ... AND ALLOCATION OF THE RESOURCES MOBILIZED FOR PROJECTS

BY GEOGRAPHICAL AREA	Amount in Euros
Africa	202 832
Latin America	39 057
Asia	265 413
Oceania and Pacific	199 731
Europe	3 150
<b>Total</b>	<b>710 183</b>



BY SECTOR OF ACTIVITY	Amount in Euros
Education	367 840
Vocational training	74 915
Basic needs	25 857
Local leaders and teachers training	216 260
Social activities	25 311
<b>Total</b>	<b>710 183</b>



## ANNEX II

### SMALL PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING IN 2008

**01/08 Formation Course for Educators, Colombia, 3,427 €**

The Community of S. Egidio held a training course in Cali, Columbia for 20 young animators who will coordinate the community's School for Peace Program. The 70 hour training program included segments on psychology, pedagogy, religion, hygiene, and procedures and strategies for registering births.



**03/08 Seeds of Hope Program, Cuba, 1,412 €**

The project funded the purchasing of basic sport equipment to allow 225 children and young people, ages 9-18, to play soccer, basketball

and baseball at the Marist Youth Center in Buenvista, a poor neighborhood in Cienfuegos. The area has 15,000 inhabitants and no organized sport facilities except for the three small fields which comprise the youth center.

**04/08 School Books, Madagascar, 3,208 €**

A new photocopier and binding machines made it possible for a local diocese to produce educational materials for over 10,786 students in 70 diocesan schools.



**05/08 School Books and Library Computer, Malawi, 3,235 €**

The grant provided the Zomba Catholic School with a new computer and books for the school library.

**06/08 School Improvement and Resources, Pakistan, 3,170 €**

St. John Vianney High school serves a population of 650 poor students. The school, which is staffed by the Marist brothers, is owned by the Diocese of Islamabad/Rawalpindi. The grant helped school officials and parents to make improvements (painting, repairs, fences and grills) to the school facility and to purchase playground and sports equipment for the students.

**07/08 Construction of a Security Wall, CDR, 3,090 €**

The Chololo Institute built a security wall around the school property making the environment at the school more conducive to learning. The students are no longer distracted

by people passing through the property. Recreation grounds are easier to manage and supervise.

**10/08 Educational Project in Bucharest, Romania, 3,150 €**

ACUMA is an Italian association of young adults interested in helping Romanian youth in Italy and in Romania. They are connected to the Marist Brothers both in Genova (Istituto Champagnat) and in Bucharest. They were awarded



a grant that made it possible for them to carry out a summer camp program for street children in Bucharest.

**11/08 Furniture for Orphanage, Colombia, 3,185 €**

The Missionary Sisters of the Eucharist, through the Casa Hogar Angeles Custodios and Casa Hogar La Milagrosa, take care of homeless and at-risk children, ages 2 to 18. Their centers offer the young people a caring staff and a safe place to live while attending local public schools. The grant made it possible for the center to purchase beds, chairs, tables, benches and a computer.

**12/08 Musical Instruments for Youth, Ivory Coast, 3,349 €**

Korhogo is located in the northern part of the Ivory Coast. During the civil war, this area was under the control of rebel forces. Access to education, especially for girls, is difficult in post-civil war Ivory Coast. The project aims to use music and recreation as a way to contribute to the formation and education of local boys and girls.

**14/08 Association for Children and Women, Senegal, 3,400 €**

In Senegal, members of the Marist Family run a mediation and reinsertion program for street children seeking reconciliation with their families.



The program includes visits to the children in the streets twice a week, a weekly breakfast and lunch at the center and consultation in personal hygiene with a nurse. Children who want to return home are hosted in the refugee centre (SPER) while a dialogue with their families is initiated. Once a child is reinserted, follow up visits and phone calls are made on a regular basis to assure a positive result.

**16/08 Latin-American Forum on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Ecuador, 3,461 €**

BICE (Bureau International Catholique de l'Enfance), with the help of UNESCO, organized a five-day seminar for organizations based in Latin America and the Caribbean dealing with child rights issues. The seminar aimed to strengthen the participation of civil society organizations in the process of implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**17/08 Administration Block Construction, Malawi, 3,461 €**

The Champagnat Youth Centre is a school and training centre for poor and orphan children and young people, boys and girls, in and around Metendere.

Besides an academic program which will prepare them to sit for government required university exams, students also learn skills that may one day come in handy (carpentry, metal work, cooking and knitting).

In 2007, a grant from SED

made it possible to build two classrooms. BIS, the forerunner to FMSI, provided a grant to complete the roof.

The present grant is making it possible to add administrative offices to the school.



**18/08 Classroom Block Building, Malawi, 3,461 €**

Purchase of cement and roofing materials for the construction of a second classroom block for a community school in Nkwangu, Malawi.

**20/08 Support for Orphans, Zambia, 3,540 €**

The Salesian Sisters in Zambia received a grant that made it possible to begin a piggery that will benefit their orphanage not only by providing a source of food to the orphanage, but also through the sale of pigs to the surrounding community.

**21/08 Day Center/Small Computer Room, Romania, 3,230 €**

The Marist Brothers in Bucharest run a day center for some 30 disadvantaged children from a poor neighborhood populated by gipsy and low income families. The day center provides help with school work, nutrition opportunities, and a safe alternative to living on the streets.

**22/08 Computer Laboratory, Kenya, 2,980 €**

The Mugendi school serves a poor fishing and agricultural community located on the shore of Lake Victoria. HIV/AIDS has left many children in the area orphaned or coming from single-parent families. The small computer lab will enhance the educational program of the school.



**DON 01/08 General Needs at the Nike Center, Nigeria, 430 €**

At the donor's request, a donation was made toward the activities of the Nike Centre for the Disabled in Nigeria. The center serves former lepers, many with large families, unable to return home due to the stigma the disease carries.

This donation supplements DEV 04/04, a project we supported under our former name, BIS.

**DON 02/08 Construction of school latrine, Nigeria, 1,266 €**

A donation was made to complete the construction of school latrines (BIS Micro project 23/06) for a school in the Marist Province of Nigeria.

**DON 03/08 Sargodha School Facilities Improvement, Pakistan, 2,233 €**

A donation was made to the Sargodha Marist School in Pakistan. The donation was used to repair the school bus,



paint two classrooms, and paint and reorganize the school library.

**DON 04/08 Basic Needs for Refugees, CDR, 2,242 €**

A donation was made to the Marist Brothers in Bobandana to assist them in providing basic needs to refugee children and young people in a refugee camp close to the Marist school.

\*Small Projects 20/08, 21/08, and 22/08 were approved in 2008. The grants for these projects were transferred in FY 2009 once FMSI received the signed contract from the project holder stipulating the conditions for the use of the grant.

## ANNEX III

### PROJECTS FUNDED BY 3RD PARTY PARTNER AGENCIES IN 2008

Please Note: Besides those projects which are funded through the Foundation's resources, FMSI works with its partners in the field to identify 3rd party funding agencies who may be interested in its projects. When a 3rd party donor is found, FMSI respects the procedures established by the donor with regard to the direct transfer of funds to the FMSI partner in the field. While these grants do not pass through FMSI's accounts, FMSI records this activity as an indirect contribution by a 3rd party partner to the work of the Foundation.

#### **KEN 01/08 Training of Teachers in Africa, Kenya**

**Partner Agency: Missio-Aachen, Germany, 13,000 €**

The project brought together Marist brothers and lay colleagues in an attempt to develop a network of Marist Educators on the African continent. Representatives from 14 African countries participated in the 13-day training program. These representatives came from Congo DR, South Africa, Malawi, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Angola, Mozambique, Tanzania, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda, and Madagascar. The training brought Marist educators together to share experiences, discuss Marist pedagogy and create strategies for building the network. The project was sponsored by the General Administration of the Institute of the Marist Brothers (Partner Agency code: M 600.414-08/001).

#### **MAL 12/06 Renovation of School Facilities, Malawi**

**Partner Agency: Misesan Cara, Ireland, 87,775 €**

The grant from Misesan Cara made it possible for the diocesan school in Likuni, which has been staffed by the Marist Brothers of Malawi for over sixty years, to do major renovations to several buildings. The renovations involved major work to the school hall and roof work and painting of several dormitories. The school also offers an "Open-Day Program" for local boys and girls who are unable to attend the normal government boarding school program. After their course of studies, these Open Day students are eligible to sit for government exams that will make it possible for them to enter the university system. These students include refugees from a camp located 40 km from the school and students left orphans due to HIV/AIDS. The school hall houses the administration office of the Open Day Program and is used for school educational and testing programs and for social events. (Partner Agency code: M01/0908/01).

#### **ZAM 20/06 Vocational Training in Kalulushi Area, Zambia**

**Partner Agency: Italian Bishops' Conference, Italy, 74,915 €**

The grant from the Italian Bishops' Conference made it possible for the young people of Chibuluma, in the copper mining region of Zambia, to have access to technical and vocational training in computer science, tailoring, carpentry, masonry, and agriculture. The project was sponsored by SED, the Marist NGO in Spain. These skills offer a diversified approach to developing life skills in an area where copper mining is in decline. This Marist school also helps to find employment for its students, boys and girls, and to encourage the establishment of small businesses. (Partner Agency code: 382/2008).

#### **ARG 14/08 Training for Leaders of Child Social Organizations, Argentina**

**Partner Agency: Italian Bishops' Conference, Italy, 6,372 €**

The grant from the Italian Bishops' Conference aims at improving the quality of socio-pastoral actions provided by social organizations working for the betterment of disadvantaged children in Buenos Aires. The project is sponsored by the Fundación Marista, a Marist foundation recognized in Argentina. The training course brought together 30 participants from 20 organizations to learn strategies and techniques in leadership, management, communications, lobbying, and advocacy. The training also encouraged the promotion of a network among the participating organizations that has as its objectives opportunities for cross internships, shared projects and the mapping of child serving institutions and resources.

#### **PAR 04/08 Shelter for Basic Needs Delivery, Paraguay**

**Partner Agency: PMK Kindermissionswerk, Germany, 20,000 €**

The grant from PMK aims at helping marginalized children



living in a poor suburb of Limpio through "Renacer (Rebirth)", a social promotion program sponsored by the Marist Brothers. Specifically, the grant allowed for the construction of a

new open-air shelter adjacent to the Reanacer center. The new covered space allows for a larger feeding program and a place to carry out educational and health assistance programs and social activities for children, mothers, and families. (Partner Agency Code: D 08 0233 002).

#### **HON 23/07 Literacy Courses for Disadvantaged Young People, Honduras**

**Partner Agency: School Mission Collection, France, 1,200 €**

Under the coordination of a Marist Brother in France, an animation and solidarity mission collection was taken up in several Marist schools in France to support a literacy program for 140 disadvantaged youth in Ocotillal, a suburb of Cuesta de la Virgen City, Honduras. The program includes a 7 month program offered on Sundays. The program also offers a short course (5 sessions) in cooking and food preparation for 45 families.

#### **IND 05/08 Classrooms Dalit School, India**

**Partner Agency: Castilla-La Mancha/FERE, Spain, 56,010 €**

In 2006, FERE, at the request of BIS, the forerunner of FMSI, approached the Spanish regional government of Castilla-LaMancha for assistance with the construction of a new school for Dalits in Mangamanuthu, Tamil Nadu State. The Marist Brothers own the land on which the school was built. They also administer the school. The school was an instant success. In 2008, FMSI, on behalf of the brothers in India, approached FERE once again for assistance in requesting help to build an additional five classrooms that would accommodate a further 250 students a year, and a multipurpose center that could be used by both the school and the surrounding community.



#### **PHI 04/06 Training for Marist Members in Asia, Philippines**

**Partner Agencies: Dutch Donor / Italian Bishops' Conference, 190,000 €**

The grants from both of these donors aim to help prepare Marist members from around the world to take up educational and social works focused on children in several



Asian countries. The five month orientation program takes place in Davao. Participants study the implications of living and working in Asia where according to the UN, 60.8% of the world's population lives. At the conclusion of the orientation program, these Marist educators move to a selected Asian country and begin to investigate ways they can work with young people in formal and informal educational settings. The future for Asia's children and young people is in doubt. The 2005 UN Secretary General's Report on Youth cites that 209 million young people, or 18% of all youth live on less than \$1 a day, and 505 million young people, or nearly 45%, live on less than \$2 a day. South Asia has the largest number of youth living below these two poverty lines, followed by sub-Saharan Africa.

#### **SYR 02/08 Renovation of Youth Center in Alep, Syria**

**Partner Agency: PMK Kindermissionswerk, Germany, 14,000 €**





This second grant provided by PMK made it possible to do renovations to a Marist center in Alep which serves over 500 Christian children and young people and their families in Alep. The center provides a feeding program, milk distribution program, and clothing distribution program. The center also offers assistance with medical and health issues, and educational literacy and tutorial programs for children. (Partner Agency code: D 08 0233 002).

**TIM 12/07 Comprehensive Educational System, East Timor**

**Partner Agency: Italian Bishops' Conference, Italy, 199,731 €**

Instituto Católico para Formação de Professores is an Institution established in the year 2000 as a training institution committed to developing quality, professional teachers through the holistic approach and in the context of the Catholic faith and the culture of East Timor. It is owned by the Diocese of Baucau and conducted by the Marist Brothers of Australia. The Institute, the only fully operational tertiary facility in the country, offers a full time three year "Bachelor of Teaching University Degree" (Primary) utilizing modern teaching technologies to provide holistic training for this important need of East Timor.

Students who have successfully completed secondary school apply for this program. It was first offered in the 2003 academic year. Each year 50 students graduate from this program and are employed within the primary schools of the country thereby helping a school system that requires 200 new teachers each year to address the enormous shortage. The Institute also delivers in-service training to over 400 teachers in the field who receive an International Certificate of Teaching and Learning.

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the



reconstruction and development of the Timorese education system in four direct ways:

- create a permanent service of training for teachers at different levels, through a specialised Institute with spaces for hostel and multimedia and IT equipment;
- institute a permanent team of local instructors working on the training of teachers for both this center, as well as for future centres;
- offer its expertise to the Government bodies and other local organisations interested in offering training to their staff in the education area (teaching, management, curricula elaborating);
- create the textbooks and other didactic material, promoting the local culture and heritage.

(Partner Agency code: 991/07).

## ANNEX IV

### A CASE STUDY: HOW A PROVINCE AND A COMMUNITY CAME TO HELP FMSI'S ADVOCACY WORK IN GENEVA

About 20 minutes from the center of Geneva, is the village of Meyrin. It is here that one will find a community of three Marist brothers--Brothers César Henriquez (El Salvador), Manuel Mendoza (Spain) and Jean-Claude Christe (Switzerland).

While it is under the canonical jurisdiction of the Marist Province of the Hermitage, the establishment of this community was a joint effort between the province and the Institute's general headquarters in Rome. The community in Meyrin is significant for two very important reasons. First, for the province, it is a means to maintain and strengthen the Marist presence in Switzerland, a country with a Marist history going back to 1893 and the first Swiss foundation in St-Gingolph.

Second, for the Institute, the community in Meyrin, being the place where our Child Rights Advocacy Officer lives, makes it possible for the FMSI to maintain a permanent representative office in Geneva, from which to carry out its work for child rights before international bodies like the UN. The community, being so centrally located, also makes it possible to welcome and host visiting Marists who have an interest in our work, or are interested in visiting the UN and the other human rights NGOs and resources available to them.

Besides the obvious advantages of having a community of Marist brothers in Geneva, the three brothers, two of whom have contractual responsibilities for pastoral work in the area, have looked for additional ways they can contribute to the work of child rights within their sphere of influence. This past year, they devised a community plan which includes a concerted effort to build and promote an awareness of the Convention on the Rights of the Child within the Province of the Hermitage (France and Cataluña). What they have accomplished this past year is indeed remarkable, and an example of what other communities and provinces around the Marist world could do to become involved in this work.

Here is a list of child rights related activities the community carried out in 2008 within the Province of the Hermitage to inform and build awareness for the promotion and defense of the rights of the child.

- In January, the monthly province news periodical, *Présence Mariste*, featured the community and an

article on the Rights of the Child they wrote entitled "And What About Our Rights?"

- The community prepared three PowerPoint presentations on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, which they used in several presentations, made to Marist communities and lay groups throughout the province.
- The community developed an "on-line" learning and reflection program on the Defense of the Rights of the Child for brothers and lay Marist colleagues of the province. Twenty-four people (11 brothers and 13 lay colleagues) made use of the training program and regularly submitted assignments and reflections to the community program director. At the end of the program, 8 of these people traveled to Geneva to spend a day at the UN and to enjoy the hospitality of the community.
- In November, the community hosted a dinner for several representatives from the Marist Universities of Latin America, who came to Geneva to see first-hand the work of FMSI's Advocacy program before the UN and to attend a conference on the right to education.
- The community also encouraged other communities and lay groups throughout the province to use the FMSI 2008 Advent Reflection Booklet featuring the rights of the child as its overall theme.

FMSI is grateful for the support the community has provided throughout the year. They have given us an example of what other Marist communities could do to promote a greater awareness of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its additional protocols.

2009 is the 20th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The year will include many opportunities for learning about the convention. BICE, one of our partner organizations, will launch an international campaign urging a renewed commitment to the promotion of children and their intrinsic rights as human beings. The Marist community in Meyrin has already begun to move in this direction and in so doing, become an example for others to follow.





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