



Chalice COVID-19 Disaster Relief fund



The COVID-19 pandemic continued to bring hardship and distress to the communities where we work. While each country faced its own set of challenges, India and Peru experienced particularly acute and devastating emergencies. Thanks to supporters like you, we were able to meet more critical healthcare and nutrition needs in our Indian and Peruvian sponsor sites.

Thanks to your generous support, in 2020, we raised \$485,095.56 for our sites around the world to meet the urgent needs of children and families caused by COVID-19 and the healthcare, economic and food security crises it has brought.

Your donation truly brought relief to families facing COVID-19 pandemic.

Urgent supplies for the most vulnerable

The Kacema Musuma Children's Home sits close to our Kawambwa site in rural Zambia. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, the prices of daily necessities quickly climbed past the Sisters' humble budget. They worried how they would afford food, warm clothing and hygiene items to keep the children safe and healthy.

Thanks to every generous supporter of Chalice's COVID-19 disaster relief fund, the Sisters obtained enough funds to meet the children's needs. They bought food, clothing, blankets, cleaning products, laundry detergents, and sanitizers.

"Thank you for your kind and generous support... May the good lord richly bless you and give you the graces you need in life," a staff member writes on behalf of the Sisters and children.



“Your gesture and continued love and support are the reasons we are making a positive impact to face the pandemic.”

Site Staff, Kawambwa sponsor site in Zambia

Special relief fund for India is a “blessing from God”

Amala, Arulanandhu and their four beautiful daughters live near our Madurai sponsor site. Both of the parents search for daily agricultural work to support their girls' futures.

"I aim to provide better education for my four daughters," Amala writes. Her daughters Delphina and Mariya Jasmine have generous Chalice sponsors, who have supported this aim. But two of the daughters have already reached higher education, which comes with higher costs for Amala and Arulanandhu's humble budget.

"The needs of the girl children are [greater] to keep them hale and healthy. My children understand the struggle of the parents to bring them and give them a better education," says Amala.

When the COVID-19 lockdowns swept India, "we faced a lot of difficulties to feed our children." The parents' means of income closed. Even though classes were being conducted online, school fees still had to be paid, and Delphina and Mariya Jasmine's sponsorship funds helped the family afford these fees. But there was little left over for other urgent needs.



“We are grateful to the sponsors and Chalice for walking with us in our struggles and sharing your joys when we grieved with sorrows. Thank you so much.”

Amala, Madurai sponsor site in India

"During the COVID-19 lockdown period, we underwent immense struggle to meet the family basic needs," Amala recalls. But then they got word of Chalice's India COVID-19 relief fund, which would place extra funds in Amala's account where she receives her daughters' sponsorship funds.

Amala and Arulanandhu went out and bought a bulk supply of staple groceries. "At this time, Chalice gave us support that helped us to buy the required food materials for the family..."

We felt like a blessing of God at the time of our needs and struggles."

Tools for school (at home)

Dahiara and Juan grew up with their parents, María Eliza and Don Juan, and three siblings near our Dominica sponsor site in Paraguay. María Eliza and Don Juan work hard to provide for their five children, selling fruits and vegetables to their neighbours. They are grateful for Dahiara and Juan's generous Chalice sponsors.

When the pandemic hit and schools closed to in-person classes, Dahiara, Juan, Mariam and Juana were expected to continue their studies at home. But they did not have an internet-enabled device to access their virtual classes. Additionally, their teachers expected printed copies of the children's assignments, which incurs a cost each time. These unexpected new costs, in addition to a significant hit to their household income, were overwhelming for María Eliza and Don Juan.



“Thanks to everyone who supported Chalice's COVID-19 disaster relief efforts, the children had access to devices to continue their classes uninterrupted and could afford to print off their work.”

“The family thanks Chalice and the Dominica site for such timely help and solidarity,” writes the Dominica site staff. The family hopes “that this charity will multiply.”

Food brings joy and relief to three children’s homes

The Sisters of St Joseph run Chalice’s Mombasa sponsor site, working in the low-income neighborhoods of the coastal city in Kenya. They run three children’s homes: Grandsons of Abraham Rescue Centre, Bakitah Girls Rescue Centre and the Shanzu Orphanage. The three homes provide shelter for vulnerable children who may have been homeless, or are unable to live with their families, or do not have a family who can care for them. The Sisters strive to make the homes serene havens for the children to have happy, healthy childhoods.



“The children and staff of the care homes could not hide their joy upon receiving such significant donations.

This restored the children’s hope of a good, happy and normal life.”

Sr Janefrances, Mombasa sponsor site in Kenya

Through the Sisters’ work, the children receive a quality education, food, medical care, and other necessities. But the COVID-19

pandemic forced the Kenyan government to place visiting restrictions on care homes like these three. Donations from local supporters and well-wishers came to an abrupt halt. The Sisters and staff began to worry about a food shortage and started carefully managing the food resources they had left.

The children caught on to their strictly managed mealtimes. They were “affecting the young children deeply,” writes Sr Janefrances, the site director, “for they did not understand why it was happening.”

Thanks to supporters like you, Chalice was able to make a delivery of essential food items to all three of the homes.

“It is with great pleasure that I convey our heartfelt gratitude for the food support that you provided for our three care homes,” writes Sr Janefrances. Through the Mombasa sponsor site, the children received enough maize, beans, cooking oil and rice to last them well through a three-month lockdown.

The children extend their gratitude to all supporters of the Chalice COVID-19 relief fund.

“Their prayer is that God will bless you our loving donors.”

How can I Help?



Help bring relief to families who continue to face economic, social and physical impacts of the global pandemic.

[CHALICE.CA/DISASTER-RELIEF-PROJECTS](https://chalice.ca/disaster-relief-projects)

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