



ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey



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#210, 2946-32 Street NE | Calgary, Alberta T1Y 6J7 | 403.275.6935 | 1.888.622.6337 | mccaalberta.ca



A table of sharing

Christmas 2011



Sand dams are bringing hope to communities in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique.

Marium Dahir was forced to make the heartbreaking decision to leave five of her eight children behind when she fled her village in Somalia for the food and safety of a refugee camp in Kenya. Marium is determined to overcome hardships and see her family survive.

Your donations enable MCC to respond to people in need. Marium is among the millions of people affected by the food crisis in east Africa. When Marium, her 15 year old son and 8 and 9 year old daughters reached Dhobley, a town in Somalia, she received a voucher for emergency food and was able to prepare a meal for her family using the simple rations of rice, beans, oil, salt and sugar. **“The meal I had last night was the best I have had in a year,” said Dahir. “I was satisfied. Even my first night here, life is so much better than it has been before.”** The food voucher system, which makes food and emergency assistance possible despite problems of security at the Dhobley camp, is just one of the ways MCC is responding to the continuing food crisis in East Africa.

There are many needs in the world that don't make the news. This Christmas, a time when we celebrate hope, promise, and renewal, please remember those people who suffer in silence, away from the media spotlight. Would you consider sharing out of the abundance that God has so freely shared with us? Give food, medicine, water, or education, and share God's hope with some of the world's most vulnerable people.

MCC's Christmas Giving options are a way to do just this.

- **Give water:** \$20 provides two bags of cement for a sand dam in Kenya—a structure that stores and filters water using sand, raising the water table and helping to break the cycle of drought and hunger that is effecting Marium and so many others like her.
- **Give health:** \$60 provides three months of medical care for a child in the Ukraine living with HIV/AIDS.
- **Give food:** \$200 allows MCC to provide chickens, fish, and pigs for food where they are needed most in the world.
- **Give education:** \$600 supports two years of community-based educational sponsorship including schooling, uniforms and supplies through our Global Family program. Visit globalfamily.mcc.org to learn more.

To see more gift options, check out alberta.mcc.org, or visit a local Ten Thousand Villages store to find your opportunity to give hope to someone in need.

Your gift supports communities around the world.

We gratefully accept your gift of: \$50 \$100 \$200 \$500 Other \$ _____

Please use my gift: Where needed most Designated to support the following _____

* Annual tax receipts will be issued unless otherwise requested. Please make cheques payable to MCC Alberta.

Donate online at mcc.org/donate

Credit Card information:

One time gift Monthly gift (see reverse)

Visa MasterCard

Name on card _____

Card # _____

Expiry date _____

Signature _____

Phone _____

Email _____



Charity #107690844RR0001



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MCC also works with people that are hurting and in need of help in Alberta. Our Restorative Justice Ministries program visits people in prison, provides chaplain services to those recently released, and works with released high-risk offenders for their benefit and the safety of the wider community. Harv and Jane Janzen, who run our Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder program, explain that, for someone with FASD, **“trying to live in a way that is acceptable to society is like connecting the dots when there are no numbers. It’s like learning the colors when you’re color blind. We give support and hope to individuals and families who live with this disability caused by prenatal alcohol exposure.”** Many in Alberta are directly affected, and the indirect effects on society are large; a large proportion of people in our jails have FASD. It costs \$1,300 to run the FASD program for one month—will you help?

When you give through MCC, you help vulnerable and forgotten people around the world and here at home. You help make the world a better place for your neighbours, your children, and generations to come. Please consider participating in this vital ministry to which God has called us all.

Abe Janzen,
MCCA Executive Director



P.S. Donations that are undesignated, or have “where needed most” as their designation allow MCC to respond quickly to areas of greatest need, like the food voucher program in Dhobley we’re supporting through the Canadian FoodGrains Bank. You can learn more about this in the Oct. 27 New York Times article “In Famine, Vouchers Can Be Tickets to Survival”

Mennonite Central Committee respects your privacy. We protect your personal information and adhere to Federal and Provincial privacy legislation. The information that you provide will be used to keep you informed about the activities of MCC. If at any time you wish to be removed from our mailing list or would like to receive more information about MCC's privacy policy, please visit mcc.org/about/privacy or contact MCC Alberta at (888) 622-6337 or via email at office@mccab.org. MCC Alberta hopes to raise \$250,000 with this appeal, which cost \$2,000 to create and mail. Publications Mail Agreement Number 40882590.

Monthly giving plan

Please withdraw my monthly donation of: \$10 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

Pre-authorized bank account debit

Bank information

I authorize Mennonite Central Committee Alberta to automatically make a deduction each month from my bank account in the amount indicated. Below is my (our) signature to authorize this monthly withdrawal.

Signature _____

Signature _____

Please return this reply card with a cheque marked VOID.

Pre-authorized credit card debit

Credit Card information

Visa Mastercard

Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Daytime phone number _____

Signature _____

Where needed most Other

All monthly deductions will be made on the 15th of each month.

Please keep me informed of MCC events. Email address: _____

Please remove me from your mailing list. Please send me information on planned giving.

Thank you for becoming a monthly supporter of Mennonite Central Committee Alberta