



*One mission  
200 million reasons to act now*

Children's Care International/Aide internationale pour l'Enfance  
2007-2008 Annual Report





## *Our mission*

Children's Care International (CCI) is a non-profit organisation which has, as its main mission, to open rehabilitation homes for children who are victims of slavery or sexual tourism, in all countries where these plagues still exist.

CCI offers these tortured children access to education and professional training, sanitary and nutritional care as well as psychological support, so that they may more easily reintegrate society.



## A word from the chairman of the board



Even today, some 200 million children throughout the world are still forced to work in conditions that can only be called “slavery” which endanger their health and security. Thanks to the support from generous donors such as you, CCI is able to fight a little harder each year against forced child labour.

2007-08 was quite rightly a very eventful year for CCI. For me to summarise this past year in just a few words means to recall a whole series of images: the curiosity of students at the Rainbow Centre bent over the daily newspaper; beaming schoolchildren as they are handed their own new slate boards and books; women who created a fish-vending cooperative as they negotiate with a bank to buy a communal taxi; a proud villager as she shows off her small chilli powder business developed through microcredit financing.

Of course, the daily business of a small international aid organisation is made up of hope and failure, triumph and disappointment, all at the same time. However, it is above all an interweave of courage and devotion on the part of all those who, in Canada as overseas, work daily to make the dreams of all these children and their parents come true, and to reject misery and injustice.

Thank you for helping us to fight against the intolerable slavery of children. It is thanks to your support that Laksmi, Yerrama and so many other children can reclaim their childhood and their future.

Christine Durocher,  
Chairman of the Board

## A few significant events

### FEBRUARY 2008

#### CCI becomes a member of AQOCI

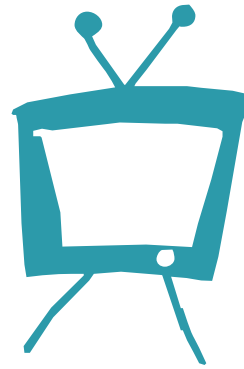
CCI earned the status of regular member of the Association of International Aid Organisations of Quebec/Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (AQOCI), an association of 62 NGOs in the Province of Quebec. After a detailed examination of its practices, and a year of probation as required by AQOCI, CCI can from now on proudly count itself among the members of this recognised association.

By joining AQOCI, international aid organisations benefit from a network for the sharing of information and expertise, as well as from greatly enhanced leverage in their relations with governmental bodies, the media and the public at large.

### MARCH 2008

#### "Walk for Bread" on behalf of CCI

A fund-raiser for 28 years in the Maple Region, the Walk-for-Bread of Plessisville (La Marche du pain de Plessisville) involves some 300 volunteers who go from door to door selling bread for the benefit of, among others, projects initiated by international aid agencies. This year, CCI was chosen as the principal recipient of profits earned during the event, i.e. some \$5,000.



## CCI in the media and on the Internet

### JUNE 2007

CCI agrees to an interview on the show "*D'intérêt public*" on Radio centre-ville (CINQFM - 102.3).

### JULY 2007

The magazine "*L'Itinéraire*" dedicates an article to CCI.

### SEPTEMBER 2007

A report on child slavery is presented on the show "*Tout simplement Clodine*" on TVA.

### CCI on FACEBOOK!

CCI now has its own page on the very popular internet site Facebook. Thanks to this page, CCI staff can broadcast information on the exploitation of children to its contacts, and make more people aware of this cause.

### FEBRUARY 2008

The TV programme "*Une heure sur terre*" interviews Roxana Robin, founder of CCI, to discuss her life journey, her mission, and the evolution of the organisation since its inception. This programme was aired on Radio-Canada (French-speaking arm of CBC), as well as on TV5 Monde (France, Belgium, Switzerland and Asia).

## It all began here

CCI's first project was set up in 2003 in India, in the State of Andhra Pradesh. In this region where the majority of families live in extremely poor conditions, children are generally forced to leave school in order to work and contribute to the family income.

With the help of ARDAR, its partner in India, CCI set up the Rainbow Centre, a rehabilitation centre for child-victims of slavery. Today, the 60 children who reside there have at long last the right to fully enjoy their childhood and receive an education which should influence their future.

«I was so happy to see our sixty children again; they were so radiant and full of questions! Sixty children with eyes shining with intelligence; sixty children full of life.»

Christine Durocher, Chairman of the Board

## Education, an absolute necessity

When they arrive at the Rainbow Centre, most children are illiterate. They have progressed to such a point that, today, children at the '7th standard' level took high-school exams in which they obtained excellent grades. They even achieved above-average results in English, a subject which previously proved very difficult for them.

«...sixty studious children with noses in their notebooks even outside study periods; sixty children curious about everything, and who are passionate about life, about the world.»

Christine Durocher, Chairman of the Board

## Regained health

A nurse ministers to the centre's children and ensures that they receive constant reminders about good hygiene habits. Since Fall of 2007, they also benefit from a physician's weekly visits.



## A long-term vision

The development of specialised skills combined with a basic education make it possible to better equip the children for their adult life. We have moreover decided to accelerate the professional training of some girls who arrived at the centre at an age when they should have instead been starting high-school. Vocational training will enable them to become financially independent within a few years despite not having finished their schooling.



«It was so very touching to hear these children, who come from such terribly poor families, talk to me about becoming doctors, teachers, nurses and university professors »

Christine Durocher, Chairman of the Board

## Additional activities

The children at the Rainbow Centre enthusiastically participate in artistic and sporting activities. Contrary to local tradition, girls—as much as boys—are into several sports. Moreover, public speaking has been added to the present range of activities. Thanks to this workshop, previously shy children no longer hesitate to take the floor in front of hundreds of people.



## Meetings with parents

To support CCI's efforts in fighting child labour, it is necessary to get the parents involved. Families therefore participate in monthly training sessions led by a social worker that address several subjects including personal hygiene, the importance of education and managing a budget.

## Financial support provided to families

Thanks to microcredit financing granted since 2007, most of the families have succeeded in doubling their daily income and reimbursing some of their debts.

## Preventing child labour

In January 2007, to avoid new slave children having to replace those who had been freed, CCI put in place a project to prevent child labour in four villages.

### Basic health care, hygiene and sanitation measures

A nurse takes care of vaccinations, and checking on each pregnant mother and newborn child. Moreover, she is responsible for setting up measures for the prevention of infectious diseases. Her presence and work in the villages has resulted in an increased rate of child vaccinations, from 60% to 100% of all village children.

### Financial support for marginalised women

Last year, 153 marginalised women received financial support from CCI through microcredit groups. In many cases, initiatives taken with this financial assistance have resulted in a doubling of income.



«Village women showed me their new businesses with much pride, and explained to me that their children could now go to school and hope for a better future than they, themselves, had.»

Christine Durocher, Chairman of the Board

### Support for schools

CCI has also provided furniture, teaching materials and uniforms to two primary schools in two villages. Four teacher's aides were also hired (two for each school). In addition, children who had previously dropped out of school were able to reintegrate the regular school system thanks to two remedial classes.

### Community awareness-raising

A social worker works directly with village populations to sensitise the communities as to various social issues, such as the danger in premature marriages, and the importance of education. Some parents now feel their daughters should continue their studies as long as they wish while, previously, families married off their daughters at the onset of menstruation.

## Beyond the rainbow centre

To efficiently counter the cycle of indebtedness and child labour, it is important to bring access to health care to the people. ARDAR and CCI therefore decided in March 2008 to open a health clinic where villagers can consult a physician free-of-charge. Moreover, in case of emergency, village patients will be able to use an ambulance acquired by ARDAR.



## In the province of Quebec: awareness and fund-raising



Throughout the year, CCI collaborates in awareness-raising events in schools and workplaces in Quebec. These interactive conferences result in sensitising some 3,000 persons a year to the cause of child-victims of slavery.

### Conferences organised during special events

- Training of young volunteers of Amnesty International in Sainte-Adèle
- Conference on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) Union

### Conferences in Quebec schools

- Rose-Virginie Pelletier School in Pierrefonds
- Léopold-Gravel School in Terrebonne
- Val-des-Arbres School in Laval
- La Rabastalière School in Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville
- Monique Proulx School in Warwick
- Villa-Maria School in Montreal
- Lucien-Pagé School in Montreal
- Mgr-Richard Secondary School in Montreal
- Jonathan School in Montreal
- Euréka School in Montreal

### Kiosks set up in educational institutions and during special events

- University of Montreal
- University of Quebec in Montreal
- Saint-Jérôme CEGEP
- International Tourism and Travel Show
- Salon du Mieux-être
- Eat-Well Expo

## Fund-raisers organised by educational institutions

Tchou-Tchou Child Daycare Centre	Bake sale
<b>Primary Schools</b>	
Val-des-Arbres School	Creation and sale of playing cards
Jonathan School	Creation of a Book of poems and pictures promoting children's rights
<b>Secondary Schools</b>	
Saint-Louis College	Multicultural dinner
Rose-Virginie Pelletier School	Artwork creation and sale
Léopold-Gravel School	Wear-Your-Cap Day with kiosks
John Rennie High-School	Photo Expo and sale of hand-made cups
Montreal College	Reading marathon

## Key partners

This year, CCI worked actively on different committees, and participated in sharing and training opportunities with key persons in the field of international aid.

### To put an end to sweatshops

During 2007-08, CCI particularly involved itself with the Quebec Coalition Against Sweatshops (CQCAM). This group's mission is to make the people of Quebec more aware of the existence of sweatshops, and to develop concrete alternatives to counter the proliferation of these sweatshops, where child labourers are regularly discovered.

### Women: important players on the road to development

As CCI plays particular attention to the living conditions of women, it regularly participates in meetings organised by the Quebec Committee on Women and Development (CQFD), under the umbrella of the AQOCI. This committee considers itself an important think-tank regarding all issues which touch women's roles in the emergence of developing countries.



Cci follows its dream ...



### ... to come to the aid of more children

CCI is planning to construct a third building during 2008-09 so that it may take in 40 more children freed from labour and indentured slavery. This would increase the Rainbow Centre's capacity to 100 children.

### ... to promote education by providing transportation

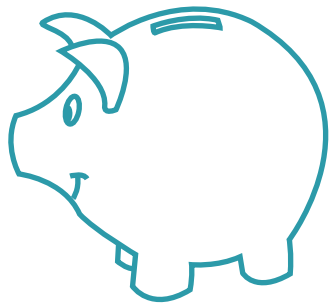
Because secondary schools are few and far between in most villages in India, coupled with the fact that public transportation is practically non-existent, schooling opportunities beyond the first 5 years of grammar school are extremely limited. During the coming year, CCI will provide bicycles to some Indian villages so that some children can complete their secondary education.

### ... to open a home for girls rescued from the street and from the sex trade

Working with its Indian partner ARDAR, and with MANASU (a Dutch NGO), CCI will give refuge to girls rescued from the streets and from the sex trade, living in the town of Vishakhapatnam. This new centre will take in little girls before they fall prey to prostitution networks, and others the police have been able to free from trafficking networks.

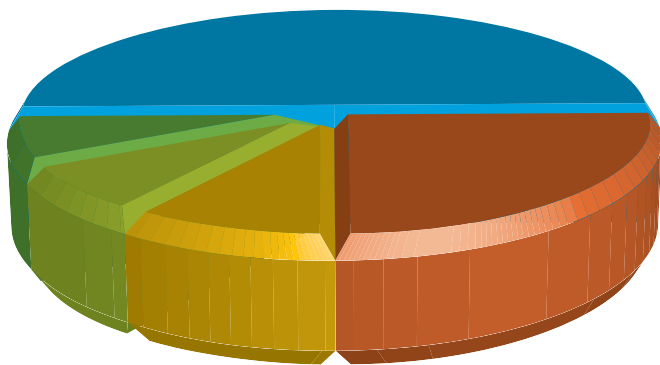
### ... to start a new project in Thailand

Contacts were initiated with several Thai NGOs so that a new project can be launched in 2008-09. An appraisal mission is planned for Fall 2008. The project will be set up in collaboration with the Mathieu-Lafond Foundation, an organisation whose mission is to contribute financially to education and training projects, with an eye to helping the young in need to develop their full potential.



## A LOOK AT 2007- 2008 FINANCES

During 2007-2008, funds provided by our donors and other sources of revenue were allocated as follows:



**50%** Projects in India

**25%** Awareness-raising activities

**10%** Administrative expenses

**8%** Project management and supervision

**7%** Project feasibility studies



## Donors and benefactors in 2007-2008

It is with much gratitude that CCI recognises the following organisations, as well with all the individuals, who have this year contributed to the fight against the exploitation of children:



### \$5,000 and above

Congregation of Notre-Dame  
Roncalli International Foundation  
The Endeavours of Cardinal Léger  
The Canadian Auto-Workers' Union (CAW)  
Sisters of the Presentation of Mary

### Between \$1,000 and \$5,000

Transat  
Walk-for-Bread of Plessisville  
Inter-Professional Federation of Health of Quebec (FIQ)  
3%-Third-World Foundation  
Edward-Assh Foundation

### Between \$500 and \$1,000

CIBC  
Order of the Very Holy Trinity (Pères Trinitaires)  
Charity Sisters of Saint-Louis  
Sisters of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary  
Sisters of Saint Anne of Quebec  
Union of Professionals of the Government of Quebec (SPGQ)

### Between \$100 and \$500

Cistercian Abbey Our-Lady-of-Good-Counsel  
Bureau-en-Gros: Anjou, Chomedey, Jean-Talon and Saint-Laurent branches  
Tchou-Tchou Child Day-Care Centre  
National Federation of Teachers of Quebec (FNTEEQ)  
Karisma Florist  
The Society of Missions Abroad  
Quebec Order of Knights of Saint-Catherine of Mount Sinai  
Auxiliary Sisters  
Sisters of Mary Reparatrix  
United Way/Centraide Ottawa



*Thank you !!!!*

Dear friends,

I would like to take a moment to express to you all my gratitude. Once again this year, it is mostly thanks to you that CCI can carry on its mission with confidence. The support and enthusiasm you bring to our projects are the source of many small miracles!

We opened our first centre in India in 2003. The funds we had gathered together at that time hardly allowed us to take in 10 children. Five years later, due to the generosity of our donors, we are affecting the lives of over 6,000 people. It is because of your support that hundreds of children now have access to an education; that women in several communities have recovered their dignity through microcredit financing; and that several villages benefit from health care. They didn't even dare dream of these fundamental needs before...

Your donation to CCI does not only allow for the purchase of food or clothing; it incurs changes in behaviour, and a renewed hope in the hearts of hundreds of people in the world.

A donation also opens eyes and hearts... and contributes to a better world. Many thanks, to all of you, for being at our side in our battle against the exploitation of children.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roxana Robin'.

Roxana Robin,  
Founder of CCI

## A few figures

Here are a few concrete examples of some actions taken by CCI and the costs generated by each initiative:

### Rainbow Centre (cost per year for 60 children)

Financial support (microcredit financing) to families of children at our centre	\$6,500
Basic school supplies (uniforms, back-packs, slate boards, exercise books, etc.)	\$2,000
Quality health care	\$1,500
Teaching aids (blackboards, books, teaching materials)	\$315

### Project for the Prevention of Child Labour (cost per year per village)

Sponsor a school	\$4,000
Microcredit group in view of increasing the income of 50 marginalised women	\$4,000
Night school for young adults	\$650
Vaccination for prevention	\$500

### Projects in the pipeline

Expansion of the Rainbow Centre to increase its care capacity from 60 to 100 children	\$50,000
Opening of a centre for young girls who are victims of the sex trade	\$37,000
Purchase of 80 bicycles (10 per village) in the district of Vizianagaram, in India. These bikes will allow students to reach secondary schools outside their villages.	\$4,000



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TO MAKE A DONATION



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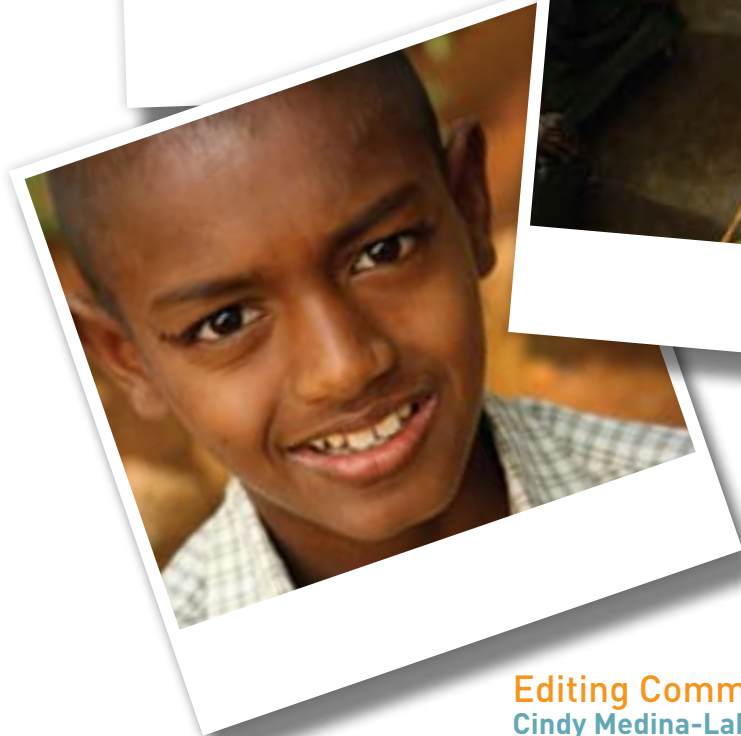


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