N° 129 - NOVEMBER 2022

LERRE DES HOMMES

ALSACE

# TERRE DES HOMMES ALSACE ANTOINE DE SAINT-EXUPÉRY

Direct assistance to children in need

From left to right: Father LABORDE, Mother ANNE, Pierre BOLLINGER Founding President of Terre des Hommes Alsace 1972

#### www.terredeshommes-alsace.com

# Editorial...

It is the year of 50 years of solidarity at Terre des Hommes Alsace ! We celebrated this anniversary with a very nice and lively gala evening. Throughout the year we have also provided financial support to our partners for the rehabilitation or improvement of their structures, and we have made some very nice punctual donations. Our new headquarters/store, an essential resource to guarantee our future, was finally inaugurated. A great moment, together with our many partners, donors and volunteers.

Our indefatigable volunteers are once again mobilising strongly after the forced break due to the COVID. We have been able to replenish our stocks of handicrafts from our partners and we look forward to seeing you at our many stands throughout the year, so that you can benefit from our products which are directly linked to the projects or to the culture of the countries.

The feedback from our various partners is almost the same all over the world: the uncontrolled inflation of food and energy is becoming very difficult to manage. The poorest countries are even more affected than us in our regions, but we do our best to be there for them.

As we are in constant contact with our partners, we can share some news from the field in this edition. In Haiti, parents are well aware of the importance of education. In Senegal, the garden is essential for the production but also for the training of the pupils. In Vietnam, Maison Chance has to pay attention to the maintenance of the infrastructures. In North India, Sister Sally Abraham tells us about the care activities in favour of a population often forgotten or extremely poor, while in the South, sport allows many young girls to rebuild themselves while respecting the culture of the country. A beautiful chain of solidarity and a lot of patience made Stephanie and her parents smile again. With our help we wish Marceau a good trip and great adventures, despite his illness. A potential new project in Manaus, Brazil could be evaluated. The extension of the medical centre in Madagascar is progressing at a great speed before the rainy season, of course under the watchful eve of Doctor Joro. The war in the Ukraine unfortunately continues, donations are becoming scarce and our aid is now focused on child refugees in the Haut-Rhin region.

The details of our actions can be found in the red booklet published especially for our 50th anniversary. You are the ambassadors of Terre des Hommes Alsace, help us to find new sponsors, donors and volunteers.



Gérard Briffoteaux said:

#### "When it comes to solidarity, it is often the smallest who turn out to be the biggest! "

With your support and confidence, we are ready to start again for another half-century, because sharing remains the only wealth in our world where egoism and individualism most often reign.

Thank you for your loyalty! I wish you and your families a happy holiday season and a beautiful and peaceful year 2023.

Simon Rey



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#### AGENDA 2022

Saint Nicholas Market Riedisheim 25, 26 and 27 November

Christmas Market Hegenheim 3 and 4 December Ferrette 3 and 4 December Rixheim 9,10 and 11 December Mulhouse 18 December



#### AGENDA 2023

Cochonnailles in Hégenheim Sunday, January 29 at noon in the Riedlin Hall

TDHA General Assembly Saturday 25 March, Salle du Trèfle RIXHEIM

Traditional TDHA walk Sunday, May 8

More information on our website www.terredeshommes-alsace.com

# SUMMARY

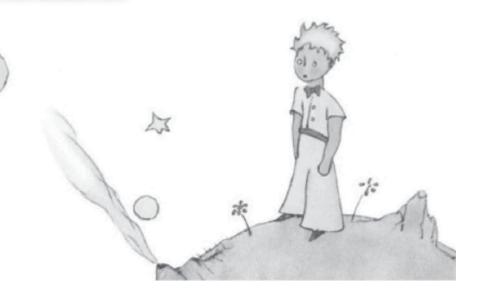
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# The actions of our volunteers

As the pandemic has accustomed us to paying by bank card, we are gradually adapting, with the support of our banking partner, Crédit Mutuel

## First participation to Agrogast in Hagenthal-le-Bas

Congratulations to all the team involved in this first activity of managing the pastry stand during this great and beautiful four-day event. THANK YOU to the pastry cooks for making the many pastries and the great presence of the volunteers to satisfy the customers. The great result is equivalent to nearly 22,000 meals, to which must be added the proceeds from the sale of handicrafts of nearly 7,000 meals! The volunteers have conveyed a dynamic and beautiful image of our association, **to be renewed** !

# First participation to Käsnapperfascht in Hégenheim

Some time ago, our association agreed to join the Association Sport et Loisirs de Hégenheim. Our volunteers took the initiative and organised the flea market around the Hégenheim street festival. The team was very satisfied with this first event and is ready to participate again in the next edition.!

## Solidarity Walk 2022 in Muespach-le-Haut

Once again this event was a great success and the 45 volunteers were there to accommodate the 300 walkers and serve an equal number of meals. The volunteers from the "India 2023" youth group were efficient and the craft stall was well attended.

The great result, including many donations, will allow the sponsorship of 29 children for a year! Let's do it again on **24 September 2023 !** 



### **Operation oranges**

As in the past years, our partner supermarkets welcomed us for this operation with kindness as they have done for many years. Some of them offered us the oranges proposed to the public, others made great efforts in terms of pricing in order to be able to offer a maximum number of meals to our beneficiaries. Many schools also offer their pupils the opportunity to show solidarity by participating in this action. The project managers are available throughout the year to present our actions in the field, so do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you all for having offered a few hours of your time so that children can find the smile of hope!

### Pork Meal 2023 in Hegenheim

Registration form for Sunday 29 January attached to this newsletter ⇒ before 8 January 2023 please !!

### **Chocolate rabbits initiative 2023**

Despite a significant price increase of the chocolate, we have decided not to adjust the selling price of the rabbits and are counting on generosity to try to make up for the shortfall. The 2023 order was placed in July and our partner Transports Schneider is ready to receive them in its new buildings in Sierentz. About 40 pallets with **21'000 chocolate rabbits** (150 grams / height 23cm, wrapped in decorated aluminium foil) will arrive shortly and will be available after 23 January 2023. We are relying on you to find takers among schools, works councils, church youth, door to door sales, sales at the exit of shops, sales depots, ...

#### We need your support and any initiative or idea is welcome



We are of course always at your disposal to illustrate our actions in support of children in the field through film projections. **Do not hesitate to contact us.** 

Thank you all in advance for your support to this **solidarity** initiative!

#### Second hand shop - open to all

at 52, rue de l'Île Napoléon in Rixheim

Now also opening every Saturday, with many new volunteers who have come to support the existing team, the shop is a growing success.

I invite you all to discover it, by taking advantage of the opening hours below to drop off your clothes, dishes, games or books :

 $\Rightarrow$  Monday from 14:00 to 17:00

→ Saturday from 8:30 to 11:30

Thank you to all the volunteers and thank you to all the people who collect and promote our shop!

And there are many important "small projects" that are not reported, but not forgotten! Without all the volunteers TDHA could not exist for 50 years!

THANK YOU to all of you and do not hesitate to motivate your friends and relatives to join us !

Simon Rey

#### Solidarity with UKRAINE

We are in regular contact with the "Olgalsace" association. After an initial donation of €20,000, we gave them another €10,000 at our 50th anniversary gala evening. We still have some funds left which will be allocated to Ukrainian refugees and especially to the children sheltered in our region.

### **50th Anniversary Gala**

On 14 May we celebrated 50 years of solidarity and care for the world's children. Nearly 250 people were present: Founding members of the association, many political personalities, representatives of the town of Rixheim, partners of our "Headquarters/Store" project, partners of our fundraising activities, friendly associations, representatives of several service clubs, many sponsors and donors, Sir Ramu Chezhian, our partner from Tamil Nadu, India, who is visiting Europe, Dr Bernard De Geeter, our partner in cardio-paediatric surgery, Nadine Gradoux, our favourite moderator, Makar, a young Ukrainian clarinet prodigy, and the **indispensable volunteers**.

Our distant partners have all sent us short and beautiful videos presenting their work in favour of children, presented by the country managers of our association. Our friend Yves Duteil, who could not be with us for health reasons, sent us a touching video of congratulations, thanks and encouragement. The young members of our association put on a superb fashion show to promote our secondhand shop, and the musicians of the APEI of Hirsingue and the dance group "ça y danse" enlivened the evening in a remarkable way. An excellent meal was prepared by the adapted company www.solicook.org, thank you to them and THANK YOU to all the people who made this beautiful evening possible!



### Inauguration of the Headquarters / Shop

On 25 June we were eventually able to inaugurate our new work tool, namely the headquarters and the second-hand clothing shop. All the partners who have made this great achievement possible were represented, as well as the volunteers who highly appreciate their new "working" conditions. The inauguration and the reception were enhanced by the music of Morschwiller-le-Bas under the direction of Myriam Million and Michel Intering. Thank you all for your enormous support!

Simon Rey



#### News of projects in Haiti



The first country to gain independence in 1804, Haiti is now the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Political, climatic and health instability are permanentlyhampering the country's development. Rural areas have very little access to basic services, including education. Inter Aide operates in the Grand-Goâve region, in the south of the country.

It is a mountainous and isolated region where the majority of travel is done on foot or by mule. The region has only one public school for every 7,500 inhabitants. After a period of reflection, our colleague Neil Greener, responsible for projects in Haiti, informed us that he could no longer continue managing the projects.

Neil will continue to do the English translations for our newsletter.

While waiting to find another manager I will take over.

**Brigitte FLAMMEN** 



#### Focus on Rosinette's school

Rosinette's school is located in the town of the same name, on the Bellevue massif, which divides the waters between the Caribbean Sea and the Caribbean Sea. This very mountainous area is inhabited by peasant families who benefit from a cooler and wetter microclimate, allowing them to multiply the types of crops.

The 250 families of Rosinette and the surrounding communities rely on this small local school for the schooling of the youngest.

Currently, about 60 students are divided between kindergarten and the6th Fundamental Year. They are grouped into four multigrade classes, because the school cannot afford to pay teachers for each level. Since 2011, this school has been operating in a temporary shelter built by an emergency NGO after the 2010 earthquake, which was badly degraded after more than 10 years of use.

The principal and the parents' committee showed great motivation to improve the functioning of the school. The official school calendar is respected, attendance books are well kept, teachers' salaries are regularly paid, student absenteeism is low.

In fact, these good results translate into improved student success rates. Thus, in reading, the success rate increased from 0% in 2018 to 75% in 2022.

Anne CEBE for Inter Aide

#### New products at Terre des Hommes Alsace.







Madagascar baskets are a long story with our Tana program.

We granted micro-credits to volunteers to make baskets.

Over the years they are more and more beautiful and if from the beginning they could close, there is now a small pouch for the mobile phone.

The baskets areall unique and exist in three sizes, but above all this work allows a remuneration to women with the follow-up of the ASERN staff. The last two years have beendifficult for the supply of various items for our various markets, fairs and stands.

We were able to organize shipments from Madagascar and Vietnam. During a mission in the spring Simon REY was able to bring back objects from Brazil.

We are also waiting for Indian products thanks to a friend of Terre des Hommes Alsace on a trip to the south of India



Vanilla and wild pepper from Madagascar and pepper from Brazil

Always a great success with vanilla that we present in tube. This year we will also try vanilla powder.

Madagascar wild pepper is not very strong, but very fragrant. The one from Brazil has more character, but the two flavors complement each other. We decided to put them in a jack with a label to differentiate them and folded them in a bag decorated especially for Christmas



Maison Chance in Vietnam sent us small animals with a keychain. Other small animals have been added to the collection: giraffes from cubs, rhinos from donkeys and a beautiful turtle family.

The making of objects allows artists to receive a small remuneration.



From Brazil Simon brought back beautiful necklaces made of red seeds s of church wood and many other seeds with very original shapes.

Practical woven fabric bags and hammocks that invite you to nap are also available



Vietnam's cashew nuts are on their way and will be on the Christmas stalls.

We hope to meet many of you at our various events announced in the summary.



#### The days of October 2022 a very good vintage

The slogan " Adopte une plush to help a child" allowed us this year to collect enough to fill **25200** plates. 44 volunteers came to do one or more permanence and met with a benevolent welcome from visitors.

The show was beautiful with the theme of the cactus and a beautiful staging in the Folies Flore that attracts a large audience for our greatest pleasure.

#### THANK YOU to the volunteers, plush suppliers and on the road to the 2023 edition



Thank you to all the Volunteers



### MADAGASCAR

#### **ASERN** thinks bigger !

In our last bulletin, I informed you of the development of the Centre's activities to meet the needs of the population.

ASERN is a resource place not only for the children who eat there but for their families who are accompanied in terms of social and health. Since the purchase of the house in 2018, Dr. Joro has been nurturing the project of an extension. In view of the constant increase in attendance at the Centre, this project has become a necessity. The idea is to add a floor to the building in order to move the administrative offices and dedicate the ground floor to medical activity. OurBoard of Directors voted to grant a specific budget to carry out this project.

Dr. Joro had certainly prepared his file well in advance, but to our surprise, the site startedin the days following our agreement. Thus, the work should be completed before the rainy season that starts in January.



Dr. Joro follows the progress of the work





During the work, the daily reception of the 104 children continues: distribution of meals, help with homework, etc ... The team thought about reorganizing the Centre, including the dining area, to protect the children from dust. The consultation room is not impacted by the work so activity continues at this level.

This new project testifies to the dynamism and responsiveness of the entire ASERN team in response to the needs of the accompanied public. At its level, the Centre is trying to reduce inequalities and supports an increasingly fragile population in the face of the violence of the global crisis that is currently raging.

According to World Bank data, Madagascar is experiencing arecession "about three times

#### MADAGASCAR

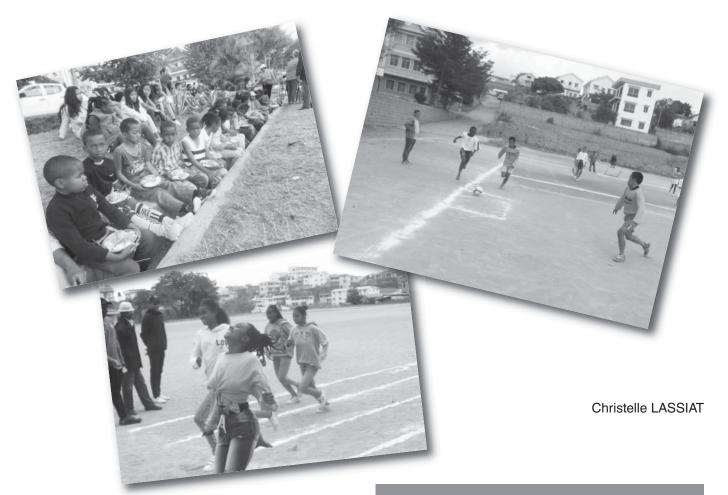
According to World Bank data, Madagascar is experiencing arecession "about three times deeper than in most other sub-Saharan African countries, with the sharp contraction of -7.1% of the economy". This is due to the climate crisis that caused drought and cyclones last winter, but also the Covid crisis and its consequences on the tourism, transport and services sectors and mining. This crisis has simply "reversed more than a decade of gains in per capita income". Concretely, 81% of the Malagasy population now lives below the poverty line, which currently stands at 2.15 dollars/inhabitant/day.

The next presidential elections in Madagascar are scheduled for 2023, bringing hope for an improvement... In the meantime, our partners are witnessing the impact of the crisis on the families hosted. The price of oil, flour and sugar have increased by 30 to 50%, hygiene products by 25%. As for electricity, prices will increase by another 30% by the end of the year! The effort is so considerable that even the Malagasy State is unable to settle the debts contracted with energy suppliers.

In this context, the support provided by ASERN and the Daughters of Charity in Fianarantsoa remains decisive in supporting the schooling of children and young people. Because the price of tuition fees is also impacted: registration fees, school supplies, etc ...

Dr. Joro is adamant "if we were not there, the children would not go to school"

More than ever, your commitment to us has meaning and value. Thanks to you, thanks to the unfailing commitment of our partners in Madagascar, children can eat their fill, go to school and live moments of joy and carefreeness, as evidenced by the photos taken during the festive day organized by ASERN.







1972 2022



Volunteers, sponsors, donors, speeches .....







... officials, partners, singers, musicians, dancers.

and above all the good mood and the joy of meeting for this beautiful celebration of 50 years.



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des

The gifts for our birthday are made by Terre of the Alsace Men :

Crédit Mutuel

DIX TILLE EVE

rédit Mutuel

Dix Mille

TERRE DES HOMMES ALSAC

10'000

For the association Olgalsace helps for Ukraine.

Forthe Association of Yves Duteil a school in southern India.

Health problems having prevented his arrival he sent us a beautiful video message.



### News from Fianarantsoa Madagascar story of Stephanie.

Ravakiniaina Stéphanie is also a young child who deserves our attention, not only because of her congenital heart defect, but also because of her psychomotor state that presents a delay. His care has sparked a lot of discussion from a technical point of view given his condition requiring an escort for his evacuation abroad, a condition not accepted by the Association Chaine de l'Espoir, CDE, an association that deals with the management of congenital cardiovascular disease s whether it is medical evacuation abroad or on-site intervention. Many proposals were made, but we finally retained the choice to do the operation on the spot, in Madagascar, by the local team.

Screened in September 2018 for a broad Patent Ductus Arterus (PCA), the programming of the operation was not set until 2021. However, for health reasons that we know, the covid having gone through there, the local team of the CEN-HOSOA Hospital (Military Hospital) with the team of the association Chaine de The Espoir CDE were only able to carry out the operation on May 10, 2022.

Given the patient's condition, the heavy financial expenses, finally covered by ADHD, including the costs incurred by consultations on Antananarivo (03 times), the various analyzes and preliminary care before the operation as well as functional rehabilitation sessions, several exchanges took place with the Doctor in charge of CDE Madagascar, Dr. Nivo, on holding Stephanie's operation. The ADHD ACB team, Dr. Bernard De Geter and Brigitte Flammen played a big role in supporting this approach. At the end of the operation, one month later, Stéphanie showed a clear improvement in her condition from a clinical and ultrasound point of view, control made on Fianarantsoa by Dr. Jeanne, our on-site referent for pediatric heart disease, and Dr. RAVAOAVY of the Military Hospital – CDE.

The second check, at the end of July, still shows a good clinical and ultrasound evolution and especially a clear improvement in psycho-motor development: she now pronounces a few sentences, stands with support ...

Follow-up consultations will be scheduled soon and support will continue.

We thank the parents for believing in medicine and treatment, the CRC and the team of the Military Hospital for agreeing to do the operation and ADHD for the financial support outside the operation because without their help the family would not have had the means to come to Tana and do the care and preliminary analyzes. It should be remembered that the CRC only covers expenses during hospitalization.

Such a smile means it all.



Text and photos Doctor Joro with the support of the team at the pediatric hospital of Fianarantsoa

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#### Solidarity, you said solidarity ???

What are you doing for the people here ! This is the phrase we hear most often during our various sales or screenings. Obviously we tirelessly explain, demonstrate that our aid is primarily intendedfor the children we support in the various programs around the world. For many years we have also been working with local associations that solicit us, St Vincent de Paul, CADA, the ocial assistants of the town halls. Thus, over time, we help at home through various actions. We are very proud of our second-hand store that can accommodate families who can get dressed and find everyday objects at very low prices. For the most disadvantaged, this service is free, supervised by social workers. We even have a volunteer who works for the SPA and we provide blankets for the animals.





#### It is in this spirit of solidarity that our Board has decided to support a brand new association "Marceau The Adventurer"

Like all stories, it begins with an encounter. We discovered in our village of Rumersheim le Haut in the small news flash published regularly that a new association was born in June of this year. By inquiring we discovered the history of Marceau.

This little boy was born in 2018 and is the grandchild of close neighbors. This little boy suffers from a rare genetic disease called "SMARD-1". It needs very specific medical and paramedical equipment. The Association was created and aims to collect funds to contribute to the purchase of these materials.

We gave a helping hand for the start of this association, the situation of the parents and this little boy particularly touchedus. One of the projects aims to create a collective spacetime accessible to Marceau.

Several objectives :

- o From thenot feel alone in their situation (mee ting other children who are very hypotonic and in wheelchairs)
- o Develop knowledge and vocabulary with a workshop on the theme of travel (each session is linked to a destination: go to the sea, go to Paris, go to Alsace etc ....

The workshops are led by a psychomotor therapist, for children with a very small physical mobility and a great imagination.

We wish Marceau a good trip and that he can live great adventures.

The Board of Directors as a whole approved this project. As the budget for this aid was taken from our A Cœur Battant project, I asked Dr. Bernard De Geeter for his agreement to release the sum. I was able to announce the news to the President of the Association **Marceau the Adventurer** to whom we wish good luck.

Brigitte FLAMMEN

#### **News from Senegal !**

As I write these few lines, life has resumed at Gamadji's school. The canteen is working again after a holiday that was very active for my partner. We had to take care of the garden with the farm worker. A superb crop of orange-fleshed potatoes was produced.

As the students were on holiday, these vegetables were sold, producing a return of money that will be used to buy phytosanitary products, seeds and other shopping needs of the canteen.

It was necessary to take advantage of the holidays to carry out various works. Thus the well could be cleaned and desensitized to be used again for irrigation of plantations. The kitchen stoves have undergone maintenance work in preparation for the upcoming school year. An agent has been hired to take care of the chicken coop that will be replenished shortly.

For this year, the project continues with the work of learning market gardening in the pedagogical garden. All classes will take turns caring for and maintaining the various cultures.





Bananas and watermelons of own harvest will be able to decorate the meals of the canteen.

The school currently has 508 students: 296 girls and 212 boys, to which will be added a few more children enrolled by the end of October.

The Gamadji school with its canteen attracts a lot of students from the surroundings of the village, whose parents want to enjoyboth meals and the education provided in the school.

I asked my partner if he had any news of former students. Among them are a number of teachers, students in master1 and master2. This year in the scientific baccalaureate, two former students of Gamadji won the mention "Good".

At the CFEE (equivalent to our certificate of studies) the school of Gamadji shows a result of 88.52% of success. The regular attendance of students and the operation of the canteen have something to do with it.

Many thanks to the sponsors and donors who support our project in Senegal.

Jacky FLAMMEN

#### **News from Peru**

Padre Juiapa parish priest of Yerbaderos in the suburbsof Lima and responsible for the 4 canteens of Lima has just announced that he has just been appointed pastor of another parish and that he will be replaced by another priest. Terre des Hommes Alsace thanks him for his action in this difficult time and wishes him good luck.

He also sends us a long report of the situation in the country, the main extracts of which are the following extracts.

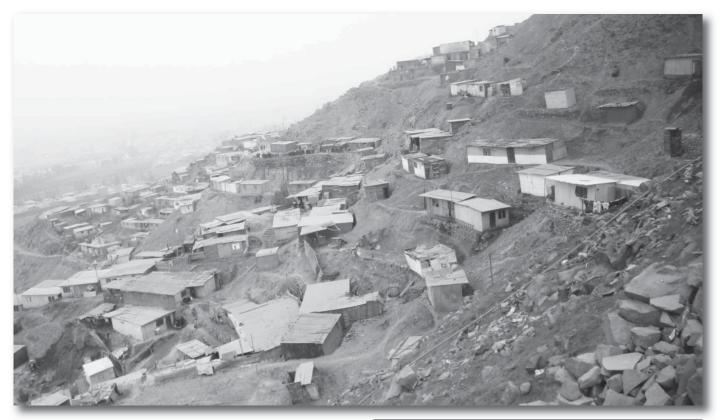
Mid-March 2020 the Covid epidemic is unleashed and affects everyone. The country is one of the most affected in the world with a high rate of contagion and death. The health system collapsed, there was no epidemiological emergency plan, no vaccines, no oxygen availability. The heads of the canteens, under the direction of the priest, agreed to continue social work despite the fact that the government had decreed quarantine throughout the country. The economic system was paralyzed no one could go to work except one person per family who could go out for food or medicine. The most affected were the poor because they live from informal work (street vendors, workers, recyclers etc ...) Their income generated their daily subsistence, they have no stable work or Social Security We have developed an emergency plan to serve families with the members of the Board of Directors of the 4 children's canteens. Due to the closure of the canteens, grocery bags were distributed in such a way that they could prepare their meals at home. The people in charge of the canteens were very courageous, they are beaten against the hunger of the people, they taught us solidarity between the poor, to share and cooperate.

The pandemic has shown the true face of Peru, 4 million Peruvians live in extreme poverty. They live in the hills do not have running water, electricity. Hundreds of children are malnourished. Our authorities are corrupt, ineffective, several leaders are imprisoned, the country is degraded and adds inflation, high food prices that are inaccessible to poor families.

Nevertheless, we continue our rescue mission despite these difficult times.

I think that in view of this text any comment is superfluous.

J.J.KIEFFER



# **South India News**



A host of festivities punctuate the life of Indians throughout the year. The most exceptional festivals take place during the winter, But the dates of most of them are determined by the lunar calendar.

The Janamashtami or Krishna Jayanti is the birthday of Krishna, the avatar of Vishnu. This festival is celebrated on the eighth day of the half-dark moon of the Hindu month of Sravana in July-August. Janamashtami means the birth of the eighth, because among other things Krishna is the eighth avatar of Vishnu. According to tradition, Vishnu incarnates regularly, when the world is threatened by disorder. His most famous incarnation on earth with Krishna is Rama. Krishna is the most revered deity of India and gave some principles of life and conduct for every Hindu.

Throughout India, many festivals and prayers take place in temples dedicated to Krishna. The day before the festivities begins with fasting andprayer until midnight, when it is presumed that Krishan was born. Food is offered as well as flowers to the god.

The children of Puspam celebrated Krishna Jayanti in the morning in their foster home by making rangoli, drawings on the ground. They first dot the outline of the geometric patterns using a white powder, usually made of limestone or rice, before filling it with a series of lines. In addition to adding a touch of art and beauty, rangoli protect the place and its inhabitants. The children in addition to the entrance of their house, made many rangoli up to the entrance of our temple. The drawings depicted Krishna.

The drawings are transmitted from mother to daughter. Some are very old and date back hundreds of years. Floral or animal forms are sometimes added to paintings, but the power of rangoli lies in their complex geometry. There are also different styles of design that vary from region to region of the country.





#### **Puspam Basketball Team**



Puspam's girls' team continues to shine in competitions and was recently selected to participate in a tournament in the state of Tamil Nadu.

The under-16 teams competed over three days. The matches were held at Kongu Nadu College of Engineering and Technology in Trichy.

The brilliant team advanced to the semi-finals.

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Puspam's training ground has also been redone to the delight of all the young players.

We also had the pleasure of receiving a large batch of jerseys from the Hégenheim basketball club. A friend of Terre des Hommes Alsace helped us to transport it to Puspam. Thank you all for your support"

Tanja SANCHEZ

#### **BRAZIL** – discovery of Manaus

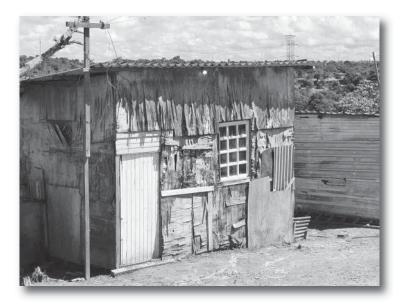
This past June I had the opportunity to discover Manaus as I met there with Padre Gaston Gabriel Aquino, a 38 year old Argentinian missionary from the Don Guanella congregation, who took over the mission in 2020. Padre Remi, our long-time partner in Salgueiro, was supposed to join me, but the COVID virus had decided otherwise.

Antônio Aleixo" and on the other is "Bela Vista". The former represents about 80% of the parish territory. The population of 40,000 inhabitants is marked by obvious marginality, poverty, moral and spiritual degradation while having a rather young face. When entering the neighbourhoods, one can see many young people who, unfortunately, are unemployed. Many fill the void and lack of opportunities with addictions and, at best, are "moto-taxi" to earn their livelihood. The streets are also



crowded with children playing, running and flying kites that embellish the sky. Their joy, mingled with tears and dirty clothes, is a sign of a life that tries to escape from pain and demands the right to belong to the world. Another sad reality in the neighbourhood consists of elderly people with signs of mutilation on their bodies. The reason lies in the origin of this district, since it was a large hospital for lepers from the 1940s onwards, after the patients were transferred there, at 32 kilometres from the centre of Manaus. The "Colônia Antônio Aleixo" is still isolated from the rest of the city, under the stigma of leprosy.

The adverse social conditions of Colônia Antônio Aleixo are surrounded by splendid natural beauty. At dawn and dusk, the sky offers a splendid show of colours reflected in the waters of "Lake Aleixo". To the east of the parish, two large rivers (Solimões and Negro) flow into the vast Amazon River, but without mixing, that is, without losing their distinct colours. This phenomenon is called the "meeting of the waters": a natural spectacle that attracts tourists from all over the world.



At the parish level, the population is divided into eleven established communities or chapels which, in a sense, represent different areas of the neighbourhood. These locations are favelas, remote places that are somewhat isolated and difficult to access. Some of them can be reached by crossing the lake in different directions. They are almost all marked by a strong presence of the drug trafficking. The level of illiteracy is high due to the distance from schools, which are few in number given the growing needs of the population. Another very important place for the parish - and one that calls for its charitable and pastoral activities - is the Penitentiary Unit of Puraquequara, which has a population of 1,200 inmates.

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The Dr. João de Paula street, better known as "Buracão", is one of the poorest areas of the district. A study conducted by the association "O Pequeno Nazareno" carried out a diagnosis of children and adolescents in street situations in the city of Manaus over a period of 6 months. They set up a social approach team composed of two social workers, two psychologists and two street educators. The team carried out a mapping of the main territories and areas where violations of the rights of children and adolescents living on the street are most frequent. The result of the research revealed that 63% of children and adolescents come from this neighbourhood. The extreme vulnerability of children in this area demonstrates the need for urgent and effective intervention.



In some communities, charitable initiatives have been initiated since last year, motivated by the considerable increase in hunger and malnutrition. This phenomenon has been observed particularly among children. The growing demand for food from the population led the parish to open seven refectories. In each of them, between 50 and 80 children receive one meal each day, prepared by volunteer mothers who also have the possibility to eat there. Three of these seven kitchens are very poorly structured and the preparation of meals is far from the basic required standards, however, due to the vital need, the operation has started. These spaces require investment to ensure that the children can be welcomed with a minimum of dignity

In a first stage Terre des Hommes Alsace was able to finance two gas cookers with oven and to contribute to the food. At present I am waiting for the plans and financial details in order to study the possibility of supporting the construction. Padre Gaston is very active in seeking funds from the many companies in the free zone of Manaus, but this proves complicated. However, during my visit the company "Amazonas Energia" committed to a monthly delivery of 70% of the food needs for 500 children.

We will examine in the near future whether we can be a partner in this project in Manaus. As the partnership with the city of Salgueiro strengthens from year to year with the unconditional and guaranteed support for the projects. This could allow to free up some budget for a regular help to the children supported by the young and dynamic missionary Padre Gaston surrounded by his whole community.

It has been a long time since I made such a difficult trip, whether in terms of poverty, emotions or precarious comfort. This allowed me to put my ideas back in place.

Thank you to the faithful Brazilian sponsors and welcome to all those who wish to join us in helping the children of Manaus to smile again and hope for a dignified life, very simply.



Simon Rey

#### North India - Kalyanpur

"Health is wealth" is a famous saying. Nothing is more important than wealth to live a healthy, peaceful and prosperous life. The last two years have been difficult for everyone when the global lockdown took place due to COVID-19. This pandemic has had a severe economic and social impact on the poor here, as they have lost their jobs and struggled to support themselves.

During the pandemic, the health centre in Kalyanpur, on the outskirts of Calcutta, worked around the clock while the mobile health centres worked twice a week. Government hospitals treated only patients with the virus and all other clinics were closed, except for medical shops.

During the lockdown, more than 30 people were treated each day at the health centre, while the mobile centre in Salkia received more than 25 patients per day and the mobile centre in Hatta received more than 20. They were treated for fever, colds, coughs, diarrhoea, home-based maternity care, antenatal and postnatal care. We distributed thousands of masks and sanitizers to patients and provided food supplement packages to many, many families.



Awareness programmes were organised in several villages on sanitation, use of masks, social distancing and vaccination, as the majority of them were afraid to be vaccinated against Covid. Despite this, most of them got vaccinated and in turn encouraged others to do so. The medication cost during the financial year, more than 3700 €, was covered by the partners and the province's contribution.



Last January, we organised a medical camp, with the necessary arrangements to test the patients, as there were many people. We distributed medicines to more than 150 patients suffering from fever, cough, cold, diarrhoea, bronchitis and asthma. Many others suffered from high blood pressure and strokes. Post-Covid-19 is not only a challenge for disease control and crisis management, but also has a long-term impact on the population. We see many young and middle-aged people in villages dying from heart attacks and strokes.

During June and July 2022 there was an outbreak of viral fever and diarrhoea, and we were able to treat over 200 patients in time.

Our mission is a daily one and we are very grateful to Terre des Hommes Alsace for its long-standing support and we thank you all very much.

> Sister Sally Abraham Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions

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#### Vietnam

#### Improvement of Daknong infrastructure

Built in 2016, the Maison Chance Social Centre in Daknong is the second centre of the Maison Chance organisation in Vietnam. Located in Daknong province in the highlands of Vietnam, the Social Centre houses a primary school, three special education classes and four vocational training workshops. The site also includes a therapeutic pool, a farm for organic farming, a restaurant and some guest rooms for community tourism.

About 190 beneficiaries are housed and fed on the site of the Social Centre, including 140 pupils from economically and socially disadvantaged backgrounds, 25 children with physical and mental disabilities. 95% of them come from ethnic minorities in the region. The Social Centre also has 25 adults with disabilities who work and learn trades such as painting, stone cutting, sewing and computers.

Since its construction, no major repairs have been undertaken, apart from some small maintenance work. This year, the Social Centre undertook repairs to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of its infrastructure. Thiswork includes sealing the gutters, installing a lightning rod and a drinking water treatment system.

The roofs of the buildings of the Social Centre are built with a system of gutters for the drainage of rainwater. With the effect of the heat, which varies enormously, between 18 degrees and 38 degrees, the waterproofing layers have been eroded and peeled off. Enough to let rainwater in. This infiltration eventually caused damage to the ceilings and walls below.





In addition to the waterproofing work, theSocial Centre also installed a lightning rod. Local authorities do not require the installation of such a device. However, Maison Chance preferred to install one, since the weather conditions in the region are favorable to electrical surges. Finally, recent analyses have highlighted the presence of nitrates in well water that exceeded the authorized limit. The water from the wells is used daily by the 190 beneficiaries. Also, a drinking water treatment system has been installed.

Timsent us all the quotes for a total amount of about  $\notin$  15,000.

As part of the special50th Anniversary budget of Terre des Hommes Alsace, weresponded favorably to his call, aware of their importance for the well-being of the 190 beneficiaries and 50 employees and of course to ensure the sustainability of real estate infrastructure.

Emmanuel LASSIAT



Share your bappiness, Sponsor a child!

Pierre Bollinger Président fondateur

de Terre des



TERRE DES HOMMES ALSACE Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

Each donation given to Terre des Hommes Alsace entitles to a tax-refund equivalent to 66% according to the general Code to taxation. So a donation of 50€ will cost you only 17€!

□ I wish to become a member (annual contribution of 10 €)

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	Mensualy	quarterly	every 6 months	□ Annually
□ I chose the	e countries and/or pr	oject I wish to support	:	
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I send you a donation of		€		
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*requested in	formation			

The payments can be done by checks at the attention of Terre des Hommes Alsace or by transfer (In the case you wish to support a specific country, please don't forget to mention it).

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.

#### STUB TO SEND BACK TO

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