

Letter from Oakseed International

September 9, 2020

Mr. Matt Stone
Missions Committee
McLean Presbyterian Church
1020 Balls Hill Road
McLean, VA 22101

Dear Matt and the MPC Missions Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to partner with MPC in the upcoming Thanksgiving Offering. What a blessing this will be for our Ministry Partners and those they serve around the world. We have been prayerfully considering the greatest COVID-19 needs facing our ministries who are serving God on the front lines of this pandemic.

The three greatest needs that we see worldwide are a need for clean water, food, and emergency funding relief for necessities.

- Three Orphanages have a severe need for clean water and would benefit significantly from the installation of a well on their properties. Though this has always been a need, the pandemic has severely amplified it because they are no longer able to travel to collect water during lockdowns, as public transportation is shut down, and many do not own a vehicle. The African orphanages rely on rainwater, but during dry seasons they are without access to water.

A gift would bless the following Ministry Partners:

- Mustard Seed Orphanage in Myanmar
 - New Life Orphanage in Uganda
 - Reformed Hearts Orphanage in Kenya
- There is a food shortage, particularly in urban areas that have been hit hard by the pandemic. Not only is food scarce in markets, but many people also are not able to travel to purchase food due to the lockdown restrictions. As a result, many are surviving on “gruel” or anything they can scrounge up. Several of our Ministry Partners have started small gardens and provided seeds to those they serve so that they can grow food. We recommend using a portion of the funds to provide non-perishable food, seeds, and purchasing bulk food like rice and beans to be distributed by our Ministry Partners.

A gift would bless the following Ministry Partners:

- Hanna Orphan's Home in Ethiopia
 - Jesus' Wind of Victory in Uganda
 - Light of the World in India
 - Love Link in El Salvador
 - MISIUR in Peru
 - Mission Bethel in Liberia
 - Mustard Seed Orphanage in Myanmar
 - New Life Orphanage in Uganda
 - PACANET in Uganda
 - Reformed Hearts Orphanage in Kenya
 - SACDEM in Argentina
 - Sugandh in India
 - Valley of Praise in India
- One of the most difficult challenges we see worldwide is that the poorest of the poor are unable to earn a living during the pandemic due to unemployment and the lockdowns. Many businesses have gone under or let employees go, reducing incomes for thousands of families. Our ministries receive desperate requests daily for help paying rent, purchasing groceries, or paying for medical attention. Additionally, many serving the poor are on reduced salaries and are unable to meet their living expenses. Often, the funds needed to meet these needs are insignificant by Western standards, so any gifts would go a long way in helping our Partners distribute funds to meet these life-sustaining needs. As an added benefit of working through Oakseed's Ministry Partner, these gifts will be given out in the name of Jesus and provide opportunities for cultivating relationships with long-term follow-up and discipleship.

A gift would bless the following Ministry Partners:

- ABBS in Brazil
- Love Link in El Salvador
- Light of the World in India
- JEAME in Brazil
- MISIUR in Peru
- New Life Orphanage in Uganda
- PACANET in Uganda
- Reformed Hearts Orphanage in Kenya
- SACDEM in Argentina
- Sugandh in India

- o Valley of Praise in India

The three ministries that have been hit the hardest by the pandemic are JEAME in Brazil, SACDEM in Argentina, and Sugandh in India. Argentina, Brazil, and India are three of the most severely impacted countries, specifically with the widespread disease and excessive lockdowns. Both JEAME and SACDEM have been working hard to serve the marginalized and those who have been released from the juvenile detention and prison systems. In both Argentina and Brazil, thousands of inmates were released with “incarceration bracelets” to relieve some pressure and try to reduce the spread of the coronavirus through the prisons and detention centers. These former inmates have been released without support networks or employment options, so the need for care, accountability, and resources is critical, especially with those who have come to know the Lord through the ministries of JEAME and SACDEM. Sugandh ministers to those living in the slums. India is currently in its fifth lockdown, so Sugandh has been forced to find alternate inroads into the communities with the lockdown on the slums. The demands for food, medicine, and care are staggering, and Sugandh has only able to meet a small percentage of the needs. The provision of special funds would allow JEAME, SACDEM, and Sugandh to meet most or all of the requests for help.

Oakseed proposes using any funds that the Lord provides through MPC’s Thanksgiving Offering to be first used to cover the immediate needs of water, food, and meeting emergency needs. The remaining funds will be divided amongst JEAME, SACDEM, and Sugandh, as recommended by our Ministry Liaisons.

We will ensure that 100% of the funds will go directly to our Ministry Partners for COVID-19 relief efforts. We look forward to reporting back to MPC with photos, videos, and stories of how God is using these gifts to grow His Kingdom and bless those severely impacted by the pandemic. Please let me know if there are any specific updates or questions you have for Oakseed or any of the recipient ministries.

Thank you again for your generosity, prayers, and faithful commitment to serve the poor through Oakseed. MPC has always been a special part of Oakseed Ministries, and we appreciate your partnership!

Blessings,



Tiffany Crosley
Director