



# SAFE HAVEN CARE CENTRES

*BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE - ONE CHILD AT A TIME*

ANNUAL REPORT

2016



WWW.SAFEHAVENKIDS.ORG



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

*9487239 Canada Foundation (Safe Haven Care Centres) is a Christian-based humanitarian organization dedicated to investing into the lives of orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children in Africa, so they may reach their full potential as contributing members of society and leaders in their community.*

## **OUR VISION**

*Free orphaned, abandoned and vulnerable children from the conditions that keep them in a life of poverty, suffering and abuse and restore their physical, spiritual and emotional security and wellbeing.*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

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This past year has been a whirlwind year of change for Safe Haven. We reorganized the structure of our Canadian organization from being a “mom & pop” home to an incorporated non-profit organization with a board of directors and submitted an application for charitable status with the Canada Revenue Agency.

We moved from a rental home to a new permanent location for our children, and were able to finish the construction and work on the property in record time.

There has been a lot of support and behind-the-scenes work that has gone on in the past year. We have had to overcome a lot of obstacles to get to where we are today, and we recognize that we couldn't have made it there without the faith that the sponsors put in us.

As you will see in this first Annual Report, we have accomplished much, but we have so much more to do. We have exciting plans for Safe Haven and we are happy to share with you our vision of the future.

God has blessed us tremendously in this past year and we pray that He will continue to guide us in all the decisions we make.



Sonya Knipfel  
CEO & Co-Executive Director  
9487239 Canada Foundation  
o/a Safe Haven Care Centres



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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015/2016

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**Jeff Knipfel**  
*Treasurer  
& Co-Executive Director*



**Tanya Naumann**  
*Secretary*



**Dawn Finlay**  
*Board Member*



**Mandy Resendes**  
*Board Member*



**Jerri Moore**  
*Board Member*



**Laura MacGregor**  
*Board Member*

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## ***SAFE HAVEN STATISTICS***

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- Number of children living at the home at the beginning of 2016 - **29**
- Number of children living at the home at the end of 2016 - **20**
- Number of children adopted by a close relative in 2016 - **4**
- Number of children returned to the care of a biological parent in 2016 - **5**
- Ages of Children - **4 - 17 years old**
- Gender Split at the end of 2016 - **Boys - 9 Girls - 11**
- Number of workers at the home - **3**
- Number of sponsors at the beginning of 2016 - **14**
- Number of sponsors at the end of 2016 - **10**
- Children in high school in 2016 - **2**
- Children in high school in 2017 - **4**
- Children in elementary school in 2016 - **27**
- Children in elementary school in 2017 - **16**
- Charitable Status - **Being reviewed for approval, as of December 5, 2016**



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# VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE

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## Board of Directors - General Member

We need an additional board member who can help be one of the guiding forces behind the vision and mission for Safe Haven. We need you to be motivated, organized, hard working and innovative. You need to work well collaboratively in a group of people who are also dedicated to fulfilling the vision for Safe Haven. We are still in the development stages of building Safe Haven, therefore we need someone who isn't afraid to get their hands dirty! We are a working board instead of a governing board. This means this role is fluid and can encompass a wide variety of jobs, including (but not limited to) heading up committees. In an ideal world, you would also be our Fundraising Fanatic and could take on this task for us.

All board members are required to submit a recent clean Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference Check. It is highly recommended you have a reliable vehicle and a valid drivers license.

## Fundraising Fanatic

**Remuneration:** The satisfaction of knowing you are helping a small organization succeed in caring for vulnerable children.

*You will be getting into Safe Haven on the ground floor and have the ability to help define this position for us.*

**We would like you to:**

- Be passionate about helping vulnerable children and their communities
- Have inventive ideas to design and help execute a fundraising plan for Safe Haven, with the ability to evaluate the success of the plan and make adjustments accordingly
- Able to cultivate and create connections with people and are comfortable speaking to a group of people
- Must be able to work collaboratively and have the ability to lead people
- Be an expert juggler, with the ability to handle many tasks at one time and keep yourself organized.
- Have a reliable vehicle and a valid drivers license
- Submit a recent clean Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference Check

## Education Champion

**Remuneration:** The opportunity to give children hope for a better future through education

We would like to develop our own in-house school to better educate our children and give them stability at the home. This program will allow us to educate the less fortunate children in our community, in addition to the children living at Safe Haven.

**We would like you to:**

- Be passionate about educating children
- Be willing to learn about how education works in Kenya
- Be able to effectively communicate with groups and individuals
- Understand what education can do for invisible children and see the potential in each child
- Ignite the education fire in potential donors & sponsors, working in cooperation with our Fundraising Fanatic
- Create an education program that is functional, scalable and achievable with minimal resources
- Research all aspects of opening a school in Kenya, and develop a plan of attack
- Use social media and other digital means to communicate our program to the general public
- Have a reliable vehicle and a valid drivers license
- Submit a recent clean Vulnerable Sector Criminal Reference Check

**To apply for any of these volunteer positions, please submit your resume and a cover letter explaining why you are the right person for this job and how you think you can help our children.**

**Email your application to [sonya@safehavenkids.org](mailto:sonya@safehavenkids.org)**

## HOUSEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

- Moved into permanent housing from temporary rental
- New beds, mattresses, bedding, shelving & storage containers for the bedrooms



- Wired the house and hooked up electricity
- House secured with fence and gate and fenced in the backyard
- Rainwater collection system installed with tap access
- Library built with a study table. New books, shelves and decor coming at year end
- Covered courtyard space to provide shelter when raining and allow for more outdoor activities during that time
- Community improvement by fixing the bridge to the communal well
- Replaced the doors on the bathrooms
- Began digging an on-site well with a bigger water collection tank & electric pump



## GENERAL CHANGES

- Medical insurance for children and workers, with everyone receiving regular medical check ups and routine vaccinations, as well as emergency care as needed
- Birth Certificate applications submitted for every child
- Chickens, goats & rabbits on site with hutches

built by the children, with chickens producing eggs to supplement the menu

- Producing our own maize, beans, veggies with enough to sell to pay for ongoing costs of farming in the next season - Farming ROI is positive on each plot
- Upgraded menu for the children with more variety and more balance



- Feeding local children and seniors who go without
- Purchased bibles for each child
- Purchased Safe Haven branded t-shirts for the children and t-shirts & sweatshirts for the workers
- Two caregivers completed the St. John Ambulance First Aid Training

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Every child in school and improving in grades
- Boys taking initiative and doing construction on their own (ie. Gazebo in backyard and the hutch for animals)



- Farming and husbandry skills being taught to all children with a vet brought on-site to vaccinate and care for our animals



- Community Christmas with gift hampers for those in need
- Community shoes & blanket outreach



- Supported a family in crisis while mom was absent (beginning stages of the foster program)
- Provided counselling (through the church) for the children who require ongoing assistance
- Everyone received new gum boots, school shoes, sandals, backpacks
- Girls began a Hairdressing/Hair Care Course with a local salon owner & teacher



- Had our eldest child (Age 20) decide to make the transition from living at the home to independent life outside of Safe Haven
- Secured a tutor for extra school instruction when needed
- Sent 15 children to International & Music Camp in December
- Four children adopted out of the home by their biological uncle and moved to his new home

### **ADMINISTRATION**

- Incorporated as Federal Non-Profit (9487239 Canada Foundation) & voted in Board Members

- Passed our Bylaws and submitted to Industry Canada
- Charitable application document written, submitted and awaiting approval
- Initial 10 year plan established with more work required to determine the exact course for the home
- Opened up a credit card processing account
- Website up and running with SSL protocols and redirection to our credit card processor for accepting payments
- Secured a Canadian lawyer to represent Safe Haven in Canada
- Made contact with a recommended Kenyan lawyer to represent Safe Haven in Kenyan transactions
- Beginning fundraising program with small success
- Public talk about Safe Haven to a small group of individuals
- Developed standards for communication and reporting between Canada and Kenya
- Issued monthly financial reports to the board
- Created an easier way to transfer budget money to Kenya and decreased monthly transfer fees
- Ascertained the true cost of running the home and caring for the children
- Created a preliminary method of accounting for donations, creating allowances for future plans
- Two Canadian Board Members visited Safe Haven twice to check on the progress and the children
- Developed a gift giving program to be implemented on the website and in a small brochure format



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## SAFE HAVEN VISION FOR 2017

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### DIG A WELL & INSTALL A PUMP

In 2016, we installed a water catchment system on the property to better deal with the rain runoff, and allow us to use the rainwater for general purposes around the compound. We have recently been approached by a member of our community who specializes in digging well bore holes. He is donating his time and equipment to dig our bore hole for free. The digging commenced on December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and will take a week or so to complete. We will then purchase a new, larger water tank, an electric pump (thanks to our recent installation of electricity at the home) and run piping from the tank to the bathrooms and kitchen. The children will finally have the opportunity to shower with running water instead of using buckets of rainwater. This is especially important when we don't have an abundance of rain, and then we have to line up at the community well in order to get water for the day. Some days they wake up extra early to go line up and wait their turn to fill the water buckets for the day. This will also make water more accessible for our local community members and seniors who might find it difficult to navigate the hill down to the communal well. The cost of this project is around \$1000 with the cost of digging being donated.

### MAIZE GRINDER



**Typical Maize Grinder Set Up**

One of the goals at Safe Haven is to reduce the operating costs by finding ways to do more of the work in-house.

On a regular basis, we take our dried maize to a local shop to have it ground into flour to use for meals at the home. This adds to the cost of our meals in a significant way and we lose the chaff that is left after the grinding which can be used to feed the chickens.

If we purchase a maize grinder for the home, we will not only be able to grind our own maize, but we will have significant savings in our meal expenses and the chaff left over will provide us with feed for the chickens, thus reducing our chicken maintenance costs. Overall, the cost of installing this piece of equipment will be approximately \$2000, and then we will build a small shed on the property to house this, which can be done for \$500.

### MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Safe Haven works to equip our children with a whole host of relevant skills, as well as a community of people that will surround and support them as they are growing up and when they leave our care to be adults in their village. One of the ways we do that is to find groups that have goals which match and support our intent, and then create a working relationship with them to support our children.

Over the past year, we have been following the works of a group called Alongsiders. They are based in British Columbia, and they are a mentorship program that operates in various locations across the world. To quote their website, they “...equip compassionate young Christians in poor nations to walk alongside those who walk alone: to love, welcome and encourage the most vulnerable children and orphans, in their own communities.”

They have recently expanded into Kenya, and we think that Safe Haven would be a good opportunity for them to expand further, but on a small scale. In the new year, we will be reaching out to them to discuss partnership opportunities and to see how we can further both of our objectives as community-based organizations.

### LIBRARY EXPANSION

In April, we started to build a library for the children to use for studying. We have the room ready, and a large study table in the space for them to use. The next step is to build enclosed bookcases and fill them with textbooks and reading materials. We would like to purchase one





**Children playing in front of the library**

copy of every textbook required for every single grade, along with all the additional reading materials that the children will use throughout the year. Eventually we would like to give them a library with an assortment of novels and magazines, in addition to the educational books. The initial outlay to build the bookcases and fill the shelves with the textbooks will cost us around \$1200. We would then like to put school-related posters on the walls, and install a chalkboard for the tutor to come and use. This will cost us an additional \$300. Having a library at the home allows our children to study on their own time, without the stress of having to come home in the dark after staying late at school. It also allows the children to study together in grade-appropriate groups along with a tutor, as needed. The older children will also have opportunities to share their gifts and learning experiences with the younger children, in order to help them out with their studies as well. The library is a very community-based location that will benefit the whole home.

## CHANGES TO SPONSORSHIP

The typical sponsorship model with charities similar to ours works on a one-to-one sponsorship basis. Sponsors are matched with a child and a relationship between sponsor and child is encouraged. Even though this is the model that Safe Haven employed initially it is not the model we have decided to move forward with. We feel the loss of individual sponsors is felt to deeply by both the child and the organization as a whole. Our goal is always to provide each child under our care with a consistent level of love and support and while we have been grateful for individual sponsorships, their support is unpredictable and not always consistent (as sponsor

personal circumstances may change).

So we've come up with another model of sponsorship that we believe will work well for both the sponsors and the children.

Instead of individual sponsorship, we are moving to a household sponsorship model. Here's how it works:

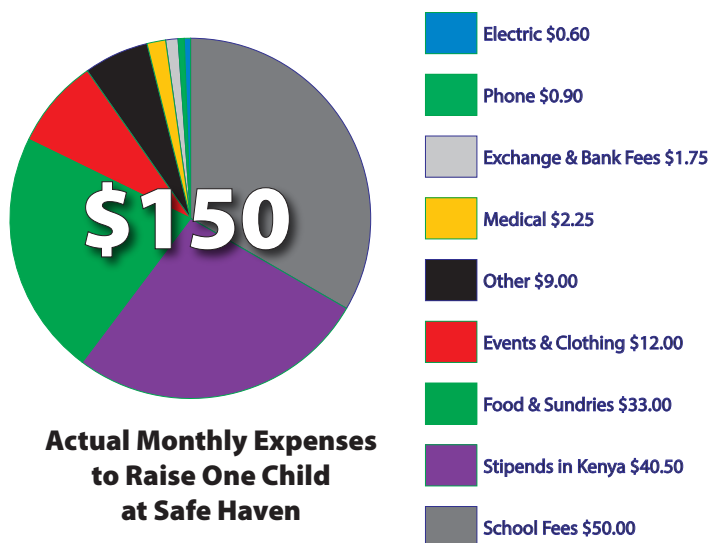
Children are grouped into households with a maximum of 8 children to every one adult (see diagram on the next page). This way the children are in a typical household environment, instead of a dormitory environment that is typical of orphanages.

Children are given the opportunity to spend time and develop a relationship with their caregiver on a more personal basis, knowing that they don't have to "compete" with many other children for the individual attention they require.

This also makes it easier to know when we can afford to expand and take on more children because we know how much money is required to build and run a household on a monthly basis.

It currently costs \$150 per child/month to supply all their needs and pay for the help to care for them. We will offer tiered sponsorship support levels to allow sponsors to choose whichever best fits their budget (see diagram "Helping our Community Bloom...").

Each sponsor will be encouraged to develop a relationship with the household of children and become a household supporter. However, if sponsors do not wish to develop this relationship or they choose to leave, then the loss is less acutely felt at the household level because the children still have a community of people supporting them.



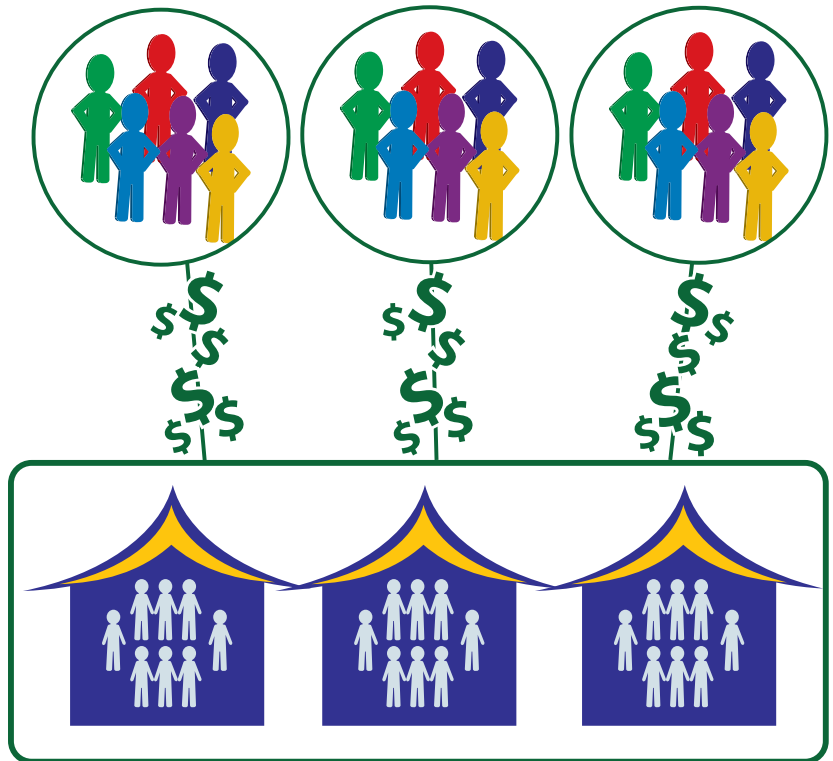
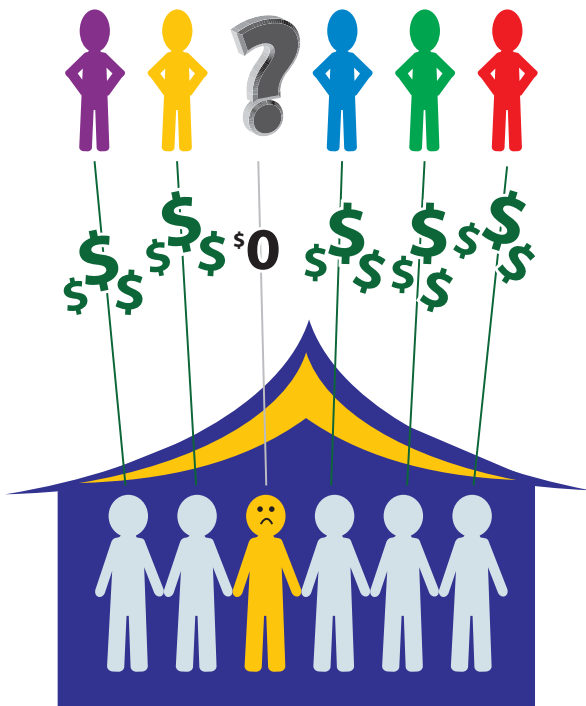
**Actual Monthly Expenses  
to Raise One Child  
at Safe Haven**

## New Community Sponsorship Model

Starting January 2017

A Community of Sponsors supporting a Community of Children

### Current 1:1 Sponsorship Model up to December 2016



**Existing financial monthly support: \$360 per household of 8 children**

**Actual Cost of running Safe Haven every month: \$1200 per household of 8 children**

*Households may have more sponsors than they do children, in order to meet the financial requirements.*

All sponsorship money is split up evenly among the running of the households. Each household has the same budget guidelines to follow. Each household group will continue to be part of the bigger Safe Haven community and will continue to share communal items such as playgrounds, cooking areas, and living areas, etc.

### STIPEND CHANGES

In order to attract qualified people to help out at Safe Haven, we must offer a competitive reimbursement package for their time and efforts. Currently, our package consists of the following:

#### Caregiver Role

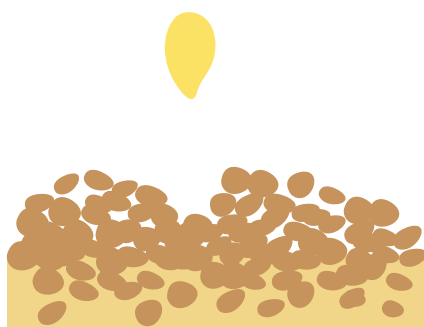
- 6000 Kenyan Shillings/month (approximately \$85 CAD/month)
- Christmas bonus of one extra month of stipend
- Lodging & Food for the caregiver (and their children living at the home)

- Medical Insurance for the caregiver (and their children living at the home)

A good wage in Kenya is around 15,000 KES/month (approximately \$200 CAD/month), and we would like to be able to increase our stipends to this amount to give people more of a living wage. This will not only give our caregivers more financial freedom, but will also allow them to have some savings for a time when they are no longer living in and caring for the children at Safe Haven.

The cost of this increase to the caregiver role is included in the \$150 needed to support a child every month. We will not be able to increase this financial support until we have an increase in the number of supporters for the home. We hope that our support base will increase when we get our charitable status with the CRA.

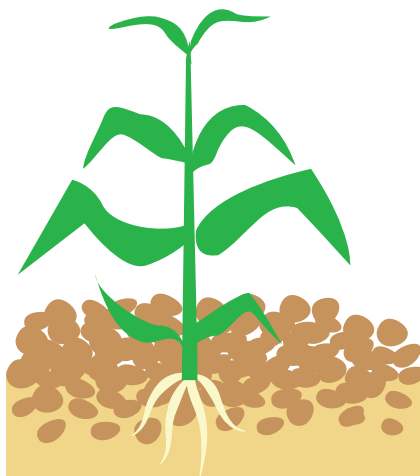
# Helping our community to bloom and grow, one seedling at a time.



## SEEDLING

Food & Sundries _____	\$33.00
Birthday, Christmas & Clothes	\$12.00
Medical Insurance _____	\$2.25
Electricity _____	\$0.60
Phone _____	\$0.90
Other _____	\$1.25

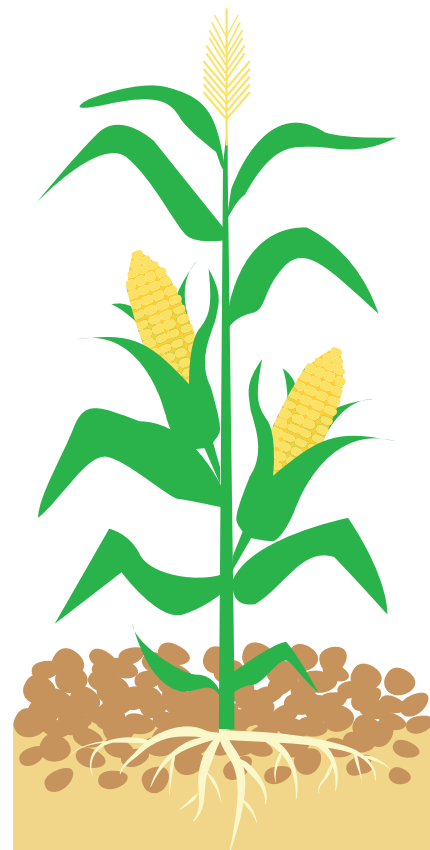
**Total \$50**



## GROWTH

Food & Sundries _____	\$33.00
Birthday, Christmas & Clothes	\$12.00
Medical Insurance _____	\$2.25
Electricity _____	\$0.60
Phone _____	\$0.90
Other/Incidentals _____	\$9.00
Exchange/Bank Fees _____	\$1.75
Stipends _____	\$40.50

**Total \$100**



## FLOURISH

Food & Sundries _____	\$33.00
Birthday, Christmas & Clothes	\$12.00
Medical Insurance _____	\$2.25
Electricity _____	\$0.60
Phone _____	\$0.90
Other/Incidentals _____	\$9.00
Exchange/Bank Fees _____	\$1.75
Stipends _____	\$40.50
School Fees _____	\$50.00

**Total \$150**

*Our New Model of Sponsorship with Tiered Support Levels*



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## FINANCIAL REPORTING

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*Reporting from October 2015 - December 2016*

	<b>Dec 31/2016</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$3,042.41
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$3,042.41</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts Payable	\$0.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	
Allocated	\$2,797.97
Unallocated	\$244.44
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,042.41</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Contributions	\$43,528.89
Fundraising Events	\$2,874.00
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$46,402.89</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Operating Expenses	\$11,915.00
Education Fees	\$9,998.68
Bank Charges	\$35.00
Money Transfer Costs	\$137.90
Merchant Charges	\$64.67
Other Expenses*	\$21,209.23
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$43,360.48</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,042.41</b>

\*Other expenses include:

- Birthday and Christmas celebrations
- Medical Insurance & other medical related expenses
- Electricity installation
- Other miscellaneous expenses