



MARY LOU KALLA FOUNDATION, INC

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December 2021

Dear Friends of Mary Lou Kalla Foundation:

We wish you all warmth, prosperity, good health and pray that you have been able to enjoy time with your loved ones this holiday season.

With COVID-19 still posing a significant risk to countries around the world, Mary Lou Kalla Foundation (MLKF) has been working to continue our support to the people of Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, and Malawi in Africa.

MLKF accelerated our work in Bangladesh by providing a \$20,000.00 grant towards a community center for the tribal people in Bandarban, Chittagong Hill Tracts. This center will focus and teach them about the educational, social, and health issues affecting their tribal community.

With your generous support, MLKF was able to forge a partnership with The Rotary Club of Calgary, Canada to support The Motion Project in Sri Lanka (Ceylon). This project will provide 3-D printing technology, training, and materials for our partner prosthesis clinic (The Colombo Friend-in-Need Society). Using this grant, the clinic will be able to provide accurately fitting prosthetic devices much more quickly than previously possible.

This year, MLKF provided support to the Village of Kachebere in Malawi, Africa with a grant for building 2 water retention ponds in collaboration with Fr. Chris Arockiaraj from The Catholic University of America in Washington D.C. The work of building the ponds will start next year.

Our support towards the construction of the Library extension is in its final phase. Fr. Agnel College in Goa, India expects to complete the library extension project this year. MLKF has already donated over \$62,500.00 for this project.

We would like to thank our generous donors for their financial support and dedication in supporting our work over the years. We are also grateful to Donald De Alwis of The Motion Project in partnering with us to work in Sri Lanka, and for supporting in the creation of this newsletter.

We are also immensely grateful to Ranak Martin D'Cruze for volunteering his time and resources for building the MLKF Website and to continue as our Webmaster. As a result, MLKF will now be able to share current news with our donors and supporters. We can now accept donations via credit cards.

MLKF is a volunteer run 501(3) nonprofit organization and is funded exclusively through your generous donations. We look forward to your continued support for our efforts to uplift the lives of the most vulnerable by making a tax-deductible gift to Mary Lou Kalla Foundation, Inc.

BOARD MEMBERS OF MARY LOU KALLA FOUNDATION WISH YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A PEACEFUL AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

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IN MEMORIAM

Reverend Kenneth Thielman and Mary Ann Young were very much involved with various projects within the Mary Lou Kalla Foundation from its inception in December of 2007. We will continue to keep them in our thoughts as a constant source of inspiration to all of us.



Rev. Kenneth Thielman
Born: 16 August 1928, MN
Died: 21 May 2021
Melrose, Minnesota, USA



Mary Ann Young
Born: 1 August 1926, IN
Died: 3 October 2021
Rockville, Maryland, USA

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation gives over \$ 62,000.00 grants towards the library expansion at Fr. Agnel College in Pilar, Goa, India



Front view - unfinished



Inside extension - unfinished



Steps without hand railings - unfinished



Side view - unfinished

In December 2019, MLKF took upon an initiative to support the construction of a much-needed Library at the Fr. Agnelo College of Arts and Commerce, in Pilar Goa, India; wherein many of the students are academically below average as well as socially and economically disadvantaged. This college, established in 1991, is an extension of the Fr. Agnel High School founded in 1953. MLKF Treasurer, Agnelo Gonsalves, graduated from this school in 1971.

The college is affiliated with the Goa University and nationally accredited by National Accreditation and Assessment Council of India (NAAC). In 2019 NAAC asked the college to increase the sitting capacity of the existing library to meet the demands of the growing student community.

When planning began, it was understood that the library project would be completed by June 2021. However, after the groundbreaking in February 2020, the project encountered several slowdowns, stoppages, cost overruns, hardships, etc. because of shortages of labor and distressed contractors due to the pains from the ongoing difficult pandemic. It is now projected that it could be completed within a month or two. Major construction work, as evidenced from the pictures is completed. Only some finishing type of work remains for which additional funding is needed.

The library when completed, besides it uses for studies and research, will also be a source for the students and the surrounding communities to gain knowledge and enhance their skills by organizing development and enrichment classes focused on music, communication, and social advancement

We appreciate the generous contributions from our donors and look forward to your continued support to complete the remaining work. For information or to make a project specific donation, please contact:

Agnelo Gonsalves, CPA – MLKF Treasurer
at: agg2100@gmail.com

Summary of MLKF grants:

June	2020	\$20,570.55
January	2021	\$21,195.00
August	2021	\$20,735.73
Total		\$62,501.28

MARY LOU KALLA FOUNDATION DONATES \$2,000.00 for 2 WATER-RETENTION PONDS FOR FARMERS IN MALAWI, AFRICA

MLKF took another step for the first time to extend their helping hands for the people of the Village of Kachebere in Malawi, Africa. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in Africa and the world.

We are proud to take the “Water for Life” initiative whose goal is to resurrect the dormant farmlands in the village with the water retention ponds each costing about \$1,000.00. The ponds will enrich the farmland to produce fruitful crops to sell in the local community. The farmers will benefit growing their crops since water is so precious and in short supply in that area. We thank Fr. Chris Arockiaraj from The Catholic University of America for initiating this project and raising more than \$10,000.00 for 10 retention ponds for the village. MLKF is happy to be a part of this small project for the farmers and the village residents.



Dry fields



Water retention pond

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation partners with The Rotary Club of Calgary, Canada to fund 3-D printed Prosthetic Devices through The Motion Project in Sri Lanka.



3-D Prosthetic Devices

The Motion Project has supported the social and educational welfare of disabled students in Sri Lanka since 2014. For the past several years, The Motion Project has worked towards supporting our partner clinic – The Colombo Friend in Need Society (CFINS) – to make prosthetic devices more accessible for recipients in need. Our mutual answer? 3-D scanning of a recipient limb, and 3-D printing of the subsequent prosthetic device. These combined solutions will improve fit and increase production speed, allowing more individuals to receive well-fitting limbs. This is particularly important for children, who outgrow prosthetic devices frequently and require new limbs often. This year, MLKF has partnered with The Rotary Club of Calgary, Canada to provide funding towards this long-awaited 3-D printing project for CFINS. With the support of The Rotary Club and fund-matching, a total of \$115,000 will be provided to our partner clinic. The next stage of this project is for Nia Technologies, the equipment supplier, to conduct a site visit to our partner clinic in Sri Lanka before sending the described materials. We are tremendously grateful for the generous support of our donors to help us play a role in this incredible partnership, and we look forward to seeing this project through to its completion.

Mary Lou Kalla Foundation (MLKF) gives a grant of \$20,000.00 to FIAT Center in Bandarban, Chittagong, Bangladesh for the tribal communities



Seminar room furnitures



Overhead projector with big screen

MLKF had received a request from Archbishop Moses Costa to provide the Fiat Center with furniture and training equipment in the beginning of 2020. However, Archbishop Moses died in June of 2020 due to Covid 19. We decided to continue support his request to help pay for the furniture and training equipments. The center also purchased dining room furniture and beds for the participants who come from distant villages from the hill tracts and stay at the center for a few days. This center is used to host seminars for educational, health and social issues affecting the tribal community who lack education and many of them are still farming and working as day laborers. The Center purchased 60 single beds with sheets and pillows, 12 large dining tables, 100 chairs, 30 conference tables, multimedia projector and a projection screen. This center was built to enrich and uphold the culture and heritage of the tribal people of the Chittagong Hill Tracts through education and research. The center has already hosted several training programs for the tribal community. The center is also being rented out to Non Governmental Offices (NGO) and other organizations to help partially pay for the cost of maintaining the center's monthly expenses.



Dining room furnitures



New Beds

PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTION TODAY

***** Donation is 100% tax deductible*****

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