

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2007**

**Presented at the HumanServe Annual General Meeting  
February 24, 2008 – Julie's Bistro**

*Submitted by Vanessa Ali, President*

In 2006–2007, HumanServe continued its mandate to provide relief and development overseas and to educate the Canadian public with regards to conditions of life for disadvantaged populations in the Middle East. With public engagement, this society endeavoured to outline the role HumanServe plays in helping to alleviate suffering and in facilitating development in partnership with NGOs in the field and the role played by Canadian funding agencies. The following is a summary of the most significant events in this society's past fiscal year (October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007):

## **Projects**

**Sikkeh Water Network** - This HumanServe project provides a network of underground pipes that bring clean water from the Sikkeh Well to each individual household in Sikkeh refugee camp (see above). Due to the war in Lebanon during the summer of 2006, the project was disrupted and some supplies were lost due to an air strike on the camp. Funds were secured to clean-up the debris, replace the supplies that were destroyed and to continue the project. A total of \$48,902 in casino funds has been used for this project in 2005-06. An additional \$33,270.00 was spent in 2006-2007 to complete the network and cover post-war cost overruns. Project is on-going into 2008. Despite all unforeseen set-backs, this project is very successful and has made a huge difference in the lives of the unregistered refugee community that it serves.

**Dyslexia and Slow-Learning Treatment Training Project** - This HumanServe project provides treatment and rehabilitation for approximately 2,000 marginalized children with dyslexia living in the West Bank, Palestine. The program is being run by a team of six treatment specialists working in UNWRA schools in 13 refugee camps with the goal of mainstreaming the children back into regular classrooms armed with their new learning and coping skills. The project was kick-started in May 2007 with a \$2,800 community-based donation that was earmarked for this project. Project is on-going into 2008 with HumanServe funds and a matching grant from the Wild Rose Foundation. All reports back from the field highlight the success of this project and the enthusiasm of UNWRA to designate future funding for the program in their schools after HumanServe funding has ceased.

## **Fundraising**

1. **Just Christmas Sale** – November 17 & 18, 2006. We sold product from Palestine and Lebanon and met with the usual success in terms of enthusiasm for our products and public engagement. Product was purchased in Palestine and shipped by Mahmuda Ali and purchased in Lebanon by Nizar & Vanessa Ali. \$4,353 was raised at this event, \$1,128 more than the previous fiscal year.

**Zakat** – \$500 was donated. This is the same as the previous year.

**United Way Great Human Race** – \$1,243 was raised through pledges made to the HumanServe team. This was the first time we participated in this event and it was very successful.

**General Donations** - \$1,162 in unsolicited general donations was made this year. This is up \$667 from the previous year.

**Emergency Funds for Lebanon** - \$9,559 was raised to send overseas to our partner PARD to alleviate the short-term suffering of persons displaced by the war with Israel. \$8,709 of the total was donated by Mohammed Mouallem through his Wristband Campaign.

## Field Visits

No overseas field visits were made by board members from Canada during this reporting period. HumanServe volunteers Mahumda Ali and Rita Hamdan have been visiting and monitoring and overseeing our projects in the field in Palestine and Lebanon respectively.

## Public Engagement

**Web Site** (www.HumanServe.org) - Our site continues to be an efficient form of public engagement as well as a time and money-saving administrative tool.

**Children of War Torn Countries** – Vanessa Ali made a presentation on Humanserve's behalf to the public regarding our health and education projects overseas. Half the money collected at this fundraiser was donated to HumanServe and earmarked for our Dyslexia Project.

**September 11: Reflections on Race & Rights Five Years On** (Anti-Racism & Decolonization Network) – Vanessa Ali presented a paper, "Funding for Aid and Development Post 9/11" at the University of Alberta.

**Maher Arar: "Civil Liberties and National Security"** (11<sup>th</sup> Annual Political Science Distinguished Lecture) – Vanessa Ali was invited to represent HumanServe at Mr. Arar's keynote address and at the private reception held following the presentation.

## Audit

HumanServe's balance sheets for the 2006-2007 fiscal year were maintained by Vanessa Ali, reviewed by Tracy Shaben and Nizar Ali and Financial Statements were prepared by Phillet & McLennan Chartered Accountants (see attached copy). Summary is as follows:

### Designated Activities

1. The *Sikkeh Water Network Project* is entirely funded by HumanServe. The project began in 2005/06 and continues into 2007/08. All direct-to-project funds have been sent overseas and we await the final report from the HumanServe volunteer. The following have been carried over to the 2007/08 fiscal year:
  - \$286.90 of administrative funds
  - \$1,130.95 of monitoring funds
2. The *Dyslexia and Slow-Learning Treatment Training Project* is funded by HumanServe, a community-based donation and a matching grant from the Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta. The project began in 2006/07 and continues into 2007/08. A \$2,800 initial project payment was sent overseas on May 25, 2007. All remaining funds are direct-to-project and will be sent overseas during the 2007/08 & 2008/09 reporting periods.
3. The fundraising activities conducted through the Designated Funds Account were:
  - \$500 for Zakat – not remitted in the 2006/07 fiscal year and has been carried over into 2007/08.
  - \$9,559 for *Emergency Relief Funds for Lebanon* - \$850 of the total was not remitted in the 2006/07 fiscal year and has been carried over into 2007/08

A deficit of receipts over disbursements of \$32,066 was deducted from interfund transfers of \$33,315 from the Casino Account allocated for projects, leaving a surplus of \$1,249. This was added to the brought forward balance of \$4,386 resulting in a **total surplus of \$5,635 for the projects which carry over into the 2007/08 fiscal year.**

**Restricted Casino Activities**

There was a casino held at Baccarat Casino on April 29 & 30, 2007. During the year, the following expenses were incurred:

• administration expenses	\$ 1,147.00
• telephone bills	\$ 772.00
• bank charges	\$ 98.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,017.00</b>

There was interest income of \$1,064.

The net result for the year after accounting for an inter-fund transfer of \$33,315 to the designated account for approved use of casino funds for overseas projects and an excess of receipts over disbursements of \$70,934 means that there was a \$37,619 surplus.

The surplus was added to the brought forward balance of \$68,399 resulting in a **total surplus of \$106,018 available for future administration, office expenses and public engagement costs and project funds.**

**General Fund**

This year, we had a surplus of receipts over disbursements of \$3,924 and there were no inter-fund transfers required. The total surplus of \$3,924 added to the brought forward balance of \$2,120 results in a **total surplus of \$6,044 available for use as the board see fit.**

**Funds Available**

The funds available for future activities are as follows:

General Fund	\$ 6,044.00
Designated Fund	\$ 5,635.00
Casino Fund	\$ 106,018.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 117,697.00</b>

In the coming year, HumanServe will continue to support our partners overseas, raise monies for new projects and keep our funders and the Canadian public informed of our activities and about the humanitarian aspects of life for disadvantaged populations in the Middle East. We remain committed to exploring new direction for HUMANSERVE in our effort to grow and sustain this society's vitality and we are ready to forge relationships with deserving new partners as the opportunities arise. Possible future projects include the following:

- BioSand water filter (CASWT) train-the-trainer and filter manufacturing for household water treatment
- Emergency Relief for Gaza
- Hygiene Kits for Nahr El-Bared Camp

These proposals will be initiated when the opportune time and need arises – as identified by our partners and contacts overseas and as confirmed by HumanServe members on field visits.