Welcome to the second Edmund Rice Development Newsletter of 2018.

We do hope you will enjoy reading the news from our projects and some of the stories of the wonderful activities taking place in support of Edmund Rice Mission.

Our project coordinator Michael Hanly shares an update from his visit to Kenya this past spring. He visited the Ruben Centre and Education for Life before attending the Mission Capacity Support Team’s biannual meeting.

You can also read an update on the impact of the work of our partners the Edmund Rice Justice Desk in South Africa and Changa Changa School in Zambia.

Nicole Andrews, a First-Year Marino student, undertook an internship with ERD this past Spring and her report is inside – we thank Nicole for her wonderful contribution.

Later this year, Edmund Rice Development turns ten and we will be commemorating this anniversary by highlighting the impact of our partner projects over the past decade. Stay tuned in the coming months for information on this celebration.

Once again sincere thanks for your ongoing support and interest in Edmund Rice Mission, and our very best wishes to you and yours for a rewarding and fulfilling year ahead.

Jenni Barrett
Chief Executive

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CONTACT US
Email: office@edmundricedevelopment.org
Phone: +353 (0)1 819 6782
Our Project Coordinator Michael Hanly (pictured above in Eldoret) visited Kenya in April for the Ruben Centre, a monitoring visit to Education for Life (EFL) and to represent ERD at the Mission Capacity Support Team workshop.

The Ruben Centre is located in the Mukuru community in Nairobi, and provides quality education, health, financial and social services to children and families. Michael met various people at the Ruben Centre’s Health Clinic, which initially began in a tin shed in 1992. A new clinic was built in 2003, and since then it offers a range of services, which include: outpatient services, nutrition services, asthma clinic, child welfare clinic, antenatal clinic, cervical/breast cancer screening, laboratory services, TB clinic, dental care, reproductive health and has a well equipped pharmacy.

Michael met staff members at the Ruben Centre and witnessed the great work happening there. Programme Manager Liz Mwangi (pictured below) gave Michael a tour of the community health clinic.

Michael also met with Dr. Zippora Njeri, Director of the Health Centre, who has been supporting the expansion of the maternity services provided at the clinic, and Belinda Kamuni who is the HIV Testing Coordinator and Child Protection Officer at the centre.

Michael then traveled to Eldoret, Kenya to visit the Education for Life (EFL) programme. EFL focuses on offering psycho-social support to people living with HIV and AIDS. The programme aims to empower people with life skills and knowledge to make informed and sustainable decision for a healthy lifestyle. EFL support approximately 450 families, and also supports over 600 orphaned and vulnerable children affected by HIV by providing them with food and assistance with school fees, materials and uniforms.

Michael was able to attend one of the weekly meetings of the Savings Income and Loans Club (pictured above) at EFL. This club is part of the larger economic empowerment activity taking place, and has been a success at EFL. The club provides saving and lending services for essential needs, and for the running of small livelihood enterprises. Michael was also treated to a performance by EFL’s award-winning choir.

We thank all those at the Ruben Centre and Education for Life for their warm welcome.
On the 30th of June, the Edmund Rice Justice Desk led a community march through Bontenewel protesting ongoing gang violence in the Western Cape. During the march, shots could be heard in the area, highlighting the urgent need for change. In October last year, 66 child murders were recorded in the area.

The Justice Desk organised this march with young people and local community members to amplify their voices to demand their right to feel safe in their own homes. Executive Director Jessica Dewhurst signed the Justice Desk Bonteheuwel Peace memorandum alongside leading police and community members and handed it over to the South Africa Police Service (SAPS) and government counselors demanding that the community get a police station in order to protect the people of the area.

“Enough is enough and the children of Bonteheuwel deserve a safe home and community where their rights are protected!” Jessica Dewhurst, Executive Director, Edmund Rice Justice Desk

The march has been a success. The police invited the Justice Desk to a meeting following the protest, where they promised: to increase police presence in the Bonteheuwel community immediately; to set up a fully functioning satellite police station in the area; and to begin lobbying provincial SAPS in order to build a new police station in the community. After many years of lobbying and fighting for the rights of this community, progress is being made.

The Edmund Rice Justice Desk team ready for the Bontenewel Peace March

The Peace March was covered by several South African news outlets, including the eNCA network

The Justice Desk is an award-winning human rights organisation which operates in South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe working to empower local people to understand and defend their human rights. They educate, train, advocate for and equip youth, vulnerable groups, civil society, and governments in human rights, justice and advocacy. The Justice Desk works primarily in township areas and vulnerable communities, empowering and equipping local people with the necessary skills and platforms to transform society in a sustainable way and create a more just and equal world.
The Mission Capacity Support Team (MCST) met in April for an intensive week of meetings in Kenya. MCST members from all over the world came together and gathered in Nairobi for a productive and practical week of meetings and training. The objective of the week was to review and identify ways to strengthen and effectively deliver local capacity plans for 2018 while learning new skills and receiving training on Monitoring and Evaluation, Project Financial Management, diversifying funding strategies, Logframes and Results-Based Management and Effective Communication platforms.

ERD’s Project Coordinator Michael Hanly represented ERD and participated in the meetings and training, along with Emily Faller from Edmund Rice Foundation Australia and the 15 MCST participants. While much work is done during the year via Skype, peer-group meetings and regional gatherings, coming together twice a year is extremely beneficial for everyone to learn, and ‘to share in the common goal of making Edmund Rice Mission in Development Projects more impactful and accountable, being honest about our abilities and challenges and supporting each other as peers using the distributive leadership model.’

In November 2017, ERD donors supported the renovations of three pre-school classrooms and the toilet block at Changa Changa School. The renovated three classrooms received new ceiling boards, repaired window frames, replaced broken window panes and dilapidated doors, repaired electrical wiring of the rooms, rehabilitated floors and freshly painted walls.

“Before the class was renovated, it was often dark, dusty and cold, especially in rainy season. From the time the classroom was renovated, the classroom is conducive and favourable for the learners because they no longer feel cold.” Ms. Sakala, Pre-School Teacher

In Lusaka and some areas of Mazabuka district, there was an outbreak of Cholera in 2017 caused by poor sanitary conditions. There was no outbreak of cholera at Changa Changa School because of good sanitary conditions created by the rehabilitation of the toilets and classrooms. The improved school environment as a result of renovating the three classrooms and toilet block has motivated both the learners and teachers to concentrate on learning and teaching respectively.

Our sincere thanks to our donors and funders for generously supporting the Changa Changa School.
Internship Experience at ERD

Edmund Rice Development was delighted to host first-year Marino student Nicole Andrews for a weeklong internship earlier this year. During her time with ERD, Nicole assisted our programme team in researching new funders, received a tour of the Edmund Rice House by Br. Donal Blake, and visited O’Connell’s Boys Primary school and meet their principal Patsy O’Keefe – all while gaining valuable professional experience working in a non-profit organisation.

In her own words:

I was given a list of funding bodies to research to see if Edmund Rice Development and its partner projects met the funding criteria. On Monday, there were 30 names on the spreadsheet. By Friday, there were 100. I checked the programmes that needed funding and added notes into the spreadsheet of what donor I thought would be a good fit. I think that the work I was doing over the five days was very useful for the organisation because they can now easily search donors and have their contact details, the areas that they fund and a link to their website all on one page. I found looking up the different websites very interesting as I was able to research areas in which I had an interest, including women’s rights, child education and equality, while also learning about new donors and foundations that actively respond to poverty, inequality and injustice.

I learned a lot of new information throughout the week placement, not only in the way that an office environment works but also how non-profits work, how programmes receive their funding, and the history of Blessed Edmund Rice and the Christian Brothers. By visiting O’Connell Primary School, I witnessed childhood education and how the school helps children learn and grow. Overall, I had a very good experience with the Edmund Rice Development team and I have learned a lot not only about the organisation, but also about myself.

We thank Nicole for her valuable contribution to Edmund Rice Development, and we look forward to utilising her research this funding season. We wish Nicole all the best in her future endeavours.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Update

You may have heard about the new General Data Protection Regulation that came into effect in Europe on May 25, 2018. In order to comply with the new regulation, ERD updated our Privacy Policy to reflect the new data requirements. The Privacy Policy contains updated information on our use of your data, our policy on website cookies and information on how to raise a data complaint.

Our policy can be found on our website at this address: www.edmundricedevelopment.org/privacy-policy-terms-and-conditions

As a supporter of Edmund Rice Development, we want to ensure that you are the first to hear our latest news, information about our partner projects and the impact of Edmund Rice Mission globally. If you would like to receive news via email, please sign up via our website or send a note to office@edmundricedevelopment.org and we will add you to our email database. Please do let us know if you have any questions regarding the new GDPR regulations.
St. Aidan’s CBS supports Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School in Tanzania

In November 2017, a group from St. Aidan’s CBS travelled to Arusha, Tanzania on their fifth immersion trip led by teachers Hannah McDonnell, Patricia Nash, Emma O’Dell, and Paul Ward. The students spent a week at Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School where they met students, attended class, and even played football against the Sinon team (and won!). The immersion trip gave the students an introduction to the developing world, and an insight into the realities of everyday life in Tanzania.

In March 2018, the students presented Edmund Rice Development with a cheque for €7,000 in support of Edmund Rice Sinon Secondary School in Arusha, Tanzania. This will provide sponsorship for Sinon students to complete their education. We thank St. Aidan’s CBS for their continued support of Sinon Secondary School!

The students put together a moving account of their journey in the article below:

Eleven months later, Immersion 2017 is complete. The trip of a lifetime is complete. It still has not sunk in. The most amazing experience we’ve ever had is over. On Friday, 27th of October, eighteen students and four teachers set off for Tanzania in Eastern Africa. Emotions were running high as we all began to speculate about what exactly this foreign land would be like. The reality of our visit was beyond any of our expectations.

We attended Sinon High School, a secondary school under the trusteeship of Edmund Rice. We were paired up with a student doing similar subjects to ourselves. Everyone at the school was so welcoming, and quite thrilled to meet us. It certainly made our induction easier. Mid-way through the week, we played a football match against the students at Sinon. With four previous years of defeat, our captain Adam Duffy led us to victory. The buzz was brilliant around the school that day as we joked with the students and formed a bond that, when it came to parting ways, we couldn’t help but break down in tears. Our week in Sinon was accompanied with a bunch of wonderful experiences.

There’s no doubt that each and every one of us took something special from this experience. It’s been the most captivating journey of our lives. We’ve made memories and friendships to last a lifetime, and I’d like to say that we’ve made a difference in someone’s life. Summing the experience up like this will never give it justice. The journey was, for the most part, a frenzy of emotions, blended with laughs and tears that we’ll cherish for the rest of our lives.

-Josh Moffatt (5 North)
Impact 2017
Year In Review

partners, projects and fundraising

supported
27 projects in 9 Countries

€414,763 distributed to education, community engagement, advocacy & capacity-building programmes and projects

Held Congregation Leadership Team and African Province Workshop

New ERD Team Recruited.

Ongoing Training and Mentoring

8 Mission Partner Governing Bodies

New Funder: COMBINED SERVICES THIRD WORLD FUND

Pipeline 2018

Zambian Brothers Visit
12 Schools Visited
2250 Pupils Reached

Journeying Together Appeal
€17,249 Raised for the Western Zambia Cluster

8

Mission Partner Governing Bodies

New Funder: COMBINED SERVICES THIRD WORLD FUND

Pipeline 2018

capacity-building

COLLABORATED WITH PARTNERS TO BUILD MISSION DEVELOPMENT CAPACITY

Contributed to Mission Capacity Development Plan

Senior ERD Programme Manager Seconded to MCST

Financial Administration and Governance

Participated in Core Gatherings

communications, organisational development and accountability


New Board Members Appointed

Established Governance, Finance and Audit and Development Subcommittees

6 In-Country Visits to Kenya, Tanzania, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Switzerland

Produced Donor Impact Report 2015-16

Upgraded ERD Website

6

In-Country Visits to Kenya, Tanzania, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Switzerland

New ERD Team Recruited. Ongoing Training and Mentoring

Support Us

Cheque (to be made payable to: Edmund Rice Development)

Visa Mastercard Debit Card

Other (please specify)

Please deduct the amount I have indicated from my credit/debit card as detailed above:

Card Number Expiry Date Security Code

Tax Relief for Taxpayers in the Republic of Ireland.

If you are an Irish PAYE taxpayer and donate €250 or more to Edmund Rice Development in any calendar year, your donation is eligible for tax relief. This means we can claim back the tax paid on your donation, resulting in the value of your donation being increased at no extra cost to you.

We would love to keep in touch to update you on how your support is making a difference and to let you know how you can stay involved in our fundraising and campaigns. Please let us know how we can keep in touch with you:

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Payment Method

Edmund Rice Development
Edmund Rice House
North Richmond Street
Dublin 1
Tel: +353 (0)1 819 6782
Charity Registration Number: CHY18492
Company Number: 463400
CRA Number: 20071004
Edmund Rice Development
Woodeaves
Hale Barns, Altrincham
Cheshire
WA15 0HF United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)161 904 0786
Charity Reg. No. CHY1098358
Co. Reg. No: 4229228
Email: office@edmundricedevelopment.org
Website: www.edmundricedevelopment.org

"As a Community Champion and a resident of the rural District of Western Province of Zambia, the Journeying Together programme has already impacted my life. Since the project was introduced I have witnessed improvements in the lives of people in our community. The programme’s focus on nutrition will help children grow well and have good health."

–Community Champion Mr. Raphael Kanduli (Limulunga)
Farewell to Br. Pat Madigan

We have been preparing to say goodbye to Br. Pat Madigan who will be shortly moving on from Edmund Rice House. Br. Pat has been the Community Leader of Edmund Rice House (where our offices are located) for the past six years. After our AGM meeting this past May, ERD hosted a lunch for Br. Pat with the Congregation Leadership Team and the Board Members, where we presented Pat with a special painting from Kenya in thanks.

Br. Pat has been a wonderful ‘landlord’ and friend to ERD and we will miss seeing him in the office every week. We wish him all the best with the next chapter of his life and hope he will continue to be a welcome visitor in the ERD offices.

In Memory: Br. Peter Cole

ERD was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Br. Peter Cole this past April.

Br. Peter had recently returned to his native Australia after nearly three decades spent living and serving in East Africa. Lovingly referred to as ‘Mzee’ (Swahili for elder) of the community, Br. Peter was a man full of spirit and spent his life in service to people made poor. Br. Peter will be very sorely missed by all who had the privilege to know and work with him, and his life and commitment to Edmund Rice Mission and the poor people of Kenya will continue to inspire many for years to come.

Our deepest sympathies extend to Br. Peter’s family, brothers and many friends, young and old. May he Rest in Peace.

Meet Donor Development Manager David Hughes

I am delighted to have joined Edmund Rice Development as Donor Development Manager. My connection to the Edmund Rice Network was being educated for primary school at St. Fintans’s CBS Sutton, before being educated for secondary school by the Jesuits and then obtaining a degree in pure history from Trinity College Dublin.

My background has been for many years in the commercial sector, working in the wholesale grocery sector in both Ireland and the United States. I have also been involved in the Mobile Phone market, with two companies, one of which was one of the first companies to introduce Mobile Top Ups to the Irish market. For the last three years I have been Chairperson of the Samaritans in Dublin. One area of responsibility with the Samaritans involved fundraising, as the organisation only received 14% of its funding from Central Government. Dublin is the second largest branch after London, within the organisation.

I hope to be able to draw on my experiences in both the private and voluntary sectors to explain Edmund Rice Mission to a wider audience and promote awareness amongst this audience to the great projects around the world that are being supported by Edmund Rice Development. I look forward to meeting as many people connected to Edmund Rice Development and the wider network in the coming months.