



Leaders and participants enjoying the recent Edmund Rice Karibu Camp, Kenya

Welcome to the first Edmund Rice Development Newsletter of 2018.

As we begin a new year, we would like to send a special thanks to you, our friends, donors and supporters for your ongoing kind support, and interest in Edmund Rice Mission around the world.

In this newsletter, we revisit one of our key partners, the *Journeying Together* programme in Western Zambia. Projects are now up and running in the local communities of Luampa, Limulunga, Senanga and Mongu and our project coordinator, Michael Hanly shares an update from his visit earlier this year. Thank you to all of our supporters who have generously donated to the vision of *Journeying Together* in Western Zambia.

In this issue you can also read an update on the impact of the work of our partners at the Edmund Rice Karibu Camps and the Mary Rice Day Care Centre, in Nairobi, Kenya. You will also hear from Elser Llanos, mission coordinator of the Latin American Region of the impact of recent training and capacity-building on his current role.

We at ERD and many throughout the Edmund Rice family were deeply saddened to say goodbye to our good friend and director, Br. Dan O'Keeffe, who died suddenly last year and who we remember.

Additionally, the Edmund Rice Development website [www.edmundricedevelopment.org](http://www.edmundricedevelopment.org) was recently relaunched in order to make the content easier to understand and navigate. If you have any feedback on the website, or on any of our social media pages which are regularly updated with stories from our partners and supporters, please do get in touch.

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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## Journeying On in Western Zambia

The first *Journeying Together* cluster of three mission communities and a Hub was established in Western Zambia to respond to the most urgent needs of the local community. Over the last year, the 18 Brothers and 15 volunteers in the Western Zambia cluster have maintained a compassionate presence in these communities and built meaningful relationships with the local people. They have begun to respond to some of the critical social problems identified by the community.

### ERD Visit to the Cluster



Programme Coordinator Michael Hanly (pictured above with Senanga community members) undertook a recent monitoring trip to Zambia:

“The preparation for, commitment to and strength of vision of the *Journeying Together* programme is outstanding. From visiting the Mongu hub and the cluster of communities, there is a palpable sense of mission: through the presence of Edmund Rice people in local communities, to engage with and empower them, and to transform the lives of the communities and themselves. It was quite a moving experience to visit these communities.

The communities face multiple chronic problems, and the programme is attempting to address them: food insecurity; poor nutrition especially for babies; poor access to water, sanitation and hygiene; reproductive health for adolescent mothers and women with large families; inequality experienced by the vulnerable elderly and disabled, disaffected and unemployed youth. While it is still early, initial signs of impact are positive. The programmes are designed in line with development best practice, and under the leadership of local co-workers and community leaders.”

-Michael Hanly



Advocacy Workshop at the Pastoral Centre in Limulunga, Western Zambia

### Learning Advocacy Skills in Western Zambia

In 2017, the Western Zambia cluster held an Advocacy Workshop at the Pastoral Centre in Limulunga. The goal of the workshop was to empower the local people with knowledge and skills needed to become involved in human rights and advocacy within the local context of Western Zambia. Over 60 Edmund Rice people from the communities of Limulunga, Luampa and Senanga participated in the session, which was facilitated by Br. Kevin Mullan from Edmund Rice International and Jessica Dewhurst, Sarah Child and Kayla Brittan from Edmund Rice Justice Desk South Africa.

Over the four-day workshop, the participants received an overview of advocacy and human rights issues and learned about the current work of Edmund Rice International and the Edmund Rice Justice Desk, the United Nations mechanisms and the Zambia-United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership. On the final day, the groups from each community prepared advocacy plans, which were shared with everyone. These groups will continue to meet to work on the implementation of the advocacy plans over the coming year.

This workshop was a success and a great way to give participants an opportunity to share experiences, discuss issues that were affecting them and explore potential ways of collaborating. It also helped strengthen the links between human rights work at the local, national and international levels within the wider Edmund Rice network.



## Summer Fun at Edmund Rice Karibu Camps

August is a busy time for the Edmund Rice Karibu Group in Nairobi, Kenya. Following a training day, 28 camp leaders put on the camp for over 40 children. The half-day camp was packed with activities, including physical activities, artistic work and time for the children to share stories, experiences, and challenges they have faced in small groups. After the camp, the new executive team gathered for a three-day team building workshop. Through discussions and social activities, the executive team got to know one another, learned leadership skills, and prepared for the year ahead all while having a fun and enjoyable experience.

Later in the month, 33 camp leaders visited eight informal schools in Kibera as part of their community outreach program. The theme of the day was “newness and new possibilities, being positive even with disappointments.” This being the last term in the calendar year, the leaders focused their questions and discussions with the students on the children’s growth and development, academic success and their educational goals. The leaders were able to debrief after the outreach day and plan for future recruitment of volunteers and camp leaders.



Leaders and participants enjoying the Karibu camp

Edmund Rice Camps are run all over the world, aimed at giving children a chance to “just be kids”. The Edmund Rice Karibu Camp works with different schools in Kibera. The students are welcomed to one-day camps for games and meals. The camps are not only about games. In order to help boost self-esteem, the children are encouraged to speak about the challenges they face both at home and at school. They are motivated by the example of the camp leaders, many of whom are local young adults who have gone on to higher levels of studies inspiring the children to believe that they too can achieve their goals.

## Mary Rice Centre School Outing



Children from the Mary Rice Centre enjoying their school outing

To celebrate the end of term, the children and staff at Mary Rice Centre Kenya enjoyed a fun outing at a local park. Both the children and staff enjoyed a picnic and lots of games and activities to mark the occasion.



Mary Rice Centre Kenya cares for children from the Kibera slum in Nairobi that are living with an intellectual or physical disability. The centre provides holistic, social, educational and therapeutic services to children and their families.

## Collaboration: The Way Forward

Elser Llanos (pictured right) is coordinator of the Development Office of the Latin American Region, an Executive Member of the Mission Capacity Support Team and a trained Psychologist. He shares a reflection on his new role and his recent professional development experience.



“In 2014, I read an article in *Forbes* titled: ‘6 Ways to Build a Culture of Learning.’ The article started with a phrase that I now consider my motto: ‘To stay relevant ... requires a fierce desire to learn, to improve, and to adapt.’

Last year the Latin American Region opened a Development Office to provide support to development projects in Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Uruguay. When I accepted the position of coordinator of the Development Office, I spent several hours thinking how my masters in Organisational Psychology will help me in my new position. I started making connections with other development offices of the Congregation and agencies to assist in expanding my knowledge base and skills.

With my desire to improve in my new position and with support from ERD, I had the opportunity to take two online courses at the Kimmage Development Studies Centre (DSC). Based in Dublin, Kimmage DSC was established in 1974 by the Irish Province of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit. Initially set up to provide education and training to intending overseas missionaries, Kimmage DSC now provides courses aimed at the International Development sector, development practitioners and activists. I took Results-Based Planning and Proposal Writing, and Results-Based Monitoring & Evaluation. Both courses have been of great help to broaden my knowledge on development and the results-based approach, which is widely used by the UN in their development projects. Since the course, I have spent some days training our project managers and personnel working in our development projects in Results-Based Planning.

As a former Christian Brother, I have experience working in different ministries across Latin America and I have witnessed the positive impact Edmund Rice Mission is having on people's lives. I am thankful for the collaboration between the Latin American Region and Edmund Rice Development. I believe that collaboration is the way forward, and it only occurs when all sides are eager and dedicated to work towards the same goals.”

## Mission Capacity Support Team collaborate and plan in Dublin

The Mission Capacity Support Team (MCST) met recently for an intensive week of meetings in Dublin. MCST members from all over the world came together for a productive gathering to collaborate on capacity building, systems and development expertise within the field for Edmund Rice Mission projects. A number of Edmund Rice Development staff and directors also participated in the week with Mission Coordinators from Africa, Latin America, Oceania and representatives from Edmund Rice International and the Transition Support Team. The MCST was formed in 2016, and for the last year has been carrying out an assessment on mission capacity at the local and global level.

The objective of the week in Dublin was to develop a clear and precise plan for 2018, and to put in place concrete strategies to ensure the plan is effective. Each Mission Coordinator created their own Local Plan for strengthening their mission development office while addressing capacity issues on the ground. These plans were informed by the

Mission Capacity Building Global Plan (2018-2020), which was developed by the MCST earlier this year.

The week in Dublin left all participants energised to further develop their capabilities and to improve local activities to ensure that Edmund Rice Mission projects have the greatest impact in the lives of the people we serve around the world.



Pictured (L-R): Bernard White (Oceania), Elser Llanos (Latin America), Ruvan Rebelo (TST), Fiona Dowling (MCST), Sammy Munyua (Zambia Cluster), Dean McGlaughlin (EDRP), Lorna Pearcey (Caplor), Pious Conteh (West Africa), Dominic Sassi (Europe), John Casey (CLT), Kevin Mullan (ERI), Reuben Chongo (South Central District), Ian Williams (Caplor), Ralph Sequeira (India), Vincent Mallya (East Africa)



## Human Rights Training in Latin America

In 2017, Edmund Rice International (ERI) held seminars on human rights throughout Latin America. The most recent one was on the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights in Chimbote, Peru in August.

Over 130 people participated in the Human Rights training seminar led by Guillermo Bullrich, ERI Advocacy Coordinator in Latin America. The seminar had three days of workshops attended by teachers; alumni, members of the Judiciary of Chimbote; human rights organisations; organisations for people with disabilities; organisations belonging to the fight for conservation of the environment and others.

Over the three-day course, participants learned about the work of Edmund Rice International, the history and principles of Human Rights, how to apply Human Rights in education and an overview of United Nations mechanisms. The course also covered how to participate in the United Nations Universal Periodic Review of Peru, which took place in Geneva in November. ERI Latin America presented a report on the rights of children and adolescents for this review.

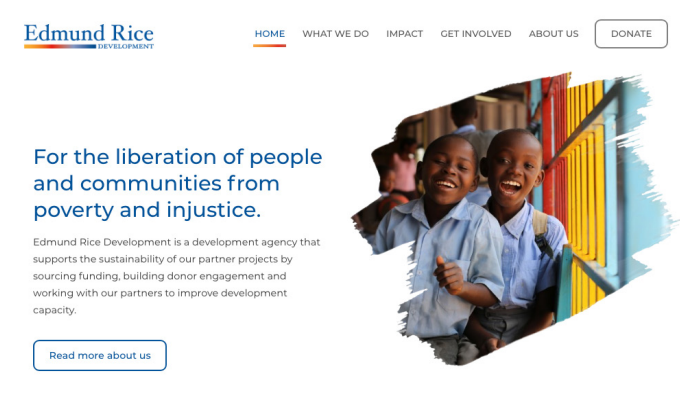
Allison Diaz, a former pupil from Fe y Alegría in Lima, a school connected with the Edmund Rice Mission, came to the seminar and reflected on her experience: *"I was impressed to see so many people interested in knowing more about their rights, and to learn how the knowledge gained during the seminar can be put into practice to help people. All this makes me reflect that we are all capable of helping the world to improve, in different ways and in different functions, because not everyone has the same skills, but I do believe that we all have the same desire to want to improve the world."*

The course brought together many diverse voices from different parts of civil society to learn and engage in discussions about Human Rights. Lic. María Luisa Galvez Holguin, Member of the Social Justice Commission of the city of Chimbote said: *"It is good to know that there are institutions like Edmund Rice International, which can speak for us to the world through international organisations like the UN and not let injustices continue to be committed by ignoring our rights."*



ERI Advocacy Coordinator in Latin America Guillermo Bullrich presenting at the Human Rights Training in Chimbote, Peru

## New Website for ERD



The new ERD website [www.edmundricedevelopment.org](http://www.edmundricedevelopment.org) was launched at the end of 2017. The redesigned format and content were updated in order to ensure the website is compatible with new technology (tablets, smartphones etc), and to make the content clearer for our supporters and partners to understand and the site easier to navigate and use.

We hope you take a moment to explore the new site, do let us know your thoughts. Our thanks to Neil Creagh at Fuel for partnering with us on the site's development.



## ROUND-UP OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Br. Kephass Ndalama, Br. Tatenda Chimbima and Jenni Barrett (CEO) with staff and students from CBS Glen Road, Belfast

### From Ireland to Zambia

Edmund Rice Development was delighted to host three Brothers from Zambia in 2017. Br. Kephass Ndalama and Br. Tatenda Chimbima traveled from Zambia to Ireland to talk to schools, community groups, funding partners and other friends about the Edmund Rice Mission today. From Cork to Belfast, the Brothers visited 12 schools and spoke to over 2,250 students over two weeks to share their stories of life in Zambia.

Br. Kephass talked about his experience as a teacher at St. Edmund's School and about the journey of that school community over the past 50 years. Br. Tatenda is a member of a new *Journeying Together* community in Luampa – where Brothers, staff and volunteers are living and working amongst the people. Luampa is in the Western Province of Zambia, where 2 out of every 3 people live in extreme poverty. Br. Tatenda gave those he met an insight into the significant challenges children and families face in the area. While in Ireland, the Brothers had the opportunity to meet with several other groups, including staff at Misesan Cara who have been supportive of the Edmund Rice Mission in Zambia.

Br. Alfred Banda, District Leader of South Central District and board member of ERD visited Cork with Jenni Barrett, CEO of ERD during 2017. Br. Alfred had the pleasure of meeting students and teachers who travelled to Zambia as an immersion group.

We sincerely thank all the groups who welcomed us so warmly during our visits, and to the Brothers for taking the time to visit Ireland.



ERD staff David Roche (left) and Emma Hennessy (centre) accompanying Br.s Tatenda and Kephass (right) to meet with Anthony Hannon from Misesan Cara



Br. Alfred Banda with staff and students at CBC Cork





## Changes to the ERD Board and Team

We had a number of changes to the board of ERD over recent months. Matt Breen retired from the role of Chair having served since 2008, and John Cooley was appointed to replace him.

With a career in Human Resources in the car manufacturing industry, John Cooley has had a long association with the Edmund Rice Network. He is currently chair of Edmund Rice Schools Trust NI and over the years has been involved with the National Association of Past Pupils Unions and Edmund Rice Network Leadership Group.

We were deeply saddened at the death of our dear friend and board member, Br. Dan O’Keeffe in July of 2017. Dan’s contribution to the board and to the financial governance of ERD over the years were great and we are very grateful to him for his long service. Our deepest sympathies to his family, brothers and friends.

Tony O’Keeffe retired from the board at the end of 2017. Our sincere thanks to Tony and his family for his dedicated support and service since 2008. During the year, three new board members, Karin Bacon, Br. Chris Glavey and Mary Hanson joined the board of Edmund Rice Development – we are delighted to have their expertise and support.

On the team side in 2017, ERD’s Fiona Dowling was seconded to the Mission Capacity Development Programme and Michael Hanly joined ERD as Programme Coordinator. Abigail Carney also joined ERD during the year as Communications Officer. Best wishes to all in their new roles.



Br. Hugh O’Neill, Congregation Leader presents a painting from the Ruben Centre, Kenya to Matt Breen (pictured left) on the occasion of his retirement as chair of Edmund Rice Development.

## In Memory: Br. Dan O’Keeffe (1945–2017)



Dan was from Crusheen in Co. Clare. After completing his training as a teacher, he taught in Oatlands, Mt. Merrion, Adare and Portarlinton and served as the headmaster in Clonmel [St. Peter and Paul’s] for several years. He completed a Science degree in Physics in UCD, and later did a Master’s degree in Theology in the Maryvale Institute in Birmingham.

Dan was principal of the secondary school in Mt. Sion for a number of years, from there he went to Kilkenny, teaching there until 2005. He spent the last twelve years in York Road, Dun Laoghaire where he served the Brothers in the areas of finance and property. Dan’s expertise ranged over many fields. Dan always had a keen interest in financial affairs and served on various finance committees for the Brothers over the years. Serving as the Congregation Bursar for a period, he was responsible for the finances of the Congregation internationally. Latterly, he was Province Bursar and Property Manager for the European Province. He served with distinction on a number of international boards for the Congregation, including as a board member of Edmund Rice Development. Tributes to Dan have come in from all over the world, as Dan had an international involvement over many years. We remember Dan’s generosity and his commitment to Edmund Rice Mission and thank him most sincerely for his service and friendship. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

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