

165,000 LBS OF FOOD Annual Food Drive

Youth all across Canada united in the fight against hunger, and launched a massive food drive from November 23rd to December 6th, 2009. Braving the deep freeze, these motivated volunteers displayed unwavering determination as they went door-to-door to collect food for Humanity First Food Bank. The overwhelming response from generous donors served to rejuvenate the volunteer's morale and spirits!

Approximately 500 youth participated in this initiative and surpassed their projected collection goals. They collected a total of 165,000 lbs of food! (exceeding their initial target of 140,000 lbs). **A heartfelt gratitude goes out to Ahmadiyya Muslim Youth Association for their hard work and selfless support!**



FIGHTING HUNGER: One Pizza at a Time



In the spirit of giving this past holiday season, Humanity First once again helped put food on the table for those less fortunate and unable to sustain their daily food needs.

Volunteers of Humanity First, unabated by the bone-chilling temperatures and united in the fight against hunger, took to the streets of downtown Toronto on December 24th and 25th, delivering and distributing pizza, water and juice to the homeless and needy. This project, called "Feed the Homeless", was very successful, as our teams were able to service hundreds of people over the two-day period.

For many years now, Humanity First has been implementing a unique program called "Feed a Family" in the GTA Region. The primary objective of this program is to provide food security to those struggling with difficult circumstances and challenges. This program is distinct in that food hampers are delivered to the doorsteps of the needy and disabled.

Commenting on the two programs, the chairman of Humanity First, Dr. Aslam Daud, said "During these difficult economic times, we are seeing a surge in demand for food. Our volunteers are working 7 days a week to provide food to those in need". He added,

"While most people will be celebrating the holiday season in the warmth of their homes, let's not forget the homeless outside in the cold and hunger. We are going to give them pizza for a change!"

Anyone requiring urgent food assistance can call 416-440-0346 or email: foodbank@humanityfirst.ca.



SERVING HUMANITY: Renewing Our Commitment in 2010

Editorial | Munaza Khan

Let us resolve once more to serve humanity with compassion and with unwavering determination and perseverance.

2010 is here. The new year brings new hope and happiness, yet it can sometimes be challenging to find cause to celebrate. Reflecting on 2009, we are looking back on a year that brought humanity many disasters, natural and man-made ones. Natural disasters are largely beyond our control, although more could be done to predict and prepare for them, and thus minimize the casualties, harm, and affliction they cause. Nevertheless, stories of natural disasters furnish global headlines more often than we would like.

In the past year, we witnessed tropical storms, floods, tsunamis and earthquakes, all reiterating how destructive Mother Nature can be. Thousands have died in these disasters and hundreds of thousands are still displaced. The dedicated and selfless team of Humanity First volunteers have responded by immediately mobilizing disaster relief teams in the devastated

areas. They continue to assess the aftermath of these natural disasters, providing ongoing support to the victims.

Living in Canada, we have all become familiar and comfortable with such luxury that those in some parts of the world cannot even vaguely conceive of or imagine. We take for granted common utilities such as electricity, hot and cold water, and indoor heating. However, to many, enjoying these basic amenities is an impossible reality.

At this very moment, there are millions who are trapped in the depths of hopelessness, misery and poverty. As citizens of this planet, we are obligated to lead the charge in alleviating the suffering and pain of our fellow human beings. By utilizing the resources and services of Humanity First, we can make a substantive difference in our local and global community.

A few days ago, people celebrated the beginnings of 2010 with joy and optimism. One of the ways to usher in a new year is to make resolutions for self-transformation and improvement. Along with setting personal goals, let us also renew our commitment to our planet, and end human suffering. Let us resolve once more to serve humanity with compassion and with unwavering determination and perseverance. Let us unite in the fight to end world hunger, poverty and vulnerability.

May 2010 be a peaceful and prosperous year. May we see progress towards peace, dignity, and security for all people of the world.



FOCUS AFRICA | Desert Fridge: Cool Isn't it!



Humanity First has initiated an innovative agricultural approach called the "Desert Fridge" in Africa,

where farming is the local population's main source of income. However, farmers struggle with proper storage and preservation of their harvest. Consequently, large amounts of produce go to waste.

The "Desert Fridge" is a simple concept: one clay pot within a larger pot, with a layer of wet sand between the two pots. The sand has to be topped up with water a few times daily. The evaporation of the water creates a "refrigeration" effect. As a result, crops like tomatoes

have been successfully preserved for almost 18 days! The positive impact is far-reaching, as farmers will be able to sell at competitive prices, because of the ability to store their crops longer. The increased income will, in turn, promote quality of life for their families.

The Desert Fridge project has been successful in Sudan and Nigeria, and Humanity First plans to expand the project across Africa, so that all rural farmers can also benefit from this simple and inexpensive approach.



Humanity First

HUMANITY *matters*

RESTORING COMMUNITIES • BUILDING A FUTURE

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DINE & LET HUMANITY SHINE: Annual Fundraising Dinner \$111,000 Raised for Shelter and Water Projects



Humanity First held a very successful fundraising and awareness event on November 5th, 2009 at Woodbine Banquet Hall in Rexdale, Ontario. Entitled "Dine and Let Humanity Shine", the objective of the dinner was to raise money for Humanity First's water and shelter projects.

This event was attended by over 1400 people, including many corporate sponsors and distinguished guests. Honorable Judy Sgro MP (previously Minister of Immigration), Honorable Jim Karygiannis MP (previously Secretary of Parliament) and Honorable Jean Augustine, Ontario Fairness Commissioner; all members of Humanity First Advisory Committee, addressed the dinner attendees. Meteorologist Michael Kuss from CityTV was also present, and spoke about the occurrence and affect of natural disasters, and how Humanity First is dedicated towards relieving humanity from suffering. The evening included a silent auction and a magic show for the entertainment of guests. The organization raised over \$111,000 at the dinner.

Commenting on the success of the event, Dr. Aslam Daud, Executive Director of Humanity First Canada, said "This fundraising event will help us position ourselves to respond to emergencies and continue to alleviate the suffering by providing humanitarian relief."

In Africa, Humanity First is drilling water wells in remote villages where there is no fresh water source. Each water well drilled by Humanity First serves villages with more than one thousand people; providing them with access to a basic necessity of life. By having access to clean and fresh drinking water, villagers will no longer have to walk miles to get water, and they will also be protected from water-borne diseases.

Humanity First is also committed to constructing sustainable shelters for victims of natural disasters around the world. In addition, Humanity First works with communities around the globe to improve the quality of life for some of the world's poorest and most vulnerable people.



Pledge Form

☐

Yes! I/we would like to donate to Humanity First. All proceeds will go to various humanitarian and relief programs of Humanity First.

Please fax, email or mail the completed form to:
416.440.0346 or **info@humanityfirst.ca**

CREDIT CARD ACCOUNT # _____

CREDIT CARD EXPIRATION DATE (MM/YYYY) _____ CVD# _____

NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD _____

PAYMENT AMOUNT \$ _____

CARD HOLDER SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please send donations to:
Humanity First
245 Bowes Road, Unit #1
Concord, Ontario L4K 1H8

All donations are tax-deductible as permitted by law.

CREDIT CARD TYPE:

☐ Visa

☐ MasterCard

☐ American Express

NAME _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ PROVINCE _____ POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL _____

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ Cash ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cheque *Please make checks payable to Humanity First

HumanityFirst CANADA

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Humanity First is a registered international non-profit charitable and humanitarian relief organization that aims to mitigate hunger, poverty and disease among the less privileged human beings around the world and strives to reduce peoples sufferings caused by natural disasters or human conflicts.