

# NEWSLETTER



## Canadian Peacemakers International (CPI)

ISSUE NO. 002 / MAY 2024 / VOLUME XXIV

Greetings, Friends of CPI's Computer Assisted Learning [CAL] in Sub Sahara Africa !!

This is the second newsletter of what will be a quarterly Canadian Peacemakers International (CPI) communication. Together with you, our supporters, we at CPI are on an exciting journey to bring Computer Assisted Learning (CAL) to all Sub-Saharan Africa in ten (10) years.

Patrick Obonde, Africa Region Representative for this endeavor, is being ably assisted by his wife Pamela Obonde. They are blessed with two children.

Gloria and Theo Fumana are giving leadership in the DR Congo to the CPI/CAL program.



Launching a new CAL Education program (DECH) @ Madiany-Ang'olo, Siaya 🙏

### DIGITAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY HUB. (DECH)

	Primary and Secondary School
	TVET School
	Leadership School of Theological Education and Peace Studies (S.T.E.P.S)
	College / University School
	Child Development and Daycare
	KMC-Peace Missions Community Chapel

### *Education . Peacemaking . Development*

The 4-In-1 CAL School destination which is yet to be launched @ LEADERSHIP STEPS. The Venue of Annual Peace Leadership Educational Conference Kenya 2024.

At CPI Africa we are all about:-

- ✓ Increasing access to EDUCATION at all levels based on computer assisted learning (CAL) methodologies.
- ✓ Promoting non-violent PEACEMAKING based on life-giving leadership values of Truth, Justice, Love and Contentment.
- ✓ Supporting innovative community DEVELOPMENT initiatives.

## Vulnerable TVET graduate becomes a Woman Barber and Course Instructor @ APMI Peace Missions Institute



Brenda Andiego enrolled in the APMI CAL program to study Hairdressing, Salon, and Beauty Care. After completing her course work and practicum, she returned to join class Yr. 2022 to study barbering. Despite the many life challenges, including being a single young mother, Brenda successfully graduated and applied to be employed at APMI as Tutor/Instructor. In the link below Brenda narrates her journey to becoming a woman barber. She further testifies to how the CAL Program has transformed her life. She is a highly motivated course facilitator who is ready to increase her skills and household income.

Watch the attached clip to hear more of her story:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=is2v4Hv9Nvg>



*Photo of Gloria and Theo Fumana and their Children*

## UPDATE ON CPI'S NEW FOCUS: SUB-SAHARA AFRICA



*2014 Graduating Class in Honduras*

As many of you know, CPI has been active in Honduras since 1999, when a service tour group went to Honduras to help build the village of Buenos Aires, to provide homes for people whose homes had been destroyed by Hurricane Mitch.

In 2009, at the insistence of the Board Chair of the ACH (Asociación Confraternidad Honduras), who agitated tirelessly for access to junior high school.

In 2000 CPI wanted to apply for CIDA funding, but CIDA stipulated that CPI had to have at least three years of actual international development experience under its belt. CPI had none, so under Sombrilla International Development Society's sponsorship we applied for and received CIDA funding as a Sombrilla project. However, CPI independently funded and administered the project. The project ended in 2005 and since then CPI has neither partnered nor associated with Sombrilla. Then CPI introduced the CAL program to Honduras and by Year 2023, a total of 7,059 students had completed at least one grade of middle school. The program has been and is a notable success.

**Sub-Saharan Africa** is the region with the greatest educational deficit globally, a situation that has led to widespread poverty, disease, and violence. Having learned of the CAL approach in Honduras, Patrick Obonde in 2022 teamed up with CPI to bring education to this large region. Watch an introductory clip @ <https://youtu.be/yi9wrcWq6LY>. To date, Obonde has already facilitated the establishment of three schools in Kenya, with a fourth one on the way. Encouraged by the dedicated support of Mum Elfrieda Dick, CPI has partnered with Grace Children's Ministry (GCM) to establish a CAL Education Centre in Bugesera District, RWANDA.

With the CPI programming having spread to Africa, it soon became clear to the CPI Board in Edmonton that initiating a new program on a new continent would be difficult. This led to an agreement that the program in Africa should be operated by CPI and the program in Honduras should return to the administration of the Sombrilla International Development Society, the NGO through which CPI originally initiated the Honduras program. The separation of the two programs was officially completed on January 11, 2024. As a result, CPI is no longer involved in Honduras, and has no financial or other involvements or responsibilities for the Honduran programs.

The new lead partner in Kenya is APMI Centre. Chartered in 1996 as ACDC, APMI Centre has been involved in education and community development for more than three decades. They are excited to partner with CPI to introduce CAL to Kenya and has since been specially registered by The Government of Kenya as **APMI [Africa] Peace Missions Training Institute**. Read More @ <https://apmicentre.org/>

## CAL CONGO

Our lead Congolese partner is CAL Congo. On February 11, 2023, a ribbon cutting at the new CAL school in Kikwit in the DR Congo opened that school to learners. Visiting dignitaries included the Vice Chair of the Congolese Mennonite Brethren Church, the Mayor of Kikwit and the Superintendent of the Congolese Mennonite Brethren school system. The Superintendent has made the entire Grade 1 to 12 curriculum of the MB school system available to CALCONGO. 25 sewing students and 69 academic students enrolled. Read More @ <https://calcongo.org/>

On February 17, 2024, 25-sewing class students graduated and some of the graduates already have set up their own sewing businesses. CAL Congo is working closely with the Congolese Mennonite Brethren Church.



*Part of The Sewing Class @ Kikwit - DR Congo*

## APMI CENTRE -KENYA

In Dec. 2023, more than 215 Academic/Technical Vocational Education & Training [TVET] students graduated with credentials in various occupations from **APMI Peace Missions Training Institute**. In

January 2024 a new group of 120 students enrolled in the CAL schools in Ngong/Nairobi. There are now three CAL schools in Kenya; namely the Central Hub Ngong, JuaKali Constituency Industrial Development Centre [CIDC], and KMC-CAL Education Centre in Migori, about eight hours' drive from Nairobi. CPI also partners with the Kenya Mennonite Church [KMC].



**Picture of graduating Tailoring and Dressmaking Cohort of Year 2023.**



**Picture of Primary curriculum class in session with facilitator Moses Leech.**

## **KMC – CAL EDUCATION CENTRE - MIGORI**

KMC has embraced CAL with great excitement. All its seven [7] regions have applied for support to establish CAL Schools. In the last eight [8] months since its launch, KMC CAL Hub has enrolled more than 50 Students who are taking a variety of Academic / Skills based technical courses. Due to the limited number of computers, the school can only be accessed by a maximum of 30 learners per day...Thus, great need exists to expand the laboratory and to equip workshops for Technical Vocational Education and Training [TVET] courses.

**Photo: - The Pioneer 6 Month - CAL Cohort of 29 Students Graduated with Basic Information Communication Technology (ICT)- Computer Training @Migori.**



## **Grace Children's Ministry (GCM) - RWANDA**

With exceptional commitment and support of Mum Elfrieda Dick's family and friends, CPI has helped with the purchase of a 5-acre piece of land to establish a CAL Education Centre. However, the Government of Rwanda then delayed construction of the Centre by re-zoning the area into agricultural

land, but in exchange GCM has now secured a new plot on which to build the much-anticipated CAL Centre. The current GCM program has about sixty children in pre-primary schooling Levels 1, 2 and 3. The pupils are largely from the highly vulnerable homes of widows and single mothers.

GCM has enrolled nearly thirty [30] of the 60 plus widows and single mothers in vocational skills training programs [The single and widowed mothers will be part of The CAL School that is being developed]. Read and watch more @ <https://www.gcmistry.org/> & <https://youtu.be/1OQ4116k0c>



*GCM's - Agasaro School – Widows and Single Mothers with their Children attending a school meeting.*



*Increasing Access!! The School Feeding Program supports widows to provide meals to their children*

## A TIMELY RESPONSE By

**WORLD IN NEED**

*Great gratitude to Ms. Preethy Thomas and Shyla Verghese for supporting the establishment of a Child Development and Day Care Centre [CDC] @ The APMI Central Hub - Ngong.*



*Children@ The Newly established CDC*

Young single mothers lack the necessary support system to enable them to enroll and take advantage of the learning opportunities being offered by the CAL Education program and initiatives.

The establishment of CDC is alleviating the young mothers' problem of lack of skills, poverty and joblessness. The women will thus be enabled to attend the CAL Education program and to pursue work pay opportunities during the day as their children are being taken care of at the CDC, APMI Central Hub.

**DONATIONS are gratefully accepted...  
And may be made by sending a cheque payable to:**

Canadian Peacemakers International  
P.O. Box 42123 Millbourne, Edmonton, AB.

or  
Making an e-transfer to:  
cpi.office.donations@gmail.com  
(include your name and address to receive a charitable donation receipt)

Making an e-transfer to:  
cpi.office.donations@gmail.com  
(include your name and address to receive a charitable donation receipt)

or  
Donating at:  
<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/association-of-canadian-peacemakers-international-canada>

**Note:**  
All donations go to program delivery. The Board and Executive Director all serve in volunteer capacities and accept no remuneration.  
All donations over \$20 will be charitably received.  
Canada Revenue Agency charitable #: 868063090RR0001

**NEWS and PHOTO GALLERY**



**MORE NEW HUBS:** WE have launched a new Digital Education Community Hub [DECH] in Migori – Kenya. Transforming community spaces into CAL Hubs for certified education, non-violent peacemaking, and instigating innovative community development.

# 2024 MAY ADMISSION NOW OPEN

Now Open For Registration

**Africa Peace Missions Institute offers :**

- ✓ ICT Courses
- ✓ Leadership Competence
- ✓ Tailoring & Dressmaking
- ✓ Hair & Beauty Therapy
- ✓ Food & Beverage Production Services
- ✓ Day care Services
- ✓ Soap Making Business Skills

Call For More Information  
**0722 414 486**

**JOIN US**  
[info@apmicentre.org](mailto:info@apmicentre.org)