Be not afraid to have strangers in your house, for some thereby have entertained angels unaware.
Hebrews 13:2

The mission of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA is to accompany, serve and advocate for the rights of refugees and other forcibly displaced persons, witnessing to God’s presence in vulnerable and often forgotten people driven from their homes by conflict, natural disaster, economic injustice, or violation of their human rights.

EDITOR’S NOTE: This is an interactive PDF. You can click on any text that is blue, and you will be connected to more information about that story on our website. You will need to be connected to the internet for the interactivity to work.

ON THE COVER Chad: A grant from U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migrants enabled JRS to build secondary schools in Goz Beida and Koukou Angarana to help ensure that refugees from Sudan’s Darfur region have access to a quality secondary education. Among the nearly 200 students attending secondary education classes, there are 63 teachers from the primary schools in the camps. Those teachers participate in the education of 9,328 students. (Photo by Christian Fuchs —JRS/USA)
From the National Director

Dear Friends of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA —

This Fall I have concluded my first year as National Director of JRS/USA. It has been a year of visiting all of our works, listening to the JRS workers in the field, and experiencing first-hand the lives of refugees, internally displaced people and detainees whom we strive to serve. In this short introduction to our Annual Report, I would like to share with you several of the highlights of these visits to give you a small taste of what is the work of JRS/USA which you so generously support.

Here in the United States, we work providing pastoral care and religious services in four federal detention centers, as well as one county institution, ranging from Buffalo to Los Angeles. Watching the heroic efforts of JRS workers — priests, religious sisters, and lay people — to accompany these detainees, offering religious comfort and care to those whose very human dignity is threatened is a moving experience.

What amazed me over and over again was the respect that these workers have with both the prison populations as well as with the authorities. In each site, I have witnessed the humanizing effect that presence, accompaniment, pastoral care, and counseling can have on those facing deportation — and those in charge. Providing the means to practice the basic human right to worship as one sees fit is a powerful force for good.

Over the last few years, with the help of funding from the U.S. government, private foundations and individuals, JRS/USA has been able to reach out to JRS teams throughout Africa. We have been able to help them provide sustainable and cost-effective education systems, build primary and secondary schools and reach out to the most vulnerable of groups in Kenya, South Sudan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and now Ethiopia. I personally opened two schools in Congo — one for 1000 boys and girls, the other for 700; children who had only known exile and deprivation their entire lives.

I listened to the words of gratitude from parents who never could have imagined that they would live to see their children in such a well-built and equipped school. And I understood the hunger that all felt for peace, stability, and a return to rebuilding a devastated homeland. I had similar experiences listening to refugees in South Sudan, returning home after decades of civil war — a war that cost millions their lives and many more their homes and livelihoods. I also noted with somber awareness the ever-present danger sign marking unexploded landmines.

Let me conclude by sharing the joy of JRS-sponsored works a little closer to home — Haiti. The unimaginable tragedy caused by the massive earthquake was compounded by frustration that the mountains of red tape seemed that any progress was impossible. I am happy to say that we were able to work some minor miracles in a handful of projects close to the border with the Dominican Republic: children are being fed; schools are built and open; clean water projects are addressing the problems of sanitation and cholera; and families have their lives restored. Truly remarkable!

But none of these things would be possible without your constant and generous support. On behalf of all that we strive to serve, accompany and defend, thank you for your help to JRS/USA and our co-workers around the world.

With every good wish and blessing,

Fr. Mike Evans S.J.
Accompaniment is an essential element of both the mission and methodology of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA. To accompany means to be a companion. We are companions of Jesus, so we wish to be companions of those with whom he preferred to be associated, the poor and the outcast. Accompaniment is a practical and effective action, and is often precisely the way in which service is provided. Our accompaniment often leads to advocacy, as we seek to give voice and visibility to the needs and aspirations of the refugees with which JRS lives and works.

Jesuit Refugee Service/USA has for 10 years both accompanied and served detained migrants and asylum seekers through our Detention Chaplaincy Program. JRS/USA chaplaincy programs provide pastoral and religious assistance to meet the needs of non-citizens by promoting courage, hope and peace for detainees in the day-to-day routines of their lives inside a detention facility.

We believe that ensuring detainee access to a Religious Service Program is crucially important because detainees have a fundamental right to freedom and exercise of religion. JRS/USA is advocating for the adoption by the U.S. government of binding guidance that will guarantee access to religious services in all detention facilities throughout the U.S., regardless of whether the facilities are operated by the federal government, local law enforcement or private contractors.

Access to pastoral care, to a sympathetic ear and an open heart helps to stabilize and comfort detained asylum seekers and migrants as they transition through the immigration detention system. Access to their faith tradition is especially important for men and women who face family separation and who may have entered our borders fleeing generalized violence, religious persecution or extreme economic hardship.

Jesuit Refugee Service/USA offered training to six
Some of the most forgotten and the most vulnerable people in the United States are those migrants held in immigration detention centers pending deportation. The vulnerability of these people does not end with deportation, however; many of the migrants we encounter at the Kino Border Initiative in Nogales, Mexico, find themselves stranded in the border town far away from their homes and families, with few options or resources to plan for a future life in Mexico or Central America.

Mass at Mira Loma.

The Casa Nazaret shelter at the Kino Border Initiative offers safety to unaccompanied women and children. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)

In collaboration with partner groups, JRS/USA serves the Church via the Kino Border Initiative by providing opportunities for pastoral formation and advocacy for the protection of human rights along the border between the U.S. and Mexico. KBI offers immediate assistance and pastoral accompaniment to migrants who have been deported from the U.S.

The Centro para Atención a los Migrantes Deportados, KBI offers meals, basic medical assistance, and clothing to the recently deported. At the Casa Nazaret shelter, KBI offers safe room and board to unaccompanied women and children who are otherwise extremely vulnerable to exploitation and abuse.
Long before the crippling earthquake of January 2010, Jesuit Refugee Service had a grassroots presence in Haiti. In addition to our work within Haiti, JRS has served the needs of Haitian refugees, forced migrants and stateless people in the neighboring Dominican Republic for more than 15 years.

JRS takes its responsibility for prudent stewardship of the gifts entrusted to us very seriously. Following the emergency phase, we have focused our Haiti relief on ways to best accompany the people of Haiti today while providing long-term solutions for tomorrow.

A project spearheaded by Catholic nuns and sponsored by Jesuit Refugee Service will bring healthy water and reliable irrigation to the mountain village of Los Cacaos in central Haiti. With the outbreak of the cholera epidemic in 2010, the people of Los Cacaos were wracked with illness and death.

To supply fresh and clean water to the community, the nuns devised a plan to pipe water from higher in the mountains to stone cisterns, and then piped it further to the central community and surrounding fields.

“It’s like God came from heaven to the earth because now our children will have a future,” said Mr. Presner, a resident of Los Cacaos, of the water project.
A new school, below left, in Anse-à-Pitres, Haiti, provides modern facilities to replace the old school, middle left, which held classes under tarps on the grounds of a church. In addition to the scholarship, Jesuit Refugee Service also purchased 600 desks for the new school. (Jesuit Refugee Service/USA)

Islore, 3, is blind and has been attending the early childhood development and education program in Fond Parisien, and has shown great improvement in basic skills. “She doesn’t talk much at the school, but she is doing much better since starting,” said her mother, Tania. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)

Jesuit Refugee Service/USA is funding an early childhood development program in the Haitian community of Fond Parisien, and pre-school nutrition is an important component of the program. Currently 195 children are direct beneficiaries of the new school and nutrition program.

Throughout the developing world, JRS comes across displaced parents living in poverty forced to choose between paying for their children’s education and buying basic essentials. Even when education is nominally free, teachers’ salaries are often not paid, so families are forced to contribute. Too often, parents, unable to afford the costs of their children’s education, are forced to take them out of school.

To cover the operational costs of a new school in Anse-à-Pitres, a JRS scholarship will provide $100 directly to the school for each displaced child enrolled, and also about $150 directly to the student for shoes, uniforms and school supplies so the child is able to attend school.
Jesuit Refugee Service is supporting an education project in the Altagracia Parish in the Diocese of Barahona in the Dominican Republic. Two migrant worker villages in the area are home to Haitians and Dominican-born people of Haitian descent.

“I know that education does not just teach a person how to read and write. An educated student is more open, and has a bigger vision for the future,” said Fr. Antonio Fernandez Rodriguez of Altagracia Parish.

Over the past decade, rising numbers of Dominican citizens have had their nationality and identity documents retroactively revoked by the government in an attempt to cement an ethnic underclass of stateless persons without the full rights guaranteed under the Dominican Constitution. The Inter-American Court of Human Rights ruled this policy is an “impermissible racially discriminatory application of nationality laws.” The newly created Dominican Constitution (2010) eliminated the right to birthright citizenship for the children of undocumented migrants, and has caused immeasurable problems for those children born after 2010 to Haitian migrants.

To raise awareness about the Dominican government’s practice of denationalizing Dominicans of Haitian heritage and about the grassroots Movement for a Civil Registry Free of Discrimination, JRS/USA sponsored the visit of two staff members from the Dominican Republic.

Sonia Adames and Ana Maria Belique testified in October in front of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, participated in a Conference on Statelessness and the Right to Nationality at Georgetown University, and presented at briefings in the Congress and Senate. Sonia Adames is the Director of JRS in Santo Domingo; Ana Maria Belique, personally affected by the denationalization policy, leads the accompaniment portfolio of the Santo Domingo office, supporting 70 groups throughout the Dominican Republic whose members are at risk of losing their citizenship.
The plight of Colombian refugees and displaced persons is the most persistent humanitarian crisis in the Western Hemisphere; it may also be one of the most ignored in the world. The armed conflict among guerillas, paramilitaries and the Colombian armed forces has resulted in the targeted persecution and internal and cross-border displacement of more than five million Colombians. Working in partnership with JRS offices in Colombia, Panama and Ecuador, we continue to advocate to bring attention and protection to displaced Colombians, both through programs of local support, integration and international resettlement.

Jesuit Fr. Carlos Rubiano, 73, provides sacramental services at the Soacha Pastoral Center. Fr. Rubiano, along with a team of nuns and younger Jesuits, is the only official presence of the Catholic Church in this community. Fleeing violence, four to five Colombian families arrive in Soacha everyday. According to UNHCR, Soacha has 30,850 people who are officially registered as internally displaced persons. (JRS — Colombia)

A $36,000 grant from the Raskob Foundation and a second anonymous foundation funds efforts at the Good Samaritan Meeting House in Soacha to strengthen the sacramental life of people who are displaced or who are living in vulnerable conditions. (JRS — Colombia)

A young internally displaced Colombian in Barrio Progreso. She is but one of more than three million people officially registered as internally displaced with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. (Shaina Aber — JRS/USA)
JRS/USA is particularly concerned about the plight of Colombian refugees in the Latin American region. In Panama the human rights situation of Colombian refugees is particularly precarious, despite a recent advocacy victory in November 2011 that resulted in the offer of regularization for Colombian refugees who lived under government confinement in the Darién Jungle.

The previous Panamanian government policy restricted access to livelihoods, dignified housing, work authorization and education for the confined Colombian refugees for more than ten years. These refugees still receive little assistance and live in extreme poverty and isolation in the remote jungle region.

Our advocacy on behalf of this population has resulted in increased international attention to their situation and the offer of permanent residency by the Panamanian government. JRS/USA continues to work with JRS—Panama to provide assistance to this refugee community, by obtaining foundation support for their efforts to improve housing and provide other care to refugees in Darien and throughout Panama.

JRS is concerned that refugees in Panama continue to suffer from a restrictive protection environment and a broken asylum system that grants recognition to only 2% of refugee applicants annually. The lack of opportunities such as integration into Panamanian society or resettlement to another country is troubling, and JRS continues to advocate for those durable solutions.

Through the generous funding of the Koch Foundation, Jesuit Refugee Service will assist local parishes in providing pastoral and spiritual support to refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and host populations in Jaque (above), Puerto Piña, and Panama City. A grant from the Loyola Foundation enabled the purchase of a truck, an invaluable resource for the JRS Panama team as they strive to bring personnel and materials to repair dilapidated housing and assist the isolated Colombian refugees confined to Panama’s border region. (Sergi Camara — JRS)
While the nation of South Sudan celebrated its independence in July 2011, two decades of war left behind dilapidated schools and infrastructure. Guided by our mission to accompany and serve, JRS has continued in South Sudan the educational ministry we had begun for Sudanese refugees when they lived in camps during the war.

Through grants provided by the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), JRS has improved access to primary education by building three primary schools and supporting seven schools in South Sudan.

JRS fosters community involvement in the schools, including school management committees, parent teacher associations, and cultural and peace-building activities. JRS considers these programs an opportunity for returned refugees to experience the full benefits of peace while paving the way for a prosperous and secure future.

In addition to our educational outreach, a JRS pastoral programme in Lobone provides training, material and spiritual support for six Catholic communities in Lobone sub-county. JRS works in conjunction with the parish and the Diocese of Torit and conducts workshops to train choirs, youth groups and members of the local chapel council.

JRS has operated in the area for 10 years, and presently offers assistance in primary and secondary education, teacher training, and affirmative action and peace education. We fully believe that all of the basic tools will be in place for Kabi Secondary School to provide a quality secondary education to the local population for many years to come.

(JRS Eastern Africa)
Promoting access to preschool for internally displaced children was the goal when Jesuit Refugee Service started an education project in eastern Chad in September 2008. JRS manages a preschool project at six sites in this arid region, which directly benefits more than 1700 children who attend the schools.

JRS/USA National Director Fr. Michael Evans, S.J., cuts the ribbon to open a new school in Katanga. PRM grants enabled JRS to build two primary schools in the Katanga Province of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The first school will educate nearly 1000 students; the second will serve 700 — and a sister school nearby for 600 is already in the planning stages.

Food supplies are being loaded into a truck — 220 pounds at a time — for delivery to vulnerable refugees who are also beneficiaries of the JRS primary school program in Djabal Refugee Camp outside of Goz Beida. Food security and malnutrition have long been an issue in eastern Chad. JRS made the decision to help families of pre-school students with food delivery to ensure that the most vulnerable youth and families were not at risk of malnutrition. Before the food distribution in projects began in March 2011, there were about 1054 students in the pre-schools. When JRS started the support to families via the dry food distribution, the number of enrolled students ballooned to around 1732 by June 2011. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
Taking advantage of new technologies and improved internet connectivity, the JRS initiative Jesuit Commons-Higher Education at the Margins has since 2010 piloted access to tertiary education in refugee settings, linking university teachers in the U.S. with students in refugee camps in Kakuma in Kenya and Dzaleka in Malawi. JC-HEM enables refugees to study, in English, for a Diploma in Liberal Studies via the internet. (Angelika Mendes — JRS)

“I help students on a part time basis in (Jesuit Commons, Higher Education at the Margins) with their English writing. I was hopeful that Kakuma would afford me, and therefore the Society, the chance to come to know the Somali people, their hopes, their Muslim faith, their pain. And mentoring students in the JC-HEM program has fulfilled that hope.”

— Gary Smith, S.J.
Bhutanese refugees in Nepal have languished in refugee camps for 17 years while hoping for an opportunity to return to their homeland in safety and dignity.

Jesuit Refugee Service has advocated for the resettlement of this community in the United States and other countries, and is supporting JRS Nepal in its efforts to ensure that the refugee population has full and accurate information on resettlement so that they may make an informed choice about this option. We are also working to ensure that the Bhutanese continue to receive adequate assistance and education while they remain in Nepal.

More than 50,000 Bhutanese have now been resettled – half of the total refugee population. About 10,000 are expected to choose to remain in Nepal after the resettlement is over. JRS continues to advocate for a generous program of support to help integration these refugees into the Nepalese community.
Bhutanese refugees in Nepal demonstrate against human trafficking. This demonstration was part of the ‘16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence.’ JRS upholds the dignity of the human person, freedom from discrimination and right to the security of the person. JRS believes in reversing the discriminatory effects for victims in order to restore and reinforce their competence and self-worth. In our projects, JRS supports access to health care, preventative education and legal justice for victims and survivors of sexual and gender-based violence — either as individuals or as groups. JRS directly provides safe havens, mental health care services, psychosocial support for survivors and advocacy for effective durable solutions for those who are continually at risk. JRS has also been an implementing partner for UNHCR and other donor-funded projects aimed at preventing and responding to SGBV. (JRS)

Thailand

JRS operates a medical facility inside a detention center in Thailand, providing supplementary food for at-risk populations, and cleaning and sanitation supplies to cut down on infection risks. JRS also administers a program of tuberculosis testing and treatment for detainees.

The TB program was to be cut in 2011 due to lack of funding, but a $20,000 grant from the J. Homer Butler Foundation allows the program to continue to serve detainees.

Additionally, JRS/USA provided $22,389 to JRS Thailand for pastoral care of the vulnerable population in the Mae Hong Son Refugee Camps.

Fr. Dominic blesses the matrimonial union of two young refugees in front of the community. Thailand continues to host nearly 150,000 refugees in nine camps along the Thai-Burma border. (JRS Thailand)
Urban Refugees — South Africa

Despite heightened international awareness of the issues facing refugees in urban areas, serious barriers remain for organizations such as Jesuit Refugee Service seeking to help such refugees to meet their daily needs and to achieve long-term solutions.

Although all urban refugees share the same needs for legal protection, personal security, psychological and social support and, of course, shelter, food, medical care and education, the access to such assistance varies widely due to the attitudes of host governments and the availability of local resources.

There are no refugee camps in South Africa, but JRS operates programs for urban refugees in South Africa’s two major cities, Pretoria and Johannesburg.

South African law stipulates that refugees should have access to employment as well as to basic services such as schools and hospitals. Those few fortunate enough to get legal refugee status will be allowed to stay and become a permanent part of South African society.

JRS’ work on behalf of refugees in South Africa revolves around helping refugees obtain access to the benefits that are theoretically available to them, but which are often difficult to obtain. The Raskob Foundation provided $25,000 to support JRS programs in South Africa that help refugees become self-reliant by matching them with job opportunities, vocational training, and training and grants for small businesses.

Josta Kabaga of JRS teaches English to a class of adults in Pretoria. Through advocacy to UNHCR and local authorities, direct assistance with food, housing and medical expenses, education, livelihood projects, counseling and referral services, JRS addresses the broad spectrum of needs of urban refugees in South Africa and elsewhere. Pastoral care, outreach, counseling and social support are key elements of JRS programs. JRS works with NGO partners to assist and improve the lives of urban refugees. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
The overall goal of JRS is to ensure increased self-sufficiency that ultimately leads asylum seekers and refugees to viable local integration. Stephanie, (above right) a refugee from DRC, told us of her journey to self-reliance: “We were working as volunteers … and our children were in creches [day-care centers], but … the [daycare] fees were very high. Then we … asked, ‘Why can’t we open one for refugees?’”

After taking classes with JRS and receiving a small business grant, Stephanie opened her own day-care center. “We found ourselves with a huge demand. We care for 200 children now. Now we are 15 women in this business. We no longer have to receive help from JRS because we are self-reliant.”
Financial Report
Audited Statements 2010

Revenues
(Realized and unrealized gain in Jesuit-endowed investments totaling $136,345 are not included in the amounts listed here.)

U.S. Jesuit Assistancy $282,502
Gifts $2,810,907
Grants $2,704,640
Contributed Services $81,924
Investment Income $29,277
Other Revenue $60,810

Total $5,970,060

Revenue total reflects contributed gifts for Haiti earthquake relief disbursed in early 2011.

Expenses

Management $192,081
Development $183,500
Advocacy & Communications $380,447
Chaplaincy $841,266
International Refugee Programs $3,009,175

Total $4,606,469
You can support the mission of Jesuit Refugee Service/USA by partnering with us through your charitable gifts.

Your contributions help support JRS/USA activities in the United States, and JRS projects in countries such as South Sudan, Colombia, Panama, Kenya, Thailand and Ethiopia.

All gifts to JRS/USA are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Gifts qualify you for one of the following recognition levels:

1. Arrupe Council  $10,000 or more annually
2. Xavier Council  $5,000 to $9,999
3. Loyola Society  $1,000 to $4,999
4. Gonzaga Society $500 to $999
5. JRS Sponsor  $100 to $499
6. Friend of JRS  up to $99

Additional ways to give

Gifts of Securities — Gifts of appreciated stock may have significant tax benefits. Please call the development office or download instructions from our website.

Matching Gifts — Employers frequently match gifts to non-profit organizations like JRS/USA. Please check with your Employer’s Human resources office; if you work for a matching gift company, you may be able to double the size of your gift.

Memorial/Honor Gifts — These gifts serve to remember a loved one or to honor a special occasion in a loved one’s life, such as a birthday or wedding.

Estate Gifts — Gifts to JRS/USA through your will, IRA account, insurance policy, or through the creation of a trust are excellent ways to support JRS/USA and also reduce estate taxes. Staff in our development office will be happy to talk to you about a planned gift.

Recurring Donations — A little gift can go a long way when you make it every month. Live your faith in an extraordinary way by enrolling in our Monthly Accompaniment Donor program. Staff in our development office will be happy to assist you, or you can download a form on our website: http://jrsusa.org/donate

For where your treasure is, there also will be your heart.
Matthew 6:21
Arrupe Council

Anonymous
Martin and Rita Bennett
Curtis and Judy Brand
Stephen and Molly Cashin
Anonymous
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Peter and Betsy Forster
William and Sue Higgins
J. Homer Butler Foundation
Richard and Ginna Kelly
Koch Foundation, Inc.
The Loyola Foundation
Merrill Lynch
James and Susan Mullaney
The Raskob Foundation
for Catholic Activities
Michael Rauenhorst and Margaret Green-Rauenhorst
Anonymous
Schwab Charitable Fund
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
The New York Community Trust
Anonymous
James and Shirley Walker
Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus

Xavier Council

Elizabeth G. Ackerman
ExxonMobil Foundation
John and Gene Hayes
Thomas and Janet Hopkins
Robert Hunziker and Jenne Foo
John and Marie James
Jesuit Community, Ignatius House, Maryland
Jesuit Community, Santa Clara
Jesuit Community, St. Ignatius Loyola
Jesuit Community, St. Joseph’s University
Jesuit Community, Woodlawn Jesuit Residence
Jesuit Community, Xavier University
Brian and Irina McNamara
Patrick D. McNelis
John and Adeline O’Rourke
Timothy and Elaine Peterson
Schollerstman Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John Schubert
John J. Shay, Jr.
Grace Kobbe Tevis

Loyola Society

Joseph and Laura Acosta
Maureen Apgeler
Cecilia Arnold
Robert and Abigail Benkeser
Boston College High School
Bernard and Antonia Bouillrette
James and Michele Bowe
Richard and Denise Boyle
Jorge and Antonieta Caicedo
Tino and Dawn Calabia
Kathleen Cannon
Chevron Humankind Matching Gift Program
John Christensen
Church of the Blessed Sacrament
Charles and Diane Clemens
Jesus Lledo Climaco, M.D.
Richard L. Conlon
Randolph and Gloria Connolly
Crimmins Family Charitable Foundation
Jerry and Diane Cunningham
Jonathan Day
Adrian W. Doherty
Michael and Regina Dowd
Dreyfus Strategic Value Fund
Frederick and Cynthia Eaton
Andrew Emer
Roger and Mary Falge
William and Amy Ferron
Scott Filippini
J. Robert Fitzgerald
Fordham Preparatory School
Fordham University
The Gail and Harry Grim Foundation
Mr. John Fouest and Dr. Marilyn Jerome
Cutberto and Yolanda Garza
Peter and Nicole Gavin
Georgetown University
Charles and Nancy Geschke
CFC Global Impact #0990
Rev. Msgr. Edmund Griese dieck
Jim Haggerty and Jean Withrow
Robert and Janet Heaney
George and Denise Heeg
Michael and Mary Kate Hermann
Michael Hirschhorn and Jimena Martinez
Tonya Hoffman-Grandfield
Holy Trinity Catholic Church
Kenneth J. Hughes, Jr.

Donors

Donors who made gifts from Nov. 1, 2010 through Oct. 29, 2011. Every effort has been made to ensure names are listed correctly. If you find an incorrect name or omission, please bring it to our attention.
When John McLaughlin (white shirt) ran the 2011 Boston Marathon he did it for the express purpose of helping us help refugees. John’s goal was to find 100 partners to support his effort via a gift to JRS/USA. In the end, John raised more than $7,300 from 189 family, friends and associates who enthusiastically supported his effort. Thank you Team McLaughlin! “JRS is doing the work of the Gospel in a very concrete way,” Mr. McLaughlin said. “JRS is working with people and in situations that most of us don’t think of. It is good to know that someone is accompanying these forgotten people and advocating on their behalf,” he said.
When Todd Bell and Jill Marie Gerschutz made their wedding plans they wanted to share their joy with friends and family. They also chose to share that joy with their favorite charities, including Jesuit Refugee Service/USA. Jill and Todd asked family members to make gifts to JRS/USA and three other charities rather than giving a wedding gift to them. “We wanted to celebrate our sacrament of unity remembering the call to serve; charitable donations were one way to do that and to celebrate with all our bothers and sisters,” Jill said. More and more, people are choosing to mark special occasions with a charitable gift to JRS/USA, in celebration of a wedding, confirmation, high school graduation, or parent’s wedding anniversary.
Refugee children greet a visitor to the refugee community center in Addis Ababa. The center is one of two programs JRS operates in the Ethiopian capital. The refugee community center is the only one of its kind in the city and offers language courses, library facilities, day-care services, computer classes and psychosocial support. An emergency needs program offers financial support and counseling services to refugees. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
JRS/USA Associate Advocacy Director Shaina Aber speaks to actors from the Sacramento Jesuit High School Drama Club before a dress rehearsal of Imago Dei: Journeys of Courage, Hope & Home. The play, written and produced by the students, is about the experiences of refugees and the forcibly displaced and based on Jesuit Refugee Service’s 30 years of accompaniment, service and advocacy on behalf of refugees. In addition to students from Jesuit High School, other student actors come from St. Francis High, El Camino High and Rio Americano High. “We hope the production of Imago Dei: Journeys of Courage, Hope & Home on campuses around the country will inspire lifelong advocates for refugees and the world’s displaced, and supporters and advocates for the work of JRS/USA,” said Aber. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
When Madeline Lacovara came to know Jesuit Refugee Service/USA she felt an instant connection to its mission and priorities. She has served on the board since 2009 and she and her husband Philip recently made adjustments to their estate plans to include JRS/USA as a beneficiary of their estate. “It has been our pleasure to support the work of JRS at our southern border through the Kino Border Initiative. Now we also find that JRS can have an impact on the tragic situation in the Horn of Africa with our support. Because JRS sees and moves swiftly to help the neediest of our brothers and sisters, they are part of our charitable giving after our deaths. We want JRS to continue with its marvelous work long after we are gone!”
When Maria Leonard read the February edition of Praying With Refugees about the plight of Iraqi refugees in Syria, she wanted to do something to help them and soon made a $1000 contribution to JRS/USA. Maria’s gift covered the cost of transportation to school for eight young Iraqi students for the remainder of 2011. Maria said, “I’m glad to contribute to an organization that I know does good work for the poor...and in this case for the Iraqi refugees.” (photo of Iraqi family in Damascus by Peter Balleis, S.J.)
Detainees at the Mira Loma Detention Facility in Lancaster, Calif. Jesuit Refugee Service/USA believes that ensuring detainee access to a Religious Service Program is crucially important because detainees have a fundamental right to freedom and exercise of religion. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
Girls share a laugh during an English language class for 10th grade refugee students from Darfur, Sudan in Djabal Refugee Camp. JRS built a secondary school in Djabal, outside of Goz Beida, Chad, with a grant from the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
An anonymous foundation provided a grant of $30,120 for pastoral services to displaced people and returnees in several Dioceses of the Central African Republic. The couple pictured here are one of five who received the sacrament of matrimony in Ouadda parish. Bishop Mathos Edward, right, presides over a confirmation in Ouadda. Baptisms are also performed throughout the parishes. 22,000 people (14,396 women and 7,604 men) have been accompanied through the pastoral visits in the five parishes. (JRS CAR)
**Two Somali refugee girls who have just arrived with their mother and brother wait for registration at the Dollo Ado reception center.**

More than 80 percent of the refugee population are children below the age of 18. (Right) Refugees fleeing the drought and conflict in Somalia carry what little they still possess to the transit center in Dollo Ado refugee camp in Ethiopia. The area is hot, dry, dusty and windy. "Given that there are so many children under 18 around, I think the best way to create a conducive environment for them is to build schools. When they are in school, they have something meaningful to do and are secure. It also gives them a perspective for their future," said Jesuit Refugee Service Eastern Africa Regional Director Fr. Frido Pflueger S.J. (Angelika Mendes — JRS Eastern Africa)
Students share a textbook during an English class in Djabal Refugee Camp outside of Goz Beida, Chad. JRS programs address the long-term needs of refugees and displaced people. Education projects at refugee camps give refugees a sense of purpose. They combat boredom and despair and create the foundation for a better future. JRS income-generating projects empower the displaced, who learn basic business skills and are helped to start successful small businesses. JRS also addresses the spiritual needs of refugees through catechist training, prayer groups, and distribution of the Eucharist. JRS staff and volunteers are proud that they have provided this support while maintaining a mutual sense of accompaniment that builds trust and recognizes the common humanity of those they serve. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
The government of Panama confines Colombian refugees who cross into Panama to the Darien, a jungle region on the border. In the small Darien town of Jaque, children have no access to secondary education. Health care is minimal, and many children suffer from parasitic diseases. This 58 year-old woman has lived in Jaque, Panama since 1998. She said she has no hope for the future, and says her people live “like slaves” in Panama. They have no access to heath care, food assistance or jobs. She simply wants a chance to leave the jungle and find a future for her family. Despite her circumstances she said she prefers life in confinement in Panama to life in Colombia. “There I lived with the constant nightmare of death. Here I can sleep through the night though I often go hungry,” she said. (Shaina Aber — JRS/USA)
Actors from the Sacramento Jesuit High School Drama Club answer audience questions after the premier of Imago Dei: Journeys of Courage, Hope & Home. JRS/USA pitched the idea of commissioning students to use true accounts compiled by JRS/USA during years of assisting and supporting uprooted people to write a script and produce a play, thus allowing audiences to ‘stand in the shoes’ of forcibly displaced people and refugees to gain a deeper understanding of what life is like for them. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
### Staff

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael Evans, S.J.</td>
<td>National Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shaina Aber</td>
<td>Associate Advocacy Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Armando Borja</td>
<td>Program Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian Fuchs</td>
<td>Communications Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paris Jones</td>
<td>Administrative Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sean Kelly</td>
<td>Project Assistant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cara Pavlak</td>
<td>Outreach Coordinator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cindy Rice</td>
<td>Development Director</td>
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<td>Mitzi Schroeder</td>
<td>Director for Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Kelly</td>
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<td><em>The Bridgeford Group Chair of Board</em></td>
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<td>Madeline Lacovara</td>
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<td><em>Diocese of Bridgeport Vice Chair of Board</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Frederick Ahearn, Jr.</td>
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<td><em>Catholic University of America</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jennifer Bailey</td>
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<td><em>Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rita Bennett</td>
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<td><em>Aperian Global (ret.)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Bloom</td>
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<td><em>Now You Know Media</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michele Burke Bowe</td>
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<td><em>Chevy Chase, Md.</em></td>
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<td>Stephen Cashin</td>
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<td><em>Pan African Capital Group</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Evans, S.J.</td>
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<td><em>Jesuit Refugee Service/USA (ex officio)</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Ferrero</td>
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<td><em>Deloitte &amp; Touche (ret.)</em></td>
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### Board of Directors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Greene, S.J.</td>
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<td><em>U.S. Jesuit Conference</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Green-Rauenhorst</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>New York, New York</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Timothy Kelly</td>
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<td><em>AonHewitt</em></td>
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<td>Timothy Kesicki, S.J.</td>
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<td><em>Chicago—Detroit Province of the Society of Jesus</em></td>
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<td>David McNulty</td>
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<td>James Mullaney</td>
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<td><em>Regiment Capital Advisors</em></td>
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<td>Joan Neal</td>
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<td><em>Cabrini College</em></td>
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<td>Michael Schack</td>
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<td><em>Joseph Academy</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thomas Smolich, S.J.</td>
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<td><em>U.S. Jesuit Conference</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>Joanne Whitaker, RSM</td>
<td></td>
<td><em>Former Regional Director, JRS Southern Africa</em></td>
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*Jesuit Refugee Service accompaniment is the purposeful and open presence to individuals or communities, through a response deriving from religious and humanitarian concerns, and which has special implications for service and advocacy work.* — Fr. Joe Hampson, S.J.
Each Friday the JRS Emergency Needs Program office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, hosts a pastoral program, which provides group discussion and counseling for refugees. “Almost every Friday, I come here. This program is so helpful,” said Laurent, a refugee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. “It’s very difficult to support yourself in this country, because the government does not authorize foreigners and refugees to work … when I have a serious problem I come here. You know, refugees, we have a lot of problems. There is nobody to advise us, and this is the only place where you can get advice on how to live,” Laurent said. (Christian Fuchs — JRS/USA)
A huge challenge for parents in Haiti is being able to buy their child one pair of shoes, two school uniforms, books and notebooks, and to be able to pay the $100 fee — $10 per month during the school year — to sustain the operations of the school. A JRS scholarship program will provide $100 directly to a new school in Anse-à-Pitres for each displaced child enrolled, and also about $150 directly to students for supplies so the child is able to attend school.