



# **Education for the Poor**

## Enriching Minds and Empowering Lives

— Worldwide —



To the sensible person education is like a golden ornament,  
and like a bracelet on the right arm.

SIRACH 21:21



## Executive Summary

### Description

This project will empower Catholic ministry partners worldwide to provide life-changing education programs for impoverished children and young adults.

### Purpose

To lay a solid academic and spiritual foundation that equips children and young people to escape poverty and become pillars of their communities.

### Location

Developing countries around the world.

### Highlights

#### NEED

- Education is one of the most important human rights, but in developing countries, the poorest families are unable to send their boys and girls to school. These children are deprived of the basic skills needed for future employment and become trapped in a generational cycle of poverty.
- According to the World Bank, the COVID-19 pandemic amplified the global learning crisis. School closures have threatened to push an additional 72 million children under age 10 into learning poverty, where they are unable to read or understand a simple story.

#### IMPACT

- Your generous gift will fill critical funding gaps so destitute children and young adults will be able to attend Catholic schools, trade programs and institutions of higher learning.
- Your gift will support a Catholic education for the world's poorest children by providing scholarships, teacher salaries, school meals, textbooks, uniforms, classroom supplies and more.
- Through your support, children and families will gain access to faith formation programs to receive the sacraments and contribute to the common good of their communities.



*Children in Belize and other developing countries have a simple prayer — to be able to go to school. With your help, Cross Catholic Outreach can bless a child with a solid Catholic education.*



## Trapped in Poverty

No electricity. No running water. No idea where the next meal will come from. That's the heartbreaking reality impoverished families are facing right now in developing countries. For children and young adults living in poverty like this, education represents their last hope — an opportunity to overcome the odds and break the cycle of poverty once and for all.

Unfortunately, the poorest families are unable to give their children this chance at a better life. The cost of a quality education is simply beyond their means. As much as they understand the value of an education and want to give their sons and daughters that push forward, they can't afford the cost of school supplies, uniforms and tuition. As a result, poor students often end their education prematurely — a tragedy that traps them in the same generational poverty their parents have known.

Many of these boys and girls are extremely bright and could accomplish incredible things if given the right opportunities. Take, for example, Kétsia Despeignes from Carrefour, Haiti. The oldest of four children, Kétsia has always excelled in the classroom. She was elected student body president and became captain of her high school's academic team. All the while, though, her parents have struggled painfully to afford educational fees, and they have often had to rely on the compassion of others to keep their daughter in school. Without assistance for a college scholarship, all of Kétsia's dreams and achievements would hit a dead end.

***The only way such bright boys and girls can ever hope to complete their education and find paths to brighter futures is through the compassionate support of friends like you.***

Your help can ensure that young people like Kétsia receive scholarships to attend Catholic schools serving underprivileged students worldwide. Many of these schools also offer free meals and snacks to fuel young minds and bodies, helping students focus on their lessons.

Cross Catholic Outreach has developed a trusted network of Catholic partners catering to the educational needs of impoverished communities, but these missions need your help to succeed. While these partners have a proven track record of academic success and are dedicated to laying a foundation of biblical morals, their meager budgets simply don't allow them to take in the poorest students in the community. You can make the difference by assisting their outreaches, sponsoring scholarships, and helping them provide life-changing educational opportunities to the children who need it most.

Our current projects address academic and spiritual needs in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, supporting the littlest preschoolers to impoverished college students. Please join us in this important mission to change the future for children who deserve so much more!



*Your gift will help promising students like Kétsia to step out of poverty and into the bright future that God has planned for them.*



# Give the Blessing of a Catholic Education!

Education is one of the strongest tools for reducing global poverty. In fact, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI called education “integral to the mission of the Church to proclaim the Good News” during his visit to the United States. In our ever-connected world, the need for a Christ-centered education is greater than ever.

*You have an incredible opportunity to change the trajectory of a young life — and future generations.*

Together we can shine the light of Christ into the hearts of boys and girls who are desperate for his loving embrace. Any amount you are able to give will be invested to “train children in the right way” and lead young souls to the Kingdom (Proverbs 22:6).

Give God’s precious children a chance at a brighter future. Support education for the poor today!



*Your gift will empower young minds at Catholic missions around the world, including at the Marie Louise Bayle Center in Haiti.*

## Our Mission

We mobilize the global Catholic Church to transform the poor and their communities materially and spiritually for the glory of Jesus Christ.

## Good Stewardship

We consider every gift we receive as a precious resource from God. We direct every donation to its intended project, provide honest and accurate reports to our donors, and keep overhead costs to an industry low. We handle funds with utmost integrity and hold our ministry partners in the field to the same high standards by asking them to document costs and the impact of their outreach. These detailed accountability measures have earned us ongoing accreditation by the following organizations:



The Chronicle of Philanthropy  
*The nonprofit world's No. 1 news source*

## Our Promise to You!

Donations from this campaign will be used to cover any expenditures for this project incurred through June 30, 2023, the close of our ministry’s fiscal year. In the event that more funds are raised than needed to fully fund the project, the excess funds, if any, will be used to meet the most urgent needs of the ministry.

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