

Carol Ann and Joseph Pereira Children's Education Fund

There are many men and women in today's world, who by their industry, business acumen and insights, managerial and communication skills have attained a place in the hall of fame and achievers. While there are many success stories there are not many who have thought of giving a helping hand to the underdog who is struggling to exist, yearning for an education so that he can get out of the social rut in which he has existed for generations. I know of one such person in our midst who is sensitive to the needs of today's youth especially for education. This individual is socially responsible and is returning to society whatever he can by way of his philanthropy. This man is a Paulite —Joseph Pereira, popularly known to his friends as Josie. In his noble venture he is aided by his wife Carol Ann.

Over the years whenever they visited India they were touched by the plight of economically disadvantaged children who deserved an education. It was not easy to determine and choose from a vast number of eligibles but with the help and guidance of Fr. Roland Coelho, former Vice Principal and now elevated to Principal of St. Paul's Belgaum, they selected 10 boys from St. Paul's, 10 girls from St. Joseph's Convent. Also they zeroed in on 15 other children from some of the villages around Belgaum who met the criteria for educational assistance. These 35 children were the first

recipients of Carol's and Josie's munificence. This grant for their education will continue to the end of the childrens' high School year. Given at Christmas time (2010) it was a wonderful gift for the parents of the children. Needless to say the patrons of the Fund were delighted as well.



Carol and Josie are now funding some of the projects of the Jesuit Fathers coming up around Belgaum. One project is the refurbishing of a girl's hostel at Deshnur. The costs of the refurbishing have been fully covered by The Fund (Josie and Carol Ann's). The fund has seen a full scholastic year purely with Josie and Carol Ann's money and that of a few close friends in Germany. The organization founded in Germany is called 'Verein' (Meaning Charitable organization)

They have funded the costs of a second year 2011-2012 before Fr. Cecil Fernandes took over from Fr. Roland. Over and above this a large sum has been transferred to The Fund as a reserve for future years. Fr. Cecil has been given the extra monetary help needed to accommodate 3 more girls for the hostel. Six more children were selected in Belgaum

New Hope for the kids



Fr Roland sj



Carol Ann & Josie

Looking forward to a bright future



(3 girls from St Joseph's and 3 boys from St Paul's and are now included in the project. There are now at total of 44 children being looked after by the Fund in the current school year 2011-2012.

The first contributions were collected nearly four years ago on the occasion of Carol's birthday. Josie is an accomplished and skilful fund raiser. To motivate people to donate he committed himself to doubling their money with his own contribution! Here's wishing

him more power to his extraordinary gift of fund raising. Also his and Carol's generosity must be lauded.

Carol Ann and Josie are scheduled to visit India in November 2011. We in the team of The Paulite Link at Mumbai look forward to meeting them and proffering our thanks and that of all other Paulites here and abroad for their grand gift of money for the children of Belgaum. May their example be emulated by many others. God Bless them both. PL

Albert C deSouza (1946), Mumbai