



Humana People to People Belize Annual Report 2008





Table of Contents:

1. Greeting from the Country Director
2. Our mission and Our Strength
3. Map of Belize and where we are
4. Projects in 2008
5. Child Aid Belize in figures and text
The Project Leaders conclusion
A glance into the projects 2009
6. The contributions we received
- and how we have distributed the money
7. Pictures from the projects





Greeting from the Country Director

Welcome to our 2008 Annual Report.

2008 has been a great year for Humana People to People Belize. The Child Aid Community Development Project we started in 2007 has been well established and a new Child Aid Community Development Project started by mid 2008.

As a member of The Federation for Associations connected to the International Humana People to People Movement our organization is drawing on many years of experiences which can be seen in our successful implementation. We are hereby taking the opportunity to extend gratitude to all members of the Federation and specially the Humana Headquarters in Zimbabwe.

We are thankful to Planet Aid, USA and Humana Spain, the two member organizations who have committed themselves to raise funds for projects in Belize.

Finally we are also very satisfied with our cooperation with CCTG from where Poverty Fighters have been trained and prepared to work with our projects. We believe in international solidarity. Poverty Fighters trained in USA comes to Belize every year to participate as volunteers in the development of the Country. The Poverty Fighters have much to offer and are often placed in the front line of the movement in order to implement fresh ideas and initiatives. The Poverty Fighters works with the projects as volunteers for periods of 4 months.

By the end of 2008 Humana People to People Belize reaches out to 2,800 participating families.

18 people have a permanent job in our organization, while 14 are employed part time. Via the second hand clothes project an additional 16 persons have established an income generating activity; buying in bulk, selling retail, earning a living.

More than 1.5 ton of 2nd hand clothes were donated to NEMO (National Emergency Management Organization) to assist people affected by flooding due to Tropical Storm Arthur.





Our Mission and Our Strength

Our Mission

Humana People to People Belize's mission is to create development in the broadest sense. Especially through the establishment and implementation of projects that aim at transferring knowledge, skills and capacity to individuals and communities that need assistance to come out of poverty and dehumanized conditions.

Humana People to People Belize works with the people as partners in finding solutions and in creating the necessary conditions to improve their living standards and to achieve their aspiration for a just and humanized life for themselves, their families and their communities.

It is further Humana People to People Belize's mission to promote humanization of man, and to protect the weak and the outcast and to go against all forms of discrimination, oppression and exploitation.

Humana People to People Belize aims to have an effect on the eradication of poverty, the control of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, education for all, health care for all and for people to have the power to decide over their own destinies.

Our Strength

Humana People to People Belize builds its development projects on concepts that work with a range of activities that one by one and in their totality organize people, connect people with interest in development and create changes involving the people themselves.

Our strength is a dedicated and well-educated staff that lives and works in the project areas. They work shoulder with shoulder with the families to strengthen the power of community and to empower people to take hands on their own affairs. Each individual, who participates in community work, develops life skills and attitudes that enable them to act and create better conditions for themselves and others. The communities improve common life conditions by lifting together and become stronger in dealing with difficulties together.

Humana People to People Belize cooperates with social movements, local and governmental authorities in order to supplement activities and to further promote development.



Map of Belize and where we are



Child Aid Belize North

Child Aid Toledo

Humana 2nd hand clothes shops

Belize



Projects in 2008

Child Aid

Child Aid is a “Community Development Project” based on a comprehensive model, which has been practiced and developed over many years. The model defines an operation area, where 3000 families are mobilized to be members in the Child Aid Project, as the main driving force of development. The model includes 10 lines of action. Within each of the 10 lines the project leader, together with the communities develop and implements activities in support of the families’ and communities’ struggle for a better life.

The 10 lines area:

1. Strengthen the economy for the family
2. Health and hygiene
3. Preschools
4. Children as active in society
5. Children in difficult situations
6. Education
7. District Development
8. Environment
9. Projects own choice
10. Projects own choice

Humana People to People Belize is implementing Child Aid Projects in Toledo District (Child Aid Toledo) launched in 2007 and in Orange Walk/ Corozal District (Child Aid Belize North) launched in 2008.

The projects partner with grass root organizations, the local business community and the local - and national authorities, such as Youth for the Future, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Health.

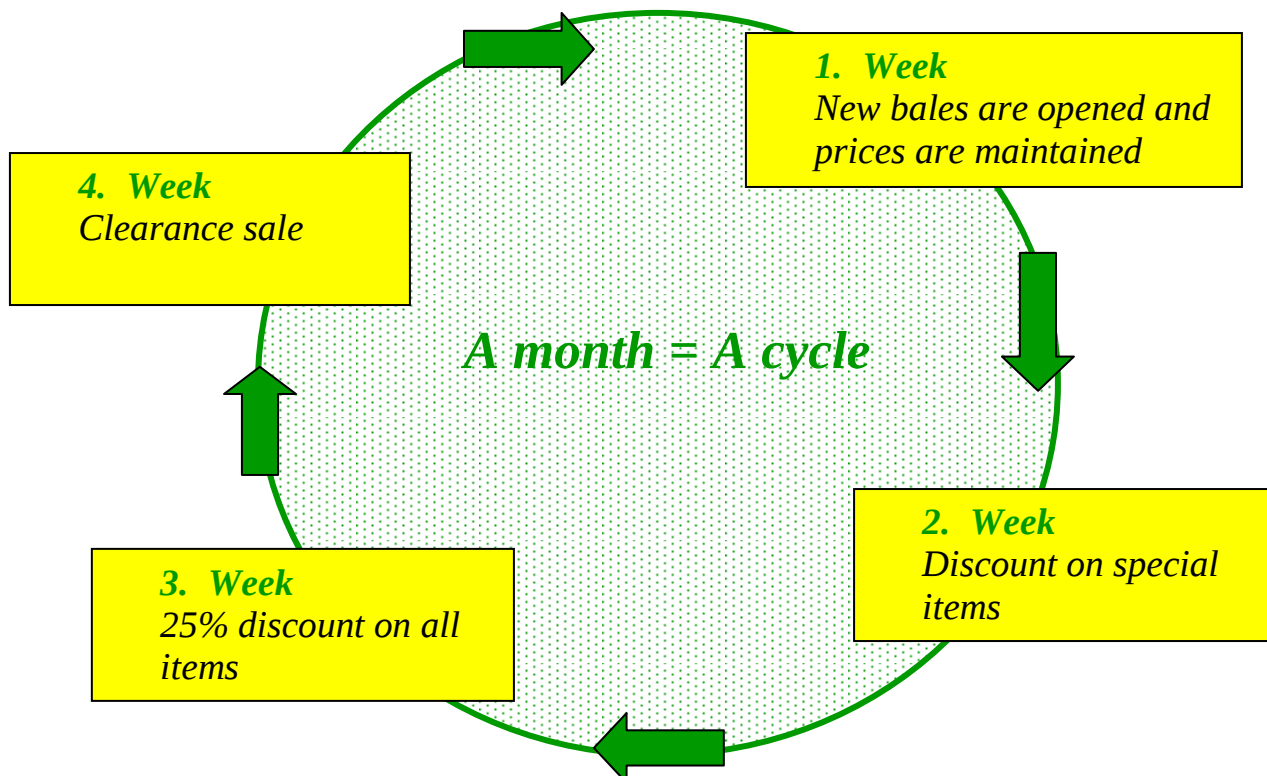


Fundraising

Humana People to People Belize has established a fundraising project in form of import and sale of second hand clothes. Parts of the funding of the Child Aid projects come from the surplus in the clothes sale. Humana People to People Belize has during its first year opened 3 shops. The “Humana Shops” provides good clothes at affordable prices making it possible for poorer members of the society to purchase, create opportunities for individuals to start an income generating activity with second hand clothes, spread awareness of global warming and why recycling is a good and give people a possibility to support our projects to the benefit of the involved families.

The clothes are sold using a system we call “4 weeks cycle”. This system helps to monitor the sales and guides seller to make use of new steps of strategies. The new consignment of clothes is received in the shop in the last week of each month while the old stock is being cleared to pave way for the new cycle, which starts in the first week of the following month.

In the first week of a cycle, all the shops maintain the prices with no discounts. In the second week the shop make discounts on special items and in the third week all items have 25% discount. The clearance is done in the fourth week with very low prices to cater for the customers who could not afford to buy in the first weeks.



Child Aid Belize in figures and text

The Project Leaders conclusion

Child Aid Toledo	Achieved Jan-Dec. 2008
Number of employees	16
Number of Families in Child Aid	1,600
Line 1: Strengthening the economy of the family	
Number of Income Generating Activities	58
Number of family with organic vegetable gardens	455
Number of workshops carried out to improve capacity in compost making and organic vegetable production	2
Line 2: Health and hygiene, hereunder HOPE	
Number of cleaning campaigns	40
Number of people reached with HIV/AIDS prevention-programs	600
Number of people tested for HIV/Aids	26
Number of lessons for families in general health issues	40
Number of workshops for coordinators in health, hygiene and nutrition and HIV/Aids	4
Number of latrines constructed	55
Line 3: Preschools	
Number of playgrounds constructed in the project	1
Line 4: Children as active in the political, economical, social and cultural sphere of society	
Number of active children/ youth clubs	22
Number of members in clubs	335
Number of special-actions or events for children and youths	40
Number of income generating activities	20
Line 5: Children in difficult situations	
Number of income generating activities for families in special needs	4



**Line 6: Education**

Number of schools participating in the school-program	15
Number of schools with poultry or organic vegetable garden	7
Number of children's libraries circulating between the schools	10
Number of participants in adult education	20

Line 7: District Development

Number of initiatives to improve the infrastructure	2
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Line 8: Environment

Number of cleaning campaigns carried out	25
Number of workshop about environment	1

Line 9: Culture and Communication

Number of Open Days carried out	12
Number of people participating in Open Days	2,500

Conclusion from the Project Leader for Child Aid Toledo:

“2008 and especially the last part of 2008 has been a good time for Child Aid Toledo. Participating families and other entities have realized that Humana and Child Aid Toledo is not yet another NGO coming to work with development work in Toledo just to give up after some months. We are here to create development and improve the conditions for the children, the families and the communities. We want to do this with the beneficiaries as involved and active partners.

Child Aid Toledo has as an example constructed latrines with the family as the active part from digging the pit, to building the cement blocks, lay the blocks and construct the housing - from start to finish. Using this participatory method we will not only improve the physical conditions because the family gets a latrine, but will also build on their capacity and equip the family with skills they can use over and over again.

The same happens with the vegetable gardens where the families who sign up for this activity go home and prepare their land and learn about the compost and start their own compost and then the project provided seeds and continue to assist the family to ensure it succeeds.

Child Aid Toledo is convinced that the children and the families have to participate 100% in order for them to take ownership of the activity and fully enjoy, respect and be proud of the result of any activity.”





Child Aid Belize North	Achieved Jan-Dec. 2008
Number of employees	7
Number of Families in Child Aid	1,200
Line 1: Strengthening the economy of the family	
Number of Organic Family Vegetable Gardens	567
Number of Workshops to improve capacity in compost making and vermi-culture	5
Line 2: Health and hygiene, hereunder HOPE	
Number of people received HIV/ Aids information	200
Number of families improving in sanitation around household	50
Line 4: Children as active in the political, economical, social and cultural sphere of society	
Number of special-actions or events for children and youths	1
Line 6: Education	
Number of schools registered in the project	10
Number of school vegetable gardens established	4
Number of Open Days with education, sport and games	1
Line 7: District development	
Number of meetings between authorities, church people and families in the communities - to develop programs	1
Line 8: Environment	
Number of cleaning campaigns carried out	15

Conclusion from the Project Leader for Child Aid Belize North:

“It has been a good but short time to establish the activities in the project. We started in July with around 3 months of introduction and enrollment of families. We have had some difficulties in finding our area leaders because we are looking for qualified people with 10 - 12 years school background. We think it is worth it to really get the right staff because it will save us for many misunderstandings in the future. We are still missing 3 area leaders, but expect to have those early 2009.





The activities we have done, which is mostly vegetable gardens have been followed and received hundred per cent by people.

The vegetable gardens were actually never in our plan for 2008, but we thought that it would be a very mobilizing activity to start with and a good way to involve many families from the beginning. Food is expensive and people are interested in learning to grow their own food and thus save on their budget. Child Aid has used the opportunity to establish the agriculture committees and teach families to work with compost and vermin-culture.

Also 4 schools have started on their vegetable gardens - an activity highly appreciated both by the children, the families, the teachers, the agriculture department and the Youth for the Future. Via vegetable gardens schools can either produce food for a feeding program or produce vegetables for sale and earn money. The children will learn about the process in growing vegetables and the teachers will use the vegetable gardens to make mathematics concrete. We had planned to reach all the 10 schools in the project but due to flooding in the area we haven't managed and after the flooding it was too close to the Christmas holiday. The last schools will get their garden in January 2009.

The HIV/Aids campaigns were postponed for January 2009 except for what took place during an Open Day event in December where approx. 200 youth and adults received information and condoms were distributed.

Also the vegetable gardens were promoted during that same Open Day with information on nutrition and vitamins.

The project area has been affected by flooding and for more than a month it was not possible to move much around between the villages and from some villages families had to move out into shelters other places. Child Aid assisted in the form of entertaining and educative programs for children (and adults) in shelters."



A glance into the projects 2009

Child Aid Toledo:

2008 has been a good year where lots of activities have taking place and many people have taking action to implement those activities. We are satisfied with our achievements for the first year – and specially that the people in the communities now have learn that when we say development it is not a hand outreach but work. People in general have during 2008 turned into appreciating Child Aid Toledo very much.

One of our first efforts for 2009 will be an action to reach 3,000 families. The whole project council and the youth clubs will participate.

Another effort for 2009 will be to ensure that all families actually are organized in Village Action Groups and that all the groups are functioning well.

Food security is high on the agenda and the organic vegetable garden program will continue and many more families will take part in this activity to secure enough and healthy food. The project will provide cooking recipes and organize cooking lessons. Many families will as well take part in the chicken program where we will provide egg layers. In 2009 we will start a pilot Moringa tree program. Moringa leafs contains a lot of nutrition and is easy to grow and we want to introduce this miracle tree to all families.

Trainings of staff and volunteer leaders from the communities will continue to take place throughout the years; - Area Leader, Coordinators, Committees, and people in general will spearhead the development.

Establishing of preschools where they do not yet exist and establishing of more activities together with the schools will be something the project will work with in 2009.

HIV/Aids information and prevention, testing and condom distribution will get special focus during 2009; - so will the youth club. Some youth clubs will be active making music with instruments provided by the project, while others will be more into art or sport – all youth clubs will be mobilized to participate in community cleaning actions and in other ways contribute to the good life in the communities.





The project has a goal to find financing for and construct at least 100 latrines per year. Lack of latrines continues to be the main problem in Toledo. We will in 2009 introduce the rope pump, to see if it can work in Belize and with the Belizean people. We still have communities without water. We will as well encourage the government to secure water for all.

Child Aid Belize North:

Also in Child Aid Belize North one of the first big efforts will be to ensure we have 3,000 families participating.

The families will be organized in Village Action Groups from where many activities and a lot of capacity building will take place. The families will also establish committees, which are groups of people spearheading and supervising activities within certain lines.

We will enroll all the schools that we have in the project area, in the project; and establish a system where our Child Aid activities get a part of the school program. That could ex. be cleaning the community or the river, special actions in the school, theater plays, and house hold survey's, sports programs, vegetable gardens, distributing leaflets and much more.

Our project we will work on supporting the Small Farmers, which is something much needed, we will diversify crops and help people to find their own ways to produce their own crops, this will also involve a lot of support from the Ministry of Agriculture in the Area.

Food security is important and we will continue with the vegetable gardens. We will during 2009 mobilize families to make their own organic fertilizer and pesticide. We will mobilize families to grow their own chickens for eggs and meat and to have fruit trees.

Income generating activities will be one of the important issues for people, since they really need something else to do apart of taking care of the house and planting cane.

We will continue to organize youth groups and start many activities with them, and involve them in special actions we have for the communities. Open Sunday's will often be organized together with the youth groups.

HIV/Aids education and awareness and mobilizing for testing will get special focus during the year. We will involve the youth in various campaigns in that regard.





We will find ways how to work with preschools, making use of volunteers that are already there. We have a couple small communities in the area where there are presently no preschool but where the parents would like a preschool. Child Aid will work on establishing schools here. We will as well meet with all existing preschools to see how they work and to see which improvements Child Aid can contribute with here. Child Aid will of course mobilize all parents to send their children to preschool.

Fundraising

We think there are a potential for 3 more shops in Belize, but before we continue with the expansion we want to make sure that the 3 shops we already have are performing as good as they did by the end of 2008 on a continuously basis.

We want to put an effort into doubling up or even tripling up the amount of wholesale customers. That will take place in the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2009.

Our goal for 2009 is to sell a 20' container each second month and establish ourselves as a solid contributor to the Humana People to People's social projects in Belize.

By end of 2008 we started to work with a new and improved 2nd hand clothes quality in a small bale size. This meant that we could start to sell wholesale and that the retail sale is close to 100% instead of only selling approx. 50% of the clothes.

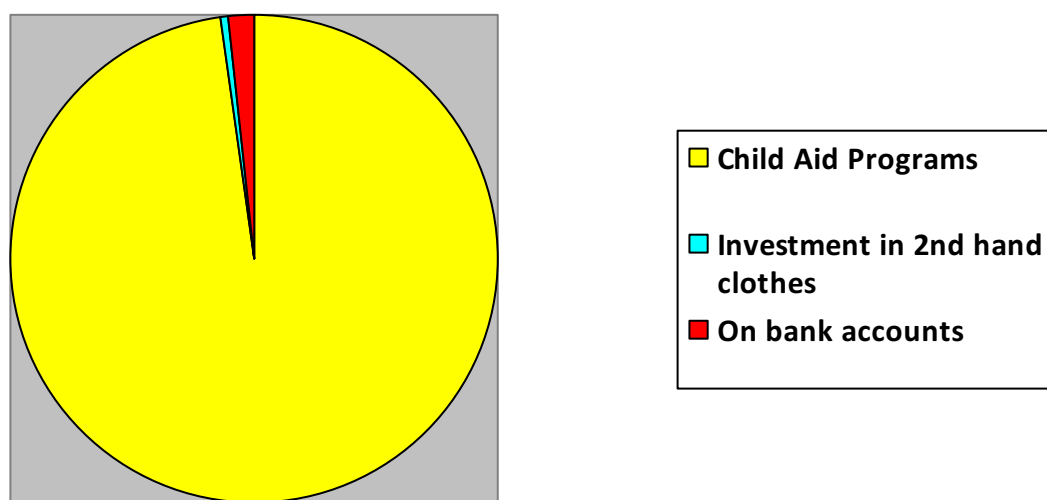
We see a bright future for the fundraising project!



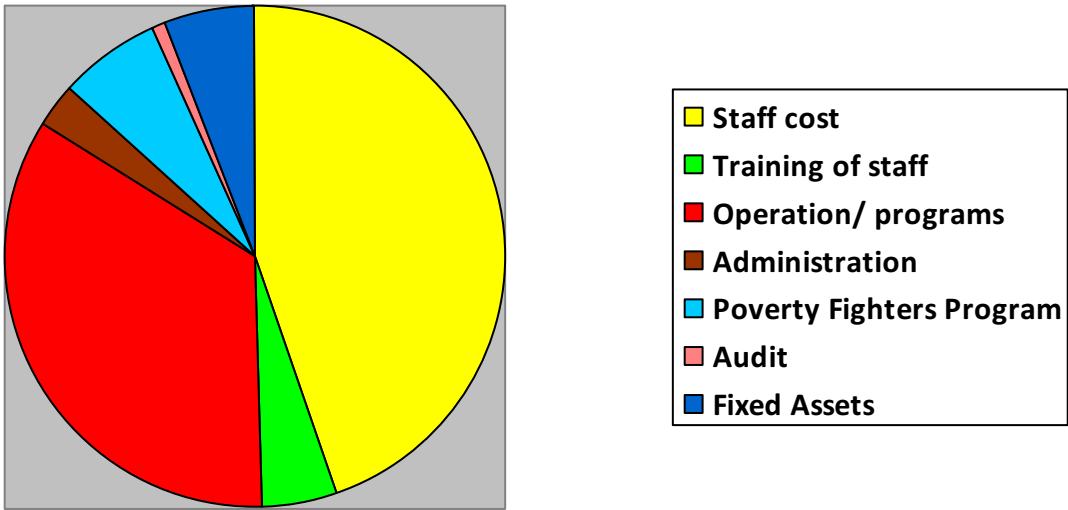
The contributions we received - and how we have distributed the money

Turnover:	US\$	BZ\$
Planet Aid	168,551	337,102
Humana Spain	150,000	300,000
Local farming and business community	5,900	11,800
Australian High Commission	6,000	12,000
HPP Federation	15,000	30,000
Total Cash Contribution	345,451	690,902
 Other income	 375	 750
 In kind	 2,232	 4,465
Total income	348,058	696,117

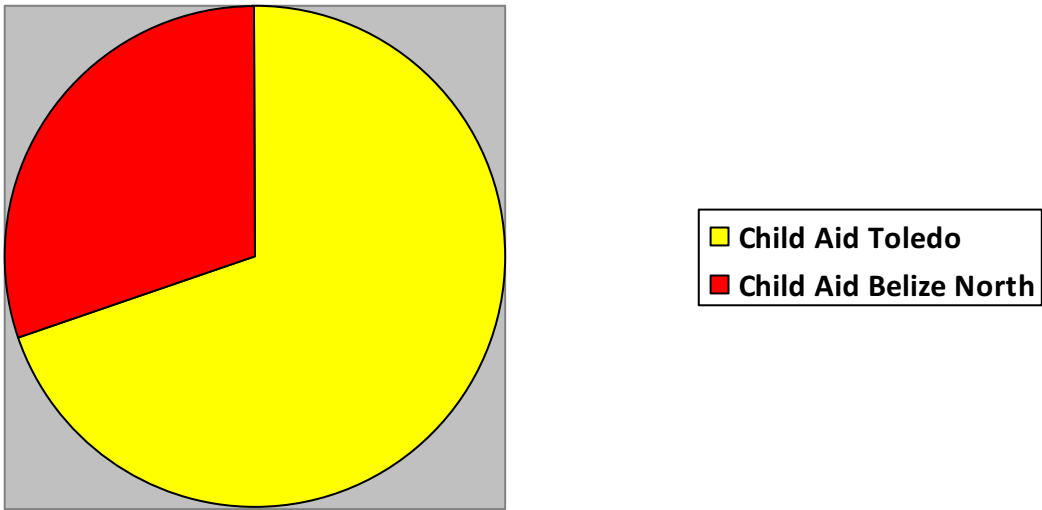
Distribution of expenses:



Distribution of Child Aid program expenses:



Distribution of funds between the two Child Aid Projects:



2nd hand clothes Sale 2008



Belize City Shop – With special Offer



Packing truck with clothing for victims of flooding in June



2nd hand clothes Sale 2008



Savannah Shop – Opening of new cycle



Sale of 2nd hand clothes during Open Days



Child Aid Toledo 2008



Proud children after completion of Summer School



58 poultries as income generating activities and food security





Child Aid Toledo 2008



455 Vegetable Gardens to strengthen the economy and improve nutrition



Playgrounds for the children



Child Aid Belize North 2008



Family enrolment



Open Day with compost/ vermi culture exhibition hosted by Agriculture Committee





Child Aid Belize North 2008



Launching Vegetable Garden in School together with Minister of Youth for the Future



Poverty Fighter working with a big family

