

July – September Appeal

ST VERONICA WELFARE COMMITTEE, P.O. BOX 5098, WEST END, 4101

APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO TILE AN EXERCISE / PLAY AREA FOR THE 106 MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN CURRENTLY ATTENDING THE MADONNA CENTRE IN CHALAKUDY, THRISSUR DISTRICT, KERALA, INDIA

The Madonna Centre for Children who Experience Mental Challenges provides poor children and youths with free education facilities including transport to and from the centre, a noon meal, special educational aids, uniforms, medical aid, vocational training and, where required, residential boarding.

The students' conditions include autism, developmental delay, traumatic brain and / or orthopaedic injury, plus speech, hearing and visual impairment.

When the parents of children who experience such severe learning disabilities are themselves poor and illiterate, they are unwilling to spend money for special education of their affected children. Thus, the lives and futures of children with mental difficulties are made doubly difficult by their poverty and disability.

Sister Flower is the current Director of the Madonna Centre which is recognised as doing an outstanding job assisting affected children to gain skills to perform simple income-generating jobs.

Sister Flower has appealed to the Committee for assistance. During the rainy season the centre ground becomes a quagmire. Although cleaned regularly, the persistent mud and grass together with the resultant spread of giant African snails make the ground unsuitable as well as a health risk for the growing student numbers, some of whom live in the Madonna hostel.

The tiling of the school grounds (estimated to cost approximately Au \$10,000) will allow the students to enjoy the participation, joy and health benefits of physical exercise and play year round.



Madonna Centre grounds during the monsoon



Some of the current Madonna students enjoying a mid-day meal – dining facilities funded by a previous St Veronica Committee Appeal

To: St Veronica Welfare Committee – APPEAL FOR FUNDS TO TILE CENTRE GROUNDS TO PERMIT STUDENTS ATTENDING MADONNA CENTRE TO SAFELY PARTICIPATE IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES ALL YEAR ROUND.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

Amount: