



## REPORT TO MEMBERS 2010-2011



*Education and Training with women in Bolivia*

In 2010 and into 2011 the Steelworkers Humanity Fund continued to promote social and economic justice, advance human rights, build unions globally, and provide assistance to those in need, both in Canada and around the world.

Thanks to the on-going commitments of thousands of Steelworker members who make charitable donations through their collective agreements, the Steelworkers Humanity Fund has been able to continue to support five broad activities:

- ✓ Emergency Relief
- ✓ Local Community Food Banks across the Country
- ✓ International Development Projects
- ✓ Strategic Alliances and Networks
- ✓ Training on Globalization and Worker Exchange for Steelworker Members



## Emergency Relief



**Earthquakes, floods, hurricanes, drought – responding to crisis around the world and at home.**

In 2009 the Steelworkers Humanity Fund assisted with funds for communities affected by Australian wild fires, crisis in Gaza, an earthquake in Abruzzo, Italy, and rains, flooding, and mudslides in Guatemala and the Philippines. In view of the desperate economic situation in several Steelworker communities resulting from the economic crisis, near the end of 2009 the Fund made special contributions to community food banks in Sudbury and Simcoe, Ontario, and Port Alberni, BC, as well as a contribution to a youth centre in Montreal, Quebec.



In 2010 the Fund started the year with a \$25,000 contribution toward victims of the devastating Haiti earthquake, and shortly after that contributed \$15,000 toward a stronger, but less devastating earthquake in Chile. Later in 2010 there were relief contributions toward Hurricane Agatha in Guatemala, flooding in Pakistan, and Hurricane Igor in Newfoundland.



In response to severe flooding in Canada in 2011 the Fund contributed \$25,000 for relief in St-Jean-Sur le Richelieu, Quebec, \$25,000 in Manitoba, and a further \$25,000 for Saskatchewan. Funding was provided for victims of

*(Above) Tapis Rouge camp, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti  
Photo credit – Oxfam / Ivan Muñoz*

*(Centre) Daniel Roy and District 5 present flood relief cheque*

*(Below) Regina area Steelworkers present flood relief cheque to Red Cross – July 2011*



Impact of Chilean Earthquake - 2010

earthquakes in New Zealand (\$10,000) and Japan (\$20,000), tornados in the USA (\$15,000), and to assist in averting widespread famine due to severe drought in the Horn of Africa (\$20,000).

In total, in 2009, 2010 and into 2011 \$277,500 has been contributed by the Steelworker members through the SHF to relief and reconstruction efforts.



Oxfam water distribution after Haiti Earthquake - 2010  
Photo credit - Oxfam

### Food Banks in Canada

In 2009 the Steelworkers Humanity Fund contributed \$140,000, and in 2010 \$100,000 to 60 food banks across the country in order to do a small part to support vulnerable members of our communities. The main vehicle for Steelworker community support in Canada is through the very significant donations of members and local unions to the United Way. The Fund's food bank contributions complement this community support.

*Steelworkers at Hawkesbury,  
Ontario Food Bank*



## Providing Tools, Training Unions, Building Development Projects



Body Mapping – Colombia health and safety project

More complete project descriptions  
are available on our website:  
[www.usw.ca/union/humanity](http://www.usw.ca/union/humanity)  
under "Humanity Fund Projects".

The objective of all of the Fund's activities is the reduction and alleviation of poverty. We know that addressing poverty is a complicated process, especially in the context of climate change and the growing power of huge multinational corporations. We know that poverty cannot be addressed without dealing with the root causes of poverty. And we know that sometimes it will be necessary to 'rock the boat', to challenge a global economic system, and the power of the small group of extremely wealthy individuals that benefit from it.

The challenge for the Steelworkers Humanity Fund is to translate our objectives and vision into practical development projects that have concrete results, and to ensure that our members' contributions are respected and well spent. The Fund works hard to do that, and this report highlights the projects and activities that are helping to develop the knowledge, skills, and organization of unions and community groups that are the building blocks of a better future.



4 Guatemala 2010



Project evaluation with Chuck Macklon (9705) with Chilean Miners Confederation, May 2010

# ing Solidarity – International

## 19 Projects in 10 Countries

### ➤ Bolivia

- CEPROMIN (training for miners in the informal mining sector and women miners)
- IFFI (women's rights and democratic participation)

### ➤ Chile

- Chilean Metalworkers – CONSTRAMET (union health & safety education and organizing)
- Chilean Forestry Workers – CTF (union education program)
- Chilean Miners Confederation – CONFEMIN (union health & safety)

### ➤ Colombia

- SINTRAMETAL (health & safety training in the steel sector)

### ➤ Guatemala

- APROSADSE (peasant agricultural training and support, rural community development)
- ASDENA (peasant agricultural training and support, rural community development)
- FESTRAS (union education and training)

### ➤ Mexico

- FAT (union organizing)
- DESMI (agricultural techniques and self sufficiency, rural community development)

### ➤ Mozambique

- SINTICIM (construction and mining union - union health & safety training, support for negotiations)
- SINTRAVESP (security officers union – union leadership training)

### ➤ Nicaragua

- FESIMINI (women's rights training and promotion)

### ➤ Peru

- CEDAL (union training and community building)
- ISAT (health & safety training in the artisanal mining sector)
- Peruvian Miners Federation – FNTMMSP (union health & safety training and union building)

### ➤ South Africa

- ILRIG (International Labour Research and Information Group – support for research and education on globalization)

### ➤ Zimbabwe

- LEDRIZ (citizen education on economic rights).



Andy King (recently retired from USW) leading health and safety workshop in Peru, 2010

The SHF gratefully acknowledges the support of the Canadian International Development Agency for development projects in Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, Mozambique, Peru, South Africa, Zimbabwe and for public engagement in Canada.



Manufacturing plant in Mexico, organized by FAT



## Education and Worker Exchange

*Peruvian miners  
Elvis and Vicente  
hosted by Local  
7619 at Highland  
Valley Copper  
April 2011*

Education for Steelworkers is an essential part of the program of the Steelworkers Humanity Fund, in both formal class-room settings and through exchange visits. In 2010 the SHF co-sponsored a globalization school in the lead-up to the G-20 meetings in Toronto. Partners from Mexico, Mozambique and Brazil added a global component to the school.

At the District 3 summer schools international guests always add an international perspective that enriches the school. In 2010 a group of leaders from Mozambique who are wrestling with worker and community impacts of mining development around a new Vale coal mine participated in courses and shared their experiences. In 2011 two leaders from miners' unions in Peru and Chile attended the school and spoke of the challenges facing workers there and underlined that our struggles are common.

In April 2010 activists from Local 9414 in Quebec participated in a SHF sponsored workshop that looked at impacts of globalization, alternatives to corporate-led globalization, and how the SHF is part of the union's response. In March 2011 a globalization school in Toronto, facilitated by the SHF and Kairos, examined the links between the global economic crisis and climate change.

Steelworker staff and activists have the opportunity to see first hand the challenges faced by workers and communities outside of Canada, and the how support from the Steelworkers Humanity Fund helps them improve their lives. In order to ensure that the SHF continues to be relevant for members, and to maximize the union's learning from international engagement, the SHF emphasizes the active participation of Steelworker activists in project visits and evaluation, as well as in the



*Guatemala, August 2010  
Roch Sorel (9414) with  
Guatemalan interpreter*

delivery of union courses where Canadian trade union expertise is helpful.

In 2010 and into 2011 Steelworker staff and activists participated in:

- ✓ March 2010 – exchange visit to Mozambique with newly formed union committees in new coal mining area in Tete, and work with our partner SINTICIM
- ✓ May 2010 – evaluation with Confemin (Chilean miners)
- ✓ August 2010 – exchange visit with partners in Guatemala
- ✓ August 2010 – health and safety workshops with miners' unions in Peru (many of whom are owned by Canadian based companies)
- ✓ September 2010 – follow-up health and safety workshops in Peru
- ✓ October 2010 – health and safety workshops with Steelworkers in Colombia
- ✓ November 2010 – exchange visit with the FAT in Mexico
- ✓ March 2011 – evaluation with Constramet (Chilean steelworkers)
- ✓ March 2011 – round three of health and safety workshops in Peru
- ✓ July 2011 – evaluation with CEDAL (Peruvian partner)
- ✓ July 2011 – exchange visit with DESMI in Mexico



The SHF education program and each of the worker exchanges contribute toward building knowledge, experience, and understanding about the global economy, international solidarity and union building among Steelworker activists and staff. In this way the union itself is building strength.

*(Above) Lawrence Johnson (9042) in FAT organized plant in Mexico – November 2010*

*(Centre) Yessika Hoyos shows Joe Krmpotich (2251) and Tom Tataryn (5442) bullet holes where her father was murdered – Colombia, October 2010*

*(Below) Sonia Charette (9291), Chantal St. Onge (1976), and Laura Ramirez with Bolivia Partners*



## FINANCES

The economic crisis triggered in late 2008 in the United States destroyed thousands of Canadian jobs, particularly in the manufacturing sector, and resulted in hardship for thousands of Steelworkers and their families and communities. The Steelworkers Humanity Fund was affected as well – charitable contributions from Steelworker members and employers through USW collective agreements declined by \$200,000 in 2009 from \$1.2 million in 2008, and have not recovered in 2010 or so far in 2011.

The loss of revenues for the Steelworkers Humanity Fund makes it all the more urgent to promote the Fund among Steelworkers, bring new bargaining units into the Fund, and support attempts to increase the level of contributions in existing units beyond the one cent per hour.

For over 25 years the Steelworkers Humanity Fund has been a sparkling example of what the union can do together. The proud history of the SHF has only been possible because of the charitable contributions of thousands of individual Steelworkers, each contributing a small amount through collective bargaining. Fighting poverty and inequality is not easy, and it takes on-going commitment and resources.

**Your contributions are needed and do make a difference.**

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### Financial Highlights 2009-2010

INCOME	2009	2010
Negotiated CBA contributions	1,078,969	1,030,730
Other Donations	35,616	36,243
CIDA funding	304,507	320,507
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,419,092</b>	<b>1,387,480</b>
EXPENSES		
Canadian Food Banks	141,780	100,000
Administrative costs	142,865	156,681
Project support and development	317,762	334,366
Emergency Relief	50,000	87,500
Projects	819,246	811,580
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,471,653</b>	<b>1,490,127</b>
Investment income	63,697	44,143
<b>Net Change</b>	<b>11,136</b>	<b>(58,504)</b>

To get a full copy of the audited statements please call us at 416 544-5994

#### Steelworkers Humanity Fund Board of Directors 2011

Ken Neumann, Daniel Roy, Steve Hunt, Wayne Fraser, Carolyn Egan (8300), Paula Turtle, Doug Olthuis, Joe Bonsu (5296), Darrel Wong (1-2171), Richard Boyce (7619), Ken Delaney, Guy Farrell, Balraj Bapniah (7785), Charlie Scibetta, Thomas DeSousa, Steve Banks

Visit our website:  
[WWW.USW.CA](http://WWW.USW.CA)

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