

lowest caste. The area around Ratlam is semi-desert and the hot season of late April to the end of June is when the school break takes place.

Her father, Mahesh, is a farm labourer and suffers from some mental health issues (as mentioned in one of the translated letters from Shivani) and her mother, Shaida, is not well. She has a little brother named Virendra and a little sister named Khushee. They live in a hut they own, which has no water or electricity.

Our congregation continues to sponsor Shivani. As voiced by some members, "We have taken on this responsibility and it would be a shame if anything should get in the way of our continuance of this support. Thankfully, the Mina Fund will be continuing its excellent work."

Following is a translation of the first letter received from Shivani around Christmas 2012 (Note: letters are clearly written out by a teacher or an older student in Hindi. I then translate

them for the children and people at Fort Massey.)

Dear brothers and sisters,

To all of you I send my loving greetings and always know that I am completely happy here and hope that all of you are happy in your country, with your families. Please receive sincere, heartfelt Christmas and New Year greetings from me and all my hostel sisters and brothers.

Brothers and sisters, I am from a Hindu family and our main celebration is Diwali, and this causes great excitement and also certainly in my hostel. I have learned how Christmas is observed, all of us children and our mother have found out about and observed Christmas. Also, we were very happy since we got the chance to celebrate Christmas. All our hostel celebrated and then did a Christmas drama and then we had a dinner. Brothers and sisters we then went with them to their house. In this way I, the daughter of a Hindu family, was

able to celebrate Christmas and for this I and my family want to give our thanks. I have such good luck in having people such as you to help me and I am taking advantage of this, brothers and sisters.

I have earned a pass in this term. In this hostel school I am honestly getting an excellent education. I give thanks to God that His mercy through you people has come into my life and for this I give all of you my great thanks for this support you have given.

Once again Christmas greetings to you from your Indian daughter,

Shivani Mahesh

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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http://www.fortmasseychurch.com

Sponsorship

by Bill Bayer

Through the help of sponsors like you, the Mina Fund has changed the lives of hundreds of children. With your support and motivation, they can achieve what everyone hopes for – a better life.



Sonam, age 10.

With child sponsorship, you receive:

- A picture and story of your sponsored child
- Child's annual progress report
- Newsletter explaining the difference you are making
- Charitable donation tax receipt
- Best of all, a meaningful relationship with the child you sponsor, making you an active partner in your child's progress and development

Tax-deductible receipts will be issued for donations of \$25 or more. Donations can be made by cheque, Interac eTransfer, Paypal, or by using the Chimp service.

It takes about \$1/day to change a life. Your support makes a major impact, so please sponsor a child today!

Your donation at work:

- \$375 – Sponsorship of a child for one full year
- \$100 – Medical treatments
- \$ 50 – Room/board for 2 months
- \$ 25 – School uniform

Please share this newsletter with others to encourage support of Mina Fund activities and bookmark our web site and Facebook page!

PLEASE MAIL DONATIONS TO:

Dr. Mina MacKenzie
Memorial Trust Fund
6 Esker Drive,
Brampton, Ontario
L6Z 3C5
Phone: 905-840-3390
Interac eTransfer:
admin@minatrustfund.ca



EMPOWERMENT THROUGH EDUCATION

Mina Fund
Newsletter



Dr. Mina
MacKenzie
1872-1957

IN THIS ISSUE

SUMMER 2015

Compassion. Commitment.

by Donna MacKenzie & Bill Bayer

Dr. Jemima MacKenzie (MD 1904, LLD'40) stopped at nothing when it came to helping the poor and sick of India. She prevented an outbreak of cholera after inoculating people night and day. She learned how to perform cataract surgery by correspondence. She once detonated dynamite to blast a well and supply a rural community with safe drinking water. She built hospitals, ran orphanages and adopted dozens of abandoned children.

Resourceful, determined, gutsy. These words seem like understatement when it comes to describing Jemima MacKenzie, who graduated from Dalhousie Medical School at the turn of the last century. The daughter of a Pictou County, Canada farmer, Dr. Mina spent more than thirty years of her life in India, where she worked tirelessly to positively impact the lives of thousands of poor and disadvantaged children, women and men.

Dr. Mina felt that every person mattered and ripples of the impact

she made on the lives of others are still felt today.

Our Goals. Our Promise.

The Mina Fund is dedicated to improving the lives of disadvantaged children in India by providing opportunities for better education.

Today, we help approximately one hundred children yearly. By breaking the cycle of poverty through education, your financial support makes a significant difference!

ENDOWMENT PROGRAM

Your support is vital to the Mina Fund's mission of Empowerment Through Education.

Please consider a planned gift from your estate to endow Mina Fund programs.

For additional details contact:

Bill Bayer
6 Esker Drive,
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25 Years of Service

The Mina Fund is proud to celebrate 25 years of working to improve the experiences and life chances of children.

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A Legacy of Success

Through the support of sponsors like you, Regan's life was changed forever.

Page 2

Supporter Profile

It takes a community to raise a child. Learn about Fort Massey United Church's outreach program.

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Child Sponsorship

For less than the price of a cup of coffee a day, you can permanently improve the life of a child.

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Bill, Courtney, Alexandra & Maryellen Bayer

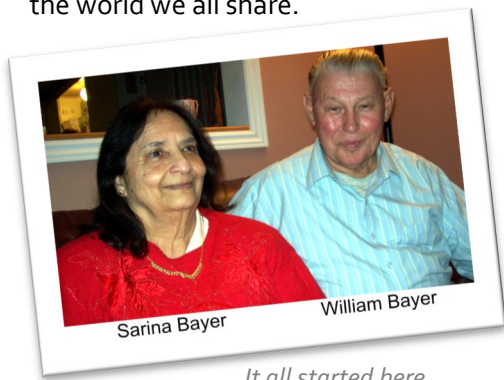


25 Years of Service

by Donna MacKenzie

In 1990, my Aunt Sarina and Uncle William Bayer established the Dr. Mina MacKenzie Memorial Trust Fund (The Mina Fund). As Dr. Mina’s adopted daughter, Sarina wanted to continue Dr. Mina’s legacy.

Sarina and William guided fund activities based on the belief that as children are empowered to realize their potential, they bloom and enrich the world we all share.



It all started here.



Continuing the legacy ...

For almost 25 years, Sarina and William both devoted considerable time and energy raising funds to support Mina Fund activities. When William died in early 2011, Sarina continued to operate the fund, with the help of her sons.

At the beginning of 2015, Sarina passed the torch to her son Bill Bayer and to me, her niece. As the next generation of MacKenzie descendants, Bill and I believe the principles the Fund was founded on in 1990 are just as important today.

We continuously review our processes and technology to work smarter and ensure the highest percentage of your donation reaches the children and programs the Mina Fund supports!

Recent developments:

- Database program for tracking expenditures and donations
- Recording of student identity sheet and progress report
- Posting of Facebook and Twitter updates to promote awareness of Mina Fund charitable activities
- Encouraging sponsors to support Mina Fund activities with an endowment from their estate
- Interac eTransfer and Paypal options for donations

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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A Legacy of Success

by Bill Bayer

As a child, an orphan boy named Regan suffered from rheumatic fever, which caused swelling and serious damage to his heart valves. By age 16, Regan was suffering from fatigue, chest pain and difficulty breathing.

With support from a Mina Fund sponsor, Regan and an attendant were sent from Ratlam to the Sai Baba Hospital in Bangalore, where surgery was performed to repair the damage to his heart. Following this successful surgery, Regan’s

health greatly improved.

At age 18, Regan finished grade 12 and went on to attend technical school. After completing his training, Regan was hired as an electrician by a company in Ratlam.

To show his gratitude for the support of his sponsors, Regan decided to perform all electrical work required by the Ratlam Boys Christian Hostel, with no charges for his labour.

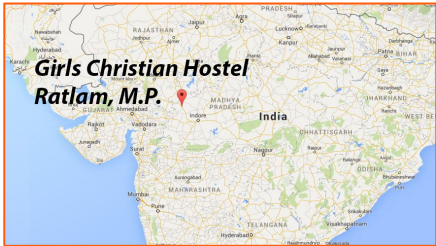
Regan developed close friendships with the children he grew up with and still keeps in touch with them today.

In 2010, Sarina and William Bayer spoke with Regan during their visit to Ratlam. Regan has a very positive outlook on life and he credits much of his success to support provided by his sponsors through the Mina Fund.



Sarina Bayer visiting children supported by The Mina Fund.

MINA FUND AT WORK: TWO EXAMPLES



Girls Christian Hostel

Girls Christian Hostel provides a safe and nurturing environment for orphaned and poor students, empowering these children to achieve lifelong success.



Ebenezer Orphanage Home

Ebenezer Orphanage Home provides free education, clothing, shelter and food for orphaned and destitute children. Children also benefit from vocational training and participate in activities to develop an attitude of responsibility and self-reliance.

FAST FACTS

\$393.72

Approximate tax credit you’ll receive for a \$1,000 Mina Fund donation (provincial credits vary).

104.6%

Every penny counts at the Mina Fund! Last year, program spending exceeded income from donations by 4.6%. Please consider increasing your level of support to address inflation!



The Mina Fund supports about one hundred children in Ratlam, Neemuch, Indore and Dimapur.

The Mina Fund also supports the Broadwell Christian Hospital in Fatehpur, which Dr. Mina MacKenzie founded in 1910.

Supporter Profile

Fort Massey United Church: Ongoing support for The Mina Fund

by Ian MacDonald

Founded as a Presbyterian Church in 1871, Fort Massey United Church has an active view regarding outreach for those less fortunate. Our congregation supports various local charities and causes of wider concern within the world, particularly in support of society’s most disadvantaged people.

In 2008, my wife Linda and I began attending Fort Massey and I quickly became involved in the Outreach Committee. Due to my connection with the Central Indian city of Ratlam and its church, I actively promoted the raising of funds to buy a piece of equipment for the Ratlam Christian Hospital. Through the assistance of Sarina and William Bayer and the Mina Fund, we sent the monies to Dr. Patience Williams (sister of my boyhood friend, H. H. Williams, now of Ludhiana in the Punjab).

In late 2011, I thought of involving our Sunday School in the support of a child at Ratlam Christian Mission School. After the church Session and Sunday School approved this idea, I presented detailed information to the congregation about the school in

Ratlam, its location, the conditions of life for those in the area and pictures and information about the little girl that was selected for us to sponsor.

Shivani, a little girl from Fitera Village in Dhar District (southeast of Ratlam) and her family are Hindu and of the Bhil/Adivasi tribal peoples (aboriginal people of Central India) and of the

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