

CWFF - JUST WHERE DO ALL THOSE LOONIES GO

The **Canadian World Friendship Fund (CWFF)** was designed by the **National Council of Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada** to enable Canadian Guiding members to help Girl Guiding/Girl Scouting throughout the World.

The fund is made up of voluntary donations from girls, leaders and friends of Guiding across Canada every year. So while you were rolling all those coins from your Units latest collection banks, coin filled maps, bake sales, etc. did you ever consider how wide spread these monies were used?

Each year a percentage of the CWFF is given to:

1. **WAGGGS** (World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts) for: our contribution to the World Thinking Day Fund to support the Four World Centres to assist in Mutual Aid Projects.
2. The remaining percentage is held in Canada to support In and Out Travel, which includes supporting Canadian youth and adult travel out of the country and supporting invited youth guests to our country such as the four girls who came to visit from Belize in 1995.

What is Mutual Aid?

Each year our specific percentage of the CWFF is set aside for the purpose of providing assistance to aide less fortunate Member Organization of WAGGGS. Girl Guides of Canada-Guides du Canada has supported Mutual Aid projects with other countries every year since 1965. Mutual Aid is a scheme whereby any Member Organization of WAGGGS is free to submit requests for financial assistance for projects being undertaken in their country. One of the primary goals of the program is to promote international friendship and understanding, hence the name Mutual Aid. The World Association hopes that, as a result of initial contact through the Mutual Aid scheme, firm links will be established between the donor and the recipient Member Organizations.

Requests for support could be for such projects as:

- community development
- child health
- education events and seminars
- literacy
- program development and training
- publications
- equipment

The World Association approves and co-ordinates the Mutual Aid program and keeps a close eye on all projects to ensure they are being carried out according to the manner agreed upon, and that no project receives more funding than is required.

All requests for help must be directed to the World Association. A country wishing to submit a project for which it desires financial assistance must provide the following information:

- the name of the National Organization and a brief background of the country
- the title and location of the project as well as its estimated total cost, and the amount of assistance desired
- the objective of the project and its expected results
- the starting date and an estimated completion date
- details of how the project will be organized and who in the Organization will be responsible for seeing that it is carried out.

Information on projects for which Mutual Aid is being requested is circulated three or four times each year by the World Association to all Member Organizations. Any National Association wishing to support a Mutual Aid project, either fully or partially, is invited to do so, directing its assistance through the World Association and not directly to the Member Country.

More recent projects that have been supported by the CWFF include assistance:

- to [Haiti](#) for purchase of a photocopier
- to [Uruguay](#) for purchase of camping equipment
- to [Madagascar](#) for a school canteen nutrition program
- to [Brazil](#) for computerization of the National Association
- to [Ghana](#) for help to provide a Traveling Trainer
- to [Ecuador](#) for construction of a National Headquarters
- to [Bangladesh](#) for help with relief from an earthquake
- to [Bolivia](#) for providing handbooks for Guiders at Brownie, Intermediate and Ranger levels as well as a basic handbook.

It is through the CWFF that Canada is able to maintain support for Mutual Aid projects in other countries on a regular basis. So next time your fingers are trying to keep those 50 dimes together long enough so you can roll them, think of our fellow sisters around the world who are also trying to lead the youth of today and that... maybe... those finicky dimes just might make it a little easier for them somehow.