



Oceania Province – EREA: School Funding Support

Memorandum of Understanding

Context

The 2008 Chapter of the Congregation of Christian Brothers held in Munnar, India, challenged all who wish to share in Edmund's charism to become hope for the world by opening their hearts to the cry of the poor and the earth and to be moved to prophetic action through advocacy and works of justice.

The Congregation in both Oceania and Africa has committed to development in accord with the United Nations Millennium Development Goals to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, to achieve universal primary education, to promote gender equality, to reduce child mortality, to improve maternal health, to combat HIV/AIDS, to ensure environmental sustainability, and to develop a global partnership for development.

Edmund Rice Education Australia has been established to succeed to, and to carry on and expand the education ministries conducted by the Christian Brothers. One of the purposes in establishing EREA is "to assist in the carrying on of the contemporary expression of the charism of Edmund Rice through links and relationships with relevant ministries of the Oceania Province and with the Edmund Rice Network." The financial and other support given by schools to the work of the Province and Network overseas is best seen in the light of this ongoing relationship.

Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia) is a non-government development organisation which is the principal agency of the Oceania Province to support development for the world's poor. Its activities are part of the vision and mission of the Oceania Province of the Congregation of Christian Brothers in the developing world. The Foundation works collaboratively with local communities in sustainable development projects. These include education, health, vocational training and community development that are grounded in the expressed needs of those communities. The Foundation's specific focus is on countries in the Asia-Pacific Region and Africa.

Policy

The Congregation in desiring equitable support of its outreach ministries together with proper transparency and accountability requires that funds from schools, organisations and individuals for overseas development should be directed through the Foundation as it is the agency for assisting the development works of the Christian Brothers and their partners, and has appropriate processes for disbursement of funds for approved development projects.

EREA in desiring to support the Congregation's ministries gives active encouragement to its schools to direct their fundraising efforts for Congregation ministries and through the Foundation.

Guidelines

To ensure proper transparency and accountability, schools will send funds to the Foundation rather than to individuals or to specific overseas ministries.

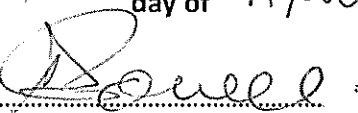
Ministry leaders, project leaders and individuals will require funds to come through the Foundation to ensure appropriate transparency and accountability.

Statements will be issued by EREA to schools and by the Province Leadership to Oceania ministries, staff and Brothers to explain the above.

As with similar organisations, the Foundation has costs involved in fundraising, supporting the proper planning for projects, processing funds, auditing and administration, assuring compliance and reporting to donors. However, at least 90% of all contributions go from the Foundation to the development projects for the local communities.

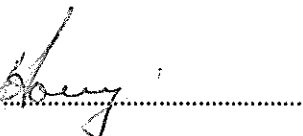
School contributions that are non-tax deductible will have at least 95% go specifically to projects.

This Memorandum is dated the 11 day of April 2011

Signature for and on behalf of EREA: 

Name DES POWELL

Position CHAIR

Signature for and on behalf of the Oceania Province 

Name Peter Harnery

Position Deputy Province Leader