



## CHECKING FOR RESULTS

### DO SHARE'S CATTLE PROJECTS HAVE LONG TERM BENEFITS?

*To answer this question, SHARE project managers did a check up on SHARE cattle herds that have been established in 3 countries.*

#### 5 YEAR CHECK UP IN EL SALVADOR – El Pimental cattle herd

One hundred and sixteen families in a remote community in El Salvador are benefiting from milk, cheese, meat and cattle sales as a result of the work of 12 cattle farmers. This herd was created from SHARE's "pass on" cattle sourced from other SHARE herds in the country. In the future offspring will be "passed on" within this community creating more herds on the 950 acres of ranch land being developed by these former landless families. The sale of one young animal from this herd will double the yearly income for one family in El Salvador.



#### 10 YEAR CHECK UP IN BELIZE – Bella Vista cattle herd

Salvadoran refugee families received cattle 10 years ago in a SHARE project in their new home in Belize. Three of these farmers proudly showed off their well-managed herd that has grown to 69 head of cattle from the original gift of 9 heifers. SHARE also provided funds to dig a pond and build fences but the farmers provided the demanding manual labour. Families sell animals to pay their land rent and to provide basic income.

#### 30 YEAR CHECK UP IN BRAZIL – Mossoro cattle herd

Even after 30 years offspring of the original 42 Holsteins which Canadian farmers donated and sent through SHARE to Brazil in 1977 are still providing breeding stock for crossbreeding with local herds and milk to children from the streets and slums. Hugh and Melba Beaty, retired dairy farmers from the Milton area, donated 2 years to the care of this herd and to train local farmers. Hugh revisited 16 times as project manager for SHARE checking on the long-term results of this cattle project.



*This giant leap of faith by SHARE's founding members began 30 years of unwavering commitment to impoverished families in Latin America.*

# CHECKING FOR RESULTS IN SHARE'S MICRO CREDIT PROGRAMS

*In developing countries progress is often inhibited by lack of available credit due to high interest rates and an unwillingness of banks to risk lending for small enterprises. SHARE is meeting this challenge with 3 micro credit revolving funds in Brazil with plans to start 2 more and with another fund in El Salvador. Bakeries, apiaries, fruit and vegetable market gardens, goats, sheep, rabbits, ducks, hens, roosters and sewing enterprises have been funded by SHARE's small loans programs providing a self-help strategy that improves hundreds of lives.*

Mark Cullen, SHARE's honorary patron, wrote about this example of SHARE micro credit that he visited while in Brazil with Bob Thomas, volunteer project manager:

“Meet Maria. She lives about 1 hour from Santa Luz in northern Brazil on a farm that is surrounded by cactus. She borrowed the equivalent of \$500 Canadian dollars from the SHARE micro credit fund that she was required to repay in 2 years, plus 2 percent interest. There was some paper to sign and off she went – building a chicken house, fencing for a chicken run, 2 months worth of feed, the materials to make the feeders and watering devices and 100 young broiler chicks. She did it – paid the whole thing off on time! Now she has the infrastructure for more chickens: she grows her own chicken feed, sequesters rain water in her hand made cistern and generally makes a living here doing what she knows, understands and has a passion about.

The story gets repeated time and again. And never, during the 4 year existence of the micro loan program, has a farmer defaulted or been late paying down their loan.”



A cooperative of 10 families produce abundant crops of beans, corn, melons, bananas and pineapple on 6 acres of fertile irrigated land. A small loan of \$600 to each family from SHARE's micro credit fund in El Salvador gave these former landless families a “hand up” out of poverty. The crop shown here is loroco. A yellow flower bud is harvested, chopped and used in the country's traditional meal of pupusas – a tortilla with a filling.



Fifteen women working in a sewing cooperative received a small start up loan for supplies. This business is a new beginning for families displaced by a volcanic eruption in El Salvador in October 2005.



Each small loan from SHARE's revolving credit funds is tailored to fit the situation. In Brazil, these enterprising market gardeners can transport produce to market with this truck purchased with a small grant, a loan and their own resources.

“I am totally convinced from my experience of working with poor people that they can get themselves out of poverty if we give them the same or similar opportunities as we give to others.”

– Muhammad Yunus, Winner of the 2006 Nobel Peace prize for his work providing micro credit to the poor

# Women In Agriculture

*70% of the world's poor are women and women only own 2% of the land. Yet in spite of these overwhelming odds women produce more than half of all the food that is grown and consumed on our hungry planet. With extension support, training and access to inputs and credit SHARE is helping many women to improve food production. SHARE's projects empower women as producers in agriculture improving all aspects of their family's lives.*



SHARE supports rural women in Honduras by partnering with Horizons of Friendship, a like-minded non-government organization, in an agro-ecological project. Self-help groups are established to develop small enterprises based on production, processing and commercializing of local resources, entirely managed by women.

In El Salvador over half of the people receiving adult education and being trained in agriculture production in SHARE's current 3 year CIDA project are women. 40% of these women are heads of households. These women are trained by regional agriculture technicians, four of whom are themselves women farmers. Women are given inputs to grow a small market garden or to raise ducks, chickens, hens, roosters or rabbits. To lighten the workload, two or three women will work together. Use of the "pass on principle" ensures that there is a multiplier effect and benefit to others in the community.



In Brazil, the agriculture technicians supporting communities in SHARE's on-going CIDA project are helping rural women to register and acquire their documents so that they can benefit from social and health services, attain credit and land ownership. Women share administration and form the backbone of communities for health, education, production, planning and marketing.



YOUR GENEROUS  
DONATIONS  
FUND PROJECTS  
IN BRAZIL,  
EL SALVADOR,  
HONDURAS, GUATEMALA  
AND BELIZE.  
**THANK YOU!**



## THANK YOU, MARK CULLEN!

Mark Cullen, SHARE's honorary patron has accompanied project managers on monitoring trips in 3 countries in the last 3 years. The foundation appreciates Mark's efforts to understand SHARE's work and communicate to others this development work in Central and South America. These adventures involved long, bumpy rural roads, heat and humidity, mosquitoes, plane delays and a great deal of Mark's valuable time. However, Mark also appreciated meeting SHARE's dedicated southern partners and understood the needs of the rural people he met. He has indeed gone 'the extra mile' to raise funds and promote our volunteer organization. A portion of the sale of each of Mark's new book, *The Canadian Garden Primer: An Organic Approach*, will be donated to SHARE.

# 3 REASONS TO SUPPORT SHARE'S WORK

**1** 100% of your donation goes to a worthy project because SHARE is a 100% volunteer organization.

**2** Your donation will be matched with 3 to 1 funding from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

**3** Using SHARE's "pass on principle" your donation will be multiplied many times.

Give a gift with meaning at birthdays, anniversaries, and retirements etc. Contact SHARE at 1-888-337-4273, 905-838-0897 or [infor@shareagfoundation.org](mailto:infor@shareagfoundation.org). DONATE ONLINE at [www.shareagfoundation.org](http://www.shareagfoundation.org). Information and photos can be sent to you.

- HEALTHY, ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY STOVE – \$100

- GARDEN INPUTS: SEEDS, FRUIT TREES, PLANTS & TOOLS – \$75 - \$150



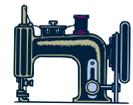
- GOAT OR SHEEP – \$150

- POULTRY ENTERPRISE: CHICKS OR HENS & A ROOSTER, DUCKS & GEESE, WIRE & FEED – \$50-\$75



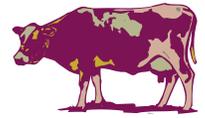
- AGRICULTURAL TRAINING – \$100

- LITERACY LESSONS & BOOKS: ONE PERSON FOR ONE YEAR – \$100



- SEWING MACHINE FOR A COMMUNITY – \$125-\$300

- COW FOR A COMMUNITY HERD: INCOME, MILK & CHEESE – \$700



- TEEN COMPUTER CENTER: TRAINING FOR ONE TEEN FOR ONE SESSION – \$60

- SUPPLIES FOR: BAKERY, APIARY, RABBIT ENTERPRISE, ETC. – \$45

- BOOKS FOR SMALL COMMUNITY LIBRARY – \$30

- MICRO LOAN FUND: ONE LOAN FOR A START UP AGRICULTURAL PROJECT – \$200-\$300

- SHARE SCHOLARSHIP FOR BELIZE – \$350



## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Your generous support to SHARE's scholarship fund will enable 58 rural teens to attend high school this year in Belize. Scholarship student Flori, left, sews her school uniform on a SHARE sewing machine donated to a remote rural village. Each year SHARE's project manager visits the students at their schools providing another 'check up' on SHARE's results.

SHARE News is published twice a year

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Donors are invited to join Project Managers on awareness trips. Call Les Frayne-519-843-3274 or Bob Thomas 519-633-2390

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## S.H.A.R.E. AGRICULTURE FOUNDATION COMING EVENTS

**Thurs. May 7** – Copetown Dinner 6:45pm. Lions Community Centre, Copetown. Call John 905-529-1971, or 905-838-0897 for tickets.

**Sat. May 30** – Plant Sale 9am-1pm. Sharing Hands Ladies Group, 14409 Creditview Road, Cheltenham. Contact Barb Rank 905-838-2441.

**Mon. July 20** – 10th Annual SHARE Golf Tournament. Noon. Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club. Call Craig 905-702-8543 or Hume 519-824-0799 or ENTER ONLINE.

**Sun. Sept. 13** – Corn Roast for SHARE scholarship fund. 3:30-7pm. Harmer Farm, 2395 #1 Sideroad Burlington. Contact 905-335-3730.

**Sat. Nov. 7** – SHARE Annual Dinner Dance & Silent Auction. Speranza Banquet Hall, 510 A Deerhurst Dr., Brampton, ON. 905-793-3458. Doors open for Silent Auction at 5:30 pm. Dinner at 6:30 pm. Call 905-838-0897 or 888-337-4273 for tickets or to sponsor a table.

Check details at [www.shareagfoundation.org](http://www.shareagfoundation.org)

If you would like to participate in fund raising for SHARE, contact [info@shareagfoundation.org](mailto:info@shareagfoundation.org) or call 905-838-0897 or 888-337-4273.