



**CHILDREN
ON THE EDGE**



®

ON THE **EDGE**

- **30 YEARS OF CHILDREN ON THE EDGE**
Reaching children on the margins since 1990
- **INNOVATING EDUCATION**
Bespoke solutions to tough problems
- **INSPIRATIONAL FUNDRAISERS**
From feasts to fellwalking



Children on the Edge supports over 15,000 of the world's most marginalised children to realise their rights, through the provision of education and the creation of protective environments.

In this magazine you can read about the difference your support has made this year; hear from Gladys, a programme coordinator working for COTE Africa; meet Raiyan, a 10 year old boy who attends one of our schools in Kutupalong refugee camp, Bangladesh and find out about some of the wonderful fundraisers who help to make our work possible.

ON THE EDGE SINCE 1990



HOPE, LIFE, COLOUR AND FUN

30 years ago Children on the Edge began, bringing hope to children in Romanian orphanages. From the very beginning we have worked on the edge, helping the most marginalised communities. During this global pandemic, more than ever, our focus is the same; to continue to adapt and respond to challenges and provide safe spaces in uncertainty.

We believe that the solutions to the problems facing communities are found within the communities themselves. Nobody understands the issues or is better equipped to find the answers than the parents and carers of the children. We put every penny we can into supporting, training, and resourcing people to address issues in their own communities. NGOs come and go, but the people stay. Working shoulder-to-shoulder with our partners is how we create lasting change.

Thank you to each one of you who have so faithfully supported Children on the Edge. Your support, fundraising, time and energy brings **hope, life, colour** and **fun** into the lives of children on the edge. We hope you enjoy reading these stories from our communities and supporters.



Rachel

CEO and Founder - **Children on the Edge**

1990s

ROMANIA, KOSOVO ALBANIA & BOSNIA

Supporting children without parental care, supporting refugees in Albania following the Kosovan crisis.



2001

EAST TIMOR

Establishing child-friendly spaces, post conflict.

2005

INDONESIA

Working with children and their local community to rebuild their lives following the Asian Tsunami.



2009

BANGLADESH

After building experience working with refugees on the Thai/Burma border we began our work in Bangladesh with the Rohingya refugee community.



2012

UGANDA

Established our pilot Child Friendly Space and first Child Protection Team in Soweto Slum, Jinja.



2013

KACHIN STATE, MYANMAR

Early childhood development and support for children displaced by war and living in remote mountain camps.



2014

INDIA & LEBANON

Started our support of education for Dalit children in Bihar State, India and tent schools for Syrian refugee children in Bekaa Valley, Lebanon.



2020

COVID-19 RESPONSE

Adapted our programmes to protect and support vulnerable communities as they faced the threat of the pandemic and the affects of lockdown.

INNOVATING EDUCATION ON THE EDGE

For 30 years, Children on the Edge has been finding **creative solutions** to help children **access education** in the most **challenging situations**.

MEET
RAIYAN



Children on the Edge has been able to pioneer the creation of the **only digital curriculum** in Kutupalong camp, Bangladesh, overcoming language barriers and delivering meaningful education for 7,500 Rohingya refugee children. COTE has provided 75 smartphones and battery powered projectors to the schools in the camps and educational content has been translated or dubbed into the Rohingya dialect. This is sent via WhatsApp to teachers' smartphones, which slot into the projectors in the classrooms. After the initial pilot, child after child expressed joy and disbelief to be able to finally understand the lessons being presented.



Sponsored by Lenovo

In September 2020, our digital programme in Bangladesh won the Education Award at the AbilityNet Tech4Good Awards. Along with our partners at Mukti Cox's Bazar we are thrilled, thank you so much to the judges and award sponsor Lenovo.

ON THE EDGE

Raiyan is 10 years old and a student in the Kutupalong refugee camp. When he grows up, he wants to be an airplane pilot. He says "Every night I see planes flying south to north and am amazed by the blinking lights in the night sky. I'd always wondered how airplanes fly, what's inside them, and how people sit in them?" All these questions were answered when he was able to watch a documentary about airplanes at his Learning Centre. The video made him more curious and more determined to fly in a plane one day, or better still become a pilot.



In Kyaka II refugee settlement, Uganda, nearly 5,000 Congolese refugee children were unable to access early years education and protection because of lockdown. Partnering with Ubongo, Children on the Edge piloted the broadcasting of early learning materials through a local radio station. Children also received a basic pack of educational resources and teachers were trained to support them at home, alongside the radio programme.



MEET
GLADYS

"I am Gladys Gillian Akello, a wife and mother of two children. I am currently studying a Post graduate diploma in Project planning and Management. I work with Children on the Edge Africa as Programme Coordinator. During the pandemic, radio lessons in Kyaka II have developed the children intellectually, socially and psychologically, as they have been able to pull through the crisis brought about by school closures. Parents that have supported their children during the radio programmes have developed a deeper bond with the children too".





FUNDRAISING FOCUS



“Juliet said, "It's always such a pleasure to cook for Children on the Edge and I feel honoured to be part of the fundraising for Lebanon, it makes my heart sing!"”

Owner of catering company Green and Graham and a long term supporter of Children on the Edge, Juliet Graham, was already aware of the project that we support in Lebanon and had organised a successful Syrian themed fundraising dinner in 2017. When Juliet saw the devastation caused by the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon in August, she wanted to do something to help.

The current limitations on gatherings in the UK meant that she couldn't organise a fundraising dinner and had to think outside the box and find a new way to fundraise. This is when **'Dine in for Lebanon'** was created, a Lebanese feast cooked and prepared by Juliet and her team, then packaged and delivered to households across Sussex by a team of volunteer drivers.

THE BODY SHOP AT HOME

We have seen some fantastic walking challenges being undertaken by The Body Shop at Home consultants throughout 2020. In August, Fiona Murdoch walked 100 miles and Emma Pink reached the summit of Helvellyn, the third highest mountain in England.

In September, Melany Simpson, a Regional Manager with The Body Shop at Home, along with her partner James, did a tandem skydive from 10,000 feet over beautiful Shropshire. Melany would encourage anyone who is thinking of fundraising for Children on the Edge to **"Just go for it! Take the plunge and do something!"**.

If you are part of The Body Shop at Home and want to fundraise email phone 01243 538530 or email our team at tbsah@childrenontheedge.org.

For 27 years, The Body Shop At Home have supported Children on the Edge, raising over £2 million and helping create safe places for marginalised children around the world.



TO GET INVOLVED WITH FUNDRAISING PLEASE EMAIL FUNDRAISING@CHILDRENONTHEEDGE.ORG OR PHONE 01243 538530

HERE'S TO OUR YOUNG FUNDRAISERS



We are so impressed by the challenges that our youngest supporters undertake to fundraise for us.

“WE SAW MORE CHILDREN FUNDRAISING FOR CHILDREN ON THE EDGE THAN EVER BEFORE IN 2020. IT WAS AMAZING TO SEE OUR YOUNGEST SUPPORTERS WALKING, RUNNING AND FUNDRAISING - EVERY STEP BRINGING HOPE TO CHILDREN LIVING ON THE EDGE”

ELOISE
FUNDRAISING MANAGER
CHILDREN ON THE EDGE

Like 6 year old **Amelia Alice** who along with her mum and grandma took part in a 7.6 mile sponsored walk in the summer, they had a great time and raised an incredible £300 in sponsorship!

5 year old **Evie** raised over £400 when she took part in the 2.6 Challenge in April and walked a marathon - 26 miles in one week!

In May, 8 year old **Zach** completed his epic 2.6 Challenge - running a marathon in 10 days and raising over £1500 for Children on the Edge. Zach chose to take on the 2.6 Challenge for Children on the Edge, as he wanted to help other children who were less fortunate than himself. He realised that like him, children were dealing with coronavirus in other countries too, but for some refugee families, lockdown doesn't just mean staying inside, it means having to find food to survive or face possible starvation.

EVIE



ZACH



AMELIA ALICE





MEET SEBY

We first met Seby on the very first trip to Romania in 1990 where he was a young baby in the Halaucaesti orphanage. In the following years COTE helped him in many ways and eventually was able to close the orphanage he stayed in and move him into independent living. Seby always showed confidence in who he was and a determination to better his life. After university, he followed his passion for entertainment and dance and recently was able to fulfil a life long dream and buy his first home.

£8 A MONTH FOR A
YEAR CAN HELP
EDUCATE A CHILD
IN A SAFE SPACE
FOR 12 MONTHS

THANK
YOU



www.childrenontheedge.org



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