

The following is a brief biography of Mr. Ashid Bahl,
Founder and President of FOR THE LOVE OF CHILDREN SOCIETY OF ALBERTA.

Born in East Africa ^ Kenya , came to Canada on 25th December, 1974 D.O.B ^ April 28th 1953

Address: 11 Canova Road. S.W Calgary Alberta, T2W ^ 2K5 , Phone: 281-6974

The process of giving started for Mr. Bahl in junior high when he used to give his toys and his lunch to poor children while growing up in Africa, and continued giving to the less fortunate and sick children in the thirty years since he migrated to Canada.

In the words of Ashid Bahl- "In a world that has everything, enough food, medicine and technology to cater for the needs of everyone, it is sad to see children still living in poverty, abuse and neglect". It is for this reason, he started this Society, to show people that everyone can make a difference and all it takes is to care and do for others who are less fortunate. He believes that here lies the true purpose as to why we are here. There is no dream, no passion or goal to be reached that is richer than being of service to others in their hour of need.

For the past 25 years as the founder and president of For the Love of Children Society, he has been helping children who live in poverty, abuse and neglect and those who are homeless. He has helped children who are suffering from high risk, life threatening illnesses by providing them with specialized alternative treatments and equipment not found in Canada or not accessible due to financial constraints. Each year in Canada he provided poor and special needs children with food, clothing, educational supplies, specialized walkers, van and porch lifts, body braces, communication devices for non verbal children (dynamite 3001), heart saturation monitors, specialized oxygen monitors, specialized medicine and other equipment and treatments not covered by the health system. This improved the quality of life for many children and in many cases saved their lives. He set up different recreational programs to improve their quality of life also by having events like Santa,s Express and the annual picnic for sick children from the children,s hospital. Twenty years back he started programs to provide medical aid, educational supplies, water wells, electricity and toys to overseas schools and children. He took the initiative to try to abolish child labor in countries that are known to have this problem. His overseas projects, which have taken the society to countries like Africa, Mexico, India, Philippines, Nepal, Egypt and Peru, have proven to be very successful. He also started events like the Santa,s Express- please see-enclosed information.

You will be pleased to learn that presently he has helped over forty thousand special needs children and their families. In addition to this in 1980 he helped settle approximately 19,000 refugees and new Immigrants coming from Vietnam, Russia, Poland, Cambodia, Africa, etc. He volunteered countless hours to help these refugees by getting them housing, jobs, food, clothing and medical help.

He helped many groups like the Mustard Seed, Calgary Women,s Shelter, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, national Institute for the blind, Cancer Society, The salvation Army, Children,s Village, Canadian Cystic Fibrosis foundation, Ronald McDonald House, Spina Bifida Association and many more. These organizations asked for help for those children that could not be helped by them, as they did not fit in their mandate. He led his organization to help the Peoples of the First Nation by reaching out to poor children that belonged to different bands, like the Peigan Nation and the Blood Reserve. He became a goodwill ambassador from Canada and traveled to many countries to help thousand of poor children by giving them educational supplies, food, clothing, toys, working tools, technical aid, water wells, electricity etc., a lot of the aid given to these countries received world wide media coverage. He never competed with other charities and helped organizations like Arusha Cross Culture, Calgary Immigrant Aid Society get on their feet and expand in their program delivery. He started projects like building one of the biggest playground that was accessible to disabled children in an area of low cost housing that didn't have any facility and which could be utilized for over 700 children.

The Manna Relief Hope Program was set up recently to give sick children access to free food supplements that helped considerably to improve their quality of life while they were recovering from surgery or fighting an ailment. Mr. Bahl has helped numerous families with children who had learning disabilities - to help pay for their school fees in Canada and overseas. Currently Mr. Bahl is building a center in Nepal to help not only the local homeless children but which is also open to children who escape from Tibet due of fear of persecution from the Chinese. The projects for the Tibetan children in India have the blessing of the Dalai Lama and he has taken the initiative to help him in his pursuit to free Tibet. He,s also helping the Dalai Lama,s children in Dharamsala and Orissa, where he is helping build water wells, providing school fees for poor children, a school bus, telephone facilities and educational supplies.

Over the 25 years, the lives of many children were saved and quality of life improved due to the hard work of Mr. Bahl. One could go on to state many other accomplishments to help children in need and still would not do justice to the dedication shown by Mr. Bahl. Please see the enclosed information on some past aid given to special needs children. He single handedly accomplished many projects that helped thousand of children in Canada and other parts of the world. He still puts aside time to teach art to special needs children at the Third Academy (grade 10.11 & 12- volunteered time)

Mr. Bahl had to face many obstacles when he started the For the Love of Children Society from nothing to being recognized internationally. He has been fighting for the rights of immigrants to providing a wide variety of service to needy children. All of this was done while he worked for a living (Canada Customs) and having to look after his own two children. He wanted to show to others that even one person can make a difference in this world. Mr. Bahl has volunteered countless hours without payment and gone out of his way to help others in their hour of need.

Although he has never asked for any recognition, Mr. Bahl has received recognition from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth 11,s Golden Jubilee Medal to being inducted in the volunteer wall of fame by the Wild Rose Foundation (Alberta community development) for being an outstanding volunteer ^ Dec 5th 2003, and is an accomplished artist and author of a poetry book (The Eyes of a Thousand Burning Candles- Carlton Press, New York).