



Bringing an End to World Hunger Through Unimaginable Blessings

Dear Parents,

During this holiday season, we want to express our appreciation to you for choosing Montessori Pathways to play an important role in your family's life.

We at Montessori Pathways have always been touched by your gifts to the staff and are very appreciative of your personal generosity.

For the past two years, we have suggested something which will enable you to show your appreciation and at the same time, share with us in helping those less fortunate in the world to improve their circumstances.

There is an organization "Heifer International" which provides gifts of livestock and training needed to care for the livestock to help families throughout the world improve their nutrition and generate modest income in sustainable ways. There are heifers that give milk, chickens that produce eggs, sheep that provide wool, rabbits for food and many others.

The key element in this gift program is that these animals are **Living Loans** because each family, in exchange for receiving their animal(s) and training, agrees to give one or more of its animal's offspring to another family in need. In this way, entire villages are lifted out of dire poverty and people are empowered to better lives. This is called "Passing on the Gift" which means that each gift given will actually multiply many times with every new generation. A gift of 105 rabbits to four Chinese families in 1985 has resulted in two million distributed and another two million passed on to other families in need.

We would like permission to include your gift with those of other parents and have you become a participant in Montessori Pathways effort to have a small, but meaningful impact in impoverished global areas.

Maria Montessori's lasting legacy included peace and education work on a global scale. Yes, we can participate, if we choose, in continuing that legacy. Montessori Pathways School can make a difference in the lives of the greater community.

Sincerely,

Montessori Pathways School Staff December 8, 2009

Message from Cathy Zanchó, mom of our student Lydia Zanchó

I guess the reason I really like the Heifer collection at school is we can pool all the money collected to purchase something larger for a needy family than we would on our own.

We all have so much and so many families in other countries are struggling to even meet their basic need for food and water. Children are even dying to lack of proper nutrition.

We could supply a goat for milk or other animals for food. We might be able to purchase a couple of items depending on the amount collected.

I know the teachers really have enjoyed the collection in the past since we are helping those in need. The gift will last well beyond the holiday season. The children are also learning a good life lesson in how it is better to give than to receive.