



Children at Rumah Harapan in Southeast Asia lead their classmates in a song with mission workers Grace and Yugo. Besides teaching, Rumah also focuses on healthy practices and vaccinations for the children and parents alike. (Photo by Carmen Schrock-Hurst)



Students participate in class at a kindergarten in Wadi El Zayneh, Lebanon. This kindergarten started in 2016 to give Syrian refugees and Palestinian refugees from Syria and Lebanon access to free kindergarten classes. (MCC photo/Matthew Sawatsky/January 2017)

Responding to refugee crisis *Syria and Iraq*

MCC continues to meet the urgent needs of people affected by the crisis in Syria and Iraq. Throughout the past six years of war and violence, MCC has been able to continue to provide tangible hope through food, rent assistance, winter clothing, heaters and fuel, water, education and peace initiatives, including trauma healing.

An important part of MCC’s relief work is in the lives of children that have been affected by this prolonged crisis. Your gifts will help MCC meet these urgent needs.



A child receives an MCC hygiene kit and part of an MCC school kit at a facility that provides care and treatment for children with cancer. Staff from MCC partner Middle East Council of Churches distributed a shipment of relief kits to many neighborhoods in war-torn Aleppo, Syria. (Photo courtesy of MECC/July 2016)

Meeting children’s basic needs *Albania, Jamaica, Southeast Asia, Uganda*

The **Joshua Center** in Albania serves children from the marginalized Roma people with education opportunities, life skills, hygiene practices, promoting literacy and teaching children about God’s love. Your gifts to *My Coins Count* will help cover the center’s operating costs, where a dedicated staff led by worker Norma Teles has been shaping their young lives for nearly two decades.

Maranatha School for the Deaf in Jamaica provides a Christian school environment for deaf students with care, love, community and spiritual instruction. Your gifts to *My Coins Count* will assist with educational expenses.

At the **Rumah Harapan** (House of Hope) in a slum on the outskirts of a major Southeast Asian city, children from the lowest rungs of society learn to read, sing and play together, learn how to stay healthy, and learn that despite their dire circumstances, God loves and cares for them. Your gifts to *My Coins Count* will assist with educational materials and supplies.

In Bundibugyo, Uganda, mission worker Alisha Justice is a registered dietitian who leads the **BundiNutrition program**. The health center treats and works to prevent severe malnutrition in the region. Your gifts will provide treatment and will be a blessing to mothers and families who visit the center.



**Virginia
Mennonite
Missions**



**Mennonite
Central
Committee**



vmmissions.org/how-to-help/giving-projects/my-coins-count/

What is My Coins Count?

My Coins Count (MyCC) is a fun way to raise money for projects of Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) and Virginia Mennonite Missions (VMissions). It is the program formerly known as *Penny Power*. **Funds raised will be shared evenly between VMissions and MCC.**

Collect coins in a container in your church, school, home or business. Tape the label onto a jug, jar or can. Blue water jugs are the most popular option, and can be picked up at Virginia Mennonite Missions, 601 Parkwood Drive, Harrisonburg, Va. After the relief sale, keep your jugs for next year, or collect for *My Coins Count* throughout the year!

Place promotional materials in a prominent spot in your church or organization near the jug(s). Then simply drop your coins into the container and watch it fill up!

Bring the containers to the Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale on Friday evening or **no later than 9 a.m.** on September 30 at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds near Harrisonburg.

The coins are sorted by volunteers and counted in machines from Park View Federal Credit Union, whose staff calculate the total value of each congregation's coins. Currency and checks are also welcome.

Checks should be made payable to "Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale," designated for *My Coins Count*. Put checks in your congregation's jug or bring them by 9 a.m. to the *MyCC* building.

How can we promote it?

Here are just a few ideas:

- **Designate *My Coins Count* as the offering project** for Sunday school classes or Vacation Bible School.
- **Have a special church fundraiser** for *My Coins Count*.
- **Highlight MyCC during your Sunday morning worship service.** This could be every Sunday or just once a month.
- **Have children fill a small container with coins at home,** then give them a reward for each full container of coins they bring to church.
- **Match the amount of your church's contribution!** Match \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or the whole amount your congregation raises. Make it a contest!

Our goal: \$30,000

Bring coin containers to the
Virginia Mennonite Relief Sale
at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds
September 29-30, 2017