



Academy of Saint Joseph

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Free the Children

"Free the Children is an international network of children helping children through representation, leadership and action."

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Free the Children has built more than 300 primary schools providing education daily to over 15,000 children, and is the largest network of children helping children in the world with over 100,000 members active in more than 35 countries. FTC has two main purposes, to free children from poverty, exploitation, and abuse, as well as giving children a voice, leadership training, and opportunities to take action on issues which affect them from a local to an international level. FTC was founded by a young man, Craig Kielburger, at the age of 12 and has since been an organization run by children with the support of their peers and adults around them.

Since the inception of our Free the Children Chapter, we have participated in numerous campaigns and fundraisers, to raise awareness, money, and supplies for those needy all over the world and here on Long Island. We'd like to think that we're just doing our share.

For further informa
and our Free

Dear Friend,

My name is _____ and I am a student at the Academy of Saint Joseph High School. I am also a member of my school's Free the Children Chapter, an organization started nine years ago by twelve-year old Craig Keilberger. Free the Children has blossomed into an international network of children helping children at local, national, and international levels through representation, leadership, and action.

Our chapter of Free the Children has conducted numerous fundraisers, but our most successful campaign was our Dinner Auction. Through the generous donations of merchandise by local business owners as well as those of corporations, we were able to raise over \$4,000 in the 2003 Dinner Auction. With this money, we purchased and installed water purification systems for over 400 families in the Chimborazo region of Ecuador.

High off our success the first time around, the Second Annual Dinner Auction was held in April, 2004 where the proceeds amounted to over \$12,000. We donated it directly to Free the Children headquarters where it will help to build schoolhouses and provide education for the impoverished children of the Maasai people, located in Kenya.

With the success of the last two dinner auctions, we anxiously set out planning the Third Annual Dinner Auction. It was held last April, and we were able to raise over \$14,000. This money was sent to the Joe Opatowski Fund, which was set up to help build schoolhouses in Maasai in Kenya, as well as establish a scholarship fund, which will provide children with leadership opportunities.

Now that we know and are confident in what a difference we can make, we're hoping to pull off another fantastic Dinner Auction in Spring 2006, and in order to do this, we'll need your help.

During our dinner, we will be raffling and auctioning different goods and services that have been donated. We ask that you consider donating any monies, goods, or services that you or your business may have in order to make our auction as successful as possible.

We thank you for your generosity and support in our efforts to end child exploitation. Your assistance is invaluable.

Sincerely,