



**Mully Children's Family
Canada** 
Saving Children's Lives
www.mcfcanada.org

GrandpasCan 2020: A Guinness World Record Attempt

Donations will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$115,000

July 2020

Dear Friend of MCF,

On July 1, 2020, at 5am, I plan to begin a Guinness World Record attempt for the *Farthest Distance Cycled in one Month (30 days)*. The farthest distance cycled in one month is currently 11,315.29km and was achieved by Mark Beaumont (UK) from July 2-31, 2017.

There are NO guarantees that setting a new GWR is possible at my age. I am 63 years old. This is an extreme cycling endeavour. The weather and my own physical and emotional health will play a huge role in the outcome.

I believe I have a 51% chance of accomplishing my cycling goal, but with your help I know I have a 100% chance of making a difference.

So why do I ride?

Each year, my cycling event serves as one platform to raise funds for Mully Children's Family. These very public events on behalf of MCF continue to expand the MCF support base. It is a powerful platform to tell the Charles Mulli story.

Below you can read the story of Paul Njenga. This is just one of thousands of children rescued by Mully Children's Family. It is one of the reasons I ride.

PAUL NJENGA was born Jan 1, 2013. He was rescued by MCF on Aug 14, 2019.

Paul comes from a family with a single mother and is the



**THIS
is
11,315 km**

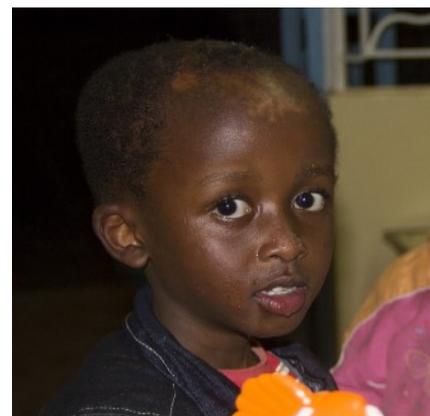
**THIS
is 30 days**

**Arvid Loewen is
cycling 11,315km in 30 days!**

**A Guinness World Record™
Official Attempt:**

**Farthest distance
cycled in one month**

From July 1-30



last born in a family with two siblings. His mother was alcohol dependent, had limited education, and no job.

The family lived in a slum in Pangani known as Katrina where most street people hired rooms where they would pay to sleep for a night or more. The man who lived with them did not have a job and rarely provided for them. He was an alcoholic and abused drugs heavily. He would abuse the mother and the children after his drinking spree.

One night when he came home drunk he lit the whole family on fire. The boys were very lucky when the neighbours heard their cries for help and rushed in to rescue them. Their



mother succumbed to burn injuries and smoke inhalation.

The siblings were then taken to Kenyatta National Hospital for treatment. The children's office searched in vain for any known relatives. They had been a street family—now they were orphaned street children.

MCF came in and rescued Paul and his brother. The siblings are currently in MCF Ndalani. **What a difference a year makes.** Last year at this time Paul and his brother had nothing. Now they are able to

access all their basic needs, education, medical care, protection, spiritual nourishment, and parental love and care. They have found a new family.

The COVID-19 pandemic has added new financial stress on MCF. The government is treating Ndalani and Yatta as a family. This means they are basically locked down—including staff. There are many additional costs to deal with health practices and regulations enforced by the government. The MCF Ndalani school is the only school open in Kenya. We thank God that none of the 1000 children and staff have been diagnosed with the virus.

The 2500+ children from the other 4 MCF locations are facing a very different challenge. The government has temporarily closed all public schools including the MCF run schools. Besides basic education, MCF offered 2 meals per day, health & spiritual care, and counselling. The only thing MCF cannot offer is overnight accommodation. Now that these schools are closed, the children are back with relatives/caregivers where possible. Some find themselves back on the streets in the slums. Last year these children had so much support from MCF and they had hope. They had a bright future. **What a difference a year makes.** Due to COVID, these children's lives have been turned upside-down.

MCF needs our help. In late 2019 and early 2020 Kenya was hit by a severe drought, then swarms of locusts devoured the crops in much of the country. The drought changed to floods. 285 people in Kenya have lost their lives in the flood waters that have done severe damage to properties, soil, and crops.

The partial shutdown of the economy has further eroded the ability of the very poor to earn enough to eat even one meal/day. The cost of basic items like rice, beans, and cooking oil continues to increase.



MCF is providing emergency rations to the families/caregivers of the 2500+ temporarily displaced MCF students. MCF is overwhelmed with the demands on resources needed to offer some relief to those around them that are really suffering, including their children whose schools have been closed due to the health pandemic.

\$16.00 CAD provides one meal per day for a family of 5 for one week.

I am reminded of how Mr. Mulli answered this question. "Have you ever run out of food to feed all the children?" He answered: "Only in the evening. During the night there was an anonymous cheque deposited in our account. The next day we bought food to feed our children."

Charles Mulli has a tremendous faith. He trusts God to send people at the right time to partner with him and his wife Esther. But he does one more thing, he puts actions together with his faith. He does not only pray and ask God for things, he does his part first. I am reminded of the words from the book of James where the writer says, "If any one of you says to them, 'Go in peace, keep warm and well-fed, but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?' Yes, what good is it indeed?"

How often do we pray for God to meet people's needs when we are the answer?

I invite you to be that answer to children who need your help today.



William Wilberforce once said; “You can choose to look the other way, but you can never again say you did not know.” In 2005, after our first visit to MCF, my wife Ruth and I joined Charles & Esther in NOT looking the other way. Our life has been changed forever.



Along with Charles & Esther, we Thank You for not looking the other way.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arvid Loewen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Arvid Loewen

*The things we do for ourselves will be forgotten when we are gone.
Only the things we do for others will live on.* Grandpa Arvid

PS. You can follow my GWR attempt by searching for ‘Arvid Loewen’ on Facebook. It is a public account, so you can follow it without having a Facebook account.

To donate:

Make cheque payable to: MCF Canada

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Send to:

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