

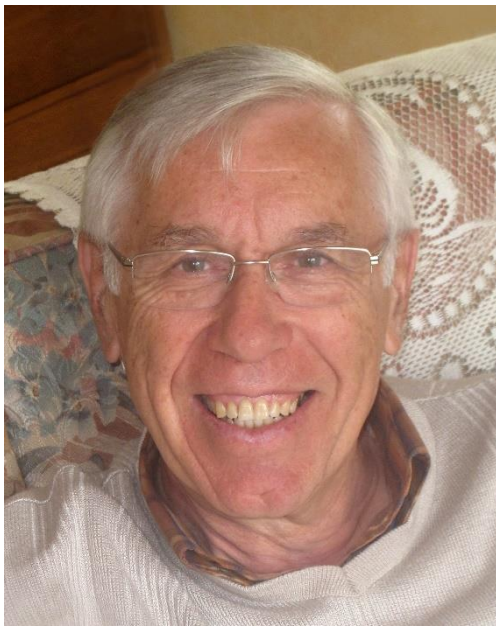


in-touch.online

Theosophical Order of Service International Newsletter

Annual Report of the TOS in France to October 31 2016

Michel Chapotin, President of the TOS in France, submitted this report. Under Michel's more than capable leadership, the French TOS devotes love and care to the suffering around the world especially in the areas of women's issues and education. We thank the members of the French TOS for all that they do.



**Michel Chapotin, President, TOS
France**

Around 180 people support the work of the TOS in France, approximately 100 of whom are members of the organisation. Over the past ten years, we have raised an average of 18,000 euros (\$US20,000) per year for our long term and short term service projects which focus primarily on the education of underprivileged youth. For example, in India we pay for the school fees of children in a Kolkata slum, the after-school tutoring of children in Orai and the studies of Tibetan monks in Dharamsala. In Africa, we collaborate with the Liberal Catholic Church in the running of a school in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo. This year we paid for the uniforms and stationery of a hundred children there.

In response to the renewed call of our TOS International Secretary for the protection of women as victims of violence and discrimination, we maintain support for projects both within France and abroad. We also responded this year to the international TOS's appeals for support for the Olcott Higher Secondary School in Chennai, India and for the Golden Link College in the Philippines.

A small number of our hand-knitted teddy bears were presented to the children of Syrian refugee families arriving in the region of Brittany in France. We sent a donation to a French association working tirelessly to provide relief in Nepal since the devastating earthquake of April 2015. We also sent a donation to the TOS in Italy for relief work after the earthquake that hit central Italy in August 2016.

Reach within oneself and reach out to others was the theme of one of our afternoon gatherings in Paris. Our meeting to celebrate the New Year attracted 70 participants in a particularly lively and friendly atmosphere.



A Happy New Year to each and every worker around the globe from the TOS in France.