

MCC canned meat shipments

Fiscal year is April 1, 2013–March 31, 2014.

Country	Cans shipped
Burundi	69,120
Canada	1,920
El Salvador	9,600
Haiti	97,440
Honduras	20,160
Jordan	20,160
Lebanon	20,160
Lesotho	16,080
North Korea	119,640
Phillipines	40,320
Serbia	40,320
USA	1,584
Ukraine	20,160
Total	476,664



The Canner Times

2014–2015

Canned meat at work in Burundi

In Burundi, a small country in central Africa, many people have spent most or all of their lives in exile due to some 50 years of conflict that forced people to flee the country. Faïda Alex is a 22-year-old Burundian who until late 2012, had never lived in the country. In 1972, long before he was born, his parents sold their land and fled, eventually landing in Mtabila refugee camp in Kasulu, Tanzania. Later, people fleeing the 1993–2005 civil war in Burundi joined them.

In July 2012, the government, which had been gradually reducing services to camp residents, announced it would be closing all camps of Burundian refugees. When the Mtabila camp closed Alex and his

At a distribution of canned turkey in southwest Burundi, Cassien Ndikuriyo, director of Help Channel Burundi, an MCC partner, shares about the journey of canned meat from volunteer to delivery. (MCC Photo by Paul Mosley).

MCC Centres in Canada

Canadian Central Warehouse 231 Railway Ave., Plum Coulee, MB, 204-829-3005

MCC Alberta 2946-32nd St. N.E., Calgary, AB, 403-272-0282

MCC British Columbia 31414 Marshall Rd., Abbotsford, BC, 604-850-6639

MCC Manitoba 134 Plaza Dr., Winnipeg, MB, 204-261-6381

MCC Ontario 50 Kent Ave., Kitchener, ON, 519-745-8458

MCC Saskatchewan 600-45th St. West, Saskatoon, SK 306-665-2555

MCC Centers in the U.S.

MCC East Coast Material Resources Center 517 West Trout Run Road, Ephrata, PA, 717-733-2847

MCC Material Resources Center of Harleysville 737 Hagey Center Dr., Unit C, Souderton, PA, 267-203-8074

Cumberland Valley Relief Center 4225 Molly Pitcher Hwy, Chambersburg, PA, 717-375-2088

MCC Connections 4080 Kidron Rd., Kidron, OH, 330-857-7802

The Depot 1013 Division St., Goshen, IN, 574-534-4071

MCC Central States 121 E 30th St., North Newton, KS, 316-283-2720

West Coast MCC 1010 G St., Reedley, CA, 559-638-6911



 Visit mcc.org/canning or mcccanada.ca/canning or contact your nearest MCC office to get involved.

two brothers and sister were among about 33,000 people who had to involuntarily return to Burundi. When they arrived in Burundi they settled in the area their parents left in 1972.

Help Channel Burundi (HCB), an MCC partner, knew the returnees faced hardships. Land is in short supply. Many children had not been in school and families had difficulty supporting themselves.

“Our aunt gave us a very small plot of land for only constructing our house,” said Alex. “We are in a nameless misery. Some time, we think it is better to return to Tanzania because there at least we can get work in the fields.”

At HCB’s request, MCC sent 48,960 cans of canned turkey and beef to help address immediate needs. In addition, school kits were provided to more than 8,000 children and 269,581 pounds of maize was purchased in Burundi with money from MCC.

Alex was dubious when HCB showed up, taking down information. In his experience, such organizations never come back. When HCB returned with MCC canned meat, school kits and maize, Alex was relieved. “We will have some days without thinking about what we will eat tomorrow,” he said.

By Ed Nyce, with contributions by Jennifer Price an MCC food security worker with Help Channel Burundi.



2014-15 canning crew (from left): David Hochstetler from Shickley, Nebraska, Raynor Krahn from Para Todo, Paraguay, Stanley Toews from Loma Plata, Paraguay and Toby Penner from Para Todo, Paraguay.

Would you consider serving a two-year term as a Canner Operator? To learn more contact johnhillgass@mcc.org or phone him toll-free at 1-888-563-4676.

2014-2015 Mennonite Central Committee meat canning schedule

October 6-9	*Sterling, Ohio	November 25–26, 27-28	Henderson, Neb.	February 9-12	Belleville, Pa.
October 11, 13-14	Kidron, Ohio	December 4–5	Fairview, Okla.	February 16-20	White Horse, Pa.
October 16-17	Middlefield, Ohio	December 8–9	Hydro, Okla.	February 23-27	Hinton, Va.
October 22	**Moundridge, Kan.	December 11–12	Pryor, Okla.	March 2-6	Chambersburg, Pa.
October 23-25	**Buhler/Inman, Kan.	December 15–16	Versailles, Mo.	March 9-13	Kirkwood, Pa.
October 27-28	**Hillsboro, Kan.	December 18–20	Freeport, Ill.	March 16-20	Ephrata, Pa.
October 29-31	**North Newton, Kan.	January 5-6	Kalona, Iowa	March 23-25	Souderton, Pa.
November 3-4	Hutchinson, Kan.	January 8-10, 12-17	Goshen, Ind.	March 26-27	Myerstown, Pa.
November 6-7	Milford, Neb.	January 20-21	Montgomery, Ind.	March 30–April 2	Penn Yan, N.Y.
November 10-11	Freeman, S.D.	January 23-24	Berne, Ind.	April 6-9	*Sterling, Ohio
November 13-14	Mountain Lake, Minn.	January 27-30	Berlin, Ohio	April 13-17	Leamington, Ont.
November 19-22	Winkler, Man.	February 2-4	Spartansburg, Pa.	April 20-24	Elmira, Ont.

* in partnership with Apostolic Christian World Relief ** canning takes place at the MCC Central States warehouse