



Œuvres Maman Marguerite

Coordination of Salesian actions in favor of children at risk

Under the Ministry of Social Affairs



Don Bosco Salesians in DRC

- **Educational and social work benefitting 16 000 children.**
- A century-long presence in DRC.
- 24 sites in 6 Provinces.
- In Katanga : 16 actions.

Who were don Bosco and Marguerite?

Saint Jean Bosco, a priest from Turin (1815 – 1888) devoted to the poor and abandoned youth, established the Salesian Congregation. Marguerite Bosco became « Maman Marguerite » by supporting her son's work year after years among the youth.



Main objectives & integrated approach

- **A pedagogy focused on family reintegration.**
- Hosting and identifying at-risk children.
- Systematic re-schooling of children.
- Access to professional and traditional training with certification.
- Help towards employment.

The Œuvres Maman Marguerite

Abandoned children and youth represent the core of the Salesians' mission.

In Katanga, particularly in Lubumbashi, there are hundreds of children, often from a very young age, ending up alone or with siblings in the street. Young adults in a similar situation can be found in thousands.

The *Œuvres Maman Marguerite* (OMM) network was established in 1994, to improve coordination among the fourteen centers or houses hosting children. The network centralises social and pedagogical data, helps finding resources necessary to take care of children, supports the centers in their efforts to manage funds and generate incomes.

The OMM network is recognised by the **Ministry of Social Affairs** as a **social NGO**.

Basic Principles

No discrimination.
Highest interest of the child.
Right to live and to survive.
Right to be listened to and to participate.

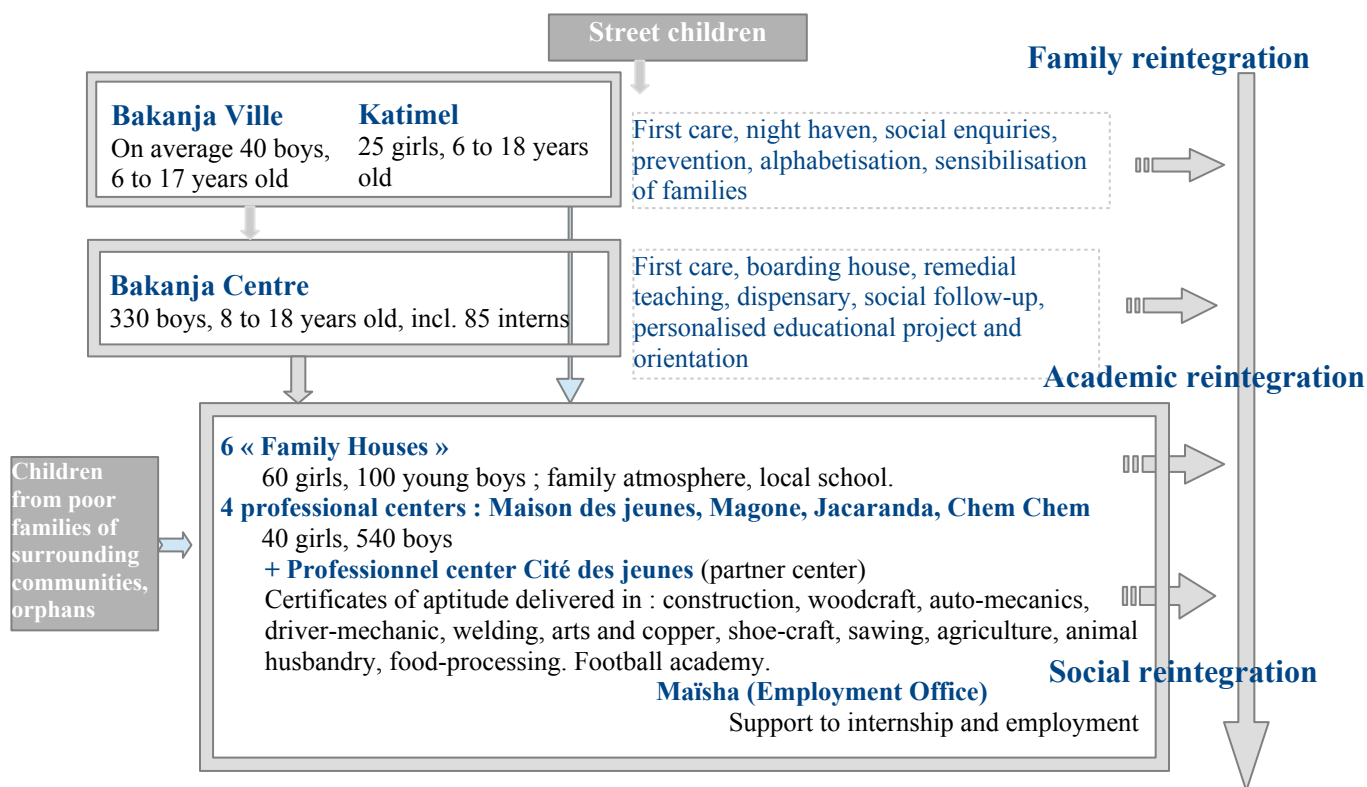


14 hosting centers in and around Lubumbashi

Some **830 children** including :

- 450 interns ;
- appr. 100 girls.

All are children having been chased out from their homes, or children from dire social family conditions.



One child each day = 2 \$
On average for **food, schooling, training, social assistance, medical care** etc.

You can help in many ways !

How?

- **Sponsorship** of the OMM.
- For **entreprises** : partnership with Maïsha for internship, training or employment perspectives ; sharing of competences ; sensibilisation of colleagues, employees, families ; visits of your entreprise to help discovering a labour environment ; amical events with our teams.
- **Patronage** of children or houses.
- Financial or in-kind **donations**.
- Contribution to our **development projects** / innovating activities helping centers to gain autonomy: constructions using compressed earth blocks, canopy nets to protect vegetables, youth's entrepreneurship etc.
- Purchase, at the Selling Unit, of '**Maman Marguerite**' products (jams, peanut butter, chili paste etc.), of fruits and vegetables grown in our farms and centers.
- Organisation of **collections**.

The **Œuvres Maman Marguerite** network is making large efforts to improve financial autonomy of the centers that have potentials for it. Some of the houses will nevertheless remain heavily dependant on external generosity.

For any additional information regarding our approach, our budget, the life of children, do not hesitate to contact us.

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