



PRESS RELEASE

LA FONDATION POLYKAR DONATES CAD\$50,000 TO RESPOND TO THE COVID-19 CRISIS IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

Montreal, 12 May 2020

La Fondation Polykar today announced the donation of CAD\$50,000 to support critical responses to the COVID-19 pandemic in the developing world.

Across the globe and in just a few short months, COVID-19 has given rise to overwhelmed health care systems and an unparalleled need for human support, alongside tragic and immense loss of life. Whilst in Canada, most of us have access to an organized and effective health care infrastructure, many parts of the world are simply not equipped to deal with such an unprecedented pandemic.

La Fondation Polykar is donating funds to two international organizations with extensive experience in some of the world's most at-risk regions. Although different in their structures, both these organizations have established a track record with their involvement in all phases of crisis prevention and mitigation, as well as with their commitment to the development of sustainable solutions in communities within which they operate. One hundred percent of all donated funds will go towards supporting their grass-roots programs.

By contributing to [Aga Khan Foundation Canada](#), La Fondation Polykar will contribute to the Global Pandemic Relief Fund launched by the [Aga Khan Development Network](#). Their response to the worldwide threat of COVID-19 includes efforts across multiple areas which include providing emergency food aid, basic medicines, shelter to vulnerable groups and supporting a multitude of public health measures to “flatten the curve”, as well as providing high-quality medical care to those infected.

New York-based [Insaan Group](#) will enable direct response through its partner, social enterprise [Access Afya](#) in Nairobi, Kenya. With the Fondation's donation, the organization will be able to continue to educate vulnerable patients on COVID-19 through its digital patient engagement strategy, keep clinics and pharmacies stocked with essential sanitizers and personal protective equipment, as well as enable purchases of infrared thermometers only available outside Kenya.

As Amir Karim, President of La Fondation Polykar commented, “In Canada, we are so fortunate to have governance around public services, robust health care systems and established civil society organizations to deal with this unprecedented crisis. Most of the developing world cannot count on any of these three pillars, so we have a fundamental duty to support efforts to assist vulnerable communities in need.”

For all enquiries, please contact:

Iffat Salaam Karim

✉ iffat@lafondationpolykar.org

About La Fondation Polykar

La Fondation Polykar was established in 2018. It grew out of a thirty-year tradition to give back a portion of sales from Polykar Inc. Today, we invest in strategic partnerships in Canada and globally across six focus areas: Arts & Culture, Communities, Education, Environment, Health and International Development. La Fondation Polykar supports projects that align with our principles of long-lasting impact, progress and partnership.

