



SCIAF and the Caritas Award Programme

We're looking for young people with a passion for global justice. If you have enthusiastic Caritas students who are hungry for the chance to help build a better world, we'd love to hear from them.

SCIAF is the official aid and development charity of the Catholic Church in Scotland. For 50 years, we've worked tirelessly to end poverty and hunger for good. Your students can play a vital role in making that dream a reality.

There are loads of ways for young people working towards their Caritas Awards to get involved with SCIAF's life-changing work in their school and parish. Here are some suggestions for how they can put their faith into action.

Schools

Our work with schools is vital in educating all ages about our work for a just world but it would not be possible to cover the schools we do without volunteers. Join us and help us in this vital work.

- Work with SCIAF to promote the latest campaign action in your school. It might be signing a petition against a social justice issue, it might be promoting a lifestyle change to save energy.
- Deliver the SCIAF WEE BOX assembly presentation to your school.
- Lead groups of pupils through the SCIAF Stations of the Cross.
- Arrange with us to contact your feeder primary schools to deliver the Lent presentation to them. This could be assemblies or a classroom activity (we will meet with your students to prepare them).
- Hold a SCIAF fundraising event not only to raise money but to raise awareness of a particular global issue.
- Lead a group of S1's in our enterprise resource 'Talented Fundraisers'
- Write blogs for our youth site about your SCIAF/Caritas experiences.
- Compose prayers that can be used by SCIAF throughout the year.
- Set up a SCIAF or Justice & Peace group in your school.

Parishes

If your Caritas students want to promote global justice in their local community, they can speak to their Parish Priest about helping with SCIAF in their parish. There are lots of ways to do this:

- Helping to put up WEE BOX posters and hand out WEE BOXES during Lent
- Letting people know about SCIAF fundraising appeals and campaigns and encouraging them to get involved
- Writing wee updates about SCIAF for the parish bulletin to let people know how their support is making a difference
- Encouraging people to buy Real Gifts as a parish. Some parishes buy lots of smaller gifts, like pigs, chickens or pineapples and bananas and set up their very own SCIAF farm or village. Others prefer to club together for larger gifts like 'water for a village' or a 'field of hope'
- Setting up a small stall and selling SCIAF Real Gifts in their parish in the lead up to Christmas, Easter or at any time of year
- Reading out the SCIAF WEE BOX talk at Mass during Lent. This is a great way to thank the people who help make SCIAF's work possible and let them know how their support is transforming lives in some of the world's poorest countries.
- Adventurous students may prefer to perform a Lent skit in their parish instead.
- Hold a SCIAF day in their parish. We can provide videos, photos, PowerPoint presentations and advice to help them explain SCIAF's work and bring people in Scotland closer to the communities they're supporting around the world.
- Encouraging parishioners to take a closer look at how their lifestyle may affect people living in poverty and how to make choices that help to protect the world's poor. Maybe they could become an Eco-congregation?

We would love to have you help us and for us to help you to work together for your student's Caritas Award while contributing to build a more just world.

Please contact me, Mark Booker, on 0141 354 5555 or mbooker@sciaf.org.uk if your students want to take this opportunity to help and we will do all we can to support, train and encourage them through their Caritas/SCIAF activities. It is also very important to us that we know what primary schools and parishes have been approached in our name so we can keep our records up to date so please keep us informed of your plans.

We look forward to working with you,



Mark Booker, Schools Officer