



INFORM - **EDUCATE** - **SENSITIZE** - **ACT**  
FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



# MAGAZINE

514-373-9000 / [FONDATION-MATTHEWCOUSTOU.ORG](https://fondation-matthewcoustou.org) AUTUMN 2024



A close-up portrait of Marie-Flora Coustou, a Black woman with short, dark hair, smiling warmly at the camera. She is wearing a dark blazer and has her hand resting under her chin. The background is dark and out of focus.

*Marie-Flora Coustou*

President and CEO

Dear reader,

*Sometimes, it's the smallest gestures that transform lives. At the Matthew Coustou Foundation, we're lucky enough to share these gestures with you. Every day, we see how they shed light on journeys often marked by challenges*

In Monavebe, Cameroon, our commitment takes on a special dimension through teacher training. You have given them the tools to understand and support children with special educational needs. These training courses are not just courses: they are a promise of equality, giving each student the chance to feel listened to, understood and valued.

When the **school supplies were handed over**, the smiles of the children said a lot. These simple notebooks, pens and books are much more than objects. They symbolize a world where no child is left behind, where learning becomes a universal right and not a privilege reserved for a few.

In the same vein, **Marinette's medical follow-up** testifies to your particular attention. Faced with challenges related to her vision, hearing and dental health, Marinette now benefits from an adapted medical follow-up, made possible thanks to your generosity.

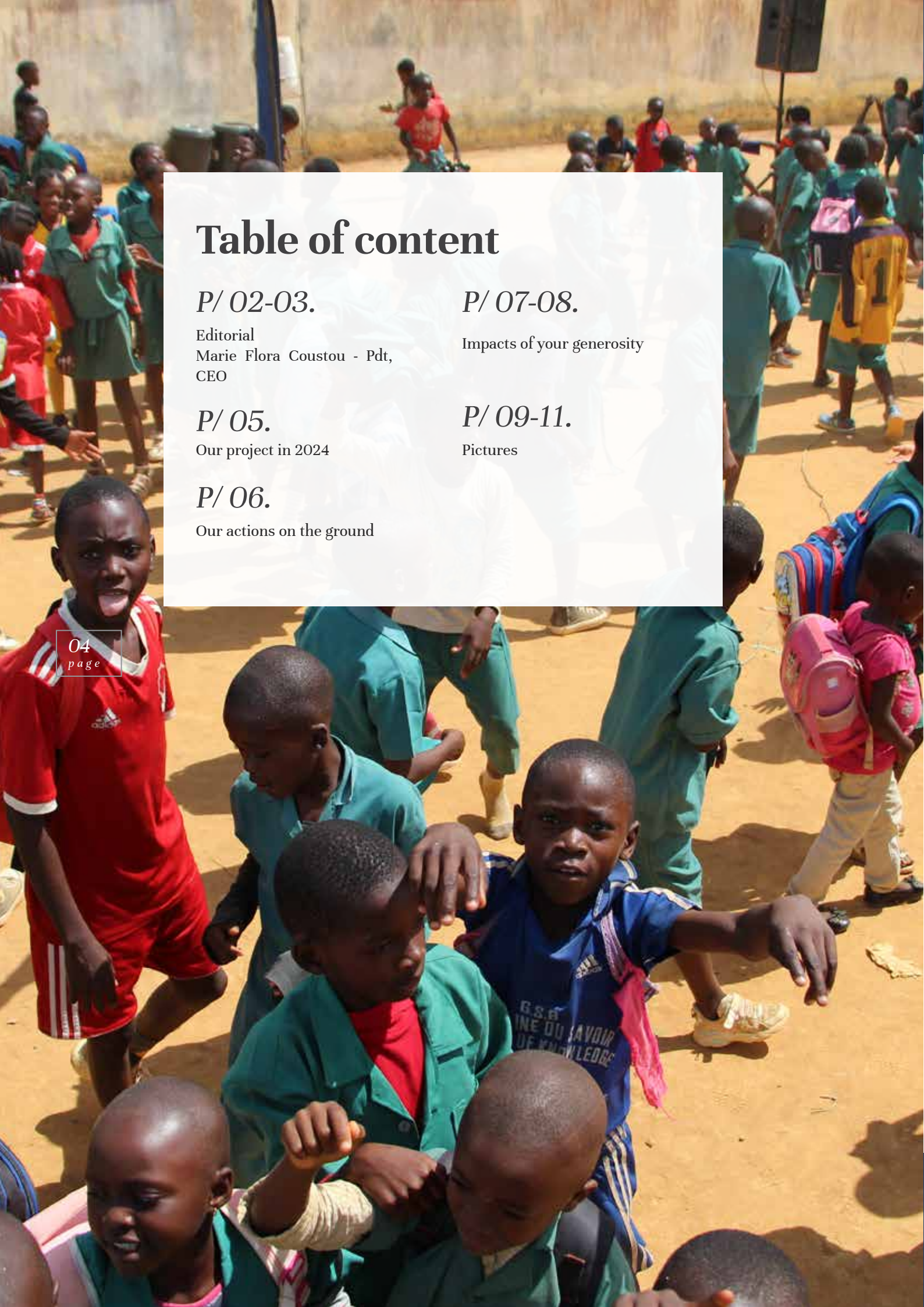
Finally, **Divine Grace**, a courageous child suffering from a motor disability, is being treated for specialized medical examinations. Your support helps meet their specific needs and provide them with the means to reach their full potential.

These stories are not only ours, but they are also yours. Every action is made possible thanks to your commitment.

Together, we can build a more united society, where every child, regardless of his or her particularities, finds his or her place.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for continuing to believe in this mission and to support it generously.





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## OUR PROJECTS IN 2024



This year, the Matthew Coustou Foundation has carried out several projects in favor of children with disabilities, reaching nearly 80 children and their families. Thanks to your support, we have been able to turn challenges into opportunities and offer concrete solutions to improve their quality of life.



Our mission is to support children with illnesses or disabilities, as well as their families, by offering them adapted support and essential information services. We strongly believe that no child should be left behind and that together we can build a more inclusive society, where every child belongs.



# Our actions on the ground



From August 5 to 7, 2024, a **capacity-building seminar for teachers at the Inclusive School of Monavebe** (Cameroon, Southern Region) took place, focused on the pedagogical and didactic care of students with disabilities. The main objective was to equip teachers with the necessary tools for better supervision of students, with an emphasis on the use of **sign language and Braille writing**.

On October 3, 2024, **school supplies were given to 71 students with disabilities at the Monavebe Inclusive School**. Each child received a complete kit including books, notebooks, rulers, slates, pens, pencils, erasers and many other essential materials. This initiative aims to remove one of the main obstacles to their success: the lack of school supplies, which hinders their development and limits their chances of success in their educational journey.



**Marinette**, a brave 20-year-old girl with **Down syndrome**, faces many challenges related to her health, including eye problems, hearing loss, and dental concerns. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to take steps to finance her medical examinations and treatments, giving her a chance to improve her quality of life.

**Divine**, an adorable 4-year-old girl, faces many challenges due to her **cerebral palsy**. His condition requires specific care and medical follow-up to improve his quality of life and promote his development. Every gesture counts to lighten the financial burden of this care and offer Divine the opportunity to flourish despite her disability.



# Impacts of your generosity

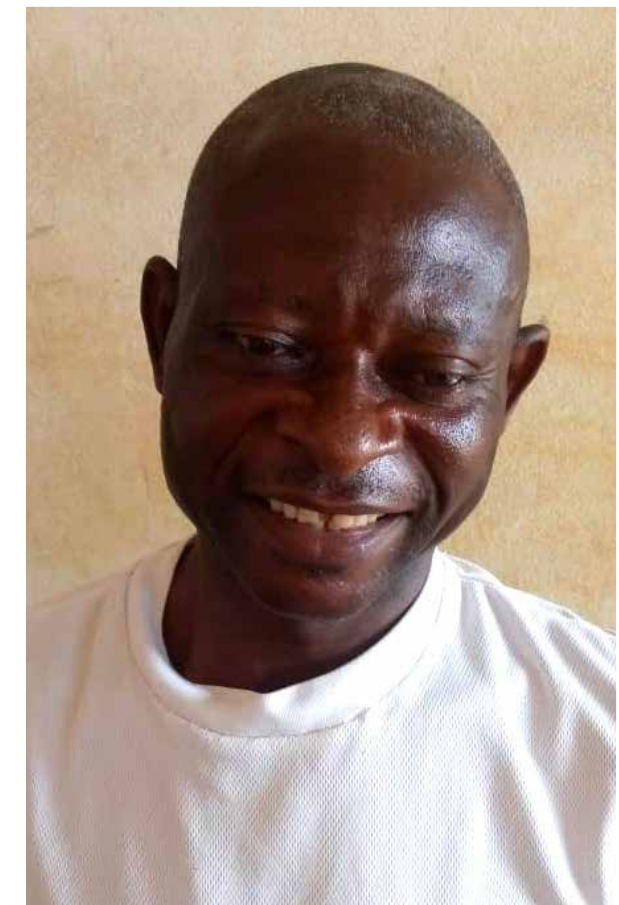
## Testimonials: School Supply Donations



### Parent of a student

First of all, I am very proud, because this donation has transformed my family. My child, who used to spend his time playing, is now fully focused on his studies. He's so proud of this gesture, and it helps him a lot to progress.

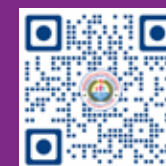
I am deeply grateful and extend my most sincere thanks to the Matthew Coustou Foundation from Continent to Continent.



### President of the parents' association

First of all, I would like to thank the Matthew Coustou Foundation from Continent to Continent for the donations made to the Inclusive Public School of Monavebe, which we received with great satisfaction. These donations allow us to better support children with disabilities. Now, children are better able to assimilate lessons, can do their homework at home, and teachers are able to follow them on a permanent basis to ensure the smooth running of our school.

I also advise parents to take good care of these books, as they are essential for keeping up with children throughout the year. I would like to thank the Matthew Coustou Foundation again for this valuable support.





# Impacts of your generosity



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## Teacher at the Inclusive Public School of Monavebe

First of all, we would like to thank the Matthew Coustou Foundation from one continent to another for its generosity and heartfelt towards the children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) at our school, the Inclusive Public School of Monavebe. Thanks to your donations, including bags, notebooks and books, we were able to start this school year with serenity.

Indeed, the lack of materials often slows down the teaching and learning process, but your support has allowed us to overcome this obstacle. Since the arrival of these donations, we have seen a significant advance in the work of our students. Some who had difficulty reading in previous years, are now able to decipher and read correctly, which is a big step for them as well as for us. It also facilitates the work of teachers and improves the quality of teaching.

We are deeply grateful for this support, which has made a real difference in students' lives and their academic results. These results show remarkable progress, and it encourages us to redouble our efforts to make the next quarter even better.

Thank you to the Matthew Coustou Foundation for this great support. We wish you a long life in this noble mission.



## Director of the School: Philémon MEDOU OVASSA

The Matthew Coustou Foundation from Continent to Continent offered us donations at the beginning of the school year for students with special educational needs, i.e. children with disabilities, in our school. It was an extraordinary and unprecedented moment, because, in 10 years at the head of this establishment, it is the first time that we have received a donation of such magnitude, specially dedicated to children with disabilities.

We express our deep gratitude to the Foundation for this exceptional gesture. These donations have had an immediate impact on the teaching and learning process. The students were able to use their reading and math books, which greatly facilitated their learning. Teachers, on the other hand, have been able to work more effectively with adapted resources, making teaching more accessible for these children. Parents also played an important role in supporting their children at home, including helping them with the exercises given by the teachers.

Thanks to these tools, significant progress has been made. During the first term evaluations, 48 of the 71 students with disabilities passed, i.e. a success rate of 67.6%. This is a very

# Impacts de votre générosité

encouraging performance, and we are confident that this percentage will increase further in the second and third quarters, with the goal of reaching 80-90% success.

We are proud to see the progress of our students and grateful to the Matthew Coustou Foundation, which has transformed our pedagogical approach and enabled such

a surge of success for these children. Thank you so much for these donations that make a real difference in their education and their future.



## Teacher: Ngono Margueritte Viviane

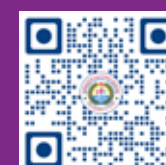
I am Ngono Margueritte Viviane, a teacher at the Inclusive Public School of Monavebe. When we received these donations, we were all very happy here at the school. These donations were a real boost for teaching, and the teachers were also delighted. Finally, they could give homework to the students, who, in turn, did it seriously at home.

We have noticed a positive change: students are staying at home more to work instead of walking around. They are proud of their textbooks, and this is reflected in their commitment. Each child makes an effort to read, do their homework and bring their books back to school. Despite the difficulties that some still face, the results show significant progress among those who have received these manuals.

We hope for even better results in the coming days. We cannot end without warmly thanking the Matthew Coustou Foundation from Continent to Continent and encouraging it to continue its noble mission of supporting children with disabilities

These testimonies are living proof of the impact of your generosity. Without you, this progress would never have been possible. Continue to be part of this great outpouring of solidarity! Thank you so much for your support!

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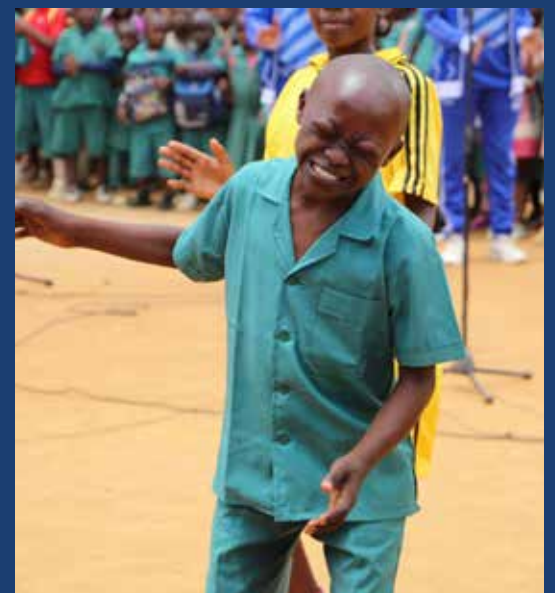


*Together, we can go even further and change the lives of many children with disabilities*





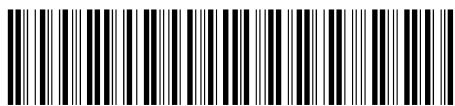
# Pictures 2024





*Join us*

LET'S HELP TOGETHER  
CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES



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