

Blommer **CHOCOLATE COMPANY**

East Greenville, PA • Chicago, IL • Union City, CA

Dear Customer/Consumer:

Blommer Chocolate takes seriously the issue of child labor practices on cocoa farms. Our Company strongly condemns any abusive practices and is committed to playing a strong role in the global effort on this issue.

Today, Blommer Chocolate continues to provide leadership, guidance, and financial support in the industry wide effort to uphold appropriate labor practices. The Global Initiatives Group, the International Cocoa Initiative, and World Cocoa Foundation are all working with a variety of United States government bodies, including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Department of Labor, as well as local West African governments and human rights advocacy groups are aggressively addressing this issue.

With funding provided by the chocolate industry along with public and private monetary support, these organizations are actively working in the farming communities. Educating farmers and their families on the newly established national guidelines on child labor and emphasizing the importance of school attendance. These programs have reached hundreds of thousands of farmers and their families. In 2009, Blommer along with other key industry members joined with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in creating the Cocoa Livelihoods Program. Over the next 5 years the 40 million dollar program will provide training to 200,000 farmers in West Africa in areas of farming technology, marketing and business skills, and child labor sensitization.

The industry's efforts are comprehensive and sensitive to the cultural traditions of these regions. We will continue to work in concert with the local Governments, NGO's and other stakeholders to help put the tools necessary to improve labor conditions into the hands of West African farmers.

Blommer has a long history of providing support to the cocoa growing community and is proud of the industry's work on child labor over the past 10 years. This is a long term challenge and the work is not yet done. With that understanding, Blommer Chocolate will continue to help drive the reforms and provide the education necessary, so that every farmer family in the cocoa growing community can lead successful and productive lives free of the worst forms of child labor.

We appreciate and share your concerns for this issue and welcome any further comments or thoughts you might have.

Sincerely,

The Blommer Chocolate Company