



The Bright Futures child sponsorship program operates in a "whole of community" development context aimed at alleviating poverty and improving quality of life in a sustainable way.

When you sponsor a child through Bright Futures you help build the capacity of an entire community.



The words above capture exactly how we feel about the wonderful generosity of those who support the work of Bright Futures. So many people give in so many ways, and here's just a few that have touched and inspired us in the past year.

- Judy collects cans and bottles from friends & family to raise funds to buy mosquito nets. *She helps save lives.*
- Angela organised a film night to raise funds for the Road to Gulu project. *She helps educate and heal.*
- Ray collects his silver coin change to donate to Bright Futures. *He helps break the cycle of poverty.*
- Frank screened a movie at his local Church to raise funds for health and education in Pakistan. *He educates and empowers.*
- Jonathan, aged 6, saved up for weeks from his \$1 a week pocket money (\$4.20) so that a book could be purchased to help the children Bright Futures assists in India. *He educates and inspires.*
- Many people buy the wonderful products (jewellery, bags, clothes, handicrafts) made in the women's empowerment groups Africa and India. *They empower.*
- Sarah, a Uni student, donated \$1,000 to assist South Sudan refugee children. *She liberates and strengthens.*



Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia is an Australian based Christian aid and development agency committed to providing a simple, direct and effective means for Australians to contribute to the sustainable alleviation of poverty.

Bright Futures works in partnership with established development agencies in developing countries and as a partner of World Relief Australia in providing vital education and development programs which address the causes of poverty and offer the prospect of a better life.

Newsletter

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd
 1 Collingrove Avenue, Broadview SA 5083
 Phone: 08 8342 4426 Mobile: 0411 740549
 ABN 76 803 488 074 CCP 2073
 Email: office@brightfutures.com.au
 www.brightfutures.com.au



JUNE 2016

Bright Futures opens health centre in Lukodi

Paul Madden, Executive Officer, Bright Futures



"One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world."

Malala Yousafzai

To see how Bright Futures is contributing to the education of children in India view the powerful mini-documentary (9 mins) generously made by Adelaide film-makers Passel Media:

<https://vimeo.com/141852521>



Thanks to a fantastic joint effort from Bright Futures donors, supporters, volunteers and our partner group in Uganda, the Bishop Onweng Onono Foundation, the people of Lukodi and its surrounding areas now have local access to health care.

In this area of rural Northern Uganda, poor access to health services and high rates of malaria, typhoid and other diseases lead to alarming infant mortality and premature death rates.

"Already lives have been saved, especially patients seriously ill from malaria."

Dr Lynton Stacey



Lukodi

Bright Futures Board member, Dr Lynton Stacey played an important role in working with the local team to develop medical procedures and protocols, while project volunteer, Angela Driver, and her husband Opiro, managed the renovation and development of the health centre.

In the first two months of operation head nurse Michael Rubangakene and nursing officer, Finny Amoto, treated over 600 patients, predominantly women and children with nearly half of the cases being malaria, a particularly dangerous illness for children, pregnant women and the elderly.

To read more about medical access challenges in Lukodi, please read the powerful reflection from Angela Driver with this newsletter and on Facebook.



Patient waiting area



Centre Lab Technician

"Tank" You to Love in a Cup

Thanks to the generosity of "Love in a Cup", a ministry of the Knightsbridge Baptist Church in Adelaide, a much needed water tank has been installed to serve the new Lukodi Health Centre in Northern Uganda.



At Bright Futures Australia Day Breakfast the call was made about the urgent need for the tank.

Ann and David Eastick were in the crowd and answered the "call" with funds raised by the Love in a Cup team. This committed team raises funds for projects around the world by selling coffee after Church. The tank is in place and we are so grateful for their help.

APWOYO ("Thanks" in Acholi)

The founding of Lukodi Health Centre has only been possible thanks to the help of many, including:

- The Australian High Commission
- Business Lighthouse - Victoria
- Driver Family
- Day Family Foundation
- Macquarie Bank Foundation
- Stock Family
- Stacey Family
- Road to Gulu Project Team
- Love in Cup
- The Bishop Onweng Onono Foundation in Uganda
- Bright Futures donors and team

Help is here!

- I would like to make a donation of \$ _____
Please indicate: India / Pakistan / Uganda / Kenya / or please use where needed most.
- I would like to sponsor a child (or ___ children) at \$42/month per child.
Please indicate: Girl / Boy
- I would like to help support a school class (or _____ classes) at \$100 per month.
Please indicate: India / Pakistan / Uganda / Kenya / or please use where needed most)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 _____ P/C _____
 P: _____ E: _____

Bright Futures Australia - Overseas Aid Fund, 1 Collingrove Ave., Broadview SA 5083
 Phone: 08 8342 4426 Email: office@brightfutures.com.au
 ABN 76 803 488 074 P: 08 8342 4426 www.brightfutures.com.au

Payment Options: (Please indicate preferences below)

Credit Card: Visa Mastercard

No: _____ / _____ / _____

Expiry: ____ / ____ Cardholder _____

Signature: _____

- Donation/s as indicated \$ _____ (once only)
- Child Sponsorship: I hereby authorise Bright Futures to debit my credit card \$42 per month for each child sponsored as indicated on this donation form until I revoke this authority in writing.
- School Class Supporter: I hereby authorise Bright Futures to debit my credit card \$100 per month for each school class sponsored as indicated on this donation form until I revoke this authority in writing.

Cheque: Payable to Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund
 Direct Debit: Please email office@brightfutures.com.au or phone office – 08 8342 4426 - to request relevant forms.
 Donate Online: Go to www.brightfutures.com.au
DONATIONS OVER \$2 TAX DEDUCTIBLE CCP2073



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Chairman's Message

Dear Bright Futures friends,



There is no escaping the fact that we are in the midst of a Federal Election!

With promises from all political parties being showered upon us, it is tempting to make our assessments solely on how they will benefit us personally. The health of a nation does depend on people being employed and opportunities existing for our advancement, but that must always be balanced by our responsibilities to provide for needy people within and without our country.

At Bright Futures we feel privileged to be playing a supportive role in building and rebuilding the lives of thousands of people who are part of Australia's global community. How have we done that in recent times?

Bright Futures has become a member of Micah Australia, a consortium of Christian aid agencies advocating for justice and change to better the lives of poor communities around the world. We have added our voices to those actively involving in promoting a world free from poverty and inequality.

To demonstrate that involvement in a practical way, Bright Futures has assisted in resourcing our partners in northern Uganda, to open a much needed Health Centre in Lukodi that is providing primary health care, particularly to women and children.

Finally, as a means of enhancing our capacity and impact in alleviating poverty and strengthening communities through our Pakistan, Kenya and Uganda and beyond, the Bright Futures Board has decided to seek accreditation under the Australian Non-Government Cooperation Program. This rigorous process will strengthen our practice and hopefully lead to access to greater resources to serve those in need.

Thank you again for being part of the Bright Futures family.

Roger Bryson, Chair
Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia

“One book, one pen, one child and one teacher can change the world.”

When Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani schoolgirl shot by the Taliban for her advocacy of girls education and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner at 17 years of age, uttered the words above before the United Nations Assembly, she captured much more than the right of every child to an education. She spoke to the power of education to liberate and improve the lives of the world's poor. At the heart of the work of Bright Futures is an unrelenting commitment to the education of children, their parents and their communities as education makes transformative change possible.

Education Empowers

The economic and personal empowerment that education provides, for girls and women in particular, allows them to make healthier choices for themselves and their families. Benefits include not only the reducing the impact of HIV/AIDS, but reduction of poverty, improvement of the health of women and their children, delay of marriage, reduction of female genital cutting, and increase in decision-making power.

On average, for a girl in a poor country, each additional year of education beyond grades three or four will lead to 20 percent higher wages and a 10 percent decrease in the risk of her own children dying of preventable causes.

Education Contributes to the Fight against HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS infection rates are halved among young people who finish primary school. If every girl and boy received a complete primary education, at least 7 million new cases of HIV could be prevented in ten years. A Ugandan study showed that rural Ugandans with secondary education have a 75% lower rate of HIV infection than those without education.



Education Provides a Foundation for Peace Building.

Education is a critical building block for the development of an inclusive, democratic society. Education nourishes peace. Across society, every year of schooling decreases a male's chance of engaging in violent conflict by 20 percent. Development alleviates the injustice and lack of opportunity that proponents of violence and terrorism exploit.

Source: Results.org



Education Helps Improve Child Survival and Maternal Health

A child born to an educated mother is more than twice as likely to survive to the age of five as a child born to an uneducated mother. Educated mothers are 50 percent more likely to immunize their children than mothers with no schooling. Women with six or more years of education are more likely to seek prenatal care, assisted childbirth, and postnatal care, reducing the risk of maternal and child mortality and illness.



Education Helps Fight Poverty and Spur Economic Growth.

Education is a prerequisite for short and long-term economic growth. No country has achieved continuous and rapid economic growth without at least 40 percent of adults being able to read and write. A person's earnings increase by 10 percent for each year of schooling they receive, translating to a one percent annual increase in GDP if good quality education is offered to the entire population.



Justice as a social reality

In the Biblical view, justice is a state of fairness, integrity, peace and wholeness at all levels of society. It's a state that ensures the rights and dignity of all, particularly the most vulnerable. In joining Micah Australia, Bright Futures is adding its voice with others who share a vision of a better world for the poor.



When you're next prompted to give ...

Online:

Go to www.brightfutures.com.au and click on the GiveNow secure link to donate to projects in the country of your choice. You can even make a note to tell us how you would like the funds used and print out a tax deductible receipt.

Phone or Post:

You can call the office to donate by credit card or post your cheque to the Bright Futures office.

Make a Donation India

Using the secure engine of GiveNow.com.au

Make a Donation Uganda

Using the secure engine of GiveNow.com.au

Make a Donation Pakistan

Using the secure engine of GiveNow.com.au

The Bright Futures Team

BF Board Directors

Roger Bryson, Chair *
Philip Good
Lee Haakmeester*
Carl Ginger
Dr Don Van Cooten
Sarah Spiker
Fred Chilton
Dr Lynton Stacey*

BF Executive Officer

Paul Madden - M 0411 740549

BF Admin & Officer

Deb Mugford

Office & Shop:

1 Collingrove Ave, Broadview
SA 5083 P: 08 8342 4426
E: office@brightfutures.com.au
ABN 76 803 488 074

BF Project Management Team

Mudie Howarth
Barbara Madden
Kym Lear
Andy Farmer
Linda Baverstock
Deb Mugford
John Day
Eleanor Day
Phil Bunyon
Kelly Bunyon

*Plus Board members as indicated.

Bank Details

Bright Futures Australia –
Overseas Aid Fund
Westpac
BSB: 035-002
Acc: 392116

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