



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.



Manza

I am eight years old and live in a village in Pakistan. I attend the CFP school and am in First grade.



Hamsa

I am six years old and I live in Kalyan Nagar Village in Bangalore, India. I attend the Sinclair School and am in First Grade.



Mohan Kumar

I am four years old and live in Hosur Bande Village (granite quarry) in India. I attend the Sinclair School and am in Nursery class.



Dysaam

I am six years old and live in a village near Lahore where I attend the CFP school and am in first grade.



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

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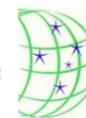


*I'm only one,
but I am still one.
I cannot do
everything,
but I can do
something.
And because I
cannot do everything,
I will not refuse
to do that something
that I can.*

Helen Keller



World Relief
Australia
Code of Conduct
Signatory



Seeds of hope for Northern Uganda

For people in the Lukodi region in Northern Uganda, where Bright Futures is working in partnership with the community, access to oxen, seed and micro loans is helping transform their communities and their lives following two decades of war.

On his recent project monitoring visit, Bright Futures Development Coordinator, David Woodroffe found just how great the impact has been. David reports that in every village he visited the meeting discussion centred on the way in which God had blessed them with the gifts of seed, oxen and micro-loans funds provided and the huge difference this was making.

Thanks to a generous grant to the project from Entrust Foundation, oxen have been provided in many villages and this has enabled more land to be planted. Additionally, the grant provided a diverse range of seeds to improve production of food and this enabled a grain bank to be established. Those receiving grain for planting repay 150% of their initial borrowing into the grain bank following harvest for use by others.

The micro-loans program operating through the nine Rot Kweri's (village self help groups) within the project is providing a valuable resource for those in the community to access funds at critical times. The mutual accountability in these small savings groups results in rapid repayment of loans and the creation of a supportive environment.



L-R: David Woodroffe, Rev Ali Ocan (Project Coordinator, Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation) & local Development Officer, Eric, examine seeds.



Grain and micro loan records on display for all to see.

During the visit it was also a privilege for David, and the small team from Bright Futures who were with him, to participate in the official handover of a bus generously donated by the Driver family. The bus will provide a much needed transport option for this isolated community. A priority for the next stage of the project is to improve access to education for those children who do not attend school or who, for economic or cultural reasons, leave prematurely. While the work in Lukodi is a work in progress – large strides have already been taken and this is only the beginning.



Lukodi community members inspect the new bus.

*"... to do something small but truly
life changing, sponsor a child.
It will transform their lives and
impact their entire community."*

BRIGHT FUTURES CHILD SPONSORSHIP – APPLY HERE

YES, I would love to help a child in need.

Pakistan India (Please indicate)

One Child (Boy/Girl/Either)

___ Children (Boys/Girls/Either/Both)

**\$35
per month**

Name: _____

Address: _____

P/C _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please return the completed sponsorship application:
Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund.,
1 Collingrove Ave, Broadview SA 5083
ABN 94 377 547 867

Donations over \$2 tax deductible
A partner agency of World Relief Australia ABN 71 714 394 942 CCP1116

Payment Options:

Please debit my: Visa Mastercard

I hereby authorise Bright Futures to debit my credit card **\$35 per month** for each sponsor child as indicated until I revoke this authority in writing

Card No: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry: ____/____

Cardholder Name: _____

Signature: _____

Other Payment Options: (Please indicate)

Please find enclosed my cheque for _____ months sponsorship.

Please send me the relevant forms for payment by direct debit from account.

I would like to make a donation of \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund



www.youtube.com/user/BRIGHTFUTURESAus



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Big visions and long journeys ...

As I have been reflecting of late on the myriad joys and challenges of the work we do through Bright Futures in bringing hope and opportunity to people in debilitating poverty, two proverbs have come to mind.



The first, a Danish proverb, **“He who would jump high must first take a long run”**, is a reminder that preparation is critical and that it takes both persistence and effort to achieve difficult things. When the opportunities arise to make a difference in this world will we be ready, will we be prepared and will we be able to make that best contribution we possibly can.

The second, an African proverb, **“If you want to travel fast, go alone; if you want to travel far, go together”** is a reminder that there is little we can do of lasting significance if we go it alone. One of the things I really love about our work is the opportunity to work together with our partners and friends in Pakistan, India and Uganda and with our supporters and encouragers here in Australia to bring about lasting change that lifts people from poverty and renews hope. We are able to achieve so much more together than we can ever achieve alone.

Recently the Bright Futures Board decided that we would change our incorporation status from that of an association to a company limited by guarantee and that we would even further strengthen our partnership arrangements with World Relief Australia.

Why are we taking these steps? The answer is quite simple. In a world where so many live in poverty and oppression there are opportunities everywhere to make a difference. We want to be ready to respond as best we can to the call of God in responding to the needs of the most needy and marginalised of our world and in offering hope of a better future.

Big visions require long journeys and as we all know every long journey brings both joys and challenges. They also bring fellow travellers who are headed in the same direction.

Thank you for travelling with us as together we work to make a world of difference.

PAUL MADDEN
Executive Officer
M: 0411 740549

India: Storm, fire & generosity

Storm: A recent violent storm in Bangalore struck BCM's Sinclair School (pictured) ripping off the roof and damaging classrooms. BCM Director, Jonathan Paul Raj says, “We thank God that no one was injured as it happened during school holidays and none of the 500+ children were present.” The damage is significant however and has required a steel reinforced concrete roof to be built in time for resumption of school.



Storm damaged classroom



Thatched house in Hosur Bande



Young mum & children at BCM child care centre in Hosur Bande.

Fire: Hosur Bande is a dangerous place at the best of times. Thousands lives in this granite quarry village and labourers break stone down to building blocks and gravel by hand. The BCM/Bright Futures work in this quarry includes a tiny child care centre where young children are cared for while their parents work on the quarry floor. Tragically, a fire broke out in the small thatch houses (pictured to right) adjacent to the centre and a baby in one of the houses was incinerated.

Generosity: Thanks to the generosity of Bright Futures donors emergency funds were provided to help in each of the above situations. It's still not too late to make a tax deductible donation to help those affected in Hosur Bande fire as further medical care and support is needed. Help is also still needed to complete repairs to the school.



Your help means so much.

Jonathan Paul Raj,
Director, BCM

Thank you for your great care and love.

Pastor Nathaniel Barkat, CFP

Kenya: Working to create a future



Dorcas Creations ladies at work



Jane Thuo

Dorcas Creations is a labour of love for Jane Thuo. In response to her concern for women in her community in Nairobi, Kenya, many of whom have experienced violence, poverty and HIV, Jane founded Dorcas Creations as a means for the women to earn income that will offer them independence & dignity.

The women meet weekly in their groups for Bible study and to produce hand crafted jewellery some of which is sold locally and some is sold by Bright Futures in Australia. The income from the sale of the jewellery enables the women to pay for schooling for their children, medical care and housing. It also develops skills and offers them a support network.

If you would like Bright Futures to come along to your party or event to sell handicrafts & jewellery made by self help groups in India, Uganda & Kenya or to speak please call Barbara on 8264 9179.

Pakistan: Where crops grow and waters flow

The Bright Futures & the Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP) project in the rural village of Youngsonabad continues to develop despite serious difficulties the country faces.

Agriculture: Food production has increased with the provision of a small tractor. Crops include peas, rice, sugar cane and corn and the project is engaged in vocational training.

Water: The community water filtration unit installed last year continues to provide clean water for 120-130 households each month.

Education: Adult literacy classes continue to run in Henry Colony while more than 200 children are supported in schooling at CFP school in Youngsonabad. Seventy of the children are orphans who live in the CFP Childrens Home.



Drying rice on roof top



Youngsonabad street scene



Children at CFP School Youngsonabad having fun.

So many great ways to help

Bright Futures supporters are just so creative and committed. Here are just a few of the amazing ways they raise funds and awareness about the needs of others.

- Ray saves his loose change in jar.
- Valda invited family and friends to an afternoon tea and arranged for Bright Futures to make a presentation and sell jewellery made by women in self help groups.
- Ann asked for donations to Bright Futures in lieu of presents at her 60th birthday bash.
- Joy sold some of her amazing landscape photos with proceeds to Bright Futures.
- Jason ran in the City to Surf and got sponsors.
- Jenni and her friends made and sold mosaics to raise money for the work in Pakistan.
- Andy sold a van, Woody spoke to groups of farmers and Paul sold necklaces at a Men's Breakfast!
- Deb sold hundreds of handmade stars and items of jewellery at the Road to Christmas event at her Church.

Transformed through child sponsorship

Gayathri (pictured) was 13 years old when Judy from Port Lincoln became her sponsor. At the time Judy could not have known how significant her contribution to Gayathri's life would be.



Gayathri's school report in the following year described her as *“a well mannered, humble and sincere girl.”* Gayathri had known great sorrow in her life. Her mother had died when she was young and her father's illness meant that he could not work. They lived in poverty.

Without the support of her sponsor, and others who also showed their love and care, Gayathri's life prospects would have been bleak. But now, thanks to a terrific education and ongoing support through Bangalore City Mission (BCM), Gayathri is nearing completion of a Bachelor of Commerce degree. Others also helped along the way, Ted contributed to Uni fees and an Indian couple provided her board and lodging as her Uni was in Tumkur, 70kms from home.

“To do something small but truly life changing, sponsor a child. It will transform their lives and impact their entire community.”

Like hundreds of children who have been supported by BCM and Bright Futures, Gayathri is now going places. Like them, she has found a path from poverty through education. Many are now in good jobs or in tertiary study. To do something small but truly life changing, sponsor a child. It will transform their lives and impact their entire community.

BRIGHT FUTURES BOARD & STAFF TEAM

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Roger Bryson, Chairman	Peter Schulze
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Kym Lear	Barbara Madden
Andy Farmer	Sarah Spiker
Linda Baverstock	Mark LeCornu
Dr Lynton Stacey, Project Liaison - Pakistan	
Paul Madden, Executive Officer/Project Liaison - India	

Staff Team

Deb Mugford, Finance Manager
David Woodroffe, Dev't Coordinator – Africa

Bank Details

Baptist Financial Services
Acc: Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund
BSB: 704-922 Acc: 100009988
Auditors: BDO

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Phone: 08 8342 4426 E: office@brightfutures.com.au
Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund ABN 94 377 547 867

PRIYA IS GETTING MARRIED & IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE

Great Indian Food - Sensational Bollywood Music - Exceptional Company - BVO Drinks - \$20 per person

★ ★ ★ 7.30pm-9.30pm, Saturday, 24 August 2013 @ Bright Futures, 1 Collingrove Avenue, Broadview ★ ★ ★

All proceeds to support work of Bright Futures RSV P 8342 4426 or office@brightfutures.com.au

Priya Paul Raj is our much loved & very capable community development manager at Bangalore City Mission. Over the years we have watched keenly as the search for “the one” has unfolded in the traditional Indian way. But now, Priya has found her man and will be married shortly. We can't all go to the wedding but we can all be part of the celebration!