



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.



New partnership in Kenya

Over the past two years Bright Futures has been quietly developing a partnership with Dorcas Creations whose work in lifting women and their families out of poverty in slums in Nairobi, Kenya is simply inspiring. Founded by Jane Thuo, the program has a focus on producing handcrafted jewellery and other small items that can be sold both locally and abroad. Bright Futures has been selling these beautiful items with the income providing the women with improved ability to meet the health, nutrition and education needs of their families. The time has now come for the partnership to be formalised so that together we can assist many more.



Pic: Jane Thuo (far right) and Dorcas Creations Board members meet with Bright Futures Board members, Roger Bryson and Lynton Stacey in Nairobi.

How can you help?

Hosting an afternoon tea or inviting Bright Futures to have a table at an event to sell the jewellery and handicrafts is a great way to help raise funds to assist the women at Dorcas Creations. Valda & Sylvia recently invited a group of friends for afternoon tea and raised over \$500. Items are modestly priced and range from just a few dollars. For further information please call Barbara on 8264 9179 or Deb on 8342 4426.



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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DECEMBER 2013



"Let us not love with words or tongue but with actions and in truth."

1 John 3:18



Great ways to discover more about Bright Futures



www.youtube.com/user/BRIGHTFUTURESAus



www.facebook.com

www.brightfutures.com.au

"Take heart and move forward!"

It is a confronting yet strangely hopeful sight. A small boy delicately balances a heavy container of water on his head as he makes his way home through a cropped field.

The scene is in Lukodi in Northern Uganda, an area devastated by war and the site of a terrible massacre in 2004. For almost two decades fear reigned as rebels looted and murdered, stripping the community of infrastructure, abducting children and driving tens of thousands into displacement camps.

While the sight of the small boy reminds us of the grinding poverty and hardship faced by those who live in this community, the sight of thriving crops are a sign of hope. Just a few years ago a cropped filled landscape was just a faint and distant hope.

At the heart of this revival has been the Dicwinyi group – a self help community group of more than 300 formed into nine sub-groups called Rot Kweri's. The group takes their name from the local saying, 'dicwinyi wot anyim' which translates as 'take heart and move forward!'

Bright Futures and its in-country partner, the Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation are privileged to partner with the Dicwinyi group as they courageously rebuild their lives.

Scenes of struggle and hope are found in all communities in India, Uganda, Pakistan and Kenya where Bright Futures partners. The scenes remind us there is much to be done and that change is possible.



*Top: Small boy makes his way through field at Lukodi
Below: Bright Futures Board Member, Dr Lynton Stacey with Dicwinyi group members.*



AUSTRALIA DAY "HOLIDAY" BREAKFAST 2014

9.00am-10.30am, Holiday Monday, 27 January 2014

Stirling Street, Tusmore Park

(Enter from Barr-Smith Street or Stirling Street, Tusmore and look for the signs)

FREE Cooked breakfast – brilliant play areas for kids – bring your family – bring your friends – no need to RSVP – bring something to sit on and don't forget to slip, slop, slap!



MY GIFT OF LOVE THIS CHRISTMAS

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ PC _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Donation Total: \$ _____

Cheque (Please make cheques payable to Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund)

Credit Card: Visa / Mastercard / Bankcard (Please indicate)

Card Number: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Expiry Date: ___ / ___ Cardholder Name _____

Please post to Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund, 1 Collingrove Avenue, Broadview SA 5083 or donate on-line at www.brightfutures.com.au
P: 8342 4426 M: 0411 740549 ABN 94 377 547 867

Bright Futures is a partner agency of World Relief Australia ABN 71 714 394 942 CCP1116

Please find enclosed my gift to help children and communities in need:

Please use where most needed \$ _____

or, use my donation in support of:

India Project \$ _____

Pakistan Project \$ _____

Uganda Project \$ _____

Please send me information about sponsoring a child.

DONATIONS OVER \$2 TAX DEDUCTIBLE

BRIGHT FUTURES OVERSEAS AID FUND ANNUAL REVIEW - 2012/2013

Chairman's Report

(Abridged Annual General Meeting report 21/11/13)

It has been another wonderful year (2012/2013) in the nine year life of Bright Futures as we have witnessed the outstanding actions and achievements of the overseas partners with whom we are privileged to work. The work of the Bangalore City Mission in India, the Pakistan Christian Fellowship in Youngsonabad, Pakistan and the Bishop Onono Oweng Foundation in Lukodi, Uganda are assisted in different ways by the generosity of the supporters of Bright Futures. The resources we provide are multiplied many times over by our enterprising partners who are making such significant contributions in their countries.



Bright Futures Chairman
Roger Bryson

Apart from the excellent work carried out by our partners, often in most difficult circumstances, other highlights of the last year in the life of Bright Futures have included:

- Board member visits to India and Uganda. Our partners express great appreciation for these.
- Two exploratory visits have been made to Nairobi in Kenya to determine whether Bright Futures may engage with another partner there in work that is being done in the slum areas on the outskirts of that city. A recommendation on this matter is expected in the near future.
- Two scheduled visits to Pakistan have had to be cancelled due to safety concerns in that country. This has been disappointing for both our partners there and for those planning to visit. Our thoughts and prayers have been for our partners working in trying circumstances.
- We have engaged with World Relief Australia in discussions that have resulted in Bright Futures moving towards becoming a company limited by guarantee and with World Relief Australia representation on the Board in the 2013/2014 financial year. This structural change is being made as part of our work towards AusAid accreditation which we hope will lead to greater opportunities and resources to support our partners in their transformative community development work.
- We welcomed David Woodroffe to our team and Paul Madden and Sarah Spiker presented at a World Relief Australia conference. Both Paul and Sarah serve on the World Relief Australia Board.

Our Ugandan partners in Lukodi have adopted the name 'Dicwinyi' for their work in their community. It means 'Take heart and move forward'. It summarises well what Bright Futures stands for and what we hope to achieve together with our overseas partners. But this is only made possible through the generosity of our many supporters and the contribution of Board and staff. To all we express our thanks and appreciation and we look forward with great anticipation to what will be achieved in the year ahead.

ROGER BRYSON
Chairman

Board Members

Roger Bryson, Chairman
Peter Schulze, Secretary
Barbara Madden
Dr Lynton Stacey
Linda Baverstock
Paul Madden, Executive Officer (Vol)

Lee Haakmeester, Treasurer
Mudie Howarth
Kym Lear
Andy Farmer
Mark LeCornu
Sarah Spiker



Staff Team

David Woodroffe, Development Coordinator / Deb Mugford, Finance Manager
Bank Details - Baptist Financial Services Acc: Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund
BSB: 704-922 Acc: 10000998 *Auditors:* BDO

INDIA

The work of Bright Futures partner, the Bangalore City Mission (BCM) continues to flourish under the competent leadership of Jonathan Paul Raj and his committed team as their development activities stretch into slum and quarry communities where poverty and ill-health are rife. The following are just a few highlights from the activity of the project in the 2012/2013 year.

- 13** communities in which the Bright Futures/BCM development partnership operates.
- 882** children assisted to access education and childcare through BCM.
- 2,800** children and adults received medical treatment in medical camps supported and facilitated by BCM.
- 11** self help groups operating in the target communities.
- 64** vocational training students learning employment skills in six vocational centres in project communities.

Health awareness programs covering HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, dengue fever, and family planning continue to operate in the project communities and these are commonly held in conjunction with medical camps. Vocational training and adult literacy programs operating in the project are a primary means of improving economic capacity and equipping adults with the skills they need to better provide for themselves and their families. Community participation continues to be the foundation of the project with savings groups and village development committees being integral to future development.



BCM Vocational Training Centre in action.



CFP Doctor treating Rajanpur Flood victims

PAKISTAN

The Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP) is the in-country development partner of Bright Futures in the project based in a rural village west of Lahore. This is a particularly difficult region in which to work and we are filled with admiration for the commitment of our partners at CFP as they seek to build the capacity of their community through a number of activities.

- 215** children supported in education through the CFP/Bright Futures partnership.
- 3,150** children and adults received medical treatment and support from the CFP team following the Rajanpur Floods.
- 90** families in the village now able to access safe drinking water as result of CFP/BF community water project.
- 500** children and adults received medical treatment through a medical camp facilitated by the project.
- 12** older boys involved in agricultural training on project land which produces rice, sugar cane and corn.

The CFP school in Youngsonabad is a focal point for development activities into the wider community. As in many communities, schools provide an organisational and resource base from which development activities can be initiated. While the project has a strong focus on school based education, there are many other pressing needs in the community. Health problems are in abundance with malaria and water borne disease common. The project will continue to develop activities directed toward better health outcomes, notably clean water projects, and in building capacity through vocational training and agriculture.

UGANDA

The partnership between Bright Futures and the Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation continues to provide impetus for growth and development. It has been a tremendous thrill to see once barren fields in the Lukodi region now with thriving crops, increased numbers of stock and an energised and Dicwinyi community group driving development activities. Bright Futures particularly wishes to acknowledge the Entrust Foundation and the Driver family who have provided significant resources in making progress possible.

- 306** members of the Dicwinyi community cooperative - the key driver of local development in Lukodi region.
- 9** the number of Rot Kweri's (village self help groups) organising shared use of resources and savings groups.
- 10** villages in project areas had drop toilets built as part of a community health initiative.
- 28** oxen purchased to help improve agricultural production levels.

The next stages in the development of the project in Lukodi are grounded in a five year plan where the key focus will be on promoting access to education, improving health outcomes, increasing economic capacity and increasing agricultural output. Lukodi is rebuilding after a long period of deprivation and war and this will take time. However, the spirit and resilience of the people is such that they cannot help but succeed.

<u>Income</u>	
Child Sponsorship	\$ 113,186
Donations	\$ 73,745
Bank Interest & other income	\$ 1,654
Total Income	\$ 188,585

<u>Expenditure</u>	
Development Program Funding	\$ 151,304
Development Program Management	\$ 18,098
Administration & general	\$ 24,242
Total Expenditure	\$ 193,644

Audited accounts available on request from Bright Futures office – 8342 4426