



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.



Empowering women through the dignity of work

Whether it is the stars and angels made by women in self-help groups in Bangalore in India, the beadwork from the groups in Nairobi, Kenya or the paper beads and bags from the groups in Northern Uganda, there is one thing they all share in common.



Stars \$5



Angels \$8

When you buy one of these items from Bright Futures you will have provided a woman living in poverty the dignity of work for which she has been fairly paid. You empower her. You enable her to feed her family, to send her children to and to seek medical attention when it is needed.

"You might think, well its only a bag, or a bangle, but for the woman who made it it's a means of providing for her family and a piece of work of which she is rightly proud."

When you buy an item as a gift for someone you care about you give three times. Your friend receives a gift, the woman who made the item earns an income, and you are blessed by blessing others! Bright Futures has a small outlet at the office in Broadview that opens on demand.

To see the range or make a purchase please ring the Bright Futures office or Paul on 0411 740 549.



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.

Small Steps Big Changes

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd
1 Collingrove Avenue, Broadview SA 5083
Phone: 08 8342 4426 Mobile: 0411 740 549
ABN 76 803 488 074 CCP 2073
Email: office@brightfutures.com.au
www.brightfutures.com.au



DECEMBER 2016



Hope • Peace • Joy • Love

There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women.

Kofi Annan

Women who change their world

The vision statement on the banner of Bright Futures' development partner in Kenya, Dorcas Creation says it all:

"To empower women for improved family income and livelihoods."



Dorcas Creation founder & director, Jane Thuo

When Jane Thuo (pictured) founded Dorcas Creation she did so out of both a deep sense of calling and a personal understanding of what it is like to be hungry and in need.

A committed Christian, she was motivated to start Dorcas Creation to care for needy women who were struggling to meet the needs of their families, especially the education of their children. Jane says, "I would not want a child to experience the desperation I did in not being able to go to school. At Dorcas Creation we empower women to educate their children or support their husbands in doing so."

The work of Dorcas Creation, which works with women in and beyond the vast Maruri slum in Nairobi, focuses on helping women develop capabilities and income by teaching beadmaking, sewing and business skills while engaging them in savings groups and encouragement groups. Since its formation, many hundreds of women have been lifted out of poverty and now are becoming women who change their world.



Housing in Maruri slum

Margaret: Born in rural Kenya, Margaret was in great pain, full of anger and without means when her husband left her and their three children. One day Jane said to her, 'Margaret, if you could stop wasting all that effort with anger and harness it to improve yourself, you could really achieve something.'



Margaret & students at Westwood School

Margaret took the message to heart. She learnt to read the Bible by herself and shared her life with women in the project. She offered to work with Dorcas Creation and was placed in charge of sewing and mobilizing groups. A breakthrough came when Dorcas Creation took 42 people for an exposure trip where they met a man helping farmers stand up for their rights.

Margaret came back convinced to start something good for her community and not long after started Westwood School with her daughter Mercy. Every day now is spent developing the next generation through education and speaking hope into their lives.

BRIGHT FUTURES ANNUAL AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST

9.00–10.30am, AUSTRALIA DAY Thursday, 26 January 2017 Tusmore Park (enter via Stirling St)

Enjoy a **FREE COOKED BREAKFAST** and great company while hearing all the latest on Bright Futures.

Quiz Question: What do all the Bright Futures partner countries (eg India, Uganda, Kenya, Pakistan) all have in common with Australia? (Answer hidden on page 3.)



Help is here this Christmas!

- 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 \$39/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 \$39 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



Facebook.com.au/
BRIGHTFUTURES.AUS

Chairman's Message

The Bright Futures reason for being is to equip and encourage our overseas partners to fulfil their vision for the people they represent. If that means that one day they no longer need our help, then we will have done our job!



In the past year, three of our partners have taken significant steps towards reaching that important stage of self-sufficiency.

In India the Bangalore City Mission has continued to expand to meet its requirement to provide vastly better schooling accommodation for its students. Donors from many places, including some of our Bright Futures donors, have contributed generously as BCM works toward completion of the new school buildings and facilities.

In Uganda the Bishop Onono Oweng Foundation's new health project in Lukodi has attracted the attention of several overseas donors and funding bodies and some wonderful developments are taking place there.

".... thanks to your generous support, we are privileged to be partnering with these enterprising and dedicated people ..."

In Kenya our partner Dorcas Creation, based in Nairobi, has dramatically expanded its women's empowerment programs into new areas of education, work-opportunity and small businesses.

In Pakistan we are proud to be supporting our undaunted friends at the Christian Fellowship of Pakistan, who, despite the many challenges it faces each day, continue to run a school for more than 200 children, provide clean water and keep its arms and doors open for displaced children.

At Bright Futures, thanks to your generous support, we are privileged to be partnering with these enterprising and dedicated people who give their lives in the service of others.

Thank you again for providing hope, opportunity and a bright future for many thousands of children and their families.

Roger Bryson

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

When the only way is up!



It seems that Bright Futures' development partner, the Bangalore City Mission (BCM) has adopted the old Otis Clay hit, "The Only Way is Up" as its theme. Not only is the school building rising at a dramatic rate to meet the strong demand and government requirements, but the 650 children, drawn from quarry villages and other poor communities in the area, are excelling in their studies.

BCM Executive Director, Jonathan Paul Raj, reports, "Our children have learning levels 20-30 % above state average. In a place where 98% of children live in poverty this is a remarkable outcome. This year we had to turn away many children. As we are their only chance of good education, we never want to do that again. That's why the expansion of the school building is so critical."

Thanks to the kindness of many supporters, including ServeTrust and Bright Futures donors, the building works that have been completed to date include the outer structure, 15 classrooms, toilets for boys and girls, auditorium roof, science & computer labs and office space.

In addition to the operation of the school, BCM is actively engaged in development projects in eleven communities through the provision of vocational training, adult literacy programs, medical and health screening clinics along with supporting a range of self-help and savings groups. Over the course of the past year BCM has provided help and assistance to thousands of men, women and children.



Above: The school building rises to six levels, all on a 20m x 25m site.

Left: BCM Director, Jonathan Paul Raj examines building works on the top floor auditorium.



Health response hits the mark



Earlier this year, together with our partner group in Uganda, the Bishop Onono Oweng Foundation (BOOF), and thanks to a grants from the Australian High Commission and donors in Australia, we had the privilege of opening the Lukodi Health Centre (LHC) in Northern Uganda.

Bright Futures Board member, Dr Lynton Stacey, and medical advisor to the project, provides the following update:

"Greetings from Uganda. The team at BOOF and the Lukodi Health Centre also send their greetings. I can report that all is humming along well here. The staff were excited to see me again. We have had several sessions on the current situation, future planning and medical education. The LHC has been busy. Yesterday they had all rooms full. We have visited a number of villages to date interviewing them for the research project. All have sung the praises of LHC, with high praise for the staff because of the speed of attention, the approach to the patient and the care that they take. They appreciate the certainty of treatment, no matter what time of day or day of the week.

.... It is clear that staff are saving lives Two villages reported a marked reduction in infant deaths

Like people everywhere they desire a hospital that will do everything! But their chief desires are an ambulance, a proper water source, good hygiene, immunisations, improved security, more space for inpatients and better maternity facilities.

It is clear that the staff are saving lives, particularly in relation to malaria, but also snakebite and asthma. The villagers too have spoken of lives saved. They say that if they had to go elsewhere then others would have died. Two villages reported a marked reduction in infant deaths - one actually said that there had been no deaths."



Jenni & Lynton Stacey with Rev Ali Ocan, CEO of Bright Futures partner organisation, the Bishop Onono Oweng Foundation, during their recent project visit to Uganda.

Courage in the face of adversity

There are few more difficult places in the world to be actively involved in development than in Pakistan. Despite bombings and the increasing political instability in the west of the country, our partners, Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP), courageously persevere in reaching out into their community. Their commitment to providing children with a life transforming education is lived out in an environment where razor wire caps the walls of the CFP school and armed guards conduct security checks and monitor movements of people as they enter and leave the grounds.

The political and social challenges of Pakistan result in social dislocation for many families and this results in the movement of children in and out of the school community. Consequently, Bright Futures has made the decision to move away from a child sponsorship funding model for the work in Pakistan and have invited our dedicated sponsors to continue their support with a focus on education, clean water and health. At Bright Futures we are committed to standing with our courageous partners in Pakistan to ensure that the vital education and development activities we have supported since 2009 can continue unaffected.

At the present time, the CFP school is providing schooling for 224 children, almost half of whom are girls. This is particularly important as the education of young women in Pakistan is challenging on many fronts.



... we are committed to standing with our undaunted partners in Pakistan ...



Small Steps Big Changes

*Hope grows,
and opportunities appear,
as with each small faith-fuelled step
a whole world of
possibilities come into view.*



Hope • Peace • Joy • Love

The Bright Futures Team

BF Board Directors

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

Auditors: BDO