



OUR MISSION

Bright Futures Child Aid and 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 community based agencies in developing countries, and as a partner agency of World Relief Australia, in providing vital education and development programs which address the causes of poverty and offer prospects of a better life.

GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd ABN 76 803 488 074 is Trustee for Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund ABN 94 377 547 867, and a partner agency of World Relief Australia ABN 71 714 394 942. Bright Futures is the holder of Collections for Charitable Purposes Licence CP 2073.

Board Members (2015/2016)

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

Staff Team

Paul Madden AM, Executive Officer
Deb Mugford, Finance Manager

Bank Details

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

Project Advisory Group (2015/2016)

Roger Bryson, Chairman
Barbara Madden Phil Bunyon
Lee Haakmeester Eleanor Day
Mudie Howarth Kym Lear
Deb Mugford Kelly Bunyon
Dr Lynton Stacey John Day
Andy Farmer Vikki Booth
Stanley Muchiri Lucy Gihuhi

Auditors

BDO Audit (SA) Pty Ltd, Adelaide

Acknowledgements

Bright Futures acknowledges the generous help of its professional suppliers and partners.



Bright Futures Chairman
Roger Bryson

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 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.

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 a local level we have been active in engagement with others involved in the international development field through our close association with our organisational member, World Relief Australia and through membership of Micah Australia. Our commitment to good practice is reflected in our membership of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID).

Monitoring visits continue to be important in strengthening our working relationship with partners. These project visits provide helpful validation of the work being done in the field and provide great encouragement to all parties as we see together the improvements being made that positively affect the lives of people.

The wonderful generosity of donors was reflected in donation income being our highest yet with more than \$300,000 being received in the financial year. Thanks to their help we were able to do just so much more than we could have imagined.

I want to particularly thank the Board, staff, project team members and the many others who have helped in so many different ways – without their dedicated efforts our work just could not be sustained.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roger Bryson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roger Bryson
Chair



Development Partner: Bangalore City Mission (BCM)

Key Project Leader: Jonathan Paul Raj, BCM Executive Director

Since 2005 Bright Futures / Bangalore City Mission (BCM) have worked together to develop and deliver important education, health and development programs that alleviate poverty and build community capacity. The partnership was active in the past financial year in a dozen target communities across two clusters, the Quarry Cluster and the Village Cluster. A major focus of activity for the BCM team has been the extension of the BCM school to meet standards required by the education authorities. The extensions proceeded with great urgency to ensure that the maximum number of children in need would have an opportunity for a high quality education.



What we learnt

- *Agreement around common goals is critical for a partnership that can be sustained through time.*
- *All communities have strengths and resources, limited though they may be, and expecting these to be drawn on in achieving goals makes for more equal partnering arrangements.*
- *Monitoring visits continue to be important in building understanding about the challenges faced in projects and by partners, and is a valuable opportunity to strengthen relationships & agree plans.*

Reach & Impact

Education and Early Childhood: Education continues to be a very significant focus for the project with more than 600 students from reception to 10th Standard receiving a good quality education. Children from very poor circumstances come from across the project areas are schooled at BCM Sinclairs School while support to raise local education standards is provided at the local government school at Hosur Bande. The completion of major extensions to the BCM Sinclair School will enable an increase in capacity. Over the years the project has been operating we have seen many children of impoverished families make their way through school, into college and university and into good jobs that have lifted them and their families out of poverty.

Health: Health screening services continue to be an important part of the work of the project with thousands of men, women and children receiving services each year. Screening services for HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, dengue fever, diabetes and eye problems are the most common with children receiving dental care and treatment. Partnerships with local health services has proved invaluable as it provides a pathway from screening and identification of illness and disease to treatment services provided by government and others.

Adult Literacy & Self Help/Savings Groups: Adult literacy and self help/savings group programs operated during the year in eight project communities with more than 300 adults, mainly women, participating.

Vocational Training: Vocational training, frequently connected with the operation of self-help groups, continues to be a significant focal point for the empowerment of women and creating employment options for both men and women. Centres are located in six villages within the project area and around 200 people, mostly women, gain valuable employment skills.



Development Partner: Christian Fellowship of Pakistan
Key Project Leader: Nathaniel Barkat, CFP Project Leader

The Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP) is the in-country development partner of Bright Futures in Pakistan. CFP has long been involved in supporting education and other development initiatives in the village where the project is based. This is a very challenging area to be working due to the significant security issues both in the area and in Pakistan more generally.



Reach & Impact

What we learnt:

- Sensitivity to the security issues faced by marginalised minorities, as applies in the case of the CFP project in Pakistan, is critical and impacts the ways in which communities can be engaged. The security environment is volatile and changes can be rapid. Understanding the changing environment is critical for safety and priorities.
- The CFP school is an important piece of village infrastructure and a point from which a number of initiatives can be extended into the community. This is particularly so for clean water and health related projects.
- Monitoring visits create dangers for both those visiting and those visited in volatile security environments. Use of email and phone to maintain close contact with development partners is essential.
- The empowerment of women and girls through education remains central in raising living standards and social cohesion in marginalised communities.

Agriculture and Vocational Training: CFP has an operational farm which serves as both a means of improving nutrition for children in the school and in the adjacent children's home and a base for agriculture based training. Most participants are older boys for whom farming is an option for their future employment. The economic base in the Youngsonabad area is small and undeveloped and primary production is a key element.

Education: Central to the work of CFP and the project is education at primary and secondary level. Currently there are 256 children in the school in classes ranging from kindergarten to 10th Standard. Girls continue to constitute about 40% of the school population with higher percentages in secondary classes. The empowerment of women in Pakistan is critical to the wellbeing of families and the nation.

Clean Water: The public provision of clean water from the CFP school facilities, which provides for about 150 families, was stopped during the course of the year at government request, as terrorist activity targeting schools resulted in fears that public water sources could be poisoned.

Healthcare: The project supported the provision of medical care to around 300 children from the school and adjacent children's home during the course of the year with viral infection, headache, cough and fever being the most prevalent.

Community Engagement: The CFP school in Youngsonabad continues to provide a hub for community engagement and development activities. It is one of a handful of significant pieces of community infrastructure that is so necessary to sustainable development.



Development Partner: Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation (BOOF)
Key Project Leader: Rev Ali Ocan, Project Leader

The Acholi Development and Reconstruction Program run by the project partners operates in the Gulu and Lukodi areas and has, over the past year, begun to concentrate its focus on education and health. While agriculture and vocational training have been significant parts of project activity, the economic base is slowly gathering strength and breadth with agricultural production driving the establishment of a number of micro mills. Central to the project is the partnership with DiCwinyi group, a community organisation of 450 members in nine villages around Lukodi.



Staff meeting at the newly opened Lukodi Health Centre

Reach & Impact

Healthcare: The planning work over the past two years by project leader, Rev Ali Ocan, and Dr Lynton Stacey, a Bright Futures Board Member, led to the establishment of Lukodi Health Centre (LHC) which opened on 18 January 2016. Demand for access to the health services provided at the centre has been very strong with over 1,000 people being treated in the first six months. In the project area there are many needs, with high infant mortality and maternal death rates, respiratory illness and malaria being the most prevalent. Since opening of LHC has had a significant impact in reducing the levels of infant deaths (as reported by DiCwinyi) and in reducing prolonged illness and death through malaria. LHC also performs an important role in health education. The establishment of LHC has been made possible thanks to the support of the Australian High Commission in Kenya, the Day Family Foundation, Macquarie Foundation, Love-in-a-Cup and Bright Futures supporters. Our development partner, BOOF, has worked so hard and diligently in making this life-saving service a reality.

Education: Teacher support, education resources and initiatives aimed at school retention at the Lukodi Primary School and the Gulu Christian Comprehensive College have significantly improved attendance and results. Support has expanded during the year to support school engagement at Lukome Secondary School. In total, more than 800 students have benefitted from the support provided.

Community Participation: The DiCwinyi community association, with 450+ community members across its sub-groups called Rot Kweris provide the framework for community empowerment. They are well organised, have a good governance structure, and are actively involved in determining priorities and delivering projects.

What we learnt:

- *Stepping out in addressing a critical need, in this case the need for access to health services, leads to others coming alongside in support. This has been most evident in the establishment of Lukodi Health Centre.*
- *The local economy, driven by increasing agricultural production, can lift living standards relatively quickly, however progress is fragile and weather dependent. Flexibility is needed in responding to changing circumstance.*
- *Teacher support is critical to good student outcomes in remote areas where access to appropriate housing and services are absent.*



Development Partner: Dorcas Creation
Key Project Leader: Jane Thuo, Director

Based in Nairobi, Dorcas Creation is an indigenous non-profit organisation started in 2006 under the leadership of Trinity Fellowship Ministries. Bright Futures and Dorcas have worked in partnership since 2012 to provide opportunities for women living in the Marurui Jua Kali slum to gain and develop skills that will enable them to develop a degree of autonomy and self reliance.



Director, Jane Thuo (right) with the proud owner of a new business thanks to training and support from Dorcas Creation.

What we learnt - Kenya:

- *Women's self-help and savings groups continue to be the key drivers of change, both socially and economically, for women in the slum communities of Nairobi. There is much power and confidence to be gained in learning new skills, receiving and offering encouragement and in establishing a place of belonging outside the home environment.*
- *Making sanitary products available to girls and women who could not afford them enables them to participate in education and work in ways that were unable to do so before.*

Reach & Impact

Production & Self-help Groups: During the course of the year more than 200 women were involved in training through production groups. The impact of the training has been to give them skills and confidence to start their own small enterprises. The sale of goods made in the production groups, both locally and in Australia, has provided many women with the confidence to start small businesses and earn income to pay for food, school fees and other needs. Goods made in the production groups include costume jewellery and stitched products. The women have also been equipped with entrepreneurial skills and they are able to sell some of the products by themselves.

Savings Groups: Savings groups have operated alongside and in conjunction with production and self help groups and these savings groups have made a very significant contribution in empowering women and assisting their sense of self-determination. Dorcas Creation Director, Jane Thuo reports that an increasing number of women now have an ability to pay for their children's education.

Education: The hygiene products produced by Dorcas Creation have made it possible for many young women to sustain their schooling and many women to participate in training, business and social activity.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2015 / 2016

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd, ABN 76 803 488 074

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd is Trustee of the Bright Futures Overseas Aid Fund.

<i>Income</i>	<i>2015/2016</i>	<i>2014/2015</i>
Donations & Gifts	\$ 348,047	\$ 230,789
Other income	\$ 38,063	\$ 3,099
	\$ 386,109	\$233,888
<i>Expenditure</i>		
International Programs	\$ 267,531	\$ 200,166
Accountability & Administration	\$ 40,856	\$ 38,634
	\$ 308,387	\$238,800
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure	\$ 77,722	\$ (4,912)

**Rounded to nearest dollar.*

Copies of the full audited financial accounts, together with this report, are available on the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) website or can be obtained by contacting the Bright Futures Office on 08 8342 4426 or email: office@brightfutures.com.au

YOUR VIEWS MATTER

Bright Futures invites your feedback about any matters related to our operations and conduct that give you cause for concern. Our full Complaints Policy can be found on the Bright Futures website.

To lodge a complaint with Bright Futures contact:

Bright Futures Child Aid and Development Fund Australia Ltd, 1 Collingrove Avenue, Broadview SA 5083

Phone: (618) 8342 4426 Email: office@brightfutures.com.au

Bright Futures Board: Chair, Mr Roger Bryson M: 0478 614131, rmbryson@aapt.net.au or

Executive Officer: Paul Madden, M: 0411 740549 E: pmadden@communityhq.com.au

How to lodge a complaint with the Australian Council for International Development:

Complaints should be marked 'confidential' and emailed to: Chair, ACFID Code of Conduct Committee, E:

code@acfid.asn.au or posted to: Chair, ACFID Code of Conduct Committee, Private Bag 3, Deakin ACT 2600

