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Bright Futures is an Australian based Christian aid and development agency committed to providing a transparent 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 in providing vital education and development programs which address the causes of poverty and offer the prospect of a better life.





#### Pakistan: Educating to Empower



Access to education and training is something we often take for granted in Australia. In rural villages in Pakistan like Youngson Abad where we partner with Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP), literacy (49%) and school completion (<20%) rates are very low among women. A key focus of our shared work is on children's education, especially for girls. Bright Futures supports the education of 250 children at the CFP school. In addition to clean water projects, plans are underway for a vocational training program for girls who would otherwise find themselves as domestic servants. For these young women, often of very tender age, developing job skills offers an important path away from domestic servitude and out of poverty.

## My gift to empower and uplift

[	]	Please receive my gift of \$ to help children,
		families and communities living in poverty.
[	]	I would like to make a regular monthly donation of \$  Please indicate preferred area:
		( ) Please use where most needed
		( ) Womens' Empowerment - KENYA / INDIA (Uniting Dynamic Women project)
		( ) Childrens' Education - INDIA /KENYA/ UGANDA/ PAKISTAN
		( ) Medical Care & Birthing Services - UGANDA
[	]	I would like to sponsor a child (or children) at \$42 per month each. Please indicate: Girl / Boy
Ν	am	e:
A	ddr	ess:
		P/C
P:		E:



	Payment Options:
	Credit Card: [ ] Visa [ ] Mastercard
	No:/
	Expiry:/
	Cardholder
	Signature:
	EFT: Bright Futures Australia – Overseas Aid Fund Westpac Bank: BSB: 035-002 Account: 392 116
ı	<u>Cheque</u> : Pay to Bright Futures Australia - Overseas Aid Fund
ı	<u>Direct Debit:</u> Please email <b>office@brightfutures.com.au</b> or
ı	call office – 08 7225 7175 – to arrange.
ı	Online: Go to www.brightfutures.com.au - donation link
	DONATIONS OVER \$2 TAX DEDUCTIBLE





## Gasping for breath ... desperate for help

"One act of kindness has consequences that go well beyond the act itself ...

The influence of kindness spreads to those who 'catch' the loving spirit and pass it on."

Hugh Mackay
The Kindness Revolution
2021

Daily reports like the one below from Jonathan Paul, leader of Bright Futures partner group

in India, the Bangalore City Mission (BCM), are emotionally difficult to read but as a friend once told me, 'pain connects us to a wounded world'.

'Every day while we distribute food at the hospital gates we see people rushing to the hospital gasping for breath. Some come in cars while others come on their motorbikes and autorickshaws. We have also witnessed people carrying their loved ones pleading for a doctor to attend to them. In every instance, the person infected is suffering, and with them their family members. Every day our team goes through this trauma of not being able to do more to help but we comfort ourselves that we can at least provide meals for those fighting this battle at the gates of the hospital. Today we served 530 people with cooked food and provided some families with Covid medical kits. We pray for them to recover and we hope they will be back with their family soon. Thank you for upholding us through your generous support and prayers.'

Over the past few weeks, with the Covid-19 epidemic at its peak in India, and with thousands dying every day, support from Bright Futures donors has enabled the BCM team to be on the front-line distributing food and Covid kits for affected families, organising vaccinations for those who are vulnerable, and assisting in many other ways through the operation of the BCM Covid help desk. Our help really makes a difference.



Paul Madden
Executive Officer

Bright Futures Australia - Overseas Aid Fund, PO Box 3071 Rundle Mall SA 5000



"What our donors
provide is much
more than funding.
It is strength,
confidence and the
ability to show love
to those in need."

Sarah Spiker, Chair, Bright Futures

#### Bright Futures QR Code



Yes, QR codes are everywhere!

And now we have one that will take you straight to the Bright Futures website and our online donation link. Check it out – its very cool!

www.brightfutures.com.au



#### Kenya: Empowerment has no age limit!

It's never too early, or too late, to begin the journey to self-reliance.

In the Marurui community in Nairobi, Kenya, where our partners at Dorcas Creation work, poverty inhabits not only the tin shanties in which people live but all the spaces in between. You may think this a place without hope, and its true to say that there are many signs of despair, however, if you look closely you can see green shoots of life and hope. The small girls from Marurui (pictured) are learning, even at their tender age, that they are capable and there is hope for the future.

Through vocational and business skills training, establishing micro businesses, running savings groups and training households in urban farming, our partners at Dorcas Creation are helping thousands of households find a pathway out of poverty. Right now, the team is well on the way to training 1,000 people in urban farming and increasing food production and nutrition in the process.

The Bright Futures 'Uniting Dynamic Women' giving circle, led locally by Deb Hosking, is playing an important part in this work by enabling women in Australia to support training and empowerment opportunities for women in Kenya & India. To find out more please call the Bright Futures office on 7225 7175.



# Uganda: Now for the next step ... a paediatric unit.

In 2016, in response to an urgent need for health services in Northern Uganda, the Bishop Onono-Onweng Foundation, together with support from Bright Futures, the Australian High Commission and others, founded the Lukodi Health Centre. The need for medical care in this area, where many still die of preventable disease, is acute and particularly so for birthing mothers and their babies.

In 2018 a Maternity Unit was added to the Centre thanks to the support of Bright Futures donors and mid-wives were employed and funded through Nunn-Dimos Foundation. As an important next step in improving child and maternal health in the region, a paediatric unit is soon to be established on the site.

An excellent facility (pictured below) built by the Driver family to assist the Lukodi community, and previously used as a school, is adjacent to the existing health facilities and when modified, the building will make the perfect base for a new Paediatric Unit.



#### Kenya: Dorcas Creation Womens' Empowerment Centre

After a long search, Dorcas Creation, our partner group in Kenya, has found land on which to build a new Womens' Empowerment Centre. The land has been purchased with Bright Futures help. Dorcas Creation has, over the past decade, strengthened and empowered thousands of women through vocational training, mentoring and support. The new centre, which is in the planning stage will enable them to do so much more.





## Australia's longest point to point beach ultra!

Saturday, 16 October 2021



Hosted by Bright Futures, the Sandy68 Ultra is the perfect event for both super serious runners and those who simply love a walk or run along the beach. Focussed on raising funds for vital health services in Uganda and South Sudan, the event has three distance options, each with a different departure time and point. All conclude at Osborne Foreshore Reserve by 7pm for presentations.

- ✓ 10km Run/Walk starts at Tennyson at 4pm and is suited to any fitness level.
- √ 35km Run starts at Hallett Cove at 12 noon and is ideal for the very fit.
- ✓ 68km Run starts at Hallett Cove at 7am this one is for the ultra-fit and highly conditioned!

To find out more about the event and how you can become involved, just head to the event website:

www.sandy68.com

'Let us touch the dying, the poor,

the lonely and the unwanted
according to the graces we have
received and let us not be ashamed
or slow to do the humble work.'

Mother Teresa

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