



Annual Report 2017/2018

## 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 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 a company limited by guarantee and an ATO approved Deductible Gift Recipient – Item 1 (DGR1) under the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme. Bright Futures is registered and a reporting entity with the ACNC – [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

### Board Members (2017/2018)

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

### Projects Support Team (2017//2018)

Roger Bryson, Chair	Brian Harris
Barbara Madden	Phil Bunyon
Lee Haakmeester	Judy Howie
Mudie Howarth	Kym Lear
Deb Mugford	Gary Martin
Dr Lynton Stacey	John Day
Andy Farmer	Vikki Booth
Stanley Muchiri	Thandeka Mandigora

### Staff Team

Paul Madden AM, Executive Officer  
Deb Mugford, Administration & Finance  
Judy Howie, Communications

### Auditors

BDO Audit (SA) Pty Ltd, Adelaide

### Bank Details

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

### ACFID Code

Bright Futures is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and adheres to the ACFID Code of Conduct.

*Front page photo – Jane W, a graduate of Dorcas Creation pictured at her vegetable business with Dorcas Creation director Jane Thuo. Photo used with permission.*



## The Year in Review 2017/2018

While Bright Futures is officially known as a child aid and development fund, stories regularly come from our overseas partners indicating that we are more accurately a 'family aid and development' organisation.

While we know that in most countries help given to any one family member can benefit the wider family, the following stories from Uganda, Kenya, Pakistan and India show that when we support one person the ripple effect goes out to those around them.

In the rural village of Lukodi in northern Uganda, our partner, the Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation has overseen the construction of a maternity building that stands alongside the existing Health Centre. As well as providing the best care possible for a newborn's arrival, it also provides a pre- and post-natal service to the mothers. The new facility is continuing the outstanding medical work for both mothers and babies to an ever expanding region of contact.

In the Marurui slum on the outskirts of Nairobi in Kenya, Jane Thuo and her team at Dorcas Creation has recently welcomed the 1500<sup>th</sup> woman into their programs of care-groups, micro-banking, small loan provision and business development. But the impact of women's lives being empowered and dramatically improved is that a significant number of men are recognising their own need and asking for help to develop a similar program for them.

In Youngsan Abad, a remote rural village in western Pakistan, more than 200 children are provided with healthcare and education, as well as a home when necessary. One of the significant factors in this situation is that around half the school children are girls which provides an important model to village families of the value of educating both sons and daughters.

In the suburb of Chelekere in Bangalore, every school day sees Bangalore City Mission (BCM) buses bringing hundreds of children from the poorest outlying areas of this huge city to the BCM school. There they receive a high-standard education that will equip them for a lifetime of successful and meaningful work. Stories flow in of former students securing well-paid work which allows them to provide better houses for their families.

For several years Bright Futures has been working diligently in preparation to lodge an application for accreditation under the Australian non-Government Cooperation Program. The commitment to work towards this high-level accreditation is born of a desire to enlarge the resources available and to work as effectively as we can with our four overseas partners in alleviating poverty and by so doing providing hope for many peoples' future.

Through the compassionate generosity of Bright Futures' donors and supporters the 'child aid' that is provided often extends to all members of families and out into their communities.



Chairperson



Bright Futures  
Chairperson  
Roger Bryson

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"The commitment to work towards this high-level accreditation is born of a desire to enlarge the resources available and to work as effectively as we can with our four overseas partners in alleviating poverty and by so doing providing hope for many peoples' future."

# India: BCM Community Development Project



Development Partner:  
Bangalore City Mission  
(BCM)



Key Project Leader:  
Jonathan Sinclair Paul  
BCM Executive Director



School based education  
and support for 1,000  
children.



Health screening and  
medical referral in  
partnership with  
healthcare providers.



Vocational training at  
seven village centres.



Self-help and savings  
groups in 12 communities.

## The Power of Partnership

In 2005 Bright Futures and the Bangalore City Mission (BCM) entered a covenant to work together to contribute to the alleviation of grinding poverty in Bangalore area, particularly in the quarry villages on the outskirts. This commitment has provided both a strong foundation and impetus in bringing hope and opportunity to tens of thousands of people since the partnership began. A shared development plan underpins the activities of the partnership.

## Reach & Impact

The project works in the following ways across more than a dozen impoverished quarry villages and poor urban communities with a focus on building both individual and the community capacity.

**School Based Education:** The project supports school-based education for more than 1,000 children each year both at the BCM Sinclairs School and through provision of teacher positions at the government school at Hosur Bande (Quarry). Additionally, pre-schoolers are cared for at the BCM Childrens' Centre in the quarry to ensure they are safe while parents work.

**Health Care:** Health screening, medical service and referral, including eye and dental, are provided across all the project communities with more than 5,000 people receiving assistance in this way every year.

**Vocational Training:** Training in a range of skills including tailoring, soap and candle making, is delivered from seven small vocational training centres located in project villages.



**Savings and Self-help Groups:** Savings and self-help groups operate across all of the project villages with more than 200 women involved during the course of any given year.

## Insights to inform future action

- Training and development of staff is critical in developing capacity and improving outcomes.
- Recent approval to establish a Pre-University College will enable many more children from poor circumstances to advance their education.
- Better evaluation of the impact of activities will lead to better ways of impacting lives.



# Pakistan: CFP Development Program

## Partners in Development

In 2009, the Bright Futures / Christian Fellowship of Pakistan (CFP) partnership came into being in response to the need to support education for children in the village of Youngson Abad. Access to education had long been a problem in this area and historically the education of girls had been limited. The Christian Fellowship of Pakistan has been working to bring about improvements in the social conditions but lack of material support made this difficult.

## Reach & Impact

**Education:** The provision of school-based education through the school operated by CFP has provided an educational opportunity for hundreds of children through the life of the partnership. Currently support is provided for the education of around 200 children with this number expected to grow in the coming year. Classes range from Nursery to 10<sup>th</sup> Standard. The challenges related to the education of girls in Pakistan are well documented and it is pleasing that around half of the students in the school are girls with many of these at secondary levels.

**Healthcare:** Medical screening and care is provided by local doctors arranged by CFP to provide care to students. The most common diseases detected and treated are viral infection, fever, 'flu, diabetes, malaria and diarrhea.

**Water:** Regrettably the provision of clean water to around 120 families in the community had to be stopped during the course of the year on the advice of police who were concerned about potential poisoning of water sources in the area. The children at the school are now required to bring their own water from home. It is hoped that clean water supply can resume in 2019.



## Insights to inform future direction

- Security is a major consideration. While regular visits from Bright Futures are highly desirable from a monitoring and program planning viewpoint, safety for those involved in the project in Pakistan is a primary consideration.
- Positive steps are being taken by CFP to address future leadership via a transition process focused initially on a change in responsibility for reporting and communications.
- The challenge of seeking ways to strengthen the capacity of the partner group and improve communications is needed as a point of future focus.



Development Partner:  
Christian Fellowship of  
Pakistan



CFP Founder &  
Project Leader:  
Rev Nathaniel Barkat



School based education and  
support for 200 children.



Health screening and  
medical treatment for  
school children.



Limited supply of clean  
water to the community of  
Youngson Abad.

# Uganda: Acholi Development & Reconstruction Project



Development Partner:  
Bishop Onono Onweng  
Foundation (BOOF)



Founder/President:  
Bishop Nelson  
Onono-Onweng

Project Leader:  
Opiro Nyerere Onono,  
CEO BOOF



General and maternal  
health care and birthing  
services Lukodi Health  
Centre



Education support for  
children of  
South Sudanese Refugees



Prenatal support for  
mothers in the Lukodi area  
in partnership with USAid.

## A Dream for Peace

The village of Lukodi in Northern Uganda is the primary location from which the Bright Futures / Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation (BOOF) partnership operates. It has been a place of immeasurable suffering with an attack on the displacement camp in the village by the LRA on 19 May 2004 resulting in the killing of more than 50 innocent people. Recently the grievous impact of these events has been brought to the fore with hearings of the International Criminal Court in the area. Bishop Nelson has been involved in the peace talks both in Uganda and in The Hague. There is a dream for peace in this war-torn land.

## Reach & Impact

The key activities of the partnership are as follows:

**Health and Birthing Services:** The Lukodi Health Centre, established by the partnership, continues to develop with staff reporting up to 30 patient presentations each day and the number of babies being delivered increasing – 16 in June alone. The centre has been instrumental in improving access to health services and in treating life threatening conditions.

**Education:** In the course of the year the partnership supported primary schooling for 27 children of South Sudanese refugees and support has been secured to enable the continuation of these children into secondary school.



**Pre-natal & Post-natal Support:** In partnership with USAid, which provides transport to Lukodi Health Centre and funding support, pre-natal and post-natal is made available to mothers from local villages.

## Insights to inform future direction

- Tightening focus on Lukodi Health Centre has concentrated resources and opened the way to deeper interventions and better health outcomes.
- Investing in the education of children of South Sudanese refugees is vital in equipping them with skills for when they return to their homeland.
- Increased focus on base level data will help shape future directions.

## Kenya: Dorcas Creation - Womens' Empowerment

### Hope and Help to Empower

The benefit of empowerment programs like those operated under the banner of Dorcas Creation in the Marurui slum is that those who become involved find that they are capable of more than they ever hoped or imagined. The work of the Dorcas Creation program, supported by Bright Futures, is to help women living in extreme poverty discover that they are both valuable and capable. As they learn new skills and engage with others who are on a learning journey they grow in confidence and capability.

### Reach & Impact

The Dorcas Creation & Bright Futures partnership works in these key areas:

**Vocational & Business Training:** Each year more than 300 women are equipped with a range of vocational skills and move on to business skills training. For many it starts with learning beadwork and then moving on to more challenging tasks. After training many start small businesses to earn income to support themselves and their families.



**Education:** West Wood School, started by a graduate of Dorcas Creation, operates in the Mathare slum and has 90 students, aged up to 8 years of age. Bright Futures supports a lunch program for students whose parents have few means and this has both nutritional and educational value. Many of the children are first generation learners.

**Empowerment & Savings Groups:** Currently 750 women from the Marurui and Mathare communities are engaged in self-help and savings groups. These programs have enabled many to meet important medical or education expenses and some have even been able to buy small plots of land.

### Insights to inform future direction

- Training in vocational skills builds confidence and capacity that enable men and women in impoverished communities to establish small businesses to earn income to improve their lives.
- Lack of childcare is a barrier to full participation in the Dorcas Creation program and securing space in which this can be provided will be a priority for project development.
- A vehicle is required to enable more effective operation of the program as reliance on public transport by the director and staff is limiting development of the program.



Development Partner:  
Dorcas Creation



Founder & Project  
Leader: Jane Thuo,



Vocational and  
business training  
for women in the  
Marurui slum.



School based education  
for children in the  
Mathare slum.



Womens' empowerment  
and savings groups for  
750 women.

## Financial Summary - 2017 / 2018

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

INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT	2018	2017
<u>REVENUE</u>		
Donations and gifts - monetary	275,136	301,243
Investment income - interest	171	338
Merchandise sales	10,224	699
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>285,531</b>	<b>302,280</b>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
International programs		
Funds to international programs	228,754	257,089
Program support costs	14,774	8,384
Fundraising costs – Public - newsletters, signage	1,969	4,827
Merchandise purchases	8,056	0
Accountability and Administration	62,308	30,308
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>315,861</b>	<b>300,608</b>
<u>EXCESS / (SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>(30,330)</u>	<u>1,672</u>

*The full audited financial report prepared by BDO Audit (SA) is available online at Bright Futures website – [www.brightfutures.com.au](http://www.brightfutures.com.au) or on the website of the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) or on request to Bright Futures Office on 08 7225 7175 or email: [office@brightfutures.com.au](mailto: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 under "Policies" on the Bright Futures website.

To lodge a complaint with Bright Futures contact:

Bright Futures Child Aid and Development Fund Australia Ltd, PO Box 3071 Rundle Mall, SA 5000

Phone: (618) 7225 7175 Email: [office@brightfutures.com.au](mailto:office@brightfutures.com.au)

Bright Futures Board: Chair, Roger Bryson M: 0478 614131 E: [rmbryson@aapt.net.au](mailto:rmbryson@aapt.net.au) or

Executive Officer: Paul Madden, M: 0411 740549 E: [paul.madden@brightfutures.com.au](mailto:paul.madden@brightfutures.com.au)

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](mailto:code@acfid.asn.au) or posted to:

Chair, ACFID Code of Conduct Committee, Private Bag 3, Deakin ACT 2600

