



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2022/2023

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## 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 & LEGAL

Bright Futures Child Aid & Development Fund Australia Ltd ABN 76 803 488 074 is a public benevolent institution and company limited by guarantee, approved by the ATO as a Deductible Gift Recipient – Item 1 (DGRI). Bright Futures is also a registered charity and reporting entity with the ACNC – [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au)

## BOARD & STAFF



### *Board Directors:*

Sarah Spiker, Board Chair  
Roger Bryson, Deputy Chair  
Lee Haakmeester, Treasurer  
Fred Chilton  
Philip Good  
Lynton Stacey,  
Carl Ginger  
Deepa Mathew (from June 2023)  
Sherree Hughes (to Jan 2023)  
Cameron Bryson (from Aug 2023)

### *Staff Members:*

Jack Snelling, Chief Executive Officer  
Deb Mugford, Community Engagement  
Judy Howie, Communications  
Paul Madden AM, Company Secretary (Vol.)



## BANKING & AUDITOR

### *Bank:*

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

### *Auditor:*

BDO Audit (SA) Pty Ltd, Adelaide

## CODE OF CONDUCT



Bright Futures is committed to transparency, good development practice and the protection of children and vulnerable people. As a signatory to the World Relief Australia (WRA) Code of Conduct and as a charity registered with the ACNC we undertake annual review of activities and practice.

### Cover Photo:

A picture of empowerment! Women from informal settlements graduating from vocational training at Bright Futures partner group, Dorcas Creation Kenya.



World Relief Australia  
Code of Conduct

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR – SARAH SPIKER



Sarah Spiker, Chair

This has been a year of growth and change that has seen the Bright Futures community building our impact, partnerships and organisation. In this year of highlights we give thanks to God for the generosity of our donors and the commitment of our partners that enabled tens of thousands in need to be assisted.

The generosity of donors saw fundraising income exceed \$500,000 for the first time and this enabled us to send more funds overseas to partner activity than in any other year. This led to our partners, Bangalore City Mission, Global Gospel Ministries Pakistan, Bishop Onono Onweng Foundation and Dorcas Creation continuing to grow their work in their own way, adapting to the needs and opportunities that present themselves in their local communities. The highlights include.

**'Alone we can  
do so little.  
Together we  
can do so  
much.'**

Helen Keller

- Bangalore City Mission obtained land for a second school campus thanks to a Karnataka State grant and support of our donors
- A new Women's Empowerment Centre in Nairobi was built as a base for the many empowerment and disability programs for our partner Dorcas Creation Kenya
- Sandy Running Festival grew with 290 walkers/runners raising \$30,000 to provide vital medical care for vulnerable mothers and babies in Uganda and South Sudan
- Lukodi Health Centre, operated by our partner, Bishop Onono-Onweng Foundation, provided medical treatment for 3,600 villagers in remote Northern Uganda.
- In a difficult security environment, our partner Global Gospel Ministries Pakistan, continued to provide education and training for hundreds of children and adults.

To our Board, staff, volunteers, donors and partners I want to say a huge 'thank-you'. In the words Helen Keller, 'Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much' and in this report you will read just how much we have achieved together.



## CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT – JACK SNELLING

As I visited our partner groups in India, Kenya, Uganda and Pakistan over the course of the past year I have been touched and inspired by the dedication and commitment of our partners as they serve people in extreme poverty.

In the remote areas of Northern Uganda limited access to medical care leaves babies and children vulnerable to the ravages of malaria and other life-threatening diseases while in the settlements of Marurui and Kamae in Nairobi shanty housing and malnutrition results in failure of children to thrive and disability. In rural Pakistan, the threat of terrorism is ever present and the children whose education we support at the Youngson Abad school are confronted with razor wire, security guards and metal detectors each day as they enter school while in the granite quarries of Hosur Bande, Sathunur Colony and Yerapanhalli on the fringes of Bangalore, there are dangers at every turn from dust, explosives and heavy vehicles. These are difficult places but our partners work with great dedication and love to bring hope and opportunity.

In seeking to throw off the shackles of poverty there is so much more that we can do. That is why, together with the Bright Futures Board and supporters, we are building our financial and organisational capacity to respond in even greater ways so that many more will experience the love of God and the kindness of people in ways that transform their lives. We are deeply grateful to all who share with us on this journey.



Jack Snelling, CEO

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**"I have a deep, strong feeling of what the people there are going through, so I wish the world will look into this with a very generous and receptive view. They need help, and we need to provide them with whatever help that we can."**

*Bright Futures Patron, The Hon. Hieu Van Le AC speaking of the situation for refugees and from his own experience of being a refugee on the occasion of his retirement as Governor of South Australia.*



## INDIA - BANGALORE CITY MISSION



Commencing in 2005, Bright Futures has been working in partnership with Bangalore City Mission (BCM), to support and deliver development projects in more than a dozen poor and quarry village communities. The project, which has a focus on education, healthcare and community development assisted more than 15,000 men, women and children over the course of the last year.

### School Based and Early Education

Beginning with just eight children in 1989, the BCM school (Sinclairs High School) has now provided schooling for 10,000 students from the quarries and other poor communities. Thanks to a land grant from the Karnataka government, in recognition of the courageous work of BCM during Covid, and with support from Bright Futures donors, a second school campus is being established at Rajankunte to provide education for the many poor in that area.

### Vocational Training

The provision of job and business skills education continues to be important in building capacity and empowering women from the quarries and villages. In the course of the year the four vocational training centres provided training in tailoring, handicrafts and jewellery making for 250 women. These empowerment initiatives, coupled with savings and self-help groups, provide a foundation for those assisted in creating a path out of poverty.

### Health Care

In providing more than 3,500 men, women and children with access to healthcare, BCM has partnered hospitals and health providers in running medical camps. Community cleanups, access to clean water from borewells established by BCM and funded by Bright Futures, and health awareness programs all contribute to improved health and increased access to medical care for those in the many communities served by BCM.





## PAKISTAN - GLOBAL GOSPEL MINISTRIES



The Bright Futures / Global Gospel Ministries partnership exists to support education for children in the village of Youngson Abad. and to provide vocational training for vulnerable young women who have left school. Access to education has long been a problem in this remote rural area and historically the education of girls had been limited. Security challenges are ever present and access to clean water and medical care is limited.

### Vocational Training

The vocational training centre this year provided over twenty girls and women from Youngson Abad and beyond with tailoring skills to help them secure jobs or self-generated income and keep them from the risk of being drawn into the dangerous domestic service environment that those without education face.

### School-based Education

The school at Youngson Abad supported by Bright Futures and run by our partner group provides education for students from this community and beyond. The village of Youngson Abad is in a remote area and those in the village and surrounding areas are mainly subsistence farmers or work in brick kilns where debt bonded labour, often referred to as modern slavery, is common. It is not uncommon for children to be caught up as bonded labourers, albeit it is illegal. The security environment is also a dangerous with the need for razor wire atop the school compound, metal detectors and security guards. The 320 students in attendance in years 1-9 are studious and around 60% of students are girls.

### Clean Water and Health

Provision of clean water for both students and the wider community is essential to good health. It continues to be an important activity of the partnership with up to 12,000 litres of clean water per day supplied. Currently there is a need for upgrade of these facilities to ensure continued supply.





## KENYA - DORCAS CREATION



Founded in 2012, the Bright Futures / Dorcas Creation partnership focuses on empowering women, men and children living in impoverished communities in Nairobi through access to vocational and business skills training and education for children. The partnership has a focus on building community capacity.

### Dorcas Creation Womens Empowerment Centre

A highlight of the year was the construction of the new Dorcas Creation Women's Empowerment Centre. The centre, which provides training, therapy and counselling areas will greatly enhance the training and support provided to thousands of women and children from the informal settlements each year.

### Vocational & Business Skills Training

Vocational and business skills training programs continue to be central to the empowerment initiatives with hundreds of women receiving training in tailoring, baking, hairdressing & beauty and other skills. A visit by Seeds Church enabled training in new areas of floristry and motor mechanics.

### School-based Education

Support for the education of children in the Mathare slum continues through WestWood School with over 200 eager learners taking their first steps on the road to an education capable of changing their lives.

### Nawiri Mama Project

Thanks to the support of donors the Nawiri Mama (Flourishing Mother) program has enabled more than 300 mothers of children with a disability receive basic therapy skills training so they can better assist their child's physical and cognitive capacity along with vocational training. An evaluation of the program by Torrens University Australia has pointed to the significant benefits of the program for both mother and child.





Established in 2010 at a time when the civil war in Northern Uganda had ended and people were beginning to return to their traditional places, the Bright Futures/Bishop Onono-Onweng Foundation (BOOF) initially focused on helping people re-establish their lives through agricultural production. As the community rebuilt the focus moved toward the current education, healthcare and clean water initiatives.

## Lukodi Health Centre (LHC)

The Lukodi Health Centre, operated by BOOF and funded by Bright Futures donors, had 3,600 presentations in the year with more than 70% being for malaria. Thanks to the operation of the centre many in the community were able to receive vital and at times live saving medical care for malaria and other conditions.

## Maternity & Birthing Services

Antenatal, postnatal and birthing services were provided to birthing mothers during the year. We are delighted to report 191 live births in the course of the year and no infant or maternal deaths. Access to safe birthing is critical to reducing infant and maternal death rates in this remote part of Uganda.

## Vaccinations

Vaccination programs delivered by LHC assist hundreds of adults, children and newborns each year with access to antiretrovirals being made available for HIV/AIDS patients through the centre.

## Education for Children of Refugees

Bright Futures donors continue to support the education of 24 children of South Sudanese refugees to receive secondary school education, clearly assisting their future life prospects.





## FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022/2023

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

Income and Expenditure Statement	FYE 2023	FYE 2022
<b>Revenue</b>		
Donations and gifts - monetary	492,885	321,767
Investment income - interest	1,201	19
Other Income	10,522	2,337
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>504,608</b>	<b>324,123</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
International programs		
Funds to international programs	412,040	233,815
Program support costs	5,318	6,004
Fundraising costs - Public - newsletters/signage	3,638	7,747
Accountability and Administration	30,032	18,556
Commercial Activities	0	3,760
Employee Costs	85,212	38,971
Rent Expense	5,238	6,068
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>541,478</b>	<b>314,921</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over expenditure</b>	<b>(\$36,870)</b>	<b>\$9,202</b>

The full audited financial report by BDO Audit (SA) is publicly available on the Bright Futures website and on the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) charity portal at [www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au). Copies also available on request to Bright Futures Office - P: 08 7225 7175 E: [office@brightfutures.com.au](mailto:office@brightfutures.com.au)



Stepping up to help save lives! Sandy Running Festival 2023 engaged 290 enthusiastic walkers/runners in raising \$30,000 to support vital health programs for vulnerable mothers and babies in Northern Uganda & South Sudan.

## WE VALUE YOUR FEEDBACK



Bright Futures invites your feedback about any matters concerning our governance or operations. If there is a matter of concern to you our Complaints Policy can be found under "Policies" on the Bright Futures website. To lodge a complaint or provide other feedback, please contact Bright Futures Board Chair, Sarah Spiker M: 0423 027 912 or CEO, Jack Snelling M: 0457 528 800 E: [jack.snelling@brightfutures.com.au](mailto:jack.snelling@brightfutures.com.au)