



# Impact

SEPTEMBER 2017



World Families Australia Inc.

IMPACTING CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES

## **Brothers of Good Works (BGW) – Ethiopia – Economic Empowerment Program**

World Families Australia now has the opportunity to support an Economic Empowerment Program that enables caregivers to take care of their own family and AIDS-orphans under their care. For 2017 and 2018 BGW is planning to extend the Economic Empowerment Program to a new catchment area and the annual plan is to address about 175 children in 109 households per year. The number of vulnerable children is high and the families where they are living are poor and have very limited resources. As most of the beneficiaries are low educated, the majority of caregivers are being encouraged and trained to be involved in small business. The business support initiative consists of the following elements:

- Basic business skill training of 5 days
- Market assessment and draft business plan
- Purchasing of start-up materials
- Starting the business with close follow up by business support supervisors for a period of 6 months after the start of the business
- Involvement in saving and internal lending group
- Participating in business group

The World Families Australia general fund (BGW-AID) is used by BGW for orphan support in the areas of educational costs, medical costs, nutrition, support with utilities and now the Economic Empowerment Program. Both regular and one off donations are accepted. If you would like more information about any of the BGW projects please contact Morgan Smith, [morgansmith93@bigpond.com](mailto:morgansmith93@bigpond.com). All donations gratefully received.

### **Project Officer Needed**

WFA is urgently seeking a Project Officer for the MIF project in Indonesia. Located in Yogyakarta, Sayap Ibu Foundation is a private, non-profit organisation without political or religious ties. They aim to help abandoned children under the age five. Sayap Ibu has been with WFA for many years and the office has been managing the project for sometime. If you are interested in learning more about the duties of a Project Officer, please get in touch with the office for more information.

### **Kevin Lynch**

A Memory Book was presented to Maureen Lynch as a celebration of Kevin's life. In excess of \$8,000 was donated to the children of Thailand in Kevin's memory. He will be sadly missed.

**Come along  
and meet  
your Project  
Officer**

## **AGM**

**October 17th**

**6:30pm**

**Tyndale College**

**Join us for  
light  
Refreshments  
& a chat**

See web site for agenda

**50 Fern Grove Bld, Salisbury East**

# Meskele Kristos Update



## **School Kitchen Update:**

Fundraising continues at a slow and steady pace. We have \$7,000 still to raise before we can begin stage one of the kitchen construction. This year, a lady has volunteered her time to fundraise at the night markets selling glow sticks to help raise money for this project. Every little bit of money raised helps and we are gradually moving towards our goal.

There has been discussions in Meskele Kristos with both the school and the community and the community are willing to assist by collecting stones for the kitchen construction. This will save some costs by not having to purchase this base material and will engage the community in the project.

## **Feeding Program:**

The government has recognised the need for a feeding program within this community and has started a program that they have agreed to run for 3 months of the year for the next 5 years. The government provides flour and the school and local community provide wood (for the fire) and salt. They have been cooking in an open field due to not having a suitable alternate location to cook.

## **Kids medical update:**

Following a visit by medical professionals to Meskele Kristos, we have identified and sent a number of children to a larger township for medical treatment. The children sent this time around were mostly experiencing eye concerns and it was good to be able to assist them with an opportunity to have their medical concerns attended to. We were also able to send a young woman who needed emergency treatment for abnormal uterine bleeding, the treatment of which brought her much relief. We have Child sponsorship that starts from \$70 per quarter.

Can you help one of these children in need? Or another group of children whom we are planning to send for medical treatment shortly.

## **Sponsorship Opportunities:**

Two children are in need of sponsorship, an eight year old boy, in grade 1, whose favourite subject is English and a nine year old girl, also in grade 1, whose favourite subject is Mathematics. Sponsorship is only \$70 per quarter.



## Welcome To Mercy Children's Home ~ Kenya ~ New Project

World Families Australia is pleased to welcome a new Project, Mercy Children's Home. MCH was established by Murray Bridge couple, Lindsay and Sally Lockwood, after a trip to Kenya in 2000. During this trip, the couple felt particularly impacted by the relief needs of orphaned children in Kisumu, a city of approximately 1 million people on the shores of Lake Victoria. They decided to begin fundraising to care for a group of orphaned children in Kisumu who were in great need of help.

In 2003 a plot of land in Kisumu was purchased and a new home for a maximum of 40 children was built in the following year. On February 21st 2005, Mercy Children's Home opened and the children settled into their new home, under the care of Kenyan staff employed by Lindsay and Sally Lockwood who managed the home from Australia with regular visits to Kenya.

The purpose of the home is to feed, clothe and educate orphaned children brought to the home by the local Child Welfare Office. The children are raised in a family environment with Kenyan house parents who live on the property. The home currently cares for 40 children ranging in age from 5 to 23 years old. With good health, education and knowledge of their own culture and government, the children are able to leave as adults better equipped to make a difference to their own lives and their nation of Kenya. For example, in 2007 one of the first children graduated from medical school and now works as a doctor in an AIDS Hospital in Kisumu.

In 2017, a new board was formed following the passing of Lindsay and out of concern for Sally's deteriorating health. The current Australian based board has decades of combined Kenyan experience, including one Kenyan national. The board aims to increase it's work especially in regards to empowering the local workers and increasing the community involvement of the home. The board also aims to improve the self-sustainability of the home and reduce the need for foreign support.

Targeted Development Projects for the Home will be introduced to increase self-sustainability including:

- Solar Electricity—200,000ksh (approx. AU\$2,700)
- Water Tank—150,000ksh (approx. AU\$2,000)
- Vegetable & Maize Garden Greenhouse— 250,000ksh (approx. AU\$3,5000)

If you, or someone you know would like to contribute or donate to assist these Development Projects to go ahead, please contact our new Project Officer, Tammy Garrett.

Email Tammy at: [tammy\\_garrett@hotmail.com](mailto:tammy_garrett@hotmail.com)

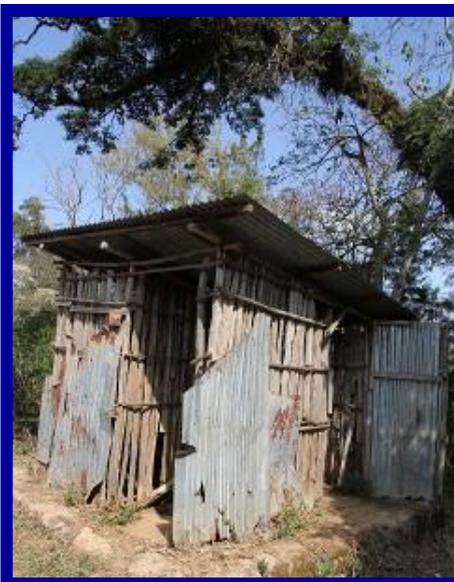
# WOMADelaide

- THE WORLD'S FESTIVAL -

World Families Australia is applying to have a stall at WOMADelaide on the weekend of 9th ~ 12th March 2018 at Botanic Park. We will need friends and supporter's of WFA to volunteer to help man the stall and organise displays. You will get a free wrist band for entry on the day you choose to volunteer, the wristbands are non transferable. Shifts are expected to be about 4 to 5 hours, you can choose to arrive early and/or stay late.

We are forming a committee to coordinate rosters/displays and would like to invite you to join us. Most communication will be conducted via emails. This is a chance to not only earn a little money but also for WFA to become more well known. If you would like to help please contact us via email on

[worldfamilies@bigpond.com](mailto:worldfamilies@bigpond.com)



## Bonga School Latrines

We thank St Francis Xavier's Regional Catholic School, at Wynn Vale for the donation to assist in the building of the Bonga School Latrines. Their 'Voices Make Choices' (similar to SRC) organised a student fund raiser for WFA. In Term 2, at a whole of school assembly, a cheque was presented to Bert Michels for \$1,460.78. This will be put towards building the latrines, changing the lives and improving the health of students attending the Bonga School in Ethiopia.

Again, many thanks to the St Francis Xavier's students and the adults who supported them.

## UNKNOWN DEPOSIT

On 29/6/17 a cash deposit was made at SEAFORD Branch, Victoria with no details of where the funds should be directed or to whom we should send a receipt. If you have any information, please contact the office so we can send the funds to the correct project. Thank You

## Testimony & Neema Homes ~ Kenya

During July 2017 a group from Tyndale Christian School comprised of 12 Students, 2 Old-Scholars, 3 teachers, 1 nurse and a Business Manager travelled to Kenya. They enjoyed 16 days spent at Testimony and Neema Homes. Over \$38,000 was raised before going to Kenya with some of this total being sent via WFA before the group arrived in Kenya. The funds raised went towards completing the following projects - a new chicken house catering for over 300 chickens, a new sewer line, water tank with guttering and a pump, two colour bond fences, a new hot water system complete with solar paneling, renovations to the front entrance of Neema school, and internal hallway renovations and a brand new dairy cow. In addition, donations of a suitcase full of vitagummies and everyday school items were also presented to the children at the Homes. Whilst the group was kept very busy working on the projects each day, they also enjoyed lots of time with the children playing fun games and running interesting activities, school programmes and face-painting. Everyone returned to Australia with many new Kenyan friends and wonderful memories of time spent together.



**Making new friends**



**New pencil cases all round**



**New Chicken Coop**



**Freshly painted front gates**



**Water tanks installed**



Speakers are available to tell groups about the work of W.F.A.

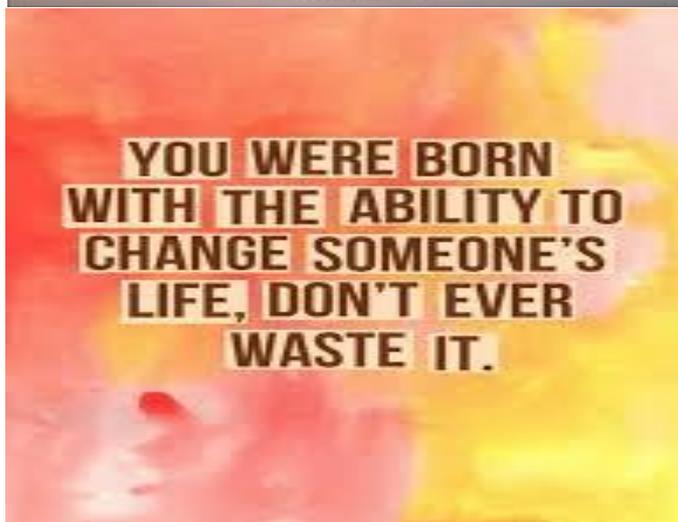
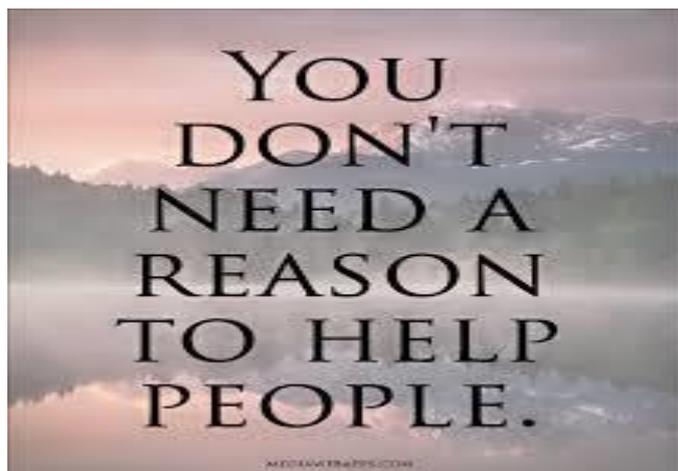
Please contact us through the office: (08) 8258 7909

## LAST DAY FOR YOUR GIFT THIS QUARTER

**1st September**

### Please Note

**Articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 17th October**



Opinions expressed by contributors to Sponsorship News are not necessarily those of World Families Australia

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