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Impact

JUNE 2019

IMPACTING CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES



WOMADelaide

For the past two years WFA has had a stall at WOMADelaide to promote our organisation.

We are intending to apply again next year for the March long weekend in 2020 and are looking for the following:

- **People prepared to be on the stall for a minimum of 4 hours on any days/nights WOMADelaide is running** (you will always be rostered on with at least one other person).
- **IDEAS for how best to attract people our stall eg if you have a skill or know people who have one eg hair braiding/ henna tattoos/face painting etc**
- **MERCHANDISE** (small amounts only) **that you want to sell to fundraise for your project.**

If you are interested in any of this, please contact Vicki Hyde on 0401495849 or vicki.hyde@westnet.com.au by the Wednesday 31st July 2019. Look forward to hearing from you.
Kind Regards, Vicki Hyde

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ETHIOPIA – JAN/FEB 2019

What a difference a year makes, flying into Addis Ababa, so many more houses built, the changes to the city itself, high rise buildings, more and more traffic, a new domestic airport in the throes of being finished. I was amazed at how quickly it was being put together from when I arrived on January 16th to when I left on February 9th.

Sr Yeshe, a new Sister and I arrived in Bonga on the Thursday (17th) after a hair-raising drive with Kochito . Only saw a couple of baboons this time, I noticed wider roads are replacing a lot of their habitation. There was much excitement in Bonga, preparing for Epiphany celebrations to be held at the weekend, one in Bonga and one in Madiwuta, about 34 kms out of Bonga. The Bonga celebration was held on Saturday; after a long mass it was off to the “River Jordan”, it normally takes half an hour to walk there. This trip took about two hours with lots of stopping, music, singing and dancing along the way. There wasn't much water in the “river” and it was oh so hot and I forgot to take water! So many people. The next day it was off to Madiwuta, Another long procession, this time however about five small children were being baptised.

Again there was not much water, not as much as the day before. Thankfully not quite as hot but I did remember water this time! – A big weekend. For the first week I spent time at the Kindergarten, The Women's Development Programme and went over to Bonga Barta School to see how the building of the toilets was going. Unfortunately work had stopped as there was no more money coming. So I am asking . . .

Please if you have any spare cash can you please help, we need to get these toilets completed as there is nowhere for the children to go to the toilet now. Ato Asrat , the school Director and I went through the figures and we believe what is needed to finish them is \$6000.00 So please send your Tax Deductable donation to WFA by email, direct debit : World Families Australia

Bank: CBA
BSB: 065-149
A/C: 10342470
BBL: Bonga Barta Latrines

Please leave your name and email so that Kerry can send you a receipt.

Our only means of advertising is by “word of mouth” please put the word out there for us.



Two of the building are for the girls, each building has four drop toilets

and two showers.

The boys have six drop toilets.



Shalom Children's Home ~ Sri Lanka

New Toilet Block

Since the establishment of Shalom Children's Home there has been a steady intake of orphaned, abandoned, abused and destitute children. The urgent need for additional toilet facilities was seen as a priority for the convenience of the children and staff of the home. Previous toilet facilities consisted of one toilet upstairs and one downstairs. There is an additional toilet in the downstairs bathroom which is used by staff.

The new toilet block has three toilets and two hand basins and is located close to the sleeping dormitories allowing the Matron to oversee the activities in the area and maintain safety to those using the toilets. The toilets are able to be secured at night and are well lit up for access at night.

The toilet block was undertaken by a local contractor who used local tradesmen and labours from the surrounding village area. The project cost was 446,289.00 Rupees approximately, \$3,615.00 Australian dollars.

New Septic Tank

With the completion of the new toilet block it was discovered very soon that the existing septic tank they were connected to was too small and kept blocking up the new toilets and overflowing into the staff toilet area. This created an urgent need for a new septic tank to be constructed. The new septic tank was constructed by local labourers next to the new toilets and existing septic tank. The cost of labour and materials was 102,110 Rupees which is approximately \$833.00 Australian on the current exchange rate. This was an unbudgeted expense but thankfully we have been able to complete this project at a very reasonable cost. Thank you once again for your generous financial support through World Families Australia.

We are very thankful to those who made this project possible by their generous gifts given through World Families Australia. If you would like to support this respected Project, contact Stephen Hodgson, Project Officer Shalom Children's Home 0438 875 957.



Medical Outreach Program - Prosthetics: Ethiopia

The Medical Outreach Projects work with the existing healthcare services in Ethiopia to support and improve what they can offer - working in collaboration with Ethiopian doctors to bring healthcare to rural areas and to the poorest people. These projects have developed out of exploring options to help an individual child in our sponsorship projects and discovering that their need is shared by many. WFA is too small to be effective if we work as an 'island' and I believe Ethiopia's poor and rural population will benefit best through having a strong public healthcare system. Over the years WFA has provided prosthetics clinics to Bonga (a rural town), cardiac clinics (screening school children and training for health workers in Bonga as well as supporting the Jimma cardiac clinic with provision of ECG's and other equipment), eye clinics and providing a range of supports for disabled and sick children identified in Bulbula town.

The Prosthetics Clinics to Bonga have been funded by WFA since 2010 and are provided by the Jimma University Hospital prosthetics department, coordinated by Abreham, a nurse heading up the department. The prosthetics department was set up by a European hospital that provided the equipment and training in making the prosthetics. However, the hospital does not have a budget to provide the prosthetics free of charge, or to provide rural clinics. WFA support fills that gap providing disabled poor and rural people with free help, including prosthetic above and below knee legs, prosthetic shoes, crutches and wheelchairs. Patients include children and adults disabled from birth or through burns, accidents, polio or landmines. This project is not only giving mobility to those with disabilities but also provides ongoing compassionate support through a regular friendly face and ongoing assessment.



This project started after I asked Abreham's help for Tariku. Tariku was about 7 years old when I met him. He was unable to attend school due to severe burns leading to the loss of a foot and distorted lower limb. Prosthetic shoes were provided for him, which needed to be replaced every 6 months or so. However, a proper prosthetic was not possible due to the nature and shape of a large contracture on the back of his leg which would cause a prosthetic to be too heavy and difficult to sit down with. He had surgery about a year ago.

Currently 500 prosthetic patients are provided to by the Bonga Clinic, who come to the clinic from various villages around Bonga. In addition to new patients, many patients return each year for repairs and replacements of prosthetic shoes, limbs, and other needs. In October 2018 I was fortunate to be in Bonga when the clinic was being run, so was able to meet some of the patients who were happy to share their stories with me, and allowed me to take some photos of them to share with you. Some of the patients I met included:



Temessegen: a 15 year old boy who was coming to the clinic for the very first time. He is in grade 7 but lives 2 km from his school. He hopes to be a teacher. Getting to school has been very hard as given the contractures of his limbs that he has had since birth.

Batrice: (left with Ayelech) this mother (she has a child in the sponsorship program run by Christine) was born with 'club foot'. In Australia that would have been surgically corrected in her early years, but in rural Ethiopia that wasn't an option for her. She has gone to Jimma and to the capital city for treatment over the years, but for the past 10 years has been able to access free treatment in her home town at the Bonga clinics.

Ayelech: also born with club foot, who was not able to access help until the clinics came to Bonga. Like Batrice she has been provided with crutches and specially created shoes to help her to walk.



Mengeshe: (left) this is his first time to the clinic. He's 41 years old and lost half his right leg from a landmine when sent to the 'front' in war many years ago. He still has a bullet in the other leg. He is one of many men returning from war, to their rural villages, that have lived in isolation, debilitated from their injuries. They have lived by hand to mouth farming, most live away from roads and public transport, and basic survival needs such as water and wood need to be collected daily.

Fitsul: (right) also born with club foot and has been provided with a wheelchair as well as prosthetic boots and a stick. His disability means he is only able to walk with the boots and stick for short periods, so the wheelchair adds to his ability to move around.



MESKELE KRISTOS, ETHIOPIA

According to the World Health Organisation*, malnutrition affects all regions worldwide today.

Across the globe, 1.9 billion adults aged 18 years and older are overweight and of these over 600 million are considered obese. Comparatively, this study also found that 462 million adults are currently considered underweight. Of these figures, 50 million children are wasted (considered too thin for their height)

This statistic is no more evident than in the remote village of Meskele Kristos in Northern Ethiopia where World Families Australia operates a school and child sponsorship project.

Over the last 10 years, we have been working with the local school and community and not-for-profit organisations to develop programs and projects that help support improved health outcomes and deliver learning opportunities to those who would normally be unable to afford or remain in the school education system in Ethiopia.

To date, through the generous support of donors and through joint co-operation with partner organisations, World Families has been able to implement improved sanitation at the school with the installation of pit latrines, storage capacity of rain water through the construction of water storage tanks, provided learning spaces and resourced supplies with the construction and resourcing of a school library, repaired classrooms which have fallen into disrepair and provided desks, chairs and nutritional biscuits to supplement diets of the children attending the local school.

This year, we will begin construction on a new kitchen facility at the school with the goal of providing nutritional meal supplements to the children in the local district. We have raised the majority of the funds to make this project possible, but now need to raise the funds necessary to provide appropriate equipment to get this project operational.

We will need to acquire a variety of kitchen appliances to facilitate the kitchen operation.

Our anticipated financial need to equip the kitchen is \$5,000.

World Families Australia invites your financial partnership in this project.

One off donations or regular sponsorship are available options and donations of \$2 and over are tax deductible.

Donations can be made by credit card or EFT via the website with the following project code: MKKP at <http://www.worldfamilies.org.au/pages/donate/online-donation-form.php>

If you would prefer to support the project by sponsoring a particular child (or the school) through the pooled sponsorship Meskele Kristos Child project, we have included some photos of the children awaiting sponsorship on our website. www.worldfamilies.org.au

Thank you for your continued support of World Families Australia and the projects we operate.

Kind Regards,

Dee Hudson

Project Officer – Meskele Kristos

Bendy98@bigpond.com or Mobile: 0404 454 390



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 June 2019

Please Note

Any articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 13th of August



**Motivation
comes from
working on things
we care about.**

— SHERYL SANDBERG

No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the WORLD.

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

Editor: Diane Amato

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Newsletters by Email If you have an email address, you can receive your financial statement and the newsletter *Impact*, electronically. This would result in a considerable cost saving for World Families Australia (approx. \$450 per quarter), enabling us to increase the amount of funds sent to our various projects overseas. If you would like to change to receiving information from us electronically, please contact Kerry at the office on:

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