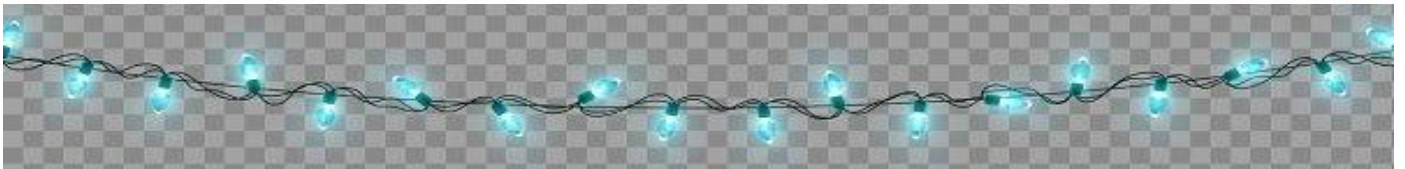
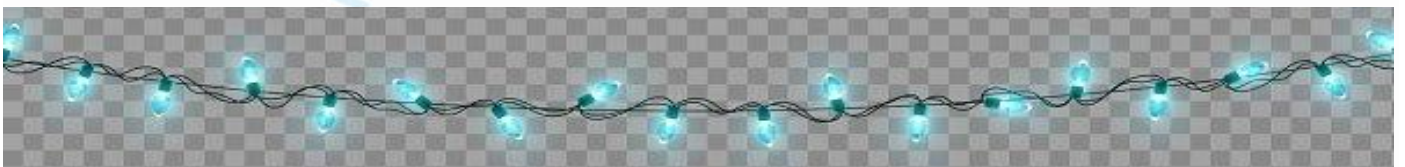


Wishing our friends and donors a very
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year



**From home to home,
From heart to heart,
From our community,
To friends in others;
May the warmth and joy of
Christmas,
Bring peace to us all.**



The World Families Australia office will be closed from Friday 17th of December to Tuesday 11th January 2022 for the Christmas, New Years holiday.
Have a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year .

Dembidollo ~ Ethiopia Hostel Girls Update 2020-2021

The Daughters of Charity Danka hostel has been supporting 17 girls in 2020-2021 despite the insecurity and difficult time (civil conflict and ethnic tensions) it remains open, available and hospitable to the girls in need, taking all the measures to prevent them from unnecessary restrictions and problems.

Although Daughter of Charity can only assist 17 young girls to stay at the Hostel, ranging from age 8-20 and from grade 1-11, there were many other applicants. We were restricted to take on girls in the worst circumstances only.

In recent years the hostel building was demolished and rebuilt and is in very good shape. The previous building construction was like straw and clay bricks and was disintegrating. We still need to furnish the hostel as furniture is very old and in need of replacing.

Inflation where everything has gone up double and triple means it's incredibly expensive just to feed the girls now. These students are from far villages with no opportunity for school if not for the help they are receiving now.

The program of WFA has been helping these students for their school expenses, board and lodging at the hostel, uniform, clothes and toiletries. Medical help is extended to them when they get sick while under the responsibility of the Daughters of Charity at the Hostel for Girls. The donors through WFA have enabled us to provide this opportunity for education to young women who would otherwise never go to school.

In the past year, it was also a year when the majority of the population was experiencing so much food insecurity due to constant inflation. Families could almost not afford anymore to buy food for their daily consumption. Everything has gone up except the wages of the poor people who have to bear the daily labor in order to put food on the table. These people would rather bear the low cost of daily labor than to have nothing at all.

On behalf of these students, we the Daughters of Charity would like to express our heartfelt joy and thanks to WFA for helping the poor students go to school with the hope that they become self-reliant and improve the quality of their lives in the future.

With Cordial Regards, God Bless Sr Alganesh Assefa, DC



Girls study group



Tadelu Hamba

Adoption Support

World Families Australia was founded by families involved in intercountry adoption. World Families Australia acknowledges and respects the role adoptive families have had in the organization over many years. In recent years we have been involved less and less in adoption support and as a consequence will relinquish any formal or informal involvement with adoption issues into the future.

Changes Coming

The WFA Office is transitioning from Office 16 to Microsoft Office 365. This will have little effect on supporters/donors, however our contact email addresses will change in the new year. We will advise you when the transition is complete. The contact information on our website will also change. Our existing emails will continue to be received and monitored. More information will be provided in the new year.

Judy's Bequest Update

Below is the allocation of Judy Morris' very generous bequest. A considerable amount of time was spent assessing written submissions from our Project Officers. Here is the final distribution of the monies from Judy's very kind donation. Funds have begun to be distributed from 1st October. Watch for project updates in the coming months to see the impact these funds will have in changing lives.

Project	
Meskele Kristos Kitchen	The school has finished the building construction; it leaves the internal fit-out to make it functional. On completion the project is complete.
Bonga Fish Farming	Fish-farming project is currently a great income project for Bonga, however in addition to wishing to increase the output, the existing concrete structure has cracked and repair is required.
Bonga Land cultivation	Teaching the local people how to cultivate the land and growing their own food. Oxen, seed and equipment is essential in the training.
Bonga Soccer Pitch	Through community consultation it was determined that a school soccer pitch would enable the school and local youths to benefit rather than playing in the streets. Some funds have already been utilised for grading and uniforms. Funds would be utilised to hire a bulldozer for major earth works and purchase equipment. Equality of access for girls is a must.
Minjur Technology	Purchase IT equipment for senior students to utilise in their studies
Shalom Roof	Replace the existing roof which is leaking and rusting badly.
Neema Bore	With the intermittent nature of access to water, the project would fund the initial exploration to drill for water for the school.
Testimony Faith Bore	With the intermittent nature of access to water, the project would fund the initial exploration to drill for water for the school.
Jimma Income Generating Training	The training program for more adult members, would provide required equipment and resources to train locals in broom-making, sewing, hairdressing, IT skills, furniture making, and embroidery thereby giving them skills to be employed.
Liwan Teacher Residence	Teachers are required for the Liwan School, however prior to accommodation being provided, teachers wouldn't come. A home was built but is in need of repair.
Liwan Latrine	Original latrines aren't functional as they are full. Without appropriate sanitation children drop out due to illness. A new latrine will provide toilets for the school and for local community.
Liwan Clean Water	Liwan is remote and an area of great poverty. Current gravity fed water from a spring some distance away is no longer functioning. Dollar limit would complete only part of the project, hence project to be staged.
Sri Lanka Playground	Due to increase demand, current playground is not adequate. Current playground insufficient and old. Provides free education for disadvantaged students and promotes equality.
Jimma Driving Licence	Providing some local youths to be trained in driving and purchase their license.
Ruth/Naomi Playgroup	Establishment of community playgroup. Funds to purchase equipment.
Bonga Grinding Mill	Women carry grain to be milled at great distance at their risk. Having a local mill would become income generating. This would also create food for the children in the local school. The local community have requested this through the local church.
Bulbula Spinach growing	Teaching locals in developing a spinach garden to combat folate deficiency. Folate in their diet would decrease the incidence of birth defects.
Total Applications	

Making a Difference ~ Bonga



Bonga: A young boy's delight on receiving a letter and photos from his WFA sponsor. His sponsors also expressed their joy on receiving this photo, saying "As sponsors, it gave us joy to see [our sponsor child], with his beautiful smile holding our letters and photos. Sandi we love being a part of World Families and you all do such an amazing job, thank you for making a difference".

Margaret Mead ~ Anthropologist

Mead said that the first sign of civilization in an ancient culture was a femur (thighbone) that had been broken and then healed. Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, get to the river for a drink or hunt for food. You are meat for prowling beasts. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal. A broken femur that has healed is evidence that someone has taken time to stay with the one who fell, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery. Helping someone else through a difficulty is where civilization starts. We are at our best when we serve others.

AGM Presidents Report 2021

Despite COVID 19 continuing many generous donors continue to fund World Families Australia projects that improve the quality of life for communities, families and individuals.

Projects have continued to be managed over the year. One new project in Bali, House of Ruth and Naomi, will commence when all accountability requirements have been met. One project in Thailand closed. For the first time we have a project that is attracting a much higher level of donations than we have so far experienced. Our challenge over the next twelve months will be to ensure that the accountability processes in place are sufficiently robust for such projects.

World Families Australia received a large bequeath from the estate of Judy Morris. The funds from her estate have been allocated to seventeen projects through a competitive process. All funded projects were required to demonstrate how they addressed the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We are grateful to Judy for her kind and generous donation and hope she would be pleased with how the funds have been allocated.

This year Bert coordinated a triannual review of all projects run through World Families Australia. The review involved coordinators seeking feedback from donors and the project coordinator as well as reflecting on the project from their own perspective. Such a review occurs every three years and involves a considerable amount of work. Thank you to all project officers for completing this review and Bert for coordinating it. A triannual review is an important strategy for ensuring we meet the requirements for tax deductibility.

Under Bert Michels continued leadership the governance of the organisation remains strong. Bert oversaw the redevelopment of the website so that it better meets the needs of the twenty first century. This was a large undertaking but necessary to position the organisation as a charity visible in the online space. Di Amato continues to provide us with informative newsletters that record the activities of World Families Australia. Kerry Walker and Robyn Merritt continue to manage the finances competently.

Once again, I would like to thank everyone for their support over the last twelve months. The donors for providing funds to the projects, the office staff for ensuring the organisation runs smoothly, the members of the management committee and the project officers. Morgan Smith, President, WFA

Update on the Sisters of the Good Shepherd Sri Lanka

The Sisters of the Good Shepherd's traditional focus has been caring for children that need to live under the care of the Sisters in residential accommodation due to abandonment or unsuitable family circumstances. Like the shift in many charities across the globe, the Sisters have a growing focus on community-based care, assisting families who need help due to loss of employment, ill-health, separation and poverty. The need for both care models remains with sponsorships available in either model.

World Families' primary contact is through Sister Mary Perera Prisca (Sister Prisca), a superior based at the Good Shepherd campus, in Nayakakanda on the northern edge of Colombo, the country's capital. This works well, considering language and cultural differences. The Sisters identify high priority children for sponsorship by World Families sponsors. All the children have poignant heart-wrenching stories, some coming into care through Child Protection or other court orders and requiring sponsorship. Other children are sponsored, but remain with poverty-stricken families where a working parent may have died, abandoned the family, or be in poor health.

The Sisters provide education, vocational skills training and personal development, and assist young adults who have been in their care to transition to employment. Most recently, the Project Officer and Sister Prisca developed a grant proposal to build a new playground at the Panadura Montessori Pre-School run by the Sisters. Panadura is south of Colombo, with the pre-school has over two hundred children attending! Thanks to the generosity of the Judy Morris Bequest Fund, the children will soon be playing on swings, see-saws and running along new paths having tire, log and lawn play adventures.

There remains widespread need across Sri Lanka including the seventy two locations where the Sisters have a presence. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a child, or in funding a community project, such as another playground, priorities for women and children, like a sewing course for northern women, **please contact the Sisters of the Good Shepherd Project Officer Karan Coombe-Smith karan.coombesmith@gmail.com or 0403690695.**

Some of the backgrounds to our sponsored children:

'A small very poor boy. Family has no proper income. Father is not educated. He is a Cooley attending on jobs as and when he gets one. Very low-income family. These days due to Pandemic no income at all. Grandfather earns by mending the shoes to support the family. But these days he is living by begging.'

'Her mother has left the family. Father is a fisherman. She is weak in studies, because her parent hasn't sent her to school. She should to be in grade 5 but since she is a slow learner she is in grade 3. She was sent to our Center through Probation & Child Care Department.'

'Her father is in prison. Mother is abroad. No one is there to look after her therefore she was sent us through Courts.'

Children attend a government-run school adjacent to the convent, where the principal is a Good Shepherd Sister, where children can progress right through to their final exams of high school.

The Sisters also administer care and relief to women, children and families, during crisis and catastrophes including the ongoing trauma and aftermath from the civil war, the tsunami, the Colombo bomb blasts and, most recently, sickness and poverty directly caused by Covid-19. Covid has greatly affected the poorer people in Sri Lanka as many relied on day work in agriculture and industry and the country has been in long lockdowns, meaning no income.



Some of our sponsored children (sponsorships support educational & living expenses)



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 December 2021

Please Note

Any articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 25th January 2022

PROJECT OFFICERS for WORLD FAMILIES AUSTRALIA

ETHIOPIA

DEKIA	Dee Lumsden	0413 187 049
ADDIS-BGW	Morgan Smith	08 8522-7694
BULBULA	Kate Drogemuller	08 8948 0623
JIMMA DOL,DOC-B DOL-S	Michelle Nethery Michelle.nethery@gmail.com	

JIMMA,LIWAN, BONGA,
LALIBELA, SYPPORT FOR
SIGHT IMPAIRED &
MEDICAL OUTREACH

Sandi Petersen	0408 712 308
----------------	--------------

BONGA Rural	Emma Lewis	0415 978 066
-------------	------------	--------------

JIMMA-DOC
BONGA Feeding,
BONGA-BWDP
SAMERRO

Christine Hoffman	0417 793 300
-------------------	--------------

Gemma Pilcher	07 5438 0953
---------------	--------------

WOLAYITA	Katie Davis	03 6425 1563
----------	-------------	--------------

MESKELE KRISTOS	Dee Hudson	0404 454 390
-----------------	------------	--------------

INDIA

Minjur	Jenny Minck	08 8258 7909
--------	-------------	--------------

INDONESIA

Ruth/Naomi Community Centre	Chrissy Sulistyio	0451 766 483
--------------------------------	-------------------	--------------

Mission Uplift	Francios Penaluna	8260 2142
----------------	-------------------	-----------

KENYA

Neema	Liz Rankin	0434 692 207
-------	------------	--------------

Testimony Homes	Dani Potter	08 8283 0728
-----------------	-------------	--------------

PHILIPPINES

Elaine Smith	0414 434 533
--------------	--------------

Bruce Smith	0414 953 533
-------------	--------------

SRI LANKA

Shalom Children's Home	Steve Hodgson	0438 875 957
------------------------	---------------	--------------

Colombo	Karan Coombe-Smith karan.combesmith@gmail.com	0403 690 695
---------	--	--------------

THAILAND	Peter Mann	08 8363 2585
----------	------------	--------------

FINANCIAL/SPONSORSHIP ENQUIRIES:

Kerry Walker Sponsorship/Financial Officer

wfasponsorship@bigpond.com

Emails monitored daily

Robyn Merritt Sponsorship/Financial Officer

wfafinance@bigpond.com

OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesdays

Phone 08 8258 7909

POSTAL ADDRESS:

50 Fern Grove Bld.

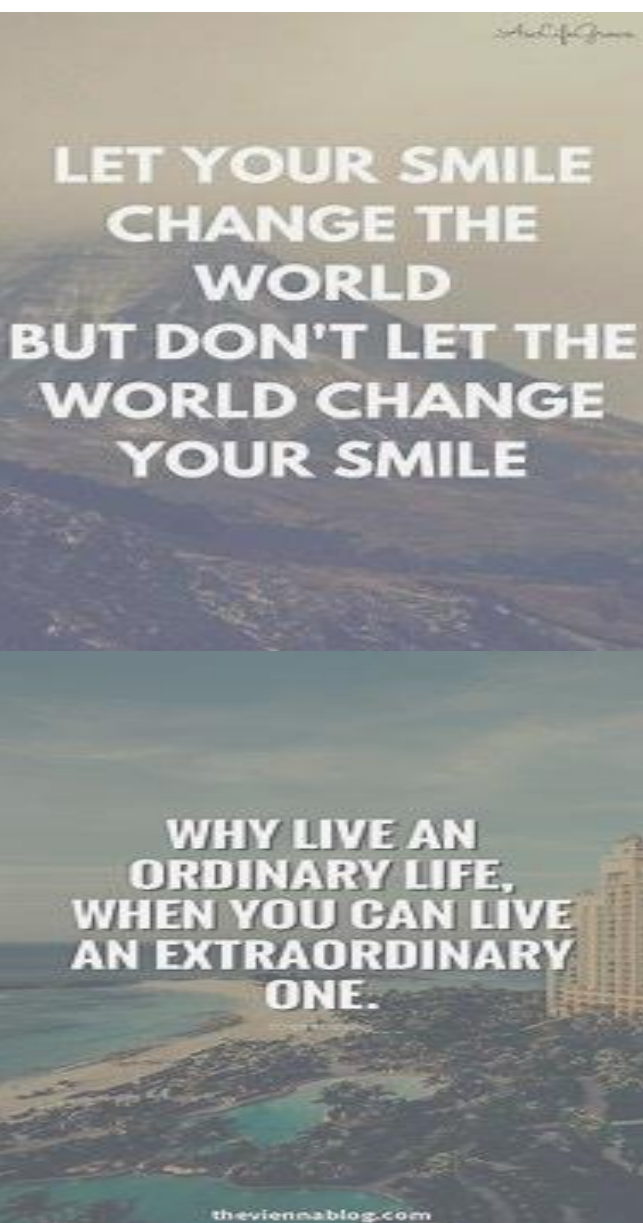
Salisbury East SA 5109

EMAIL:

worldfamilies@bigpond.com

WEB:

www.worldfamilies.org.au



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

Editor: Diane Amato