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IMPACTING CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES

Wishing our donors and friends A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year The office will close on Tuesday 20th December We will reopen Tuesday 17th January 2023

Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light love to those it most. toho Stapleton

#### President's report to the Annual General Meeting 2022 from Morgan Smith

In 2022 many generous donors funded World Families Australia projects that improve the quality of life for communities, families and individuals internationally.

Projects have continued to be managed over the year. Our new project in Bali, House of Ruth and Naomi, has not yet commenced as anticipated. Setting up the necessary legal requirements in Bali has taken time. Funds from the Judy Morris bequest have been dispensed to many projects with reports of the outcomes received. I hope Judy would be impressed with how her generous donation has been used.

Currently several projects are without project officers. We are currently seeking project officers for projects in India, Sri Lanka and possibly Thailand. All projects must have a project officer to be viable. I encourage anyone interested (or possibly interested) in a project officer role to contact the office.

Under Bert Michels continued leadership the governance of the organization remains strong. 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 organization runs smoothly, the members of the management committee and the project officers.

The final year's meeting will be held at the African Village, 2A Northcote St, Torrensville on December 6th. Donors are invited to join us for dinner at 6:45pm. RSVP to the office by 22nd November.

### Liwan: Ethiopia

The new gravity fed clean water system is now complete in Liwan, thanks to the generosity of donors and Judy Morris's bequest.



Clean water is so important for this very remote community, with dysentery a common cause of illness and death in children and the elderly. Liwan is the home of the Shuro people, and far from the closest road. WFA has been supporting Liwan for many years, with the building of a school grade 1-4 (increased to grade 5 recently) and clean water system back in 2008. Over the years WFA has helped in other ways in effort to provide a holistic response to the multiple issues of devastating poverty and lack of services, including child sponsorships to increase food security and provide school resources for all the children, teachers wages and residences (as it was very difficult to get teachers to such a remote location), a health post in a nearby village, boarding houses and school classrooms in Dekia where the Liwan children go after reaching grade 6, and more. The gravity fed system was no longer operational, meaning girls and women were walking long distances to bring water to their homes, and the water was often contaminated from livestock and people walking through the streams. This new gravity fed system brings clean water to the school, which the community can access.

Thank you to all those who supported this initiative. Sandi Petersen

#### **New Project Officers Needed For India & Sri Lanka**

We need new project officers now to ensure some existing projects continue. The duties of the Project Officer are varied and sporadic and can include; communicating with the overseas representative via email, ensuring the funds deposited for the project are acknowledged, keeping donors informed of the projects progress annually, forwarding requests from overseas representatives, providing the occasional article for the newsletter and completing a triannual review once every three years. Some Project Officers choose to visit the project, at their expense, but this is not a requirement. If you think you might be interested please contact us for a chat. No pressure. If you decide to take on the role you will be supported by like minded people who want to make small changes to the lives of others in need.

# G 2022

#### **Dembidollo Girls Hostel - graduate**

Dassie has been a beneficiary of WFA sponsors of the hostel in Dembidollo. She spent many years in the hostel so that she could complete an education. Dassie is impacted by polio and has some physical limitation in the use her leg. Without the support of WFA she would have been stuck inside her home, without access to school, socialization with other young people and certainly without access to higher education.

Dassie has recently completed her Bachelor of Science – Nursing at Rift Valley University, Nekemte. She is now seeking employment in Addis Ababa. We wish her the best and thank all the sponsors of the girl's hostel in Dembidollo over the years.

Supporting girl's education is important and supporting disabled girls in education literally changes their world. Gemma (WFA Project Officer) continues to be a mentor for Dassie and has recently assisted her with preparing a CV and applying for suitable employment.

#### Some Bonga News

Its been a long time since Covid struck, I returned from Ethiopia in early February 2020 and have not returned since. Due to heavy price rises I am not sure that I will be able to go back at the end of this year either.

Sr.Yeshi , in charge of the Kindergarten and Sponsor children in Bonga has written a small report as to what have happened over the last couple of years.

So Bonga was struck with Covid but as far as she knows there were no deaths. Like here in Australia the economic factor was and is a challenge. Transportation costs doubled. People already living in Poverty have to put up with huge food costs. The Sisters help as much as they can.



In the meantime there is a Skirmish between the Government and Tigray which again has affected the economy, materials, school materials cleaning materials, food etc. are all in short and expensive supply.

The good news is that the children are back at KG and school. The number of children 3-6 attending KG is 107. We have just 8 sponsors for the Bonga Feeding Centre and Kindy (BFC) If you would like to sponsor please, please consider. We are also trying to raise money to update the playground, it is so old and dilapidated. (BFC- Play quip)In the BFC-K Project we have 26 sponsored children that have gone on to Primary and High School. Thank you so much for your continued support!

We have also managed to build 2 houses for 2 of the Sponsor children's families in the last 2 years.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to call or email me

#### **Christine Hoffman**

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O417793300 ( if I don't answer leave a message and I will get back to you ASAP )

## From Neema Children's Home SEPT 2022 NEWSLETTER



Greetings from Neema family in Eldoret where the weather has began to change from cold and wet weather to quite a warm weather. The children have started the School third term. Thankfully, we had a peaceful and productive time with them. All School going children are back to School. We are thankful for a peaceful, restful holiday though very brief, only ten days.

This month, Caleb became Neema family youngest member. Caleb is three months old and was born at the big hospital in Eldoret. He was born premature. After delivery, the mother realized the baby has multiple complications and, we think that's why she abandoned the baby having given the wrong information about her residence, she cannot be traced. Caleb has cleft pallet, one kidney, some toes are not formed, and inguinal hernia. When the Children's Officer asked us to take Caleb, though we were informed of the cleft pallet deformity, we did not realize it was severe, when he was brought to us, it was, actually a shock. He is feeding by pipe but looking brighter and showing signs of growth. Please pray for Caleb so that he grows normally. He is due for corrective surgery when he stabilizes. He is also HIV+. We really request for your prayers as bring up Caleb.

Please also pray for Moses. Moses is two years old and very slow in speech. He most of the times seems to be in a world of his own. He is obviously not growing as expected though there has not been any notable medical concern. We as Neema family feel that something is wrong and it may be necessary to take him for a checkup.



Receiving text books from one of the printing companies throught the Eldoreret Lions Club.

As a requirement by the government, the new education system requires that learners visit the less fortunate in the society with donations. Here, Neema School Grade 3 and their teachers visited a nearby home for the mentally challenged.



# **Menewer Tekla**

#### **Bachelor of Civil Engineering**





Kedouse Youseph, the WFA social worker has just forwarded through Menewer's graduation photo - how awesome! Menewer has now completed his degree in Civil Engineering thanks to his hard work and most importantly the gift of your sponsorship which has opened us this fantastic opportunity. Menewer is only the second student from the DOL Jimma project to graduate with a bachelor's degree - hopefully there will be many more to follow!

**Michelle Nethery** 

Project Officer - Jimma, Ethiopia

World Families Australia

#### **BALI WOMAN LIGHTHOUSE ~ The Lighthouse Bali**

In accordance with the annual plan, The Lighthouse Bali continues to carry out our Vision and Mission of its sister company, Bali Women's Lighthouse, which is to continue to help addicts in Bali, in this case especially female addicts or alcoholics. In 2021, the Covid-19 Pandemic crisis plagued the world and had a huge impact on the charity programs of Indonesia, including Bali Women's Lighthouse. Since 2019, Bali Women's Lighthouse provided free rehabilitation services for female addicts in Bali by collaborating with related parties who help facilitate and support recovery, including room and board, education, counselling and vocational assistance.

Since 2021 World Families Australia ("WFA") has provided much needed support for our endeavors and we are extremely grateful for this, as it makes our continued efforts possible.

Our residential facility was forced to close due to the covid pandemic, however we continue to provide much needed support to women (and men) in the "at risk" community groups. Some, if not all, of these individuals receive no assistance from the Indonesian government or from other private donors – this is why the work of The Lighthouse Bali is critical and the generosity of WFA to our efforts so critical and appreciated.



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

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

#### AST DAY FOR YOUR GIFT THIS QUARTER **1st December 2022**

#### **Please Note**

Any articles for the next newsletter should reach the office by 7th February 2023



# NO ONE IS USELESS I THE BURDENS DE HARLES DICKENS

The greatest gift that you can give to others is the gift of unconditional love and acceptance.

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

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#### **ETHIOPIA** DEKIA

ADDIS-BGW

BULBULA

JIMMA DOL, DOC-B

DOL-S

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

**BONGA Rural** 

JIMMA-DOC BONGA Feeding, BONGA-BWDP

SAMERRO

WOLAYITA

MESKELE KRISTOS

**INDONESIA** 

INDIA

Minjur

Ruth/Naomi Community Centre **Mission Uplift** Bali Lighthouse

#### **KENYA**

Neema **Testimony Homes** 

#### PHILIPPINES

**SRI LANKA** 

Shalom Children's Home

#### Colombo

THAILAND

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