



The World Families Australia Office will be closed from Tuesday 16th of December 2025 to Tuesday 6th January 2026 for the Christmas, New Years holiday.

Wishing all our donors and sponsors a safe and happy holiday season. WFA thanks you all for your care and commitment to enriching the lives of those in need across the seas. As a reminder, WFA is a secular organization and is not religiously affiliated. Some of our overseas Project Partners can be faith based, but Australian charity laws are very clear that our funds must not be used for proselytizing nor to discriminate or privilege people from a specific faith. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Tyndale Christian School for their generosity in providing our office space in a very favorable arrangement for WFA. Some of the staff are Project Officers for the Kenyan Projects, but WFA is not an entity of Tyndale School.

President's report - 2025

In 2025 many generous donors continued to fund international projects through World Families Australia. Our donor numbers have continued to fall creating challenges for the future sustainability of the organisation. This year addressing a financial shortfall has only been partially successful. The best solution would be to recruit more donors which to date we have struggled to do.

Projects have continued to be managed over the year by our Project Officers. We have introduced the requirement that all staff and project officers within World Families Australia have a Working with Children Check. Heather has established a database to ensure everyone's Working with Children Check continues to be current. One Ethiopian project is in the process of closing while another one is being developed. Another project in Kenya is also in the development phase. There have been some changes to project officers. Michelle Nethery has resigned and Trevor Anderson has taken over her project in Jimma. Anna Szava has taken over the

Bonga Feeding Centre project from Christine Hoffman and Kerry Walker. Dee Hudson ceased her role with the organisation when the Meskele Kristos project was flagged to be closed.

In this last 12 months we have reviewed all project agreements for currency and relevance. A database has been constructed to ensure the review of all agreements is timely going forward. Some projects have received increased scrutiny around reporting following the tri-annual review. In addition, we recently revised our approach to reporting expectations. Ongoing monitoring will continue of all our projects to ensure they comply with government and other legal requirements.

Di Amato resigned as newsletter editor this year but will remain with the organisation as a highly valued advisor. Di has been with the organisation since early days and her knowledge is unsurpassed. Thank you Di for all your years of service to the organisation.

A new newsletter editor will be joining us in the New Year – thank you Carolyn MacLulich for taking on the role. Very much appreciated.

Over the last 12 months Heather Douglas has settled into her role as Office Manager and I cannot thank her enough for all the work she has done and continues to do. Among other things Heather has taken on updating the website, Project Officers Handbook and kept the newsletter going until our new replacement newsletter editor comes on board. She has also been developing an office management manual. Thank you Heather!

Kerry Walker and Robyn Merritt continue to manage the finances with skill and accountability. Kerry also produces clear, comprehensive reports for Trevor Anderson, our Treasurer, and the Management Committee. Thank you Kerry, Robyn and Trevor.

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 and office bearers, for ensuring the organisation runs smoothly, and the project officers.

Morgan Smith

Request for Donations for Bonga Barta Community Soccer Pitch Equipment

As many of you are aware we are in the final stages of completion of the community soccer pitch located at the Bonga Barta School, which enables students at the school, along with youth living in the area, to play social and competitive soccer.

While youth currently only have an opportunity to play soccer in the streets, the goal is to support the physical and mental health of young people in the community through a love of soccer.



Construction of retaining wall and seating

Unfortunately, most kids don't have soccer socks, kits, shin guards or boots, therefore injuries such as broken bones are common in Ethiopia, however medical care in Bonga is limited.

We have been very fortunate that a sponsor has sourced many of these items from within Australia, however the issue is the cost of freighting them to Ethiopia. Previously we were able to travel to Ethiopia, however it is currently unsafe to do so, therefore we are requesting donations to pay for freight. If you are able to make a donation please send me an email. Thank you!

Emma Lewis

Project Officer for World Families Australia, Ethiopia,
PO Box 3216 Norwood 5067

Ph: 0415 978 066 email: embella008@gmail.com



*Christmas
Greetings
from the
Philippines*





PHILEMON ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC.
Capricorn Room Tropical Palace Hotel, Kirishima St., BF International,
Las Piñas City, PHILIPPINES

NEWSLETTER

SY 2024-2025

August

Former PAFI students are now part of PAFI Faculty



Lemuel Joel Villamater is a graduate of Bachelor of Elementary Education Major in Special Education. He now teaches HS Math and is also our Head Music Teacher. He teaches piano and orchestra.



John Paul Isid or Teacher JP is a graduate of Bachelor of Secondary Education Major in English. He now teaches HS English and also a part time ballet instructor.





Malkiel Joel Villamater is a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Accountancy. He is now part of our music faculty and teaches Lyre instrument to elementary students, violin to HS students. He also teaches percussion.

Minjur Home Project

Minjur Home is a shelter home for school aged girls up to 18 years of age who have been rescued from situations of severe poverty, neglect, homelessness. They study at primary and secondary school under the guidance of the Seva Missionary Sisters of Mary at Minjur in the city of Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

We are seeking donations to enable five (5) students to complete their studies for the **Diplo-
ma of Nursing** at the Seva Rural Community College. A year ago, donations received paid their First-Year enrolment fees. The Second-Year enrolment fees have yet to be paid \$A615 per student for this two- year course.

The course will help the girls overcome the cycle of poverty and gain skills for a brighter future. Empower them to make right decisions in their life. Develop self-confidence and self-esteem. Offering a safe and supportive environment away from exploitation and abuse. Help them develop leadership skills, communication and problem-solving skills. Economic independence and self-sufficiency. Restoring hope and provide better job opportunities. Assisting them to overcome past traumas and challenging what had happened in their childhood.

Testimony from **Pavithra** assisted by WFA 2023-2024:

"I am here to express our deepest gratitude. This program has given us an opportunity to pursue our dream of becoming a nurse. We are grateful for the support of WFA donors which has enabled us to focus on our studies and develop our skills."

If you would like to become a Sponsor to Minjur Home Project in India, please email Office@worldfamilies.org.au marked to the attention of Jennifer Minck or if wishing to make a one off donation you can go directly to the World Families Australia website at www.worldfamilies.org.au and hit the DONATE button, scroll down and select - India - Micro -loans, Shelter, Education & Disability support

Jennifer Minck
Project Officer for Minjur Home Project



From left to right: **Gowri, Geetha, Priya, Yavanna and Thilaka** in their new uniforms. They are aged 17-18 years and all come from backgrounds of abject poverty, some are orphans. All of the girls reside at Minjur Home.

Donor Appreciation Newsletter

❀ Ruth Naomi Community Centre ❀

**Created by Women, for Women and Their Children - Encourage • Empower • Enable
A Journey Toward Hope, Healing, and Wholeness**

Dear World Families Australia,

With deepest gratitude, we write to thank you—from the bottom of our hearts—for your generous support. Your compassion is transforming lives at the Ruth Naomi Community Centre in Bali, offering restoration, dignity, and a new beginning to vulnerable women and children.

🍰 Program 1: Traditional Cake & Snack Making

WOW GROUP
(Women of Worth)

Led by Mrs. Nina and Mrs. Ariyati who is a single mum her self abandoned with 3 small girls, with the gift of cooking she is now our cooking teacher at Ruth Naomi Community Centre.



This program is more than a cooking class—it's a path to rediscovering joy and self-worth. Through the art of preparing traditional cakes and savoury snacks, women earn income with dignity and at their own pace. It lifts financial burdens while gently restoring confidence and hope.

“It's not just about recipes—it's about courage to begin again.”

🧠 Program 2: HOPE AND HEAL



Spiritual, Emotional & Mental Health Support

Guided by our compassionate pastoral couple, Pastor Dolof and Mrs. Komang, this sacred program offers a safe and nurturing space for women walking through the deepest pain of:

Loss and grief
PTSD
Depression
Abandonment
Divorce and domestic violence
Isolation and suicide prevention

Through spiritual, practical, emotional, and mental health care, our holistic approach is restoring hope and rebuilding lives for these vulnerable women and children.

When a mother begins to heal, so does her home.

This journey of wholeness gives children a stronger, more confident, and emotionally present mum—one who can love, nurture, and guide them with renewed strength.

Each session includes loving care, nourishing meals, and monthly food provisions for families in crisis. Together, we are witnessing the power of healing and the beauty of transformation.



Program 3: YOW – Youth of Worth

Free English Classes for Children

We believe every child deserves a future filled with hope & purpose.

Led by Miss Dian—once a 12-year-old student at our Centre and now a young lady and a confident English teacher at our Centre.

This Sunday program equips children with valuable language skills essential for life on a tourist island like Bali, English opens doors for more work opportunities.

Every child also receives a nourishing meal of fried noodles or fried rice after class.

This is more than education. It's love, care, and belonging.

Because of you, they are experiencing:

- 🕊 Hope for their future
- 💧 Healing for their hearts
- 🌿 Wholeness for their identity

At the Ruth Naomi Centre, our mission remains steadfast:

- ✦ To encourage those overwhelmed by loss, grief, sorrow a sense of helplessness.
- ✦ To empower those who've been silenced and shun by the community.
- ✦ To enable women and children to rise with confidence and purpose

Raising children alone in Bali's rural villages can feel impossible.

But your generosity has opened doors—helping women and children feel seen, supported, and whole again.

Thank you for being part of this sacred journey.

Together, we are witnessing shattered lives restored—with love, dignity, and renewed hope.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Chrissy Sulistyo

Founder – Ruth Naomi Community Centre

If you would like to become a Sponsor at the Ruth and Naomi Centre in Bali, please email Office@worldfamilies.org.au marked to the attention of Chrissy Sulistyo or if wishing to make a one off donation you can go directly to the World Families Australia website at www.worldfamilies.org.au and hit the DONATE button, scroll down and select Indonesia - Ruth & Naomi Community Centre



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 2025

Please Note

**Any articles for the next
newsletter should reach the
office by**

31st January 2026



"Christmas gift suggestions:

To your enemy, forgiveness.

To an opponent, tolerance.

To a friend, your heart.

To a customer, service.

To all, charity.

To every child, a good example.

To yourself, respect."

- Oren Arnold, author

**PROJECT OFFICERS for
WORLD FAMILIES AUSTRALIA**

ETHIOPIA

DEKIA	Dee Lumsden
ADDIS-BGW	Morgan Smith
BULBULA	Kate Drogemuller
LIWAN, BONGA, SUPPORT FOR SIGHT IMPAIRED & MEDICAL OUTREACH	Sandi Petersen
BONGA - Rural	Emma Lewis
JIMMA-DOC, DOLB & DOLS	Trevor Anderson
BONGA Feeding	Anna Szava
SAMERRO	Gemma Pilcher

INDIA

MINJUR	Jenny Minck
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INDONESIA

BALI LIGHTHOUSE	Kate Drogemuller
MISSION UPLIFT	Ben Bonython
RUTH/NAOMI COMMUNITY CENTRE	Chrissy Sulisty

KENYA

NEEMA & TESTIMONY FAITH HOMES	Dani Potter
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PHILIPPINES

PHILEMON	Elaine & Bruce Smith
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SRI LANKA

COLOMBO	Anna Szava
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THAILAND

GOOD SHEPHERD PHUKET	Jenny Minck
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PROJECT OFFICER ENQUIRIES:

Attention your email to the Project Officer concerned

Email: Office@worldfamilies.org.au

FINANCIAL/SPONSORSHIP ENQUIRIES:

Kerry Walker Sponsorship/Financial Officer

Email: KerryWalker@worldfamilies.org.au

Robyn Merritt Sponsorship/Financial Officer

Email: RobynMerritt@worldfamilies.org.au

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday Mornings

Phone: 08 8258 7909

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