



NEWSLETTER

Issue 9, February 2001

President's Report

Health and Development Aid Abroad

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All donations for the projects mentioned in this newsletter or any other HADA project can be sent to: -

The Treasurer
HADA
P O Box 54
Clayfield
Qld. 4011
Australia

The year 2000 brought many exciting situations and challenges.

Overseas Projects. The office in Kazakstan continues to research the needs in the country and is looking at purchasing a property to run counselling courses as well as a Crisis Pregnancy Centre. We have seen our second office set up in Yunnan Province in China. They are seeking to provide financial support for the children of poor families in a remote area to attend school.

Finances. The Financial statement is included and we are very pleased to see low administration costs at 2.36% of our income. You will note that all figures under "Donations Received" and "Donations Paid" are the same, confirming that all money designated for projects is sent in total.

Follow up. Visits have been made to Kosovo and funded projects were inspected. Widows homes have been repaired and some have been given cows. We met people who received medical aid. Currently the remaining funds are being channelled to on-going work with widows and orphans.

The new China office was visited, and lengthy discussions were held with staff in relation to the projects that were under review.

Tax deductibility. The accreditation process has begun for HADA to be able to obtain tax deductibility on "relief" type projects as well as the opportunity to present certain eligible projects to AusAID for funding.

Membership. Thanks to you all for your support during the year, and a particular thanks to all the new

members who have joined recently. This has boosted our membership to over 100, the required number before accreditation can be granted.

Please remember to renew your membership again for the year ending March 2002 as the numbers need to be constant.

Board. I wish to again thank the Board for all their help throughout this and past years and also to all those who have assisted in the many tasks to make HADA run so smoothly and economically. Without this assistance we would not be able to maintain our low administration cost level.

Logo. You will have noticed the new logo on this newsletter and other correspondence. We wish to thank Ruth Stevens of Melbourne for her design.

Future. We look forward to another year where we can see more offices set up and an increasing amount of funds forwarded to strategic needs in developing countries.

Neil Young



Photo: A busker in Kazakstan

HOPE INTERNATIONAL - Kathmandu, Nepal

Once again the cold season is upon us here in Kathmandu – the time of year when you want to be outside benefiting from the warmth of the sunshine rather than sitting in a cold classroom where your fingers slowly freeze!

Despite this however, we have seen a continued stream of students attending our various courses and all seeming to enjoy building friendships both with the teaching staff and with one another. Indeed, one of the benefits of being a teacher at Hope International, is the number of dinner invitations that you get! Nepal certainly lives up to its reputation for hospitality!

As we look back over the last year the thing which really stands out to us is the significance of all the voluntary short-term help that we have received. Through-out the past year we have been resourced from around the world by volunteers, both young and not so young, from the USA, Australia, and the UK.

This has brought a diversity which both staff and students have greatly appreciated.

So now we look into 2001 with expectation for what this year will bring.

Who knows – just maybe it could bring YOU to a point where you would like to get involved in some of what we are doing here amongst our Tibetan and Nepali neighbours.

Why not give a little time to a place where a little time can be used to make a significant difference?

We rely on foreign aid for 80% of our running costs.

Gareth McCormick

COURSES CURRENTLY RUNNING

English Language, Computer Literacy, Tailoring, Screen Printing, Typing.

How can YOU be involved?

Teach .. Volunteer to give some of your time at our training centre in Nepal.
Email: clearsky@loxinfo.co.th

Give .. For donations
Email: 100401.3500@compuserve.com

*Who knows what
this year will bring?
Maybe, just maybe,
it could bring YOU!*



Photo: Tailoring classes at Hope International

HADA Astana - Annual Report

HADA Astana has just completed the first full calendar year of its operations in the city of Astana, the new capital of Kazakhstan. The year began with completing the registration of our office. At the same time we began investigating the needs of the city. Our studies are far from complete but show that while there are some local NGOs working, the social needs of the city and region are largely being unmet. There are over 600 street kids. Pensioners are often living on less than 50 US dollars per month and have little to survive on. There is almost no shelters for people in crisis, very little alcohol or drug rehabilitation and the list goes on.

In February we undertook a study on abortion. With about 150,000 official abortions in 1999 and probably 50,000 or more unofficial abortions, Kazakhstan belongs to one of the countries doing the most abortions per capita in the world. Our studies discovered that there is very little available to get pre-abortion advice and people are often unaware of the risks of abortions or seem to not take these consequences into consideration. Following this we have made some decisions to begin a crisis pregnancy centre.

HADA has enabled several university students to do practical work which means we have been able to get some health materials translated. These materials will be the basis for some lectures in schools and seminars for families as well as pamphlets.

HADA's personnel was added to in 2000 firstly by a local assistant Nurlan Kasymov, who we are training to be the administrator of our work. Nurlan, an engineer/economist will complete a law degree this year. We welcomed David and Elizabeth Graetz and four children to Astana in October. David and Liz come from South Australia. David is helping on practical issues, communication and administration and Elizabeth is a mid-wife. Edith and Bruce Hanke are continuing in the roles of managers in Astana.

Our plans for 2001

Seeing the challenges of Astana and northern Kazakhstan we are looking to make steps towards establishing a network of social services. To do this we are in the process of establishing a local umbrella organisation, which will be divided into four divisions - administration to run the organisation, business and development to do job creation and at the same time to generate income to fund the charitable side of the work, social services which will include all kinds of social work from women's shelters to alcohol rehabilitation and finally a media and education division to provide literature on social issues and to promote lifestyles physically, psychologically and spiritually that will help prevent crisis situations and build a better society in Kazakhstan.

The first steps of this work are being done with some healthy lifestyle lessons to be given at local schools which we hope to begin in March given the permission of the local department of education. This course will cover topics such as basic diet, alcohol, smoking, drugs, abortion and sexually transmitted diseases. This project will be piloted by HADA with the aim of training a local person to do the work once the new social organisation is established.

By the end of March or beginning of April we hope to register the umbrella organisation for the local work. Our plans are to buy an office (when the necessary funds are available) during these months where we can accommodate different aspects of the work. At this time we hope to begin the first subsidiary company called "Language service" which will provide language lessons for foreigners in Russian and Kazak as well as English and German lessons for local people. There is the possibility of a translation service and head hunting service for foreign companies that can be included in this company.

In June we will begin the main task of the year which is the establishment of a pregnancy crisis service - our desire is to choose 8-12 potential counsellors and to train them for the work over the following six months. This course would be based on a number of materials from overseas and we have a number of specialists who will come for periods of time either from Almaty, or from overseas to give blocks of training.

Towards the end of the year we hope to be ready to actually begin the counselling itself. At this stage we are considering buying a second property in a village outside of the city where we could accommodate women who are pregnant and wish to continue the pregnancy but for personal reasons could not do so unless they can be in a safe environment away from home.

We will be joined in April by Andrew and Sarah Starr from Sydney and perhaps two more couples later in the year. Our project timetable is very ambitious and requires a great deal of wisdom and perseverance, but if we can achieve our goals we will create jobs, teach health, save lives and give help to women in crisis.

Serving the community in northern Kazakhstan,

Bruce Hanke HADA Astana



Health and Development Aid
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VISION:

To see medical, literacy, &
education, agricultural &
sanitation programmes
established in countries
as needed.

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HADA will forward
overseas 100% of all funds
received for projects,
less bank charges.

HADA wishes to thank Anthony Smith
and Company for the printing and
distribution of this newsletter.

Anthony Smith and Company, on phone
07 5531 6333 can assist with all your
accounting and body corporate services

Photo: Setting up the office in Yunnan
Neil Young HADA, John Lim Singapore
and Renee Polega U.S.A.

HADA Yunnan - China

Early in 2000 we were approached by people we knew in Yunnan Province of China to see if HADA would be interested in opening an office to assist in providing sponsorship for very poor children of a minority group and thus enable them to obtain basic education in local schools.

In June we visited the Province and set in motion the documentation to register a Representative Office for HADA and obtain visas for the staff. The office was officially registered in December, 2000.

The Manager, John Lim, will research opportunities to assist minority groups in the Province. The Research Officer, Renee Polega, is teaching and assisting the poor children and families in a remote mountainous region.

Regular ongoing funds are needed to provide schooling for these very poor children.

Neil and Jeanie Young

