



Inspire

Issue 38. September 2009



*encouraging development
... inspiring hope*

**Health And
Development Aid Abroad
— Australia Fund Inc.**

ABN 43 739 862 351

HADA'S VISION

**To see medical, educational,
agricultural and sanitation
programs established in
countries as needed.**

All projects listed in *Inspire* are tax deductible. All monies for these projects and personnel involved in them go in their entirety except for bank charges. HADA does not use these funds for administration.

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Progress! Vocational Training Program

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

June 2009 was a month of rejoicing! The equipment from Australia was finally released after six months in 'detention' and the customs' clearance turned out to be much less expensive than expected. Also, the long-awaited project agreement with the government was signed without the all-too-often bribe. (The staff, however, paid a high personal price, being subjected to insults and harassment.)



Martin McIntyre with Chhaya Chan (right) and some of the apprentices and staff at the workshop.

Several years ago, Chhaya, who now manages one of the Metal Fabrication workshops, went to Perth, Australia, for some professional development at Swan TAFE* College. One of the teachers who took him under his wing was Martin McIntyre. He also took time out of his long-service leave to go to Cambodia and volunteer his services with Chhaya in the VTP. Then last year Martin kindly arranged for welding equipment to be sent from Swan TAFE to Phnom Penh. When it was held up, he lobbied government departments to intervene. Martin has not only been a supporter from Australia but has gone over twice to help train the apprentices in the training program. Well done.

Having just returned last month from visiting the VTP, another supporter, Jim, was encouraged to see the progress being made towards localising the four workshops. Apprentices recruited from poor backgrounds are

*Technical And Further Education

Continued next page

being trained in sewing, IT and metal trades and are being mentored as they work alongside the managers and other workers.

We heard of a young man from Switzerland, Christoph, who is eager to come and 'walk alongside' the IT team. He seems to be a good fit: the right person to help establish a solid training program for the first group of apprentices, expected to start in February.

One of the challenges is to see the workshops becoming more profitable and the managers upgraded in their business skills. Maybe someone with business skills could volunteer their expertise in this area. •

Maybe someone with business skills could offer their expertise



An apprentice at work.

Mercy Welfare Society

DELHI, INDIA



Directors of MWS, Mr and Mrs Ashish Lal

Mercy Welfare Society is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) established in 2000 and registered with the Indian government in 2001. The society was founded to work with the traditionally backward, economically deprived, and marginalised people, to lift them from social darkness such as poverty, illiteracy, and injustice. Since 2001 Mercy Welfare Society's twenty-member team has been successful in community transformation in many areas with humanitarian programs and activities.

Aims of the Society

- To provide primary education to children of low income families
- To provide non-formal education to economically deprived working children
- To conduct vocational training and counselling for young people
- To increase family incomes by providing micro-loans to begin small-scale enterprises
- To raise adult literacy among slum dwellers and the poor by teaching both men and women
- To hold community meetings to analyse prevailing problems and motivate families to take action toward solutions.

Primary School

The Society established an English-medium primary school, with 200 children regularly attending classes this year. All the parents are very poor and many are illiterate, however they want their children to have a good education. The school employs eight teachers and three administration staff.

Non-formal education for slum children

We are running informal classes for rag-picker children and school dropouts. Many children, especially girls, are unable to attend school as they must stay home to care for their younger brothers and sisters while their parents work. In this project we have 30 children and one teacher.

The children very much enjoy reading and writing, as well as learning songs, stories and games.

The project provides for children from eight to fourteen years of age to give them basic education and prepare them to take the admission test for government schools in Delhi.

Adult education for slum women

Only 55% of women in our area can read and write without difficulty. Of these, 40% have not had any formal education, and because of this, many women are in 'darkness'. Early marriage (as young as thirteen years) is one of the reasons girls drop out of school, and it can also be the cause of death during child birth. Gender discrimination is present. Women are sometimes victims of a multi-marriage and denied the right to make decisions concerning their own welfare. It is our intention to organise the women into small groups of 20 to 25 and set up a literacy program for them. Seminars on the disadvantages of early marriage, multi-marriage and the dowry system will be conducted. Help will be given to those who want to resist the early marriage of their daughters and not take part in the giving or receiving of a dowry.

Economic development program

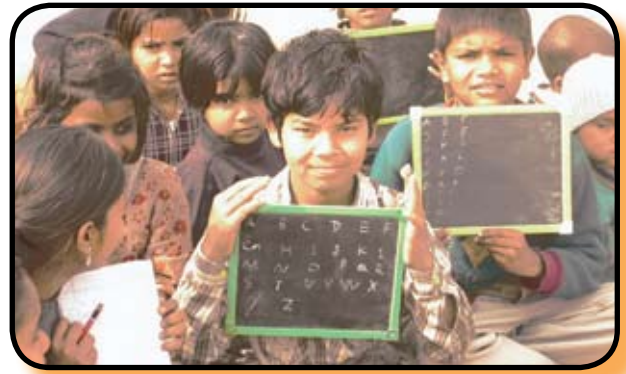
The society has a loan scheme to promote the economic security. It provides micro-loans of \$80 to begin a small business such as a tea stall, selling vegetables, ration shop or milk shop. The loans we provide enable them to have a better income and so provide for their families, and ensure an education for their children.

Sewing centre

Many girls between 15 and 19 years enrol in our Chandra sewing centre. They have insufficient education or life skills to enable them to get work. Last year ten students completed the sewing course successfully and received a certificate from the centre. The Society provides a sewing machine to each successful student to commence a small sewing business.

Vocational training program

Many men are unemployed due to illiteracy and an undisciplined lifestyle. They are often occupied with gambling and alcohol abuse which affects their families and society and leads to a sense of hopelessness. Therefore, to improve their employment potential, Mercy Welfare Society conducted a driver-training program for some young men. After training, four of the men received their driving licenses so they could be hired as drivers and earn up to \$90 a month. People with such skills can more easily get work and better look after their families. They live a more meaningful and a happier life. •



Non-formal education



Primary school



Sewing class

New Bus New Building

Daniel Boegli

Consulting Training Support

Oujda, MOROCCO



The El Wafa Association for children with special needs in Oujda, Morocco provides schooling for about 70 children. It is centrally located in a city of about 500,000 inhabitants.

Last year we wondered why the new bus that our partner association, Consulting Training Support (CTS), received some time ago was still not on the road. While talking with the president of the association I asked about it. He explained that it cost a lot to register, insure and set up the bus for use and the association did not have the funds. "How much," I asked. "About 2000 euros [AU\$3,400]," he replied.

I decided to submit a request to HADA for the needed funds. The school for children with special needs depends on its transport to be able to function. When the bus is off the road the children stay home.

Originally the association had requested a new bus in order to increase the number of children who could come to the school, but it seems that the association could not afford to run two buses at the same time and the old bus was on its last legs. This is not a foreign funded organisation.

The bus does two trips each day and has 17 seats. In due time the request for funds was approved and the money arrived. My Swiss and Moroccan colleagues, who work in the workshop making equipment for children with special needs, began scratching their heads wondering how to best install some seating in the bus. A lot of thought and effort went into the installation. Recently I was doing some training in another association that has a much bigger bus; I

realised that our much smaller bus now has almost the same number of seats as their big bus. The HADA gift also enabled the school to install a CD player in the bus to make the trips more enjoyable for the children. As you can see, the children are very happy with their new bus. This bus should enable the association to continue its activities for some years to come.

Since 2003 El Wafa has been using a building lent by the Ministry of Education. We knew that El Wafa had to move after June 2009 because the Ministry of Education needed that particular building. We were wondering where the school for children with special needs would be located. In May the government informed us that a new building would be available very soon. In July, King Mohammed VI

honoured El Wafa by opening the centre which has great potential for more children and activities. Some of the CTS staff were part of this special day and were able to greet and talk to the king.

The centre is located in a new part of the town and in a very popular area. The bus will travel even further now to collect children. •



Current HADA Projects

*All projects in 'Inspire'
are approved for tax deductibility*



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Registered HADA offices

HADA, Yunnan, China

Managers: Kai and Estella Ho

- Yuxi: food and supplies for sponsored school children.
- Ninglang: Manager: Linda Conden
Micro Enterprise Development; sponsoring school children.

HADA, Astana, Kazakstan

Manager: Hubrecht (Hubert) de Vos

- Step: training to achieve skills to ensure that people can find gainful employment or go into business themselves.
- Source of Hope: counselling centre for women with past abortions and other issues and helping people to make sensible family planning decisions.
- Open Doors Community Centre: a place to gain employable skills and life skills for young adults, couples and parents.
- Valueology teaching: assisting schools by providing teaching materials, and teaching values to teenagers and students.

Associate organisations' projects

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Manager: Martin Aerne

- Vocational Training Program: Tailoring workshop, Metal Workshop and I.T. Support / Customer Service.

Manager: Valéria Pires

- Bridge of Hope: assisting street children to a better life.

Kham Health Associates, Sichuan Province, China

- Screen and treat people with Hydatids; educate the whole community in Hydatids prevention.
- Disaster Relief: help in the form of food, blankets, shoes and shelter, and provision of yaks in the summer.

Bridgewater Care, Guiyang, China

Manager: Karen Kirkland

- Community based home rehabilitation and physiotherapy for recently disabled and trauma patients.

Entreaide Globale, Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, China

Manager: Kate Lee

- A Cup of Water Community Centre Project: provide finances for poor children to attend school; teach English, and English teacher training.
- Community Centre

Good Neighbor Society, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

Manager: Mark Jennings

- Feeding poor children; Mobile Library; Hearing Aid Projects; Reading Glasses Project; Kindergarten Project; Character Training; Micro Loans

Literacy Project, Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa

Manager: Denise Rhodes

- Literacy for adults.

Consulting Training Support, Oujda, Morocco

Manager: Daniel Boegli

- Care of Cerebral Palsy children in their homes.

International Nepal Fellowship, Dang Province, Nepal

Manager: Dr Julie Lincoln

- Leprosy and Tuberculosis program.
- CATS Youth assistance program in Ghorahi.

Maxton Strong School, Banbassa, India

Manager: Rick Shipway

- School buildings for orphans and local children

Mercy Welfare Society, New Delhi, India

Project Consultant: John King

- Education and vocational training to urban disadvantaged.

**Please make your cheque payable to *HADA Relief Fund*.
Do not include the name of the person or project on the cheque.**

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Australia Fund Inc.
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Ashmore Qld 4214
ABN 43 739 862 351**

E 09/09

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Make a Tax Deductible gift of \$ for general project distribution

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If paying by credit card, please complete all sections.

Credit card transactions will show as **Strata Pay** on your statement.

***We reserve the right to use designated gifts for another project if the
one identified is sufficiently funded or closed.***