

Inspire

Issue 77. February 2020



encouraging development
... inspiring hope

www.hada.org.au

**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, are sent in their entirety except for bank charges. HADA does not use these funds for administration.

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The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission

INDIA

IN 2018, Australian design company S. Group contacted The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission (GSAM), an orphanage in North India. They told them they wanted to help with a large project. “We don’t just want an easy project,” said Sam Haberle the Director of S. Group, “we want your ‘ugly duckling’. We want to do the project that no one else would want to do.” The Board of the GSAM knew exactly what project that was.

The GSAM, or “the Mission”, has been running since 1952. Over the years, developments have gone up across their sprawling 30-hectare campus in North India. New hostels for the children have been built; a thriving new school — the Maxton Strong School — has grown to almost one thousand students and a new office was constructed in 2007. All the while the staff of the Mission have looked on in pride, but also in need.

The current residential conditions for the volunteer staff of the Mission are pretty abysmal. Their homes, built back in the 1960s, have asbestos roofs, cracked mud-brick walls and look more like a place where one would keep buffalos rather than human beings. They are in a terrible state of disrepair.

Now, with the support of S. Group and many individuals in Australia, the GSAM and the Maxton



Continued next page

Strong School are in the final stages of constructing a new housing complex for six of their staff families. Four 2BHK (two-bedroom, hall, kitchen) flats and two 6BHK units were designed with the support and guidance of S. Group for the building to allow for different sized families.

Now in its final stages, the building is expected to be completed by April 2020. Major construction, electrical wiring, glazing and much of the paint work has been completed. The remaining big jobs are the installation of floor tiles, hanging of fans, landscaping and construction of inbuilt wardrobes.



When completed, this new development will not only create space for additional staff and teachers to be hired and housed, it will provide dignity and respect for the long-term staff members and their families, most of whom work without pay, having served their entire lives on the Mission grounds.

Anyone wanting to know more about the GSAM or Rick and Clifton Shipway, the Australian father and son team who run the GSAM, should go to www.IndianOrphanage.com.

~ by Clifton Shipway

(The reference number for this project is IND-501.)

Medical Volunteers

SIERRA LEONE

IN November 2019, Dr Ileana Velcea and Dr Joanna Sen, from the Gold Coast, volunteered for one month in clinics at the Orthodox Mission of Sierra Leone. There had been no doctor there for six months.

Sierra Leone has one of the weakest health systems in the world, including unimaginable hospital conditions and a severe shortage of health workers. With one doctor for every 40,000 people (compared with one per 279 people in Australia) many deaths and disabilities occur due to preventable diseases such as malaria; and malnutrition, diarrhoeal illness and untreated hypertension. Public health care is not free for most of

the population and a doctor's visit could mean the sacrifice of one's daily meal or other basic needs. The

average life expectancy in Sierra Leone is about 54 years compared with 82.5 years in Australia.



Dr Ileana dispensing medication.

CHALLENGE AND INSPIRATION

Our experience at the clinics was both challenging and inspiring. Dealing with unfamiliar pathologies in a low-resource setting tested our skills. Basic tests and medicines were desperately difficult to obtain within budget. Patients who had not seen a doctor in many months often presented with many health problems which were difficult to address in full. Language and cultural differences made consults challenging, however the nursing staff, when present, were fantastic mediators.

Inspiring were the relentless attitudes of all health workers despite the challenging circumstances they faced. Patients were very grateful to receive free medical care and it was truly humbling to accept their heartfelt appreciation.

We saw 15 to 20 patients per day who would have otherwise been unable to get any medical care. We also conducted some health education sessions on hand hygiene and disease prevention. Finally, we contributed to improvements to current clinic processes, such as starting individual patient medical records.

OUR PRIORITIES

Our visit marks the beginning of what we hope will be a long and fruitful relationship with the Mission's clinics. Fortunately, the Mission was able to employ a new local doctor as of December 2019 who will continue to provide the much-needed services and with whom we will collaborate to advance progress.

Priority one is a budget in-



Learning the importance of washing their hands.

crease. This will improve the capacity to purchase tests and medicines thereby empowering health workers to fully exercise their skills while providing free care to as many patients as possible. Priority two is to facilitate donations of medical supplies and equipment from Australia. Priority three is to provide ongoing professional/clinical support from afar. Additionally, an evolving medium-term project is to establish a basic clinical laboratory onsite which will save

money and lives in the long-term.

We believe that every human being has the right to access basic health care and the Mission's clinics are contributing to real quality of life improvements for the people of Sierra Leone. Your contribution, big or small, is used to make a difference to someone's life. The needs are great but so is the potential.

*~ Dr Ileana Velcea
and Dr Joanna Sen*

(The reference number for this project is SLE-500.)



Dr Joanna speaking with a patient.

Mustard Seed Projects

BURUNDI

NO matter what part of the world habitation exists, water is one of the basic necessities of life. Water plays such a significant part in all aspects of life no matter whether it be a rich, developed country or a very poor nation. Nowhere is it more evident than in Burundi, Central Africa, with a population of around 11.5 million people on a landmass equivalent to 40% of that of Tasmania.



The chicken house under construction.

Agriculture and horticulture everywhere rely significantly on the seasonal rainfall events. With the world weather patterns changing, it's becoming more difficult for subsistence farmers to provide for their own family needs and produce a surplus for the local markets. So how does an average person make the best of all that is provided during the rainy seasons in one of the world's poorest countries?

Fish farming provides the opportunity for the production of proteins so essential to the daily dietary needs for even the poorest people. In the north-west province of Cibitoke, the Ruzizi River, which borders The Congo, has been used for this purpose. Unfortunately, the low-lying ground on the riverbanks which makes this possible is also its greatest weakness. Each time the river floods most fish production is swept away downstream.

The alternative to this has been to construct ponds where the water-flow can be controlled regardless of the season. The latest project undertaken is the construction of three ponds and a water catchment area in the valley, near the home village of the manager, Jackson. The great advantage of the site is that it is fed by a spring which provides for the fish-growing ponds and a catchment pond which allows for the settling of sediment from the adjacent creek when it flows. The site has survived the recent heavy rains which caused a lot of flooding and land-slips in the hills. The way it was constructed, allowed surplus water to bypass the ponds.

Incorporated into the project are chicken pens which extend into the above-mentioned ponds. The chicken manure and other waste will enable the production of algae which forms a significant part of the fishes' diet. This reduces the amount of supplementary feed that needs to be provided. Another significant benefit is the production of the additional protein from the chicken meat and eggs. It is hoped that this facility will be much more successful, having learnt many lessons from earlier projects, both land and river based.

~ Des Willmott

(The reference number for this project is BDI-010.)



The top pond ready for receiving water and fish.

Current HADA Projects

All projects listed are approved for tax deductibility



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AFRICA and ASIA

Medical Training in Africa and Asia

Manager: Dr Judith Goh

- Training African and Asian doctors in treating women with genital tract fistula [AFR-010]

Library Aid International Inc

Manager: Peter Cunningham

- Providing books for schools to improve educational outcomes and life opportunities. [AFR-011]

BANGLADESH

New Hope Ministry Bangladesh Trust

Manager: Warwick Lloyd

- **Rural project** to help orphanage self sufficiency [BGD-010]
- **Multi-Purpose Educational Buildings** [BGD-012]

BURUNDI

Mustard Seed Projects

Manager: Des Willmott

- Meat chickens, fish farming and biogas projects [BDI-010]

CAMBODIA

Siem Reap

Manager: Jonathan and Heleen Wolters

- **Bridge of Hope:** Working with families and communities to prevent children at risk becoming street children (or sold/ending up in prostitution). [KHM-010]

Good Neighbours Pre-School

Manager: Julie and Will Fowles

- A pre-school for disadvantaged children [KHM-013]

INDIA

Asha Bhawan Community Building Project

Manager: Keith Bergmeier

- Rescuing men and women from drug and alcohol addiction and seeing them transformed into responsible citizens [IND-050]

Maxton Strong School Kindergarten Upgrade

Manager: Clifton Shipway [IND-015]

- Kindergarten Upgrade: to provide suitable education facilities for early learners [IND-019]

INDIA

Maxton Strong School Staff

Accommodation

Manager: Rick Shipway [IND-014]

- Building accommodation for school staff [IND-018].

Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission

Manager: Rick Shipway [IND-014]

- The care and protection of orphaned children [IND-501].

IRAQ

Sulaymaniyah, Kurdistan

Optician Training Centre

- Apprenticeship program for opticians [IRQ-010]

KAZAKHSTAN

HADA, Astana

Manager: David Pichotta [KAZ-013]

- **Alcoholism:** Education, literature, and support groups for alcoholics and their families [KAZ-010]
- **Open Doors Community Centre:** a place to gain employable skills and life skills for young adults, couples and parents [KAZ-011]
- **Valueology:** assisting schools by providing materials, and teaching values to teenagers [KAZ-012]

MONGOLIA

Good Neighbor Society, Ulaanbaatar

Manager: Sarantsetseg Baasankhuu

- Family Development Program [MNG-010]

Good Neighbour Society — Mobile Drop-In Centre

Manager: Corrie van der Esch [MNG 019]

- Assist homeless people in UlaanBaatar [MNG-018]

NEPAL

Nepali Health, Development & Disaster Response (ACN)

Manager: Dr Julie Lincoln [NPL-011]

- Providing access to safe drinking water and toilets, improve knowledge of hygiene/ sanitation, nutrition and preventable diseases [NPL-500]

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

P4K Haus Pikinini Orphanages Development

Manager: Donna Harvey-Hall

- Building orphanages to create a positive, loving environment for abandoned and neglected children [PNG-010]

SIERRA LEONE

Education Community Care Program

Manager: Dr Themis Adamopoulo

- Providing school canteen, medical clinic, and toilets [SLE-500]

P4KA Orphanages Development

- Building orphanages to create a positive, loving environment for abandoned and neglected children. [SLE-012]

SOUTH AFRICA

My Father's House Worcester

Manager: Jan Buchanan [ZAF-011]

- Community Centre for vulnerable teenagers [ZAF-010]

UGANDA

Grace Care Child Program Secondary School

Manager: Emmanuel Kanuli

- To build classrooms for orphaned/ disadvantaged children [UGA-022]

VANUATU

Victory School of Hope

- To build new classrooms for school in Blacksands community [VUT-010]

ZAMBIA

Oasis Care Project, Ndola

Manager: Lainah Phiri [ZMB-013]

- **Market garden** for orphanage [ZMB-010]
- Gardeners: Benson and Alison [ZMB-012]

DISASTER RELIEF

- Bangladesh floods [DIS-000]
- Help for Syrian refugees [DIS-010]

WHERE MOST NEEDED

The board will allocate these funds to projects in most need [WMN-010]



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In the bank reference section, enter your surname and the project code.

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 Do not include the name of the person or the project on your cheque.

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Post this form to HADA, PO Box 733, Ashmore City Qld 4214

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