

RESPONSE

ISSUE FOUR 2022

GROW



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 **AsianAID**
Give Hope TODAY



DEAR SUPPORTERS

As we enter the later part of the year, we reflect on our many successes. Children are now back at schools; our Programs have not just reopened but have been expanded.

Our holistic approach continues to empower the children, their families, and communities to flourish not only in faith but also future prospects.

We are excited to announce that as part of our growth strategy, we are looking at expanding our Programs to other countries both in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. This will allow us to help more children, their families, and communities,

helping us to spread His light.

As we celebrated Kerryn's retirement in September, we were also delighted to welcome Ineka Martin into the role of Company Secretary. Ineka has been working with us for seven years and I am sure you will join us in welcoming her into the role. We are also pleased that Tiane Mison has also joined us in a Supporter Services role. Welcome Tiane.

Many of us use the opportunity of Christmas to celebrate, to gather with family and friends, to exchange gifts, but we do that

“Our team here at Asian Aid would like to thank you, our supporters. Through your faith and support you have allowed us to use God's grace to empower vulnerable children, their families, and their communities”

because of God's grace. We refer to 1 Corinthians 10:31, “Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.”

Our team here at Asian Aid would like to thank you, our supporters. Through your faith and support you have allowed us to use God's grace to empower vulnerable children, their families, and their communities in India, Bangladesh, and Nepal.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and ask you remember the children in your prayers.

Paul

STAFF CHANGES

ABOUT ME

INEKA MARTIN

I try hard to balance my time between church commitments in being a Pathfinder leader with my husband Simon, working at Asian Aid and being mum to four teenagers. Which most times feel more chaotic than not. Growing up in Cooranbong, I would drop an envelope of cash into the community centre where the Asian Aid Op shop used to be to pay for my first sponsored child. I never thought then I would work for Asian Aid now.

TIANE MISON

My name is Tiane. I live on property outside of Wauchope. I am a Learning Support Teacher by training and joined the Asian Aid team in March of this year. I have three teenage daughters who love all things outdoors, adventurous and sport related. As a family, we love spending time at the beach and in the off-season at the snow. I love supporting the Pathfinder club in Port Macquarie and Teen Sabbath School.



AVONDALE SCHOOL VISIT

In August, we had the pleasure of joining up with ADRA to talk to Grade 6 about Disaster relief. Our CEO, Paul, had the children try for themselves how to pick up our food relief parcels and imagine carrying it through flooded roads as the families have done during the recent floods in Bangladesh.



ANOTHER STEP FORWARD FOR CHILDREN AND PARENTS IN OUR ADVENTIST SCHOOL IN BANGLADESH

We have launched another new community development project surrounding an Adventist school in Bangladesh. The program is designed to enhance the economic opportunities of parents and the broader community, provide better health services, as well as improving the quality of education at the Adventist School. The children at the school launched the program, inviting families, decorating the venue, distributing refreshments, and conducting the events. Parents know their children will now not only receive quality education but will also be channels through which their entire community will be blessed.





BASHANTI

PERSISTENCE AND ITS REWARD

Basanti grew up in a very remote village where people worked in tea gardens. Life was very hard there. Even though Basanti lived with her family, it was a scary time because wild elephants often visited their village, eating and destroying the crops, that were ready to be harvested, destroying houses, and sometimes injuring the villagers.

They were visited by a Nepali pastor who visited her village. He suggested to the family that Basanti could attend our partner's SDA School in the state. She happily accepted the offer as she wanted to study more. She also wanted to learn about this new God that the pastor had told them about. The opportunity of getting an education was the most valued and memorable time in her life. Everything was different there than her home. She loved the environment; she was always very happy and grateful for this provision. She thought herself to be the luckiest girl in the world. There was no fear of elephant attacks, no worries about meals. And above all, she was learning a lot about Jesus and His love for all His children there. She felt special.

Despite wanting to complete her schooling, unfortunately, in Year 8 she

was called back home. She was unhappy at home as there were many mouths to be fed, and food was scarce. She was sent to Nepal with her pastor Uncle to work and support her family.

Over 20 years ago, Basanti joined our school in Kathmandu as an employee to help the hostel girls. Later she worked hard and became an assistant teacher for the kindergarten. Her love and dedication were recognised, and she was given the responsibility to teach Grade One. Basanti was so liked by the students; she was popular amongst the parents/guardians as well. The students wanted Basanti to be

their teacher in the higher grades as well.

However, she had not finished school so was not a qualified teacher. With encouragement from her colleagues, Bashanti restarted her studies. She sat the national board exam and passed, allowing her to join year 11 at our school. By this

“She sat the national board exam and passed, allowing her to join year 11 at our school. By this time, she was already married and had a beautiful daughter studying just one grade junior to her!”

time, she was already married and had a beautiful daughter studying just one grade junior to her! She struggled with the subjects Nepali, Maths, Science, Accounts, Business, Economics but her persistence has paid off and she has completed Year 12. Whilst she is still waiting for her results, it's been wonderful to witness her perseverance and dedication towards learning. She is determined to take the next step and achieve her bachelor's degree in education.

Along the way there have been many challenges, she attends her own classes every morning from 6 to 10:30am, and then teaches in her classroom each day. After work, she starts completing her household chores. However, her daughter always stood beside her, boosting her spirit, and encouraging her all the way.

Basanti has become a role model for the family at home and communities around. She is ever grateful for her Adventist Education. The discipline and, self-esteem, she learnt at school has been her constant guide to pilot her students. She is also thankful that she can teach those principles and values, which she had learnt to her students today.



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE GROWS FOR *These* WOMEN

In vulnerable countries, three out of every four women do not take part in any recognised economic activity. We are committed to change that narrative by helping women in the communities where we work learn skills for employment.

Up-skilling empowers women to create financial stability and independence.

Dhana's story highlights the importance of skilling for women from low-income families.

Dhana lost her mother at a very young age and did not have much of an education as she had to drop out of school. She also recently lost her father, who was the pillar of their family. Having lost both parents, Dhana was left to take care of her sisters.

Dhana heard about our hairdressing program and made the decision to enrol right away. This was a turning point, she became the best performer in her group, quickly grasping concepts and techniques.

She tries to be presentable, and

this has helped her confidence and her skills. After graduating, Dhana has started earning through hairdressing and beautician home services and is able to support her sisters.

She still comes to the hub to practice regularly and strives to be the best. Dhana hopes to return to school and finish her education, earning a degree that will add value to her hairdressing and beautician skills.

Women who join our skilling programmes across India also earn great support systems for life. Through life skill discussions and sessions conducted by our staff, women learn to navigate through life's struggles efficiently and to support each other through the process. Many who graduate, often come back to receive guidance from our team.

“Dhana heard about our hairdressing program and made the decision to enrol right away. This was a turning point, she became the best performer in her group, quickly grasping concepts and techniques.”

GIFTS *To* GROW

This Christmas Season, join hands with us and give a gift that will leave a lasting legacy.



\$700 Women's Health Clinics

Women's Health clinics reach remote areas of Nepal where the women are screened for cervical cancer & treated for prolapse.



\$25 TO FUND FAMILY TREES

Children & families receive fruit trees to support their nutrition. They are provided training on sustainable agricultural practices.



\$120 TAILORING RESOURCE KIT & TRAINING

Women receive course training, tailoring resources & materials. Support for job placements increases their financial independence.





\$5 FAMILY SEED PACK

Families are provided with essential seeds to increase their own nutrition and to grow produce for additional income.



\$50 TO FUND A GOAT

A goat or another animal is provided along with all the livelihood training on rearing. This gives the women an additional income stream.



\$20 KITCHEN GARDEN

Families are provided with:
- 5 varieties of vegetables
- 5 varieties of fruit
- 3 types of fodder plants

☐ **\$700 Women's Health**

☐ **\$120 Tailoring Kit**

☐ **\$50 A Goat**



☐ **\$25 Family Trees**

☐ **\$5 Family Seed Pack**

☐ **\$20 Kitchen Garden**

I WILL GIVE MY DONATION BY

- CHEQUE (Make payable to Asian Aid Organisation and post with this form)
- FUNDS TRANSFER call us on (+61) 02 6586 4250 for banking details
- CREDIT CARD

Name on Card _____

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Expiry ____ / ____ / CSV ____ Amount \$ ____

Signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

If you do not wish to receive updates or promotional materials from Asian Aid please tick this box. This excludes our quarterly newsletters. Promotional materials will be sent by email unless otherwise requested. ☐

All donations above \$2 are tax-deductible

YOUR DETAILS

Name _____

DOB ____ / ____ / ____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

ID _____

(if already a supporter)



POST TO

PO BOX 333, Wauchope,
NSW 2446, Australia

SPONSOR A CHILD

WE CURRENTLY HAVE 400 CHILDREN UNDER OUR CARE WHO NEED SUPPORT.
By sponsoring a child, you are helping fight social and sometimes systemic problems to ensure that children and their families live wholesome lives in thriving communities.



ANKIT

HIO2041 - \$55

Ankit is seven years old and lives in India. His favourite activities are playing football, drawing and playing games with friends. When he grows up, he would like to be a teacher. His father is the only earner, and he struggles to make a living and provide education for his children. By Sponsoring Ankit, you will not only provide for his continuing education but also help our Communities with Adventist Schools Project.



SANJANA

OIO2140 - \$55

6-year-old Sanjana enjoys drawing and playing games. She looks forward to the day when she can become a police officer. She is part of the child clubs where she is learning to be an active representative in her community. By sponsoring her, you will support the Empower and Protect Children Project in South India to prevent trafficking and child labor through education and vocational training programs.



TASMIYA

BBO2144 - \$55

Tasmiya lives near the river where her father runs a small tea stall beside the market. He stays in the shop through the day and when he returns in the evening, they have dinner together as a family. Her mother takes care of her younger brother and the family. Help her stay in school and receive an Adventist education, after which she hopes to become a doctor.



I WOULD LIKE TO SPONSOR (child's name) _____

☐ Sponsorship at \$49 a month ☐ Sponsorship Plus* at \$55 a month

*Plus helps us run additional child-focused activities in vulnerable communities

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Name on Card _____

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