



NEWSLETTER

February 22, 2018

PROJECT 36-2009-10 # INDONESIA "Empowering Indonesian Children for a Brighter Future"



Greetings and best wishes to all our donors for 2018.

Lots of developments have occurred in Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia since our last newsletter. We now fund educational needs for all the children in nine Salvation Army Homes. Disbursing funds is now much easier. Children in remote areas will continue to be funded by other donors to SA. It is vital that we retain personal contact with the children we assist so we will continue to match donors with children but we hope all donors, Rotary Clubs especially, will feel that they are contributing to the educational benefit of all the students in a Home. We encourage donors to establish a contact link, for example Facebook, with their Home.

Not all the children we care for are orphans, but all come from impoverished backgrounds and there is a natural tendency for them to leave school as soon as possible to start earning money. At 15 or 16 years, very few are likely to attain meaningful work or earn a decent wage. Our aim is to encourage all students to continue their education to the limit of their ability. Hopefully this will give them a better chance to realise their true potential and improve their employment prospects. Senior students require extra funding so it is up to each Home to disburse as they see fit. We are delighted to see more students going to tertiary colleges or university.

**TOTAL FUNDS TRANSFERRED TO
INDONESIA IN 2017: AU\$20,792.97**

Australian Rotary donors are responsible for improved education outcomes for all students in nine (of 17) Salvation Army Homes in Indonesia. We entreat all Rotary Clubs to raise their commitment to **\$550** per annum to help us achieve this goal. Currently eleven Rotary Clubs have agreed to this.

Every dollar makes a difference.
More donors are needed.



Almost 60% of the students funded by this project sent a letter or Christmas Card to their donor last year. Salvation Army staff work hard to translate them for you. If you didn't receive one we apologise. Here's an example:

"Thank you so much for helping me. Now I study in vocational school grade 10. I am happy because I could study at school, thanks for your support. In December we will have many Christmas activities and we are very happy. Even though the weather [are] sometimes hot and sometimes cold, it doesn't stop us to be happy. May God bless you." Siska Triwulan, Malang Girls Home

Salvation Army Homes supported by this project:

Bandung Girls Home	6
Bandung Boys Home	47
Malang Girls Home	9
Medan Girls Home	42
Nias Girls Home	33
Palu Girls Home	18
Semarang Boys Home	17
Surabaya Boys Home	2
Yogyakarta Boys Home	24
	198

Nias Girls Home:

We recently accepted Nias Girls Home into our cluster. This extract from the Salvation Army's pitch for this Home gives an interesting insight into the Home and the children resident in this pocket of Indonesia which was devastated after the tsunami and remains remote and impoverished:

Nias is located in North Sumatera, 1 hour fly from Medan airport. Nias geographical situation is mostly surrounded by the sea and its community are still doing manual farming in the field, or rocks craftsmen, while its landscape is mostly surrounded by rocks and clay. Because of the land condition, it's quite difficult to grow anything in this place and they [must] import their daily needs from other areas. This is what makes [costs] in Nias Island higher. Teluk Dalam is considered the main city where you could find many activities. Nias main income comes from foreigners who come to try the sea waves in Sorake beach. However, this island is generally still remote and its culture still really strong and it impacts to their daily activities as well as the modern life style.

Nias Girls Home is located in Gunung Sitoli, 4 hours drive from Teluk Dalam. This home was built as an impact from Nias tsunami and earthquake in 2005. A lot of children lost their house after the disaster which moved The Salvation Army to help the women in Nias Island to get equal education as men. This Home was opened with the help from Hong Kong Territory. On June 6th 2015, this Home was opened officially and named Mutiara Kasih Girls Home Nias, with the capacity 50 children. Currently we have 33 girls who all come from Nias. Most of these girls are still have both parent alive, but they just simply could not afford these children education because they only work as a farmer and they've got many children in their family.



Nias Girls ready for school

Scholarship: Last year we offered a scholarship to fund the training fees and costs for a student to study to become a teacher, nurse, midwife, or professional. Salvation Army, Indonesia nominated four students who were interviewed by a Committee from our partner Club, Rotary e-Club Jakarta Gunawarman. They selected Ni Wayan Putu Suriasih. She has embarked on a four-year course in Accountancy at Bali University. The cost, AU\$2,500 per year, has been met by Rotary Club of Southport with the aid of a District (9640) Grant of \$1,000. She has pledged to work for Salvation Army, Indonesia for one year following her graduation. She will be an asset and a leader in her community. She recently wrote to us: "Thank you so much for the scholarship given to me. Praise the Lord I could study in university now. At the university, I also follow the Christian fellowship group and students choir. And on last December 2017, I perform on the graduation day of my seniors." We hope to offer other scholarships in the future.

Ni Wayan Putu Suriasih



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The number of children in the homes varies (2 – 47). We have **46** individual or corporate donors; and **70** Rotary Club donors; **20** Rotary Clubs fund 3 or more students. We, and especially the children, appreciate the generous support freely given by all donors. With our help they may become future leaders and professionals in their community. Thank you. Our funding covers school books, stationery, extra-curricular fees, sporting equipment etc.

Please share this newsletter with your Rotary Club members. Quarterly reports pertaining to Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia can be downloaded from our website:

<http://southportrotary.com.au>