

Child Sponsorship May 2019

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Small Things Matters

Indonesia is the second country in the world who has a major plastic waste problem. It is estimated 3.22 million metric tons of plastic waste is tossed annually into the ocean surrounding Indonesia, and not only limited to the ocean, but it has also affected Indonesian rivers. This is probably due to the fact that plastic products are cheap to produce in the country.

All over the world, there is a growing movement to completely eliminate plastics from daily use. In 2016, Indonesia government has started to reduce plastic use by many ways.

As a faith based non-governmental organization, The Salvation Army in Indonesia would like to contribute to spread this message and some of our Children's Home have introduced "cleaning day" in their local community. We are aware that this might not drastically change the percentage, but we believe that together we could make the change.



Dear Sponsors,

It doesn't seem that long ago that I last wrote to you thanking you for your continued support of our homes. That said we have had great celebrations at Christmas and at Easter. All homes arranged parties and holiday events so that the children didn't miss out!

As I write all homes are supporting children in their school year- end exams. We pray that every child does their best to be able to reach their full potential and be able to grow into good citizens. It's also great to see Home Managers introducing new activities linked to community initiatives.

We are always busy in Projects and Child Sponsorship Office but I am excited that we are due to start a new project of Safe Pathways for all of our children (more information below). Just to say in ten years' time we will still be supporting some children who we are unable to transition into a family based environment, so still need your commitment through sponsorship. That said it may not be into a traditional children's home setting, but we will keep you updated as the changes happen through this transition period. .

Blessings

Jane & Siska

Child Sponsorship News



We currently have 391 children in our 14 children homes who are sponsored through the child sponsorship programme. Child Sponsorship funds

are distributed quarterly pro rata to all children homes, depending on the amount of children who live in each home.

The priority of the funds will be used for school costs (monthly school fees, exam fees, school registration, study tour fees, etc.)

Second priority is school equipment (uniform, bag, shoes, etc.)

The rest of the funds can be used for other children related expenses. However,

the Homes can't use it for the operational or day to day running costs, such as salaries and utility bills. The Homes then have 1 to 2



months to spend the money and report back to The Sponsorship Office and send us their receipts, detailing how the money has been spent.

As a part of project office, we also had some small projects in several children homes, to bring the homes to a better standard, such as sport equipment, games console, bathroom renovation, new bed linen etc.



Safe Pathway Project

This year, Indonesia Territory will start deployment of a new project initiative called Safe Pathways. Ultimately, the aim is to see children cared for holistically as individuals, and in safe family-based environments as far as possible.

This project will consist of three main outcomes:

- 1) Children transitioned effectively into safe family or family-based care with continued education progress
- 2) Care capacity of individual target families strengthened to provide a safe care environment for children
- 3) Organizational capacity strengthened to ensure quality of care for children in homes and for children in transition.

The primary issue being addressed in this project is The Salvation Army's continued unnecessary institutionalization of children. There is a range of literature describing the negative impacts of long-term institutional care on a child's wellbeing. As the CRC Preamble says, the family is *'the fundamental group of society and the natural environment for the growth and wellbeing of all its members.'*

The Indonesia Territory currently has 14 children's homes, but we are working in a transition period to reduce these, as we have falling numbers in each of the homes. A large number of children have one or two parents, with unclear criteria behind their admission into the institution. In addition, there has been little emphasis on reintegration, alternative family-based care, or any other similar form of permanency planning. Consequently, TSA's institutions have often been a first response, rather than a *last resort* as recommended under international and domestic legislation. A common reason for admission into the institutions have been for economic and educational reasons—which is not a justified reason under best practice and international and domestic legislation.

Indonesia Territory will work (but not limited) with Australia Territory to provide a 'Safe Pathway' for as many children currently in our institutional homes, into families or alternative family based care. During the transitional period of reducing the number of homes and managing the safe pathways for children, we still need to ensure that the homes that remain are run effectively, providing the best possible care for the children.