



## PROJECT 36-2009-10 # INDONESIA

### "Empowering Indonesian Children for a Brighter Future"

Rotary Club of Southport PO Box 84, Southport Qld 4215

## SPONSORS' NEWSLETTER MARCH, 2016

- "Empowering Indonesian Children for a Brighter Future"
- Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia Embraces Changes

**C**hanges are in the air! We are pleased to inform you of proposals to review the aims and objectives of this project to better meet the guidelines of Rotary International and RAWCS Ltd for a sustainable development project. We wish to shed any previous perception that this was merely a 'welfare project.' Poverty is still rife in Indonesia. You will notice the Project Name has been changed to: **"Empowering Indonesian Children for a Brighter Future."**

We have consulted with our partners, Salvation Army, Indonesia and Rotary e-Club Jakarta Gunawarman. A recent survey provided valuable insight into ways Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia may better serve the needs of the orphans and impoverished children you sponsor. Of particular note was the realisation that students deriving the greatest benefit from this project are the older ones — senior High School pupils and students at tertiary level. Because of financial and family constraints many children quit school prematurely, often seeking work, usually menial and unfulfilling, thus never reaching their true potential. Our consultations with our partners in Indonesia have revealed a need to provide financial support and incentive to encourage students to complete their High School education and, if capable, to continue to tertiary or vocational college; or university. Despite their adversity some students have already achieved a qualification or a degree and are grateful for the modest assistance our project has provided. Not all students will necessarily be capable of furthering their education beyond high school but we should like to provide an opportunity for those that are to realise their goals. Let's empower these children for a brighter future!

***Because of financial and family constraints many children quit school prematurely, thus never reaching their true potential.***



*Students at Medan Girls Home, North Sumatera*

Nowadays, primary school education is free to all children in Indonesia. However the additional cost of bags, school books, pens and pencils; and clothing, especially footwear, imposes a considerable burden on Salvation Army (approx. AU\$200 - \$400). We will continue to support these children as in the past. At high school, the costs for extra-curricular activities and books and uniforms rises exponentially (AU\$700 - \$800), as every parent comes to realise.

There are currently **297** students on our register, living in **17** Salvation Army Homes throughout Indonesia. Many others need sponsors. The number of children in the homes varies (4 – 25). We have **77** individual or corporate sponsors; and **88** Rotary Club sponsors; **11** Rotary Clubs sponsor three or more students. We, the Salvation Army, and most especially the children are extremely appreciative of the generous support freely given by all sponsors. With our help they can become future leaders and professionals in their community. Thank you.

**More sponsors are needed!** To successfully implement changes we are proposing, considerable extra funding is required. If your Rotary Club can help; or if you know

other people who may wish to sponsor a child please put **We hope every Rotary Club will donate \$550 min/year.** them in touch with us.

52 years on, (this project began in 1964) we are proposing some changes to the aims and objectives to improve development of this project. We trust we will continue to receive your support and endorsement. Please give these your careful consideration:

#### EMPOWERING INDONESIAN CHILDREN FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

- **Individual Sponsors:** will continue as existing, donating \$110 per student per year
- **Rotary Clubs:** We are seeking extended support from Rotary Clubs to assume responsibility for the support and encouragement of education outcomes for all students in every Home. In some instances, for example larger Homes, several Rotary Clubs may be grouped together to undertake this role. We implore all Rotary Clubs to raise their commitment to minimum **\$550** per annum. For practical purposes students will continue to be matched to sponsors but with the understanding that funds will be allocated to Homes for the benefit of all students rather than given to individuals. *(This is purely voluntary and if your Rotary Club is committed to other International Projects or feels unable to increase your donation we will understand.)*
- **Sustainability:** Subject to availability of funding it is proposed that Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia supports the establishment in each Home of (i) a vegetable garden; and (ii) a sewing room; or workshop. Tuition by Salvation Army; students learn to grow food, make clothes and timber/metal items. This may help break cycle of poverty.
- **Scholarship(s):** Subject to availability of funds it is proposed to offer a scholarship to a student, selected jointly by Salvation Army and Rotary e-Club Jakarta Gunawarman, to train to become a teacher/nurse/welfare worker on proviso he/she returns to work in local community (approx. AU\$1,000 - \$1,500 per year; average 3 – 4 years). Contributions may be eligible for a District Grant.
- **Exit Strategy:** Salvation Army, Indonesia believes Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia should run until at least 2030. It is anticipated that Rotary e-Club Jakarta Gunawarman will assume full management of this project, with Indonesian funding, sometime after 2023. These dates will be subject to regular review and are not fixed.
- **Communication:** Students, especially senior students will be expected to provide a report on their progress at least once a year with updated profiles and photos.

It is pleasing to note that most donors have mastered the challenge of paying via [www.rawcs.com.au](http://www.rawcs.com.au) It is now mandatory that all donations to RAWCS must be processed online. In the small pop-up screen on right hand side of Home page click on “Click to Donate”; type 36 in the Project No box; and select year registered: 2009-10. It should automatically suggest “Empowering Indonesian Children for a Brighter Future”. Click on “DONATE” and follow prompts. An email will be immediately sent to you with directions of online bank details; or address to mail cheques.

Thank you for becoming involved and sponsoring needy children in Indonesia. We sincerely trust that we can rely on your continued generosity and support for this worthwhile project. Please consider our request for additional financial support and advise us of the outcome. Rotary Clubs wishing to support scholarships may be eligible for a District Grant.

Please inform all your members and publish this newsletter in your Club Bulletin. It may be downloaded in .pdf format from Rotary Club of Southport website: [www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?accountid=7970](http://www.clubrunner.ca/Portal/Home.aspx?accountid=7970) Quarterly reports for this project are also available to download from the above website.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours in Rotary

Tony Pritchett (Manager, Project 36-2009-10 # Indonesia)