





# TOGETHER LET'S CHANGE LIVES

Being part of a community provides a deeper sense of identity and purpose. This is true for individuals, local churches and GMP.

We are part of a community of supporters and churches throughout Australia. We find our strength and increase our abilities through our decisions to act together.

Further, we are also an expression of this community known as Churches of Christ. The movement of which we are a part created us, and it is to this movement we are accountable. Our supporters are Churches of Christ and our partners also are Churches of Christ. This special relationship is a blessing and a challenge.

GMP is blessed, trusted and supported because of this relationship. Equally true, and challenging, is the changing nature of local church identity in Australia and the complex competitive environment in which GMP finds itself. In this 'post-denominational environment', we wrestle with what to do. For example, does GMP become more 'generic' and compete in a broader marketplace?

Such a change is something we are resisting, and so we are seeking to find new ways to engage local churches in the ministry of GMP in Australia and internationally.

We express our identity when we are in mission together, and create and maintain our identity as the people of Jesus Christ at work in the world.

At a deeper level, when GMP is serving internationally or in Australia, we are doing so as an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ. This leads us to want to be involved in seeing lives changed. Our activities are fundamentally Christian and church based. It may be seeking justice for people whose rights have been compromised, or implementing activities that release people from the impact of poverty, or supporting the sharing of the good news of hope in life through faith in Jesus Christ.

In this work, we strive to be true to our Christian identity, ethical in our actions and responsible in our use of resources.

One of the passages of Scripture that gives meaning to our work is Matthew 25:31-46. In this judgement parable, human need is the focus – hunger, thirst, isolation, abandonment and imprisonment. The sheep and the goats are separated on the basis of their action (or lack thereof) in relation to human need. One group responds to human need out of natural gracious compassion. The other does not.

During 2016-17, GMP has focused our work on responding to the real needs of people and we have sought to do so in a spirit of grace, and in the name of Jesus Christ.

GMP can achieve all it is set apart to do, by having YOU as part of the team. Together let's change lives.

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Board Chair

John Gilmore Executive Officer

## A BIG GMP FAMILY

Our international partners came together in March for the first time, to attend Partnering Together for Stronger Communities – nine days of learning and sharing through workshops, cultural experiences, worship and project visits. The goal was to equip our partners in designing and managing their projects, to consider ways to care for people who are often left out, and to recognise the vulnerabilities of children and the environment. This training gathering of GMP partners in Thailand was inspiring. The opportunity to be with people keen to see change in the situations people face – and the creativity with which they plan for that change - affirmed the decision to bring them together. Everyone participated wholeheartedly in the learning sessions. Everyone loved being together and meeting people they had previously only read about through the GMP newsletter In Partnership. This was the time to connect names

to faces! As we took in some of the local sights, there were endless photos with new friends, and the applause and respect from the rest of the group when each partner gave a presentation was warm, enthusiastic and peppered with words of encouragement. No one who came lacked hope. Each one had a sense of God's presence in what they do, and an expectation of what can be done. GMP invests in people and has deep relationships with our partners. We believe real change happens through authentic relationships and when we work together, we can create ongoing and lasting change. The group selected this statement as capturing the biggest change that the conference had made for them: "We learned the importance of working with the people - not for the people. We have created a big GMP family across continents and oceans."



## HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES

One word that sums up the year for GMP is "Orientation". We have invested resources, time and energy in rethinking the long-term direction for GMP. This is important as we experience pressure brought about by shifts in denominational loyalty, competition for resources and our own vision of what we can see as possible in the future.

For the first time, GMP brought together 28 representatives from our partners for a focused training program held at Chiang Mai, together with four staff. It was the first time that they had all met each other. Many knew of each other – but this was their first meeting face-to-face. The goal of introducing basic concepts and steps in design, planning and evaluation for development projects was met.

Another investment in the future is the work being done to refresh GMP's ways of communicating with churches in Australia and our supporters. We have invested in a detailed review into our fundraising strategies, explored at depth our theology and understanding of mission, and ways to tell the stories of GMP's partners.

The results of this process included:

a) The identification of key texts to guide our work. They are Luke 10:1-12, Philippians 1:1-12 and Luke 24:13-35.

- b) In this process, we affirmed 125 years of history and strength. As we look forward, we identified several themes that are at the core of who we are;
  - Mission expressed in word and deed;
- Linking with others in the Body of Christ;
- Listening to others and being ready to serve;
- Serving others and seeking to be transforming leaders;
- Affirming our history as we look forward, and
- Being guided by our discernment of God's leading and grace.
- c) As part of this process we had a series of workshops where staff and Board explored the key messages GMP communicates with supporters and partners. These affirmations were developed from feedback provided by those who have recently been involved in reviewing the ways GMP works with partners. One repeated comment is, "You really know your partners and understand partnership".

- d) Some of the results of this activity are seen in a new brand strategy and in our key messaging. These results also fundamentally shaped the new website and provided some clarification in regard to how the component parts of GMP work together.
- e) Less obvious but also really important is the installation of a new and more efficient donor management system that interfaces with our website and finance system. This is a costly project that will provide benefits in the years to come.
- f) Another outcome of the review was the recommendation to add a marketing manager to our staff. The Board implemented this recommendation, and Matthew Hornby has since been added to the staff. This role is funded from the Bequest Reserve.

This whole process has taken most of the year, and we look forward to exciting outcomes in the future.

There are growing partnerships with GMP including IMA's links with Surrender, Indigenous Connections (NSW) and Juraki (an Indigenous Surf Carnival). Such partnerships are an expression of new ways of networking. The new Community Centre at Dareton is now operational and is having a growing impact. The re-establishment of the South Hedland Aboriginal Fellowship is a great encouragement, as are the links being built with the Tia Tuckia community in South Australia.

Following the successful application for the accreditation of COCOA by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, GMP received the first grant of funds from the

Government's Australian Non-Government Organisation Program. This allowed us to invest in the Vanuatu Church Partnership Program, the gathering of the COCOA partners in Chiang Mai, and the Showers of Blessing wells program in Zimbabwe. As part of building our capacity to manage COCOA, we appointed a program officer – Suzanne Hayes, who is now part of the Sydney-based COCOA Team.

Other highlights include:

- Safe Water September more participants, raising \$130,000;
- Billy Williams and Nick Wight providing input to NSW Fresh Hope Collective;
- Visit of Pastor Doan from Vietnam the first visit to Australia from a person from the churches GMP partners with in Vietnam;
- Land for the Community Centre in Dareton NSW, and the appointment of a manager of that centre;
- A group of Australian delegates to World Convention in Damoh, India, staying on to visit GMP's partners in India. This visit was an encouragement to everyone;
- More than \$165,000 given to famine relief in South Sudan, and
- COCOA is now a member of the ACT Alliance the largest global network of Church Development Agencies. The ACT Alliance responds to disasters through local partners on the ground.

## STAFF CHANGES

The GMP Team is located in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, the Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba. GMP rents office accommodation for staff in the State Churches of Christ Offices in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney.

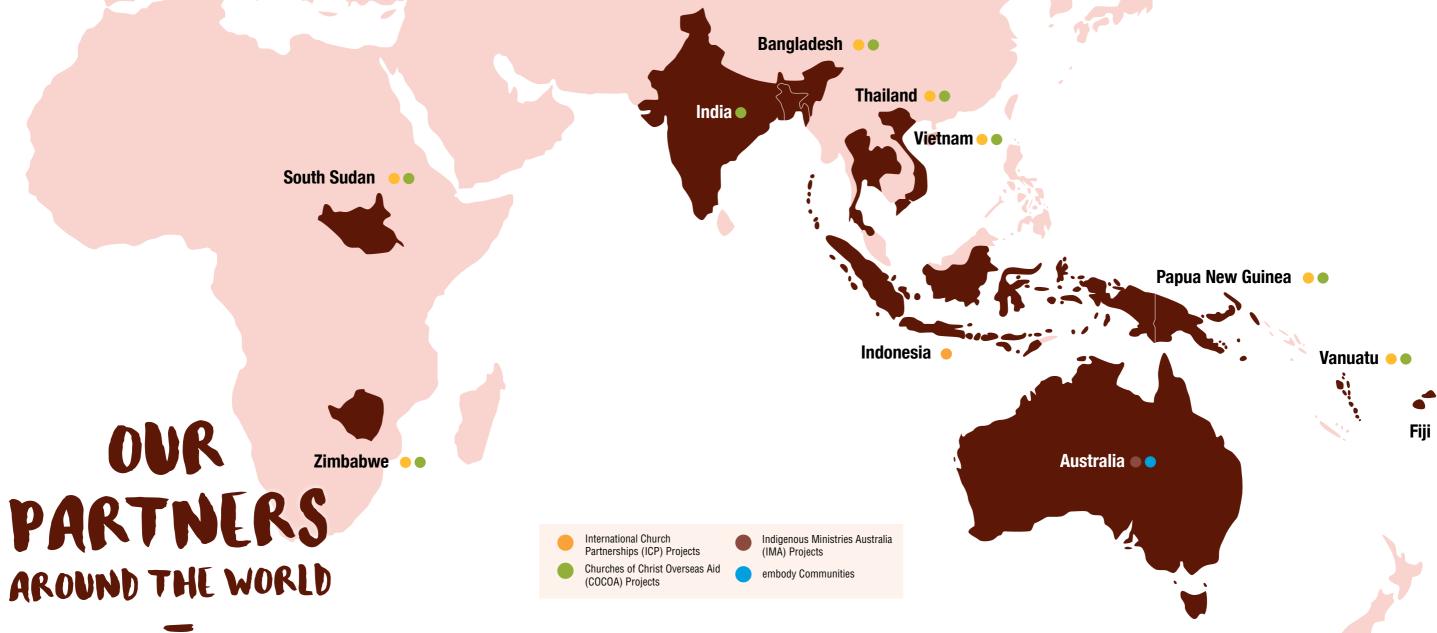
In this past year we farewelled Julie Dix (SA), who retired after eight years of work with GMP as our bookkeeper and Brian Smyth, our WA Partnership Coordinator. Brian continues to be part of the GMP team as a contract photographer. We have welcomed Sam Curkpatrick, Partnership Coordinator (VIC/TAS), Matthew Hornby, Marketing Manager (VIC), David Gee, Assistant Accountant (SA), Kyra Foster, Social Media and acting ICP Manager (VIC), and April Holmes, embody Relationships Manager Vic-Tas (VIC).

GMP staff have specific responsibilities, and most of us are part-time. The administration and finance team is based in Adelaide, COCOA is based in Sydney and ICP,

Marketing and Communications are based in Melbourne. embody and IMA are located in Perth and Melbourne.

Part of our work includes the design, monitoring and evaluation of projects. Projects are initiated by our local partners and GMP staff spend time with our partners to ensure that what is done is realistic, well planned and meets human need. This means we visit partners in Australia and internationally. It also means that there are times when partners visit Australia and spend time with our team here.

It is not surprising that some of our work is in settings where travel is complex and risky. This means that it has been some time since South Sudan and Bangladesh were last visited, and so travel is being planned for later in 2017.





### Australia

**Projects:** IMA, embody **Areas of work:** Indigenous Ministry and embody campaigns



Bangladesh

Projects: ICP, COCOA Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); access to education (COCOA)



Fiji

Projects: ICP Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



India

Projects: ICP, COCOA Areas of work: Church partnership (ICP); education, livelihoods (COCOA)



### Indonesia

Projects: ICP Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP)



### Papua New Guinea

Projects: ICP, COCOA

Areas of work: Church and
leadership development (ICP);
education, infrastructure
(COCOA)



### South Sudan

Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church
and leadership development
(ICP); education, maternal
health care, livelihood
development (COCOA)



### Thailand

Projects: ICP, COCOA Areas of work: Church leadership and development (ICP); education and livelihood development (COCOA)



### Vanuatu

Projects: ICP, COCOA Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); community development and education (COCOA)



## Vietnam

Projects: ICP, COCOA Areas of work: Church and leadership development (ICP); livelihood development, water and sanitation (COCOA)



### Zimbabwe

Projects: ICP, COCOA
Areas of work: Church and
leadership development,
supporting evangelists (ICP);
vulnerable children, health,
water and sanitation (COCOA)





GMP supports
more than
760
Churches &
Preaching Points
in 10 countries

% more than 440 Pastors, Evangelists & Church Planters



# ICP PARTNERS AND PROJECTS



### Bangladesh

The Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ are committed to reaching out beyond their own traditional and tribal community. A new initiative in this past year is a focus on developing the ministry of women. Two coordinators have been appointed, transport has been arranged, and new programs and training is taking place in the churches with a focus on the women in the Mru tribal community.

# THE GIFT OF PARTNERSHIP

There is a sense of life in the International Church Partnerships that is sometimes not so evident in some Australian churches. While GMP supports and resources our partners, we also believe that Australian churches can be resourced and encouraged by our partners, and what they are learning and discovering.

An example of this was seen in a recent visit to one of our partners. In three meetings with pastors of the local churches, these pastors affirmed in strong terms their passion for ministry, commitment to Christ, and their desire to see lives changed through their active outreach ministries. Several of them stated with passion that their call to ministry came because of how Christ had changed them.

The experiencing of this passion and energy is very encouraging, and it is this sense of being encouraged that GMP wants all to experience. In environments where we can be easily discouraged, we need the confidence that these pastors have.

This is one gift of partnership – to be in a relationship in which we all are changed. The GMP ICP program is rich in hope, and strong in the commitment to reach out in the name of Christ.

Cindy Haidar provides leadership to the International Church relationships with GMP. She coordinates both the project planning and reporting of project activities. Partners regularly update GMP on their progress, challenges and need for prayer.

GMP's priorities in the ICP program are church planting and development, evangelism and outreach, and the training and development of leaders. We believe that GMP's greatest legacy through our work is the growth in churches and leaders.



## MEET ELDER ZINGUMAN

With my family, we have committed our lives to serve Christ in the Mru community. I first served the Mru for seven years from 1978-1984, and we developed a songbook and translated part of the New Testament. This experience prepared me to be an evangelist and teacher for Duhkhah Village from 2012. My wife is now the chairperson of the Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ Women's Christian Auxiliary, and is a devoted and talented woman. We have four daughters and one son. Our eldest daughter is married, and our other children live at home with us. Prayer is the best tool to gain strength for my ministries. Some challenges we face include limited songbooks and Bibles, no church building, transportation shortages and a lack of medical assistance. Partnership with GMP has brought support to my ministries in terms of prayers and finances. It is a great encouragement for my ministries.



Elder Zinguman with his family

### Fiji

There are encouraging signs of maturity and change in the churches in Fiji. Vuci Road has grown in numbers, putting pressure on the property with the result that during this year it has been extended and renovated. A church member has donated land for the construction of a church at Sigatoka. With the land's lease now in the name of the church, the construction of a building can commence. The church at Lautoka is also growing, and the use of a more public and larger venue for worship has resulted in increased attendances and a more positive spirit. The church at Nakasi has struggled to secure the appointment of a permanent pastor, and so this year has been a bit of a struggle. Regular meetings and retreats for pastors are building a stronger sense of team. Bruce Edwards continues to offer good leadership to the churches and their leaders.



The congregation of Lomawi church, Fiji. Many in the church work as sugar cane farmers or fishermen



### Indonesia

One of the highlights of the Indonesian partnership is the growing desire of churches in Australia to be in relationship with the churches in Indonesia. Several teams and individuals visited during the year and others are planning to visit. Through one2one Church of Christ, Ballarat (VIC), GMP is supporting a series of church planting activities initiated by the colleges at Salatiga and Bandung. At the core of this new initiative is a commitment to assist the churches and pastors becoming self-supporting, within an agreed period of time.









Some of the biggest Challenges they face are:



Transport for Pastors



Getting permission to build church buildings



Papua New Guinea (PNG)

After a review into the way GMP engages with our partners, we explored with the leaders of the PNG churches about how GMP could be the partner that they needed to grow into self-sustainability and self-governance. Out of this process has come a renewed commitment to the resourcing and development of the Gandep Bible College, and support for the restructuring of the churches into three districts with a lesser emphasis on centralised activities. During the year the two-way radio system has been refurbished and some radios repositioned to improve communication. The selfsupported Bible School at Yamen is preparing students for Gandep and has held its first graduation. Two faculty members from Gandep, Principal Steven Yamok and lecturer Caleb Dankro, continue to upgrade their qualifications at the Christian Leaders Training College in the highlands. Diana Catts led a workshop for Bible school lecturers and teachers in January. All of this reflects our commitment to the development of leaders.



Leaders of the Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ



### South Sudan

With the continuing tension in South Sudan, not all of what we had planned for this past year could be achieved. We continued to support Pastor Butros, the chaplain at the Emmanuel School, and know that the children and their families have good care as a result. Outreach initiatives did not happen as planned, and a project to purchase land for a church in Juba did not proceed either. Let us all pray for peace and justice in South Sudan.

### Thailand

The partnership with District 11 of the Church of Christ in Thailand has as its focus churches that connect with the Plang people group. A new initiative is the training of two Plang women leaders, who are studying in a three-year Bible College program. They will be assets to the church program as they work with others in the development of mature leaders.



### Vanuatu

The partnership with the Mobile Bible College and the Australian College of Ministries has come to an end. The college continues to offer training to people as part of an ongoing program of leadership training and development. Land has been donated for the construction of some facilities, and once the title is transferred, construction can commence. The Londua School chaplain is continuing to be supported, and recent feedback indicated that his ministry is deeply appreciated by students and staff alike.

### Vietnam

The development of the churches in Vietnam continues. This comes with a growing focus on the building up of the church communities through a planned discipleship development program. Regular visits by the coordinator, Pastor Doan, encouraged the leaders and a growing focus on the building of unity is also helping. An increasing number of churches are registered locally, and this gives some security to the members and pastors. Pastor Doan returned from her visit to Australia overwhelmed by the encouragement and welcome she received. It has helped strengthen our partnership.



## MEET MRS CHIHOMBODO

Evangelist Shacky conducted a funeral for a family who had lost their mother. Mrs. Chihombodo was challenged by Shacky's message from John 14, and invited Christ into her life. Mrs. Chihombodo had previously turned to a witch doctor for help. This opened her eyes to the spiritual realm, and Mrs. Chihombodo began seeing her ancestors' spirits. She then started practising witchcraft herself. After hearing Shacky's message, Mrs. Chihombodo repented and found forgiveness. Shacky then invited her to burn the traditional instruments of her ancestors. They made a bonfire and burnt everything she brought from her house. Today, Mrs. Chihombodo has invited two people to become Christians. God is bringing His kingdom in many ways.

BJ Mpofu, Zimbabwe





### Zimbabwe

The growth of the church continues in Zimbabwe, in both rural and urban settings. GMP continues to support seven evangelists and maintains a fleet of more than 30 motorbikes. The partnership in Zimbabwe is a three-way relationship that includes New Zealand KiwiLink. A productive review of the partnership happened in February – the outcome of which was a clarification that GMP would continue to focus on leadership development, evangelism and church planting. Two students completed their studies for ministry and this program will continue to develop into the future with two new students selected for enrolment later in 2017. One challenge is the need for more motorbikes and the replacement of some of the existing ones.

# ICP ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

One of the ways GMP supports mission is by making available practical administrative and financial support for ministries that do not have an Australian presence, or the systems required for operational support.



### Reaching Hands (Orissa, India)

Reaching Hands was founded by Dr Iris Paul over 40 years ago and is now run by her son, Remo Paul (Executive Director) and daughter-in-law, Dr Susan Paul (Medical Superintendent). Their work focuses on reaching the villages in the district of Malkangiri in Orissa State, India, with the love of Jesus. They provide medical care and health education, and plant local village churches. During the year, Dr Iris Paul, has undertaken research into the needs of rural widows in the district of Malkangiri.



### Mother's Love (Daltongani, India)

Mother's Love Welfare Centre in Daltongani serves to bring light into the dark experiences of India's disabled, disadvantaged and destitute people. The focus of their program is on helping vulnerable women and children of all creeds and races through the provision of pre and post-natal support for women experiencing abuse, and the care and education of orphaned and abandoned children.



# Geon Homes and Asia Gospel Mission (Seoul, South Korea)

Led by Dr Yoon Kwon Chae, a pioneer Churches of Christ leader, Geon Homes provides care, support and education for vulnerable children through both residential and non-residential programs. Asia Gospel Mission supports outreach ministries to churches in rural settings.



# Newbigin School for Urban Leadership (Birmingham, UK)

The Newbigin School for Urban Leadership is based in Winson Green, Birmingham, UK. This multiracial, inner city neighbourhood is where some of the first urban industrialised neighbourhoods began over 200 years ago. The centre is led by Dr Ash Barker and seeks to: cultivate seedbeds for neighbourhood renewal, raise up diverse streams of urban leaders, and to be part of shaping our new urban world.



# International Christian College of Manila – ICCM (Philippines)

The International Christian College of Manila trains teachers and ministers in a three-year residential program. Located in Antipolo City, the college is led by local people and supported by the HumeRidge Church of Christ (QLD). GMP is exploring how we might more closely partner with ICCM.





# WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE

COCOA projects are developed with, and implemented by, our partners around the world. Our vision is to see our partners resourced and equipped to pursue their own aspirations and be agents of change in their own communities.

### **Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)**

2016-17 was our first year as part of the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). This gave us \$150,000 from the Federal Government that we have distributed across three projects. There have been new processes to learn and new forms to complete, but for the most part it has been a significant boost to our projects, accelerating them along the trajectory they were already travelling.

### **Partnering Together for Strong Communities**

The ANCP funding enabled us to bring 28 people, representing all but one of our overseas partners, to Chiang Mai, Thailand, for the Partnering Together for Strong Communities training workshop. It was a wonderful time of learning about good development practice. It was great to be able to explain a concept face to face and see faces come to life when they 'got it'. There was rich fellowship as people from around the world met each other for the first time. Below are some of the top responses to the question: "What is the biggest change that this conference has made for you?"

"The importance of working with the people – not for the people. We have created a big GMP family across continents and oceans."

"More understanding - more responsibility."

"Now I have deep understanding of how to identify, design, manage and end the project well. I will involve more stakeholders in designing the project."

"I know how to design a project involving others (beneficiaries and stakeholders) and partnering with GMP using international standards."

### **New Ploughs Project in South Sudan**

An initiative bringing ploughs, oxen and training to rural communities in South Sudan through Christian Mercy International was our first new project this year. Many people in this war-torn country still plough by hand, which limits their productivity and makes them very vulnerable to unreliable rainfall.

### Hosanna Ministries, India

Hosanna Ministries began an initiative working with vulnerable youth on the outskirts of Mumbai providing vocational training. This is a new venture and a new location for them.

### **COCOA Reference Group**

Many thanks to the COCOA Reference Group including Gordon Buxton, Ben Thurley, Kelly Hayduk, the outgoing Doug Walladge and the incoming Julie Trinnick. This group keeps our projects and policies sharp. Many thanks to colleagues, Jan Bayliss and Suzanne Hayes, for their passionate pursuit of the best for our partners and the communities that they serve.

## Effectiveness Framework and Partner Capacity Building Strategy

This year we completed our new Effectiveness Framework and Partner Capacity Building Strategy. The framework integrates all the processes we use to manage our performance and learn from our experience. Part of this is an annual "collection" which brings together the achievements and learning for



GMP partners from all around the world meeting together in Thailand Partnering Together for Stronger Communities training workshop

each calendar year. The Partner Capacity Building Strategy sets high-level goals and an associated Partner Capacity Checklist gives the details to ensure that we are continually developing the capacity of our partners in response to their context and current good practice. We are continuing our work on our acquittal process.

### Here are some of the ways working together benefited our partners this year:



7500 people received basic medical care and health education



# COCOA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

### Bangladesh

### Thlaituah - Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ

It was a year of joys and sorrows for the Bandarban Hills Churches of Christ (BHCOC) projects. The Bandarban Hostel was flooded once again, so we have resolved with BHCOC to look for a new location. Meanwhile, the farming initiative got a boost with the establishment of a piggery (including eleven new pigs), and the ginger and turmeric made a profit. The Mru sanitation project helped people install 50 toilets and trained 124 people in hygiene. Vana Bawm, BHCOC General Secretary, reflected that the biggest change is sustainability in all of the initiatives – the sanitation project will make a permanent change in people's lives, and training for the children in understanding gender and child rights will reshape their thinking.



Pigs from the Thlaituah project, Bangladesh

## BHARTI'S STORY

Bharti, a student of the Saksham vocational training project, is undergoing a tragic phase of her life. Last year her husband, an auto-rickshaw driver, was murdered in broad daylight when caught up in a gang war. He left behind three children, including one child with a disability. Not having any education and being unemployed made Bharti's life even more miserable, and it was difficult to look after herself as well as her children. All of a sudden, she felt that the world had ended for her. Undergoing a six-month long tailoring course with the Saksham vocational training project has renewed her confidence, and she has found courage to fight all the odds and move ahead in life. Bharti is a hardworking woman who always has a smile on her face. She is very good at stitching and designing clothes. Once she completes the course she



is keen to get a job, which will help her to take care of her family's daily needs, school fees and medical treatment. Saksham vocational training project is bringing light and hope to many youth living in the dark slums of India.

### India

### **Vocational Training - Hosanna Ministries**

In April 2016, the Hosanna Board decided to start up an office in Thane to undertake activities in Western Maharashtra State. Hosanna works with children and youth from the tribal areas of Riagad and Palghar Districts, and the slum areas of Thane District.

Through COCOA, Hosanna started a new project to provide vocational training in tailoring and basic computing skills to orphans, single parents, widows, and separated women who come under the Indian Government's poverty line (approximately US\$1.90 per day). This year, ten students have completed the tailoring course and two students completed the computer course. All have found full or part-time work as a result.





Jamieson helping with translation, Papua New Guinea

### Papua New Guinea (PNG)

### La'o Curriculum Development – Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ and Pioneer Bible Translators

Research indicates that children who learn to read and write in their mother tongue learn more effectively and become more proficient in languages they learn later in life. Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ, working with Pioneer Bible Translators, have now completed the materials and the training and placed them in the hands of the teachers they have trained. The PNG Government Elementary Coordinator was at the training, and affirmed the value of the materials. This initiative has the potential to make a huge difference in reading abilities across the region because the La'o are such a large language group. The coordinator is already planning in-service training for his teachers. An evaluation is planned for the second half of the year.

### South Sudan

### Aweil Midwives School - Aweil Hospital

This project is now completed and all but one of the 15 graduates are working in the health system, most as midwives in the counties from which they came, as planned. The health system remains desperately underfunded. Not receiving their proper wage is just one of the obstacles to their work. Key issues identified by an evaluation this year were the ongoing need for the support of the health system, building the strength of Christian Mercy International as GMP's local partner, addressing the influence of partners, and preparation during pregnancy or childbirth.



## Academic Support Program – Aweil Health Sciences Institute

Prompted by the success of the Aweil Hospital Midwives School, the national government and the United Nations began a new and bigger school on the edge of Aweil. The Aweil National Health Training Institute has 40 midwives, 40 nurses and 40 clinical practitioners in training. Many of the students have not completed schooling because of the war, so COCOA is supporting a new project providing tutoring, counselling and workshops to help these students achieve the necessary standard for their qualification.



## Emmanuel Children's Program – Christian Mercy International (CMI)

Soaring inflation in the midst of conflict and famine have increased our costs significantly. At the same time more and more children have been attracted to the program, such that we are now working on limiting the numbers in line with the resources we have. The new school buildings were officially opened in February, and the final benches have been purchased and put in place. Unfortunately, the new buildings needed some repairs because of storm damage. Paulino Malou is now studying in Kampala, Uganda, to increase his skills and knowledge to lead CMI into the future. Meanwhile, Anjelo Atak, a senior Churches of Christ pastor, is the acting director for the program. An evaluation this year highlighted the impact of the lunch program on student's attendance, and also the well-being of carers looking after additional children. It recommended the initiation of micro-enterprise projects as the next step toward Emmanuel's vision of self-sufficiency.



Attempts to finalise this project have been frustrated this year, and the project has been closed.





### Ploughs Project - Christian Mercy International

Many isolated communities in South Sudan plough by hand. This is a laborious task that can only be completed in the three days after rain. After that, the ground becomes too hard. This system severely limits productivity, so COCOA is working with one community supplying ploughs, oxen and training. This is technology that is accessible and familiar to the local people. It is the poorest people who do not have oxen or ploughs available to them. Three other communities have now been identified to engage in this project.



Ploughing fields in South Sudan

## LIVES SAVED BY CHICKENS

Mr Jaikaew was earning a very small income and not always able to find work. He spent a lot of his money on tobacco and alcohol. This made his family suffer and they became unhappy. "When I drank, my son and my wife left the house to live with their neighbours, until I had a better mood," he said. Pastor Paitoon Saekoh and Elder Sutin Saowapek introduced the chicken farming project to Mr Jaikaew's community. "I thought that it was interesting, but I did not have the land to build chicken farms. When my younger brother realised that we were interested in raising chickens he gave us his land to build the chicken house for us." Mr and Mrs Jaikaew also received some financial



help from their son to invest in some chickens with COCOA. When Mr Jaikaew started raising chickens he decided to stop drinking; "I give more time now to my family and look after the chickens well." Mr and Mrs Jaikaew have now raised and sold at least 2,000 chickens!





### **Thailand**

### Klong Toey 2 - Urban Neighbours of Hope

Klong Toey is Bangkok's largest and most notorious slum. The UNOH team living there are creating employment opportunities for people. Second Chance Bangkok, Upcycled Wares and Royrak Jewellery continue to move people from unemployment to greater opportunities. The local staff are taking greater responsibility in the management of these initiatives, and this can be seen in the new designs and also the streamlining of production processes.

### Chickens - Church of Christ in Thailand

Church of Christ in Thailand is setting up a community-based chicken farming initiative, which involves the breeding, rearing and, in due course, the slaughter of chickens for sale in local markets. The project involved developing the breeding and slaughtering capacity of the pilot project and starting family-sized farms in other ethnic minority communities near Chiang Mai.

### Vanuatu

## Vanuatu Church Partnership Program – Churches of Christ Conference in Vanuatu (CCCV)

For a number of years the various church development agencies in Vanuatu have been working together to coordinate their efforts and up skill their staff, and through our project CCCV staff are able to participate fully in this network. An initial round of training and needs assessment in selected communities has been undertaken, and from this further projects will be developed focusing on those most in need.



Woman from Imarap Village, Tanna



### Vietnam

## Binh Phuoc Association for the Disabled, Poor and Orphans

COCOA South East Asia has been working with the provincial association for disabled persons "Binh Phuoc Association for the Disabled, Poor and Orphans" for a number of years, and has provided sanitation systems and health workshops. The target communities are rural, isolated, and from an ethnic minority group. This year we received the licence from the provincial government to continue our work, and have agreed on a project to identify marginalised communities with whom to develop local initiatives.

### **Bright Solutions**

Bright Solutions is a company that has been established with the primary aim of training women in handicrafts and sewing skills. Bright Solutions produces a variety of handmade educational products for the local and export market. Disadvantaged women are identified, and participate in a program of fixed duration. The women work in teams, receive handicraft and life skills training, and are encouraged to take on increasing levels of responsibility. As natural leaders become apparent, they are trained up into management positions.



1559:
children
accessed
education

731\$\$
people \$
increased their ability to earn their own income

335 people helped to shape new projects and expressed their needs

### **Zimbabwe**

## Khayelihle Children's Village (KCV) – Reconnection Program, Farm and Renewable Energy

Khayelihle Children's Village continues to reconnect children with their extended families where this is safe and well supported. The first group of carers who have received children from KCV have also completed their business training and are ready to receive start-up grants for their micro-enterprises. KCV has transitioned to a new model of care, where the opportunity exists for a child to join a natural family. This means KCV offers the best care to children, while exploring with them the possibilities of returning to their extended family, or being adopted or fostered.

All of the farm investments have been delivered, but the farm is not contributing to the wider costs at this point. The evaluation identified water as the key issue, recommending building a dam and a focus on growing rather than buying cattle feed.

The pilot of a solar-powered borehole has shown an improvement in the electricity bill, and a grid-connected system is being investigated.







### **Showers of Blessing Trust**

Heavy rains during the year meant that only two boreholes were completed in December. The backlog was caught up during the May-June drilling season. While the rain meant a delay, it has also meant a better return in each of the boreholes drilled. The increasing strength of women's leadership of the borehole committees is more and more obvious. The evaluation conducted this year recommended the ongoing development of Showers of Blessing's governance and management practices, and the development of income generating projects coupled with the drilling project.

## MEET BONIFACE MPOFU

Boniface Mpofu is the Director of Showers of Blessings Trust. "I experience joy when I see the joy of other people when water comes out of their community borehole for the first time! This means that there will be great changes for them, as their quality of life will be enhanced, including many of the things we take for granted. At Showers of Blessing, not only do we care about installing boreholes, we also care about maintaining them. Periodically we make visits to our bores just to check on the developments around them. We get feedback from the community on how the bore has assisted them, and we write reports on how their lives have been improved. We make sure the maintenance side of the bores is working ok, that the committee that has been set up to maintain the bore continues in operation, and everything is going according to plan.



We look forward to drilling more boreholes in other areas of Zimbabwe, as the need for safe water is huge. Safe Water September is a big part in helping to make this happen. Thank you!"

# COCOA ASSOCIATE PARTNERS

Many Church of Christ Churches and organisations have strong relationships with international communities. COCOA facilitates these groups to operate development projects with their international partners by providing a design and quality assurance service.

### Sonlife Africa

This project worked through Cornerstone Academy in Kenya in education, health and livelihood initiatives in the wider community. The final evaluation indicated that the project had not only increased employment opportunities, but has seen a shift in people's mindsets as they consider the possibility of supporting themselves.

# The Avenue (Surrey Hills) Church of Christ (VIC)

Si a La Vida (SALV) cares for at-risk children in Nicaragua. The Surrey Hills project aims to build the income base and governance strength of the organisation, and increase the skills of the staff. Income generating activities include a chicken farm, cattle-raising and a guest house. The residential program has been transitioned to a day prevention centre and has benefited over 100 children.

### HumeRidge Church of Christ (QLD)

Working with the Melanesian Evangelical Churches of Christ, HumeRidge aims to increase access to trade, education and health resources, by rehabilitating a road between the Ramu and Keram rivers. 65% of the plant (road building equipment) has been assembled. Planning is under way for transport of the equipment, and a local health survey was conducted.

### Live Connection (NSW)

The Bor Agricultural Centre in South Sudan continues to be in caretaker mode because of civil unrest.

### Urban Neighbours of Hope (Thailand)

UNOH workers live in the slums of Klong Toey, Bangkok, among the people they serve. As well as the employment enterprises (partially supported by COCOA and reported on earlier) there are a variety of other initiatives. The family support program enables people to access medical treatment. The community support program builds the capacity of community members through training, mentorship, and encouraging the pursuit of dreams. The kids program encourages the safe and healthy development of children and youth by providing safe spaces, opportunities for creativity, and positive social development.

### Churches of Christ in Queensland

Medical Santo worked with the Northern Provincial Hospital to identify the prevalence of key health risks such as diabetes, high blood pressure, yaws and malaria across the island of Espirito Santo.

### Elizabeth Church of Christ (SA)

Elizabeth Church of Christ, with help from Victor Harbor Church of Christ, has been working with Isla Primary School, in Vanuatu, to increase education standards. This year they have provided teacher training for teachers and rebuilt damaged classrooms. Other components of the project include repairs to the medical centre as well as new supplies, training on building maintenance and sewing skills, and the provision of, and/or repair of sewing machines.

### Hartwell Church of Christ (Vic)

Arising Life Ministries (ALMS) in Zambia provides education services for children and carers affected by poverty and HIV/AIDS. Hartwell has supported ALMS with a cottage, and a concrete perimeter wall. Construction of the wall has begun, but there are challenges with encroachment and the theft of materials.

### Live Connection (NSW)

Live Connection has helped develop a new local NGO (Live Connection Aid Zambia) that is establishing a skills training centre in Sonadi, a slum area of Lusaka. This will provide agriculture and other livelihoods training, initially to the community of Sonadi and then extending to other districts in Zambia and surrounding nations. Currently the legal process is underway for the purchase of the land for the centre.

### COSMOS HealthCare (WA)

Sizolwethu Mobile Health is making a difference in rural Zimbabwe through health education, clinical care and community development. An evaluation this year found that the objectives had been met to a great extent. In particular, the project enhanced healthy behaviours, reduced the spread of disease, and increased adherence to medication regimes for sufferers of diabetes and heart conditions.





## WALKING TOGETHER IN SOLIDARITY

2016-17 has seen new fruit come to life in often 'dry' and difficult settings amongst our IMA ministry partners. At IMA, we are also deeply grateful for a growth in interest and engagement with Indigenous issues and ministries across Churches of Christ and affiliated communities during the last 12 months.

During 2016-17, IMA continued the important work of supporting locally held visions for projects and ministries in a range of settings around Australia. Many of these were in communities that have a long connection with Churches of Christ Indigenous ministries through either FAB or ACCIM and, excitingly, some of IMA's 2017 partners are in new ministry contexts.

IMA continues to work alongside communities in Bunbury, Norseman and Port Hedland in Western Australia, Dareton and Mt Druitt in New South Wales, Footscray in Victoria, and also in Ceduna and Port Augusta in South Australia.

In each setting, and with each partner project, we continue to affirm locally led and owned community visions for ministry and development, as this is both culturally consistent and offers the best chance for local engagement and sustainability. New and innovative ways to foster emerging Indigenous Christian leaders are

desperately needed. A culturally safe and relationally supported approach is the only way to invest in this under-resourced area.

A significant part of the IMA strategy is to invest in those areas of existing relational and community strength, namely through identifying partners and communities where there is a critical mass of emerging leaders and existing strong intergenerational leadership. Innovation in the context of historical disadvantage and relatively low resourcing also demands that we work across previous denominational and organisational boundaries.



### **IMA HIGHLIGHTS**

IMA facilitated Indigenous Ministry awareness sessions with Billy Williams at Churches of Christ Conferences in South Australia and NSW. Nick Wight hosted a dinner with New Hope Worship Pastors, Jordan and Anthea Hill, who are exploring a deeper engagement with Indigenous Ministry. The IMA Coordinators, Nick Wight and Remy Sese, also promoted opportunities for individuals and churches to be engaged in Indigenous ministry activities, to represent IMA in key Christian and other Indigenous networks, and to support and promote the overall work of GMP. The IMA website and Facebook pages are now up and running via the new GMP website and are great ways to stay up to date with the ongoing work of IMA.



Greg Little speaking at SURRENDER:17 (VIC)

# IMA PARTNERS AND PROJECTS



The focus during 2016-17 has been continuing to build partnerships with other innovative Indigenous ministries. IMA takes seriously the charge to encourage and support new directions with Indigenous ministries, as well as looking to support emerging leaders. IMA looks forward to continuing to partner with local Indigenous leaders dreaming big about transformation in their communities.

IMA continues to work in close partnership with the following organisations and communities:

- AICF (Aboriginal and Islander Christian Fellowship)
- AEF (Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship)
- Australians Together
- SURRENDER
- UAICC (Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress)
- TEAR Australia
- Dhiiyaan Aboriginal Church
- Global Interaction (Northern Territory mission workers, Bill and Pauline Morrison)
- Grasstree Gathering
- Aunty Jean Phillips



### **Dareton - Youth and Community Centre**

The Dareton Youth and Community Centre has been a big hit in the community since opening in January, with plans for expanding programs and services. The centre is connecting with around 20 Indigenous youths every day after school and is offering a positive, culturally safe space to hang out and connect with other services. Ilker Deli, the recently appointed IMA centre manager, hosts a reference group with the Wentworth cooperating parish, local service agencies, legal aid, TAFE, Indigenous leaders and the NSW police.

### **Indigenous Connections**

IMA helped establish Indigenous Connections in Mt Druitt, Sydney, as an Associate Partner. Indigenous Connections leaders, David Haroa and Kelly Hickey, are significant emerging Aboriginal Christian leaders that require support for their innovative outreach program that is connecting with some of Sydney's most at risk Indigenous youth.



### **SURRENDER Campfire**

IMA partnered with the SURRENDER Campfire gathering on June 2-4 2017, hosted by the Dhiiyaan community (a Brisbane-based Indigenous church affiliated with the Baptists) in Dalby. SURRENDER Campfire is an innovative and open-ended mentoring program designed to bring Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians together on a journey of mutual learning and discovery around Christ, community and culture. Around 15 Indigenous and non-Indigenous people from NSW, VIC, SA and QLD participated.

### **Hedland Aboriginal Fellowship (HAF)**

The Indigenous Leadership Ministry Team opened the doors of the church to the public for the first Sunday service since 2013. They continue to meet on Sundays for morning and evening fellowship, weekly Bible studies, and for evangelistic outreach to communities. The Indigenous Leadership Ministry Team has planned weekly church and community outreach programs, and are involved in the programs. They meet in different homes, where families are hearing the word of God and are coming to church.



### **Bunbury Aboriginal Christian Fellowship**

Bunbury Fellowship hosted an Easter Convention this year, and they were encouraged by the number of people who came to the Convention. There are a growing number of strong Indigenous Christian men in the fellowship, and this is also an encouragement to Pastor Greg Little. There are new members on the Church Board, showing growth and maturity in the fellowship.

### **Esperance Church of Christ**

Esperance has continued building the partnership with Wongutha CAPS students once a month. A meeting held with Indigenous Christians, including Pastor Sonny and Frances Graham, was beneficial in looking at ways to reach out to the Indigenous population of the town.

### Norseman

A ministry team of four Indigenous Christian men was formed and is currently planning leadership training and future ministry in Norseman.



### Moorditj Keila Ministry

We attended Djeran Aboriginal Christian Youth Camp with YWAM. The camp was excellent, and the kids and staff didn't want it to end there, so in partnership they started the 'Moorditi Mereni' good food breakfast club. This breakfast occurs once a month where they have a special cook-up for breakfasts and support the youth, build their family and a tribe of champions for Jesus. The Moorditi Keila Basketball Club united with four other basketball clubs in Perth and the City of Victoria Park Recreation Centre to celebrate National Sorry Day. The Moorditi Keila men's group and Southcare Aboriginal Family Support Coordinator, Garry Gower, meet each Friday for mentoring and do voluntary gardening for families that need support. On Tuesdays, the women gather for Bible studies. Friday nights are for youth group, which includes sports and camps. Saturday nights include ministry to the homeless.

### **IMA Advocacy and Awareness**

On average, we are conducting around one Melbourne Songlines tour per month with Churches of Christ groups, as well as other churches, community groups and corporates.





### Juraki

In August 2016, IMA ran its inaugural Juraki volunteer discovery trip with four participants from Melbourne. In the words of one of the volunteers, "It was an incredible experience. We were able to learn more about the history of their land whilst also getting a unique experience of their culture and faith. The trip was well organised, and we were certainly well looked after."





# A COMMUNITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE

2016-17 was another great year for the embody community.

Across Australia young people connected to learn, pray, advocate and help make a difference in the world. We're always so inspired by the passion found in our community, and by all the young people who keep standing up and bringing real change in our world.

Some of this year's highlights for embody in Victoria included attending the Surrender Conference, State Youth Games, the Justice Conference, Illuminate Camp, Shift Ministry and Mission Expo at One Community Church in Blackburn. These opportunities provided members of the embody team, including Mitch Varcoe (embody National Campaigns and Resourcing Manager) with the opportunity to set up an embody stall and speak to lots of people and their organisations, raising awareness of embody campaigns.

Natalie Oakes, embody National Coordinator, represented embody in New South Wales, attending the Uprising and Drastic camps, as well as the Micah Australia seminar, 'Justice Mercy Faith.' A highlight was also attending the Voices for Justice weekend run by Micah Australia in Canberra and the Surrender Conference in Adelaide. We also welcomed Bethany Cliff as an intern in New South Wales, a wonderful addition to our growing team!

A highlight for embody in South Australia included our new ambassadors Abbie Alabaster and Bek Haynes promoting embody at State Youth Games in Adelaide.

Kirsten Luz, embody Relationships Manager in Queensland, started an embody blog, to challenge and to re-focus young people's thoughts on Jesus' teaching and our response, as well as writing on various topics young people face today. The embody team were also present at the L10 conference and the Centrifuge Leaders Conference.



10% more members

### **Christmas Choices**

Christmas Choices was well received again in 2016 and we garnered some great interest on social media. We remain encouraged by the many brands that continue to stand up and step out against inequality and injustice in our global consumer markets. Keep an eye out for some changes to Christmas Choices for 2017!



### **Prayer Matters**

We took a different approach to Prayer Matters and enlisted the help of Billy Jangala Williams from the Dhiiyaan community, NSW. He gave us a wonderful insight on prayer from an Indigenous perspective. He led us on a journey each day that allowed us to join with and pray for the struggles facing our Indigenous brothers and sisters, but also helped us to understand those struggles, how we can connect to this land, its First Peoples and, most importantly, the Creator. It was challenging and encouraging, and gave us a lot to think about and more depth to our understanding. The prayer resources are on the embody website for churches and individuals to access.



### Safe Water September

After a slow start to the campaign, we were absolutely blown away by the result for Safe Water September in 2016. More than \$127,000 was raised, providing safe water to almost 6,500 people. We also had the highest level of engagement so far with more than 450 people signing up to take the challenge. Challenge takers raised an average of \$388 each. We saw growth in all main areas of Safe Water September, which was fantastic. After three years of Safe Water September, we have raised \$300,000!



## MEET EMILY

As an individual who is passionate about social justice and finding ways to create a positive impact on our world, it has been awesome to be connected with embody over the last 18 months. I have been given the opportunity to become a Church Rep, meaning I am given the ability to advocate for and champion social issues. Through Prayer Matters and Safe Water September, I have been given the freedom and opportunity to begin exploring what it really means to be an advocate in a supportive like-minded community who encourage me in these endeavors. By coordinating events in my community and participating in embody's national campaigns, I feel as though I have in some small way positively influenced someone's life. When I see that Safe Water September in 2016 gave over 6,000 people access to safe drinking water, I get excited. It shows me that there is a community of young people just like me throughout Australia who



are passionate about changing our world. I am proud to be just one small piece of a community who are so engaged in our global community.





## PARTNER VISITS

There's nothing quite like visiting a partner overseas to bring to life a passion for mission. For a partner, there is great encouragement when a culturally sensitive team visits them, seeking to develop a deeper partnership, to grow and learn together.

Partner visits dynamically change how a church engages and partners in mission. Having connected globally, partners, the people they minister to, and their settings are no longer just names in a newsletter – they become personal friends and locations of vital interest. Prayer and communication takes on a whole new level of meaning.

The initiative for partner visits can either come from our partners, or from individuals or church teams looking for a closer connection. The goal is always to resource and strengthen the ministry and mission of our partners as we develop relationships and learn about life in a different culture. We also learn more about ourselves and discover God at work in us and in the world. Partner visits are life transforming.

This year teams and individuals from Australian churches have visited partners in Fiji, India, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Zimbabwe. These are some of the reflections from team members:

"To get to see first hand the work that the Bible college in Indonesia was doing was of great benefit, giving us a better understanding of the challenges that are faced and a deeper appreciation of the obedience of God's call on the faculty and students. The highlight for me was visiting villages in the surrounding hills of Salatiga. Here we experienced village life – we slept, ate and attended worship and gatherings with the locals. Again, we were met warmly and were greatly humbled by the way we were looked after. Here we witnessed the harmony of village life. The communities were such a refreshing experience that the impact of the time spent there will continue to resonate." Mick Sutton, NSW.

"I felt such thankfulness to God for inviting me to join Him in what He is doing in one small corner of Vanuatu." Margaret Mount, SA.

"This visit is regarded with great influence and much excitement, making a difference upon people's lives with the churches, schools and dispensary etc. Seeing that this trip is the first time for most of the team to come to Vanuatu, we are so glad that you all adapted to our ways of living, food and accommodation." Pastor Solomon Bebe, Vanuatu.

"We are so thankful to God that you have been part of our lives throughout the past year. We have been privileged to have your friendship, prayers, encouragement and support." Esline Toamavute, Secretary General for Vanuatu Conference of Churches of Christ.

# PEOPLE IN MISSION

GMP continues to support the sending of people into mission settings, both as volunteers and as those who are supported financially.



### **Bruce Edwards**

Bruce Edwards, Director of Fiji Community Churches of Christ, has been living and working in Fiji for more than four years. He plays a key role in the development and mentoring of local pastors Raj and Nirmala Deo, David and Christie Reddy, Muneshwar and Stella Gaunder, Vipin and Irene Narayan. Bruce's work enlarges the capacity of church leaders and helps local churches move towards self-reliance.



### Fiona Briers

Fiona leads the Bright Solutions program in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, giving training, employment and dignity to marginalized women. She is also an encourager to local leaders.



### **Gwenyth Beale**

Born in Papua New Guinea to pioneer missionaries, Frank and Win Beale, Gwenyth has returned to the country of her birth as a literacy specialist to equip national teachers of elementary school and adult educators to teach literacy in their own language. She plans to help nationals learn to read and write in their own language, and also train and mentor literacy workers to educate others.



### **Kevin Tucker**

Kevin Tucker, an Aboriginal pastor who was raised on the Norseman Mission in WA, is now working as an Indigenous Community Pastor based in Port Augusta, SA, his wife Debbie's home community. Kevin works in partnership with the Brethren Indigenous Church (Umeewarra Mission) and the Port Augusta UAICC church, and is an Associate Partner with IMA.



### Dr Ash and Anji Barker

After 25 years of urban mission in Melbourne and Bangkok, Ash Barker is now immersed in the multi-racial and multi-religious inner city neighbourhood of Winson Green, Birmingham (UK) as the Founding Director of Newbigin House. Together with his wife, Anji, they founded the Newbigin School for Urban Leadership, which aims to mobilise, form and equip Christian leaders.



### Dave Powell and Kate Appleby

Dave and Kate are school chaplains in the Kimberley, flying out from Derby to Noonkanbah and Millijiddee each week, running emotional and social well-being programs in a number of classes, coaching afterschool sports programs, as well as connecting with and counselling individual children.



## Martin Reilly and Margaret Nixon

Martin Reilly and his wife, Margaret Nixon, commenced ministry with Si a La Vida (SALV), Nicaragua, in April 2015. They are working in community development programs caring for at-risk children, and building capacity for the SALV staff.



### BJ and Chipo Mpofu

BJ and Chipo resource and encourage Zimbabwean church leaders. BJ is on the board of the Zimbabwean Christian College and is a key coordinator for GMP partner visits to Zimbabwe.

Partner Visits with GMP



THANK YOU
Thankyou to our amazing volunteers! We appreciate you so much!



### South Sudan Famine – ACT Alliance – Emergency Response and Recovery

Famine was declared in February 2017 in South Sudan, fuelled by armed conflict, economic crisis, and below-average harvests that were exhausted before the regular lean season arrived. GMP is working through the ACT Alliance who has partner organisations on the ground. Norwegian Church Aid has reach 41,666 households with Water, Sanitation and Hygiene support, and 23,300 households with Food Security and Livelihood support in Aweil, Wau, Juba and Twic. Two counties in Unity State have been pulled back from famine as a result of immediate and sustained short-term multi-sector humanitarian assistance. The overall situation, however, remains dire.

The response from GMP supporters has been phenomenal with over AUD \$165,000 raised from 294 individuals and 55 churches. This is a significant amount in the overall appeal, which has so far raised US \$676,879 of the US \$9.2M target. That means GMP supporters contributed 19% of the funds so far!



Mary, one of many people who has been affected by the South Sudan Famine

\$165,000 towards famine relief in South Sudan

# EMERGENCY APPEALS

Thank you again to our faithful supporters who gave to relief and recovery efforts in 2016-17.

Fiji, Cyclone Winston – Uniting World – Emergency Response and Recovery

In February 2016, Tropical Cyclone Winston destroyed thousands of homes, and made tens of thousands of people destitute in the northern islands of Fiji. Working through Uniting World and its partner, the Methodist Church in Fiji, COCOA provided essential supplies and materials to help people get their gardens going again, particularly in places where government support did not reach.



Photo of Koro Island provided by the Fiji government.

Cyclone Winston hit Fiji between the evenings of Friday and Sunday 19-21 February 2016

### Syrian Refugee Crisis – Australian Lutheran World Service – Emergency Response

This crisis has not abated. Unable to work for so many years, many citizens have now exhausted their own funds, so emergency funds have been set up to cover unexpected medical emergencies. Working through ACT Alliance member, Australian Lutheran World Service, we have contributed to cash support for vulnerable people, legal workshops, and a 'cash for work' program in Za'atari Camp, cleaning 80 local mosques.

# WELFARE PROGRAMS

Providing health care for people who cannot afford it, and caring for children so that they can access education services, are practical ways lives are changed.

The children's homes located at Baramati, Shrigonda and the Gnyan Sampada Residential School (formerly Ankoor Children's Home) near Yavatmal, provide quality care for children and ensure that they have access to schooling. At Shrigonda, the girls attend the school linked to the home, and the boys at Baramati attend the local Churches of Christ schools. The Gnyan Sampada Residential School enables minority Christian families access to education, and is also an outreach to the local community nearby. Most of the children return home in the school holidays.

The Ashwood Memorial Hospital continues to provide medical care irrespective of a person's capacity to pay. GMP visited Ashwood during the year, and continues to support the renewal of the governance systems of Ashwood so that the Indian Government requirements with regard to Foreign Receipt Contribution Accounts can be satisfied. These matters are critical issues for the future of the Ashwood Hospital, and form the focus of our work with the hospital staff and committee.



Supervisor Anita and one of the girls at Shrigonda, India



Patient at Ashwood Memorial Hospital, India



# MEET THE TEAM\*

Executive Officer	John Gilmore

ICP Manager	
ICP Manager	Cindy Haidar
	(Maternity Leave)
Acting ICP Manager	Kyra Foster

### Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

International Church Partnerships (ICP)

COCOA Director	Colin Scott
COCOA Partner Education Officer_	_Jan Bayliss
COCOA Program Officer	_Suzanne Hayes

### Indigenous Ministries Australia

IMA Coordinator (East)	Nick Wight
IMA Coordinator (West)	Remy Sese

### embody

embody National Coordinator	_Natalie Oakes
embody National Campaigns and	
Resources Manager	Mitch Varcoe
embody Relationships	
Manager (VIC/TAS)	_April Holmes
embody Relationships	
Manager (QLD)	Kirsten Luz

### Partnership Coordinators

Partnership Coordinator (NSW/ACT)	Colin Scott
Partnership Coordinator (SA/NT)	Val Zerna
Partnership Coordinator (VIC/TAS) _	Samuel Curkpatrick
Partnership Coordinator (QLD)	Vicki Marney

### Communications

Communications Team	
Coordinator	Nick Wight
Media and Communications	
Manager	Rachel Mcllgorm
Graphic Design Manager	Elise Andrews
Marketing Manager	Matthew Hornby
Social Media Support	Kyra Foster

### **Finance and Administration**

Finance and Administration	
Manager	Lisa Szepessy
Assistant Accountant	David Gee
Bookkeeper	Jenny Mountford
Reception and Receipting	Anne Hughes
Database and Administration	Audrey Lim
Administration	Melinda van Vuuren
	(Maternity Leave)

\*Current staff listed. Most GMP staff are part time.

# BOARD MEMBERS



John Gilmore

Executive Officer, VIC

Master of Theology. 10 years as Executive Director of Mission and Ministry for Churches of Christ VIC/TAS. Member of the Act for Peace NCCA Commission, National Council of Churches in Australia Finance Committee and ACFID Code of Conduct Committee. 10 years active involvement in Christian Conference Asia.



**Barrie Yesberg** 

Chair, WA

Ordained Minister of Churches of Christ, Royal Australian Navy Principal Chaplain, Honorary Australian Federal Police Chaplain and Indigenous missionary experience with previous Federal Aborigines Mission Board.



Roger Bawden

Treasurer, QLD

Diploma of Business, retired missionary and businessman. Worked in senior management roles for 40 years including Vanuatu, national retail business, aged care and state-wide retirement villages.



**Gordon Buxton** 

NSW

Established Yooralla Youth Ministries and Yooralla Overseas Development Fund which is a registered aid and development fund. More than 30 years experience as a consultant in customer focused operations and Human Resources management.



**Rod Cousins** 

WA

Associateship in Commerce, member of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, CPA Australia and the Australian Institute of Export. Worked in management positions for 40 years including operations across S.E. Asia.



Sean Kum

WA

Real Estate executive, self employed, experience in leadership and management. He has spent some years living and working in Singapore.



Mark Stevens

SA

Master of Ministry, ordained Churches of Christ Minister; Pastor at Happy Valley Church of Christ. More than 10 years ministry service, four years' experience in theological education, church planter and leader of teams to Vietnam.



Julie Trinnick

VIC

Aged Care Chaplain and ordained Churches of Christ Minister, and experienced in financial administration. Served for four years at Ranwadi Churches of Christ College in Vanuatu in the 1980s; six years as Associate Director of OMB (now GMP), and worked with Anglican Overseas Aid.



Gemma Roberts

QLD

Currently works for Indigenous Family and Child Support Service (IFACSS). Proud to be an Aboriginal woman, mother of six children, active in community and church and is very blessed to have amazing mentors and elders.



Janet Woodlock

VIC

BSc, Dip Ed, MDiv, Cert IV in Workplace and Business Coaching. Federal Coordinator for Churches of Christ in Australia.



GMP Board members present at the board and staff planning retreat, October 2016

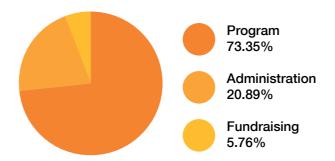


## Finances at a Glance

Global Mission Partners operates three separate funds in relation to its total program. Each is managed and accounted for separately.

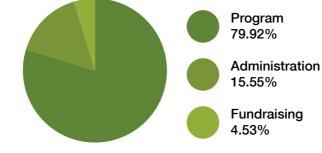
# International Church Partnerships (ICP)

The International Church Partnership fund supports church projects that place a priority on evangelism, church development, leadership development and welfare programs for adults and children. In 2016-2017 \$619,013 was made available for program implementation and community education.



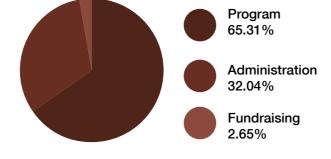
## Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA)

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid is an approved fund under the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme and has Base Accreditation from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. COCOA has policies and priorities that guide the use of funds. In 2016-2017 \$1,658,025 was made available for program implementation and community education.



### Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA)

Indigenous Ministries Australia is supported through the Indigenous Partnership Fund. The mission statement of this program is 'Encouraging new directions with Indigenous Christian ministries'. In 2016-2017 \$309,825 was made available for program implementation and community education.



The amounts and percentages above are derived from the Audited Financial Statements and calculated based on percentages of particular forms of expenditure according to ACFID definitions. The following summary report complies with the presentation and disclosure requirement of the ACFID Code of Conduct (see www.acfid.org.au). The Audited Financial Statements are available at www.gmp.org.au

## Breakdown by Country

ICP				COCOA			
ICP Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$	COCOA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Bangladesh	15,598	Mother's Love	4,416	Bangladesh	20,842	COSMOS Health Care	10,325
Fiji	79,325	Geon Homes and Asia Gospel Mission	6,058	India	24,371	Urban Neighbours of Hope	188,578
India	57,582	Reaching Hands	3,699	Papua New Guinea	569	Live Connection	64,703
Indonesia	4,380			South Sudan	88,352	Initiate Australia	30,400
Papua New Guinea	68,190			Thailand	24,479	Surrey Hills Nicaragua	39,416
South Sudan	3,890			Vanuatu	14,600	HumeRidge PNG	184,123
Thailand	5,000			Vanuatu ANCP	27,850	Hartwell Zambia	629
Vanuatu	8,031			Vietnam	30,916	Medical Santo Vanuatu	20,000
Vietnam	26,745			Zimbabwe	344,358		
Zimbabwe	54,970			Zimbabwe ANCP	43,385		
People in Mission	153,573			Global ANCP	72,793		
Other	5,739			Emergency	185,401		
Project Total	483,023	Project Total	14,173	Project Total	877,916	Project Total	538,174
ICP Total			497,196	COCOA Total			1,416,090

### IMA

IMA Program	\$	Associate Partners	\$
Projects and Ministries	74,744	Indigenous Connections	4,150
Project Total	74,744	Project Total	4,150
IMA Total			78,894

Note: These figures are derived from the Audited Financial Statements available at www.gmp.org.au

## **Overall Comments**

2016-17 was a tough year from a financial point of view. There were more changes to financial regulations in Australia in regard to the rules applying to charities and not for profit bodies. We are also investing in the future capacity and development of GMP. This has meant an increase in some of our operational expenses. There are continuing increases in our residual costs (rent paid to State Conference bodies, compliance and network memberships).

We are encouraged by the growing support for IMA and ICP, both of which had a strong year – however support for COCOA was below budget. These matters are being addressed by the marketing manager and communications team. Some Public Benefit Institutions can now receipt and send funds for overseas projects. This resulted in a reduction in the number of COCOA Associate Partners.

Several bequests were received in 2016-17, and these have been added to the Bequest Reserve. Funds from these reserves are directed to our new initiatives. We deeply appreciate these gifts.

Major projects during the year included the design and preparation of a new website, and the development and installation of a new database. These projects have taken a considerable amount of time and will be valuable assets in the years to come.

GMP's interests are professionally managed and the strategies are reviewed by the Board's Finance Risk and Audit committee as well as in direct consultation with the Investment Advisors.

# Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. Income Statement – Extract

	2017			2016		
	ICP	COCOA	IMA	ICP	COCOA	IMA
Revenue						
Donations and Gifts						
Monetary	615,488	1,559,058	190,735	581,990	2,036,049	434,628
Non-Monetary	-	_	-	-	-	-
Trusts, Legacies and Bequests	814,461	16,580	9,745	67,833	11,063	2,211
Grants						
Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade	_	150,000	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	140,853	91,347	124,915	70,386	48,502	103,461
Other Income	27,906	1,542	1,413	27,260	16,553	13,371
Sub-Total International Religious Adherance Promotion Programs Revenue	1,598,708	_	-	747,469	-	-
Sub-Total Domestic Indigenous Programs Revenue	-	-	326,808	-	-	553,671
Total Revenue	1,598,708	1,818,527	326,808	747,469	2,112,167	553,671
Expenditure						
International Programs						
Funds to International Programs	497,196	1,416,090	-	586,793	1,536,580	_
Program Support Costs	46,226	100,706	-	37,440	99,562	-
Community Education	75,591	141,229	-	65,972	126,737	-
Fundraising Costs - Public	48,618	93,888	-	57,953	117,384	-
Accountability and Administration	176,326	322,619	-	179,409	317,348	-
Sub Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	-	2,074,532	-	-	2,197,611	-
Sub Total International Religious Adherance Promotion Programs Expenditure	843,957	-	-	927,567	-	-
Domestic Programs						
Funds to Domestic Indigenous Programs	-	-	78,894	-	-	48,740
Program Support Costs	-	-	214,583	-	-	217,839
Community Education	-	-	16,348	-	-	11,422
Fundraising Costs - Public	-	-	12,578	-	_	10,835
Accountability and Administration	-	_	152,025	-	_	108,622
Sub Total Domestic Programs Expenditure			474,428			397,458
Total Expenditure	843,957	2,074,532	474,428	927,567	2,197,611	397,458
Surplus for the Year	754,751	(256,005)	(147,620)	(180,098)	(85,444)	156,213

### Notes to the Income Statement:

- COCOA funds are used exclusively for International Aid and Development activity.
- ICP Funds are used in International Religious Adherence Promotion and Welfare Programs.
- IMA Funds are used in Domestic Indigenous Programs.
- No funds are used for International or Domestic Political Programs.
- There were no grants received from other Australian or Overseas agencies.
- There was no expenditure under the headings 'Fundraising Costs: Government, multilateral and private' or 'non-monetary' expenditure.

### Notes to the Statement of Financial Position:

• GMP has a nil inventory, holds no assets for sale, has no non-current trade or other receivables, no investment property or intangibles, no borrowings, tax or other financial liabilities, current or non-current.

# Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. **Statement of Financial Position**

		2017			2016	
	ICP	COCOA	IMA	ICP	COCOA	IMA
Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	659,167	26,270	40,242	863,951	10,517	130,648
Trade and Other Receivables	30,862	20,033	36,160	43,109	32,604	50,809
Other Assets	17,909	33,259	4,440	1,565	2,503	336
Financial Assets	2,953,242	1,222,805	3,184,083	1,878,008	1,440,090	3,221,367
Property, Plant & Equipment	30,776	16,623	325,984	15,447	19,904	332,092
Total Assets	3,691,956	1,318,990	3,590,909	2,802,080	1,505,618	3,735,252
Liabilities						
Trade and Other Payables	80,491	13,078	38,057	90,366	16,877	45,528
Provisions	21,833	41,148	17,544	19,675	37,551	9,711
Total Liabilities	102,324	54,226	55,601	110,041	54,428	55,239
NET ASSETS	3,589,632	1,264,764	3,535,308	2,692,039	1,451,190	3,680,013
Equity						
Specified Project Reserves and Trust Funds	3,171,238	886,252	3,013,267	2,302,321	912,164	3,004,331
Asset Revaluation Reserve	273,566	116,473	294,841	124,126	42,121	291,786
Accumulated Surplus	144,828	262,039	227,200	265,592	496,905	383,896
TOTAL EQUITY	3,589,632	1,264,764	3,535,308	2,692,039	1,451,190	3,680,013

## Statement of Changes in Equity

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2017	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Specified Reserves	Total
Balance at 1 July 2016	1,146,393	458,033	6,218,816	7,823,242
Surplus for the year	351,126	-	-	351,126
Transfers from accumulated surplus to specified reserves	(863,452)	-	863,452	-
Total other comprehensive income for the period	-	215,336	-	215,336
Balance at 30 June 2017	634,067	673,369	7,082,268	8,389,704
2016	Accumulated Surplus	Asset Revaluation Reserve	Specified Reserves	Total
Balance at 1 July 2015	1,319,975	588,002	6,154,563	8,062,540
Deficit for the year	(109,329)	-	-	(109,329)
Transfers from accumulated surplus to specified reserves	(64,253)	-	64,253	-
Total other comprehensive loss for the period	-	(129,969)	-	(129,969)
Balance at 30 June 2016	1,146,393	458,033	6,218,816	7,823,242

## Statement by the Board

The Board declares that the financial extracts of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. for the year ended 30 June 2017, as set out on the previous pages, has been derived from, and are consistent with, the full audited financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd. The full financial report is available on request and are in accordance with relevant legislation, accounting standards, provide a true and fair view of their financial position and performance, and indicate that GMP can pay its debts as and when they become due. This Declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for, and on behalf of the Board by:





## **Independent Audit Report**

### MOORE STEPHENS

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Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd

Independent Audit Report to the members of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd

### Report on the Extract Financial Report

The accompanying extract financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, statement of changes in equity and income statement – extract for the year then ended and the statement by the Board. The report is derived from the audited financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2017. It does not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards.

### Board's Responsibility for the Extract Financial Report

The Board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the extract financial report derived from the full financial report which was prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the Corporations Act 2001, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012 and the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. This

- establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation of the extract financial report;
- selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and
- making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the extract financial report based on our audit procedures. We conducted an independent audit, in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2017. Our report for the year was signed on 20 September 2017 and was not subject to any modification. The Australian Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free

Our procedures in respect to the extract financial report included testing that the information in the extract financial report is derived from, and is consistent with, the full financial report for the year. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the extract financial report is consistent with the full financial report.

In our opinion, the extract financial report of Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2017 is consistent with the full financial report from which it is derived upon which we expressed a qualified opinion

MOORE STEPHENS

Medda

Graeme Rodda

Registered Company Auditor 5525

22 September 2017

Moore Stephens Audit (SA & NT) Pty Ltd ABN (34 144 550 461) Authorised Audit Company Registered Number (374246). Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. An independent member of Moore Stephens International Limited – members in principal cities all throughout the world.



### **Australian Churches of Christ** Global Mission Partners Ltd.

Churches of Christ established the Australian Churches of Christ Global Mission Partners (GMP) in 1891. Our strong history is evident in the quality and values of our partnerships, both internationally and in Australia.

### **Our Vision:**

Every Church Partnering in Global Mission

### **Our Mission:**

Linking People, Churches and Resources across Nations

### Our Expectation:

Life-Changing Partnerships

### **GMP Values**

- Gospel Centred
- · Committed to Sharing
- Respecting People
- Meeting Human Need
- Working for Lasting Change
- In Partnership
- Seeking Independence and Maturity
- Demonstrating High Standards of Practice

### **Registered Office:**

114 Henley Beach Road Torrensville SA 5031

### **Postal Address:**

PO Box 341

Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

Freecall: 1800 467 222 **Phone:** 08 8352 3466 Fax: 08 8234 5373

Website: www.gmp.org.au Email: info@gmp.org.au

### GMP fulfills it's mission through three distinct programs:



International Church Partnerships (ICP) prioritises church planting and development, evangelism and outreach, and the training and development of leaders

# Churches of Christ Overseas Aid

Churches of Christ Overseas Aid (COCOA) is an approved aid and development program with a focus on empowering communities in poverty.



Indigenous Ministries Australia (IMA) focuses on Indigenous ministry and development.

GMP is a company limited by guarantee. The company members are the State Churches of Christ bodies and the Council of Churches of Christ in Australia, and each appoints up to two voting representatives. The members elect the directors. GMP is registered in each State according to local requirements for fundraising.

### **Australian Business Number:** 30 455 408 814



GMP is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory code of practice (www.acfid.asn.au).

The ACFID Code of Conduct describes standards of practice for its members, including a complaints procedure. Please direct any complaints regarding GMP to the Executive Officer on +61 8 8352 3466. Complaints regarding breaches of the Code can also be directed to ACFID (www.acfid.asn.au).

GMP is also a member of Missions Interlink, the Church Agencies Network, the Micah Coalition, the Campaign for Australian Aid, and the ACT Alliance, and is accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

All photos (unless otherwise credited) are taken by GMP staff, and represent actual GMP projects or partnerships.

Based on communications with our partners, all statistics presented were accurate at the time of printing.

This report is printed on 100% recycled paper that is made carbon neutral, and is printed by Finsbury Green, one of the few carbon neutral printers in Australia.



