

What's your story?



Dianne Wicks, with the children she ministered to during her time at BCM in India

Stories are an important part of our lives, aren't they? Those of you with young children or grandchildren know how much they love listening to stories – and it's something we never quite grow out of!

Over the past six months as I've settled into my role, I have loved hearing your stories, from supporters here in Australia. There have been so many, but a few stand out:

There's Dianne Wicks, a former nurse from Victoria who spent two years at Bangalore City Mission in India, ministering to children. "What an adventure!" she says. "I met wonderful people, experienced a different culture, tested my character and flexibility, and saw God's kingdom being advanced in the practical, loving outreach of BCM". Dianne he is now a strong advocate for BCM's work. Then there's the story of Gloria Bradley in Sydney, who painstakingly collects and sells stamps, donating the proceeds to WorldShare. Over the past 20 years, she has raised \$10,581 this way!

I've heard the story of 12 year old Lucy who raised \$60 by babysitting and cleaning cars. She donated it all to buy chickens at

Christmas, through our Harvest of Hope catalogue. Finally there's Geoff Attwood, who met our partner, John Wandera from Christian Fellowship Ministries in Uganda, four years ago when he visited NSW – and decided to sponsor ten children, right there and then! Geoff continues to sponsor those children today.

You may think that your story with WorldShare is not as meaningful. But don't be mistaken - if you pray for our partners, our powerful and mighty Father hears you and He acts. If you sponsor a child, your contribution makes an enormous impact on the lives of a child and their community. If you give financially, your contribution works to restore life and hope to people who need it most. In the eyes of our Father, everyone's story is a great one.

Stories of the work of our partners are often difficult and heartbreaking. Deaf children in the DR Congo are marginalised, mocked and isolated. People of North Korean descent are discriminated against in China and struggle to find food and shelter. Unwed pregnant girls in Uganda are thrown out of home, given substandard healthcare and left to a life of shame. Forgotten families in India are resigned to working in dangerous quarries just to survive. People are left without the hope of knowing God.

Thanks to you and our partners, that's not the end of the story. We believe that our God is at work to write a different ending. Through you and our partners, many of these stories now end up being stories of hope and restoration. My prayer is that the number of these stories will grow and more will experience the love of God.

As we look towards the next financial year, we see that the needs continue to be great and there are many more stories to

be told. Together, we can make an impact.

Will you help us to enable our partners to create more stories of transformation?

\$100,000 is urgently needed. To give today, please fill in the donation form enclosed or go online to worldshare.org.au/appeal. We are pressed on all sides, but God calls us to be courageous in the knowledge that He is with us.

Thank you for your support, and for weaving your story with that of WorldShare, restoring life and bringing hope to the marginalised and forgotten.

Joanna

CEO, WorldShare

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Thanks to you, Tulasi learnt new skills at Bangalore City Mission, India



Tulasi learnt new skills, finding peace and happiness

“Thank you BCM and the great supporters at WorldShare for guiding me to a prosperous life and for elevating me in the society, I would not be here without your generosity.”

“My name is Tulasi, and my husband is Mani. I am 33 and was born to a very poor Hindu family in Tamil Nadu. I have three elder sisters, an elder brother and a younger brother.

When my younger brother was a year old, my father sadly passed away. In order to run the family, my mother and elder sisters had to start working at a local building construction company for very little money. Since the family earning was very little, we could only afford one meal a day and we could not afford to continue in education.

I studied up to 6th grade. I had to finish my studies and start earning money to help the family survive. I went to work in a farm, cleaning out the cattle shed and collecting cow dung. My mother became very sick and was dying, so at a very young age, I had to marry to my cousin. The family lived in Bangalore, so I had to move there.

Since I was not educated I could not get a job in Bangalore. I was introduced to Bangalore City

Mission (BCM) staff and I learnt tailoring and I started earning my own money. I am a member of the self-help group in BCM. I saved money to build our own house. My family accepted Christ into their lives and now our family is one of peace and happiness. I have a daughter who is studying in 2nd grade and I can afford to educate her in an English Medium School.

Thank you BCM and the great supporters at WorldShare for guiding me to a prosperous life and for elevating me in the society, I would not be here without your generosity.”

Your support helped Min learn to save, with Bridge of Hope in Indonesia



Min is banking on a positive future

Mrs Mince Baulemo, known as Min to her friends, is married to husband, Yones, and have three children. They never had much, so she always tried to supplement her husband’s income by making a little extra money for her family by selling ice and bread out of her house.

Last year, Min joined the Bridge of Hope in a saving group. Bridge of Hope, works with families trapped in poverty in the Manado region, East Indonesia. It did not take Min long to understand the benefits of taking part in the saving scheme and always actively encouraging other people in the group to save.

After getting some advice, Min decided she could expand her little business so she draw a loan from her savings, the loan had 3% interest and she had to pay it back within 10 months. Min sensibly invested the loan and was able to diversify, selling yellow rice and cakes.

You will be pleased to read that as a result of her wise investments, Min’s income increased by 40%! Min regularly paid her loan back and still managed to save some of her extra income.

In only a matter of months, Min was able to expand her business again and now runs a small shop and has more than doubled her income. She is using her money to renovating her house; Yones and God and her faith provide a great support for her.

Min would like to thank Bridge of Hope and all the supporters at WorldShare for the great opportunity of getting a loan as well as teaching her to save, it is only because of your generosity that Min is able to make extra income to move her family out of poverty.

“Bridge Of Hope was established in response to the command of Jesus to love the poor and oppressed, regardless of religion or race.”

SHORT TERM TEAM UPDATE: WAKISA & CFM

Late last year, WorldShare led its third short-term team to Uganda to serve with partners Christian Fellowship Ministries (CFM) and Wakisa Ministries.

You will know that Wakisa is a ministry that shows love, compassion and mercy to vulnerable young women, based in Kampala, the capital of Uganda. Through your donations, Wakisa provides pregnancy care, counselling and teaches vocational skills to vulnerable, pregnant young women.

CFM, based in Mbale in eastern Uganda, is spreading the word of Christ throughout the country by church planting, evangelism, leadership training, micro-enterprise projects and through WorldShare's Sponsor-a-Child program.

Thanks to support from donors such as you, WorldShare has been partnering with both CFM and Wakisa since 2008. Your generosity increases awareness, provides advocacy, sources equipment and sends teams to work in Uganda.

Our team ran three mobile medical clinics in remote villages outside Mbale. Doctors gave advice, tested for malaria and HIV, treated illnesses such as hypertension, diabetes, tuberculosis and cancer. The following week we ministered to the pregnant girls at Wakisa providing one-on-one health care consultations and participating in their daily activities.



Joy, Lillian and Andrew at the Wakisa Ministry

One of the highlights for team members, Joy and Andrew, was visiting their sponsor child from Wakisa.

Joy recounts "On our trip to Uganda in 2015, we were able to visit Wakisa Ministries in Kampala where we met Lillian while she was still heavily pregnant. We eventually decided to sponsor one of the girls - Lillian had her baby, Vivian, in February 2016. Reconnecting with her at St Michael's High School later in the year, where we were met by this beautiful bright and motivated girl dressed in her school uniform and so eager to show us her school, was incredibly moving and showed us the powerful impact the

staff at Wakisa have made. Girls like Lillian are seen as pariahs, outcasts of society, but through their time at Wakisa, they are loved, mentored and encouraged. They are taught life skills and shown the grace of God. All this gives them confidence and helps them to re-enter life despite the difficult reality of their circumstances, with hope for a good future."

If you would like to make a donation to help the Wakisa Ministries, please go online to worldshare.org.au/uganda-wakisa-ministries or fill in the donation form with this newsletter.

USHINDI LUTONDE (DR CONGO)

Ushindi is a 17-year-old girl born in Goma, eastern DR Congo. She lives with her eight other siblings and her housekeeper mother and electrician father. Ushindi was born deaf, and faced a life of exclusion and difficulty.

Luckily for Ushindi, she has managed to complete all her studies at Ephphatha School for the Deaf. She began kindergarten in 2004, primary school in 2006 and high school in 2014. This year she will leave school to make a living from dressmaking and sewing, which she loves.



Ushindi knows she has been very lucky, and she is confident about her future. She is grateful to the school and to WorldShare for giving her this opportunity. For Ushindi, the Ephphatha School for the Deaf must continue to help more deaf girls, just like her.



COME BE INSPIRED!

John Wandera and Charles Masaba from Christian Fellowship Ministries in Uganda are visiting Australia (May-June 2017). Come and meet them! Visit worldshare.org.au/uganda-cfm for more details.

Child Sponsorship, Improving Lives in Asia



LAN HUI'S TESTIMONY (CHINA)

Lan Hui Xiao, from the village of La Teng in China, is part of the Sponsor a Child program. Her parents are poor farmers and she has two younger brothers.

You will know that as a girl, Lan Hui would not have the same opportunity to go to school as her brothers – unfortunately discrimination is still common in rural villages like La Teng. Thankfully as part of the Sponsor a Child program, she will be able to get regular schooling.

Girls like Lan Hui would normally be expected to stay at home to take care of her two younger brothers while her parents work in the field. She still has to care for her siblings but it is after school hours and she is happy that she can get an education as well as helping her parents. She has already learnt many things thanks to the Sunday gathering with Pastors Tang and Wei, who visit their village once every fortnight.

As a thank you, Lan Hui has written a letter, calling it her “Testimony”, and she wanted to tell all WorldShare supporters, like you, how you have changed her life:

“How are you? My name is Lan Hui Xiao, I am 10 years old this year and am in primary five. Since I have learnt the Bible, I understand God created light and all creatures. Thank God! If there is no God, there is no me. Thank God!

Because God loves us! Because He wants us to manage the world! Because we are His children! I understand I cannot be greedy and cannot be jealous of other people, I must obey God, cannot be proud, must have faith and patience, must be spiritually beautiful, cannot cheat and must repent immediately.

Dear Heavenly Father, teach me to be like Jacob, help me to see my own wrong doings, and give me faith and courage to change. I don't want to do too many wrong things. Amen!”



ANGEL & FRIENDS (PHILIPPINES)

Angel Huit, who lives with her mother and father, was always described as a quiet and shy girl. Unfortunately for Angel, her family did not earn much money and she was not able to go to school and socialise with girls her own age.

That all changed, thanks to the support of our generous child sponsors. It is only thanks to the donations from people like you that Angel came out of her shell once she started attending school. She can now spend time with all her new friends and classmates.

Angel would like to thank everyone who supports the WorldShare Child Sponsorship program and their partner, the Philippine Missionary Fellowship and to God for all the support she received to help get her into school. Your generosity has allowed Angel to be herself, make new friends and build a brighter future.

Angel really loves going to school and is determined to do as well as possible – she takes part in as many activities as possible but



always makes sure that she prioritises concentrating on her studies and work at home.

It is simple to make a life-changing difference by sponsoring a child, like Lei Hui or Angel. Just call our office on (02) 9712 8222 or visit www.worldshare.org.au/sponsor-a-child. Just \$43 a month will mean the world to a poverty-stricken or socially disadvantaged child.

Emergency Drought Relief in Uganda



Thousands of people like Florence need our help

We've been informed by Christian Fellowship Ministries of the emergency happening in rural Uganda. In many communities, the weather has been devastating – scant rainfall followed by heavy downpours has killed crops leading to severe food shortages, putting families at risk. Eighty percent of the local populations depend on agriculture and most have already exhausted their food reserves.

Your help is desperately needed so we can save lives of children and adults, like Florence.

Florence was abandoned by her husband, leaving her with seven children in a tiny hut. She got through by labouring in gardens for money and uprooting rotting cassava to make stew, but the drought hit them hard. With no work and no cassava to dig up, Florence has to boil herbs and grass for nutrition, watching her children suffer in hunger.

Through WorldShare support, CFM will manage the immediate emergency by distributing food to reach 500 families, like Florence's. Then CFM will tackle longer-term prevention: with your help CFM can distribute drought resistant maize and beans when the rains come.

Education is key. CFM equips their communities with the understanding of food planning, enhancing farming practices, improving cultivation and tilling, weeding and harvesting. For instance,



Florence and her family.

with such scarce water, members are encouraged to help each other irrigate their gardens with pond or local river water.

They also use the opportunities to discuss topics such as education and strengthening their faith in the Lord

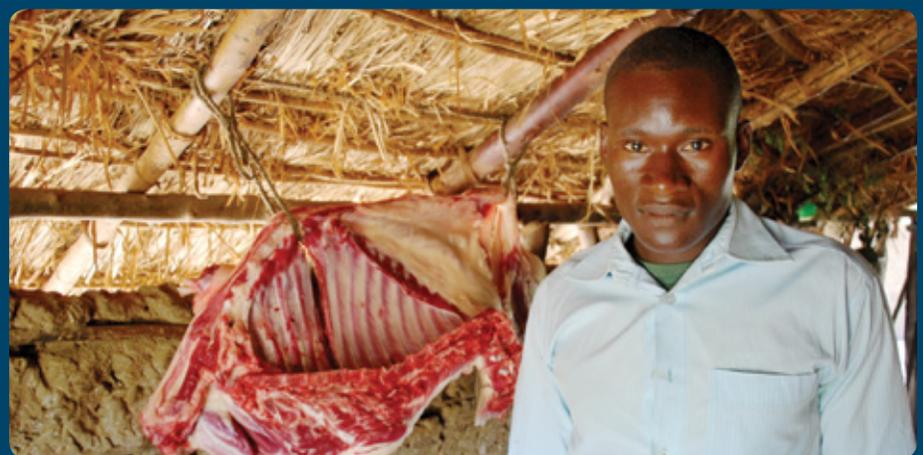
Thank you for supporting WorldShare, can you donate to help people like Florence and her family? We need \$38,500 to provide emergency food and seeds to prevent children dying from starvation. Please visit worldshare.org.au/uganda-cfm or fill in Christian Fellowship Ministries on the donation form. Thank you.

There is a crisis in Uganda and we desperately need \$38,500 to save lives. Can you help?

CREATING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS TOGETHER IN UGANDA

As part of CFM's Livelihood Program, CFM also assists rural communities to work their way out of poverty, creating empowerment and entrepreneurship. CFM helps communities form Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) to instil a culture of saving a little of their income. This allows members to borrow money to start up a small business. The program provides training to those selected from their communities. The program helps members select viable enterprises, offering supervision, mentoring and support.

Your support has helped people, like John, his wife and baby. Like many others in his community, he did not have the opportunity to go to school. This meant that making a living in his rural village was difficult. When the VSLA



John is working his way out of poverty, thanks to your support

was introduced in the church, John was very enthusiastic and joined immediately. He received a small loan which was invested in a pork vending kiosk. The business is still in its early stages but John is very optimistic that his life will improve.

Thanks to your support and prayers, 70 businesses have been set up and almost \$11,000 has been saved – in just five months. This has made an incredible difference to vulnerable people in the community, helping them to fight poverty.

New Faces

We are excited to welcome two new staff members to WorldShare: Richard Eggington and Blaise Itabelo.



Richard and his wife Denise have two married children, and one very precious grandson, Marley.

After working as a tax consultant for four years during his early twenties, Richard took a very different track to pursue a career in sales and marketing. It was during this time that he chose to follow Jesus as his Lord and saviour.

The Lord led Richard to a role with a Christian non-profit organisation where he would, for the first time in his life, see the devastating injustice of extreme poverty in countries like Bangladesh, Philippines, India, and various African nations.

Richard has worked in the Christian non-profit sector for over 20 years, and in that time he has been motivated by the Biblical mandate to “see” the poor and to show them the love of Jesus through the powerful dynamic of faith in action giving glory to God.



Blaise was born in South Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Blaise and his family fled in 1996, and he spent the next 15 years of his life in refugee camp in Tanzania. It was here he received his primary and secondary schooling whilst waiting for resettlement in a new country, with no hope of when that would happen or the day his country would be in peace.

Blaise migrated to Australia in 2011 after completing his undergraduate degree in Tanzania. Blaise has worked in Community Development for over 10 years.

He told us, “I am extremely excited to join WorldShare and I hope through your generous support and tireless work of our partner organisations we will continue to share God’s love around the world. Please keep me and my family in your prayers as I start this new journey with Christ”.

CAN YOU HELP?

You can assist our Sydney office in Five Dock (shortly moving to Chatswood) by preparing materials or by translating documents in Chinese, French or Filipino. Please contact the Child Sponsorship Coordinator, Liliana at sponsorships@worldshare.org.au or call **02 9712 8222** to express your interest and availability.

IS THE WORK OF GOD’S KINGDOM IN YOUR WILL?

Leaving a legacy to WorldShare in your Will provides critical financial support to help our Christian Ministry Partners

When we reach the end of this life’s road, how we bless others with this life’s assets is an important and sensitive decision. When preparing our wills, we often consider the needs of our families and friends. After taking care of their loved ones, many people also choose to give a gift to their favourite charities through a Will.

A bequest to WorldShare in your Will is an effective way to continue your support for WorldShare once you are with the Lord.

We are so very thankful to those of our supporters who have understood the impact a bequest can make and have planned ahead. They have given faithfully during the course of their lives, supporting our work in their work of transforming lives. Their bequests have made a real difference to thousands of people all over the World.

If you would like more information on how to include WorldShare in your Will, please call our Chief Executive Officer Joanna Mansfield on **(02) 9712 8222** or email joannam@worldshare.org.au. You can also download our bequest brochure by visiting www.worldshare.org.au/bequests.



A gift in your Will can make a difference to thousands of people

WorldShare
connecting people to transform lives



WorldShare

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PO Box 711, Five Dock NSW 2046

Can You Help?

- Yes, I will support children and adults in need through our dedicated partners

You can support WorldShare and our partners with a one off or regular gift.

Please write your donation amount in the chosen box(es) below:

Where Most Needed	\$ Tax Deductible	\$ Non Tax Deductible
Ministry Most In Need/ Appeal 30 June 2017		N/A
China		
A&A Ministries (Guangxi)		
A&A Ministries (JiLin)		
Peking University		N/A
DR Congo		
Ephphatha School for the Deaf		N/A
HEAL Africa		
India		
Bangalore City Mission		N/A
Indonesia		
Bridge of Hope		N/A
Hohidiai		N/A
UKRIM		N/A
Philippines		
Philippine Missionary Fellowship		
Tanzania		
Morogoro Bible College	N/A	
Uganda		
Christian Fellowship Ministries		
Wakisa Ministries		N/A

Please fill in your contact and payment details overleaf

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Your Generosity Transforms Lives

Please complete both sides of this form and send back in the Reply Paid envelope provided

My Contact Details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Rev/Dr)

Address

Email

Telephone No:

Church:

You Can Make A Real And Lasting Difference

Tick here to make a One-off donation

CHEQUE/MONEY ORDER (payable to WorldShare)

CREDIT CARD (please fill in card details below)

Tick here to make a regular monthly gift

*Regular donations will be taken on the 15th of every month

My Payment Details:

Card Number:

Expiry Date: __ __ / __ __

Card Holder's Name:

Signature

If you would like to Sponsor a Child, please visit

www.worldshare.org.au/sponsor-a-child or call our office on **02 9712 8222**

If you would like to discuss setting up a direct debit, please call our office on 02 9712 8222 or tick this box

PLEASE FILL IN THE AMOUNT BOX(ES) OVERLEAF

Thank you for your Support

*"May the Lord now show you kindness and faithfulness,
and I too will show you the same favor because you
have done this." 2 Samuel 2:6*

WorldShare

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