


2021 Impact Report



DROPLETS
IN A STREAM

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A close-up photograph of a woman with light-colored hair looking down at a young child. The child has their hair styled in several small braids and is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The woman's face is partially visible on the left side of the frame. The background is blurred. The image has a soft, slightly desaturated color palette.

These statistics are not just numbers. Each one is a precious life that you have changed in a real and meaningful way.

Rodney Callanan, Director

Message from our Director

As I reflect back on this past year, I am filled with both a sense of sadness and incredible joy when I think of what we have achieved together...



Sad because I could not travel to Africa and spend real face-time with our dear friends. Sad at the loss of lives that some of our Partners have experienced in their communities.

But I am also so happy, relieved and proud of how we have been able to continue supporting our Partner organisations and the hundreds of children in their communities.

”

I'm happy and relieved that we've been able to continue supporting hundreds of children in their communities.

When you read the statistics on the following pages, please know that these statistics are not just numbers. Each one is a precious life and if you have been a supporter of our work, then you have made a real and meaningful impact to that particular child and their family in need. We thank you!

Continued

Once again, even though it was an unpredictable and disrupted year for many, you - our supporters - have enabled us to continue supporting and engaging with our Partner Organisations and the children they serve.

As you will see from the Financial Summary on Page 36, we have in fact increased our donations this past year. A significant portion of this revenue was a one-off investment from a regular supporter that will initially be invested and then released progressively to the Partner organisation over time.

While the DIAS Team has been unable to travel, we have remained actively in touch with our Partner organisations and used this period to focus on planning future fundraising strategies and sharpening our internal procedures and policies. It has been a useful opportunity to review and improve our management systems and roles.

There is, of course, always room to improve and we always strive to do so. An area of focus for us at present is our interaction and communication with you. Over the next year, we will be upgrading our website, donation processes and connection points and hope these improvements will make it easier and smoother for us to engage with you.

As the person who does much of the planning for our Explorer Trips to Africa, it's exciting to know that so many of you are "on the list" to join us on one of our future trips. As soon as it becomes possible, I look forward to visiting with and working alongside our Partners with you. In the meantime, thanks to Zoom, Teams, texts and many calls, we continue to meet with and support our Partners as best we can.

We are proud of what we have achieved and excited for what lies ahead. The DIAS Board would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all of its supporters, donors and volunteers that consistently and loyally support our work. It is only through your ongoing support that we can provide these services and level of support.

The stories that follow in this Report are testament to your generosity and faithfulness. We hope that you are both encouraged and blessed as you read of how your support has been used to make a material difference to vulnerable children and communities in Uganda and Kenya.

Rodney Callanan

Director and Co-Founder

Mission and vision



Our Mission

To resource selected Partner Organisations in Africa that care for and bring hope to vulnerable children.



Our Vision

To see our Partner Organisations thrive in creating self-sustaining communities by delivering education, health care and income-generating opportunities.



The year in numbers

1004

COMMUNITY MEMBERS
RECEIVED COVID
ASSISTANCE



116

ADULTS EMPLOYED
BY OUR PARTNER
ORGANISATIONS



1160

CHILDREN &
ADULTS RECEIVING
MEDICAL CARE



1880

PEOPLE ENJOYED
CHRISTMAS
CELEBRATIONS

597

CHILDREN
RECEIVING AN
EDUCATION



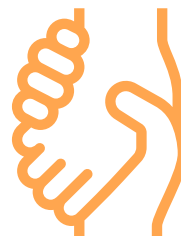
625

ADULTS &
CHILDREN RECEIVING
COUNSELLING



73

FAMILIES
RECEIVING HOUSING
ASSISTANCE

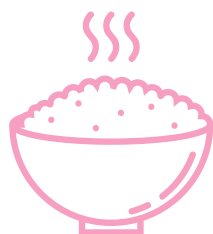


88

CHILDREN RESCUED
FROM TRAFFICKING

1045

CHILDREN BEING
FED DAILY



6

CHILDREN ASSISTED
POST-ABUSE



4 partners. 4 communities. Thousands of lives changed.



BUNGOMA, KENYA **Joseph & Cate**

Restoration of Hope Ministries International cares for street boys. For many, they've been either orphaned, abused or extreme poverty has left them no other option. But in every case, street life is never by choice because the conditions are horrendous.



NATEETE, UGANDA **Haggai & Agnes**

Bridge Christian Ministries is based in Nateete, a forgotten slum in Kampala. It is filled with children who roam the streets while their parents are out looking for work in the day. BCM gives these children an education, food and clothing.



KYAMPISI, UGANDA **Peter & Joeline**

Kyampisi Childcare Ministries is a centre of education, rescue, care and respite. It runs a school for 500+ children; the Weema Clinic; a church; and St Paul's Rehabilitation Centre that cares for children suffering from abuse, mental trauma or physical injuries.



KISUMU, KENYA **Frank & Lindah**

The Milele Centre is a hub of support for vulnerable people in Kisumu. This friendly campus of care includes a newly-opened home for abandoned babies and young mothers and a community farm. People in Kisumu can also attend educational classes and learn how to start micro enterprises.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

ROHMI **BUNGOMA, KENYA**

RESTORATION OF HOPE MINISTRIES

21

BOYS RENTING

21 boys have escaped the streets by earning enough income to rent their own rooms.

390

DAILY MEALS

ROHMI provides a nutritious daily meal for 390 children, sleeping on the streets.

690

PATIENTS TREATED

The medical Drop In Centre treated 690 patients in 2021.

30

BOYS STUDYING

Of the 30 boys staying in the ROHMI Home, thirteen are in primary school, fourteen are in High School and three are in college.





PARTNER UPDATE

ROHMI BUNGOMA, KENYA

RESTORATION OF HOPE MINISTRIES

The work of ROHMI continued unabated throughout 2021. In fact, the need for their services increased and became all the more important.

The majority of the children ROHMI serves are living rough on the streets. As such, they required extra care in the face of lockdowns, restrictions and other difficulties during the pandemic. The staff of ROHMI had to adapt their services and provide many of the hygiene items that we take for granted.

Each day, ROHMI care for over four hundred children, providing them with meals and enough soap and face masks to protect them from the virus. At the close of the year, not one of these boys had received the first dose of a vaccine and there is no date set for when this might arrive in the area.

For most of the year, all schools were closed and the thirty boys that live in the ROHMI Home had to continue by means of homeschooling and mentoring.

Each year, a number of boys graduate to college with distinctions. Thirteen are in primary school, fourteen are in High School and three are in a Government Polytechnic where one is studying to become a plumber while the other two are studying vehicle mechanics.

Education is the key to ending a life of poverty. It potentially replaces a life of crime and hopelessness with a life of entrepreneurship and opportunity. These boys who once slept in gutters could be the next leaders of their country.

In mid-2020, ROHMI opened a medical Drop-In Centre to cater for the hundreds of children in its care. There are no free government hospitals or clinics in Kenya and no private or NGO run facility anywhere nearby.



"These boys continue to be the highest achievers in the school and area."

Head Teacher, Sikata R.C Primary School

Continued

After securing funding through a DIAS supporter, the clinic was opened just before the pandemic broke out. It's been such a blessing to so many vulnerable and sick children. The clinic has the capacity and skill level to provide all forms of first aid and minor medical care.

It can also accept a few overnight patients that need rest and provides emergency meals and clothing to those that need it. In 2021 alone, the centre treated six hundred and ninety patients - all of whom could not have afforded the care themselves.

In addition to the thirty boys who live in the Home and attend school, ROHMI provides a daily nutritious meal to another three hundred and ninety children who are sleeping on the streets of the town. The children receive a meal "ticket" to purchase a meal from a number of store owners, generating work for the store owner.

This lifeline not only provides essential nutrition but takes away the desperation that could drive them to steal. It also creates a sense of discipline and bonding as the staff of ROHMI meet with them every day to hear their stories, settle conflict, dispense medicines and provide counselling.

For those that demonstrate initiative and trust, ROHMI will provide the opportunity to start a small-scale business. This past year, twenty-one boys have managed to earn enough income to rent their own rooms. They're provided with trolleys that can be hired to carry materials, bicycles to operate as taxis or carts from which to sell produce.

These young people now understand the value and rewards of work as well as having the safety and security of decent accommodation.

ROHMI'S big win

There has been a clear culture shift - the community no longer see all street children as thieves and a threat to society. ROHMI has shown that if you can see past the filthy rags and sores to provide love and compassion, anything is possible.

Give a child an identity and opportunity, and you can unlock a world of potential. It doesn't happen overnight, but when it does, it's life-changing.



PARTNER UPDATE

ROHMI BUNGOMA, KENYA

RESTORATION OF HOPE MINISTRIES





DEVELOPING THE DROP-IN CENTRE ROHMI BUNGOMA, KENYA

WORDS BY OUR VALUED DONOR AND SUPPORTER, BARRY TOPPLE

Just before the pandemic hit Kenya, hope and healing arrived in the form of a Drop-In Centre for Bungoma's street boys.

We first met Joseph in 2018 at the home he runs with his wife Cate. Joseph is a pastor and his welcome was rather overwhelming with strong religious overtones – not something Gail or I was very used to as non-church attenders. We were joined at the meeting by Patrick, a quiet, unassuming local teacher who looks after the finances. Patrick is a very good foil for the outgoing Joseph.

When Joseph showed us around the home which houses thirty former street kids, one could not be other than impressed with the tidiness and organisation – Joseph clearly runs a very tight ship. The boys go to local schools where their results have been very impressive.

Joseph and Patrick took us into the local town of Bungoma to meet the kids still living rough on the streets.

It was a real eye-opener to see the appalling squalid conditions in which they exist. While Joseph cannot give them shelter, he does provide them with food and some medical supplies and the bond between him and the boys was very obvious.



We are so pleased to see and support the work that Joseph and his team are doing for the boys.

Continued

Both the home and street feeding programme is largely being funded by DIAS supporters and the oversight and accountability that DIAS provides ensure a level of integrity and sustainability to their work.

After our visit, we arranged for Joseph, Cate and Patrick to fly to Tanzania to visit the Amani Children's Home which we have supported for a number of years.

Amani had opened a "Drop-In Centre" where kids, still living on the streets, can receive medical attention and stay for a limited number of days. This was a concept that Joseph believed would help the nearly three hundred kids living on the streets of Bungoma.

In March 2020, we contacted DIAS and after being assured of their oversight and governance, we decided to supply the funds to open a Drop-In Centre in Bungoma. We agreed to underwrite the operating costs to 31 December 2022. The boys really took ownership of the project and were closely involved in clearing the site and refurbishing the building.

The DIC opened in April 2020 just before the pandemic hit Kenya. The timing could not have been more fortuitous. In the early stages of the pandemic, the town was in lockdown and a nightly curfew was rigorously enforced by the police. With the boys sleeping rough, many were brutally attacked by the police and were able to receive treatment and refuge at the Centre.

Fortunately, through the hard work of Joseph, relations with the police are now much improved. The pandemic saw an influx of about a hundred more boys living on the streets - many of whom used the facilities of the Centre, be it for medical treatment, a meal, a shower or to launder their clothing.

Above all, it was a place of refuge where the boys knew they could find help. It will never be possible to house all the boys on the streets of Bungoma but the Centre is part of the holistic approach taken to support the boys.



The Drop-In Centre is a place of refuge where the boys can find help.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

BCM NATEETE, UGANDA

BRIDGE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

105

STUDENTS ENROLLED

105 students enrolled in New Seasons School which was originally built for 30 students.

93

HOMESCHOOLING PACKS

Haggai and his team provided homeschooling materials to ninety-three of their students.

72

CARE PACKS DELIVERED

Regular food and hygiene packages were delivered to seventy-two families.

40

STREET CHILDREN HELPED

BCM assisted forty street children and young adults to obtain housing and employment opportunities.





PARTNER UPDATE

BCM NATEETE, UGANDA

BRIDGE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

On the outskirts of Kampala, in a slum literally built on a swamp, you'll find the New Seasons School and two adjoining houses that are home to BCM.

These two structures represent nearly twenty years of tireless work by Haggai Mwesige in an area of such misery that most people encouraged him to abandon.

The areas are prone to flooding and are so overcrowded that it's sometimes difficult to drive up to the site. However, Haggai believes that he is the only one offering the residents any hope and so he refuses to leave.

Haggai believes it's his calling to serve these people and in particular, the children. Many kids wander the streets, looking for scraps of food because their parents can't provide adequate nutrition for them.

Haggai's solution is multi-faceted: by having the children enrol in school, they receive an education, daily meals, hygiene and safety. This has been so successful that the school originally built for thirty students, is now bursting at the seams. One hundred and five children enrolled in 2021! DIAS is now looking for funding and land to help expand the facilities.

The past year has not been easy for Haggai, his team or his family. He recently told DIAS he was "thankful to God for the opportunity to be alive after two full years of the Covid 19 pandemic with its related effects..."



'The school originally built for thirty students is now bursting at the seams. We are **urgently** looking for funding to help expand the facilities.'

Rodney Callanan, DIAS Director and Co-Founder

Continued

Many in this poor community have succumbed to the virus and its related effects. Not only has the virus taken many, but others lost their lives due to starvation, lack of care during childbirth or access to simple medications. The full impact will probably never really be known.

For the past two years, Haggai and his small team of teachers and managers have supported as many of the local community as they could. They provided home-schooling materials to ninety-three of their students and regular food and hygiene packages to another seventy-two of the families.

On four separate occasions, Haggai served as an ambulance driver, rushing expectant mothers to hospital in his little car just in time for them to give birth to their babies - and then naturally settling the hospital bills.

While BCM's normal weekend services could not be run due to lockdowns and social distancing regulations, Haggai decided to use the skills and gifts that he had within his team. They started pre-recording their services and worship sessions which they published on Facebook and YouTube. They now have over 4000 followers! In a real sense, his reach and impact have now been expanded well beyond the geographical limits of Nateete.

The motivation to go online was never about the numbers, but to bring his messages of hope and connection into the homes of the locked-down and desperate community.

BCM rushes to families

When restrictions eased, Haggai immediately sent teams of leaders into the community to provide social, moral and spiritual support. They met with many families in the streets and courtyards in a Covid-safe way.

In many cases, they provided a package that included 5kg of maize flour, 5kg of beans, some oil and 3 bars of soap.

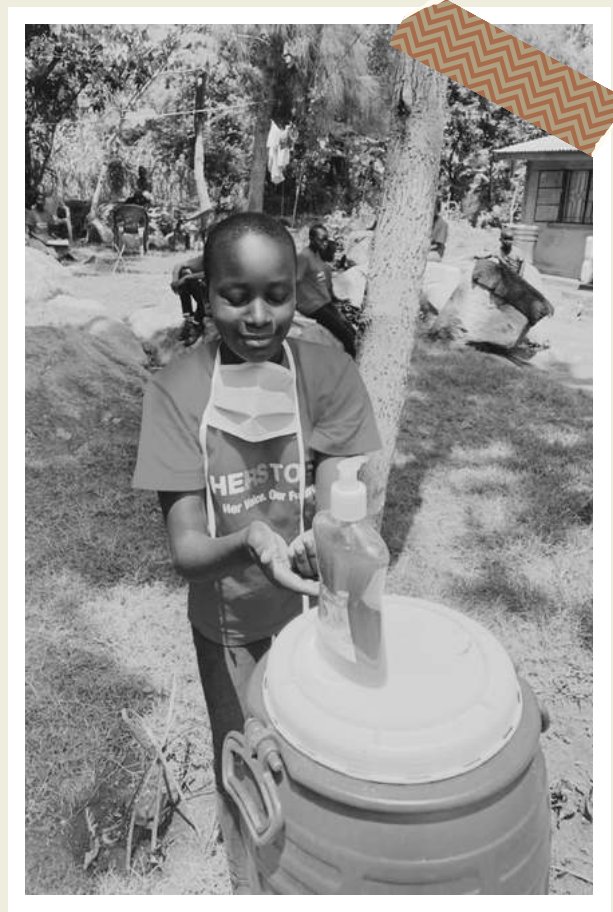
During the year, BCM has assisted forty street children and young adults to obtain employment and housing opportunities. They have been provided skills in soap making, sewing, cutting hair and shoe repairs.

Haggai also engaged the services of a local clinic called the Kwaala Health Centre. Their team visited and provided basic check-ups, undertook tests and dispensed medications to those in need.

Continued

On a personal level, this extremely drawn-out and stressful work situation sadly took its toll on Haggai and his wife. Both of them needed medical care and treatment during the year which has thankfully helped. They also needed a break, which we were able to provide for them thanks to donor support. Over December the whole family was able to have a few days away at a local resort.

The Ugandan Government has, like many other countries, now lifted restrictions and schools will reopen in January 2022. We hope that with continued support, safe operating procedures and the supply of vaccines, our Partner can return to “normal” operational support for the children of Nateete.





2021 HIGHLIGHTS

KCM **KYAMPISI, UGANDA**

KYAMPISI CHILDCARE MINISTRIES

88

CHILDREN RESCUED

88 Children were rescued from human trafficking groups.

23

EMERGENCY RESPONSES

KCM responded to 23 cases of domestic abuse and violence.

8

ARRESTS

8 Perpetrators have been arrested and are awaiting trial

1

POWERFUL NEW LAW

The Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act 2021 was signed into law.





PARTNER UPDATE

KCM KYAMPISI, UGANDA

KYAMPISI CHILDCARE MINISTRIES

2021 was a very busy year for the Team at KCM. Although many of their plans were disrupted, they continued to bring relief and healing to those in need.

Although they couldn't always meet in person or travel freely to work, the KCM team made the necessary adjustments and did the best they could under the circumstances. In fact, it was during these times of strict restrictions that KCM were called upon even more so to help the community.

They supplied hand sanitisers, soap and face masks, and constructed hand-washing stations out of timber and jerry cans in the local villages. The school teachers faithfully prepared packages and projects that were safely delivered to the homes of students so that they could continue their education.

The on-site clinic became the focal area of medical care for the community that could not travel to the city for treatment. Through regular Zoom sessions and calls from Australia, Doctors Geoff Mitchell and Paula Kearns were able to provide expert guidance on Covid protocols and treatment plans for the local community.

As a result of the multiple lockdowns, there has been an unfortunate corresponding increase in general domestic violence and child sacrifice cases in Uganda. KCM urgently responded to 23 cases this year of which 15 are still under investigation.

Eight of the perpetrators have been arrested and their cases are now being prepared for trial.

During the year, KCM was also called upon twice to care for and rehabilitate children rescued from traffickers. The first group consisted of 51 children ranging in age from 6 to 17 years old. The children had been found in captivity when the Chief Military Intelligence Army Officers were arresting a terrorist cell group.

The second group consisting of 29 children were found by the Uganda Police. The children were being held by a so-called Pastor who had lured them into captivity by promising their parents that he would heal them.

Continued

This group was aged 2 to 11 years old and many of them had been sexually exploited. KCM has provided all of these children with safe housing, medical care, psychological support and trauma counselling.

Teams of Social Workers worked with the children to reassure them that they were safe, and then began the slow and careful process of finding their families and reuniting them. Follow-up visits together with the Police are continuing with each family to ensure that the children remain safe and reconnected with their respective families.

After many months of delays due to the pandemic, the prosecution of the witch doctor in Allan's case was recently concluded. To do so, the case was heard outdoors under a tree in the courtyard. The case has now been completed and we are awaiting the ruling and sentencing.

A significant highlight took place on 14th July when the President of Uganda signed the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act 2021 into law.

After seven years of lobbying, protest marches, conferences, symposiums, and meetings with hundreds of politicians, clergy, police and bureaucrats, their efforts have at last been rewarded.

This law and its publication will now send a very powerful message that human sacrifice and ritual murder is illegal and can result in life imprisonment.

Furthermore, this now gives the courts a very clear and powerful piece of legislation to enact justice.

Due to the incredibly traumatic nature of work that many of the KCM staff encounters, we have engaged Victorious Minds, a Brisbane-based company to provide specialist training and counselling to these frontline justice warriors!

What they see and face on a regular basis is simply too graphic to show or describe, but they continue to do so because they want to bring justice to the children who cannot defend themselves.



On 14 July, the President of Uganda signed the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act 2021 into law.



'I ALWAYS MEET ANGELS IN AIRPORTS.' KCM AND EBS **IN PARTNERSHIP**

Both KCM and DIAS would like to express their immense gratitude to the Entrepreneurial Business School for their generous support.

A chance encounter in an airport led to an incredible partnership between two organisations with a heart for children.

Peter, who oversees Kyampisi Childcare Ministries and Bruce, Director of Entrepreneurial Business School first crossed paths in Perth in 2018. Bruce was travelling for business and Peter was bringing a child to Brisbane, Australia for reconstructive surgery.

They talked for hours about the needs required for the community of Kyampisi, Uganda and so an inspiring partnership evolved. "I always meet angels in airports," said Peter.

Entrepreneurial Business School and Kyampisi Childcare Ministries have now been partnering for four years.

Entrepreneurial Business School leads the business coaching industry on a global scale, having coached thousands of business owners and entrepreneurs, both nationally and internationally towards life-changing personal and financial results.

The head office is located on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, Australia, with international offices in Asia and India.

EBS recognises that recent times have presented both challenges and opportunities to business owners in communities around the world. Although the borders were closed on a global scale, it was a moment in time when humanity had never before felt so connected.

The EBS Community is built around a solid and caring community of members who want to make a difference to the future lives of the children in Kyampisi.

In September 2019, a group from the EBS Community named "Mission Abundance" travelled to Kyampisi, where they saw first-hand the continuing need to support this community.



Although the borders were closed on a global scale, it was a moment in time when humanity had never before felt so connected.

Bruce Campbell
Entrepreneurial Business School



KCM AND EBS

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

THIS CONTINUING PARTNERSHIP REACHES SO MANY IN NEED

REHABILITATION CENTRE

AUD200,000 raised at EBS' 2021 Entrepreneurs Forum via a Gala Charity Ball with a Live and Silent Auction.

The purchase of land to build the Rehabilitation Centre was previously achieved in 2018 by EBS.

The actual cost of building the Rehabilitation Centre continues to be raised in conjunction with other partners.

Stage 1 foundations have been laid and Stage 2 walls will commence during 2022.

WEEMA MEDICAL CLINIC AND MATERNITY WARD MODIFICATION

6 computers purchased for Weema Medical Clinic. To date, all patient records were handwritten.

Secured the purchase of the first ultrasound machine to service 5000 people who reside in the areas in and around the Kyampisi.

Purchased necessary items for the Maternity Ward Modification to be installed early 2022.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

204 children sponsored for clothing, education, food, health care:

9 to attend University
32 to attend Secondary School
163 to attend Primary School

CARE PACKAGES

35X Clothing/Basic Needs and Bedding Packages purchased for children under sponsorship.

EBS COACHING PROGRAM

Pro bono Monthly Coaching calls with EBS Business Coach to the Senior KCM Team.

KCM TEAM WAGES

Monthly contribution towards the KCM Team Wages sent by two members of the EBS Community continuously for last four years.



PARTNER UPDATE

KCM **KYAMPISI, UGANDA**

KYAMPISI CHILDCARE MINISTRIES





IN CONVERSATION WITH SHELIN KASOZI

KCM KYAMPISI, UGANDA

WARNING: THIS INTERVIEW CONTAINS SOME GRAPHIC CONTENT

Rodney talks to Shelin Kazosi about her work as a real-life freedom fighter.

Rodney: How long have you been at KCM and what is your role with the organisation?

Shelin: I've been with KCM for ten years as the Child Protection and Advocacy Officer. My roles include the prevention, protection and rescuing of children to restore their hope and to advocate for the rights of children and fight for their justice.

Rodney: What prompted you to work with KCM?

Shelin: In 2009, I met a friend called Diana at University. Diana was a volunteer at KCM, and she told me about the work she was doing for the children in the Kyampisi community. Once in a while, I would visit and volunteer during the holidays. When I joined the organization after university, KCM nominated me to work on a research project with Humane Africa - an organization that was conducting research about who demands and supplies children's body parts for ritual sacrifice.

After this research, I gained more knowledge and a deeper understanding about Child sacrifice, witchdoctors, how and why they harm the children, who demand and supplies the body parts and how they kidnap the children.

While traumatising, this research was very educative. It built my passion and love to protect, advocate, rescue and prevent any abuse against children in the communities.

Rodney: What is a typical day at work for you?

Shelin: I rarely sit at my desk in the office. Most of the activities are in the field. Throughout the day, I work and coordinate with various government organisations including the Uganda Police working on investigations and operations; arrests and completion of case files; the rescue of victims and the prosecutors to sanction files after investigations.

I follow up on cases that are in court; witness protection, community awareness groups and training on child protection with a major emphasis on child sacrifice. I make family visits and assessments.

I also work with government line ministries like the Ministry of Gender and Social Development, the Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Justice to name but a few.

Continued

*Name has been changed

Rodney: Can you share a particular case and how it has impacted you?

Shelin: Obed* was a six-year-old boy who was mutilated by his brother Jonah, who was nineteen at the time.

Jonah met someone called James on Facebook who told him that he was the leader of the rich Illuminate Group in Uganda that was recruiting members that were willing to join the gang.

Jonah became interested and asked James what the requirements were for being a member. James asked Jonah to send him some money which he did, and he eventually asked him to come to Kampala with the head of a child for the initiation ceremony. On that fateful day, Jonah asked his brother Obed to go with him to a nearby town in Kisumu. They boarded a taxi and set off. When they reached a quiet area, they stopped the taxi and got out. Jonah took Obed into the bush where they found a stream. It is at this point that Jonah pulled out a large knife and cut off his brother's head and dumped the body in the stream. Jonah put the head in his backpack and headed to Kampala where James was waiting for him.

When Jonah reached Kampala, he could not get a reply from James's phone number, so he decided to call a friend in Entebbe and where he spent the night.

In the morning when Jonah was showering, his friend opened the bag and found the head of a child. Terrified, he went to the police to report what he found. Jonah was arrested and eventually police searched for James and found him hiding in a nearby town.

Jonah led the police to the stream in the the forest where he had dumped the body. During the investigations, I learnt lessons that changed my life - it was my first time entering a mortuary. I went in with the Pathologist, who was going to stitch the head back to the body before the burial. While I was in the mortuary, I saw many dead bodies waiting to be worked on for post mortem reports which are given to family members. This experience traumatised me for years but changed me by refocusing my life and realigning my faith in God. The Pathologist encouraged me never to be proud, but to work hard, to love, care and forgive.

Rodney: What has been the scariest moment for you?

Shelin: When we worked with Ugandan Police to rescue and rehabilitate children that were being radicalised and taught to be rebels. This operation came after one of the top-ranked Ugandan Police Officers was shot dead on his way to work. During the investigation, police found children being held captive in a house, awaiting transit to rebel groups in the Congo.



Children were being radicalised and taught to become rebels.

Continued

When we got the children away from the house, and started caring for them, I received many threatening phone calls. Cars and motorbikes used to follow me while I was driving. Today, I am still scared of motorbikes riding close to me and of being shot.

Rodney: What motivates you to continue doing what you are doing?

Shelin: Knowing that I am trying my best to take care of the welfare of children. Having one child get justice, rescued and protected keeps me going.

Rodney: What are some of the challenges in your role?

Shelin: There are about three main challenges I face. One is the limitation of resources to help facilitate the prevention, response and management of the cases.

Secondly, the cases we follow up on take a long time to be concluded, one case can take six to ten years or more, so this makes it hard to secure the witnesses after a long period of time.

”

Having one child get justice, rescued and protected keeps me going.

Lastly are the threats from perpetrators on my family and my life.

Rodney: How does your work affect your personal and family life?

Shelin: My work is so demanding. I find myself spending more of my time at work than with my family. Undercover operations are mostly done at night to arrest perpetrators and this keeps my family worried most of the time. Additionally, my work affects my social life because I have to be extremely careful and conscious about avoiding public places. This has caused me to stay at home and yet I love being with people.

Shelin receiving a signed copy of the Prevention and Prohibition of Human Sacrifice Act from the Honourable Member Atiku.





2021 HIGHLIGHTS

THE MILELE CENTRE **KISUMU, KENYA**

THE MILELE CENTRE

21

TO BE CARED FOR AT ECD

Twenty-one neglected or abandoned babies and child mothers can be cared for at the ECD.

10

ACRES OF LAND

Ten acres of land has been developed into an attractive, safe and environmentally sustainable site

500

RECEIVING COVID HELP

Five hundred community members receiving regular Covid assistance: masks, sanitisers, soap and face masks.

13

HELPED WITH HOUSING

Thirteen families receiving financial and physical assistance with their personal housing situations.





PARTNER UPDATE

THE MILELE CENTRE **KISUMU, KENYA**

THE MILELE CENTRE

An hour's drive west of Kisumu, on the shores of the beautiful Lake Victoria is where you will find the Milele Centre.

As with all our Partners, Milele is focused on caring for children and in this instance, for infants and babies.

The area has a high incidence of adolescent girls becoming pregnant and in many cases, they abandon their babies. Milele is working with these young mothers to educate and support them through the process of pregnancy, birth and early motherhood.

Culturally, this support is lacking and young girls are often forced to drop out of school or leave home, resulting in poor outcomes for the child.

With financial support from DIAS, the construction and fit-out of the first Early Childhood Development Home was completed in late 2021 and is now ready to receive the first infants and mothers. The building has the capacity to host twenty-one neglected or abandoned babies and child mothers in crisis.

Social Workers and House Mothers have been employed and trained to care for the babies as well as support and educate the mothers.

The ECD is not meant to be, nor was it designed to be an orphanage. Rather, it's a home environment where the child and mother can be nurtured, feel safe and receive the support that all young families need.

The Home has been built on 10 acres of rural land which our Partners have developed into an attractive, safe and environmentally sustainable site. It includes a small market garden using modern farming practices, a fish breeding dam, a solar power supply system and water is harvested directly from Lake Victoria and purified on-site through an advanced filtration system.

Continued

Milele is working and partnering with the local authorities including the local Government Children's Office, the local area Chief, the Kenyan Police and other community elders to develop and establish the Centre in alliance with all Government policies and regulations.

This includes running mentorship programmes at the local schools and at Milele with teen and child mothers who are figuring out how to become parents while they themselves are still children.

***Margaret's Story**

Margaret's mother and father separated sometime back. Her father left the family home to move to another town and her mother also left to be married elsewhere. Margaret was left in their home alone to fend for herself and her siblings.

Sometime later, she was violated and became pregnant. To survive, Margaret harvested sand and worked on farms in order to feed her child and siblings. When the Milele staff found her, she had lost all hope and had given up on going back to school after being thrown into adult responsibility.

With support from the experienced Milele staff, young mothers like Margaret now have a safe place to nurture their young babies and will hopefully be able to reunite with their own families when it is safe to do so.

Milele is making arrangements for Margaret to return to school and for her siblings to receive daycare while they continue to trace her parents.

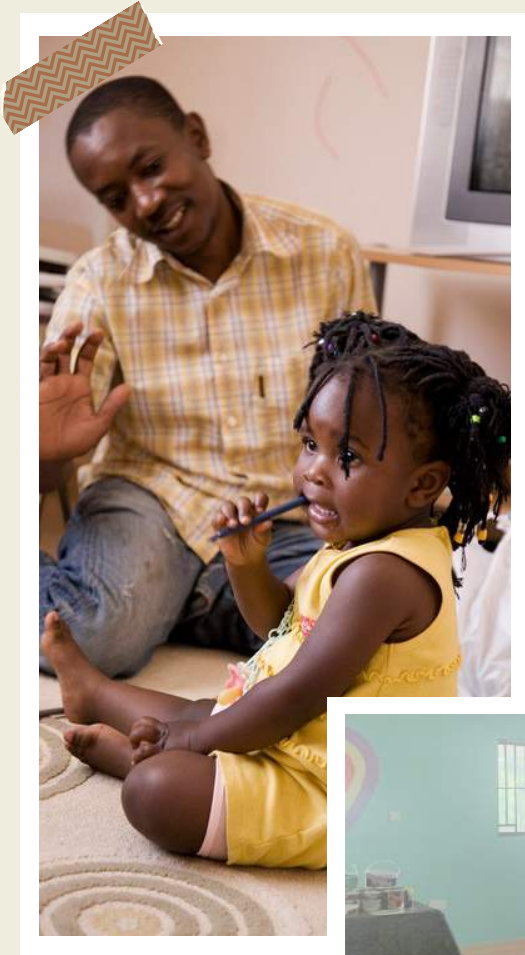


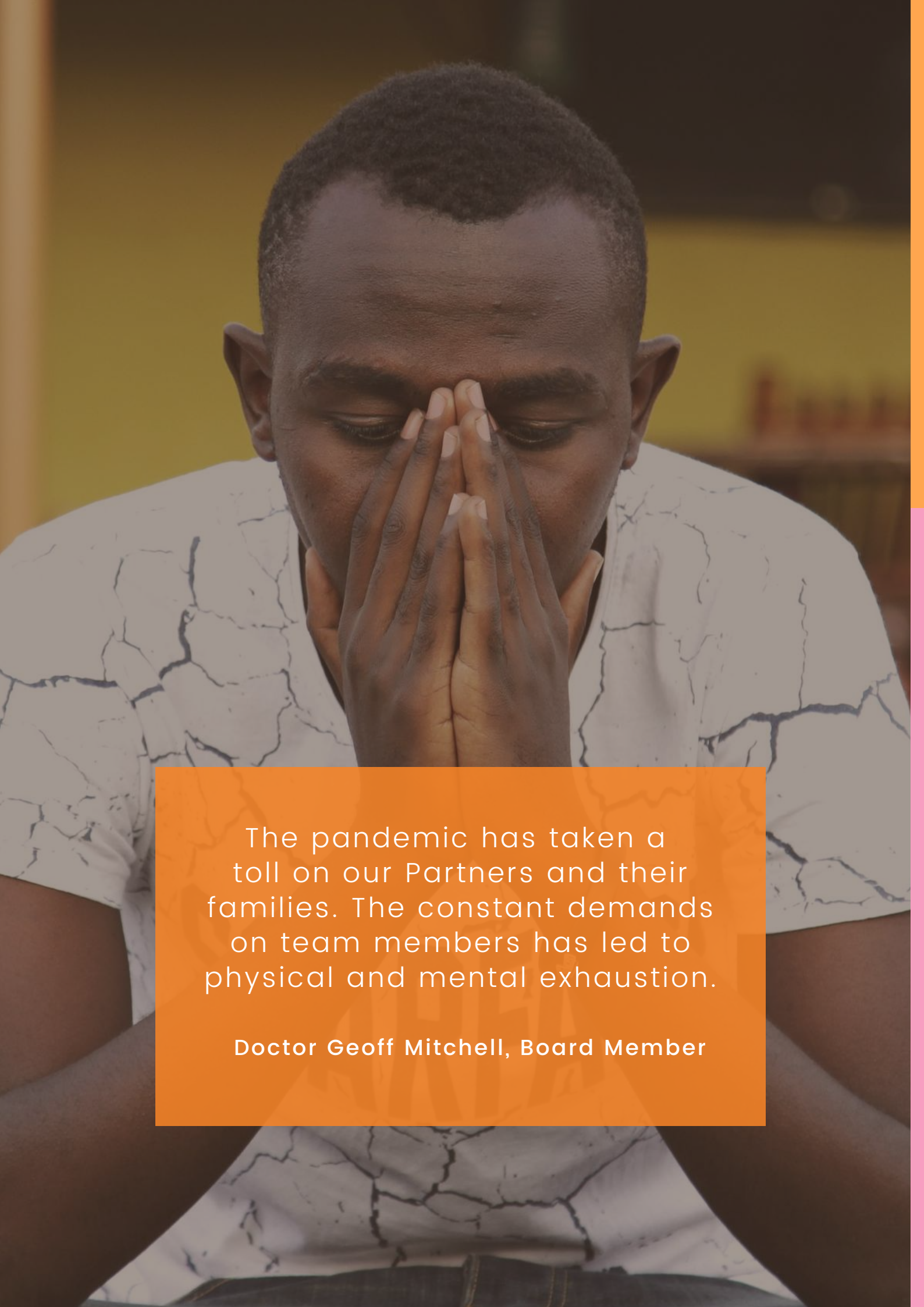


PARTNER UPDATE

THE MILELE CENTRE **KISUMU, KENYA**

THE MILELE CENTRE



A close-up photograph of a man with dark skin and short hair, wearing a white t-shirt with a black crackle pattern. He has his eyes closed and his hands pressed against his face, covering his eyes and nose, suggesting a state of stress, exhaustion, or grief. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a store or a public space with shelves. The overall mood is somber and reflective.

The pandemic has taken a toll on our Partners and their families. The constant demands on team members has led to physical and mental exhaustion.

Doctor Geoff Mitchell, Board Member



THE COVID CRISIS

A CHALLENGE FOR OUR PARTNERS

BY DOCTOR GEOFF MITCHELL, DIAS BOARD MEMBER

The vulnerable communities we support remain in desperate need of critical care...

As we watch with concern as the Covid numbers escalate, most are still grateful that Australia's vaccination rate is near 90%. But spare a thought for our Partners in Africa, confronting the pandemic with a fraction of the resources we have.

In resource-poor countries, the only effective means of preventing spread is to lock the countries down. Uganda did this, and it was initially very effective. However, this had to end in societies where there is no social security and poor government infrastructure.

Starvation forces people to seek work where they can. In an unvaccinated population, this is a recipe for serious outbreaks. Sure enough, the Delta variant wreaked havoc in Africa with a steep increase in cases and deaths.

Our partners have battled as best they can and they continue to serve their communities in wonderful ways. BCM continues to provide services to the people of Nateete through online broadcasts and encouragement.

When they can, they provide food packages to those in need and they have also supported the pupils in their school by delivering home schooling packs to their front doors.

The same has happened at KCM in Uganda and the Milele Centre in Kenya where DIAS support allowed them to provided education programmes and materials to assist with hygiene, social distancing and masks for their people.

However, the cost to communities has been high. People with HIV have not been able to get their preventive medicines, leading to outbreaks of AIDS and deaths.

Covid itself has cost lives in Milele, where Frank and Lindah lost a church member named Walter. This poor boy once cared for a family of orphaned children. While employed in a Covid hotspot, he contracted the virus and died. The younger children now have no one to support them and very little income.

Continued

Community responses to the pandemic have been predictably problematic. Vaccination rates are increasing far too slowly to make a major impact on the spread of the virus. Widespread testing does not happen as tests have to be paid for by the people themselves. This means governments cannot keep track of infections and have no idea how many people contract the virus, and who are at risk.

Supply chains have been disrupted, basic necessities have been in short supply and prices have skyrocketed. At the same time, the ability to earn money has dwindled for many.

In Bungoma, the street boys huddle together for safety, which means that there is no effective social distancing. Keeping the boys safe, fed and schooled has meant that our Partner, Joseph and his team have had to put themselves at risk by going to the boys, sheltering the sickly and providing food and safety.


They also battle misinformation about vaccinations, which has led to unsubstantiated fear and vaccine hesitance. Our communities also lack medicines to treat the virus. Their isolation centres are full and the spread cannot be contained.

The pandemic has taken a personal toll on our Partners and their families. Peter Michael of KCM, contracted Covid in November 2020 and has suffered long term effects. The constant demands on team members have led to physical and mental exhaustion.

Gratefully, God has been gracious to our partners and continues to strengthen them to meet their goals. They have never wavered in their love of God and their willingness to step up. Weema Clinic for example still sees patients regularly.

Covid has been a huge challenge, and it is an immense privilege to stand alongside our Partners through this difficult time.

Support from DIAS donors has never been more important. Sustainable programmes and facilities support our Partners through their day-to-day struggles and they help achieve a better and brighter future for the children in their care.

A woman with her eyes closed and hands clasped in prayer is the central focus. She is in a room with a corrugated metal ceiling and simple wooden furniture. A bed with a floral patterned sheet and a book is visible in the foreground. The overall atmosphere is one of quiet reflection and support.

Covid has been a huge challenge, and it is an immense privilege to stand alongside our Partners through this difficult time.

Doctor Geoff Mitchell, Board Member



'WHY I SUPPORT DIAS'

THEIR STORIES DESERVE TO BE SHARED

BY LAUREN, DIAS CONTENT CO-ORDINATOR AND CREATOR

I'll never forget the first emails I received from our Partners in Africa...

As a new member of the team, I reached out to introduce myself and invited them to share their stories with me.

I could only imagine the stress they were suffering while trying to support their communities through the pandemic. I wouldn't have been surprised if they'd replied with a few, panicked words but instead, they took the time to welcome me with warmth I could feel through the screen.

These are people who were - and still are - dealing with unimaginable challenges but their gratitude and grace under fire was immediately inspiring. I knew right then I had made the right decision to join DIAS.

There is nothing more fulfilling than seeing a vulnerable child find safety and support in the care of our Partners. Some have been carried off the street. Some were rescued from horrific abuse. Others were found abandoned on the steps of a dusty church. And thanks to the generosity of our donors, these children are now receiving an education, playing without fear and going to bed with full tummies.

Being able to share their stories is a privilege and I look forward to greeting them with hugs one day! Under African skies, I'll tell them how their bravery and courage inspired me - a person far, far away - to become a better version of herself. For this, I remain eternally grateful.



Financials

We raised

\$1,671,000

FOR OUR PARTNERS

\$20,000

FOR OUR OPERATIONS

Net assets

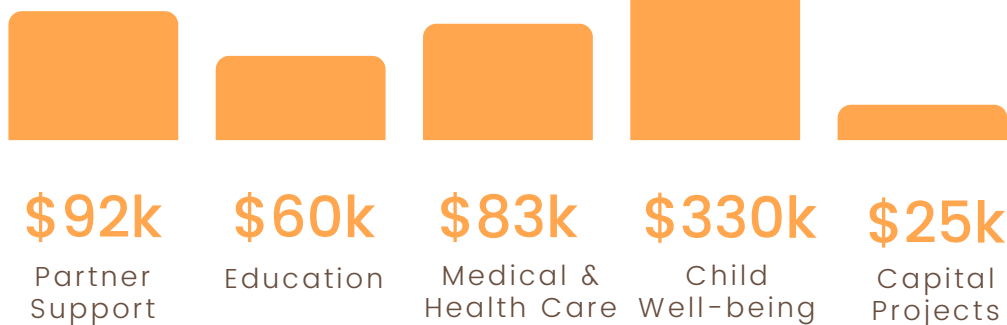
\$337,000

CASH

\$775,000

INVESTMENTS

We contributed



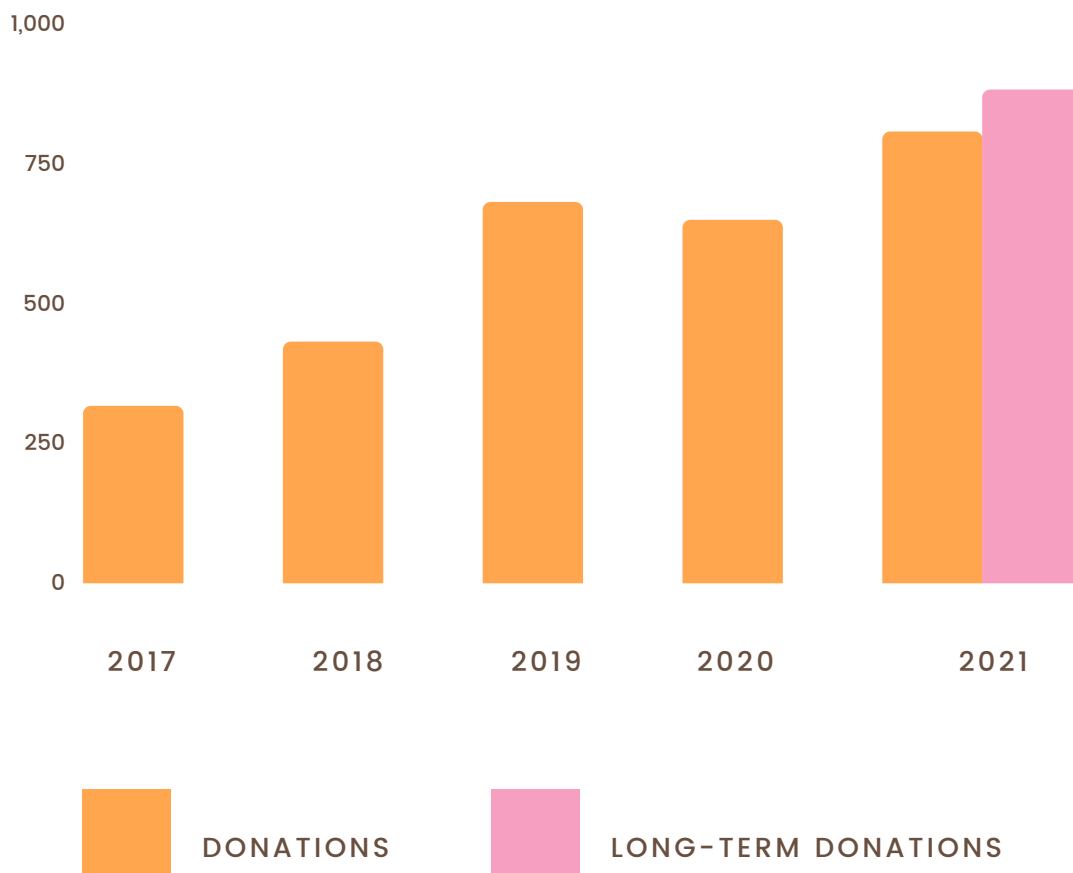
Funds used to support child well-being go towards feeding, accommodation, looking after kids on the street, caring for children that have suffered from abuse and mental trauma, and developing programs for abandoned babies.

Continued

Our donations increased during the year related to a long term donation of \$883k that has been provided to fund future work related to Child Well-Being. We have invested the funds to maximise the length of time to provide support.

In addition, there was a donation of \$200k to fund a capital project planned in 2022.

Donations 2017 – 2021



Join DIAS

If these reports and stories have moved you to join our cause, we'd be deeply grateful to have your support. Thank you for reading.



Become a Pioneer

Monthly gifts enable us to plan for long-term change. Our DIAS Pioneers help us to invest in specific areas of our work, expand our projects and innovate within our communities because there is regular incoming support. As a Pioneer, you'll not only fund immediate needs but larger dreams for children and their families. You can donate online at dias.asn.au or create a debit order with the details on our contact page.



Become a Wave Maker

Wave Maker is our programme for those who want to make a long-term, high-impact change in the communities we support. There are big, life-changing projects to complete over the next 10 years, and they will leave four communities completely transformed. To achieve these goals, we're asking the help of our generous donors and also looking to partner with new supporters who share a passion for our cause. These Wave Makers will help create a tide of massive change!

Would you like to partner with us? If so, we would love the opportunity to meet with you in person and discuss the area you'd like to support and discover the ways in which we can recognise your generosity. Please feel free to call our director, Rodney Callanan on +61 438 211 191 or email rodney@dropletsinastream.com.au

Get in Touch

dias.asn.au

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Queensland, 4007

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ABN: 97 148 011 410

Donate

Account name: Droplets In A Stream

Account number: 239083

Sort code: 034 013

Bank: Westpac

SWIFT BIC: WPACAU2S



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