A photograph of a group of children and a woman in a rural setting. A woman in a brown shirt is hugging a young child in a red shirt who is laughing. Other children are smiling around them. The background is a simple outdoor structure.

☰ ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Towards a just & equal world

Acci
RELIEF

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Our vision is for a world where Christian principles of justice & equality are actualised



IMAGE: EFICOR

WHO WE ARE

ACCI Relief is the Aid and Development arm of the Australian Christian Churches movement.

OUR VISION

Our vision is for a world where Christian principles of justice and equality are actualised. A world where individuals, families and communities are empowered to influence decisions affecting their own lives and advocate for their own rights as human beings with equal voice and equal value under the premise that all life has intrinsic value before God who created life.



For more information visit: accirelief.org.au/about

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to transform communities and nations, One Life at a Time, by developing holistic sustainable solutions to combat injustice, poverty and reinstate the value of life.

To achieve our mission, we:

1. Implement development projects through our strategic partners; and
2. Promote the cause of justice and equality through advocacy and public awareness campaigns.

WE BELIEVE

- All people regardless of race, gender or social status have intrinsic value and inherent dignity.
- The church has a crucial role to play in defending the rights of the marginalised.
- The root cause of poverty is injustice and social exclusion.
- Those living in poverty are rights holders not objects of charity.
- The process of development should be empowering and should amplify the voice of the marginalised.

Joint CEO's Report

Thank you to the Australian Christian Churches (ACC) Movement and all our donors for your ongoing and generous support of the individuals, families and communities for whom ACCI Relief projects exist to assist. In 2017, ACCI Relief projects were able to provide direct assistance to 234,630 people in 21 different countries around the world.

Thanks to your support, more mothers and babies' lives have been saved through crisis pregnancy services and maternal and child health programs. More children have achieved their right to access primary education. More families have been empowered to steer the course of their own development with the resources and skills to invest in their own children's education, healthcare and future. More communities have worked together to overcome poverty, set up community-level systems and initiatives that enable them to generate income, achieve food security, improve water and sanitation, and influence their future by engaging in grassroots advocacy and activism. More marginalised people groups have been aided through targeted interventions such as street connected children's services, disability specific programs and ethnic minority anti trafficking initiatives.

'direct assistance to 234,630 people in 21 different countries around the world'

HUMANITARIAN CRISES

As the humanitarian crises in Syria and Iraq continued to unfold throughout 2017, ACCI Relief was able to direct a significant amount of support towards families affected by the fighting and bombing and the deplorable chemical weapons attack that took place in the Syrian city of Idlib. We supported our in-country partner to provide lifesaving access to clean water, food, hygiene kits and other basic supplies to assist 78,612 people.

ACCI Relief also provided support to vulnerable families affected by Hurricane Matthew in Haiti to prevent family breakdown - and the unnecessary institutionalisation of children that often takes place in post disaster settings.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

ACCI Relief has continued to advocate on behalf of children deprived of families living in residential care institutions around the world. Our Kinnected program continues to be an area of significant growth as an increasing number of organisations running residential care institutions seek ACCI Relief's support to undergo deinstitutionalisation and

reintegrate children back into families and communities. To date ACCI Relief has worked with 65 individual residential care institutions through the Kinnected program as well as conducted widespread training and awareness raising in Australia and globally.

As an individual agency and through the interagency working group, ReThink Orphanages, co-founded and managed by ACCIR, we have also been able to bring to light the issue of orphanage trafficking in a significant way in 2017. ACCI Relief participated in the Inquiry into establishing a Modern Slavery Act in Australia, providing submissions, supplementary submissions and expert testimony at public hearings. This resulted in a parliamentary recommendation to include orphanage trafficking and orphanage tourism as a form of exploitation in the upcoming Modern Slavery Act due to be introduced in Australia in 2018.

ACCI Relief has also been part of raising the profile of orphanage trafficking on a global stage by providing evidence and information to the US Trafficking in Persons Office in Washington DC in preparation for the 2018 Trafficking in Persons report.

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Our field workers and partners have continued to work tirelessly throughout 2017 alongside local communities to deliver sustainable impacts through our 38 development programs. These programs focus on the following 3 core activity areas.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Our projects seek to:

- Empower communities to lead their own development (Village Life Projects);
- Improve access to quality healthcare;
- Support the fight against human trafficking;
- Improve livelihoods through microfinance and vocational training; and
- Work towards a more inclusive world where everyone can participate.

CHILD RIGHTS AND CHILD-CENTRED DEVELOPMENT

Our projects work to:

- Keep children in families (Kinected Projects);
- Address children's right to quality education; and
- Strengthen the capacity and resilience of families and communities to ensure children are raised to reach their full potential (Raise Projects).

DISASTERS AND HUMANITARIAN CRISES

We also provide support to individuals and communities in the wake of disasters and humanitarian crises, both in Australia and abroad. This encompasses the provision of emergency and recovery assistance to whole communities, as well as services designed to protect children in post-disaster settings.

'reintegrate children back into families and communities'

Each program is designed in partnership with local stakeholders, with the context and culture in mind. This ensures that each program is relevant and able to achieve lasting results.

A key highlight of 2017 was the opening of a new pre-school in Uganda by Kinected partner, Care4Kids. Care4Kids previously operated a children's home in this building but have now completely transitioned to community based programs after the successful reintegration of all 67 children previously in their care. Opening a pre-school was requested by the local community and will seek to strengthen and support families in the area.



CHAD IRONS
CEO Operations



REBECCA NHEP
CEO International Programs

A black and white photograph of three young girls sitting on a wooden bench in front of a rustic building. The girl on the left is wearing a t-shirt with a graphic and dark pants. The girl in the middle is wearing a patterned long-sleeved top and a patterned skirt. The girl on the right is wearing a dark tank top and a floral skirt. They are all smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a wooden door and a textured wall.

Our impact



Global reach

ACCI RELIEF'S PARTNERS

- Uganda
- Cambodia
- India
- Indonesia
- Kenya
- Laos
- Lesotho
- Madagascar
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- The Philippines
- South Africa
- Sri Lanka
- Thailand
- Vietnam
- Zambia
- Solomon Islands

ACCI RELIEF'S DISASTER RESPONSES

- Haiti
- Iraq
- Syria
- Nepal

\$6.8m

IN TOTAL REVENUE

41

PARTNERS

21

COUNTRIES

120,250

CHILDREN IMPACTED

114,380


ADULTS IMPACTED

Three core areas

**Community
development**

**Child rights
& child-centred
development**

**Disasters &
humanitarian
crises**



OUR IMPACT

Community development

2017 SNAPSHOT

199

communities impacted by **VILLAGE LIFE** projects

3,850

people received **HEALTH** & sanitation training

260

people received loans or grants to improve their **LIVELIHOODS**

85

partners & fieldworkers trained on **INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT**

35,800

people reached with **ANTI-TRAFFICKING** awareness information

IMAGE: AOC WORLD RELIEF



‘ACCIR’s Village Life program seeks to empower local communities’

VILLAGE LIFE: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES TO LEAD THEIR OWN DEVELOPMENT

The more you listen to the experiences of those living in poverty, the clearer it becomes that poverty is not just about the absence of material wealth and economic opportunity - it is largely about access to power. Power to make decisions that affect your life, power to change your circumstances, power to assert your claim to equality and basic human rights. To alleviate poverty, we must go beyond addressing material classifications of poverty and address the full experience of poverty, which is both physical and psycho-social.

ACCIR’s Village Life program seeks to empower local communities to take control over the course and nature of their own development. In 2017, through the facilitation of community development workshops, local communities planned and implemented a wide range of activities, including:

- establishing a football competition in Mozambique to improve the health and wellbeing of local youth;

- building fish ponds and permaculture gardens in Cambodia to improve food security;
- working together to see a playground built in Vietnam for a local pre-school;
- participating in micro-finance co-ops in the Philippines to improve income generation; and
- much more.

Pastor Khon, who coordinates a Village Life project in Cambodia states, *“What makes this development project so successful is that the community has ownership and we are simply facilitators supporting the community ... When the community has ownership, they work together to solve problems ... We are not dictating or controlling their development, rather empowering them to achieve and reach their own goals, which is the whole purpose of our program.”*

IMPROVING FARMERS INCOME IN VIETNAM

Despite a strong work ethic, many rural farmers in Vietnam struggle to grow enough

food to feed their families. AOG World Relief simply comes alongside local farmers – who already have the skills and know-how to grow crops – and help fill the gaps that might be preventing them from realising their goals.

In the case of a community in the Dai Tan district of Quang Nam, AOG World Relief worked with the local farmers’ union to support farmers to grow new crops. ACCI fieldworker Deb Hilton explains, “The community’s plan was to select 20 farmers who had school aged children, had land and who personally wanted to look at ways to change their own economic situation.”

The farmers came together and determined what they believed would work for them to increase their personal family income. In the case of this community, it was fruit trees. Based on their decision, the local farmers’ union then worked with the farmers to give the necessary guidance, advice and further training to ensure the success of their additional agricultural endeavours.

And the results?

“My family situation is better now,” one of the farmers involved in this program says. *“Now that the seedlings I have received from AOG World Relief have grown, I now earn 150,000 VND (\$9 AUD) per season on each tree ... my family income is higher and our quality of living has also increased. Since we joined the program, our family environment has become more enjoyable. We have also learned many new skills that we didn’t have before.”*



‘ensuring all men, women and children have access to affordable and reliable healthcare’

PARTNERING TO HELP MOTHERS IN INDIA

In the rural villages of Balangir India, almost 1 out of every 10 babies born will not live to see their first birthday. Despite a range of government services, health and nutrition services are just not having the expected impact. This is especially the case for hard to reach areas of the district where those most at-risk and most in need of these services live. Low birth weights, anemia and the absence of proper prenatal and

postnatal care are life-threatening issues for mothers and their babies.

In 2017, in response to this issue ACCI Relief formed a new partnership with EFICOR to launch a child and maternal health project aimed at saving the lives of mothers and babies.

The ‘Unnati’ – meaning progress – project will work with local government and existing health care services with the aim of addressing gaps between the policies and schemes announced and actual service delivery.

Project activities will include strengthening the capacity of existing Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committees, providing training to frontline health workers and service providers and building awareness on health issues and how to access available government entitlements and services.

By working to support and strengthen existing services and health campaigns, the project aims to see long term change in maternal and child health outcomes.



IMAGE: CIF

COMBATING TRAFFICKING AND ABUSE IN CAMBODIA

No one organisation, country or sector is capable of beginning to address the global issues of trafficking, abuse and exploitation alone. Only when we begin working effectively together can we see progress made towards combating these issues.

ACCI Relief partner, Chab Dai, is committed to facilitating collaboration between diverse stakeholders to address trafficking in Cambodia and around the world. In 2017, they continued to see great results when staff members from their 50 member organisations worked together and towards best practice and higher standards of care. This included providing training for 280 members of staff on mental health, organizational development, child participation, human trafficking and human rights.

Local leaders across Cambodia were also empowered to protect at-risk children and individuals in their own communities through awareness raising work and the facilitation of community forums. 15,000 help cards were distributed and 20 live radio shows were broadcasted 200 times covering topics on trafficking, sexual abuse, safe migration and forced marriage.

Together we can challenge social structures that perceive people as a commodity and protect the intrinsic value of human life.

WORKING TOWARDS MORE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

We believe that all those living in poverty are rights holders and that the process of

development should be empowering and promote the participation of all people in the community.

However, one key group of people often excluded from full participation in communities are those with disabilities, leading to further exclusion, disadvantage and powerlessness. With over a billion people (around 15% of the world's population) with some form of disability, we cannot begin to address poverty without ensuring people with disabilities are key participants and drivers of development.

'only when we begin working effectively together can we see progress'

In 2017, our core training focus sought to help our partners and fieldworkers work towards implementing more inclusive development projects. We facilitated training sessions at two key conferences, including one in partnership with staff from CBM. Training highlighted the importance of this issue and provided tools to assist partners incorporate disability inclusive approaches throughout each stage of any project cycle.

Training coupled with ongoing coaching by ACCI Relief staff has seen several partners already beginning to implement strategies to reduce barriers and enhance meaningful participation of people with disabilities.

Child rights & child-centred development

 2017 SNAPSHOT

6

RAISE projects supported children and their communities in 5 different countries

6,604

children supported to attend school or receive early childhood **EDUCATION**

13,640

children assisted by our **KINNECTED** partners

‘it’s vital we respond not just to their obvious needs but to the entire context of their poverty, including those around them’



IMAGE: OPERATION UGANDA
IMAGE (RIGHT): HELPKIDS – STEPHEN WHITE

REALISING THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION IN UGANDA

Every child has the right to education. However, vulnerable children from marginalised families in Uganda are more likely to miss out on the education they need to help them break free from poverty and disadvantage.

ACCI Relief Partner, Operation Uganda, seeks to ensure that all children realise their right to education. Partnering with 25 primary and secondary schools, they work to build the capacity of the schools and teachers through training workshops and renovations, and support the students within them through a range of student wellbeing, mentoring, and feminine hygiene programs.

In 2017, Operation Uganda supported 812 orphaned or vulnerable children to attend local schools by covering the costs that form barriers to education and provided pre-school education to a further 50 children. In Northern Uganda, they constructed 3 new

classrooms to enable a community run school to provide pre-school education to 150 children each year.

Additionally, Operation Uganda worked with the families of these children to encourage them and build their capacity to more effectively provide for their families and support their children’s education.



By working with existing schools and helping to remove the barriers preventing access to education, ACCI Relief’s education programs seek to cause lasting and sustained changes to education systems and children’s education outcomes.

RAISE: BECAUSE IT TAKES A WHOLE COMMUNITY TO RAISE A CHLLD

At ACCI Relief, we believe that to effectively raise children out of poverty, and into the fullness of life that God desires for each of them, it’s vital we respond not just to their obvious needs but to the entire context of their poverty, including those around them. We understand that it takes a whole community to raise a child and that by strengthening the capacity and resilience of their families and communities, we create opportunities for all children to thrive.

In 2017, our Raise projects helped children and their communities in India, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, Madagascar and Vietnam. These projects focused on a range of areas unique to their context, including education, health and improving livelihoods.

In Sri Lanka, the HelpKids Raise program constructed new facilities in order to continue creating a brighter future for children from two local slum communities in Colombo. This new multi-purpose centre will enable HelpKids to expand its capacity, continue to run their early childhood program and tuition classes, as well as provide a space for parents and community meetings. Over 160 children and have already benefited from their new centre in 2017 with many more to come in the years ahead.



Kinected

KEEPING CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

Kinected exists to champion the rights of children to be raised within a family. Estimates suggest there are over eight million children currently living in orphanages or other types of residential care institutions worldwide. 80 percent of these children are not orphaned, but children with families who have placed them in care for reasons associated with poverty, disadvantage and education.

Kinected has been running for 7 years, with 16 Kinected partners working in 11 countries.

IN 2017, KINNECTED:



PREVENTED FAMILY BREAKDOWN and child abandonment by providing intense support to families at risk of breakdown.



STRENGTHENED FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES to enable them to care for their own children.



PROVIDED FAMILY-BASED CARE such as kinship or foster care, for children who genuinely require alternative care.



ASSISTED RESIDENTIAL CARE CENTRES to undergo transition and safely reintegrate children into families.

A SPECIAL MOTHER'S DAY IN THAILAND

Mother's Day celebrations took on a special meaning for one little boy in Thailand this year. Five-year-old Zaw Win* had lived at Compasio's Children's Homes since he was 2 weeks old. As part of Compasio's commitment to supporting the best interests of children without parental care, a loving foster family was found for Zaw Win*. After the carers completed the training and assessment process, Zaw Win was placed into their long-term care in May and for the first time since he was 2 weeks old he had a mum and a dad.

Compasio's case worker explained that when she arrived at the home, the family was observed to be like any other family going about their daily life with the children playing 'house' together, whilst mum cooked dinner and dad was on the phone. When Zaw Win saw her he ran across to her with a big smile and bright eyes saying, "Do

you know my mum came to my school today for Mother's Day!". Zaw Win excitedly went on to tell her all about the celebration as his mum smiled as she listened in the background.

Zaw Win is just one of 18 children who are now in loving homes since Compasio joined the Kinected program. In 2017, Compasio was able to find families for the remaining children in their care allowing them to close the last of their children's homes. The focus of their work now is to strengthen and preserve vulnerable families and advocate globally for children's rights to be raised in families.

In 2017, Compasio helped 52 families at risk of separation through their family preservation programs including emergency housing and food. A further 132 families benefited from projects aimed at strengthening families by providing them with access to day care, income generation opportunities, positive parenting training and much more.



IMAGE: COMPASIO - WHITNEY RUNYON OF THE ARCHIBALD PROJECT

*Name has been changed

‘the church can play a significant role in supporting families... so that children can remain within their family’



A FAMILY REUNITED IN MYANMAR

In Myanmar, the planting of a new church and the establishment of a children’s home often go hand in hand. To fill these children’s homes, orphanage directors visit remote communities to recruit children who many times are relinquished by their parents due to poverty or the promise of better education. In the worst cases, children are trafficked into institutions to illicit funds from well-meaning donors.

In response, ACCI Relief’s Kinnected Myanmar project works alongside orphanage directors and key donors to help them see that God designed for children to be raised in families and that the church can play a significant role in supporting families through

hardship so that children can remain within their family unit. The project has hired and trained a technical social work unit of qualified and experienced social workers that facilitates the safe reintegration of children into their families.

The project currently works with 10 orphanage directors and 204 children. Since the project started in 2015, 4 residential care institutions have now closed and 16 children have been reintegrated into their families under full process, while 105 cases are currently in process.

Hani (12) and Thari (10) are two sisters who at a young age were taken into care by one of the homes in the Kinnected Myanmar project. When social workers first visited the home they found the 80 children were severely malnourished and neglected. Family tracing and

assessment processes helped identify a number of Hani and Thari’s family members, including an older brother. While all three siblings had entered the home together, Hani and Thari’s brother had been sent to work in a tea shop owned by the orphanage director’s niece. Here he was banned from any contact with his family.

Social workers negotiated his release and reunited him with his sisters, and through family assessments determined that the best place for Hani, Thari and their brother was to live with their uncle and aunt. With support through the Kinnected Myanmar project the children were reunified with their aunt and uncle in 2017. Social workers continue to monitor the children to ensure they are safe, well looked after, attending school and happy.

ADOPTION MADE POSSIBLE IN CAMBODIA

In Cambodia, Children in Families (CIF) exists to place vulnerable children in loving families. When a child cannot legitimately remain with their family of origin, it is vital there are family based alternatives available such as foster and kinship care, to ensure children can still realise their right to be raised in a family. In 2017, CIF supported 95 children in foster families, including 40 children with disabilities through their ABLE program.

In 2017, after years of advocating and eagerly waiting for domestic adoption to be made available to families in Cambodia, CIF finally saw 3 families within their programs legally adopt their long-term foster children. This was a monumental achievement for not only Children in Families, but for the countless children and families across Cambodia that will be impacted by this legislation change.

Chanty has been waiting to have a child to call her own for over 20 years. In early 2018, Chanty and her husband, Sinath, became another CIF family to adopt their foster children. They been fostering Dany and Sambat for the last six years, since the boys were three months old. Chanty and Sinath are the only parents the boys remember and adoption will provide them with a stronger sense of belonging and identity. Adoption also legitimises them as a family in the eyes of the wider community, which is so important in a society built around strong family ties and connections.



Disasters & humanitarian crises

 2017 SNAPSHOT

78,612

people provided with
EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE

209

people assisted through
RECOVERY efforts

Over the last year, ACCI Relief has sought to bring relief and restoration to the individuals, families and communities affected by disasters and humanitarian crises.

Our responses focus on two key phases; emergency assistance and recovery. In the initial phase, our partners on the ground provide life-saving emergency supplies to protect life, alleviate suffering and maintain human dignity. As the severity of the disaster or crisis dies down we then enter the recovery phase, in which our partners work to see communities restored to their former state and resilience built to protect against future events. In both stages and at all times, we seek to uphold our commitments to the Sphere Code, the ICRC Code of Conduct and safeguarding children.

‘our partners work to see communities restored to their former state and resilience built’

Our disaster and humanitarian responses are all made possible by our donors that give so generously and our implementing partners that work so tirelessly to see people assisted in the most harrowing of times.

RESPONDING WITH LOVE ON THE FRONT LINES OF CIVIL WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

2017 was a devastating year for people facing violence and displacement in Iraq and Syria. As civil conflicts raged on, ACCI Relief’s partner Preemptive Love Coalition has upheld their commitment to meet people no matter where they are – on the front lines of fighting, fleeing war zones or in cities that have been cut off from basic supplies. Together, we have been able to provide life-saving



emergency assistance and infrastructure repairs in communities that have faced extremely difficult conditions.

In Aleppo, as the fighting raged on, we provided meals to 5,615 people

and delivered 338 long-lasting food packs and as more stability came, we completed repairs on 37 homes allowing families to return and begin the longer-term process of rebuilding their communities. In Idlib, in response to the horrific chemical attack, we delivered 100 hygiene kits to affected households as part of a broader response that assisted 13,500 people. In Mosul, as communities were cut-off from food and water, we provided 777 long-lasting food packs and delivered 13,229,000 litres of clean water to communities and local health services.



IMAGES (ABOVE & LEFT): PREEMPTIVE LOVE COALITION

‘Susie and her grandchildren can live together as a family and have been given the opportunity to restart their lives’

KEEPING CHILDREN IN FAMILIES IN THE AFTERMATH OF DISASTER IN HAITI

Following Hurricane Matthew that devastated Haiti in late 2016, ACCIR has worked through our implementing partner to keep children in their families. In the aftermath of a disaster, children are at risk of being unnecessarily placed in institutional care, either through separation in the chaos of the disaster or through families losing their homes and livelihoods and being unable to care for their children. Furthermore, opportunistic child traffickers prey on vulnerable families in post-disaster contexts. This has been seen following many disasters, including the Haiti earthquake in 2010.

To prevent family breakdown – and the unnecessary institutionalisation of children – we developed comprehensive, individualised plans for highly vulnerable families. These efforts saw damaged houses rebuilt, children accessing education and healthcare, and income-

generating means established, supporting a total of 21 children to stay within families.

Susie* (70) and her family was one of those supported through this appeal. With sixteen grandchildren and several adult children fully dependent on her, Susie and her family were already struggling and living in extreme poverty. When Hurricane Matthew hit their rural community in Haiti she managed to get her whole family to safety. However, their home was destroyed and the hurricane left Susie’s grandchildren terrified and traumatised. Whilst Susie managed to build a makeshift hut in the aftermath of the disaster, it was poorly constructed, leaked regularly and was only big enough for four of her grandchildren. The other twelve grandchildren were temporarily living with neighbours in the community.

The family were identified by social welfare services as highly vulnerable and referred to our partner due to the risk of Susie being forced to place her grandchildren into orphanages due to her inability to care for such a high number of



children. Working closely with the family, our partner developed a comprehensive plan to help Susie and her family meet their needs and achieve their goals.

Susie and her family now have a new home that is hurricane and flood-proof, increasing the family’s ability to withstand future disasters. The children were supported to access schooling and receive medical care through a local doctor, while the older children were supported to access vocational training or start small-businesses. Susie and her family have also started growing fruit trees and vegetables again to provide some extra income. Thanks to these efforts, Susie and her grandchildren can live together as a family and have been given the opportunity to restart their lives.



*Name has been changed



Campaigns & advocacy



1Day

1Day, ACCI's annual fundraising campaign, was another great success in 2017 allowing us to support projects in 8 countries around the world.

1Day is a simple idea, with a powerful impact:

Giving your one day's salary can make a pivotal impact for good in individual lives and their communities around the world.

In 2017, \$124,470 was raised to support ACCI Relief projects.

Thank you to all the churches and individuals who gave to 1day in 2017!

IMAGES (TOP LEFT TO BOTTOM RIGHT):
AOG WORLD RELIEF, OPERATION UGANDA, BANDITH NHEP, AOG WORLD RELIEF,
COMPASIO - WHITNEY RUNYON OF THE ARCHIBALD PROJECT, MOTHERS HEART

1Day funds helped our partners:



Provide **CHILD PROTECTION & ABUSE PREVENTION TRAINING** in Cambodia and Vietnam.



Establish **3 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTRES** in Uganda, Sri Lanka and Cambodia.



Access a new **CASE MANAGEMENT DATABASE** aimed at better monitoring and supporting vulnerable children and families across multiple countries.



Build a **SWIMMING POOL** to prevent child drowning in Vietnam.



Reintegrate **CHILDREN INTO FAMILIES** and work towards deinstitutionalisation in Cambodia, the Philippines, Thailand & Myanmar.



Support **WOMEN EXPERIENCING CRISIS PREGNANCY** in Cambodia.

Plus more...



Kinected advocacy

COMBATING ORPHANAGE TRAFFICKING

It's devastating to think that the global church's desire to help children by supporting and visiting orphanages could potentially contribute to children being separated from their families, or even worse, fuel an industry in which children are being recruited and trafficked into care for financial gain.

Unfortunately, there is evidence to suggest this is happening. The number of orphanages and children's homes in countries like Cambodia, Uganda, Nepal and India have increased in sync with the rising interest in orphanages from donors, churches, short-term missions teams and volunteers – even though the number of actual orphans has decreased.

In countries where visiting or volunteering in orphanages is widespread, establishing an orphanage has become a profitable business and unscrupulous

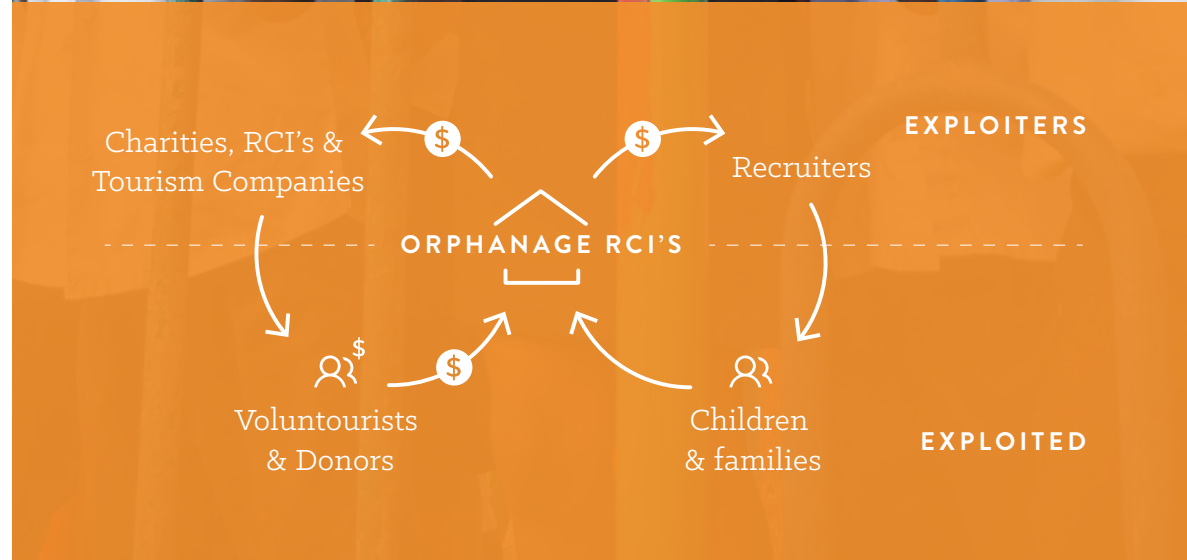
individuals are recruiting children from families and placing them in orphanages for the purpose of exploitation and in order to elicit financial support from overseas donors and volunteers. Unbeknownst to the visitors and volunteers, the children caught up in the 'orphanage industry' may not be orphans at all but children who have sadly become a commodity.

'children caught up in the 'orphanage industry' may not be orphans at all'

In response to our growing concern regarding this issue, orphanage trafficking was one of our key advocacy focus areas in 2017. Below we discuss some of the exciting progress made in the last 12 months.



IMAGE: HELP KIDS - STEPHEN WHITE



*RCI = Residential Care Institutions

ADVOCATING FOR THE INCLUSION OF ORPHANAGE TRAFFICKING IN MODERN SLAVERY ACT

In February 2017, the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade launched an inquiry into Australia establishing a Modern Slavery Act. ACCI Relief, along with other members of ReThink Orphanages, the Australian interagency working group co-founded by ACCI Relief, made submissions arguing for the inclusion of orphanage trafficking in the scope of the inquiry and in the proposed Modern Slavery Legislation.

ACCI Relief's and several other submissions took the view that the active recruitment of children from their families into orphanages, for the purpose

of exploitation, including orphanage tourism, is a form of child trafficking. Through written submissions and in evidence given by Rebecca Nhep, ACCIRs CEO of International Programs at a public hearing, ACCI Relief called on the Australian Government to institute measures to better regulate the two drivers of orphanage trafficking; foreign aid funding and orphanage tourism and volunteering, in order to combat this form of trafficking.

In response, the Committee expressed their deep concern regarding the prevalence orphanage trafficking and the detrimental impacts it has on children. ACCI Relief was requested to submit a joint supplementary submission with ACFID to provide more detailed recommendations pertaining to funding stream reforms as well as an overarching

divestment paper which was co-authored by academic Kate van Doore of Griffith University.

The final Modern Slavery Act Inquiry report was released in December. Along with the overarching recommendation that orphanage trafficking be included in the definition of modern slavery and within the scope of the Act, it contained 11 recommendations to Government designed to combat orphanage trafficking, including the majority of those made by ACCI Relief.

ACCI Relief had subsequent meetings with DFAT, AGD, ACNC and the Ministry of Education in December around the response to the recommendations to provide further clarification and information, as well as ongoing collaboration with members of the committee.

This inquiry was followed closely by media here in Australia and overseas, bringing greater public attention to this relatively unknown issue of orphanage trafficking. As a result, several major tourism and volunteering companies have withdrawn all orphanage placements from their listings.

DEVELOPING AWARENESS RESOURCES

ethicalmissionstrips.org

In 2017, ACCI also embarked on developing a new online training and toolkit with the aim of helping raise

awareness of the harm of short-term missions teams visiting and volunteering in orphanages and other residential care facilities. This was the final piece in a suite of resources developed for churches and faith-based organisations promoting good practice and child protection in short-term missions. These resources have since been linked to DFAT's Smart Volunteer Campaign and can be accessed through the Governments Smart Volunteering webpage.

The website aims to guide faith based organisations and individuals through the conceptualization and development of ethical short-term missions programs, which put the best interests of local communities and children at the centre. For those involved in orphanage trips it outlines the issues and promotes alternatives that will support children to achieve their right to be raised in a family. It includes videos and downloadable resources, including ACCI's Protecting Children in Short-Term Missions Manual.

This online training and toolkit has been shared widely with networks and organisations around the world working towards care reform and promoting ethical volunteering.

This platform is our way of inviting a prospective volunteer, team member, missions pastor, sending or receiving organisation to be part of the conversation and community of Christians around the world who are committed to carving out new, effective and more ethical expressions of short-term missions.



IMAGE: COMPASIO

Governance





IMAGE: VISION RESCUE

 GOVERNANCE

Our Board

ALUN DAVIES (DIRECTOR)

Dip (Bib), BA, GradDip (Couns)
ACCI Missions & Relief Director
ACC Vice President
Ordained Pastor

**ALLAN DAVIS
(CHAIRPERSON)**

BA, BA (Bib, Theo), MA
Ordained Pastor

**GRAEME KIRKWOOD
(TREASURER)**

Chartered Accountant (CA)
Ordained Pastor

**IAN KRUITHOFF
(SECRETARY)**

Member of ACC Victorian State
Executive
Ordained Pastor

KARYN EY

GradDip (Soc Sci), M (Com Dev-
Emerg Mgt)
Ordained Pastor

ISHARA DAVEY

BA (Intl Relations & Intl Bus), M
(Intl Stud), Cert (Contemporary
Leadership)

TERRI REID

BA (Psych, Welfare)
Life Unlimited Church Missions
Coordinator

KRISTY MILLS

BA, DipEd, M (Intl Stud)
Horizon Church Ministry Director
Ordained Pastor

Our commitment to best practice

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ACFID)

ACCI Relief is an ACFID member and complies with the ACFID Code of Conduct, which defines minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for non-governmental development organisations.

Our adherence to the Code of Conduct demonstrates our commitment to ethical practice and public accountability. Adherence to the Code is monitored by an independent Code of Conduct Committee elected from the NGO community. Copies of the Code of Conduct are available from ACFID by visiting www.acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct.

ACCI Relief also participates in ACFID's Child Rights Community of Practice that provide a means for ACFID members to collaborate, share learning and work together to promote the rights of children and child rights based approaches to development within the Australian international development sector. ACCI Relief also acts as the convenor for

ACFID's Child Rights Community of Practice sub group on Residential Care.

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

ACCI Relief are signatories to the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Code of Conduct for Disaster Relief. ACCI Relief aims to meet the standards for Disaster Response as set out by the Sphere Humanitarian Charter.

MONITORING, EVALUATION & LEARNING

All ACCI Relief projects are monitored and evaluated through ACCI Relief led and partner led monitoring processes and reporting frameworks. ACCI Relief has three distinct program frameworks that correlate to the three dominant types of social change processes. This ensures that project strategies and monitoring and evaluation methods are relevant to context and therefore more conducive to achieving, capturing and measuring desired impacts. Our monitoring processes of projects include at a minimum bi-annual progress reporting and monitoring visits by ACCI Relief staff every two years. We have incorporated strong feedback loops into our monitoring and evaluation processes, which enables partners to meaningfully incorporate lessons learnt into project design.

Our vision and mission statements identify local people as our primary stakeholders, with their self-determination and the realisation of their rights central to our mission. Consultation with primary stakeholders is therefore considered a core aspect of project design and evaluation and ACCI Relief

coaches work with partners to implement participatory approaches to monitoring and evaluation.

ACCI Relief is also conducting an ongoing longitudinal research on our Kinnected program, one of the core program areas of our organisation. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the Kinnected program's approach, adapt the strategy in response to learning and evidence of what is and isn't effective and to collect and share vital lessons learnt. The research has included multiple rounds of interviews with relevant field workers, implementing partners, ACCIR staff, board members, and key pastors. Initial findings from this research have been collated and published on our website and have been a useful tool both for ACCI Relief and other organisations.

External evaluations have been conducted on several of ACCIR's larger or more technical projects with findings made available in published reports.

FEEDBACK

ACCI Relief recognises that listening to and responding to feedback, concerns and complaints is integral to our commitment to achieving the high standards and ensures accountability to all stakeholders. Anyone wishing to provide feedback or lodge a complaint regarding the conduct of ACCI Relief, please contact the CEO of Operations at complaints@acci.org.au or the Director at info@accir.org.au.

If you have a complaint regarding a breach of the ACFID Code of Conduct, please contact the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee at code@acfid.asn.au or on **02 6285 1816**.



Finances

Financial report

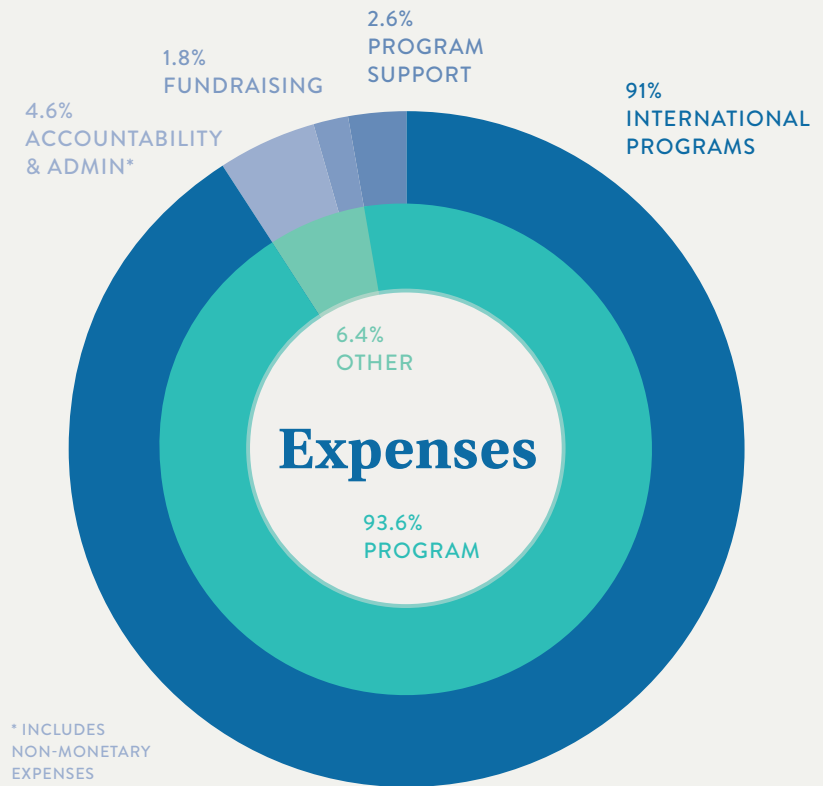
ACCI Relief was able to continue its steady growth throughout 2017, reporting donation revenue growth again and finishing the year with \$6.8 million in total revenue. We are pleased to report opening a new income line for overseas grant income, which injected \$95,955 into our Kinected Initiative and we have been able to secure further overseas grants into this growing program area for 2018.

ACCI Relief has also continued to maximise the proportion of funds that reach the field, with 91% of total expenditure directed to international programs during the year. We finished the year with 4 full-time, development qualified program staff and our program support costs remained steady at 2.6% of total expenditure. This has enabled us to continue to increase our overall program quality and effectiveness as well as to secure these new overseas grants.

Accountability and administration costs remain quite low at 4.6% of total expenditure, with fundraising costs at 1.8%. You can read our Summary Financial Report for the year ending 31 December 2017 below. The following financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID website at www.acfid.asn.au.

A copy of the full General Purpose Financial Report is available for download on our website at www.accirelief.org.au. If you would like a further explanation of the accounts, please contact ACCI Relief.

Chad Irons,
CEO Operations



EXPENSE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

Accountability and Administration: Expenses supporting the executive, finance, administration, HR, IT and customer service functions.

Fundraising Costs: Expenses relating to promotional activities and fundraising campaigns.

Funds to International Programs: Funds invested into aid and development programs run by our Strategic Partners on the field.

Program Support Costs: Expenses (including Development Qualified Program staff salaries) in overseeing the aid and development program, engaging in monitoring and evaluation, continually improving program quality and ensuring the effective use of funds.

Profit & loss

ACC INTERNATIONAL RELIEF INC.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS
AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

ABN: 26 077 365 434

For the year ended 31 December 2017.

| | 2017 \$ | 2016 \$ |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| <i>Donations and gifts</i> | | |
| Monetary | 6,667,668 | 6,341,247 |
| Non-monetary | 25,500 | 25,500 |
| Bequests and legacies | - | - |
| <i>Grants</i> | | |
| Other overseas | 95,955 | |
| Investment income | 12,508 | 10,471 |
| Other income | 637 | 2,863 |
| Revenue for international political or religious programs | - | - |
| Total Revenue | 6,802,268 | 6,380,081 |
| EXPENSES | | |
| <i>International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</i> | | |
| <i>International programs</i> | | |
| Funds to international programs | 5,930,532 | 5,832,440 |
| Program support costs | 168,623 | 169,653 |
| Community education | - | - |
| <i>Fundraising costs</i> | | |
| Public | 115,525 | 125,877 |
| Government, multilateral and private | - | - |
| Accountability and administration | 280,358 | 241,631 |
| Non-monetary expenditure | 25,500 | 25,500 |
| Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure | 6,520,538 | 6,395,101 |
| International political or religious adherence promotion programs | - | - |
| Domestic programs expenditure | - | - |
| Total Expenditure | 6,520,538 | 6,395,101 |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year | 281,730 | (15,020) |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | 281,730 | (15,020) |

Financial position

ACC INTERNATIONAL RELIEF INC.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ABN: 26 077 365 434

As at 31 December 2017.

| | 2017 \$ | 2016 \$ |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| ASSETS | | |
| <i>Current assets</i> | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 263,120 | 275,087 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5,148 | 3,740 |
| Financial assets | 700,000 | 400,000 |
| Prepayments | 11,111 | 10,806 |
| Total current assets | 979,379 | 689,633 |
| <i>Non current assets</i> | | |
| Property, plant & equipment | 5,239 | 7,439 |
| Total non-current assets | 5,239 | 7,439 |
| Total Assets | 984,618 | 697,072 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| <i>Current liabilities</i> | | |
| Trade and other payables | 11,504 | 9,591 |
| Provisions | 43,041 | 28,881 |
| Total current liabilities | 54,545 | 38,472 |
| <i>Non current liabilities</i> | | |
| Provisions | - | 10,257 |
| Total non-current liabilities | - | 10,257 |
| Total Liabilities | 54,545 | 48,729 |
| Net Assets | 930,073 | 648,343 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Reserves | 903,064 | 623,355 |
| Accumulated funds | 27,008 | 24,988 |
| Total equity | 930,073 | 648,343 |

Changes in equity

ACC INTERNATIONAL RELIEF INC.

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

ABN: 26 077 365 434

For the year ended 31 December 2017.

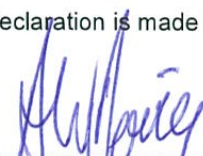
| | Accumulated Funds | Reserves | Total |
|---|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Balance at 1 January 2017 | 24,987 | 623,356 | 648,343 |
| Surplus for the year | 281,730 | - | 281,730 |
| Other amount transferred (to) from reserves | (279,709) | 279,709 | - |
| Balance at 31 December 2017 | <u>27,008</u> | <u>903,065</u> | <u>930,073</u> |

**ACC INTERNATIONAL RELIEF INC
DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017**

The members of the committee of ACC International Relief declares that:

- i) The summary financial statements and notes as set out on pages 1 to 3, are in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Victoria) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
 - Comply with relevant Australian Accounting Standards; and
 - Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2017 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the association;
- ii) In the Committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee.


 Name: Alan Davies
 Position: Director


 Name: Ian Kruthoff
 Position: Secretary

Place: 5/2 Sarton Road, Clayton, Victoria

Dated: 18/4/2018

Auditor's report

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR
ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF ACC INTERNATIONAL
RELIEF INC.

ABN: 26 077 365 434

SAWARD / DAWSON

chartered accountants

www.sawarddawson.com.au

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO
THE MEMBERS
OF ACC INTERNATIONAL RELIEF INC
ABN: 26 077 365 434**

Audit Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the summary statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, and the summary statement of changes in equity are derived from the audited financial report of ACC International Relief Inc for the year ended 31 December 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (VIC). Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 18 April 2018.

Council's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The council of the association is responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

Saward Dawson

Saward Dawson

Jeffrey Tulk

Partner: Jeffrey Tulk

Date: *18 April 2018*

Place: Blackburn, Victoria

20 Albert Street / PO Box 256
Blackburn Victoria 3130
T: +61 3 9894 2500
F: +61 3 9894 1622
contact@sawarddawson.com.au

PRINCIPALS: Bruce Saward FCA Peter Shields FCA
Joshua Morse CA Jeff Tulk CA
DIRECTORS: Cathy Braun CA Jeff Davay FCA Marie Ickeringill SSA
Matthew Stokes CA Murray Nicholls CA Vicki Adams CA CPA CFP®
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation


CHARTERED
ACCOUNTANTS


A member of
Russell Bedford
International

Thank you to all our partners

AOG World Relief

BIH, Sri Lanka

Cambodia Rural Empowerment

Care4Kids Uganda

Cambodia Global Action

Chab Dai

Children in Families

Children's Fortress Africa

Compasio

EFICOR

Free To Be

Frontline

HelpKids

Hillsong Africa Foundation

Loving and Caring Children,
Myanmar

Mothers Heart

Hope Mozambique

Myanmar Children's
Reintegration Group

New Smile Organisation

Northrise University Alumni

Operation Uganda

Project Madagascar

Salamom School

Sepheo

Serve Cambodia

SFAC Consultancy

Siem Reap Community
Transformation

TerraClear

The A21 Campaign

The River Mountains Project

Transform Cambodia

Village Enterprise

Vision Rescue





IMAGE: OPERATION UGANDA - ALLEN EDGAR

**God blesses those who hunger
and thirst for justice,
for they will be satisfied**

MATTHEW 5:6 (NLT)

Acci
RELIEF

ABN: 26 077 365 434
www.accir.org.au