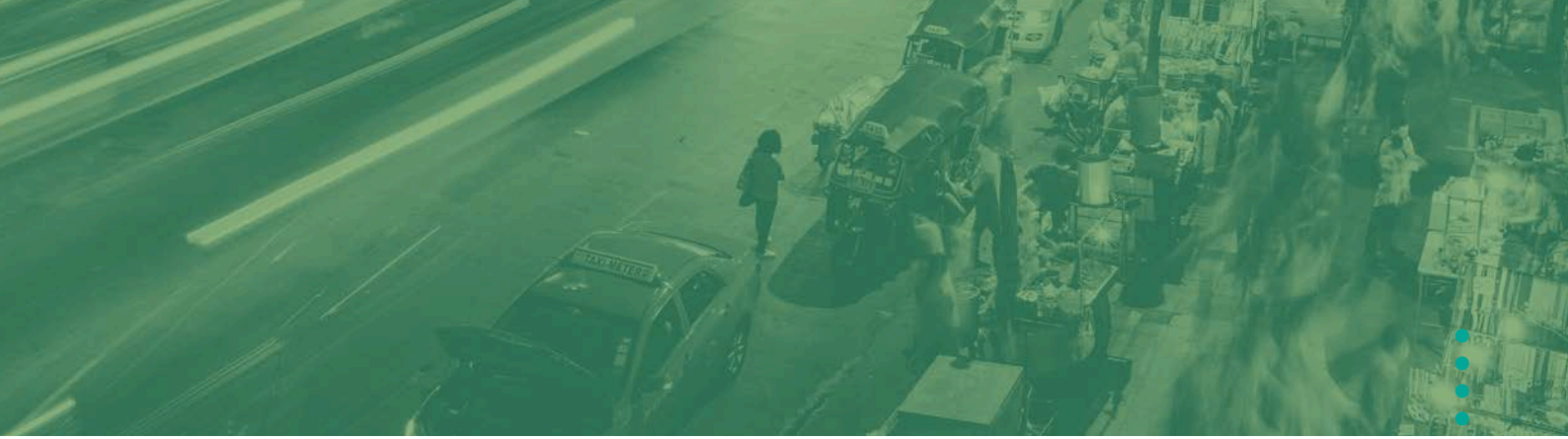


ACCI RELIEF



# Annual Report

2023



Cover image source: Vision Rescue. Used with permission.

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Image source: Operation Uganda. Used with permission.

# Who We Are

ACCI RELIEF IS THE AID AND DEVELOPMENT ARM OF  
THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN CHURCHES MOVEMENT.

## Vision

Our vision is for a world where Christian principles of justice and equality are actualised. Where individuals, families and communities are empowered to influence decisions affecting their own lives, 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. Where every child's right to a family is upheld and defended.

## Mission

Our mission is to see whole life transformation in individuals, families and communities by empowering our people to love well and developing holistic and sustainable solutions to combat injustice, reverse the effects of human poverty and to engage communities as active participants in their own development.

## We Believe

- All people regardless of race, gender or social status have intrinsic value and inherent dignity.
- 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.
- The church has a crucial role to play in defending the rights of the marginalised.

# Director's Report

John Hunt

It is with great pleasure that I present ACCIR's 2023 Annual Report. This report not only highlights our unwavering commitment to being the aid and development arm of the Australian Christian Churches movement but also showcases our achievements and provides a comprehensive review of our finances. I am excited to share our stories of impact and financial transparency with you.



Through 2023, we remained committed to our Child-Focused Development framework, ensuring children access their rights to family, education, protection, and well-being, reflecting the breadth of many of our 26 partners in 12 countries, often in complex and challenging situations—situations where children suffer the most.

*Through 2023, we remained committed to our Child-Focused Development framework.*

Delivering a child-focused program was significantly strengthened through key grants received in 2023 to provide technical support in key child development practices, including the rollout of a digitised case-management solution, where one partner reported, “This support will save the team hundreds of hours of work each year.”

Throughout 2023, we successfully carried out monitoring and evaluation field visits to eight partners in three nations. Our commitment to spending time with our partners ensures our continuous commitment to relationships, best practices, and governance. With great trust placed in us from donors, our field visits provide confidence that funding is used effectively and efficiently with high levels of transparency following established principles of due diligence and governance. In 2023, we also submitted a strong ACFID self-assessment and launched our Disability Inclusion and Creation Care training to all our partners.

As we closed the door on 2023, we reflected on a year like no other, of the thousands of lives impacted by the ongoing and sacrificial support of our donors while laying the framework for an exciting 2024 with new opportunities, new challenges, and new approaches to strengthen our existing programs while broadening our reach to encompass a variety of needs identified through our partners.

With the ongoing and crucial support of regular church giving and one-off offerings, we've assured our commitment to “a world where Christian principles of justice and equality are actualised”.



# Our Global Reach

ACCIR is proud to have a positive impact all over the world.

**101,535**

People directly impacted by ACCIR partner projects

**65,862**

Children impacted by programs

**35,673**

Adults impacted by programs

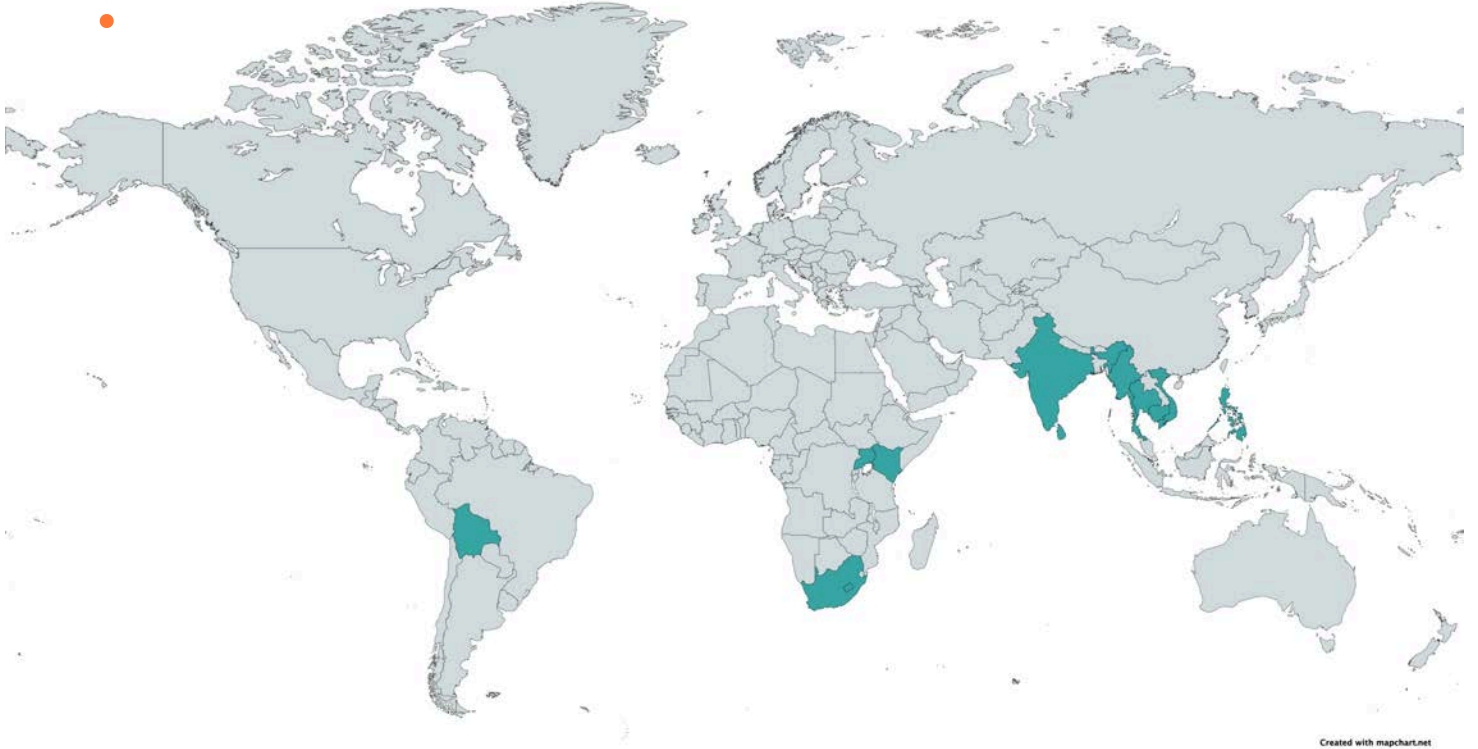
**26**

Partner Organisations

**12**

Countries impacted

# Our Global Reach



Created with mapchart.net

## Our Partners

The A21 Campaign

AOG World Relief Vietnam

Child in Family Focus

Children's Fortress Africa

Children in Families

EFICOR

Global Child Advocates

HelpKids

Hillsong Africa Foundation

Kinnected Myanmar

Kivuli

Mother's Heart Organisation

Sepheo

Operation Uganda

Strengthening Families and Children

Vision Rescue

Bethel in Habarana

Better Mental Health Vietnam

Cambodia Australia Development

Frontline

Free To Be Kids Charitable Trust

Futuros Bolivia

The River Centre

Serve Cambodia

Strong Village

4Africa (closed 2023)





Image source: HelpKids. Used with permission.

# Child Focused Development

## Upholding Children's Rights

We value every child's right to protection, education and wellbeing, which is underpinned by their right to be raised in a family. Our goal is to see these key areas of child rights upheld through equipping partners to outwork child focused development at individual, family, community and system levels.

In 2015, "the world pledged to eradicate poverty, hunger, and inequality, and to ensure that everyone – especially children – has access to quality basic services," said UNICEF Executive Director Catherine Russell." But there is still a long way to go. Russell argues that "The consequences of not meeting the goals will be measured in children's lives...We must get back on track, and that starts with putting children at the forefront of accelerated action..."<sup>1</sup>

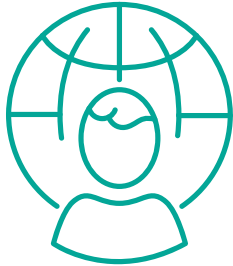
The development sector is moving to have a more directed focus on children within their broader framework, with ACFID motivating for this focus because of the increasing overrepresentation of children within refugee populations, as well as in countries experiencing high rates of poverty.

Children do not exist in isolation, so child focused development needs to engage at the individual, family, community and system levels. The responsibility of duty-bearers is recognised by this approach, and sustainable, long-term impact is pursued, with the goal of breaking cycles of poverty and disadvantage across generations.

# Child Focused Development

Continued

ACCIR's strategic outcome framework and programming approach is shaped around four main groups of rights drawn from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC):



Children access their right to education



Children are protected



Children's wellbeing is supported and improved



Children access their right to grow up in a family

ACCIR's portfolio is comprised of projects that together achieve these child focused development objectives. ACCIR's broader system-level efforts through advocacy, development of resources and tools, and research are also aligned under this framework.





# Right to Education

Children access education

Image source: Operation Uganda. Used with permission.

**10,520**

children accessing education because of ACCIR partner projects

**725**

teachers received training

**141**

children accessing tutoring or bridging programs to support them to stay in school

**50**

families accessing support to send their child with a disability to school

**45**

schools supported to provide education, benefitting 11 607 children

**119**

children with a disability accessing education because of ACCIR partner projects

# Children access education



All children have a right to education. It is an investment that is a key to ending poverty; the determinant for better health outcomes and the means by which children will be able to influence their own futures and that of their societies. Nelson Mandela made the famous statement, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”<sup>2</sup>

However, there are several potential barriers to children accessing education. These are context-specific, but can include gender, political and economic instability, disabilities, digital inequality and belonging to an ethnic minority. If children are going to have their best chance of accessing quality education, there must be a holistic approach targeting all spheres of influence in a child’s life.

ACCIR partner’s programs work with individuals, families, communities and government agencies to promote equal access to education for children. This is outworked differently depending on the context and includes early childhood learning centres; online workshops; after-school programs; vocational training for adolescents; government school programs and support for children with disabilities and their families, so they can overcome barriers to learning.



Image source: Vision Rescue. Used with permission.

## STORY ●●●●●● HELPKIDS, SRI LANKA

In Sri Lanka, there is considerable stigma around disability. Children who are differently abled are often excluded from attending preschool as they are seen as a distraction. For a child with a disability to be enrolled, a qualified teacher must be available. Nearly all teachers holding the right qualifications to work with children with disabilities are employed at expensive schools delivering an English language curriculum.

Roshan\* was diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) when he was two years old. He had no understandable language, didn't make eye contact and couldn't follow directions. His mother struggled to implement the activities given by psychologists and speech therapists. After facing rejection from other preschools, Roshan's mother took him to the HelpKids early learning centre in October 2022 in an attempt to enrol him. The officer in charge of preschools in the area was petitioned and she gave permission for Roshan to attend HelpKids on the recommendation of a child psychologist who believed the structure and sensory play with other children his age would give Roshan the opportunity to develop social communication.

Over the last year, the HelpKids staff have been able to implement the activities given to Roshan by the therapists at the local government clinic, and they have observed vast improvements in his development. He can now communicate clearly, follow instructions, pay attention in class and play happily with the other children, who see him as no different from themselves. His clinic books are full of comments from therapists remarking on his improvement



Image source: HelpKids. Used with permission.

When Roshan was enrolled, the staff at the HelpKids centre asked about his family health background and discovered that his father was diagnosed with schizophrenia and depression as a teenager, causing him to drop out of school early after not taking his medication. After counsel from the HelpKids staff, he started attending the local clinic regularly and restarted his medication, so that he could be more present for his family. There has been a marked improvement in the family as a result.

Roshan is now a happy little boy who loves school. His opportunity to access education and the specific support to help him to flourish is an incredible example of the power of inclusion.

\*Names changed for confidentiality



## STORY ●●●●●●●●●● KIVULI, KENYA

Grace\* comes from a single headed family in Kenya. She and her nine siblings live on a small piece of land, provided in exchange for their labour to take care of the property. Their mother gets casual work on tea farms, but the caretaking responsibilities make it hard for the family to engage in income generating activities to support themselves. Accessing education was difficult for Grace's family until Kivuli intervened.

The Kivuli education program has supported Grace with school fees and other essential items so that she has been able to attend school regularly. Grace excelled through primary school and graduated top of her class for 2023. Her marks in her final primary exams have led to her being offered a scholarship from a local organisation, which will cover four years of secondary school fees.

Kivuli's crucial support came at just the right time for Grace, and she now looks forward to all the exciting opportunities ahead!

\*Names changed for confidentiality



Image source: Operation Uganda. Used with permission.



# Right to Protection

Children are protected

Image source: Vision Rescue. Used with permission.

**210,854**

people reached through child rights awareness campaigns

**7,683**

youth participating in specific youth focused projects

**9,289**

children accessing training on protection, including child rights, online safety and protective behaviours

**5,034**

community members accessed training on child protection and safeguarding

**2,187**

people reached through gender equality and empowerment awareness activities

**1,583**

families accessing training on a child's right to protection and safeguarding

# Children are protected



All children have the right to be protected from all forms of violence, exploitation and abuse. Children are especially vulnerable because they are still developing, which means they need increased levels of protection. Often children suffer violence and exploitation at the hands of those they trust and in places where they should be safe.

ACCIR addresses children's right to protection in all their partner's programs and at every level of engagement. This includes training on safeguarding and child protection for both children and caregivers, as well as specific programs targeting the most vulnerable children, such as orphans; street-connected children and children with disabilities. ACCIR partners with community stakeholders and government organisations to support policies and procedures that ensure the protection of children.

One aspect of the right to protection is teaching children that they have rights and how to keep themselves safe. ACCIR partners do this throughout their programs both formally and informally. "Above all, protecting children means protecting their physical, mental and psychosocial needs to safeguard their futures." (UNICEF)<sup>3</sup>

## FOCUS ON VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND FAMILY STRENGTHENING

Throughout 2023, we continued our commitment to supporting partners involved in caring for vulnerable children and their families. This included working with partners on strengthening case management practices, providing professional development for Social Workers, developing tools and resources, and promoting pathways and opportunities for children to access education and families to receive support.



## STORY ●●●●●●●● CHILDREN'S FORTRESS AFRICA, KENYA

Children's Fortress Africa (CFA) proudly opened their second community library in October 2023, in partnership with the local government. This newest library is in the informal settlement of Kiamaiko in Nairobi, Kenya.

CFA operates these libraries as a resource to support learning in the communities, and as a safe space for vulnerable children who are street-connected or at risk of moving to the streets. Investing in children's education in this way is a protective factor in preventing them living and working on the streets, and CFA staff at the libraries also have the opportunity to identify and investigate child protection concerns about the children who are attending.



Image source: Children's Fortress Africa. Used with permission.

## MOTHER'S HEART, CAMBODIA

Reasmay\* was forced to flee her home province to escape her stepfather's abuse. While in Phnom Penh, she was sexually assaulted at a staff party and ended up pregnant, jobless and alone. Her mother rejected her, and she was sent to live with a cousin, who sought help, and Mother's Heart was soon able to connect with her. Reasmay was provided with counselling and health care, and soon gave birth to a healthy baby boy. After he was born, Reasmay's mother tried forcing her to work in a casino, but Mother's Heart and their community partners successfully intervened to ensure Reasmay's safety. They mediated between Reasmay and her mother, presenting them both with potential options.

In the end they agreed that Reasmay would attend a vocational training centre while her son would be looked after in temporary foster care. She is now being supported by Mother's Heart while attending a cooking class and regularly visiting her son to maintain a relationship with him. Underaged mothers like Reasmay face many challenges, but with Mother's Heart's support, Reasmay is emerging from her traumatic experiences and can now plan towards a better future.

\*Names changed for confidentiality

## STRENGTHENING OUR CASE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Through the generosity of several philanthropists, we were able to strengthen our program support to partners in developing their case management practices and systems. This support included Social Work supervision, the development of a care leaver support program and the provision of digital solutions to case management workflows.

Given the complex nature of the work undertaken by ACCIR's partners in the areas of reintegration, family strengthening and child protection, the provision of supervision is a critical need.

As outlined in ACCIR's strategic plan, child-focused development underpins all programming, and therefore we hold a responsibility to ensure that we are providing our partners with the necessary support to safeguard their beneficiaries. Appointing a social work consultant to provide clinical supervision and advise on case management promotes best practice and ensures that high-risk cases are handled with care and children are protected.



Image source: Mother's Heart. Used with permission.

***“I do a lot of consultation with my supervisor... She is my role model. She has really assisted me to improve as a leader to coordinate a team of social workers and to do assessments, planning and executing work plans. We are so grateful to ACCI for helping us to have social work supervision as our case management systems have really improved.”***

***Elijah from Children's Fortress Africa***

## STORY ●●●●● HILLSONG AFRICA FOUNDATION, SOUTH AFRICA

Youth-focused programs are one of the pathways to ensuring children’s right to protection. In a local community in Cape Town, notorious for its gang violence and substance abuse, Hillsong Africa Foundation (HAF) has been faithfully carrying out courses in the local high school to teach young people about value and identity.

In 2023, a particular Grade 10 class in the high school was considered a “failed” grade. However, after the boys attended HAF’s Strength course at the school, several of them went on to pass the grade with exceptional results. They had been inspired about the importance of education, discipline and the power of choice and were encouraged to finish school and not drop out. Many of the teachers witnessed this turn around and it has encouraged them to believe for better outcomes for these young people.

Supporting vulnerable youth to make positive choices sets them on a different trajectory – one that aims to protect them from the tragic circumstances many in their communities face.



Image source: Hillsong Africa Foundation. Used with permission.





# Right to Wellbeing

Children's wellbeing is supported

Image source: Operation Uganda. Used with permission.

**45,275**

people reached with health awareness programs

**8,679**

people received emergency food relief or ongoing food support

**3,122**

people had increased access to improved water supply or sanitation facilities

**35,806**

people accessed health care

**2,257**

women received prenatal or postnatal support

**1,859**

people received mental health support

# Children's wellbeing is supported



ACCIR is committed to improving the wellbeing of children, with the understanding that all children have the right to live full and healthy lives; to access adequate health care and nutrition and to experience living conditions suitable to support all aspects of their growth and development.

Our partners' programs address child wellbeing through several avenues, including antenatal care; food relief; vocational training for parents; health promotion; medical and dental assistance; improved access to safe water and sanitation; connection with government welfare services and many others.

While all child rights are interlinked and necessary for a child to flourish, child survival is an obvious priority. In 2020, around 5 million children under 5 died. Most of these deaths were from preventable or treatable causes. Almost half of deaths in this age group are associated with malnutrition.<sup>4</sup> The need for programs to address child wellbeing, in terms of health care and food security, is crucial. “Based on evidence that the foundations for lifelong health, productivity and wellbeing are laid in childhood, the health sector has an important role to ensure that children not only survive but thrive.” (WHO)<sup>5</sup>



Image source: Mother's Heart. Used with permission.

The River project brings lasting change in remote villages across northern Thailand. One particular project in 2023 aimed to build thirty toilets in a village, but with villagers pulling together, they were able to build fifty toilets, resulting in every family having a toilet and washroom for their homes.

Not only will there be significant health and safety benefits for the village, but Erik from the River has reported seeing deeper changes at work in the community as a whole. “It became evident that the community has changed,” he shared “Together we were able to do what has never been done.” Planning and working together on this project has helped to ease tensions within the village, and now they are starting to address other issues affecting them as a community. The village has started recycling and discussing other environmental issues that they face.

Community transformation is becoming a reality.



Image source: The River Centre. Used with permission.



## STORY ●●●●●●●● BETTER MENTAL HEALTH VIETNAM

In 2022, the Better Mental Health program in Vietnam launched a pilot course called “Becoming an Emotional First Aider” (BEFA). With the highest rates of anxiety, depression and suicide being amongst 18–40-year-old’s in Vietnam, the course was targeted at university students and young professional people. The BEFA program raises awareness of mental health issues; reduces the stigma and equips people with vital skills to respond when someone is facing a mental health crisis.

Students and lecturers from the University of Hanoi both participated in the course launch. All participants gave positive feedback that they were better equipped to respond to mental health issues as a result of the course. Due to its great success, the University is requesting the BEFA course be made available to even more lecturers.

In 2023, several more BEFA courses were run, with 77 participants involved. Linh\* attended the pilot course at a vulnerable time of her life when she was struggling with depression and a relationship breakdown. She reports how the course gave her practical tools to build her own resilience and improve her mental health. Since attending the course, she has started to apply its principles in the way she supports friends and classmates facing mental health challenges. Her gratitude for how the course impacted her has fuelled her own commitment to being an ‘emotional first aider’.

\*Names changed for confidentiality



Image source: Better Mental Health, Vietnam. Used with permission.



# The Right to Grow Up in a Family

Children grow up in a family

Image source: Vision Rescue. Used with permission.

6,569

families supported with parenting skills or family strengthening support

2,493

children supported through case management

961

families accessing active family preservation support

70

children and young people reunified into family of origin

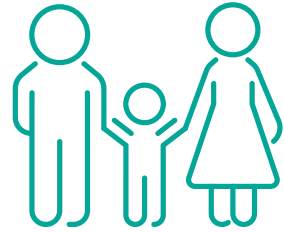
81

case workers accessing social work supervision

125

families accessing disability support for their child

## Children grow up in a family



We believe that the family is the best place for the holistic development and care of a child, and we are committed to protecting each child's right to be nurtured and raised in a loving family. Growing up in the safety and security of a family also helps to reinforce all of the other rights that children have. No rights exist in isolation, and each are better supported and addressed within the protection and nurture of a family setting.

The right to grow up in a family is upheld through our partners' work in prevention and family strengthening as well as through our Kinected program.



Image source: Vision Rescue. Used with permission.



## KINNECTED: KEEPING CHILDREN IN FAMILIES

Kinnected represents our proactive approach to scaling down the use of residential care and assisting children within the context of their families, within the broader context of our child-focused development framework. We provide technical support for partner capacity building and contribute to the global care reform agenda through active participation in key global networks, donor engagement, research, and development of practitioner resources.

In Myanmar, the majority of children placed into residential care have parents, but families have been separated due to poverty and lack of access to education. Kinnected Myanmar works with orphanages to reconnect children with their families, reintegrating them through comprehensive social work processes that focus on ensuring they are safe and sustainably supported.

In 2023, the Kinnected Myanmar team reached 797 people with awareness messages around a child's right to family. They supported four residential care institutions to transition, and managed a case load of 80 children, either in residential care or being monitored after reintegration with family.

We're proud to partner with Kinnected Myanmar in this specialised and difficult work. Not only are they working towards scaling back the use of institutional care and reintegrating children with their families, but they are fostering collaboration to redirect efforts and resources towards services that address root causes of child and family vulnerability at the community level.



Image source: Kinnected Myanmar. Used with permission.

## STORY ●●●●●● KINNECTED MYANMAR

Mima\* was sent to live in an orphanage in 2017. In the rural area in Myanmar where she is from, it is common to send children away from their families to children's homes in the nearby towns and cities. With ethnic armed groups recruiting young people into their army and no local secondary school, growing up in institutions is considered safer for children and an opportunity for a better education.

Both Mima and her sister were separated from their family in this way, while her remaining five siblings stayed with their parents. Mima's mother struggles with a mental illness and looking after all her children was a challenge. Her parents are involved in shifting agriculture, but the crops don't provide enough for the whole family, so when the harvest is over for the year, her father also works in logging to supplement their income. Although Mima's parents are aware of the disadvantages for children growing up in institutions, they were faced with very real challenges for how to care for their family.



Image source: Kinnected Myanmar. Used with permission.

Kinnected Myanmar stepped in to assess the family and begin the process of family reintegration for Mima in 2020. Since then, they have been able to provide support and family strengthening in various ways. Mima's family have been provided with food relief and her school fees at a local boarding school have been paid for so that she can live close enough to home to visit regularly. When the family home was destroyed in the monsoons in 2021, Kinnected Myanmar were able to help with emergency food and kitchen supplies, while the village rallied to help rebuild their home. They have also supported the family with an income generation loan so that they can plant garlic.

Family strengthening and support is a crucial part of ensuring every child enjoys the right to grow up in a family.

\*Names changed for confidentiality



11-year-old Narith\* entered Children in Families' (CIF) 'Family of Origin as 1st Priority' program two years ago. Narith's mother was a widow who worked as a labourer but remained in debt. She struggled to support Narith, and the family was on the brink of separation.

CIF came alongside Narith's mother, helping to lift her financial burden while providing childcare, education, positive parenting and health and nutrition support programs. While Narith successfully continued with education, his mother received ongoing coaching, and soon her situation and hope improved. Near the end of 2023, she was able to start a small business - a grocery shop - with her savings and CIF's support.

Before CIF intervened, Narith's mother shared that she was disappointed, despairing and almost ended her life because she wasn't able to feed her children. Now she reports "I am happy that I can take care of my children at home...My big thanks to CIF for your support to us, to make me more hopeful and proactive in life, especially in parenting my children."

Narith now dreams of becoming a teacher one day as his future has become brighter. CIF are making a difference in hundreds of families in Cambodia and whole communities are noticing the impact.

\* Names changed for confidentiality



Image source: Children in Families. Used with permission.



# Commitment to Ongoing Improvement

## MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and learning are critical to ensure our programs are meeting goals and achieving impact while preventing harm and applying lessons learned. ACCIR's project management cycle is guided by principles of meaningful participation and inclusion, mutual and healthy partnership, intentional learning, and transparency and accountability.

As part of our monitoring and evaluation processes, we make it a priority to carry out in-person monitoring trips within each project cycle. In 2023, the project team successfully conducted monitoring visits to eight partners across three countries, as well a site visit to an onboarding partner.

Also, we continued our commitment to updating our reporting and task management systems to ensure efficient and effective work across the project management cycle.



Image source: HelpKids. Used with permission.

## ONGOING IMPROVEMENT

Support is provided to partners throughout the year including providing regular calls, access to training tools and involvement in quarterly conference calls where partners can engage in peer-to-peer learning and support.

At our 2023 events, several partners were provided the opportunity to address the conference as a means to inform and advocate in the area of family strengthening and child focused development.

The project team have also remained active in pursuing opportunities for professional development through attendance at several workshops and conferences in 2023, with a continued commitment to learning and improvement.



Image source: Mother's Heart. Used with permission.

## POLICY REVIEW

Part of ACCIR's commitment to continuous improvement is the regular review of our policies, including policy tools and templates. In 2023, several policies were reviewed in order to promote progress in good practice, safeguarding and governance within our programs and administration. These include reviews of the following policies:

- Communications Policy
- Standards Policy
- Governance Policy
- Partnership Engagement Guidelines

## Cross-Cutting Priorities

We cannot achieve transformed communities and nations unless there is an increase in the equal distribution of opportunities, resources and power in order to promote social justice and poverty eradication. The priority themes of disability inclusion, gender equality and environmental sustainability are considered and promoted throughout the project management cycle with every Partner, including in project proposals, reporting, monitoring and coaching, and project renewal.

In 2023, we completed training materials for all ACCI stakeholders on the topics of disability inclusion, gender equality and environmental sustainability, with the Disability Inclusion course being required learning for all our partners.



Image source: EFICOR. Used with permission.





Image source: Erin Holliday. Used with permission.

# Board Members

As of December 2023

**DR. ALLAN DAVIS**  
**CHAIRPERSON**

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

**JOHN HUNT**  
**DIRECTOR**

Dip Ministry,  
Vice President  
Australian  
Christian Churches

**CECILIA JACOB**  
**MEMBER**

PhD and MA (International  
Relations),  
BA (Hons) (International  
Affairs and Politics).

**KATRINA YASSI**  
**MEMBER**

LLB, BA, GradDip (Theology)  
Ordained Pastor, Faith Christian  
Church Campus Pastor

**BEN TEEFY**  
**MEMBER**

Dip Ministry, Dip Business  
Dip Management,  
Cert IV TAE, AIMM,  
Encounter Church Senior  
Pastor

**AARON LOVELL**  
**MEMBER**

MA (National Security Policy)  
BA (Hons) (International  
Studies)

**ROBERT MORRIS**  
**MEMBER**

Dip Ministry,  
MA (Leadership),  
Neuma Church  
Executive Pastor

**CRAIG TOMKINSON**  
**MEMBER**

MA (Leadership)  
BA (Ministry)  
New Life Church  
Senior Pastor

## Outgoing Member:

**KRISTY MILLS**  
**MEMBER**

BA, DipEd, M  
(International Studies),  
Horizon Church Ministry  
Director, Ordained Pastor.

# Memberships & Accountability Standards



AUSTRALIAN  
COUNCIL  
FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

## AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (ACFID)

ACCI Relief is an ACFID member and complies with ACFID's Code of Conduct, requiring high standards of governance, management and accountability.



Advancing Ministry Effectiveness

## CHRISTIAN MANAGEMENT AUSTRALIA (CMA)

ACCIR is a member of CMA, a movement advancing ministry by maximising the effectiveness of governance, leadership and management in Christian churches and organisations.



Australian  
Charities and  
Not-for-profits  
Commission

## AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES & NOT-FOR-PROFIT COMMISSION (ACNC)

ACCIR is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and committed to transparency and accountability.



church  
agencies  
network

## CHURCH AGENCIES NETWORK (CAN)

ACCIR is a member of the Church Agency Network, a group of Australian church-based overseas aid and development agencies committed to empowering people and providing avenues for them to overcome injustice and poverty.



**micah**

## MICAH

ACCIR is a member of Micah Australia, empowering Australian Christians to advocate on the most urgent global issues facing our world today – extreme poverty, rising conflict and climate change.

## Feedback

Listening and responding to feedback, concerns and complaints is integral to ACCIR's commitment to achieving high standards and ensuring accountability to all of our stakeholders.

Feedback or complaints can be submitted to the Director at [complaints@acci.org.au](mailto:complaints@acci.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](mailto:code@acfid.asn.au) or on 02 6285 1816.

For more information, refer to the [ACCI Complaints Handling Policy](#).

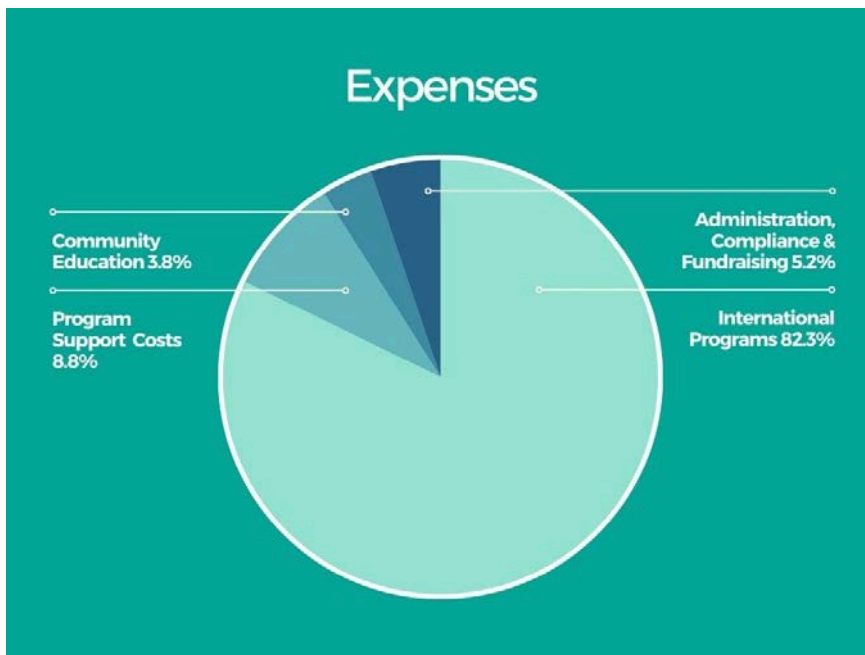


# Financial Report

For year ending 31 December 2023

<https://www.acci.org.au/documents/d/acci/ACCIR-Financial-Statements-2023>

**Total Expenses: \$3.73 Million**



## Where Funds Were Spent in 2023:

### International Programs:

Funds invested into aid and development programs run by our strategic partners in the field.

### Program Support Costs:

Expenses (including development qualified program staff salaries) incurred through overseeing the aid and development program: engaging in monitoring and evaluation; continually improving program quality and ensuring the effective use of funds.

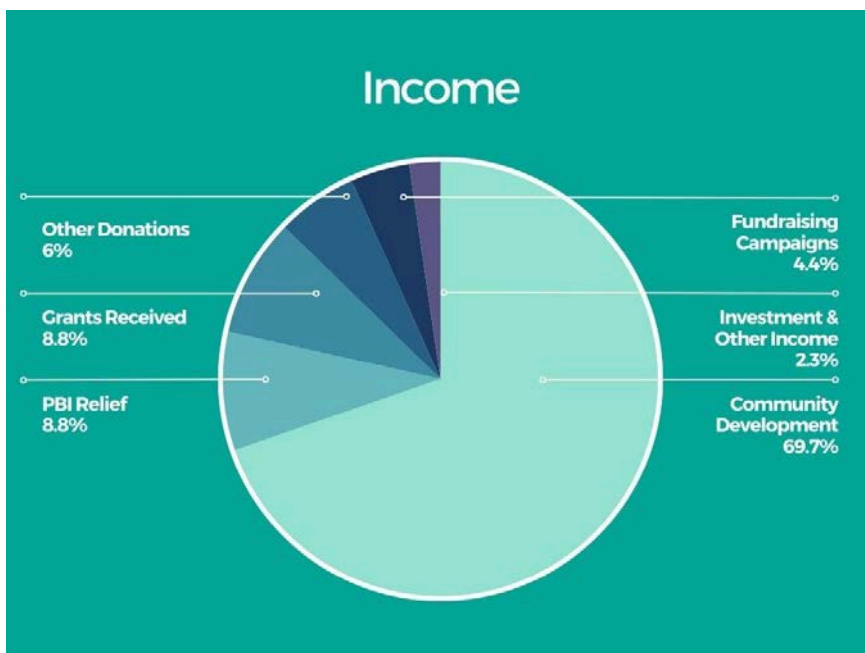
### Administration, Compliance & Fundraising:

Expenses supporting the executive, finance, administration, HR, IT and customer service functions of our organisation.

### Community Education:

Expenses related to advocacy, donor education and the development and distribution of educational resources.

**Total Income: \$3.41 Million**



## Summary:

ACCI Relief saw income (\$3.41 M) decline by 8.1% compared to 2022, arising from an overall downtrend in donations received and grant funding available. Similarly, there was a 4.4% reduction in expenses (\$3.73M) resulting in a reported net loss of \$322K for the year. This represents a draw down of designated fund reserves as we continued to support project partners and programs overseas. Strategically, this year helped to highlight organisation-wide priorities and opportunities for process-streamlining and cost-reductions. The categories of expenses continues to match the breakdown of previous years: >90% applied to Programs, Program Support, and Community Education, and <7% applied towards Administration, Compliance, and Fundraising.





Image source: Erin Holliday. Used with permission.

# References

1 Two-thirds of global goals for children’s rights and well-being off-pace to meet 2030 target, UNICEF

<https://www.unicef.org/eca/press-releases/two-thirds-global-goals-childrens-rights-and-well-being-pace-meet-2030-target-unicef>

2 Nelson Mandela quoted in The Borgen Project

<https://borgenproject.org/nelson-mandela-quotes-about-education/>

3 Child Protection, UNICEF

<https://www.unicef.org/child-protection>

4 Child Mortality, 2022, World Health Organisation

<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/levels-and-trends-in-child-under-5-mortality-in-2020>

5 Rethinking the child health agenda, World Health Organisation

<https://www.who.int/activities/rethinking-the-child-health-agenda>

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