

CINI Australia, Child in Need India

November 2011

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help the mother
help the child...

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A Warm Welcome... and thank you to our supporters

Welcome to **CINI Australia**, Child In Need India's inaugural Newsletter.

We are pleased to announce that since our launch in April we have sent \$20,000 to India. So thank you all for your generous contributions. This money will mean lasting changes in the lives of many women and children in West Bengal India. CINI Australia is proud to join Child In Need Institute, India, (CINI) in improving the health and education of disadvantaged families in India. Around the world women living in poverty and with little education, dedicate themselves to raising their children. In India, more than 6000 of these children die every day from causes that are largely preventable.

Imagine a gift that could help these mothers...

Now, imagine a gift that would help the mother to help her child.



In India there is no financial 'safety net' as we have in Australia. People living in poverty need assistance for their families to move out of the cycle of poverty and disadvantage.

CINI focuses first on women to prevent malnutrition and to ensure good antenatal care, safe childbirth and healthy babies. The health of a child is the first step for future opportunity. Next comes education: school preparation, enrollment, retention and safety. Many of these children will be the first generation to go to school and so the whole community and local government play vital roles in this development. CINI's programs remain in a district for a 3-5-year period so that changes become established and therefore sustainable. Our ongoing support is important.

It costs about \$1.40 AUD per person each year to roll out CINI's Child and Women Friendly Community programs. Our fundraising target is to support an area of about 40,000 people, which will include about 600 pregnant women each year.

We aim to raise a further \$40,000 by next June and ask for your continued support.

Dr Jennie Connaughton, CINI Australia

Go to www.ciniaustralia.org to keep up to date and to see more about what we do

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www.ciniaustralia.org

A Honeymoon in Kolkata

By Ramon Wenzel

My wife and I designated India as our honeymoon destination. Whilst some of our friends already thought our desire to explore the country by backpack for this occasion as odd enough, getting into zones of social hardship and human struggle was even harder to sell as a romantic getaway. The point they missed is that gaining a glimpse of CINI's amazing work offers an opportunity to reconnect with the very basic but vital virtues of optimism, compassion and dignity.

We spent time in Siliguri and Kolkata; impressed by the various services offered, engaged by the strategic orientation and taken by the children's genuine joy. Fighting serious malnutrition, addressing outrageous child trafficking, bringing education, shielding young people from prostitution and so much more- the effort undertaken by CINI is phenomenal. The daily work of admirable support for families, women and children is nested in a sustainable concept: CINI's idea to enable individuals and communities to cope with the challenges and changes inherent of modern day India. The work CINI does makes a difference.

Among the many lasting impressions from Kolkata is one we'll never forget. On the floor in a tiny one room building sat about fifteen young children with difficult family backgrounds. They received extra education in the afternoon, preventing them from being forced to earn money for their families and enabling them to strive at school. They were all excited about our visit, though communication was limited to smiles and joyfully failing in correctly pronouncing everyone's name. Next we spotted a pile of notebooks which they used for drawing. Pulling out a camera, they proudly displayed their beautiful paintings. The resulting portraits are captivating, showing hopeful children that were given an opportunity.

Above and beyond these experiences in all the conversations we learned there are many ways to get involved and help. Spreading the message about CINI is something that everyone can do.



financial support is another, and incredibly important way, because public financial resources from within India only cover limited routine projects. Thus, the availability of external financial support is of utmost importance as they allow for greater adaptability where it matters most.

Even a small or joint donation can make a big, positive difference. And lastly, if you can, travel to India and discover first-hand the incredible country and the remarkable Child In Need Institute.

Did you know? ... Why we are working with CINI India.

The stark reality is that almost one in every three babies in the world, who die before they reach four weeks old, is from India.

Of India's one billion plus population, 158 million are between 0-6 years old. For every thousand babies born live, 57 will die before their first birthday and 37 will die before one month of age. (In Australia this number is 4.6/1000. Aust. Bureau Stats)

22% of children, whose birth weight record is available, are low birth weight babies, which is a significant contributing factor to malnutrition later in life. Good antenatal care changes this.

The issue of underweight children is particularly serious in rural areas and among poorer families, ethnic minorities and other socially marginalized groups.

About 4.6 million people live in Kolkata alone.

For 37 years' CINI has been able to change this picture.

Ref: Save The Children: Freedom for Children Under Six Report, April 2009

CINI welcomes you to visit India and see first-hand where your donation is being spent. You will witness change that happens when people receive assistance that empowers them. For more information, contact CINI Australia.

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FUNDRAISING IN THE FESTIVE SEASON

Remember your CINI Money Boxes...

Deposit your money at your nearest Westpac branch and be a part of our **December funds to India**.

Post us the slip on the money box and we will post you a new box and your receipt!



Christmas is coming ...

Give a wish and a gift...

You can give a gift to CINI Australia as well as to your family and friends and **your gift will give twice**.

Make a donation in a friend's name



Purchase a set of CINI Christmas cards (10 for \$15)



Order from: cards@ciniaustralia.org or call 0437641906

Purchase our E-cards and save paper at
www.mycause.com.au/ www.ciniaustralia.org

Make CINI Australia your cause

- ... At work
- ... In a sponsored event: fun run, bike ride etc.
- ... Host a dinner for CINI
- ... Make CINI Australia your Facebook friend

If you would like pamphlets or more information, please contact us or visit the website.



Board member takes CINI Australia to Portugal on a Wave Ski

Jackie Dillon, one of CINI Australia's board members came second in the Women's World Wave Ski Championship in Portugal in August. She was inspired by the courage and determination of the women and children in India and took CINI Australia along on her wave ski to raise awareness of the work being done to support them.



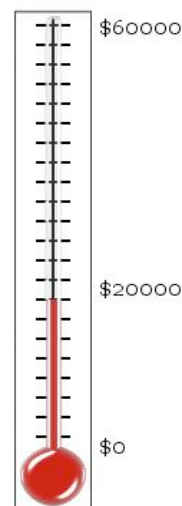
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**Our fundraising progress
Thermometer!
Watch the mercury rise as we reach
our goal of raising \$60,000!**



To give you an idea of how our funds will work:

\$1500 will train 10 women from self-help groups to teach mothers about nutrition and preventative health care over 5 years

\$75 a month covers the health care and education, nutrition and family planning for 10 women

Have You Heard Yet? Educate A Child and Sponsor A Mother

Our first sponsorships reports have now been sent from Kolkata. Have you received yours yet? If you have a "Sponsor a Mother" or "Educate a Child" and haven't received your first report, do let us know.

Special Volunteer Thanks

CINI Australia would like to thank Madeline Burns and Erika Keane for their work in getting this Newsletter into circulation, Jess Patel for Facebook and the wonderful team of launch volunteers: Roxy, Emily, Elly, Anna, Rebecca, Laura, Kelsie, Odette, Evana, Nikita, Samantha, D'ranchi, Kalika, Maranne and Michael.

SEND US YOUR DETAILS... return this slip to receive further CINI Australia news

Or you can **SUBSCRIBE** to our **NEWSLETTER** on line at www.ciniaustralia.org

TITLE: Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss/Dr

FIRST NAME: **SURNAME:**

ADDRESS:
.....

STATE: **POST CODE:**

EMAIL:

PHONE: I would like to receive future communication by email Yes.....No.....

Contact CINI Australia at info@ciniaustralia.org

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