

CINI Australia, Child in Need India

Newsletter 3 – May 2013

www.ciniaustralia.org



help the mother
help the child...

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Welcome to this third newsletter which marks two years since the launch of CINI Australia.

With your generous support we have been able to send just over \$ 85,000 to India in these two years.

\$26,000 funded the first year of the Raiganj project that reaches 29,000 people across 12 villages in one of the poorest regions of West Bengal. \$24,000 is now allocated to continue into the second year of this project.

\$16,000 is supporting the HIV program for 160 children and their families affected by HIV.

\$10,000 will go towards the Drop in center-child protection program for children at risk in Raiganj.

The remaining amounts are our sponsorships programs for women and children.

“Cycle for Change”, CINI Australia’s fundraising bike ride in February was a great success. Read Peter’s report pages 2+3 and see the video on Facebook: [Cycle for Change 2013 | Facebook](#)

CINI Australia has received support from across our community – primary school children, university students, community centres and a number of businesses. Many individuals have contributed their time and effort.

CINI Australia thanks you all. We couldn’t do it without you!

Why recurring donations make that extra difference

Recurring donations, no matter how small, give CINI Australia the security of knowing that necessary funds will be available in the future. This enables us to plan programs that are sustainable and will result in community independence and strength.

CINI Australia is founded on the principle of sustainable development and empowering people to determine the change in their communities. Change takes time. Where the status of women is low and poverty, malnutrition and illiteracy are widespread, planned community development, training and education are essential to create lasting change.

Every single donation contributes to our work – and having a reliable source of funds means we are able to focus on making the best use of resources. Please consider becoming a regular donor.

Recurring donations can be set up at www.ciniaustralia.org/donate

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The CINI Australia “Cycle for Change” India Bike Ride 2013

Peter Connaughton



We are delighted to have raised over \$62,000 - A very big thank you to all of our supporters for your generosity!

Our team of 12 riders cycled over 700km from Kolkata travelling north through West Bengal and then up into the foothills of the Himalayas. We arrived safely at Kalimpong after 8 days on the road.

We visited CINI projects in Kolkata before heading off, including the children's drop-in shelters and the clinic where pregnant women receive pre-natal care, vaccinations and nutrition education.



The highlights included visiting inspiring CINI programs along the way. They are developing practical skills and knowledge in communities to make real changes - educating children, empowering women and tackling challenges such as malnutrition and HIV/AIDs.

In partnership with the government, CINI provides a response team for phone calls to Childline; a 24 hour free helpline which assists children in immediate need. CINI also provides temporary shelters for children at train stations and education support in red light areas.

CINI trains women to assess the needs and priorities of their own communities. The success of these programs is then driven by the women and their communities, to resolve their challenges.

Disadvantaged young children often go out to work - and CINI runs bridging courses to enable them to return to school. CINI educates families about the long term benefits of education over the low wages from child labour. CINI also works to overcome social factors which can keep some children, particularly girls, away from school.

CINI has grown to employ almost 1000 people and has about 3000 volunteers. The philosophy is to develop skills and knowledge rather than a dependence on charity, external support or expensive infrastructure.

The vast majority of the funds are now provided from within India – however our support is vital for initiating new programs in areas of great need.

Riders: Peter Connaughton, Thea D'Hart, Elizabeth Stroud, Anne Held, Barb Madden, Luke Sweet, Elliot Hutchinson, Varsha Sharma, Stephanie Chandler, Ailsa Osbourne, Sue Hardy, Jennie Connaughton.



CINI Australia's project updates 2013

"Child and Women Friendly Communities Program"

Read **Rabina's story**- education instead of early marriage

In Raiganj, CINI's community workers are training self-help group women to map their villages, identify malnourished, out-of-school and other at risk children, pregnant women and homes without toilets. Pregnant women receive antenatal care, adolescents are learning about nutrition, reproductive health, their right to education and the laws protecting them from early marriage. Children are returning to schools that have created more "child friendly" environments. Many families now have toilets by accessing government programs through CINI.

IICCHAA - program for Children affected by HIV: **Kalyaganj and Diamond Harbour.** Read **Indian media** report

The Government treats people with HIV /AIDS but does not address the devastating effects that the illness and stigma have on families. Parents face isolation, fear, loss of income and rejection by schools and villagers. Through, ICCHAA families learn about HIV, discuss their difficulties, access extra nutrition and community supports. With better community understanding, children return to school and adults to work. Mothers, widowed by HIV, spoke of how their lives have changed and now they are planning for their children's future. IICCHAA is typical of CINI's collaboration with existing services while empowering the poor to address their problems.

Raiganj Child Protection Resource Centre

Still in its infancy, the Raiganj office is developing resources and community training in child protection to increase understanding of the needs of children who are abused or run away from home and come in contact with the police and the courts. The future plan is for a temporary shelter for children rescued through ChildLine, the telephone crisis service supported by CINI. A recent achievement is the development of "child friendly spaces" in police stations so that children's vulnerability and needs are recognized and they are no longer treated as criminals.

"Educate A Child " sponsorships centers Topsia, Kolkata

"Cycle for Change" visited education centers funded by sponsorships. In Topsia the poverty is devastating, homes are constructed of plastic sheeting and bamboo and surrounded by canals of polluted water but the education centers are full of children eager to show us their school work and practice their English. These children are first generation school goers and this support is essential for their success at school.

Sponsor a Mother for antenatal care and healthy babies

Australian sponsors are contributing to the antenatal care and follow up for young mothers and their new babies in Patra, south of Kolkata.

Young women live with their husband's extended family often distant from their own mothers. Health workers and self-help group women trained by CINI provide education and antenatal care. There has been significant improvement in birth weights and fewer birth complications. Older women told us of the enormous changes they have seen since CINI's programs were introduced here.



Bangalbari community meeting



Self-help women explain their village mapping



Children in Topsia, Kolkata



Asma and Rubana, her first baby, are part of the Sponsor A Mother program

Thanks to all who have helped fundraise and spread the word in the last 12 months

Perth City to Surf Fun Run 2012 - Walkers and runners completed the course of 4 km, 12km and a half marathon. Special thanks to 2nd Ave Nursing Home and Kinetic Health. Kudos to Jackie D. for a well-managed event.

Cycle for Change - Riders and the Sponsors: Chil3 - Discovery Learning - Red Hot Design, Fremantle - KD Cycles, Rockingham Singapore Airlines - Andi Noon (great shirt design!)

Employees of City of Stirling for "Casual for A Cause", of Jarman and McKenna for your coffee proceeds, of Icon Clinical Research and Jackie for your tuck-shop proceeds.



2012 City to Surf Team

Shenton Park **yoga and meditation** group for your fundraising dinner, **the elderly** from Nedlands Community Center for filling moneyboxes and UWA **Students** for "Reading For All", the library resource project. As always our fantastic volunteers – Bridie and Elena for their office help and the Mother's day committee for their efforts.

How to be a part of CINI Australia's work - for more detail www.ciniaustralia.org or click on item

Mother's day on 12th May:
give your mother the gift of supporting a mother in India –
sponsor a mother or a child in her name - in lieu of a those chocolates!

Send a Donation e-Card for any occasion

Purchase your copy of the WA Entertainment Book 2013-14 through CINI Australia

**Join the City To Surf Fun Run 2013
in your state... bring a friend or a team.**

**I would like to help mothers and children in India
by donating to CINI Australia**

1) My donation is the amount of \$_____

☐ once only

☐ Monthly (*Credit card and direct debit only*)

for ☐ months OR ☐ until I advise otherwise

2) Sponsor a mother No. ☐ \$_____ / month for 33 months
\$15/mth/mother

3) Educate a child. No. ☐ \$_____ / month for 24 months
\$10/mth/child

Payment details:

Cheque ☐ Money ☐ Direct ☐ Credit ☐
Order Debit Card

payable to CINI Australia Gift Fund

Please tick appropriate boxes then post this form to CINI Australia

Bank or Credit card details:

☐ Please debit my Credit Card:

☐ Visa ☐ Master Card Expiry
____/____/____

Cardholder's name _____

☐ Please Direct debit

Financial Institution _____

Account Name _____

BSB Number ____ / ____

Account Number _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Address _____

State _____ Postcode _____

Signature _____

Date ____/____/____

CINI Australia welcomes your comments, questions and suggestions info@ciniaustralia.org

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