

# CINI Australia, Child in Need India

Newsletter 4 – December 2013



help the mother  
help the child...

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Welcome to the 4<sup>th</sup> CINI Australia Newsletter and the end of 2013!

At this most wonderful time of the year let us reflect on what we are leaving behind us, our goals and achievements, and our hopes for the year ahead.

Throughout 2013, CINI Australia raised nearly \$70,000. A huge thank you to our supporters, sponsors, fundraisers and donors as none of this would be possible without you!

This newsletter includes individual stories from CINI Australia programs in India, a thoughtful piece on a 3-day meditation bushwalk and news of support from NSW, SA and Tasmania as well as what we are planning for 2014.



While busily preparing for the festive season, remember CINI when searching for thoughtful presents or gifts that keep on giving. Why not consider gifting a sponsorship for a mother or educating a child? Or setting up a recurrent donation for a year in the name of a friend or family member?

Perhaps your regular Christmas gift cards could be eco-friendly and support CINI at the same time by using CINI Australia donation e-cards to spread your warm wishes and cheer. Go to our [E-Cards link](#)

Whatever your plans this Christmas, CINI Australia would like to extend their best wishes, seasons greetings, and a happy new year! See you in 2014!

## Volunteers Needed– You can give us a hand to give a hand!

Volunteers play an important role in the success of every not-for-profit organization and a number of people have already volunteered their time and skills to CINI Australia. As our work grows there are opportunities to help out here in Australia. If you would like to be a part of CINI Australia's effort please contact us.

Let us know what you are interested in doing, what your skills are and when you could be available. If you would just like to chat about it – send an email to [info@ciniaustralia.org](mailto:info@ciniaustralia.org) or call Jennie on 0428538761

Links: [CINI Australia's 2012-13 Annual report](#) and [Child In Need Institute India's latest Newsletter](#)

[Cycle For Change 2013 Video](#) for more about the amazing India bicycle ride.

## Recurring Donations

Recurring donations, however much, have a huge impact on what we can do in India. If you like to plan your giving, knowing that it really makes a difference, please consider CINI Australia as one of your regular causes.

## “Bringing Back The Boon” – Walk for CINI from Mervvyn Dam to Balingup



This is (extract) by Sara Elderfield whose Shenton Park yoga- meditation group embarked on a 50+ kilometers bushwalk for CINI Australia, fundraising over \$6000 from their sponsors.

Our walk along the Biblum Track (WA) could only have happened as a unified team of individuals who understood that each of us was responsible for our own physical needs and well being, but also understood that when we were out there we were also part of a group (sharing stoves, food, blister remedies, advice, laughs, stories and respect for each other’s differing needs for time alone and times of connection). In quiet times, it was especially easy to sense that we were not separate from the natural world we were walking through, and easy to sense that we were walking on the same continuous stretch of earth that our helpers in Balingup were walking on; and easier still to imagine the mothers, children and communities that CINI supports in India sharing the same earth. In those moments, we were closer than the actual distances between us, if one loosens the concept of kilometers.

Taking some time to sleep outside in the bush without electricity, comfy beds and hot showers and remind oneself of a more essential self that requires less mod cons to be content, is a good antidote to a modern cushy life, and a reminder not to allow our preferences for physical comfort and an easy life to dull our awareness and make us sleep walk through our own lives. We all know that we are fortunate to live where and as we do, and it is imperative to remember that others are not so fortunate.

Thank you from our group of walkers to our supporters, and those who are connected for your generosity. Thank you to Em and Gaby who did all of the logistics for the walk. Thank you to Deb, Sue, Max and Alf who were our fabulous supporters during the walk, and the many friends who joined in on the track or at meals, meeting us each day for lunch with smiles, encouragement, delicious food and pots of coffee. Finally, thank you to Origins Centre and Chime and Anne in Balingup for hosting us. We’ll be back again!

CINI Australia says thanks for all those steps. Support such as this walk reflects the spirit of CINI whose success is founded in the strength and capacity of communities.

### Support from around Australia

**In Blacktown, Sydney** CINI Australia joined the Council of Indian Australian’s 2013 celebration of Indian Independence Day. It was a magnificent evening of song, dance and food and a great opportunity to present the work of Child in Need Institute to the Indian community of NSW. We would like to thank the committee and the Council of Indian Australians for their support and presentation to CINI Australia of a \$1481 donation.

**In Hobart, the Australian Medical Students Global Health Conference** CINI Australia presented Child In Need Institute’s approach to sustainable development. About 500 students attended this inspiring conference.

**In Adelaide**, St Peter’s college Mothers day morning tea raised \$2000 for CINI. Thanks to Shona.

## Stories from India



### Child and Women Friendly Communities Program

**“I don’t want to be married before 18 years... I will stop early marriage and save my friends and sisters...”** *Rabina Yesmin*

At the age of 14, Rabina requested ten minutes of her father’s time, to fight for her right to remain unmarried and continue her education. Her knowledge of the ill effects of early marriage had been communicated to her at school, and through her calm and confident verbalization of those effects, her father agreed to support her decision. Now 18, Rabina continues to study, and works full time at a Reliance Call Center with a monthly wage. She is a peer leader with the CWFC project and leads the Community Level Awareness Program on Early Child Marriage, getting children back into school and supporting adolescents. She wants to be a role model for other girls and now her mother has joined her to protect the rights of other young girls.

We are now in the second year of the CWFC program in 12 villages of Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal. One of the four pillars of the program is protection. This aspect focuses on the prevention of early marriage and trafficking of girls into domestic labour and the sex trade. Education for girls is an essential part of their protection by insuring they have skills for their futures.

### IICCHAA for Children affected by HIV

An HIV positive widow who contracted the virus from her husband entered the IICCHAA program with her two children, who are both HIV negative. Her husband, a migrant worker, had died suddenly from the disease a year ago. This young mother is now earning a living doing handwork on saris and is getting back on her feet with the help of IICCHAA. With the initiative of her support group, she decided to disclose her status to the school authorities in order to get their assistance. Without the program’s support this would have been far too terrifying to do because of stigma and negativity associated with HIV. As a result of her action, the cost of her son’s school fees, uniform and books has been reduced by half, which means that sending him to school is now possible.

Many women are only diagnosed with HIV at the time of death of their husband. Suddenly they have to face being widowed, having HIV, caring for their children and the stigma of the disease. CINI’s IICCHAA program provides the education and support that is so needed for these families to move forward.

In 2014 this program will be extended for another 30 children. IICCHAA staff support families to deal with the difficulties they face because of HIV/AIDS. It also develops the capacity and voice of local support groups and increases the community’s knowledge of HIV.



## Thanks to all who have helped fundraise and spread the word

...to Crow Books, Lane Bookshop, Serendipity Books, West Books and Liberty Petrol, Swanbourne for having our money-boxes on their counters.

... to the City to Surf participants, Luke, Maddy, Bridie and Kalpana, St Peter's College SA, The Council of Indian Australians, NSW, the Australian Medical Students Association and the Bibulman track walkers.



Like us on facebook

**2014**

**Save the Date - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May for CINI Australia's Mother's Day celebration**

**City To Surf - Lets have a team in every state in 2014!**

**Help us to get 20 more sponsorships in 2014 with**

**Educate a Child sponsorship or Sponsor a Mother and her Baby**

### **Donation Form**

To make a donation to CINI Australia complete this form or click [donate](#) for secure online access

- (1) My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  once only OR  
 Monthly for \_\_\_\_\_ months OR  until I advise otherwise
- (2) Sponsor a Mother and her Baby  \$450 once OR  \$15/ month for 30 months
- (3) Educate a Child Sponsorship  \$240 once OR  \$10/month for 24 months OR  until I advise

#### Payment details

Direct debit from my bank account below (this option means lower fees)

Account Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

BSB Number: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Account Number: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Credit Card  Visa  Master Card

Number: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_ Card Expiry: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Cardholder's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque payable to CINI Australia Gift Fund

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ \_\_\_ \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

CINI Australia welcomes your feedback, comments and inquiries: [info@ciniaustralia.org](mailto:info@ciniaustralia.org)

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