



help the mother  
help the child...

# CINI Australia

NEWSLETTER 5 - 2015

## Happy New Year

Thank you for the wonderful support that you have given CINI Australia in the last year.

Your generosity towards our neighbours in India has meant that our programs have reached a large number of children and their families in West Bengal and made a difference to their survival today and their future.

We welcome three new board members to CINI Australia: Chris Yates, Diane Gonsalves and Jamie Davison. Their enthusiasm and ideas are an exciting addition to CINI Australia.

Read about progress with our two main programs: "IICCHAA" for children affected by HIV and "CWFC" in Raiganj, which is in its final year. Local villagers will continue the work with knowledge and skills they have developed with CINI. This is what sustainability is all about – a persisting change in health, expectations, knowledge and skills.

In the 4½ years since our launch, we have grown considerably and are proud to have supported the Raiganj project through its whole cycle. It is wonderful that next year we will move to Chainigar, a neighbouring area of need. Now other families will benefit from this strong and effective program.

We ask you to consider becoming a regular donor to CINI Australia. The security of regular donations gives us the capacity to plan the most effective programs. No matter how large or small the amount, regular donations are especially helpful.

Our 2013-2015 Annual Report is available on our website for your perusal ([http://ciniaustralia.org/2013-15 Annual Report](http://ciniaustralia.org/2013-15%20Annual%20Report)).

*Thank you for being a part of something wonderful. Best wishes for your New Year from all at CINI Australia.*

## Special Thanks

\* LCI Accountants

\* Admin volunteers Maggie Hansberry, Oliver Trupp and Jackie Rowse

\* Walker Wayland Auditors

\* Luke Sweet, Andi Noon and Zak Connaughton for graphics, design and website

## Recognition of Child In Need Institute

This year CINI was awarded the "Vodafone Mobile for Good Award" in the Women's Empowerment and Inclusive Development Capacity. Read more about Child In Need Institute's activities and success in India through the link below:

<http://www.cini-india.org/news-and-press>

## Upcoming Events

⇒ Save the Date: **Sat 7 May 2016** - CINI Australia's **Mothers Day Celebration**

⇒ **Movie Night** in 2016 - keep an eye out for the announcement

⇒ **2017 Bike Ride** expressions of interest - are you up for an adventure? Ride for CINI!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page

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## CWFC RAIGANJ Project



CWFC (Child & Women Friendly Communities) Raiganj reached a population of 32,000 across 12 villages in Banglabari, close to the Bangladeshi border. It is one of the most vulnerable districts in West Bengal, where only 36% of women are literate.

Empowerment of women's self-help groups is the core of CWFC. So much has changed for these village women who previously had little contact outside the home, no voice in their local community and little information about their entitlements or how to speak up for their needs. Now they:

- ◇ have greater respect from the extended family and community recognition for their involvement in development work
- ◇ speak out more confidently, raise their concerns in government forums and demand better services
- ◇ are very active in solving village problems, e.g. a new bridge has been constructed after lying broken for years; early marriages are being prevented



- ◇ play a crucial role in health services reaching the most vulnerable mothers and children. Child health, schools and local councils now seek their support
- ◇ are key members in the planning and monitoring of village government and child protection meetings
- ◇ have other livelihood opportunities, such as locally producing a supplementary nutrition, with their experience with CINI also opening up avenues for work in Government programs

The impact of these changes is far reaching, including:

- pregnant women's supplemental nutrition
- a 15% increase in early antenatal care
- more births in the safety of hospital
- 'drop out' children are back in school
- missing children returned to families
- nearly 2000 adolescents have been trained in health and protection
- more homes have toilets and
- 'below the poverty line' families are accessing government benefits

## IICCHAA and ATIKRAM Projects

IICCHAA is a community-based initiative for children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS. The program now reaches 247 children from 192 families after we took on a third district, Murshidabad last year.

Families are educated about their illness, health, hygiene and nutrition. Adolescents learn about sexual health and their right to live free from sexual abuse. There is a special emphasis on safeguarding the future of the children, with support groups and home visits strengthening children's coping skills and building family communication. Community support groups also reduce isolation and the stigma associated with the disease.

CINI's advocacy also addresses discrimination in schools, workplaces, medical care and the community.

As there is an enormous need for this very effective program, CINI is training more women facilitators to reach more families.



**Atikram** aims to break barriers to secondary and tertiary education faced by girls from economically disadvantaged families, so the girls leave school to marry young, become child labourers or risk being trafficked.

Atikram provides 20 girls with mentoring, academic assistance, books, and life skills training over three years of secondary school. They receive English, Maths and Science coaching and there are plans to include computer training.

This year, two Sydney sisters made a special donation in memory of their brother, Peter Wootton. They wanted to give a little back to the country that Peter loved and where he spent much of his life. This contribution enabled CINI Australia to support the Atikram girls. We are hoping to find more supporters for the next years.

World Bank Information: an extra year of secondary schooling can increase a girl's future wages by 10-20%, that in turn affects the wellbeing of her family. (Extract: The State of The World's Girls 2009)



## Perth high school students visit CINI Kolkata

*"There is no doubt that our visit to CINI was a highlight for our Pilgrimage to India. When we first met the girls at CINI we all sat down and played. We taught the children a couple of songs, dances and games, which included "Home Amongst the Gumtrees" complete with actions. The girls caught on quickly. The rest of the time we spent drawing and colouring pictures and chatting. There were some talented drawers in the group who gave us a run for our money. We also played some friendly but also competitive games of naughts and crosses. At the end we were given bracelets made by the girls in their arts and crafts classes, which we all really appreciated and*



*thought was an incredibly sweet gesture. Overall, I think we all found CINI to be a very rewarding and lovely experience". Sophie Minissale - Year 11 John XXIII College*

*"I got to hear a lot of amazing stories about the kids in the various shelters throughout the city. I was very surprised by their enthusiasm, despite hearing about some of the dire situations from which they had come. Everyone over there is very appreciative". Adidty Ganguly -15yr old Hale School student visited the boys shelter*



***"I was very surprised by their enthusiasm, despite hearing about some of the dire situations from which they had come"***

## Young girls work together to Prevent Child Marriage in their Village

This is one of many similar stories from CINI's CWFC program in Uttar Dinajpur.

Kohinoor Khatun is a member of CINI's Bhatsia's Children Group, where she learnt about the risks of underage marriage, with her village group actively committed to preventing child marriages. In July, she heard that 16yr old Josheda was being pressured by her family to marry. Kohinoor took this to her Group who then visited the family to get more information. Josheda's family told them it was only a rumour. Later they heard the wedding was going ahead so they contacted Child Line (CINI's Child Protection Helpline). CINI staff then met the family, explained the risks and that underage marriage is illegal. The parents promised not to arrange a marriage until their daughter turned 18.

CINI's Children's Groups educate and empower adolescents to look out for each other, whilst CINI provides essential support and helps families understand the laws about child marriage.



## Fundraising Events

**Mothers Day Celebration High Tea** took place in both 2014 and 2015—a beautiful celebration of our Mothers here to help mothers in India.

Volunteers, the Committee, the wonderful students of John XXIII College and the goodwill of the many businesses who donated and put in a massive effort raised about **\$15000** each year!



**Cycle For Change 2015** - A mighty effort by 9 riders who raised **\$30000** by pedaling 460km.



Our youngest supporter



## Fundraising Events continued ....

**Others** who have been fundraising are an inspiration, including: Shenton Meditation Group dhana contribution, South West Walkwalk, City Of Stirling staff: "Casual For Cause", Artifakt Swansea Tasmanian Women Dance, The Wyndham Plant Sales and CINI's Money boxes in a number of shops (see Annual Report for full list of Supporters)

## How you can help

- ♦ **Become a regular donor:** The most effective and efficient way to help - provides financial security for planning the best quality programs
- ♦ **Run your own event:** e.g. Casual for a Cause, Fun Runs, Dinners and Quiz nights
- ♦ **Word of Mouth:** Telling others about CINI's wonderful achievements and its principles of respect and dignity
- ♦ **Talks:** CINI Australia would love to come and talk to your group or event
- ♦ **Volunteers:** Do you have skills or time to help out here in Perth?
- ♦ **Make CINI your charity:** e.g. spread our money boxes and pamphlets around your work or community, encourage your child's class to run an event to raise funds for CINI.

### To donate or sponsor go to:

<http://ciniaustralia.org/how-to-help/donate/>

CINI Australia welcomes your feedback, comments  
and enquiries

Phone: 0428 538 761

Email: [info@ciniaustralia.org](mailto:info@ciniaustralia.org)

### CINI Australia Donation Form

Complete and post this form to CINI Australia, PO Box 8358, Angelo Street, South Perth WA 6151

- (1) My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ once only or  
☐ monthly for \_\_\_\_\_ months or ☐ until advised
- (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 advised

#### Payment details

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

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: \_\_\_\_\_