HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Become a regular donor or sponsor [http://cini.australia.org/how-to-help/donate/]
- Donate in memory of someone important - send a message with your contribution
- Donate in lieu of your birthday gifts (see Aman & Tom’s stories on page 3)
- Form a team to compete in a fun run to fundraise for CINI - e.g. Perth City To Surf on 27th August
- Host an afternoon tea or dinner – tell your friends about CINI Australia’s work
- CINI Australia is looking for donations specifically for running costs in Australia so that all our fundraising can go to India.
- For more information email admin@cini australia.org
- Grab a CINI Money Box—Considering having one on your shop counter or in your home?...email us at admin@cini australia.org and we’ll happily post one to you! If you’ve already got one, once it’s full, remember to follow the instructions on the back so the money can reach CINI programs in India! Post a photo of your money box and tell us where it is on the CINI Australia Facebook page (as shown).

Donate or sponsor at [http://cini.australia.org/how-to-help/donate/]. Or post to CINI Australia

| General Donation: $ | Monthly for 1 months until advised | Once  
|--------|----------------------------------|------
| Sponsor A Mothers and her Baby: | $450 once | $15/ month for 30 months until advised  
| Sponsor Educate a Child: | $340 once | $10/month for 24 months until advised |

**Payment details**

- **Direct debit** from my bank account.
- **Account Number**:  
- **BSI Number**:  
- **Credit Card**: Visa / Master Card  
- **Card Expiry**:  
- **Signature**: Date:  
- **Cheque** payable to “CINI Australia Gift Fund”

Thank you for making a difference.

IN THIS ISSUE

- Jennie’s Visit
- CINI Worldwide
- CINI Awarded
- ICCHAA
- EAC Successes
- Fundraising/ Donor News

We hope you enjoy reading about the latest CINI developments in India. There’s been a lot going on since our last newsletter in October 2016! Here’s a few of the highlights...

In March this year, Jennie Connaughton (CINI Australia’s Director), spent an inspiring and fun few weeks in “relentlessly incredible India”.

Here are some snippets from her travel diary:

Each day we pass up to 50 children living permanently on the pavement. . . in the morning, little girls emerge smiling from their tarpaulin-footpath homes in school uniforms, neat as a pin!

Eighteen months from the conclusion of CINI’s Mursidabad Child Friendly Communities Program, these adolescents now know how to look after their health and realise the benefits of education.

SPECIAL THANKS

Support those who support CINI Australia.

Listed below are the Mother’s Day High Tea 2017 donors. Some have now contributed for the last four years!

Without the generous contributions from these local businesses, the success of this event would be simply out of reach - our appreciation for their donations is truly beyond words.

This gratitude also comes from India and the very people who benefit from CINI’s programs.

- John XXXII College
- Students from JTC, Iona and PLC
- Boatsheet Market
- Silverstream Wines
- Creation Landscape Supplies
- Plata Bonita
- Harvey Fresh
- IGA Mosman Fresh
- Ann Culity Flowers
- IGA Swanbourne Xpress
- Spare Parts Puppet Theatre
- Jenny Jones Rugs
- Lindy Midalia
- Jags Winery
- IGA South Fremantle
- MMM Farm
- Bannister Downs Dairy
- Bakers Delight 5th Fremantle
- The Honey Cake
- Julia Craig
- Emma Greene
- Main Peak
- OfficeWorks Osborne Park
- Cottesloe Golf Club
- The Good Guys O’Connor
- WASSO
- Lamont’s Restaurant
- OfficeWorks Subiaco
- Brigid Marciano

SPECIAL THANKS

We are grateful for the professional assistance of LCI Accountants Parramatta & Walker Wayland Auditors. We’re excited to announce WA Gynaecare as the first official sponsor of CINI Australia. Special thanks also to Emma Greene for her 5 years of admin support, not to mention beautiful art donations, and crowd pulling at our annual Mother’s Day High Tea events! We wish her well in her next chapter.

CINI AROUND THE WORLD

CINI support organisations are also at work in Italy, the Netherlands, USA and the UK (Director, bottom right).

CINI Italy, founded in 1992 supports many programs, most recently the new Murshidabad office and Nutrimix production centre. It’s “Travel CINI” initiative offers an escorted visit to India for supporters to CINI’s centres, village programs and a meeting with CINI founder Samir Chaudhuri (pictured top right with international visitors, from Holland, Italy and the UK, March 2017). This is the best way to understand the effect of CINI’s work.

RECOGNITION FOR CINI

CINI named “Best NGO” in Health Category by HCL Technologies, [a top IT company in India], as part of their HCL Foundation’s Corporate Social Responsibility. CINI was chosen from 45 finalists from across India in recognition of its innovative and effective “CINI Method” approach to development & awarded $1M AUD in Feb 2017.

Martha Farrell Award Excellence in Women’s Empowerment was awarded to Rakhi Gope (right) in April, for “Most Promising Individual”. Her role with CINI focuses on adolescent girls’ health, skills and motivating them to join school.

Rotary Calcutta recognised the work and wisdom of Dr Chaudhuri and CINI in January 2017.
“CHILD FRIENDLY COMMUNITY” IN SECOND YEAR IN CHAINAGAR

CINI Australia’s Child Friendly Community Development program spans 12 villages in the Chandigarh region (population 22,000) in Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal.

Our experience in Bangladesh, CINI Australia’s first program, has driven a number of changes in the program for Chainagar. We saw the importance of early involvement by the local council. In 2016 the CINI team worked closely with the Prodan (Mayor) of Chainagar and the council is committed to CINI’s model of development.

The health and education of women and children have now been written into the local council plans as priorities. This is a huge achievement as the council now recognizes the role of women and is invested in ensuring change occurs. They are contributing funds and resources to make this happen. It was decided to develop a few centres at a time as ‘models’ so that the community could more clearly see the effect of changes. So far we have started with 3 village schools where sanitation and education facilities are improving.

Through participation in child ‘parliaments’ the children learn about their needs and how to have a constructive voice within their communities. These skills will prepare them for future leadership.

At 3 ‘Ananganwadi’ (child care) centres women learn about maternal and child health, adolescent boys and girls are taught about their own health, child marriage and their rights to education and participation. They are excited by this new knowledge and value their role in changing the future for their children. As they learn about antenatal and early childhood health care they encourage other women to attend and help assist the Ananganwadi worker to weigh, measure and feed the children.

“EDUCATE A CHILD” PROGRAM SUCCESSES

The Educate a Child programme focuses on children from 5 to 16 years in deprived urban areas. Children from the slums and streets and whose parents are sex workers need an environment conducive to learning. Sponsorships support CINI’s education centres which are a safe place for children to learn and play under the care of CINI trained community teachers. After school education centres may also make sure that the needs of the children get the essential support they need to succeed as most parents have had minimal education. Donors may choose a 2 year or ongoing sponsorship but each child will continue to receive the support they need.

Two of the success stories of the Educate a Child program are Aman Chowdhury (left) and Sagutta Parmeem (right). Aman attended CINI’s Ram Bagun Baganahan Centre in Calcutta and recently scored 89.83% in his 12th Boards exam (equivalent to Year 12). His father is a street hawker (seller) and his mother a home maker. His parents had very little schooling.

Sagutta’s parents always strived to work hard and make the lives of their children a bit different. They decided that no matter how much the hardship is, their daughter will go to school. Her father, Sk. Jamir Alim is a daily labourer and her mother works as a rag picker.

With their small earnings, they ensured that Sagutta not only attends school but also dreams of a better future. Electricity cuts, days without food, the challenge of keeping clean and hydrated and many more hardships could not pose a hurdle, and Sagutta has recently cleared her 10th board exams with 50% marks.

If the stories of these 2 children have inspired you, we invite you to donate $10 a month to support another child. Sponsors receive background information about the child, progress reports, a drawing by the child after 1 year and a report at the end of the programme.

FUNDRAISING, EVENTS AND DONORS

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION DONATIONS

Special mentions must be made of two CINI Australia supporters from both ends of the generation spectrum who chose to forego birthday gifts this year, instead asking friends and family to donate to CINI.

Eighty year old Tom and 11-year-old Aman invited party guests to pop a donation into their CINI Australia money boxes, resulting in donations of $760 and $525 respectively. Aman chose to allocate his donation to CINI’s Educate a Child program, which will help children his age to pave their way out of poverty.

MOVIE FUNDRAISER EVENTS

CINI Australia has hosted 2 successful movie screening fundraisers—of “The Girl on the Train”, and a special launch screening of the compelling movie, “Lion.”

The “Lion” screening was followed by a Q&A session with the people behind the incredible true story. It was a truly profound event, to not only to witness the story on the big screen but to hear from the amazing Saroo Brierley and his Mum Sue as well was just so special.

The story and the visually stunning movie representation of it, gives a rich insight into the struggles faced by millions of street children (and mothers and families) across India. It is also a testament of the unwavering commitment to family, dedication to hard work and the humble joy found in single moments shared with loved ones, despite the challenges faced by Indian families who have so little.

SUPPORT FROM OTHERS

Throughout the last few months we have also been showered with donations from WA Indian Docs Inc, Yoga Moves Shenton Park, and the Australiaran Indian Medical Association WA.

Special mention must also be made of, David (one of our longest standing donors) who drove 5 hours to attend a CINI Australia information session in Sydney last year!

And massive thanks also go to sisters, Audrey Leath-Hayter and Norma Godfrey, our 2 eldest donors who have been faithfully donating every month for over 18 months.

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**ICCHA: Indian Initiative for Child Centred HIV & Aids Approach**

ICCHA is run by CINI India’s HIV/AIDS Division & supported by CINI Australia. It ensures the psycho-social wellbeing of children affected and infected with HIV/AIDS by building the strength & knowledge of the family so that they can provide for their children’s future. The program covers the regions of South 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, and Uttar Dinajpur (West Bengal).

We are currently reaching 200 families and hope to include another 40 children in the coming year. This requires $35,000 to operate each year.

During her visit, Jennie was deeply touched by the stories candidly shared by women taking part in the ICCHA program - they spoke of their previous worry and struggle that has been replaced with strength and confidence.

They are representative of the change and hope that comes through ICCHA CINI and clearly feel the support and safety provided through ICCHA.

They are now positive about their futures, knowledgeable about their illness and have skills and confidence to talk with their children.

They are proud to share their knowledge with others. They are relieved to again be part of their communities as CINI’s community education has dramatically reduced the isolation and stigma they face.

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Pictured here are Ashmita (left) and Sushmita (right).

These women were once rejected by their families and communities but thanks to the support and education provided by the ICCHA program, they are now strong, independent and confident in their ability to plan and provide for their children’s future.

Sushmita says “Before, I was surrounded by fear, neglect and hate... now I can talk to anyone on the street. They know they are safe to walk with me, eat with me and talk to me. I no longer live in fear.”

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The CINI Australia Mother’s Day High Tea event gets bigger and better every year! On 13th May, 217 guests and over 40 wonderful volunteers enjoyed a delicious afternoon tea (and the odd sparkling wine) in celebration of Mother’s Day and CINI’s work.

The overwhelming generosity and collaboration of many people spanned cultures, ages and backgrounds, resulting in a happy, relaxed afternoon with friends and family.

CINI Australia thanks the many local business donors (listed at the end of this newsletter), the team of workers & cooks, the wonderful students who tended to guests needs, the beautiful dancers, Akahaya, Jin, Ananya, Karmanya (and their choreographer) and all of our guests. Special thanks must also go to our MC Anne Murtagh-Munks.

The event raised over $20,000 which will largely cover the ICCHA program (see left) for the year. Be sure to keep an eye out for the “Save the Date” notice for Mothers Day 2018!

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