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# INSPIRATION

INTERNATIONALneeds™  
AUSTRALIA



Emma's life was changed for the better after counselling and training at the Adidome Training Centre.

## Redemption and healing in Ghana

The Adidome Modular Training project is an ongoing effort by International Needs Network Ghana (INNG) in conjunction with International Needs Australia (INA) and AusAID to address gender-based violence and inequities in South East Ghana.

The project represents the next step in the liberation campaign which began in 1997 and facilitated the release of 3,500 Trokosi slave women. (Trokosi is a West African practice which may include ritual enslavement of girls and women.)

In keeping with the culturally sensitive and sustainable approach of this successful campaign, the Adidome Modular Training project rehabilitates, supports and trains vulnerable women and girls.

The Adidome Modular Training project operates in eight extremely poor, rural communities where girls and women often suffer economic deprivation, gender-based violence and discrimination. At the International Needs Vocational Training Centre, women are trained in vocational skills such as baking, batik tie and dye, soap-making and other handicrafts. Enterprise management and development training encourage women to pursue entrepreneurial roles.

An essential element of the project is the psycho-social and emotional counselling offered to help the women deal with their traumatic pasts. Women from different backgrounds and with varied emotional wounds have been transformed through group and one-on-one counselling.

Among them is Emma, an albino whose lack of dignity, self-esteem and confidence meant she lived her life in hiding until she completed the rehabilitation program at the International Needs Vocational Training Centre.

**"Counselling has really helped me gain my confidence and self-esteem"**

"Counselling has really helped me gain my confidence and self-esteem," says Emma. "I also have a skill in baking which enables me to earn a decent income."

Along with counselling and support groups, women join groups which promote their rights and address other forms of gender-based violence.

Basic needs of food, shelter, clothing, personal items and medical care are also provided in the program and early childhood care enables children to accompany their mothers to the centre. Upon graduation from the program, women receive support to re-integrate within their community and connect with a local business co-operative.

Through the Adidome Modular Training project, INNG and INA are working to ensure the violent religious practise and other gender-based inequities are ended and do not continue 'underground'. 

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[www.internationalneeds.org.au](http://www.internationalneeds.org.au)

Bread making class at Adidome.



Delicious bread rolls being prepared by students at Adidome.




## Long Distance Champions

Gail Thannhauser

Last week I had the pleasure of meeting Bob and Eve Bolduan, valued long-time supporters of International Needs. I asked them how they were first introduced to International Needs and what prompted them to be such faithful long-time supporters of the organisation. This is what they shared:

*We first came to hear about I.N. in the 1990's through some people at our church one of whom was a Director at the time. We liked what we heard - it was a small organization with low overheads. We felt that the concept of money being raised in the richer countries and administered on the spot by locals who understood local needs was a sound one and we decided to support it. Later on, when some of the nationals visited Australia and we were able to meet and talk with them, we found ourselves emotionally involved in their stories. There is no doubt that the need is great in the countries where I.N. is active and they are involved in many different ways - education, retraining and providing basic needs to the very poor. Their fight to obtain freedom and justice for the Trokosi slave women in Ghana must be one of their greatest achievements so far.*

*We have seen for ourselves how caring and dedicated the staff is and we have no hesitation in continuing to support them in their efforts to make the world a better place for some of the disadvantaged of God's children.  
~Bob and Eve~*

On behalf of the men, women and children who we serve, we thank Bob and Eve for their faithful support. We celebrate their compassion and empathy for the vulnerable and continue to work together toward empowering communities in need. 



Bob & Eve Bolduan

## Change of Address in Sri Lanka

Do you have a sponsored child in Sri Lanka?

If so, please send all mail to your sponsored child to the following new address:

**International Needs Network Lanka**  
Post office Box 1778,  
Colombo 1  
SRI LANKA


## Big Sale affects Big Change

Gail Thannhauser

**Gloria received a phone call from her daughter after hearing Justus Miwanda speak about his work in Uganda on Light FM.** She was inspired by his story and wanted to do more.

Most of us have had that feeling but don't quite know what to do with it. Gloria didn't stop there. She gathered together with fellow members of 'Outreach for Jesus', a ministry of the Berwick Church of Christ, and the group made the decision to do something to help. 3-4 times per year, this dedicated group come together to put on a massive jumble sale to raise money for charity.

They decided to use profits to assist Justus with his work in Uganda. I had the privilege of seeing this sale first hand over the weekend. While there **I was excited and encouraged by the generous, kind and passionate people** that I met who run the sale. This enthusiastic group, some over 80 years old, sacrifice many hours and lots of energy to put on this huge sale. In 2009-2010 their sales amounted to over \$7000. They selected to use the proceeds to support work in Uganda, with the majority going toward vocational training.

We at International Needs applaud the generous hearts and amazing effort of the members of 'Outreach for Jesus'. They are a fine example of how we can all contribute in our own unique ways to affect BIG CHANGE. If you live near Berwick, check out the bargains at the next big sale on April 16th from 8am at Berwick Church of Christ! 



Cameron and Rachele buying 2nd hand books to support a great cause



Pam Jobling, Di Gilbert, Gloria Hardy & Sylvia Gray organised the Sale Day

## Appeal Update

With flooding and cyclones affecting millions of Australians, we thank you for also thinking of those in Sri Lanka who have been impacted by flooding. Over 1 million people were affected and around 40 people are missing and/or dead.

Your donations are helping around 1,500 Sri Lankan families to get back on their feet by providing, food, drinkable water, clothes and shelter.



## Gift Catalogue

Remember, the 2010/11 Gift Catalogue is available all year round for birthdays, weddings and any other special event.



Visit our website or call 1300 731 550 to give more than one person hope, opportunity and joy.

Pooja outside her home/shop



## Working towards a beautiful life

A loving grandmother and a generous sponsor turned Pooja's life around

For someone so young, 20-year-old Pooja from Neva, India, has known more than her fair share of heartache and suffering.

Born in the village of Jasra in 1991, Pooja was just three years old when her mother died of heat stroke in 1994. Pressured by family to find a new wife and produce a son, Pooja's father reluctantly remarried. But, far from a happy ending for Pooja and her elder sister, their new step-mother badly mistreated the young girls, beating them and burdening them with excessive household chores.

Both girls were sad and troubled but, despite their tears, their father did not intervene. But the day Pooja's grandparents came to visit, her life dramatically changed course.

Although they had pressured their son to remarry, Pooja's grandparents could not bear to see such mistreatment of their granddaughters by their new step-mother. Pooja's grandmother decided to take Pooja, now five years old, and her sister to live with them in Neva.

Pooja's new life in Neva brought new opportunities. Her grandparents ran a small shop selling toffees and biscuits to support the household, however this did not generate enough income to send the girls to school.

But the opening of the Navjeevan Mahila Shiksha Vikas Centre (meaning New Life Women's Education Development Centre) by ACTS Ministries/International Needs in Neva saw the girls' lives take a turn for the better. Staff from the new school travelled from village to village encouraging girls to enrol to study at the centre and Pooja's grandparents agreed to send the girls.

When she turned 10, Pooja joined her sister at school and thrived. She loved to learn and the Christian teaching, songs and Bible stories influenced Pooja and her sister greatly. Both girls studied hard and passed their high school examination. After graduation, Pooja's sister was employed at the centre to teach the younger children and soon married.


A year after Pooja's sister married, her grandfather died, leaving no one to provide for the family. The family shop closed due to dwindling sales and the grandmother's declining health.

Making good use of her studies, a resourceful Pooja has been tutoring village children for a small fee since graduating high school last year. Already she teaches nine children and is contributing to household expenses. Some of the centre's junior classes are held in the family home and the rent paid also helps make ends meet.

Pooja is sponsored through International Need's child sponsorship program and, through this, she is provided with wheat flour, rice and sugar. Such assistance goes a long way to helping this poor family.

In the meantime, Pooja continues to study and has her sights set on becoming a beautician. She is currently completing an intermediate certificate and will then enrol in a beautician's course.

Her teachers report that Pooja has a strong desire to continue to achieve and provide her family's needs. She is described as a happy student who is looked up to by the younger students at the centre.

Pooja thanks God for the way he has shown his love in her life and she is most grateful for the enormous role International Need's centre in Neva and child sponsorship is playing in her life. 



Pooja's grandmother in their shop



One of Pooja's Classes




## Sponsorship Corner

Protecting Our Children, Protecting You

We would like to thank every one of our child sponsors for the incredible difference they make in the lives of so many children.

Visiting a sponsored child is a wonderful life changing experience, creating memories that will stay with you forever. If you would like to visit your sponsored child, please make sure you make your arrangements by contacting International Needs Australia at least three months in advance. Please do not go directly to the country office in question as our partners will not be able to accommodate the visit without the involvement of the Australian office.

To help protect your privacy a little closer to home, remember to never include any of your contact details when you write to your sponsored child. Also, as times change, older children in some countries do have access to social networking forums. If a sponsored child attempts to contact you through any variety of social media, please ignore their request and advise Anna Burley, our Sponsorship Co-ordinator on 1300 731 550.

Once again, thank you for your support and thank you for working with us to help protect the best interests of the children and communities we serve. 



CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROVIDES A CHILD WITH:

FOOD  
CLOTHING  
EDUCATION  
SHELTER  
OPPORTUNITY



## Abandoned as a child... inspired to make a difference...

International Needs welcomes Rev. Justus Miwanda to Australia

Justus Miwanda was abandoned as a child as his mother was too poor to care for him. He knows first-hand the devastating effect that poverty can have on individual lives and communities. Justus has a heart-felt, passionate, and amazing story to share of his journey from an abandoned child to an ordained minister, qualified teacher and Executive Director of International Needs Uganda. Justus works in a poor rural area in southern Uganda where International Needs focuses on two schools serving more than 2500 students. Other IN ministries include a medical centre, a bible school, vocational training and various community development programs.

**Justus will be in Australia in May of this year.** For your chance to hear Justus tell his inspiring story please contact:

Gail Thannhauser at the INA office on 1300 731 550 (local call costs)

or

e-mail: [info@internationalneeds.org.au](mailto:info@internationalneeds.org.au)

Rev. Justus Miwanda



## Donate Now

Yes! I want to support International Needs work around the world:

- India \$
- Uganda \$
- Ghana \$
- Where most needed. \$

Please accept my payment of \$

\*Donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Payment Type

Cheque / Money Order

Mastercard  VISA  AMEX

Card Number

Name on Card

Expiry Date

/

Donor Number

Name of Donor / Sponsor

Address

Phone Number

Signature

Office Use  
**INSP11.1 ▶ MAIL**

\* We just need to let you know that gifts of \$2 or more to the 'International Needs Overseas Assistance and Development Fund' account (which is the one you are giving to in this appeal) are tax deductible

## Your Legacy Can Live On

A legacy gift is a way to ensure that your generosity lives on through your estate. This type of giving is growing amongst compassionate and tax savvy Australians. Legacy gifts can take several forms and help donors save on the high taxes that can be levied on their estates.

Some donors choose to bestow the assets in their portfolio mix, like stocks, that have the highest capital gains, and therefore gain a significant tax advantage. The other benefit is that you are equipping the loved ones you leave behind to carry on the tradition of generosity that you have established throughout your life. This may be one of the most valuable inheritances they will ever receive.

*International Needs encourages donors who are interested in legacy giving to speak to their financial advisors and their families about their decisions.*

International Needs Australia has full AusAID accreditation and is an ACFID 'Code of Conduct' signatory.



integrity · values · accountability



International Needs Australia supports the Micah Challenge and the Make Poverty History Campaign.

**MAKE POVERTY HISTORY**

*Micah Challenge*

MAKE POVERTY BY 2015

**INTERNATIONALneeds™**  
AUSTRALIA

[www.internationalneeds.org.au](http://www.internationalneeds.org.au)  
**1300 731 550**

ABN 84 006 053 229



Mail completed form to:  
**International Needs**  
PO Box 121  
Mitcham, VIC 3132



Call International Needs on:  
**1300 731 550** or  
**03 9877 7177**



Fax completed form to:  
**03 9877 7377**



Donate or sponsor a child online at:  
[www.internationalneeds.org.au](http://www.internationalneeds.org.au)