



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2017 – 2018

ChildFund Papua New Guinea is the representative office of ChildFund Australia – an independent international development organisation that works to reduce poverty for children in developing communities.

ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 11 organisations, which assists more than 14 million children and families in over 60 countries. ChildFund Australia is a registered charity, a member of the Australian Council for International Development, and fully accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade which manages the Australian Government’s overseas aid program.

ChildFund began work in Papua New Guinea in 1994, and works in partnership with children, their communities and local organisations and governments to create lasting change, respond to humanitarian emergencies and promote children’s rights. Most projects are implemented in the Central Province and National Capital District with a focus on maternal and child health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, and child protection and resilience against family and sexual violence. ChildFund PNG also priorities climate change and disaster preparedness. In 2015, ChildFund PNG established the country’s first ever Family and Sexual Violence Counselling Hotline which operates in Port Moresby and provides national coverage for survivors.

ChildFund Papua New Guinea

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Front cover: Kairuku District, Papua New Guinea

FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR



The 2017-18 financial year was another successful yet challenging year for ChildFund Papua New Guinea.

After the expansion of ChildFund PNG's programs further into the rural areas of Central Province, it's exciting to see more children being vaccinated against common

illnesses and more mothers accessing antenatal care and family planning.

ChildFund's response to the tuberculosis epidemic in Port Moresby is also helping thousands of children and their families. In the education sector, elementary school teachers and School Board of Management members are being empowered through training and coaching programs, and children are now enjoying new technologies and access to age and culturally appropriate reading materials.

It was a tragic time for PNG in early 2018, when a number of natural disasters devastated the country. In February, children and families in Rigo and Kairuku Districts in Central Province were affected by severe flooding after heavy and continuous rain caused the St Joseph River to flood its banks.

Later that same month, a 7.5-magnitude earthquake struck three Highlands Provinces in PNG. There was extensive damage, many lives were lost, and communities became isolated as a result of landslides and blocked roads. ChildFund responded to these emergencies with the help of its development partners and

the PNG Government, and is working to build the resilience of affected communities.

Counsellors at ChildFund PNG's free national helpline – 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain – also provided trauma support to people affected by the quake. The hotline received more than 3,500 calls and became a virtual refuge centre for many earthquake survivors.

In the area of child protection, working with village courts and duty bearers on how to implement the Lukautim Pikinini Act 2015 has been a successful journey.

ChildFund's partnerships established in the past financial year have proven beneficial, with programs being successfully carried out. Our work in PNG would not be possible without the support of our partners, donors, the government and the tireless work of our dedicated staff.

While there will be challenges for the new financial year, we are ready to take on these challenges as we continue to focus on improving the lives of vulnerable children in Papua New Guinea.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Manish Joshi'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Manish Joshi
Country Director
ChildFund Papua New Guinea





I AM SAFE



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO FLOODS & EARTHQUAKES

When natural disasters hit Papua New Guinea earlier this year, ChildFund Papua New Guinea deployed an emergency response team to work with other international aid agencies and the PNG Government to support hundreds of children and their families. At the start of 2018 heavy and continuous rain caused the St Joseph River to flood its river bank into nearby villages in Central Province, damaging schools, homes and a health centre, and contaminating drinking water sources.

More than 600 families were affected and several cases of waterborne diseases were reported.

ChildFund Papua New Guinea deployed an emergency response team and helped provide more than 600 hygiene kits, each consisting of a 10L collapsible container, water purification tablets, soap, oral hygiene products and a water storage bucket.

When earthquakes and aftershocks struck the country's Southern Highlands area in February and March, counsellors at ChildFund's free national helpline – 1-Tok Kaunselin Helpim Lain – provided crisis counselling to people in Southern Highlands and Enga Provinces, where an estimated 100 people had lost their lives and many more had been injured or reported missing. The helpline is Papua New Guinea's first national toll-free hotline service.



TACKLING TUBERCULOSIS

Papua New Guinea has one of the highest prevalence rates of tuberculosis (TB) globally, with almost 30% of cases reported among the age group of zero to 14 years old.

Some key problems in tackling TB in the country include the lack of access to healthcare, the lack of education on proper hygiene practices, and the tendency for patients to stop taking their prescribed medication before their treatment is completed.

ChildFund PNG is helping to train volunteer TB Treatment Supporters to provide support to patients and ensure they take their medication consistently. ChildFund is also holding training and information sessions in communities to raise awareness of the disease, including prevention and treatment methods.

Seventeen-year-old Caleb (right), from National Capital District, says the TB sessions held at his school have been eye-opening and have prompted him to change his habits.

"I always thought coughing and not covering my mouth was normal or OK, but learning about TB and the increased number of TB cases in Port Moresby frightens me," he says. "I will tell my classmates about how TB spreads and the appropriate way of covering the mouth using our hands."

STRONGER JUSTICE SYSTEMS TO PROTECT CHILDREN

ChildFund PNG is helping to strengthen community justice and child protection systems in rural areas by training village court officials in Central Province on how to implement PNG's contemporary laws on child protection and children's rights.

Carolynne, a magistrate in Wopten One village in Amazon Bay, who attended one of ChildFund's training sessions, said village court officials often served in their communities for more than two decades and were not always aware of the current suite of laws in PNG.

"They use the cultural norms and practices with the little knowledge they have on contemporary laws to address issues in their communities," she says.

Giniat, a court official from the same village, said ChildFund's training sessions had shown her that issues involving children needed to be treated differently. "We apply the same principles and penalties across children and adults," she says.

"For instance, if a 16-year-old gives birth to a child, she stops going to school as she is no longer considered a child but a mother. With this training I have learnt that all age groups under the age of 18 are considered as children and are covered under the Lukautim Pikinini Act.

"This training has also taught us to address children's issues in a different approach so children are comfortable around us."




**I AM
HEARD**

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS IN LITERACY AND NUMERACY

In Papua New Guinea, about half of primary school-aged children are not in school, and the country has a severe shortage of teachers, schools, educational resources and learning materials. These conditions have contributed to high illiteracy rates, an unskilled workforce and widespread poverty.

ChildFund PNG is helping thousands of children in Central Province to build strong foundations in literacy and numeracy. ChildFund is upskilling hundreds of teachers and providing children with much needed learning resources in primary schools, including quality, age-appropriate books, new technology and digital libraries. Principals, teachers, parents and other community members are also being trained on school management and governance,



ensuring schools run more effectively and that parents and community members are empowered to take a more active role in school development activities.


**I AM
EDUCATED**



I HAVE A FUTURE



KEEPING MOTHERS & NEWBORNS SAFE

About 85% of people in Papua New Guinea live in rural areas, where there is a lack of healthcare centres and hospitals. Almost half of all mothers in Papua New Guinea give birth in their homes, a figure that hasn't changed in decades. Unsafe conditions at home contribute to a high number of preventable deaths.

It is estimated that one in 120 women in PNG will die from causes related to pregnancy. Newborn babies are also extremely vulnerable in these conditions and neonatal deaths comprise of a third of all deaths of children under the age of five in PNG.

In some provinces, less than one in five women give birth with a skilled birth attendant present. Stella (above), who lives in Central Province, has had seven children, but only three of them are

alive today. Four of them died from complications during childbirth, which could have been prevented if she had had better access to trained healthcare professionals.

Thanks to the support of Australian donors, more than \$230,000 has been raised to help ChildFund Papua New Guinea reduce the risks for mothers and their newborn babies in Central Province.

The program aims to bridge the gap between remote villages and health clinics in major centres by providing birthing kits and lighting to mothers-to-be in rural areas, and training Village Health Volunteers on how to identify and manage common pregnancy and childbirth risks and complications.

THANK YOU

COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE CHANGE

Thank you to the following organisations and individuals whose generous support and assistance is vital to the work of ChildFund Papua New Guinea:



- Central Provincial Administration • City Mission Haus Ruth • Clough Foundation • Consultative Implementation and Monitoring Council - Family and Sexual Violence Action Committee (CIMC-FSVAC)
- Department of Justice and Attorney General • Digicel • District Administration of Rigo, Kairuku-Hiri, Abau and Goilala • FHI360 • Fresh Produce Development Agency • National Agriculture Research Institute • National Department for Community Development and Religion • National Department of Agriculture and Livestock • National Department of Education • National Department of Health • UNDP • UNICEF • World Health Organisation • World Vision • YWCA

ChildFund Papua New Guinea would also like to thank our Ward Councillors, Community Development Committee Members, Village Health Volunteers, Human Rights Defenders, children, youth and their communities for their support.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2018

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	2018 (PGK)	2017 (PGK)
Income	10,460,227	6,465,206
Expenditure	10,461,317	6,581,331
Total Comprehensive Loss	(1,090)	(116,125)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION	30 JUNE 2018 (PGK)	30 JUNE 2017 (PGK)
Total Assets	1,678,188	3,019,612
Total Liabilities	1,430,207	2,770,541
Net Assets	247,981	249,071

**BECAUSE
EVERY CHILD
NEEDS A
CHILDHOOD**

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