

# ABOUT CHILD FUND

ChildFund  
Australia

BECAUSE  
EVERY CHILD  
NEEDS A  
CHILDHOOD

ChildFund Australia is 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 almost 16 million children and families in over 60 countries.

ChildFund Australia directly implements programs with a range of local partners in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Timor-Leste, Vietnam, Papua New Guinea and other Pacific nations, and manages projects delivered by partner organisations throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas.

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.

# WHO WE ARE



## OUR VISION & MISSION

At ChildFund Australia, our vision is a global community, free from poverty, where children are protected and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

To fulfil our mission, ChildFund Australia works in partnership with children and their communities to create lasting change by supporting long-term community development, responding to humanitarian emergencies and promoting children's rights.

We want all children with whom we work to be able to say: "I am safe. I am educated. I am heard. I have a future."

# WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO





79¢

in every dollar goes directly to helping children living in poverty

ChildFund Australia fundraising expenditure 16%

ChildFund Australia accountability and administration expenditure 5%

ChildFund Australia program expenditure 79%

## ChildFund Australia's key program areas

- Education
- Health
- Child protection
- Social and Emotional Learning
- Emergency Response and Disaster Risk Reduction

# HOW WE WORK

ChildFund Australia works in partnership with children, their communities and local organisations to create lasting change, respond to humanitarian emergencies and promote children's rights.

Our organisational aims are also aligned with the Global Goals: to end extreme poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and fix climate change.

ChildFund's programs focus on promoting the participation of children in community life, strengthening their protection, and advancing their rights so that all children, regardless of their birthplace, have access to the same essential opportunities.

At ChildFund, we want every child to be able to say: "I am safe. I am educated. I am heard. I have a future."

Joshua, age 9, and  
Brenda, 7, Zambia



## I AM SAFE

ChildFund responds to the multiple risks faced by children, strengthens the capacity of communities to keep children safe from harm, assists in developing child protection laws and services, helps communities to be better prepared for natural disasters, and provides emergency relief in times of humanitarian crisis – both natural and manmade. This includes:

- education on child rights and child protection for children, youth, community leaders and government staff
- assisting governments to develop child protection laws and services
- community mechanisms to keep children safe and minimise the risks of child labour, exploitation and trafficking
- specialised child protection programs for high-risk groups
- initiatives to prevent and respond to gender-based violence
- disaster risk reduction to minimise the impact of disasters
- health monitoring and supplementary feeding to combat child malnutrition
- Child Centred Spaces that provide children a safe place to play, learn and receive trauma support after a disaster
- temporary learning shelters where children can continue their education when schools have been damaged or destroyed
- distribution of emergency kits, materials and food rations in the immediate aftermath of a humanitarian emergency
- supporting families to re-establish homes and livelihoods after a disaster.

## I AM EDUCATED

ChildFund education projects ensure that children gain access to school, acquire essential skills in literacy and numeracy, and enjoy child-friendly learning environments free from violence – while also giving them the opportunity to take part in creative arts, sports and cultural activities. This includes:

- constructing and renovating school infrastructure, such as classrooms, libraries and playgrounds
- training teachers in child-friendly teaching methodologies
- establishing boards of management in schools to improve school administration and facilitate parental involvement
- providing educational resources including books and visual learning aids
- using new technology and peer-to-peer learning programs to improve literacy and numeracy
- building awareness among local communities on the importance of education
- constructing new and improved water and sanitation facilities at schools, to provide healthy learning environments and enhance girls' attendance
- improving access to education in remote areas through the provision of bicycles, to enable safe travel, and providing solar lamps in areas without electricity so children can study at night
- implementing Early Childhood Development centres to facilitate children's transition to primary school
- providing vocational training to youth, to equip them with skills for the future

Sreyleak, age 8,  
Cambodia



Lich, age 13, Vietnam



## I AM HEARD

ChildFund's programs give children and youth the confidence to share their opinions, and participate in family and community decision-making on issues that affect them. This includes:

- promoting the importance of child and youth participation, providing training and support for them to express their opinions and exercise leadership
- enabling children to play an active role in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects being undertaken for their benefit
- children's clubs and youth groups, which raise awareness of child rights and offer a range of recreational activities
- leadership and life skills programs, peer support and peer counselling initiatives
- equipping young people with knowledge and skills in digital technology, so that they can use new tools to tell their own stories
- ChildFund Pass It Back, an innovative sport for development program, delivers an integrated rugby and life-skills curriculum to equip children and youth to overcome challenges, inspire positive social change and pass it back to their communities
- *Small Voices, Big Dreams*, one of the world's largest surveys of children's views, enables young people around the globe to share their opinions on issues that are important to them
- Children's Day festivals, which allow young people to showcase their talents to their community, and build confidence and leadership skills
- enhancing the inclusion of children with disability through specially catered activities, such as sign language classes for hearing-impaired children and interested community members

## I HAVE A FUTURE

ChildFund's projects prioritise the health, wellbeing and resilience of children and youth, working in partnership with their families and communities to ensure that their basic human rights are safeguarded and upheld. This includes:

- constructing and renovating community health centres
- training healthcare staff, birth attendants and village health volunteers
- maternal and child health programs
- sexual and reproductive health education for young women
- immunisation programs
- providing essential medical equipment and supplies
- educating parents about the management of common childhood illnesses, and child nutrition
- distribution of bed nets to prevent malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases
- improving community access to clean water, construction of water storage systems, latrines and waste disposal
- economic empowerment for young people through small business creation, apprenticeships and vocational training
- enhancing the nutrition and household incomes of rural families through training on effective agricultural techniques and livestock management, constructing irrigation channels, and distributing seeds, tools and farm animals
- creating village savings and loan groups to give communities the ability to invest in small business activities, and training in financial and small business management



Angela and her son Leontine,  
age 4 months, Papua New Guinea



# I AM SAFE

ChildFund Australia believes that every child has the right to live without fear, in a safe, non-violent, protective and nurturing environment. We help communities to strengthen child protection to keep children safe from harm, and provide emergency humanitarian assistance in times of disaster.

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say: "I am safe."



The collapse of a dam in Attapeu Province in July 2018 caused flash flooding into villages in southern Laos and neighbouring Cambodia. At least 26 people died and more than 6,000 children and their families were displaced, and had to seek refuge in temporary camps.

ChildFund Laos helped establish Child Friendly Spaces to provide children impacted by the disaster with a place where they could play, learn and be safe. The Spaces also provided children with clean sanitation facilities such as toilets, as well as books and other materials so children whose homes and schools had been destroyed could continue learning.

For 17-year-old Khied (pictured left, inset), the flood was the "most terrible nightmare imaginable".

After losing her home and her possessions,

Khied volunteered at the Child Friendly Space in her camp, helping to organise activities for children.

"I wanted to take care of the children in my village to give them something to do to forget about everything that happened," Khied said. "I want them to be able to grow up and continue to persevere through whatever happens in the future."

Volunteering in the Child Friendly Space helped restore Khied's confidence and increase her resilience. Today, she is back in school and she is positive about her future.

"I learnt to be more courageous, to participate more, and am better at sharing my thoughts and opinions," Khied says. "Part of that is because I've been able to take part in training on how to implement activities through the Child Friendly Spaces project."





# I AM EDUCATED

ChildFund Australia believes every child should have access to education and a high-quality learning environment. We implement education projects where children are supported to learn essential skills in literacy and numeracy, while also being given the opportunity to develop a range of skills and capabilities for their future.

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say: "I am educated."



In Myanmar many children are unable to attend formal education because their families cannot afford to pay school expenses. These children often have to work and contribute to the household income.

ChildFund Myanmar is running non-formal classes that teach literacy and numeracy for out-of-school children like 11-year-old May Su (pictured), to ensure they can continue their education and have better job prospects in the future. The classes can also provide a path for these children to return to formal education.

"I am so happy to be able to attend the non-formal education class supported by ChildFund. I learn Myanmar, English, mathematics and other subjects," May Su says. "I think I have learnt a lot."

"I think education is important. When I was able to go to school, I thought about leaving school. When I could no longer go to school, I had a desire to go to school all the time."

If I didn't get to study, my world would be sunk in the mud. That's why I am attending the class."



# I AM HEARD

ChildFund Australia believes that every child should have the opportunity to play an active role in society, and to have their views sought, valued and respected. Our programs give children and youth the confidence to share their opinions, and to participate in family and community decision-making, on issues that affect them.

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say: "I am heard."



From the biggest stadiums to the smallest villages, ChildFund Pass It Back ensures children in disadvantaged communities in countries such as Laos (pictured right) can play, learn and grow.



In September 2018, World Rugby announced the appointment of ChildFund as principal charity partner for Rugby World Cup 2019 (RWC), with the objective of changing children's lives through the transformative power of sport.

The groundbreaking partnership with ChildFund is a key part of World Rugby's Impact Beyond 2019 Programme, which aims to achieve a sustainable legacy from RWC - to promote and develop the game of rugby in the region, and help build stronger communities.

Since the partnership launch, the global rugby community has pledged over \$3.5 million to ChildFund. This will enable more than 25,000

children and young people from disadvantaged communities across Asia to take part in ChildFund Pass It Back, which not only promotes the right to play in communities where children have little or no access to organised sport, but provides important and life-long learning opportunities.

Implemented by ChildFund Australia in partnership with Asia Rugby and World Rugby, ChildFund Pass It Back has a strong focus on gender inclusion, and more than 50% of all players and coaches in the program are female.

The program has also benefited from the long-term support of the Australian Government's international aid program.



# I HAVE A FUTURE

ChildFund Australia believes that every child should have the right to survive and thrive, and to feel confident and hopeful about their future. We implement programs that prioritise health, wellbeing and building children's resilience, working with their families and communities to ensure their basic human rights are safeguarded and upheld.

We want every child with whom we work to be able to say: "I have a future."



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 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 one-third of all deaths of children under the age of five in the country.

In some provinces, less than one in five women give birth with a skilled birth attendant present.

Stella (pictured with her son Michael, age 4), 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.

ChildFund Papua New Guinea is helping to reduce the risks for mothers and their newborns in Central Province. Funds are helping 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.

# HOW TO SUPPORT



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Project Humanity partners help us respond immediately to children in crisis or humanitarian emergencies.



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## CONTACT US

**ChildFund Australia**  
Address: 162 Goulburn St,  
Surry Hills NSW 2010  
Phone: 1800 023 600  
Email: [info@childfund.org.au](mailto:info@childfund.org.au)

ChildFund Australia is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management.

For more information, or to lodge a complaint, please contact ACFID on [main@acfid.asn.au](mailto:main@acfid.asn.au) or email ChildFund Australia's Supporter Relations team on [info@childfund.org.au](mailto:info@childfund.org.au).



**ACFID**  
Address: 14 Napier Close,  
Deakin ACT 2600  
Phone: +612 6285 1816  
Email: [main@acfid.asn.au](mailto:main@acfid.asn.au)  
Website: [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)



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Whether you have an interest in a particular sector or country where we work, or are a business looking for ways to support overseas communities, we can tailor a partnership to suit your needs.  
Email: [philanthropy@childfund.org.au](mailto:philanthropy@childfund.org.au)

ChildFund Australia is also a member of Accountable Now, a platform of international civil society organisations that strive to be transparent, responsive to stakeholders, and focused on delivering impact. As a member, ChildFund has signed 12 globally-agreed-upon Accountability Commitments and will report annually to an Independent Review Panel on our economic, environmental and social performance according to the Accountable Now reporting standards.



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Address: 162 Goulburn St,  
Surry Hills NSW 2010  
Phone: 1800 023 600  
Email: [info@childfund.org.au](mailto:info@childfund.org.au)  
Website: [www.childfund.org.au](http://www.childfund.org.au)  
ABN: 79 002 885 761



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