



ADRA

WINTER 2016

ADRA UPDATE

RESTORING HOPE IN MYANMAR

The plains of Old Bagan, Myanmar are breath-taking. Intricately designed temples and pagodas dot the landscape. The sky awash with pinks and blues of every shade, the distant mountains a deep purple. Our world is truly beautiful, but it is also terribly broken.

Two hours' drive away, Thein Paing is herding his goats in the dusty plains near his village in Myanmar's infamous 'Dry Zone'. It is only eight o'clock in the morning and already the air is dry and hot. Goats and cattle graze among the tufts of hay-coloured grass and near-bare trees scatter the landscape. All natural water sources, it seems, have dried up. It's hard to understand how anyone could live or make a living out here.

Thein is a generous-spirited man. He smiles easily, showing his toothy grin. The father of four boys didn't finish school because he wanted to help his parents with their farming business. Changing weather patterns have had a devastating impact on this community.

"About 10 years ago the weather was really good so we could survive from farming," Thein says. "But now the weather is different and we can't grow enough to live."

After a recent bout of poor health, Thein is no longer able to work on the farm. His wife says: "We have little income so life is very hard but my husband is a good man and he is trying hard."

Like many others, they made the difficult decision to borrow a large sum of money to send their 22-year-old son overseas to work as a labourer. They now have a large debt to repay before he can return home.

"Thinking about him makes me feel very sad. It is very hard for him there," Thein says.

Last year, Thein and his wife joined ADRA's Dry Zone Project to learn sustainable agriculture and farming techniques. The project is improving food security and livelihoods for communities in the Dry Zone while reversing land erosion and desertification brought on by unsustainable land management practices and changes to climate.

Thein is now grazing goats using techniques that aim to regenerate and restore the land.

While he is well aware of the significant challenges he faces, Thein remains hopeful.

"ADRA helped us gain more knowledge and now we feel hopeful that life will get better. It may be too late for my sons to have a better life," he says, "But I have hopes that other children in the village will benefit from the ADRA project. I hope we can create jobs for them here instead of sending them away."

By living simply, you can help restore God's creation to its intended beauty. And by giving generously, you can restore hope for people like Thein.

You can help ADRA restore lives like Thien's this winter. Donate online now at www.adra.org.nz/restore, call 0800 499 911 or simply return the included form to ADRA New Zealand.

THINK ABOUT IT | One in three children in Myanmar have stunted growth due to malnutrition.

WELCOME TO THE NEW CEO

Following former CEO Matthew Siliga's appointment as Vice-President for Marketing at ADRA International, we are pleased to announce that Denison Grellmann has recently been appointed as the new CEO.

Denison has extensive development and leadership experience having served with ADRA in countries including Madagascar, Mozambique and Laos, along with time at ADRA Australia and ADRA International. Most recently Denison has served as the Country Director for ADRA Philippines.

Denison, his wife and two young boys arrived in Auckland in mid-June. We wish Matthew the best in the significant role he will play at ADRA International and want to thank him for his leadership that has seen the impact of ADRA New Zealand continue to grow.

We look forward to more amazing things happening under Denison's leadership. Let's give Denison and his family a warm Kiwi welcome - thanks for committing your life to helping families thrive!



DENISON GRELLMANN

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please join with us as we pray for the following:

Fiji: Please continue to pray for the families affected by Cyclone Winston and the ADRA teams continuing to provide assistance.

Leadership: Join the team at ADRA as we pray for God's guidance during a time of change in leadership for the ADRA New Zealand team.

National Programmes: With many churches implementing national projects throughout the country, please pray for their success in changing the lives of people within their communities.

- COMING UP -

JUNE 18

ADVENTIST
CHURCH WORLD
REFUGEE DAY

JULY 21

ADRA WINTER
APPEAL BEGINS

Show your support
[www.adra.org.nz/
restore](http://www.adra.org.nz/restore)

SEPTEMBER 9

CHURCH PARTNERSHIP
PROGRAMME DEADLINE

Get your applications in!

NOVEMBER 27

ADRA CHARITY RUN
(AUCKLAND)

Get your running shoes on!
www.adra.org.nz/run

OUR WORK OVERSEAS

ADRA RESPONDS IN FIJI

Four months ago Cyclone Winston devastated Fiji making tens of thousands of people homeless overnight. In total, 350,000 people were affected by the storm. Thanks to your support, ADRA was able to immediately provide food and hygiene kits to more than 10,000 families in Veti Levu and Vanua Levu.

Each food pack included 18 kilograms of rice, lentils, tinned tuna, sugar and biscuits. The pre-positioned hygiene kits included water containers, a first-aid kit, sanitary pads, soap and water purification tablets.

Your generous support also ensured our work can continue to this day and beyond. Working side-by-side with local communities ADRA is helping families replant crops and providing training and support to make their farming practices more sustainable and resilient to future disasters – meaning food now and in the future.

Thanks to your support of ADRA's Cyclone Winston Appeal families will continue to thrive in Fiji!



OUR WORK AT HOME



SOLID COMMUNITY

For eleven years, Jayson worked full time selling drugs on the streets of South Auckland in order to support his family. He often turned to home invasions, extortion and violence to ensure his family had food on the table. Looking back at his life, Jayson acknowledges that this kind of lifestyle was "setting his family up for a life of failure."

Things started to change five years ago when he invited an ex-gang associate into his house for the night. The following morning, Jayson woke up to find many possessions had been taken, but also woke up to the realization that this was not the lifestyle he wanted for his family.

Then, in 2012 Jayson was invited to join Solid Community, a programme supported by ADRA that gave Jayson a physical outlet and the support he needed to turn his life around.

He has given up selling drugs and now works as a maintenance man in order to support his family. He has also become a leader in the Solid Community programme leaving a positive influence on all those around him.

"We now have a happier and blessed home, and have made some lifelong genuine friends," he said.

Today more than 100 people are regularly attending the Solid Community programme to learn new life skills and get their lives back on track.

Thank you for helping Kiwi families just like Jayson's to thrive!

GETTING INVOLVED

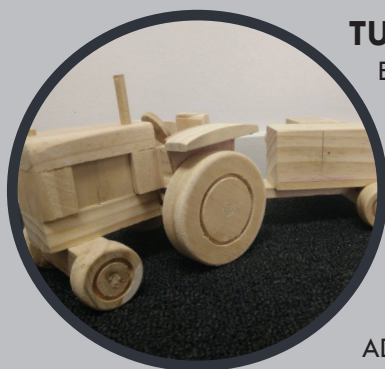


ADRA CONNECTIONS |

This July, three groups of young people are taking part in ADRA Connections trips to Cambodia, Fiji and Vanuatu. There are four more trips taking part before mid-2017 with room for more! Thanks to all those committing to service, and to those supporting these trips! Get your youth, church or school group involved at www.adra.org.nz/connections

TURNING FOR GOOD |

Ever found yourself wondering, 'what can I actually do to make a difference?' For Eric Goodwin, the answer was in using his skills as a wood turner and creating a range of wooden toys to help make some money for ADRA. These were sold at North New Zealand camp, but we have a couple left. Contact us to learn more.



HAMILTON FUN RUN |

The ADRA Charity Run isn't just for Auckland (although make sure November 27 is marked in your diaries). Hamilton Adventist Church partnered with ADRA to put on the ADRA Charity Run – Hamilton, this April. It was a great event that raised vital funds for our work and let the people of Hamilton know about the amazing things happening. Thank you!



QUEENSTOWN CLASSIC
290KM • 5-7 MARCH 2017



GREAT SCENERY • GREAT CAUSE • GREAT COMRADE • AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED

Join the Queenstown Classic for your chance to win an **ALL EXPENSES PAID** trip to Asia and help make a life-changing difference at home and overseas.

SIGN UP TODAY • GO TO WWW.ADRA.ORG.NZ/QUEENSTOWNCLASSIC • 0800 499 911



REAL HEROES CHANGE THE WORLD FOR GOOD!

ADRA CHARITY RUN ★ 27 NOVEMBER ★ MISSION BAY, AUCKLAND

WWW.ADRA.ORG.NZ/RUN | 0800 499 911



THINK ABOUT IT | One in three kiwis engage in voluntary work every month.