



## Overseas & Northern Outreach Newsletter – August 2023

### Overseas Target Fund Update from Anglican Overseas Aid

Our MOU with the Anglican Overseas Aid finishes in March 2024, after which we will have a new project to support. This is the most recent report from AOA on our current project:

### *Church and Community Disaster Resilience in Tonga and Fiji. August 2023 Update*

There are 4 Anglican parishes namely, All Saints Fasi, St. Barnabas, St. Pauls, and St. Mathias all near each other on the main Tongan island of Tongatapu. The project team has been facilitating discussions to achieve a coordinated approach in supporting vulnerable communities and disaster preparedness initiatives on the island.

With training completed for youth in Fiji, it was the turn of Tongan youth to participate in two days of training on May 5<sup>th</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>. The Community Integrated Vulnerability Analyses (CIVA) program enables the youth to identify and map both the physical and human capabilities and vulnerabilities that exist in their communities. Upon the completion of their training, the youth commenced CIVA assessments with a focus on the most vulnerable members of their communities. The results are currently being analysed and a report developed. The assessments assist the project team in their efforts to support the communities in areas of water, food security, psychosocial support, prepositioned supplies and access to evacuation centres.



Preparation for CIVA training.

### Northern Outreach Grants for 2023

In the Spring edition of the Mia Mia you can read a report from Viv Feltam on a trip to the Torres Strait to visit branches there, a trip made possible by our 2023 grant to the Diocese of North Queensland. We give prayerful thanks for Viv's ministry as diocesan president and for the support she and her executive receive from the Diocese for their work.

The Diocese of North West Australia will hold its Fellow Workers' Conference in Perth during September. We pray for the success of this conference and the involvement that Mothers Union may have in giving support. We look forward to receiving a report in the months ahead.

The Diocese of the Northern Territory will be holding its Aboriginal Children's Ministry Worker's Gathering from 25-28 September. We pray for the women and children who will attend the gathering and for those who will provide leadership. We also pray for the ongoing Safe Ministry training being undertaken in the communities of the Northern Territory. We know that following the Katherine Christian Convention held in May, a team was planning to travel to the Roper region to learn more about how to relate Safe Ministry principles in places that are linguistically and culturally diverse.



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### Overseas Projects

A little while ago I received a copy of a report on the Mothers' Union Burundi Literacy and Financial Education Programme Longitudinal Impact Study (2001-2022). A long name for a Mothers' Union funded project that has been running in Burundi for over 20 years. A project which in its first phase established a functional literacy and numeracy education programme and which evolved over the years to offer financial literacy and business development education and then parenting education. A project which highlights the success that can be achieved in working in partnership with other agencies.

According to the report there have been six key impacts of the project:

1. Gender equality and women's empowerment
2. Financial empowerment
3. Transformation of families
4. Enhanced capacity of Mothers' Union Burundi to sustainably deliver its mandate
5. Contribution to community development and nation building
6. Faith in action/Spiritual Empowerment

A summary on the Mothers' union website shows these statistics:

- Over 165,000 people (77% women) have participated in the programme in some of the most disadvantaged and hard to reach communities.
- Of those participants over 144,00 have learned to read and write and now have formal literacy qualification. This accounts for 2.9% of the adult literate population in Burundi.
- 7,500 participants accessed the parenting education element of the programme which has resulted in improved relationships between spouses and their children.
- 98% of participants interviewed report that their ability to now read the Bible has changed their relationship with God and given them a greater sense of belonging to their local church.
- The economic and social impacts of the programme deliver on eight of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, alongside nurturing self worth, value and spiritual maturing; which in turn empowers participants to take on leadership within their churches and wider communities.

I encourage you to read the full report which can be found on the Mothers' Union website:

[https://www.mothersunion.org/burundireport?utm\\_source=The%20Mothers%20Union&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=13987368\\_August%202023%20e-Newsletter&utm\\_content=Burundi&dm\\_i=1I8Y,8BSQ0,Q1MCH,YA8EV,1](https://www.mothersunion.org/burundireport?utm_source=The%20Mothers%20Union&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=13987368_August%202023%20e-Newsletter&utm_content=Burundi&dm_i=1I8Y,8BSQ0,Q1MCH,YA8EV,1)

### Blessings

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