

# SPRING

2024 Newsletter



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We have a  
**NEW**  
P.O. Box!

CRWRF.ca

STUDENTS FROM NEW HOPE ENJOYING  
A TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITY



# Overflowing with Hope

In our Fall Newsletter, we reported on CRWRF's Education Bursary Fund (EBF), which was set up in 2019 and has been funding secondary school bursaries in Kenya since then.

We are thankful for the effectiveness of this fund in making education accessible to students in financial need. Our long-term plan is to expand the EBF's reach to other students in need beyond Kenyan borders, as Child Development continues to be one of CRWRF's main areas of focus.

We are pleased to share with you an update from another partner involved in Child Development – the New Hope Foundation in West Timor, Indonesia. This organization provides full and partial sponsorships to approximately 120 children in the Barate area. In recent years, CRWRF has also been able to provide relief and rehabilitation assistance in the community after a series of natural disasters. It is our prayer that the hundreds of students who have come through New Hope over the years have benefited greatly from their Christian education and through the Christian witness of the dormitory staff, counsellors, and teachers. “May the God of hope fill [them] with all joy and peace as [they] trust in him, so that [they] may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit” (Romans 15:13).

In addition to the report from New Hope, you will find updates from our partners in Hungary and Ukraine, and at Khothatsong in South Africa. We are thankful for your continued support so that our partners' work may continue in Child and Community Development, Relief and Rehabilitation, and HIV/AIDS Response.

May the God of hope  
fill you with all joy and  
peace as you trust in him,  
so that you may overflow  
with hope by the power of  
the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 15:13

STUDENTS ATTENDING ONE OF THE LOCAL ELPIDA CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS

# About New Hope

Timor

FICTHOR MISSA, HOME DIRECTOR, WITH SOME OF THE NEW HOPE STUDENTS.

## New Hope's History

**According to UNICEF, there are currently 4.4 million orphaned or abandoned children in Indonesia. In the province where New Hope is located, there are 500,000 children living without one or both of their parents, which is more than in any other province. These children lack stability, food, health care, and often, love.**

In 2005, Reverend Edwer Dethan and his wife Femmy, missionaries in West Timor, Indonesia, began taking orphaned and impoverished children into their home. Often these children came from large families that were too poor to care for these children on their own. Other children were orphans who were referred to the Dethans through the churches and communities where they worked. Family and friends of the Dethan family throughout the world began sending money to help with the care of the children, and a dormitory

was built in 2008 near the Dethans' home to house the children who needed care.

Groups of young people from the Canadian and Australian reformed churches began to travel to Indonesia to help on the mission field. Seeing the immense need and moved to help, they raised money from their local churches and sent it to the Dethans to support the New Hope home. Several of these young people have continued to stay connected to what is now called the New Hope Foundation. They are involved in fundraising and sit on boards that oversee the organization of the home and the distribution of funds to Timor.

From its grassroots beginning, the New Hope Foundation has grown to a size that could never have been imagined. The Lord has richly blessed the efforts of all who have been involved. Currently, the dormitory operates under the guidance of Ficthor Missa and 10 full-time and 2 part-time counsellors.

The children come from various religious backgrounds and often have a troubled past. To help and guide them to understand God's Word and to deal with past trauma, weekly one-on-one counselling sessions are provided. The Bible is central at New Hope, and all children are expected to participate in devotions privately and in groups. They attend church activities, such as catechism classes and young people's study groups, as well as Sunday worship services in their local reformed mission churches.

Children who are sponsored by New Hope attend the Elpida Christian Schools. Many go on to secondary education at Stakri, where they enrol in both academic and life skills programs. Other students head directly into the workforce. Over the years, hundreds of children have come and gone from the New Hope home. They've started jobs, married, had children, and become self-sustaining. Many continue to recognize God's saving power and show this in their lives, and they are thankful for their time at New Hope.

In 2017 the Board of Mission Aid (Smithville) began working with CRWRF. As with all our partners, an agreement between CRWRF and the New Hope Foundation outlines the project description, reporting requirements, and funding commitments. This agreement is reviewed and renewed annually.

We are very thankful that through the New Hope Foundation, children are supported to regain stability in the form of a place to live, daily provision, and Christian education, love, and encouragement.

## SPONSORSHIP IN 2023

TYPE	FULL	PARTIAL
SITUATION	Children who have been orphaned or neglected by their families	Children who remain living with their families
RECEIVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Food</li> <li>Accommodation</li> <li>Health care</li> <li>Education</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Education</li> </ul>
NUMBER OF CHILDREN	25	95

# Relief Work

Over the years, there have been at least three severe natural disasters in Indonesia. The children at New Hope are affected by these disasters, whether they remain in the villages with their families or live at the New Hope home. We are thankful to have been able to provide support and relief alongside the members of the Canadian Reformed churches in Smithville, Grassie, and Lincoln.

With each natural disaster, CRWRF asked our supporting community for assistance. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to help in ways beyond the initial plan. We have also received reports from our brothers and sisters in West Timor that the relief support has opened doors with unbelieving neighbours. Those who were initially hostile to Christianity have started expressing appreciation for the Christian love and service that they have experienced through these difficult times. We give thanks to the Lord and pray that these new connections will be blessed!

There continues to be great need in Timor because of ongoing storms and disasters. There has also been a steep rise in cost of living due to drought, government policy, and war abroad. And finally, there is a waitlist of children who would love to receive the support, love, education, and godly training that New Hope offers. May the Lord continue to bless the work at the New Hope Foundation and provide for their every need.

*If you would like to support the work of New Hope, please visit the Donate Now tab on our website, and choose "Donate Online" or "Pre-authorized Payment (PAP) Form" to set up scheduled monthly donations. Please choose "New Hope - Timor" as the designated fund.*



NEW HOPE STUDENTS POSING IN FRONT OF NEWLY CONSTRUCTED DORMITORY

## RELIEF EFFORTS 2020-23

EVENT	EFFECT	RELIEF
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020:</b> <b>BARATE BUSH FIRES</b>	Destroyed homes and crops in Barate villages	<b>IMMEDIATE RELIEF:</b> food packages, livelihood recovery  <b>LONG-TERM REHABILITATION:</b> installation of well, pump, and tank
<b>APRIL 2021:</b> <b>CYCLONE SEROJA</b>	Destroyed girls' dormitory at New Hope Destroyed homes and businesses Washed away bridges and roads Limited access to fresh water Rice fields covered by mudflow Lack of power for months	<b>IMMEDIATE RELIEF:</b> food and hygiene packages, diesel generators, water tanks, fuel  <b>LONG-TERM REHABILITATION:</b> funds for reconstruction of girls' dormitory, kitchen, and most severely destroyed homes and churches
<b>DECEMBER 2022:</b> <b>EARTHQUAKE AND FLOODING</b>	Damaged bridges around Barate Flood-related skin diseases	<b>IMMEDIATE RELIEF:</b> food packages



FOOD PACKAGE DISTRIBUTION FOLLOWING 2022 EARTHQUAKE



## Update on our EBF Drive:

We are thankful to share that the Education Bursary Fund is at \$446,000 as of Jan 31. The goal we set in 2023 was to double the size of the fund to \$500,000, so we are well on our way. We praise the Lord for your generosity!

# Project Updates

## Hungary & Ukraine War Relief

CRWRF sent relief aid in the winter of 2022-2023, and continues to provide funding to those affected by the war in Ukraine, via our brothers and sisters in the RPCCEE (Reformed Presbyterian Church of Central and Eastern Europe). Pastor Imre (Hungary) has reported that help has been offered in two ways thus far: first, several families have been provided with firewood for the winter months; second, several children, including some orphans, have received Christmas gifts which included food, sweets, and clothes/shoes. He also reports that they are continuing the relief work of distributing subsidies. For the brothers in Ukraine, travel and distribution is becoming increasingly dangerous due to checkpoints and forced enrollment. Please continue to uphold both those distributing and receiving this aid, that the Lord may keep them safe and provide for their daily needs.

## South Africa Khothatsong

CRWRF continues to support two projects through the Khothatsong Association in Soshanguve, South Africa: home-based care and foster care.

The home-based care project was started when, due to the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS, there was a steep rise in need for financial and physical support for those struggling with HIV and AIDS. Today, the project continues to care for people with HIV and AIDS, and it has expanded to include care for patients with various other medical conditions. The team consists of several nurses who provide nursing assistance and food parcels to about 200 patients in their homes. Patients are brought into care through requests from family of existing patients, referrals from the local hospital or government-appointed social worker, and ongoing door-to-door visits.

One of the patients is a woman named Flora, who became a paraplegic after the birth of her baby girl. Afraid of her physical state, the father of the child withdrew from caring for and financially supporting Flora. Although she has received a grant from the hospital, she also continues to struggle with her diabetes and hypertension, and there are no glucometers available. Through the home-based care, the nurses care for her and help her navigate her various health conditions. Please pray for physical and emotional strength for the nurses who continue caring for the vulnerable in their communities. May the Lord God also be with the patients and grant that the treatments and care would be effective.

The Khothatsong Association also cares for eight children in two foster homes. These children have just finished their summer holidays and are back in school. Please pray for the foster mothers, Eggy and Thoko, that God would give them wisdom and guidance as they love and care for these children and seek to provide for all their needs. Pray for the children, many of whom have experienced past trauma and difficulties, which continue to have an impact on them today. Pray that God would create a home where they can enjoy new opportunities and positive memories.



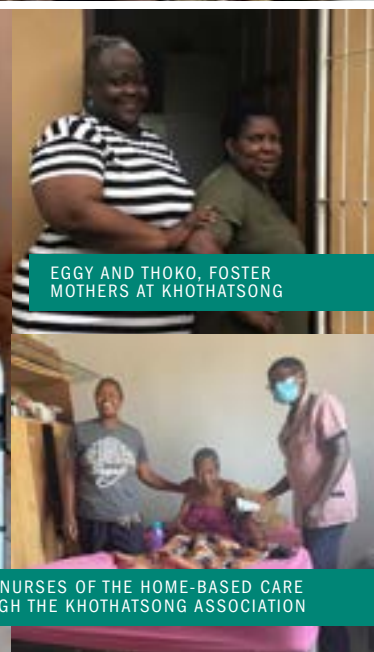
CHILDREN RECEIVING CHRISTMAS GIFTS IN HUNGARY & UKRAINE



DISTRIBUTION OF FIREWOOD TO NEEDY FAMILIES



EGGY AND THOKO, FOSTER MOTHERS AT KHOTHATSONG



RECIPIENTS AND NURSES OF THE HOME-BASED CARE PROGRAM THROUGH THE KHOTHATSONG ASSOCIATION

# THANK YOU!

**The Board would like to express its appreciation to Lucille van Orizande and Laura Dehaas, who served with Manna and then CRWRF for over 20 years and 7 years, respectively.**

Lucille and Laura were our Western representatives who coordinated sponsorships for the Mufu Children's Home in Kenya. We also appreciate the hard work they did in organizing the annual Mufu Day at Parkland Immanuel Christian School for many years before Covid-19. Thank you for your time and service, Lucille and Laura. Our new representatives are Deanna De Wit and Darcie Duker. Welcome aboard ladies!

Learn about all the ways you can help at:

**CRWRF.ca**