



the gift of EDUCATION

Dear Supporters

Education is the future

Thank you for your past contribution and continuing interest in the work of Life, Love and Health in Timor-Leste.

We need your help again to raise funds for a partnered school construction project in Garianna, Liquisa District, 50 kilometres West of Dili.

Investing in a child's education can change that individual's future. Investing in the education of Timor-Leste's next generation can change the entire country's future.



Students in the current inadequate Garianna school

New schools bring hope to communities

In 1999, the World Bank estimated that 95 per cent of school buildings, school furniture and materials had been lost through the ongoing violence that marked the long era of Indonesian occupation. There is a 50 per cent level of illiteracy amongst the broader population so it's critical that the next generation is given a good education in adequate facilities.

This is why Life, Love and Health works with the Timorese Ministry of Education and local communities to build and rehabilitate schools.



The construction and rehabilitation of facilities, along with good teachers, is an important step in establishing a higher level and quality of education. The local communities see this as a very high priority as education is imperative for the development of the next generation's sense of leadership. It is essential to maximise future opportunities, to develop the diversity of the economy and to embrace peaceful co-existence and reconciliation.

"Please help us build our school"

The Chief of Garianna Village, Senhor Boa Ventura, expressed the community's urgent need for a new school: *"We need the school for the children's future because we have no proper building here at Garianna. Our school building is not big enough for the 130 children and after July there will be another 70 children wanting to come here. Because of the numbers we have 2 shifts, first from 8am - 12pm and then 1 - 4pm. Grades 1 to 5 are here and the Grade 6 students have to go to another school three kilometres away because there is not enough room here."*

Junior High School in Ossu Completed

Thanks to the support of donors like you, Life, Love and Health has recently completed a Junior High School in the Ossu Sub-District. This school was dedicated as a memorial to the spirit of Australian SAS soldier Corporal David O'Neill who, having served in Timor, wanted to give something more to the children of Timor-Leste. On his passing, David's family raised funds and travelled to Timor-Leste to help lay the foundation stones for the school. They also had the opportunity to share in the joy of the children who will benefit greatly from their new school. This school will save many of these children a ten kilometre walk through the mountains to get to school and it will no doubt open up opportunities for an isolated community in the East of Timor-Leste.



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"An Enduring Gift on Behalf of our Son David O'Neill"

"Our son David O'Neill tragically died in a car accident in April 2007. David served with the armed forces in the SAS on two tours of duty in East Timor in 2001.

While he was away we asked if we could send him any special supplies. Instead of anything for himself, he requested that we send items which he could distribute to the East Timorese children. He commented that they were so friendly and happy natured despite the fact that they had so little. One football, for example, would entertain a whole village of children. He asked family and friends to send pens, books and writing materials, toys and balls.

Remembering David's fondness of the East Timorese people, in lieu of flowers at David's funeral, we requested people donate to a fund for the children of East Timor.

We heard that the Ossolequemeta Junior High School needed two extra classrooms, a staff room and a toilet block to complete the reconstruction. We were delighted to be able to contribute to this excellent project.

In December 2007, David's brother Jordan and I travelled with a small group from Life Love & Health to Ossolequemeta to be present at the opening of the school project.

The local community dedicated a whole day to the ceremony. Young girls dressed in traditional costume performed a welcome dance, which was followed by a Mass, and then the ceremonial laying of a foundation stone at the school site. It was a memorable day for us and a special way for us to honour David's memory."

Wilma O'Neill



Wilma and Jordan O'Neill and Life Love & Health Patron Kevin Bailey holding David O'Neill's memorial plaque at the site of the new school

Thank you

The students and entire community in this village at Ossu will always be grateful for this precious gift of education. Please help us share this gift with the children of Garianna. All donations made through AFAP to Life, Love & Health are tax deductible and if you donate before June 30, your contribution will also be a tax deduction this financial year.

Obrigado (thank you) once again for your support.

Kind regards

John

John Gosling OAM
President
Life, Love & Health

YES! I want to help Life, Love & Health

All Australian members of Life, Love & Health are volunteers so you know your money is going to Timor-Leste where it is really needed. Donations can be directed to our Community Development Partner - The Australian Foundation for the Peoples of Asia and the Pacific (AFAP). All donations made out to "AFAP" for Life, Love & Health Partnered Programs are Tax deductible.

Make a donation by completing the coupon below and posting it to:
AFAP, PO Box 12, Crows Nest, 1585, NSW, Australia

Name (Mr Mrs Miss Ms)

Address.....

.....P/Code

Phone (H).....(W)

Email

I wish to make a donation to AFAP - Life, Love and Health Programs for the following amount:

\$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 Other: \$.....

I have attached a cheque, or
Please debit the amount I have indicated from my:
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