



# Help-A-School Foundation

## 2019 Annual Report

### AGM - Monday 9 September 2019

#### Objectives of the Help-A-School Foundation are:

- (a) To improve the lives of children in rural schools in India;
- (b) To provide resources, funding and in kind support for education programs & opportunities for children in rural areas of India;
- (c) To fundraise for the Help-a-school Foundation in order to support their charitable works;
- (d) To collect and transport books, computers, stationery, educational materials and other school resources to rural schools in India ;
- (e) To raise awareness about the work of Help-A-School Foundation;
- (f) At all times, act in the best interest of the beneficiaries of *Help-A-School Foundation*;
- (g) Act in accordance with the *Convention on the Rights of the Child* and with respect to its principles;
- (h) Promote and maintain total financial transparency at all times.
- (i) To raise awareness in Australia about poverty related issues in rural India such as child labour, gender inequality and child marriages.

#### Committee members 2018-2019

We would like to sincerely thank the following people for their roles and contributions on the HASF committee for 2018-19

President	Jan Carey
Secretary	Raj Bhatti / Des Hurst
Treasurer	Julie Krassay
Committee members: Heidi Lomax, Sharyn Tompkins, Des Hurst	

#### Fundraising Activities in 2018-19

**Study Tour to India:** In January 2019, Jan led a 9-day Mindful Teacher study tour for 4 teachers to Tamil Nadu in India, to visit the projects and villages that HASF has been supporting over the previous years. The highlight for the teachers, was the time spent visiting several local village schools near Pondicherry, Vellore and in the Jawathu Hills. It was a unique opportunity to interact with the children and teachers in these locations, to share stories, collect drawings and play together in the yard. The other highlight was a visit to the Karunalaya Children's Home where the teachers spent time volunteering (more info below) and gathering letters and videos to send back to the sponsors in Australia.

As part of the tour, the 4 participants each donated \$250 to HASF towards school resources, stationery and sports equipment. Total raised through the study tour was \$1,000. We purchased and delivered these items while visiting the rural village schools and the orphanage in Jan 2019.



**Supporter donations:** Through generous donations of our supporters, HASF received another **\$1149** to support the Dental Health Camps in the Tribal villages of Jawathu Hills, and other projects.

**Child sponsor donations:** Our partnership with the Karunalaya Orphanage has continued, with another visit in January with the study tour group to meet with the family, chat with the children and peruse the extensions and improvements that have happened on the ground in the past year. HASF now receives donations from sponsors to support about 18 children at the Karunalaya Children's Home. During the 2018-19 year a **total of \$6,843** was received from sponsors for the Karunalaya Children's Home child sponsorships.

**Total raised in 2018-19 was \$8,992**

## Outcomes / Projects in India

The Fundraising events plus additional donations from sponsors and supporters through the Help-A-School Foundation website saw the Help-A-School Foundation donate financial support towards its objectives and outcomes in India. Our targeted projects and support included:

**Karunalaya Children's Home::** During 2018-19, we sponsored approx 18 children at the orphanage – this varied from month to month depending on the payments from sponsors. We contributed \$8351 to the sponsorships, which contributes to the children's education, food, medical and other care expenses.

We also had a fun opportunity to contribute towards the building improvements at the Home while we were on the study tour. The group of teachers rolled up their sleeves and with help from some of the older boys, painted the junior boy's dormitory. We even had an artist in the group who got creative with a beautiful corner tree! A wonderful memorable day.



### Village schools supplies: desks and resources

During 2018-19, \$775 was spent to support schools with resources in rural areas of Tamil Nadu. This included stationery, books, games, arts and sports equipment. During our study tour in January, teachers had the opportunity to give these items directly to the schools. It was an awesome, heart-warming experience, with the joy of the children's faces saying it all!



**Tribal Village Dental Education project:** During 2018-19, we began a new project focus to support the tribal, remote village schools and children of the Jawathu Hills. Dental disease is extremely prevalent in the remote Jawathu Hills region. Education, dental hygiene supplies and check-ups are desperately needed.

HASF supported 4 health camps (to the total of \$3,500) in the tribal mountain villages in Tamil Nadu. These medical camps provide free check-ups for dental, eye and general health for the children in the village. These camps were held at school, with each child also receiving personal instruction from the dentist (in the local Tamil language) about caring for their teeth. A team of doctors and nursing staff were involved in the check-ups and distribution of any hospital referrals or medication as needed. Each child also received a health kit including toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, sunscreen and some other stationery items.



## The year ahead

The Help-A-School Foundation committee has ongoing priorities for 2019-20 year.

**1. Promotion:**

- a. To promote Help-A-School Foundation and increase involvement in the fundraising and projects for India.

**2. Fundraising:**

- a. To encourage and support fundraising activities
- b. To continue to seek grant opportunities

**3. Project outcomes:**

- a. To continue to support:
  - i. Karunalaya Orphanage- sponsorships
  - ii. Village schools – desks, stationery, resources
  - iii. Tribal schools Dental / Medical Camps Project

## Financial Statements

Financial reports presented

*I am honoured and proud to present this report to all the supporters of The Help-A-School Foundation. I look forward to our continued journey together to support the beautiful children in rural India.*

*As always, with much gratitude*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'J. Carey', written in dark ink.

**Jan Carey**  
**President**  
**Help-A-School Foundation**

9 – Sept - 2019