



*Australian  
Lutheran  
World Service*

# Annual Report 2015

HOW YOUR CARE BRINGS LOVE TO LIFE

When you give a banquet,  
invite those who are poor.  
Also invite those who  
can't see or walk.  
Then you will be blessed.

LUKE 14:13-14a (NIRV)

# How you welcome and receive

Our ALWS theme for 2015 was ‘Welcoming the Stranger’, drawn from the final commitment in the inter-faith statement about refugees led by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Those of us who are Christians recognise those three words from Jesus in Matthew 25:35.

In the pages that follow you’ll see how the ALWS family welcomed strangers in 2015, at a time when the planet played host to more people without a home — refugees and internally-displaced — than any other time since World War 2.

To **welcome** and to **receive** are often used interchangeably.

Yet I learnt from a young man working in the dust of an African refugee camp there’s a difference between the two. He taught me that to **welcome** is to open your door to someone — a crucially important gesture in a world now rapidly struggling to close its borders — but to **receive** someone is to bring them inside to your table and commit your support; to embrace them as you would your own, and be blind to difference.

**Christ asks that when we give a banquet, we must invite those who are poor, and those who can’t see or walk. [Luke 14:13]**

Here in Australia, the vast majority of us are blessed to sit at a ‘banquet’ every day.

It’s clear Jesus asks us to welcome people to share this with us, especially those who have been born into a world of poverty and hurt, compounded further by disability ... and to receive these people not out of pity or guilt, but with genuine respect for their dignity.

Through ALWS, each of us has the opportunity to receive others through programs which target injustice, and recognise the connection between disability, gender and poverty. In this report, you’ll see how ALWS has responded to emergencies, especially following the devastating Nepal earthquake in April, and you’ll discover how the Australian and New Zealand communities, including the Lutheran Laypeople’s League and our Government, has supported this work.

**In fact, the kindness of the ALWS family meant that in 2015 we could allocate more money to support people overseas than any other time in our history!**

You’ll see the impact of this throughout this Annual Report, and the details in the financial pages at the end.

Throughout 2015, I worked with a skilled team dedicated to ensuring our impact here and overseas was as efficient, effective and impactful as possible. We were governed by a group of committed Board Directors, and buoyed by an inspired Lutheran family dedicated to bringing an end to the suffering of others (see pages 18 & 19).

In 2016, we’ll look at ways of increasing our impact even further by exploring different approaches of caring for each coin. We’ll explore how a changing climate affects the most vulnerable first. We’ll add our voice to the unheard and the excluded. We’ll embrace those of different ability. And we will continue to welcome and receive others as best we can.



**Chey Mattner**  
Executive Secretary, ALWS

**Top: Chey Mattner**  
**On the cover: 13 year old Timur** (second from left) has a disability and used to be excluded from school. Thanks to your support through ALWS’ partners in Indonesia, Timur can now attend school and likes it so much he wants to be early every day! (Photos: ALWS)



## In 2015:



You welcomed the 'stranger' in refugee camps in Kenya, Jordan and Darfur where **more than 1.4 million people** have found safety.



Because of you, ALWS sent the **highest ever amount of money** to support work which helps and educates people.



Over **5,400 students in 70 schools** learnt about welcoming refugees – and then took practical action through **161 separate activities** to help others.



We shared face-to-face with you at **169 visits** to churches, schools, and ladies' guilds.



Volunteers gave **over 900 hours** of their own time to packing envelopes, helping with school Awareness Days – and never-ending filing! (This means more of your donation gets to those who need it).



**87.4%** of your donations went to projects helping and educating people – your work through ALWS that changes lives.

## Thank you!

\* 'Overheads' are administration and fundraising costs as defined by the ACFID Code of Conduct. Percentages are calculated from total 2015 disbursements. In 2015 our overhead rate was 12.6%. ALWS aims to minimise overheads as much as possible without affecting services. However, possible decreases in funding, maintaining standards, meeting additional compliance requirements, and staff care mean this rate is likely to increase as demands grow. Refer to full financial statements later in this report. Funds and other resources designated for the purpose of aid and development are used only for those purposes and are not used to promote a particular religious adherence or to support a political party, or to promote a candidate or organisation affiliated to a particular party.



*Your care means people like Balarani can now say "I can live my life without the help and support of others." Thank you! (Photo: LWF-Nepal)*

## From excluded – to entrepreneur!

**"I used to be a poor and excluded disabled girl living with bare hands and an uncertain future."**

Wherever you live, life can be tough if you have a disability. Yet it's especially hard for people with disabilities living in poverty.

If you're unable to earn money to help feed your family, you can feel like a burden. Others don't see you as a valuable member of the community. You can become isolated and lonely.

21 year old Balarani Chaudhary used to feel just this way: "As a disabled girl with only one leg I was living a dependent life in the family. Family members were not happy with me as I was unable to contribute to the household economy due to my physical condition. I was passing my days staying home without doing anything."

This exclusion is why ALWS has a special focus on people with disabilities, and works to include them in every community activity.

In Nepal, local partner Freed Kamaiya Women Development Forum (FKWDF) offered Balarani and other women with disabilities 3 months of sewing and tailoring training.

"In the initial phase of training, I was nervous and hopeless", says Balarani. **"But there was a determined spirit in me and I started to build hope inside.** After one month, I started to feel a little bit more

confident ... They also gave me start-up support with a sewing machine for income generation activities as my skill developed."

Because of your support through ALWS, Balarani's life changed dramatically. She now has a small sewing business and can help support her family. She tells: "Before, there was no other alternative for living and earning money and I had a very miserable life. Now, I start to think that I can live myself depending on my skill and sewing capacity. There is no tension regarding my life.

"I am married and living with my family as a household economic contributor with my own social status in the community. Now, I have a bank account in a nearby Micro Finance Institution and am saving some amount regularly for my future. Now I am a member and secretary of the disabled people's network in the village.

**"I would like to thank all those who helped provide this opportunity for me. I am very happy that I learnt to sew and earn money though I am disabled. Compared with the past, I am able to stand on my own feet."**

***When you give a banquet, invite those who are poor. Also invite those who can't see or walk. Then you will be blessed. Luke 14:13-14a (NIRV)***

# Action through advocacy

COUNTRY	NEPAL
WHAT	Nepal Development Program
WHERE	Jhapa, Morang, Lalitpur, Kailali, Dailekh, Doti districts
WHO	28,538 direct beneficiaries
ALWS ACTION	\$556,112 (DFAT: \$412,383, ALWS: \$143,729)

Communities increased their preparedness for and resilience to disasters, including through the following activities:

- support and training of 26 Community Based Disaster Risk Management Teams
- eight new grain banks to provide supplies in times of emergency such as landslides and floods
- seven communities establishing early warning systems for disasters
- construction of an emergency shelter in an area that experiences recurrent floods
- development of Local Disaster Risk Management Plans.

Families improved their livelihoods, including through the following activities:

- 899 families planted kitchen gardens so they can have vegetables all year
- 353 families have accessed extra land for farming and income generation
- 1,199 families are using environmentally friendly technology such as solar power, biogas, and improved cooking stoves
- collection centres have been established for farmers to sell their produce for higher profit
- 386 vulnerable people (including elderly people, people with disabilities and Dalit people) have been supported with training and goods to establish a small business such as mobile phone repairing, hair cutting, carpentry, masonry, grocery store, pig farming, and fish farming
- 11 Agricultural Cooperatives have been supported to collect capital for loans to members so they can purchase seeds and fertiliser, set up small businesses, and pay for children's education, health care and other necessities.

Communities led action for good governance and justice, including through the following activities:

- increasing the participation of disadvantaged groups in decision-making in 222 community groups such as School Management Committees, Forest User Groups, Ward Citizen Forums, and Water Users Groups
- lobbying local government for resources and services for communities
- supporting 1,017 vulnerable people to access services and allowances from the government, such as support payments for elderly, people with disabilities, and scholarships for Dalit children
- two disadvantaged ethnic groups (Santhal and Mushar communities) advocating to the government for specific issues such as citizenship provisions and land rights
- training and supporting Human Rights Defenders who raise awareness and lead campaigning on human rights issues, particularly relating to rights of people with disabilities.



Dropati Chaudari is one of the people with disabilities you help support in Nepal. The program invited Dropati to learn how to make candles and incense. She now earns around 1,200 rupees per month (around \$15) to help support her husband and children. Dropati says: "People are now respecting us more and treating us better. If people have skills they can do anything!"

(Photo: ALWS)

# Rebuilding lives and livelihoods

*Your kindness through ALWS helps young women like 16 year old Elizabeth. She's in Primary Class 8 and is hoping to progress to Secondary School. Elizabeth is well aware of the challenges that face her and other young women, like child marriage, but she is determined to go on to university and become a surgeon. (Photo: Sofi Lundin)*

COUNTRY	SOUTH SUDAN
WHAT	Rebuilding Livelihoods
WHERE	Jonglei State
WHO	25,578 people (6,493 direct beneficiaries)
ALWS ACTION	\$600,000



After many years of war, the program in South Sudan works to equip people with practical skills they can use to earn a living and feed their families. Activities include:

- 1,780 pieces of insecticide-treated mosquito nets for 1,192 households (both Internally Displaced Persons and host community) in Pibor County
- 1,500 kits of 2.2kg of vegetable seeds (okra, cowpeas, tomatoes, and kudura) for 1,571 households
- 10 vegetable farmer groups of 25 members each (145 female) trained in vegetable growing skills such as crop management, pest and disease control, seeds/vegetable preservation methods and marketing
- 1,500 fishing kits of 1 packet of fishing hooks and 3 fishing twines for 1,500 households. This was a short term measure as people can then have access to fish straightaway — for food and income from surplus
- five fishing groups each with 25 members formed and trained in fishing methods, fish processing/preservation methods, and marketing surplus fish. One group is for demobilized boy-child soldiers
- farm tools (1 maloda and 1 sickle) for 1,571 households
- 6,048 pupils (2,419 girls) enrolled in 15 primary schools and given a School Kit including exercise books, pens, pencils with rubber, and dustless chalk
- the first Early Childhood Development Centre opened in Twic East County to 65 pupils (35 girls). LWF has been overwhelmed by the community commitment to this project, particularly at the end of 2015 when many parents asked to enrol their children in the ECD centre for 2016
- 12 hygiene awareness sessions for 349 participants conducted in Poktap Duk County and Twic East County.

# Where 'strangers' are welcomed

COUNTRY	KENYA
WHAT	Kakuma Refugee Camp Program & Dadaab Refugee Camps Program
WHO	Kakuma: 180,000 refugees, Dadaab: 347,627 refugees
ALWS ACTION	Kakuma: \$212,000, Dadaab: \$50,000

In 2015, Lutheran (World Federation) staff at the [Kakuma Refugee Camp](#) Reception Centre received 7,140 refugees, mostly from South Sudan. Welcoming refugees with hot meals, a bed and referral for follow-up support is one of the ways you care for new arrivals at the Camp.

Other ways you supported refugees at [Kakuma](#) in 2015 include:

- 60,583 students (23,278 girls) in 20 primary schools managed by LWF staff, and an additional 11,466 students (5,513 girls) in the 12 preschools. ALWS now directly reaches a total of 72,049 children in school there. This includes 1,004 children with disabilities (351 girls)
- during the year 907 children (501 girls) benefitted from one-on-one counselling sessions, while another 682 (490 girls) were engaged in group counselling
- 13,993 children and youth (4,903 female) have taken part in LWF organised culture activities during the year. A contemporary dance youth crew composed of 10 members in a group called Gobole were facilitated to participate in the Sakata East Africa dancing competition. These activities help children's psycho-social development and provide further engagement beyond schooling
- 8 child protection awareness campaigns were conducted in the host community near the camp. 9,281 (5,447 female) community members took part and discussed on how they can take the lead in protecting children from being abused and exploited, and ensure that children attend school.



*Through ALWS, and our partner Lutheran World Federation, you support elderly refugees at Dadaab Refugee Camp like 100 year old Hassan. When Hassan was told about a new voucher program for purchase of fresh food, he could not hide his excitement. He said: "This is God-sent. The voucher came at a time when I needed it the most." (Photo: LWF Kenya)*

During 2015, you supported campaigns in the [Dadaab Refugee Camps](#) to raise awareness on the importance of education, with a focus on encouraging families to allow their daughters to go to school.

These efforts had considerable success with a 16% and 20% increase in primary and preschool enrolment of girls respectively. This resulted in 13,206 students in primary schools and 8,647 students in preschools managed by LWF by the end of 2015.

You also cared for refugees at [Dadaab](#) in other ways including:

- assisting more children with special needs to attend school, with a 20% increase over the year to 1,241 children (534 girls)
- special assistance for 3,771 people with disabilities (1,662 women) including wheelchairs and walking frames
- special assistance for 6,906 older persons (3,396 women) including mosquito nets and sleeping mats.

## Welcoming our new neighbours

ALWS doesn't just take your help to refugees overseas. We also pass on your care and welcome to people who have come to Australia seeking safety and a new life. ALWS is able to grant loans to assist refugees overseas to reunite with family members in Australia. For example, in 2015 we granted a loan for an immigration agent's fee to help reunite a family from Afghanistan. These loans support the efforts of Lutheran congregations to care for families who have suffered and survived so much. We in turn are blessed by the passion and energy these new neighbours bring to our congregations and communities.

# Working together for good

COUNTRY	INDONESIA
WHAT	Disaster Risk Reduction through Rights Based Empowerment of Communities
LOCAL PARTNER	Centre for Disaster Risk Management and Community Development Studies (CDRM&CDS)
WHERE	North and West Sumatra
WHO	Direct beneficiaries: 10,686, Indirect beneficiaries: 39,615
ALWS ACTION	ALWS and LLL: \$163,460, DFAT: \$163,167

## This program brings people together.

Within villages it brings together:

- women who work collectively to increase their families' health and income
- people with disabilities so that they can become more involved members of the community
- farmers who develop new skills
- village leaders and community members so that they can make plans for their future
- village leaders and government staff, so that the government of Indonesia contributes to the development of villages — a longer-lasting solution than continued overseas funding.

The program also brings together church workers and program staff. Working together, the church workers develop skills in facilitating the types of activities listed above. Program staff walk alongside the church workers until they are confident enough to carry out the work by themselves. This is another way the program is putting in place longer-lasting solutions. The goal is for the churches in Indonesia to eventually be able to carry on this work on their own in ever more villages, benefitting ever more people.

Whilst striving for longer-term impact through village members working together to reach their potential, there are many successes on the ground already. In 2015, these include:

- 22 basic trainings facilitated by CDRM&CDS on waste management systems for 576 community members (75% women) in Mentawai and Pakpak. The training topics include organic and non-organic waste management with the 3-R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) methods. Plastic waste has been recycled into products like souvenirs, bags and artificial flowers
- ten disability inclusive trainings facilitated for 142 school teachers (58% women) in Mentawai. 24 teachers in Mentawai have had training on disability-inclusive education. The number of children with disabilities joining formal schools has increased in CDRM&CDS working villages
- CDRM&CDS has supported 26 income-generating initiatives for people with disabilities and their families, including small shops, pig breeding, chicken raising, tailoring, typing and printing.

*The work you support in Indonesia means children with disabilities like Timur (see also front cover) can now attend school. Timur's teacher Jusparida says Timur has "improved significantly. He is very disciplined and respectful to others. He always salutes his teachers politely and make friends easily". (Photo: ALWS)*



# Churches serving communities

*The stigma around disability used to be so strong for Daniel's family he was not allowed to leave his home. After a Lutheran Disability Program volunteer began working with his family, Daniel's parents gradually let him come out of the house, and the volunteer organised a wheelchair for him. Eventually Daniel said he wanted to go to school, so LDP worked with the school to make it possible. (Photo: CPP PNG)*



COUNTRY	PAPUA NEW GUINEA
WHAT	Church Partnership Program
LOCAL PARTNER	Evangelical Lutheran Church of PNG
ALWS ACTION	DFAT: \$603,584

## Churches are called to serve their communities.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of PNG has a proud history of this. Their health and education services reach into remote villages where no government services are available. On your behalf, ALWS has worked with the ELC-PNG over the past ten years on strengthening these services. We are grateful to the Australian Government for the funding to carry out this work.

ALWS works together with the ELC-PNG in vital areas like disability, agricultural development, financial management and literacy. This program is building sustainable improvements, the impact of which is developed over time. During the past year, some of the improvements include:

- working with Lutheran Health Service to strengthen financial management has meant a decrease in overheads — which means there is more money available for life-saving services
- after conducting quality audits of their hospitals, local staff were keen to make improvements and initiated projects such as constructing new toilets and building incinerators — making the hospital a safer place for patients
- Lutheran Disability Program has written a Community-based Rehabilitation Manual in tok-pisin (the local language). It's being used to train communities in how to work together so that people with disabilities can have better education, health and participation in village life.



## Learn, grow, thrive!

Watermelon farmer Riem Sok from Cambodia is grateful for Australian support through our ALWS partner Life With Dignity: "I really appreciate your help. I just cannot compare what it is like now to the times before. Thank you!" (Photo: ALWS)

COUNTRY	CAMBODIA
WHAT	Empowerment through Self Reliance Program
LOCAL PARTNERS	Life With Dignity
WHERE	Aoral, Thpong, Phnom Srouch, Phnom Krovanh, Battambang and Kampong Chhnang districts
WHO	300,766 direct and indirect beneficiaries
ALWS ACTION	\$1,041,592 (DFAT: \$769,827, ALWS: \$271,765)

Communities have increased their knowledge on good governance, human rights and advocacy, including through:

- trainings for government and community groups
- support for community members to raise awareness and advocate to the government and wider community
- trainings on basic legal issues, including land rights
- support for various levels of local government to work collaboratively together
- training communities in how to access funds and resources from government and other agencies
- support for village, commune and district forums where community members can address their concerns and requests to government officials, and they in turn can share information with communities
- support for awareness raising on child rights and formation of child clubs
- support for training of grassroots advocacy activists.

Families improved in their ability to support themselves, including through:

- training and supply of seeds and equipment for improved agricultural techniques, livestock raising, home gardening
- training for communities on nutrition, particularly to parents of young children and pregnant women
- training in waste management
- support and training in finance, business and marketing skills for agricultural cooperatives
- support for Village Banks to operate savings and lending services.

Communities increased their resilience to disasters and climate change, including through:

- support for Commune Council Disaster Management groups to plan and implement disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation strategies
- support for model farmers to learn and use climate change resistant farming techniques such as drip irrigation
- training to all levels of government and community on disaster risk reduction
- construction of village ponds, irrigation systems, rice banks, and open wells.

A study on Village Banks (VBs) and Agricultural Cooperatives (ACs) found that both VBs and ACs give poor people access to rural financial resources, both savings and loans. As a result, poor people in the VBs' and ACs' areas have been able to create new and expand existing business activities, such as animal rearing, home businesses, agricultural support and leasing agricultural materials.

## “...I am no longer poor”

It's been only three years since Ms Top Yorn owned land for the first time.

Before she was given her land, Ms Yorn tried to provide for her family by starting a noodle soup business and also selling charcoal. Yet she remained so poor she had to pull her Grade 6 daughter out of school.

Ms Yorn tells: “I felt discouraged about my future and the future of my children and wanted to move out of poverty.”

After many years of work by ALWS' local partner Life With Dignity (then Lutheran World Federation Cambodia), the Cambodian Government granted her 1.5 hectares of land to help her overcome her severe poverty.

Ms Yorn borrowed money to hire a tractor to clear the family's land, and that's when the watermelons (and vegetables) started!

*“I started to grow watermelon in February and harvested two months later. After selling the watermelons, I generated a gross income of \$950 – this was the highest income I got from this new land. After deducting the costs, I earned a net income of \$450! I am very happy with this achievement!”*

*“Now I have my own land, I won't leave it idle. I will grow as many crops on it as I can. I am very happy and have no more concerns about having no land like before. What I am concerned about now is what to grow on the land in order to get high yields and high income”.*

Your help through ALWS for farmers in Cambodia and other countries means other farmers will continue to have success like Ms Yorn. She says:

*“I think that in the next two years if my farming business is successful as planned, I am no longer poor.”*



*After being granted land, Ms Top Yorn began growing watermelons and vegetables. Thanks to your support and her hard work and determination, she can now say: “I think that in the next two years if my farming business is successful as planned, I am no longer poor.” (Photo: Life With Dignity)*

**“Village after village, person after person, the same story came through that these are people of enormous dignity and resilience. They are people that have so much capacity and vision. They are people that are able to build their community's future and the future of a country destroyed by warfare.”**

Trudy, Cambodia Teacher Study Tour participant, 2015

# Literacy, livestock and leaders!

COUNTRY	BURUNDI
WHAT	Community Empowerment Project (CEP)
WHERE	Cankuzo and Ruyigi provinces
WHO	Target population: 6,654 people
ALWS ACTION	\$408,367 (DFAT: \$145,801, ALWS: \$262,566)

The Community Empowerment Project in Burundi supports leaders, especially women, to improve in good governance, gender equity, literacy and mathematics. Community members (1,599 people in 2015) are assisted through a community empowerment course, literacy sessions, skills training and discussion sessions. With agricultural support, people not only have enough to eat, but can also make an income to buy food, clothes, school materials and fees, and healthcare.

Thanks to your support through ALWS, Lutheran World Federation Burundi staff were able to visit ALWS partners in Cambodia, Life With Dignity, to share experiences in the areas of individual empowerment and community graduation.

With consideration of their own context, LWF Burundi applied their learnings and facilitated community self-assessments. Communities assessed their degree of empowerment and areas of strength and weakness. Two communities are graduating from the CEP and will initiate their own projects in collaboration with LWF.

What's exciting about this program is the way that different associations (for example, goat rearing, fish breeding, savings and credit) share the learnings of their work with other associations, so that the impact of the program is continually growing. More and more families are increasing their knowledge and participation in areas like agricultural production and conservation, savings and credit, livestock care, nutrition, health and advocacy.

Violence and instability have been obstacles to the implementation of the CEP in 2015, but the communities and LWF staff have remained committed to their development goals and maintained peace in the intervention areas. Gacokwe community members have started a daily market, in Musha they have made a road to access market and health centre, and in Mwiruzi they built a primary school.



*The Goat and Pig Rearing Association you see here began with four goats and through rearing, now have 13. They also have seven pigs, some of which they bought using money from selling goat meat. The group's goal is for everyone to have one goat and one pig each. Once everyone has goats and pigs and enough income, they will add cows and eventually build better houses for themselves. These are the life changes you make possible! (Photo: ALWS)*

# Capable communities

COUNTRY	MOZAMBIQUE
WHAT	Gaza Community Empowerment Project
WHERE	Gaza province
WHO	63,065 direct and indirect beneficiaries
ALWS ACTION	\$80,000

During 2015, more women in the Gaza Community Empowerment Project participated in Community Development Committees than in previous years. It's exciting to see the number of women in leadership roles continuing to rise and their commitment to driving development in their communities. Over the past three-year strategy, there has been improvement in gender equity and human rights, particularly in the reduction of domestic violence against women, and increased gender equity and female participation in both family and community structures.

Due to program support for water committees and education on safe drinking water, households organised themselves to pay contractors to construct wells. 12 wells were constructed which are benefitting 1,389 people. 155 young people attended vocational trainings in sewing, carpentry, brick-making or manufacturing lamps. This activity is an important alternative for young people who would usually migrate to South Africa for employment. Vocational trainings in handcraft were conducted for 43 people with disabilities.

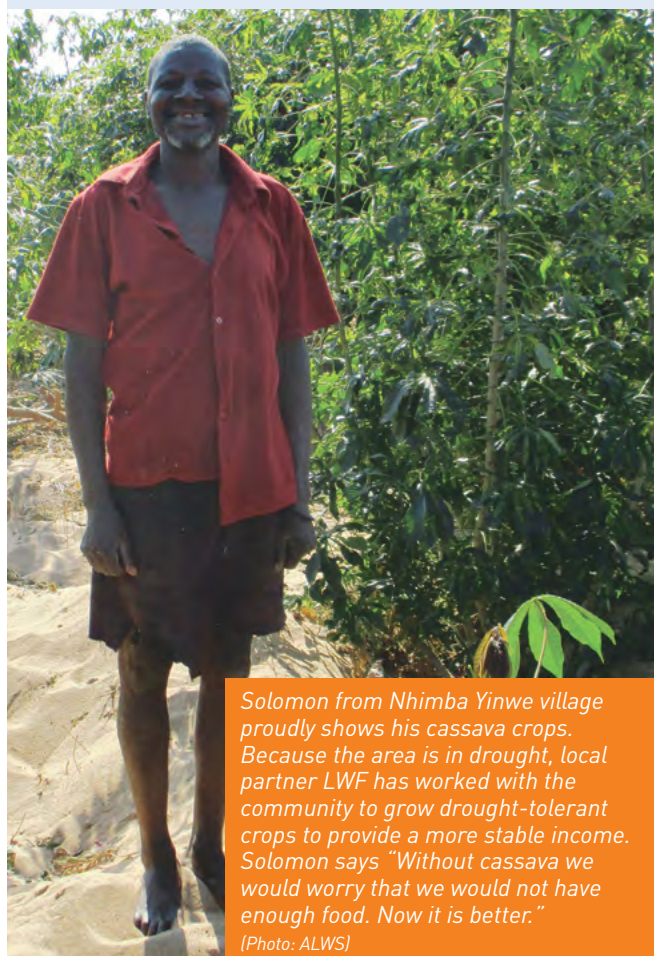
Incidences of malaria and cholera have substantially decreased due to awareness raising and provision of mosquito nets. Savings and credit schemes have helped boost group members' self-esteem. People's income through the schemes are typically used for improving housing, investing in agricultural equipment and paying for education for children.

The model of community structures the program has built and supported in Gaza will sustain its long-term impact. These structures are responding to local community needs and are seen as respectable community organisations by local authorities, who often invite the Community Development Committees to important decision-making forums. The program's focus on sustainable agricultural practices, livestock care and savings and credit schemes will continue assisting people to build their lives even at the conclusion of local partner's Lutheran World Federation's presence in the area.

Our visits to remote communities within the Gaza province of Mozambique opened our eyes to the ways that both individuals and whole communities have been empowered through the work of ALWS and LWF, as they use a rights-based approach to assist with ongoing development projects.

All people are treated with dignity by the LWF Community Development Officers who help whole communities to work together to achieve goals. In one village we were told that the most important change that had occurred since the staff of LWF had worked with them, was that now they were a community rather than a group of individuals living near to each other. The community council spoke to us with great excitement, about how they could achieve so much by working together!

Jeanette, Mozambique Teacher Study Tour participant, 2015



Solomon from Nhimba Yinwe village proudly shows his cassava crops. Because the area is in drought, local partner LWF has worked with the community to grow drought-tolerant crops to provide a more stable income. Solomon says "Without cassava we would worry that we would not have enough food. Now it is better." (Photo: ALWS)



## Nepal: Earthquake

The earthquake in Nepal shocked the world: so many lives lost, so many homes destroyed. Your support made it possible to give immediate assistance.

Through ACT Alliance, ALWS supported Lutheran (World Federation) efforts to ensure the most vulnerable people were helped, including children, people with disabilities, female-headed households, the elderly, and disadvantaged ethnic and social groups. Assistance included:

- emergency shelter kits distributed to 18,447 families
- transitional shelters provided to 7,552 families
- 5,272 families supported to construct family latrines
- non-food item kits distributed to 18,447 families (includes sets of bed and bedding materials, and kitchen utensils)
- 10,592 hygiene kits distributed (includes tooth brush, tooth paste, bathing soap, laundry soap, women's underwear, sanitary napkins, water bucket and mug)
- repair/renovation and construction of 66 village water schemes in progress
- Water Users committees formed
- 134 hygiene promotion activities organised
- 6 community networks established
- 1,291 Community-Based Psychosocial (CBPS) volunteers identified and trained
- 46 CBPS activities organised, such as workshops and recreational activities
- 4,793 adults and children benefitted from CBPS activities to enhance their psychosocial wellbeing
- 350 single mothers, women, displaced people, children, people with disabilities and other vulnerable people received CBPS support from community networks (such as support group formation, school based activities, referrals, individual visits)
- 4,622 vulnerable families received ready-to-eat food packets (rice, noodles, biscuits)
- 6,353 families received basic food ration for 30 days (rice, lentil, vegetable oil, salt, sugar and fortified food)
- 6,776 targeted households supported to prepare a Livelihood Improvement Plan and received cash support to resume family livelihoods.

*Bel Kumar Shrestha was working in India when the earthquake struck and couldn't get any news about his wife or children. He rushed home and was so relieved to find them alive. Because you gave so generously, Bel and others received a livelihood grant to help them get back on their feet. Bel bought chickens with his grant and sells their offspring and eggs to get an income.*

*(Photo: Brian Holmes, AOA)*

The ACT Alliance Nepal Forum is the second largest network responding in Nepal after the UN. A Joint Monitoring Visit in January 2016 observed that whilst there have been some external challenges (including national fuel shortage, strikes, delays from government, and geographical remoteness of affected areas) the quality, timeliness, and coordination of the activities is overall very good, with most of the planned outputs achieved.

ALWS' contribution will continue to assist victims of the earthquake in 2016.

# “I felt that I would die”

The village of Suri in central Nepal is so remote it takes a 4WD 2-3 hours to drive the 20km from the local town. The track is extremely bumpy and rutted. In the rainy season it would be almost impossible to reach, except by foot.

These are the places ALWS takes your love and care – to people like farmer Bhim Bahadur Shrestha (grandfather of Bel, opposite page).

62 year old Bhim has farmed for most of his life, growing millet, maize, potatoes, barley and medicinal herbs. He also rears goats.

Bhim used to own three houses around the village. Although he was poor before the quake, he was always able to work, grow food and feed his family. He even managed to borrow money for his son’s education, which he was able to pay back within a few years.

When the quake struck, Bhim was convinced his life was over. He stayed overnight in the village, but everything had been reduced to dust. He says:

## “I thought that everything will end today. I felt that I would die.”

Bhim made a shelter from bamboo to try and protect himself. Then your help began to arrive. Bhim received a livelihood grant of 7,500 rupees (about \$107) and used it to buy two goats. He raises kids to sell, and also slaughtered the adult goats to sell the meat.

Bhim is now looking forward to rebuilding a permanent home and working with Lutheran World Federation Nepal to rebuild the latrines. Bhim wants to pass on his thanks to you:

“I felt that the world would have been totally destroyed by this quake, but I am so happy and glad for the support given to me. I am so thankful to the organisations that arrived to provide help and materials.”

“I have hope for the future.”



*Bhim with some of his goats you helped provide. Because of your support, Bhim and other earthquake victims can say “I have hope for the future”.*

*(Photo: Brian Holmes, AOA)*

WHAT HAPPENED	7.8 magnitude earthquake on 25 April. Further earthquake of 7.3 magnitude on 12 May.
WHO AFFECTED	8,790 dead, 22,300 injured, and 800,000 houses destroyed
WHERE YOU HELPED	Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, Lalitpur, Rasuwa, Sindupalchowk, Makwanpur, Kabharelpananchok and Dolakha districts.
WHO YOU HELPED	124,575 people
ALWS ACTION	\$1,050,934 (ALWS: \$931,956, Global Mission Partners through ALWS: \$118,977) as part of ACT Alliance Appeal



*Support in Nepal also included training to community members in how to build earthquake-resistant temporary houses. Here you can see a small-scale model house showing the community the best way to build.*

*(Photo: Brian Holmes, AOA)*

# Vanuatu: Tropical Cyclone Pam



When Cyclone Pam hit the islands of Vanuatu, it brought destructive winds surpassing 300kph, heavy rainfall, storm surges and flooding - and destroyed all in its wake. Your help through ACT Alliance member Act for Peace helps people rebuild their homes and their lives.

(Photo: Julia Loersch, Act for Peace)

WHAT HAPPENED	Widespread destruction on March 13
WHERE	Shefa, Malampa, Penema and Tafea
WHO AFFECTED	188,000 people
WHO YOU HELPED	60,747 people
ALWS ACTION	\$57,000

Through ACT Alliance, your care was brought to the people of Vanuatu immediately following the storm. Your help included:

- 47,247 people supported with food, water, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) materials, tarpaulins, clothing and emergency seeds for planting
- 10,893 people supported through food security initiatives including nursery establishment, fencing repairs, seedling distribution, school and food gardens and fish farming
- water tank and water system repairs benefitted 1,942 people
- house repair training workshops provided to about 500 people
- 2,000 people received personal hygiene kits
- 15 solar dryers constructed and 193 people trained as Trainers on food drying processes, safe food handling and nutritional value of dried food
- 6 aquaculture trial sites established with fresh water tilapia fish, and training provided by government fisheries staff to selected students and staff at Tongoa Secondary School in the management and cleaning of the ponds, calculation of feeding needs and tracking fish growth.

# Myanmar: Floods

WHAT HAPPENED	Flooding and cyclone damage July-September
WHERE	Rakhine State, Chin State, Sagaing Region, and Magway Region
WHO AFFECTED	1.5 million affected; 328,461 displaced
WHO YOU HELPED	Approximately 63,275
ALWS ACTION	\$40,000



- Local partners Lutheran World Federation (LWF) provided 2 weeks' food ration for 10,145 people, consisting of rice, oil, salt and pulses
- repair of motorbike tracks and bridges damaged by floods in Lailenpi, Aru, Teina and Sosai villages of Matupi Township
- immediate WASH materials distributed to schools
- shelter/housing support to 100 families in Ponnakyun and Ann Townships
- education and psychosocial support programs in 20 villages in Ponnakyun and Mrauk U Township.
- Disaster Risk Reduction and fire safety activities in 20 schools in 20 villages.

*In addition to the 2 weeks' food ration you helped provide, LWF distributed 127 tonnes of food supported by the World Food Program to 7,885 people. The food included the WFP standard food basket for 1 month consisting of rice, pulses, oil and salt.  
(Photo: Martin Celiz, LWF Myanmar)*

# Darfur, Sudan: Humanitarian crisis

WHAT HAPPENED	Humanitarian crisis following 13 years of civil war
WHO AFFECTED	6.9 million people
WHO YOU HELPED	249,443 people
ALWS ACTION	\$50,000

- 249,443 people (internally displaced persons in camps, host communities and rural villages surrounding the program operational camps) in South, Central and East Darfur reached through integrated Primary Health Care package
- 476,702 people received WASH services
- 51,656 people received Non-food Items and shelter materials
- 11,490 people received training in how to access and prepare food.



*In the Bilel camp in Darfur, members of the community have been trained to fix pipes and repair water systems to help sustain the water and sanitation program that helps over 30,000 people in the camp. (Photo: Laura Sheahen, Caritas-ACT)*

# Because of you...

Through ALWS, you reach out to people in desperate need in some of the poorest countries in the world.

Because of you:

- children are growing strong and healthy
- crops are thriving
- mums and dads are learning new skills to earn an income
- families have clean water and less sickness
- villages have built rice banks and wells, roads and fishing ponds
- communities are making sure to look after their the most vulnerable, like children, the elderly and people with disabilities
- everyone is working together for a better future!

This is all because of you – your kindness, your care, your love. Here are some of the ways you've helped in 2015.

## Lutheran ladies light up life

When Lutheran women get an idea, don't get in their way! To celebrate the 2015 Lutheran Women of Australia Convention, women across Australia set out to raise \$8,000 to partner a village in Cambodia, provide Long Drop Loos in Nepal, support a pre-school teacher at Kakuma Refugee Camp and supply Water Filters.

**With their typical energy, hard work and creativity, the ladies blasted their target out of the water.**

They handed over a cheque for \$28,839, with a further \$7,000 from Convention offerings, plus another \$9,322 of Christmas gifts! It's amazing how when you bring together each drop that each of us individually can do, together we can form a torrent of care!



*Central Coast Women's fellowship are too busy with grandkids and coffee with friends to bake! But they still wanted to do something to help others. So they held a Bakeless Cake stall (where you put the cost of making a cake or biscuits in a donation bag) – and raised \$610!*

*(Photo: Central Coast Women's Fellowship)*

## Generous Jenna

**After ALWS visited Jenna's Year 3 class in 2015, Jenna was determined to do something to help people living in poverty.**

At the end of the summer holidays she held a stall after church where she sold her no longer needed books and toys, and homemade biscuits and muffins. People loved supporting her enthusiasm and heart for this project and she was so excited to raise nearly \$300. With these funds, Jenna was able to choose 16 Gifts of Grace! She can't believe how generous people were and how many people she can now help through ALWS. Go Jenna!



*(Photos: Provided by family)*

## Valuable volunteers

In 2015, volunteers gave 900+ hours of time to care for people through ALWS.

This does not include the many hours given behind-the-scenes in Op Shops, church communities, Lutheran Women's groups and Lutheran schools to raise money to help others. Please know your energy and effort is a precious gift that is highly valued.

An extra-special thank you goes out to tireless helpers Glenda Walter, Wilma Stieber and Audrey Hopkins.



*Volunteers in the ALWS Albury office create Christmas cards for our generous donors. Their service means more of your gifts can go to help people in need.  
(Photo: ALWS)*



*(Photo: Living Faith)*

## Walking as one

Students from Living Faith Lutheran School in Queensland did a Walkathon to raise money to welcome and care for refugees through ALWS.

Leading up to the event they held 'sock-bling' activities at lunch times, where many students used craft materials to 'bling their socks' (see photo). During the Walkathon, students and teachers were challenged along the way with scenarios provided by the Year 6 students. This included carrying a weight so the walkers could feel a little of what it was like for refugees carrying their possessions. The Walkathon finished with the whole school walking with their banners, reading 'Walk as One' — and an amazing fundraising total of almost \$7,000!

## Awareness to Action

After learning from ALWS about the challenges facing refugees, Year 5 student Raven decided to do something to help:

*"It was quite sad learning that people live like that, but it made me realise how lucky we are to live in this country where we have endless food and water, unlike the refugees ... it made me feel sorry for them, so some of my friends and I are going to set up a stall at our local farmers market to raise money for refugees."*

## From Bundaberg to Bunbury...

... you reach out in love to help others. In 2015, more than 64% of the money ALWS used to support work which helped and educated people was donated by our ALWS family and the wider Lutheran community. Support for everything we do came from the kindness of people right across Australia and New Zealand.

SA	\$2,032,994.16	TAS	\$13,066.00
NT	\$64,006.70	WA	\$149,566.35
QLD	\$938,938.45	ACT	\$83,116.75
NSW	\$392,196.06	NZ	\$2,861.72
VIC	\$713,796.16	Other*	\$637,579.54

Total donations: \$5,028,121.89

*\*Lutheran Women of Australia, grants from LLL Permanent Funds, interest foregone on LLL accounts etc*

## Thank you!

# Community education: raising awareness, inspiring action

ALWS is committed to providing schools with education resources that can inspire, equip and encourage students to explore their role in issues like social justice, human rights and development. In 2015, ALWS employed three trained teachers to create and then deliver a curriculum designed to help students develop their awareness, and then turn that awareness into action.

The focus of the Awareness Week material through 2015 was 'Welcoming the Stranger', based on the multi-faith statement on refugees developed through the UNHCR. Throughout the year, ALWS' Community Education team delivered 52 Awareness Days to almost 5,500 students in Lutheran schools. Students were challenged to think what they would do if they were a refugee. How would they find food? How would they keep their family safe?

Through activities, presentations and guest speakers, students learnt more about 'strangers' around the world and were inspired to take action to help care for them.

*"The Awareness Day program that ALWS ran at our school inspired and challenged our students to appreciate our circumstance and work towards sustainable aid for others through informative, and engaging activities and presentations. We've since made the Awareness Day a permanent fixture on our school calendar."* Chris, High School Chaplain



*Students at an Awareness Day in South Australia take part in a 'Refugee Camp'. After, they discuss how they felt and what life might be like as a refugee.*

*(Photo: ALWS)*

## Study tours: learning and sharing



*Paula, a teacher at LORDS Lutheran school in Queensland, shares a photo of her family with a community on the Teacher Study Tour to Cambodia. Meeting people and learning from them is an important focus of the Tours, and equips teachers to share stories on their return.* (Photo: ALWS)

ALWS also ran three study tours to country programs in 2015: teacher study tours to Mozambique and Cambodia, and a student study tour to Cambodia. The purpose of the tours is to help participants learn more about development and the communities ALWS strives to serve. Tour members return equipped and excited to share what they've learnt with others, and take practical action to help people in need.

*"The experience of actually seeing the work of ALWS on the ground with real people in real situations was at times confronting, but also the most amazing learning experience. I was able to see the dramatic change that occurs when locals are empowered to achieve change in their lives."*

*Jeanette, Teacher Study Tour.*

# Learning and leading

ALWS believes in continual learning and improving so we can take your help to others in the best possible way. In particular, we strive to be leaders in the areas of Child Safeguarding and Disability.

Accordingly, the Australian Government through DFAT funded work in these areas in 2015.

## Child Safeguarding (Building Child Safe Organisations)

In 2015, ALWS:

- supported a regional training in Child Safeguarding for African and Middle Eastern LWF Country Programs (March 2015)
- was part of a working group within the ACT Alliance to develop a Child Safeguarding Policy and guidance document for ACT Alliance, which were formally adopted in May 2015
- supported our partners to strengthen their own Child Safeguarding practices within their organisations.

### FUNDING

DFAT: \$24,802, ALWS: \$15,189



*Through ALWS, you help ensure people with disabilities like Indah in Indonesia receive special support. In Indah's case, this included working with her family and the local school to recognise her potential and allow her to attend school. (Photo: CDRM&CDS)*

## Disability Inclusion

ALWS has been dedicated to improving disability-inclusion in our work since 2011. Each year, we progress further towards our goal. In 2015, our focus was on building up staff in Lutheran World Federation Country and Associate Programs so they would be able to themselves run training on disability-inclusion within their home countries.

In May, staff from around Asia gathered in Myanmar for this training. They were equipped with the draft LWF Department for World Service Disability Inclusion Guidelines and Training Manual, produced through ALWS. During the training, they visited a local Disabled Peoples Organisation and 'practiced' their disability training skills with a very knowledgeable audience!

Upon returning home, they have run disability-inclusion training with communities, schools, church groups, government and other NGOs. Now, in different parts of Asia, village leaders are speaking in support of people with disabilities, children with a disability are attending school, and the government is more aware of the rights of people with disabilities in their health, education and disaster programs.

### FUNDING

DFAT: \$53,666, ALWS: \$22,999

## Teaching and training

One way ALWS stretches the help you give is through training. In December, ALWS Community Action Manager Jonathan Krause trained communicators from Nepal, India, Myanmar, Indonesia and Bangladesh in story-telling and fundraising. The aim is to help build the independence of ALWS partners by training them in how to raise funds locally. This also works to sustain the long-term effectiveness of the program, and shows you more effectively the impact you make on people's lives.

## Directors' Report

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors, the Directors of the agency report on the financial statements and operations of the agency for the year ended 31 December 2015 as follows:

### 1/ THE NAMES OF THE DIRECTORS IN OFFICE AT DATE OF THIS REPORT

Rev P Hage (Chairperson)	Mrs J Murray
Dr P Meyer (Vice Chairperson)	Ms M Brookes
Mr J Braun	

### 2/ PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of ALWS during the year were to support programs that decrease human poverty and injustice, provide for the well-being of refugees and the internally displaced and respond to the needs of people affected by disasters. These activities and programs are achieved in partnership with the Lutheran World Federation's (LWF) Department for World Service, ACT Alliance, the Evangelical Lutheran Church - PNG (ELC-PNG) and LWF churches in Indonesia. ALWS also assists uprooted people to resettle in Australia, provides global education programs to LCA schools, congregations and auxiliaries and liaises with government and non-government organisations to maximise the effectiveness of aid delivery.

### 3/ OPERATING RESULTS

There was an excess of revenue over expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2015 of \$801,331.

### 4/ CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of ALWS during 2015.

### 5/ EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

Since the end of the financial year, the Directors are not aware of any matters or circumstances not otherwise dealt with in the financial report that have significantly or may significantly affect the operations or the state of affairs of the agency in subsequent financial years.

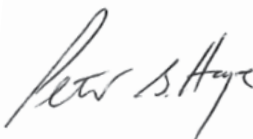
### 6/ LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

The Directors do not expect any developments in the operations of the agency which would affect the results of the operations in subsequent financial years.

### 7/ DIRECTORS' BENEFITS

No remuneration was received by or transactions entered into with the Directors or Directors' related entities during the year other than reimbursement of Board related expenses.

For and on behalf of the Board:



Rev P B Hage  
(Chairperson)



Dr P Meyer  
(Vice Chairperson)

Date: 10 March 2016

Place: 20 City Road, Southbank, Melbourne, Victoria

## Directors' Declaration

The Directors of Australian Lutheran World Service declare that:

- (a) The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 22 to 33, are in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct and:
  - i. comply with Australian Accounting Standards; and
  - ii. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2015 and of the performance for the year ended on that date.
- (b) In the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the organisation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.



Rev P B Hage  
(Chairperson)



Dr P Meyer  
(Vice Chairperson)

Date: 10 March 2016

Place: 20 City Road, Southbank, Melbourne, Victoria

*The attached financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au)*

## INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE BOARD OF THE AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE

### Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australian Lutheran World Service, which comprises the Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows as at 31 December 2015, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Directors' Declaration.

### ALWS Board's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board of the Australian Lutheran World Service is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the organisation's constitution and the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Board's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the Board and the ACFID Code of Conduct. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the Auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the Auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting under the organisation's constitution and the ACFID Code of Conduct. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the Directors, or for any other purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Australian Lutheran World Service presents fairly in all material respects the financial position of the Australian Lutheran World Service as of 31 December 2015 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

### Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared by the Board to satisfy the requirements of the organisation's constitution and the ACFID Code of Conduct. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for any other purpose.

MRL GROUP PTY LTD Chartered Accountants



Mark LeCornu  
Registered Company Auditor  
Adelaide, 11th day of March 2016

Contact details — MRL Group Pty Ltd  
PO Box 83, Kent Town SA 5071  
Phone: 08 8364 3522

## Income Statement

	NOTE	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Donations and gifts			
- Monetary		4,978,358	4,272,297
- Non-monetary		0	0
Bequests & Legacies		49,764	106,912
Grants			
- DFAT		2,606,855	2,666,951
- Other Australian		75,000	75,000
- Other Overseas		0	0
Investment Income		116,976	108,481
Other Income		11,026	11,176
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs		0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>7,837,979</b>	<b>7,240,817</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>International Aid &amp; Development Programs Expenditure</b>			
International Programs			
- Funds to International programs	7	5,468,676	4,964,235
- Program support costs		360,762	378,255
Community Education		303,074	223,279
Fundraising costs			
- Public		319,214	247,803
- Government, multilateral & private		4,858	8,342
Accountability & Administration		562,730	449,919
Non-monetary Expenditure		0	0
<b>Total International Aid &amp; Development Programs Expenditure</b>		<b>7,019,314</b>	<b>6,271,833</b>
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure		0	0
Domestic Programs Expenditure		17,334	21,020
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>7,036,648</b>	<b>6,292,853</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>801,331</b>	<b>947,964</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

## Balance Sheet

	NOTE	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and Cash equivalents		6,236,555	5,308,350
Trade and other receivables	2	19,349	33,642
Other financial assets		0	0
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>6,255,904</b>	<b>5,341,992</b>
<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	3	14,218	9,666
Other Non-Current Assets	4	25,346	23,876
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>39,564</b>	<b>33,542</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>6,295,468</b>	<b>5,375,534</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	108,813	57,746
Provisions	6	215,797	148,261
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>324,610</b>	<b>206,007</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>5,970,858</b>	<b>5,169,527</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained Earnings		5,970,858	5,169,527
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>5,970,858</b>	<b>5,169,527</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

## Statement of Changes in Equity

	RETAINED EARNINGS	TOTAL
	\$	\$
Balance at beginning of period	5,169,527	5,169,527
Adjustments or changes in equity	0	0
Excess of revenue over expenses	801,331	801,331
Other amounts transferred from Reserves	0	0
Balance at end of period	5,970,858	5,970,858

## Statement of Cash Flows

	NOTE	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Government grants and other income		7,740,221	7,155,403
Interest receipts		97,758	85,414
Operating Expenses		(6,929,484)	(6,321,310)
Net cash (used in) operating activities	11	908,495	919,507
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Proceeds from sale of office equipment		0	0
Payments for office equipment		(8,876)	(501)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(8,876)	(501)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net increase in cash held		928,205	918,960
Cash at the beginning of the year		5,308,350	4,389,390
Cash at the end of the year	11	6,236,555	5,308,350

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

## Note 1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

To assist in an understanding of the disclosures presented in the financial report the following summary explains the significant accounting policies which have been adopted in their preparation. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the ACFID Code of Conduct; a code to which all Australian overseas aid agencies receiving government funding are required to adhere.

### (a) Basis of accounting

The financial report has been prepared primarily on the basis of historical cost and does not take into account changing money value or current valuations of non-current assets. The financial report has been prepared in accordance with current Australian Accounting Standards, which include Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards, and other mandatory reporting requirements.

### (b) Depreciation

Plant and equipment is valued at cost.

Depreciation is calculated on plant and equipment using the prime cost method based on the expected useful life of each asset. Surpluses and losses on disposal of plant and equipment are taken into account in determining the operating result for the year. Assets are depreciated at an average rate of 15%.

### (c) Employee entitlements

Employee entitlements are accounted for in accordance with AASB119. The amount expected to be paid to employees for their pro-rata entitlements to annual leave are accrued annually at current wage rates. Long service leave is accrued in respect of employees at the estimated present value of the future amounts expected to be paid on their current entitlements.

### (d) Income policy

Grants and donations received are recognised as revenue upon receipt.

### (e) Comparative information

Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation in the current year.

AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN WORLD SERVICE  
SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT — FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015  
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2015

2014

\$

\$

## Note 2 TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES

Prepayments	19,017	14,404
Debtors - Other	332	0
LWF Projects (Aust) Pty Ltd	0	19,238
	<u>19,349</u>	<u>33,642</u>

## Note 3 PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

### (a) Summary

Office Equipment, at cost	88,586	79,710
Less Accumulated depreciation	(74,368)	(70,044)
<b>Total Office Equipment</b>	<u><b>14,218</b></u>	<u><b>9,666</b></u>

### (b) Reconciliation of movements

A reconciliation of the carrying amount of each class of asset for the year is set out below:

Office Equipment		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	9,666	13,709
Plus Additions	8,876	501
Less Disposals	0	0
Less Depreciation	(4,324)	(4,544)
Carrying amount at end of year	<u><b>14,218</b></u>	<u><b>9,666</b></u>

## Note 4 OTHER NON CURRENT ASSETS

Gross loan amounts outstanding	33,562	32,092
Less provision for doubtful debts	(8,216)	(8,216)
	<u><b>25,346</b></u>	<u><b>23,876</b></u>

## Note 5 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Creditors	64,813	57,746
Funding held in advance	44,000	0
Accruals	0	0
	<u><b>108,813</b></u>	<u><b>57,746</b></u>

## Note 6 PROVISIONS

Long Service Leave	67,297	29,735
Annual Leave	148,500	118,526
	<u><b>215,797</b></u>	<u><b>148,261</b></u>
Current portion	174,531	148,261
Non-Current portion	41,266	0
	<u><b>215,797</b></u>	<u><b>148,261</b></u>

## Note 7 Disbursements to Overseas Projects

COUNTRY	PROJECT	ALWS	DFAT	TOTAL
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS</b>				
Burundi	- Community Empowerment Program	262,566	145,801	408,367
Cambodia	- Integrated Rural Development & Empowerment Project	271,765	769,827	1,041,592
Disability Inclusive Development	- Disability Training (Myanmar)	10,277	23,981	34,258
Disability Inclusive Development	- Refugee Support Programme (Kenya-Dadaab)	12,722	29,685	42,407
Child Protection	- Child Protection	15,189	24,802	39,991
India	- Grihini Project	40,612		40,612
Indonesia	- CDRM & CDS Program	163,460	163,167	326,627
Indonesia	- Hephata Program	57,989		57,989
Kenya	- Kakuma Refugee Camp	212,000		212,000
Kenya	- Dadaab Refugee Camp	50,000		50,000
Mozambique	- Gaza Development Program	80,000		80,000
Regional	- AZEECON Project	40,000		40,000
Nepal	- Nepal Development Program	143,729	412,383	556,112
PNG - CPP	- Church Partnership Program		603,584	603,584
South Sudan	- Crisis Response Plan	600,000		600,000
<b>EMERGENCY &amp; REFUGEE RESPONSE</b>				
Iraq	- Iraq Appeal IRQ 141	2,922		2,922
Nepal	- Nepal NPL 151 - Earthquake Appeal	1,050,933		1,050,933
Sudan	- Darfur Emergency	50,000		50,000
Myanmar	- Myanmar Flood Appeal	40,000		40,000
Syria	- Regional Humanitarian Response	1,280		1,280
Philippines	- Typhoon Haiyan	5,400		5,400
Vanuatu	- Vanuatu Emergency Appeal	57,000		57,000
Ebola Emergency Appeal	- Ebola Crisis Appeal - LBR141	61,440		61,440
Regional - ACT Alliance	- ACT Alliance - Security Support Appeal	10,000		10,000
<b>GLOBAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT</b>				
	- ACT Alliance - Operating Budget, Nepal Forum Membership	132		132
	- International Money Transfer Bank Fees	30		30
	- DWS Coordination	16,800		16,800
	- DWS Program Support / Communications	7,000		7,000
	- DWS Audit Unit	7,700		7,700
	- DWS Monitoring & Evaluation	10,500		10,500
	- DWS Resource Mobilization	14,000		14,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,295,446</b>	<b>2,173,230</b>	<b>5,468,676</b>

## Note 8 Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes

SOURCE	CASH AVAILABLE AT BEGINNING OF 2015	CASH RAISED DURING 2015	CASH DISBURSED DURING 2015	CASH AVAILABLE AT END OF 2015 FOR FUTURE USE
DFAT - Cambodia	365,335	862,767	808,774	419,328
DFAT - Indonesia CDRM	105,050	284,138	212,115	177,073
DFAT - Burundi	170,537	2,864	173,401	0
DFAT - Disability Inclusive Development	79,127	78,576	68,218	89,485
DFAT - Child Protection	30,506	15,366	34,235	11,637
DFAT - PNG	414,713	902,267	797,906	519,074
DFAT - Nepal	206,584	490,265	463,881	232,968
Philippines Typhoon Haiyan Appeal	0	5,399	5,399	0
Syria Regional Humanitarian Response Appeal	800	352,149	30,048	322,901
Iraq Appeal	540	2,932	3,472	0
Ebola Emergency Appeal	29,383	32,558	61,941	0
Vanuatu Emergency Appeal	0	73,772	61,657	12,115
Nepal Earthquake Appeal	0	1,104,619	1,104,619	0
Myanmar Flood Emergency Appeal	0	46,330	40,000	6,330
TOTAL - Other Purposes	3,905,775	3,583,977	3,044,108	4,445,644
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5,308,350</b>	<b>7,837,979</b>	<b>6,909,774</b>	<b>6,236,555</b>

Notes: (a) Cash available at end of 2015 for future use is shown on the balance sheet as follows:

**Cash and Cash equivalents**

**6,236,555**

(b) This schedule should be read in conjunction with the Statement of Cash Flows on page 33.

## Note 9 Related Party Information

### (a) Lutheran Church of Australia Incorporated (LCA)

ALWS serves as the overseas aid and resettlement agency of the Lutheran Church of Australia. The LCA endorses and indemnifies the activity of ALWS and has authorised the ALWS Executive Secretary and Deputy Executive Secretary to sign contracts and resulting financial declarations for work to be carried out by ALWS in accordance with its Constitution and By-Laws.

### (b) Directors

Persons holding the position of Director of the agency during the financial year were:

Rev P Hage  
Dr P Meyer  
Mr J Braun  
Dr J Murray  
Ms M Brookes

### (c) Lutheran World Federation, Department for World Service (LWF)

ALWS is a Related Agency to the Lutheran World Federation, Department for World Service. ALWS paid funds totalling \$3,160,727 in support of its programs during the year ended 31 December 2015.

### (d) Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance

ACT Alliance, the coordination office for emergency relief projects organisationally based in the Lutheran World Federation and World Council of Churches, was paid \$1,279,107 in support of its programs during the year ended 31 December 2015.

### (e) LWF Projects (Aust) Pty Ltd

LWF Projects (Aust) Pty Ltd was a related party to ALWS and enabled resettlement activity of new arrivals in Australia on a historic basis. The company made a donation to ALWS in June 2015 as authorised by its Directors amounting to \$185,503. The company was then formally wound up and de-registered as at 30 June 2015. The cessation of activity of the company and its winding up were subject to external audit.

No remuneration was received by the Directors of LWF Projects (Aust) Pty Ltd in relation to its operation or winding up and ALWS derived no management fees from the company with respect to the year ending 31 December 2015.

### (f) Contracting of associate

During the year ended 31 December 2015, a family member of an employee of ALWS was engaged to provide minor graphic design services on a contractual basis. The services were to produce educational material consistent with core activity of ALWS. The services were engaged on an arm's length basis on regular commercial terms and were subject to external audit including compliance assurance with ALWS policy.

## Note 10 Financial Instruments

### Interest Rate Risk

	FLOATING INTEREST RATE	FIXED INTEREST RATE MATURING 1 YEAR OR LESS	FIXED INTEREST RATE MATURING 1 TO 2 YEARS	FIXED INTEREST RATE MATURING 2 TO 5 YEARS	NON INTEREST BEARING	TOTAL BOOK VALUE	NET MARKET VALUE
<b>FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>							
Cash on hand					100	100	100
Cash at bank	6,236,455					6,236,455	6,236,455
Bank term deposits						0	0
Receivables					19,349	19,349	19,349
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>	<u>6,236,455</u>				<u>19,449</u>	<u>6,255,904</u>	<u>6,255,904</u>
<b>FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>							
Trade and other payables					108,813	108,813	108,813
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES</b>					<u>108,813</u>	<u>108,813</u>	<u>108,813</u>
<b>NET FINANCIAL ASSETS</b>	<u>6,236,455</u>				<u>[89,364]</u>	<u>6,147,091</u>	<u>6,147,091</u>

Weighted average interest rate for financial assets approx. 3.25%

## Note 11 Cash Flow Information

### (a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statements of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash at bank and on hand	6,236,555	5,308,350
Term Deposits	0	0
<b>Cash at the end of the year</b>	<u>6,236,555</u>	<u>5,308,350</u>

### (b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations to operating result:

Excess of Revenue over Expenditure	801,331	947,964
<b>Non-cash flows in operating surplus:</b>		
Change to Provisions for Long Service and Annual Leave	67,536	(10,747)
Depreciation	4,324	4,544
Change to Provision for Doubtful Debts	0	0
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>		
Movement in non-current assets (Resettlement Loans)	(1,470)	310
Movement in trade and other receivables	(14,293)	23
Movement in trade and other payables	51,067	(22,587)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u>908,495</u>	<u>919,507</u>

# Working together to help others

## A FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY

Due to the generosity of the ALWS family, and support from the Lutheran Laypeople's League and the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, \$7.8 million was received by ALWS in the 2015 year.

Your generosity through ALWS has enabled more work which supported overseas projects and community education than any other time in our recorded history. It also allowed us to meet our budgeted expenses comfortably.

During 2015 this funding allowed us to maintain our commitments to our eight core programs and also disburse funds to eight emergency appeals.

While we endeavour to keep operating costs as low and efficient as possible, the reality is the costs of compliance and operating an aid agency today are increasing. Despite this, our overheads (fundraising and administration costs as defined by ACFID) have remained steady – from around 10% in 2009 compared to 12.6% in 2015.

**This means almost 88% of the money we received in 2015 went towards work supporting projects that help and educate people.** At ALWS, we continually strive to find the right balance between keeping the overhead rate as efficient as possible, while maintaining effectiveness, meeting more compliance requirements and investing for the long-term strength and sustainability of the organisation. This is crucial to ensure we can have the greatest impact on the communities we seek to serve.

As we look forward to 2016, indications are that we should prepare for a broad cut to the Government's foreign aid budget. Any Government cutbacks will

be a tragic outcome for people who are affected by poverty. ALWS will therefore budget carefully to reduce the impact of cutbacks, and will seek to diversify our funding sources where possible.

We will also look at ways to use our international partners and networks to leverage additional support, increasing the impact of each of our dollars.

We are very grateful and give thanks for the continued generosity of the ALWS supporter family, who are essential to this work during these uncertain times.

ALWS maintains a sound financial position at 31 December 2015. It has the capacity to meet all of its obligations as and when they fall due, and retains enough money in reserve to meet its legal obligations. Notwithstanding forecast cuts to the foreign aid budget mentioned above, in 2016, ALWS does not anticipate any significant impact on its financial health.

## ALWS board of directors

### *Rev P Hage, BTh GradDipMin – Chair*

Peter is Parish Pastor at St Mark's Lutheran Church at Mount Gravatt in Queensland. He previously served at parishes in Mt Barker and Freeling/Rosedale in South Australia. He also served as a Missionary/Pastor and lecturer in PNG for 10 years. He currently serves as a Board member for LCA International Mission, and has visited ALWS projects in PNG, Cambodia, Burundi and South Sudan.

### *Dr P Meyer, BA MA PhD (Demography) – NSW Director/Vice-Chair*

Paul is a retired senior data analyst and project manager at the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. Previously Paul lectured in the Graduate Program in Demography at the Australia National University, and was a Research Fellow at the Population Research Institute at Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia. He serves on the LCA's Commission for Social and Bioethical Questions. Paul was a US Peace Corps volunteer in Tonga, and has visited ALWS projects in Indonesia and Cambodia.

### *Mr J Braun, Btech Electronic Engineering – VIC Director*

John is a retired senior manager for IBM Global Services, and has more than 30 years of experience with design and implementation of communications and information technology infrastructure projects in the Asia Pacific region.

### *Dr J Murray, BA (Hons) DipEd BEdSt PhD MAPS BNurs RN – QLD Director*

Judith is Associate Professor of Counselling and Counselling Psychology at the University of Queensland. She also lectures in the Master of Counselling and Master of Applied Psychology programs. She is a Registered Nurse in Haematology and Oncology at Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane. She has visited the ALWS project in Kenya.

### *Ms M Brookes, BA BEd – SA/NT Director*

Morgan plays a key role in the Kalahari training initiative of Concordia College in Adelaide, where she is also a teacher. She has visited the ALWS project in Indonesia.

*The ALWS Board met in March and September 2015.*

*The Administrative Committee convened in February, April, May, June, August, September, October, and December 2015.*

*ALWS has a Complaints Policy which can be found at [www.alws.org.au/policies](http://www.alws.org.au/policies). To lodge a complaint against ALWS, contact Executive Secretary Chey Mattner [cheym@alws.org.au](mailto:cheym@alws.org.au) or 02 6021 5329, or if the complaint is against the Executive Secretary contact Board Chair Pastor Peter Hage [peter.hage@lca.org.au](mailto:peter.hage@lca.org.au) or 07 3349 9512.*

## Board advisory group

The Board Advisory Group was established in 2015. It comprises a body of individuals who are 'on call' to the Board and Executive Secretary when matters arise requiring assistance in specific areas of expertise. It is not a decision-making body, nor one which meets as a group. The members and their areas of expertise are as follows:

### *Finance:*

**Mr Ron Asquith**, CPA, BA Comm – Director, ATS Accountants.

### *Human Resources:*

**Mr Don Elder**, BBus(HRM/IR)JPNSW – Human Resource Manager, Lutheran Aged Care.

### *Risk and Accountability:*

**Ms Yung Nietschke**, MA(Ed), BA/BSc – Consultant.

### *Legal:*

**Mr Fred Kleinschmidt**, BA/LLB – Consultant Solicitor.

### *Education:*

**Ms Jodie Hoff**, BTeach, BEd, Grad DipEd(Theology), MEdLeadership – Principal, LORDS College.

### *Programs:*

**Ms Jamie Davies**, MInterAffairs&AfricanStudies – International Programs Director, Caritas Australia,  
**Dr Julianne Stewart**, PhD – Programs Director, Anglican Board of Mission.



# Positive partnerships

## Lutheran Church of Australia

ALWS is the Overseas Aid and Resettlement Agency of the Lutheran Church of Australia, working to enable the Lutheran family in Australia and New Zealand to bring love to life by reaching out in love, for justice.

## Australian Government – Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

ALWS is a fully accredited organisation with the Australian Government, who provided funding through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) to the programs in Burundi, Cambodia, Indonesia and Nepal, and to projects on Disability Inclusive Development and Building Child Safe Organisations. Under the Church Partnership Program, DFAT also provided funds through ALWS to Papua New Guinea. ALWS gratefully acknowledges DFAT's support for these programs.

## Lutheran World Federation/Department for World Service (LWF/DWS)

LWF/DWS is the main implementer of overseas aid for ALWS. It has a global program embracing over thirty developing countries in Africa, Central America, South Asia, South-East Asia and the Middle East. It is a certified member of the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) and is the world's fifth largest partner to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Executive Secretary Chey Mattner is a member of LWF/DWS' governing body, the Committee for World Service.

## Action by Churches Together (ACT Alliance)

ACT Alliance is a network of 139 churches and affiliated organisations that work together in humanitarian assistance and development. ACT Alliance works in over 100 countries in its work for a just world. ALWS is a member of the ACT Alliance and its Pacific Australia and New Zealand Forum. ALWS Board member Judith Murray is a member of the Psychosocial Community of Practice and Program Officer Lauren Kathage is a member of the Disability Inclusive Development Community of Practice, of which ALWS is the lead agency.

## Lutheran Laypeople's League (LLL)

The LLL provides generous support for our institutional strengthening work in Indonesia, in partnership with LCA International Mission and Lutheran Education Australia. The LLL also supports ALWS' work in community education and administration. ALWS gratefully acknowledges LLL's generous support.

## National Council of Churches Australia —Act for Peace

The NCCA has its own overseas aid agency, Act for Peace. Executive Secretary Chey Mattner serves on its Commission.

## Church Agency Network

The Church Agency Network (CAN) is a group of 11 Australian church-based aid and development agencies. The network is an opportunity to work together and to share experiences and practice, recognising that together we can achieve much more. ALWS is actively engaged in all CAN groups, which include CEOs, Program Managers, Program Effectiveness and Finance Managers. In 2015, Executive Secretary Chey Mattner chaired the CEOs Group.

## Australian Council for International Development (ACFID)

ALWS is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. ACFID is the umbrella organisation for Australian overseas aid agencies. Its Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability and financial management. ALWS is committed to full adherence to the Code.

For more information or to lodge a complaint for breach of the Code with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee, please contact:

Website: [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au) Email: [acfid@acfid.asn.au](mailto:acfid@acfid.asn.au)  
Tel: 02 6285 1816 Fax: 02 6285 1720

# Vision

ALWS envisages a world where love comes to life (cf 1 John 4: 9-12). A world where all people live in just societies, where we are all empowered to achieve our full potential, uphold our rights and the rights of others for a life with peace and dignity; and where we are all inspired to remember, welcome and support those who suffer from poverty and injustice. (cf Gal 2:10 & Lev 25:35)

# Mission

ALWS reaches out in love, for justice. We bring together people willing to work in service to help end suffering. As partners, we work openly and accountably, supporting programs which welcome, respect and bring hope through care to those fleeing from, or hurt by, disaster, poverty and oppression. We add our voice to those of the unheard and the excluded, together crying out for justice so that we can all live in just and sustainable communities.

# Guiding principles

- We serve with unconditional love.
- We respect and uphold people's dignity.
- We work for justice.
- We work in partnership.
- We make good use of God's gifts.
- We support the inclusion of all people.
- We work for the empowerment of others.
- We are accountable.
- We value the people who work with us.
- We value reflection.

# Approach

Poverty and injustice are the result of other people's greed, and so we inspire and equip people to support work which is rights-based, integrated and empowering. Our work is unconditional. It focuses on communities that are disadvantaged or displaced, through trusted partners in Asia/Pacific and Sub-Saharan Africa. We utilise and invest in the skills of our people and those around us. We approach everything we do in an accountable, transparent and reflective way.



Like to know more about the work you do?

1300 763 407 alws.org.au  
alws@alws.org.au PO Box 488 Albury NSW 2640

Reaching out in love ... for justice!

Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS) is the Overseas Aid and Resettlement Agency of the Lutheran Church of Australia. ABN 36 660 551 871



(Photo: ALWS)

# Goals

## Help ...



through partners to ensure people live in more just and sustainable communities through long-term development programs, and that people affected by emergencies receive life-sustaining care.



## Inspire ...

and enable the Lutheran family to reach out in love for justice.



## Improve ...

to enable us to best serve people, communities and supporters.



## Strengthen ...

as an organisation to ensure we are transparent and accountable to people, communities, partners and supporters.



## Partner ...

to leverage wider change and increase our impact.



## Resource ...

with the people, funds and time needed to sustain the work of the organisation.