



on mission

Catalyst Missions News

November 2021



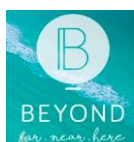
Compassion

Releasing children from poverty in Jesus' name

Poverty has a devastating impact on children, taking away their chance to learn and play, and instead exposing them to exploitation, violence or even death. Compassion is an international Christian ministry with over six decades of experience that equips over 8,000 local church partners in 25 countries to release children from poverty in Jesus' name. Only together with you can we restore hope and make change so children can reach their full potential.

Compassion is a key missional support area of Catalyst Church! We recently met with some of the Compassion team and they were able to share an update on both our giving as a church in this area (in money terms and otherwise) and also an update on our key partner communities. Some quick facts:

- Catalyst Church supports approx. 138 children through sponsorships, and have written 136 letters to children (receiving 204 letters from children to sponsors).
- Catalyst Church sponsors donated approx. \$80,000 in the 20/21 Financial Year, which went toward sponsorship, birthday and Christmas gifts for sponsored children, as well as non-sponsorship related things – mums & babies fund, disaster relief, Bible fund, gifts of compassion and 'where most needed' funds. Sponsorship giving from Catalyst has increased in the last financial year; however the additional gifts and non-sponsorship giving has decreased.
- Staff and team members in our key partner communities in Ethiopia and the Philippines are working within COVID-safety requirements, holding smaller-scale activities following social-distancing guidelines, as well as, where safe to do so, visiting families in their home or via phone, text or otherwise digital communication to ensure children and their families are being supported.
- Through generous giving, Compassion programs have been able to provide:



In the Philippines: more than 1 million food packs, 622,000 hygiene kits, and medical support to over 107,000 people.

In Ethiopia: almost 943,000 food packs, 555,000 hygiene packs and medical support to over 40,000 people.

Compassion Sunday is coming up on 21st November.

There will be an opportunity to write a letter to your sponsored child, or perhaps to decide that this is the year to sponsor a child. The current wait time for sponsorship is 250 days. Because of COVID there are many more children waiting. Maybe they are waiting for you.



Loren Mavity – Catalyst Care Coordinator

Wow! Your Beyond Giving Really Matters

In case you haven't heard, pledges came in around **\$130,000** for this year's beyond. This is somewhat down on previous years, however when you consider the difficulties around COVID and having a group of people being in the Fernvale plant, it is a solid effort.

On the flip side we continue to use the finance that our church generously gives in extraordinary ways. Just a reminder:

- *We fully fund a Training Centre in India.*
- *We fully fund a CAP Debt centre.*
- *We significantly support Vital Projex.*
- *Through both finances and peoples' time, we contribute to CRI in our region. (This year the fundraiser generated a record \$65k).*
- *We continue to support our schools work (although this has been dialled back recently due to Loren's illness).*
- *We have begun a tax deductible arm (Catalyst Care) which has great dreams of future impact.*
- *We have launched our Fernvale church with Gold Coast and Haven traveling along nicely.*
- *We continue to provide food hampers to those in need in Ipswich.*

Attached to every one of those line items are real stories of real impact. For instance, the CAP debt centre, led by Ang Coto, recently had a salvation and this beautiful lady now regularly attends the church (even bringing a box on operation Christmas Child Sunday). Of course on top of this we continue to dream about the future. Even today as I write this we are meeting with our local council about means of supporting our community and using our complex as a Hub for community engagement.

So my point in all of this is: ***your giving matters***. So far we have given around **\$95,000** of the \$130,000 pledged. That actually puts us ahead of the curve in keeping up with pledges. If you haven't pledged yet and want to, you can always go to our website and use the online pledge card (under Missions then Beyond).

Your generosity doesn't go into a big pool or to the bank; it directly affects the lives of people. So thank you!

Blessings

Carl Mutzelburg

P.S. This week I had a call from our Indian Mission area and I know they are undergoing a fair degree of scrutiny that puts the enterprise in jeopardy. Please pray.

