# **Progress Report**

## **Pre-School Centres for Vulnerable Children**



Yangon, Myanmar

#### Year 2 Budget \$25,000



Project Timeline

**MAY19** 

#### Overview

By offering pre-school education, our partners educate and care for approximately 100 children in a very impoverished area in a slum area of Yangon. They also provide 150 "scholarships" to families struggling to keep their children at school. This allows them to continue to work with the child and families over an extended time. Providing education allows parents the opportunity to work through the day and take better care of their families. Children are also taught important health and hygiene information which they pass on to their families. Myanmar has been severely affected by COVID-19 lockdowns and schools are still closed - 9 months now. Year 3 budget \$25,000.

#### Impact for July-Dec 2020

### There are 86 children from the community

who have missed out on education as all education facilities have been closed since 27 March 2020. The children have been visited on a regular basis by the teachers. It is hoped schools will re-open soon.

#### 3 teachers continue to be supported

with 62% of salaries through this project. Although unable to teach face-to-face, the teachers have provided visits to the community, basic education where possible, health and hygiene education and helped with food handouts. There are no government safety nets for people in Myanmar.





#### A "1000 Bags of Rice Appeal"

supported by other donors from Australia has helped the community to survive the harsh lockdowns, loss of jobs and the increase in food prices. This was coordinated by our partners and food was distributed at critical times with 10,000 benefitting.

- Annual flooding has been a real problem for the pre-school, so the opportunity to address this arose due to children not being at the centre. Renovations have been underway and are due to finish in March. This will make a huge difference.
- It is hoped that a new pre-school will be started in another area for the new school year (May 2021) if restrictions ease.
- Some of the parents of pre-schoolers have lost their parents to COVID-19. Our partners have played a big part in counselling and supporting the community during this terrible time.



#### Working in the community

Two sets of twins attend the pre-school. One of the sets lost their father in July due to COVID-19. The mother informed our partners immediately. Our partners said, "We were very sad. We realised how much impact and relationship we have with the community as a result of this. We have supported the family through their grief and with food handouts. We were reminded once again of the degree of influence the school makes, not only to the students, but also to their families. We thank you for your support and love during this very difficult time."





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