



# Keeping in touch

*Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart*  
**OVERSEAS AID INCORPORATED**

MAY 2025

## South Sudan

### *Education Resources*

This project sustains education in Comboni Senior Secondary and Primary Schools in Mapourdit by supporting major school maintenance. Recently, we supported the repairs of the worn-out foundation in the primary school as the concrete is crumbling.



Worn-out concrete floor in the classroom

We also supplement the salary of inadequately paid teachers. Wages are inadequate due to the extremely poor economy of the area, so school registration fees are minimal. This support lifts the teachers' morale resulting in stability. Student learning is of a good standard and external results confirm excellent teaching.

### *Satellite Schools*



The Mapourdit Parish covers an extensive area. While the "mission" is central, there is a need to move to the peripheries to include education. There are many scattered children without access to the Mission Centre, hence the Satellite Schools. We support twenty Satellite Schools with more than three thousand primary children benefitting from this project as they try to gain basic numeracy and literacy skills. This project supplies basic school materials such as textbooks, exercise books, chalk, pens and blackboards.

Each one of the Satellite Schools was initiated by the local community. They are basic "under the tree" classrooms with willing volunteer teachers. Efforts are made to assist the teachers, all of whom have passed Senior 4. From our current Satellite Schools much is accomplished and outcomes are pleasing. Two of our three Agricultural Officers who recently graduated are products of Satellite Schools. Several Clinical Officers employed in the hospital at Mapourdit are also products of Satellite Schools. There are many more instances of similar outcomes.

### *Disadvantaged Students*

In this project, girls and boys who live too distant for regular attendance to school are provided residential accommodation. A simple boarding facility with a kitchen and weekly food allowance is provided to



nine girls. The boys are accommodated in tukuls (round huts) which we rent and they supply their food. The very far distance from school necessitated such facilities to support education for disadvantaged pupils.



*Sr Anarela Rosa De Araujo*

Gifts of \$2 or more  
are tax deductible

# PHILIPPINES

## *Educational/Vocational Training for Disadvantaged Youths*

Dear Donors,

Please find below a letter from Aldrin, one of the disadvantaged youths assisted in the Philippines.



Dear DOLSH Congregation and other Sponsors,

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to my beloved DOLSH congregation and other people behind my success. Being one of your scholars is an incredible opportunity and a true blessing. A "dreamer" has grown into a "fighter" because of you.

I also want to thank God for this amazing life. I'm not a religious person, but I truly believe in God. And I knew that my life would be nothing without him. Thank you for always having me through the ups and downs and lifting me up when no one else does for me.

I've been part of your scholar program for seven (7) years. There are no words to express how grateful I am for this opportunity. You not only helped providing my financial needs, but also you equipped me to stand on my own feet and spread my wings to soar high. All the activities, bonding and community-based engagement that we have shared with will be treasured and have always been part of my life.

On August 8, 2023, I graduated from college with a Bachelor of Physical Education degree. The moment I walked on the stage of PICC to receive my degree, it reminds me that this was not the end of my journey, rather, it was the close of one chapter in my life, and I now have the *real world* to look forward to.

Aldrin joined the program when he was a young boy. He has shown so much potential. In the last two years of his studies he went through a lot of difficulties. While he was studying, he needed to find ways to help his mother support the family as his father was very sick.

Thank God, with Aldrin's endurance, they were able to get help for his father from the government's program for TB patients and his father survived. Aldrin is a very good youth leader and we are very happy that he continued his education despite all the trials his family went through.

*Sr Ruth Yburan*



The youths, in the education program, attend training to assist them in managing their tutorial classes for 63 primary children enrolled in the tutorial program.

As I embark on a new chapter of my life with enthusiasm and limitless possibilities, may God provide me with the strength, courage, and grit that I need to conquer future battles and be an efficient leader.

As a leader of this generation and an educator, I will always make the most of my abilities to motivate and encourage others to reach their full potential. The saying "everything happens for a reason" is unquestionably true. As a result, all you need to do is have complete faith in the process, and God will provide you what you truly deserve in this life.

Thank you so much, The Daughters of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Family, for giving me the opportunity to achieve my dreams and for experiencing how wonderful life was when you knew the real purpose of your existence.

**Work hard in silence; let your success be the noise!**



*Thank You*

Sincerely,

*A. Altes*  
Aldrin Dela Hostria Altares



# VIETNAM

## *Educational Assistance to Disadvantaged Children*



Poverty and the effects of COVID-19 have affected a number of people in our community. Some lost their jobs while others had their working hours reduced which means they cannot even afford to send their children to school as their main priority is to survive.

This project has been a blessing to them, giving them great joy and hope for a bright future. In a spirit of gratitude, the beneficiaries of this project have shown much interest in their studies. They have tried to be hardworking and sacrificing. One of them, Khan, has excelled academically during the past semester. He received awards for camping and for helping other students, recognizing his leadership skills. Another student, Truc, has improved academically and is motivated



to pursue her studies. Kiet, another student, has impressed his teachers both in his school and in our English Tutorial Program. He has become cooperative, focused and interested in his studies, improving his performance academically. Student Tuan also displays positive signs of making personal choices suitable for his gifts.



While some students gained confidence and improved in their studies, others still need more time to learn and grow. We encourage partnership/collaboration with their parents to motivate their children to do their best in learning. We have learned that in some families, some students are exposed to damaging and discouraging language that affects their performance, while others are affected by parents' conflicts. So we try to affirm whatever little or big achievements they have and communicate this to their parents. This has helped improve relationships between parents and children.

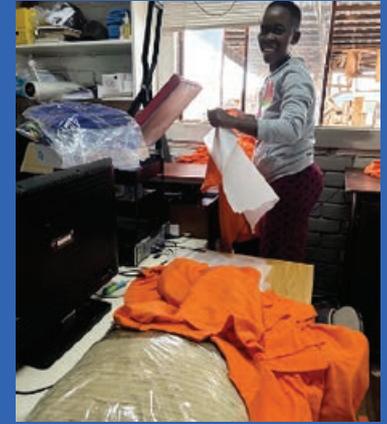
We can see that through this project, both students and parents are freed from financial burden/concern, giving them vibrant hope that ensures their bright future. They trust that they have more opportunities to help themselves and their families after their studies. Some students make clear progress, have more confidence and develop a sense of giving back by helping others.



Some of these students are also attending our English Tutorial Program. We can see several of them gaining more confidence in themselves and finding joy and passion for learning. This project has given the students the opportunities to build a better future as they can be assured of jobs. For us and our volunteers, we feel it is a privilege to be a part of their growth and development, not only in their studies, but also in accompanying them towards becoming better persons and living Christian values. We are truly grateful for the constant support of OAF.

*Sr. Precy Peralta*

## Would you like to make a Bequest in your Will to the OLSH Overseas Aid Fund?



Two possible ways you can make a significant difference to the lives of people in need in the areas where the Sisters work:

- By including the work of the Fund in your Will. We would gladly advise your solicitor of the specific terms of the bequest. Alternatively, Michael O'Dea AM of Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers would be happy to advise you at no cost. He can be contacted directly on **(02) 9291 7104**.
- By requesting mourners at your loved one's funeral to donate to the OLSH Overseas Aid Fund in lieu of flowers.

# SOUTH AFRICA

## *Holy Family Care Centre*

Holy Family Care Centre (HFCC) continues to care for the children who come to us needing love and care. We are officially registered for 75 children but the Department of Social Development has not caught up and has only provided funding for 70 children. However, the need for care remains ongoing and desperate so we have made the decision to care for a greater number of children based on their circumstances. The children come needing a haven where they can continue and regain their childhood that has been disrupted through trauma and illness.



Play Time Outside



Children's 1st day of school

Our admission policy continues to prioritise caring for children living with HIV / Aids who have defaulted on their medications due to home circumstances. The children often arrive in a poor state and are malnourished. Their medication is supplied by the local clinic and our HFCC nurses provide daily care and administer their medication. Our nurses oversee the health of all children, including our babies in the nursery. Some of the children struggle with their education as their ability to learn has been affected by school nonattendance, health issues, malnutrition and lack of motivation. To help them, we employ local tutors to help with their homework and learning. Our overseas volunteer educator is part of the team that helps the children, whilst also mentoring the local staff.

Our outreach program continues to provide connection and support to children who have left Holy Family and live in impoverished circumstances. Our reunited children struggle in the community as many have completed school but cannot find work or afford any courses. The unemployment rate in South Africa is so high and any child who leaves school is no longer entitled to a child social grant. Their families are impoverished so life is a struggle for them. Food, school uniforms and transport are in great demand. We provide financial help and visit them to monitor their well-being and deliver food parcels when necessary.

HFCC cannot function in the best interests of the children without employing our own social worker. The role is vital in dealing with each child and their circumstances. The social worker liaises with each child's social worker, provides counselling, searches for and obtains birth certificates and national ID documentation and helps in the process of reunification with relatives.



Children doing an Outdoor Study Project

We are deeply grateful for the unwavering support we receive from our Overseas Aid Fund donors. Your generosity plays a vital role in enabling us to provide a loving, safe home for the vulnerable children under our care. Thanks to your compassion and commitment, these children receive the essential care, resources, and nurturing environment they need to thrive. Together, we are creating a brighter future, one filled with love, hope, and opportunity. We are truly grateful for your kindness and dedication to our mission, and we look forward to continuing this journey with you. Thank you for being such an integral part of our community.

*Sr Sally Duigan*

**ONLINE DONATIONS** can be made through the OLSH Australia website [www.olshaustralia.org.au/overseasaid](http://www.olshaustralia.org.au/overseasaid)

**BANK TRANSFER to DOLSH Overseas Aid Fund**

**BSB number: 062239**

**Account number: 10085021**

***Donations of \$2 or more are tax-deductible***

**SCAN  
QR CODE  
TO DONATE**

