



CREATING LEADERS:

Providing education and support to underprivileged children in Timor-Leste

Creating Leaders is an Order of Malta scholarship program in Timor-Leste. The Scholarships support underprivileged children to participate in formal continuing education.

Creating Leaders aims to assist children in the program, develop to their full potential and prepare them for taking a fundamental role in the leadership of their country, so that they become positive agents of change and progress.

Like many developing countries, Timor-Leste has high levels of poverty and low national human development. Education is an important vehicle to employment, independence, social and political empowerment and consequently, national development. However, a cycle of poverty often creates barriers to the children's participation in education. The Creating Leaders scholarship provides not only the payment of school fees, but other assistance and support to help overcome these barriers.

An example of a participation barrier can be transport to school. Walking kilometres to school, barefoot and in 35 degree heat can impact the children's performance and attendance. The scholarship provides the

children with their uniforms (including shoes) and transportation to and from school to remove this barrier.

Adequate food is another major cause for poor scholar performance. Children can be faced with a choice between finding work to pay for food or attending school. The scholarship therefore also covers the costs of school meals, where those costs are not met by the State.

How Timorese Children experience disadvantage

24% - School absenteeism in children aged between 6 and 14 (2013)

54% - Children who have regularly started primary school (2011)

1167 - Children institutionalised in orphanages (2012)

33% - Children who started grade one and completed primary education (2010)

37.7% - Children under five who were underweight (2013)

4000+ children were looking for working opportunities (2010)

Currently there are 11 children in the Creating Leaders Scholarship program.

We have **9** children awaiting Creating Leaders Scholarships; however we do not currently have funding for these children.

Each child's scholarship costs \$70 a month

If you would like to sponsor a Creating Leaders Scholarship, please go to page 5.



VOLUNTEER BBQS CONTINUE AT TIERNEY HOUSE



The guiding principles of the scholarship are:

- * The children eligible to scholarship will come from **disadvantaged situations**.
- * Children who are nominated must demonstrate academic promise and enthusiasm for their studies.
- * The children awarded a scholarship are taught that it comes with a responsibility of "**service to those they can help**", according to the fundamental ethos of the Order of Malta.
- * The children will be encouraged to enhance the **sense of belonging** to the family of the Order of Malta, through regular interaction with the members of the Order and other children who have been awarded Scholarships.
- * The children will be provided, through the organization of leisure time and extra-curricular activities, with **opportunities for developing and caring** the value of human brotherhood.
- * The children will be assisted and supported in the process of strengthen their self-esteem and confidence, in the **awareness of the diverse talents** they have been endowed by God.

If you would like to become a BBQ volunteer, please email info@smom.org.au



CATHOLIC ADVOCACY SERVICE IN NT

aimed to promote social justice by defending the sanctity of life and human

The Catholic Advocacy Service is offered by a group of volunteers and members of the Order of Malta in the NT, to the most vulnerable and marginalized sectors of our society.

Services

- * Administrative assistance to old, unwell, poorly educated and illiterate, by helping them to fill in forms that government agencies require.

Save the date

Lourdes Day Mass – Sydney

Date: Saturday, 3 Dec 2016
Time: 10am
Location: St Mary's Cathedral

Lourdes Day Mass – Melbourne

Date: Saturday, 3 Dec 2016
Time: 10.30am
Location: St Patrick's Cathedral

SA Branch Film Night

Date: Sunday, 13 Nov
Time: 4.30pm
Location: Regal Theatre, Kensington Park
Please email info@smom.org.au for enquiries

- * Social support and encouragement through referral to a formalized network of governmental and Catholic Agencies, such as Centrelink and CatholicCare NT.

- * Submissions to the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly on amendments to legislation and/or bill proposals impacting on the poor.

Mission

To live the Gospel by 'serving the Lord in the least of his brothers'.

Vision

The service is aimed to promote social justice by defending the sanctity of life and human dignity

Services

- * Administrative assistance to old, unwell, poorly educated and illiterate, by helping them to fill in forms that government agencies require.

Contact

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IN THIS ISSUE - PROJECT UPDATES / UPCOMING EVENTS / INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

A GARDEN OF MERCY IN ADELAIDE:

Helping the homeless and families in need

For some twenty years members of the Order in South Australia have supported the development the community garden on the site of the former Adelaide Gaol in inner Adelaide. The garden was formerly tended by prisoners until the gaol closed in 1988.

Founded in 1841 the Adelaide gaol was one of the last of the colonial prisons and the scene of many hangings prior to the abolition of capital punishment in SA in 1976.

Mercy Sister, Sister Janet Mead and a dedicated group of helpers redeveloped the garden as part of the works of the Adelaide Day Centre for homeless persons. Over the intervening years the garden has grown and is now a source of fruit and vegetables and flowers for the luncheon program at its Moore Street premises in the Adelaide CBD.

Food hampers are also delivered each week to many families and people in acute need.

The garden is cared for by clients of the Adelaide Day Centre and



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The Order of Malta is a Public Benevolent institution and is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a Deductible Gift Recipient. ABN 37 142 209 121. Licence: SA - CCP1722, WA - 21310.

If you would like to support the Garden of Mercy, you can make a donation on page 5.



In 2016 the Australian Association has distributed a record 6,000 of our specially designed Coats for the Homeless.

Thank you to our donors who have supported this project and to our distribution partners who help us get the Coats to the people in need.

As this year's distribution draws to a close, planning for the 2017 distribution is already underway. We hope that we will be able to match this distribution again next winter. We will provide an update in the February 2017 Newsletter.

"As winter is now with us the coats will be distributed to our homeless and needy clients. Not only will they be kept warm and dry, they will also feel that someone cares enough to give them a coat to help them manage during the cold and rainy months ahead."

**Shirley Kelynack,
President of Waitara St Vincent de Paul**

"Coats for the Homeless' program provides an opportunity to help at a very fundamental level. Can you imagine living on the streets of Sydney in the cold without a coat to keep you warm? These coats offered protection against the cold and I like to believe they also gave people a feeling of hope and dignity."

**Joe Cashman,
CEO of CatholicCare Parramatta**

