

CHCCS and Widhya Asih Foundation Child Sponsorship Information (community)

Why sponsor a child from the Widhya Asih Foundation?

Children love knowing that somebody cares about them. The children of Widhya Asih children's homes love being sponsored. Sponsorship strengthens their sense of identity and dignity, and gives them hope for their future and their family. Your sponsorship is a blessing and an honour to your character. The Bible clearly reveals God's attitude towards the vulnerable and underprivileged -

Jeremiah 22:16 He (King Josiah) defended the cause of the poor and needy, and so all went well. Is that not what it means to know me?" declares the LORD.

1 John 3:17-18 If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

James 1:27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Although the English word *orphanage* typically refers to an institution that cares for children with no parents, the Widhya Asih children's homes are actually called *panti-asuhans* in Indonesian (*panti-asuhan* means *caring centre*). A *panti-asuhan* is a home for underprivileged children who may be genuine orphans who have no living parents, or they might come from single parent homes or they may have parents who are too poor to care for and educate their children. The main focus and purpose of a *panti-asuhan* is on the education and personal development of these students. *Widhya* means *knowledge* and *Asih* means *compassion/love*. The Widhya Asih Foundation's motto is "*Together we can change the lives of children in Bali.*"

Varying costs of Child Sponsorships

The cost to sponsor a child varies depending on their age, location and school grade. The following is a useful guide for sponsorship amounts –

Grades K to 6 (typically ages 5 to 12)	AU\$45/month (\$10/week)
Grades 7 to 9 (typically ages 13 to 15)	AU\$65/month (\$15/week)
Grades 10 to 12 (typically ages 16 to 18)	AU\$75/month (\$18/week)

Please note that CHCCS does not intend to continue to take payroll deductions once a sponsored child has finished year 12.

What does Child Sponsorship pay for?

Sponsoring children at Widhya Asih *panti-asuhans* results in the following Health and Educational costs for that child being underwritten by your payments:

Health costs	Educational costs
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Food• Personal hygiene• Medical care• Recreation and birthdays (limited)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• School fees• Education material• School uniform• Transportation to school

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Opt-in and Opt-out protocols

Anyone who wish to begin to sponsor a Widhya Asih child should contact Donna Fairall by email to admin@membantu.org or phone Coffs Harbour Christian School on (02) 6653 4000. She will help you to choose which child to sponsor. Some things to consider are –

- How long do you intend to sponsor a child?
- Would you prefer to sponsor a male or female child?
- What age of child would you prefer to sponsor?
- What are the ages of your own children (if any)?
- Are you considering being part of a future student exchange program?

See the section “*Some things to consider when sponsoring a child...*” below for more information about choosing a child to sponsor.

All sponsorship payments are to be by **direct debit / electronic fund transfer** and **MUST INCLUDE** the **sponsorship payment reference code** that will be allocated. Please DO NOT send cash, cheque or credit card payments to the Coffs Harbour Christian Community School or to the Widhya Asih Foundation in Bali.

All sponsorship payments are to be by **direct debit / electronic fund transfer** to the following account –

BANK NAME: **CBA**

ACCOUNT NAME: **CHCCS (MEMBANTU DEVELOPMENT FUND)**

ACCOUNT BSB: **062-678**

ACCOUNT NUMBER: **1035 8808**

PAYMENT REFERENCE: please quote your **sponsorship payment reference code (i.e. 4????)** that will allocated to you at the commencement of your sponsorship by Donna Fairall.

To stop your sponsorship payments, please contact Donna by email or in writing to advise of your intentions. We understand that withdrawing sponsorship may sometimes be necessary because of the realities of life, but this should never be seen as a trivial action.

Communicating and giving gifts to your sponsored child

Sponsors should not assume that a sponsor child can read or understand the English language. Correspondence with a sponsored child should in most circumstances be into Indonesian (Bahasa Indonesia). You could use an online translator such as <https://translate.google.com.au/> as a rough guide, or better still ask Jonathan or Violeta Petersen for assistance. Also, see the section *Quarterly Email Communication program for Child Sponsors (QEC Plan)* below for more information.

The children’s homes have requested that we minimise gift giving to gifts for birthdays only. The best thing to give is a personal letter with some photos for the children. Gifts should be small (for storage at the orphanage) and light (for transporting to Bali). Some ideas for gifts are – Colouring books and pencils for younger children, picture books, towels, caps or T-shirts with Aussie logos, puzzles, playing cards, etc.

Anyone wishing to send a gift to Bali with CCS staff or students should negotiate this with the travellers at least a week or two before their departure. PLEASE DO NOT attempt any last minute inclusions because it can change the weight of luggage to be overweight (which costs money) and creates unnecessary stress for the travellers.

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Postal address details for the children's homes:

Blimbing Sari address: Widhya Asih Blimbingsari Childrens Home Desa Blimbingsari, Melaya Jembrana - Bali, Indonesia	Melaya address: Widhya Asih Melaya Childrens Home Jl. Raya Melaya - Gilimanuk Jembrana - Bali, Indonesia
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Quarterly Email Communication program for Child Sponsors (QEC Plan)

In an effort to facilitate personal communication between sponsors and the sponsored children in Widhya Asih panty asuhans, we have designed a quarterly email communication plan. The details of the plan are as follows –

- In the last 3 weeks of each CCS school term, sponsors will be encouraged to send an email message to their sponsored child (i.e. quarterly = at least once each school term). Please limit the size of the communication to a maximum number of 2,000 characters (with spaces), which translates to approximately 350 words in English. This is a maximum and is not intended to imply that each message must be of maximum length. Quality communication in this case is more important than the mere quantity of words.
- Up to five photos can be attached, however one or two good photos would be ideal. Photos can be .jpg or .png format with an image size limit of 5MB per photo. You may attach a .pdf file format as well.
- Topics to include in your message might include – birthday wishes, season's greetings for Easter and/or Christmas; or news of significant events in the life of either the Sponsor or the Sponsor child. Words of encouragement, taking an interest in their lives, praying for them and their family etc. would be very beneficial to the children, helping to enhance their emotional and social wellbeing.
- The email messages will be forwarded to Florant Ridel (Itonk), our Indonesian Consultant, and he will translate your messages into Indonesian. During the CCS school holidays, Itonk will print out the translation and the photos, and then deliver them to the sponsored children in the children's home. Whilst at the panty asuhans, Itonk will assist the children to respond to sponsors with their own letters and also some photos. Itonk will then translate them into English, then either send them to Australia (if anyone is conveniently travelling) or else he will scan them and email them to Donna Fairall to distribute to the sponsors.
- Whilst the privacy of these communication would be very important, it is an important part of this QEC plan that sponsor letters are read by Donna Fairall, our Overseas Administrator (for security purposes) and Florant Inger (Itonk), our Indonesian Consultant (for translation purposes). It is hoped that these measures are seen as appropriate protective measures for the sponsored children.
- From time to time, letters and/or school reports will be received from sponsored children for their sponsors. These will be passed on to sponsors through Itonk and various CCS visitors to Bali.

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Some things to consider when sponsoring a child...

All the children in Widhya Asih children's homes are underprivileged and are worthy of being supported by our sponsorship programs. However, when beginning the process of choosing a child to sponsor, it is advisable to take some of the following points into consideration -

- **CONSIDER THE STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM:** One of the most important issues to think about is whether you think that you would like to participate in the CCS Student Exchange program. In this program child sponsors can fund their sponsored child to come to Australia for three weeks (usually in June).

AGE RESTRICTION: Only children who are 13 years old or above can participate in our student exchange program.

AGE APPROPRIATE: If you have children of your own, what age of sponsor child would be best to relate to and befriend your own children?

SEX: if you had a sponsor child in your home, what sex of sponsor child would be most appropriate for your family?

- **CONSIDER HOW MUCH YOU CAN AFFORD:** It would not be wise to attempt to sponsor a child if your budget cannot accommodate this regular expense/investment. Our current sponsorship costing guide is as follows -

Grades K to 6 (typically ages 5 to 12) **AU\$45/month** (\$10/week)

Grades 7 to 9 (typically ages 13 to 15) **AU\$65/month** (\$15/week)

Grades 10 to 12 (typically ages 16 to 18) **AU\$75/month** (\$18/week)

- **CONSIDER WHETHER YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT A CHILD WITH TWO PARENTS, ONE PARENT OR NO PARENTS:** As mentioned above, not all children in Widhya Asih panti-asuhans are strictly orphans, but all are underprivileged and need help to be cared for and educated. This criteria may or may not be an issue to you.
- **CONSIDER WHETHER YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT A CHILD FROM A CHRISTIAN FAMILY OR A NON-CHRISTIAN FAMILY:** Some Christians might like to consider what the Apostle Paul wrote to the believers in Galatia – “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and *especially* to those who are of the household of faith.” (Galatians 6:10). This criteria may or may not be an issue to you.

Having carefully and prayerfully considered which child you will choose to sponsor, it remains true that this is a decision that you can't really *get wrong* – *all* of these children need to be loved, valued, supported and enriched through relationships. May God bless you, and the Widhya Asih children of Bali, richly as you consider this unselfish act of generosity and compassion.

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SPONSORSHIP SIGN-UP FORM

Yes! I want to get involved in sponsoring a child in a Widhya Asih children's home in Bali.

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Date of Birth: ___ / ___ / _____

Home phone number: _____

Personal email address: _____

Please indicate your preferences for the child you wish to sponsor –

- Sex of child: Male or Female _____
- Approximate age: _____

I agree to arrange for my sponsorship payment to be made each month to the Membantu Development Fund by electronic direct deposit, quoting my Sponsorship Payment Reference Code.

Signed: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ___

Please Note: your Sponsorship Payment Reference Code, which must be used for all payments will be allocated to you by our office once your application has been received. Please do not make any payments until this Code has been given to you.

Please forward this page when completed to –

Donna Fairall (Overseas Operations Administrator)
Coffs Harbour Christian Community School,
226 Bonville Station Road, Bonville, NSW, 2450
Ph: 02 6653 4000
Fax: 02 6653 4048
Email: admin@membantu.org

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date form received: ___ / ___ / ___

Received by: _____

Sponsorship Code: _____