



2019 – 2020

ANNUAL REVIEW

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CWS
action against poverty
actalliance

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE ANNUAL REVIEW

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020



**CHAIRPERSON
OF THE CWS BOARD
IAN LOTHIAN**

Looking back over the last year we can be proud of the way our partners have responded in the wake of Covid-19. They have been able to change the way they work, revisit plans and priorities and reach vulnerable communities with desperately needed food, hygiene supplies and reliable education. Their knowledge and networks have helped and will continue to protect some of the most vulnerable people from Covid-19 and the hunger that has come with lockdowns. Much has changed, but we can rely on their compassion and abilities to fill some of the gaps that have grown wider in the wake of the pandemic.

Much of our attention has focused on the new fundraising strategies and our efforts to strengthen engagement with Maori and Pasifika Churches. Already this work shows promising signs of growth, something the Board has identified as an urgent priority.

CWS moved its office to the Aldersgate Centre in Christchurch in January. Staff were well-prepared for the lockdown and while unable to meet with individuals and groups, were able to keep in touch with global partners and correspond regularly with donors.

The organisation has grown considerably from the first Christmas Appeal in 1945 when church people supported rebuilding efforts in Greece. Around the world this work of *diakonia* or loving-kindness is needed more than ever.

The Board welcomed Fe'iloakitau Tevi representing the Anglican Church and Kate Boardman a graduate of the Board mentees' programme as new members. In June CWS began the process of recruiting for three new skills based positions on the Board.

Thank you to the supporters, volunteers and churches that have made this work possible. Together we are working for a world where everyone has the water, food and justice necessary to live in dignity and peace.



**"WE ARE WOMEN WHO
WORK IN THE GARMENT INDUSTRY.
OUR FAMILIES DEPEND ON US FOR
THEIR BASIC HOUSEHOLD NEEDS"**

JEGANESWARAN,
KILINOCHCHI, SRI LANKA



**NATIONAL DIRECTOR
PAULINE MCKAY**

As we approach the 75th anniversary of the first appeal, I am very mindful of the many lives that have been touched by the work of CWS. Those first donors who responded to the request of the then National Council of Churches started something that continues to meet people's urgent needs and give them the resources to participate in their community. It has been a channel for people to share their concerns for others and contribute to long term change.

This year has been challenging for us all. Fortunately CWS has strong local partnerships that have meant we can face the difficulties with confidence. We are concerned that a number of countries have introduced measures making their work more difficult and undermining basic human rights. We are watching this closely as it may affect our ability to fund some partners in the future.

Over the last year, we have made fundraising a priority. I would especially like to welcome those who have supported us for the first time over the last year or who have not supported us for a long time. The response to the 2019 Christmas Appeal focusing on water showed significant improvement. Gifted, our ethical giving programme, has proved a valuable source of new donors. One of the next challenges we face is the phasing out of cheques and the need to help supporters move to new ways of giving.

The future will be demanding as more people face overwhelming poverty, a changing climate, and increased conflict. However, I am confident that people like you will persist in the task of showing love to our neighbours and care for our earth. We are grateful for your prayers and support.

Special thanks to Ian Lothian who is stepping down from the Board at the Annual General meeting in October.

Spotlight on Workers

When Sri Lanka first went into curfew in March, factories were immediately closed leaving workers with few resources to cope and unable to return to their home villages. The Women's Centre knew that women in the manufacturing industry would be in trouble. Most worked long hours and saved as much money as they could to send home to rural families or supported their own families. Some received texts from their employers promising half their salary but this never eventuated and many were not paid for the work they had done. Under Covid-19, international orders were cancelled and jobs disappeared.

In consultation with CWS the Centre which largely operates in the Free Trade Zones cancelled planned May Day activities and used funds to purchase dry rations, hygiene kits and protective masks instead. The kits were distributed to some of the more vulnerable factory workers who had received no pay and those working in the plantation sector, one of the most impoverished groups in Sri Lanka.

At the time Jeganeshwaran (pictured) summed up their plight, "Our lives are very difficult. We can't eat even a single meal. Due to the coronavirus we do not understand what will happen next. Here we are."

Set up by women factory workers in 1982, the Women's Centre has made the protection of women workers its focus. Over decades staff and volunteers have educated and supported new arrivals who often face exploitation in the factories and in the boarding homes where they live. They conduct training courses and campaigns for the women, print a newspaper, support a popular drama and music troupe made up of workers, and run a library in addition to their organising work.

New generations of workers have joined them in their determination to improve the place of women and build understanding across the racial divisions within the country.

Acknowledgements

CWS acknowledges with thanks those who have supported and contributed to our work over the past year. We would particularly like to thank Alice Bates for preparing the worship resources for the Christmas Appeal and those who help with translations. We are grateful for the ongoing cooperation from the Anglican Mission Board, Diocese of Christchurch, Global Missions of the Presbyterian Church, Methodist Women's Fellowship, Mission and Ecumenical of the Methodist Church, the Methodist Church, Presbyterian Women Aotearoa, Quaker Peace and Service and World Day of Prayer Aotearoa New Zealand as well as the David Ellison, Prince Albert College, Snowden Watts and William Walters Trusts.

Special thanks to Luxon Advertising, Marcus Thomas Design, Meta Digital and SpectrumPrint.

Thank you to our loyal volunteers, Board and Advisory group members, and many advocates and supporters throughout the country. We could not do this work without you.

HIGHLIGHTS



Donors gave \$34,723 to the Coronavirus Appeal and \$10,541 to the Samoa Measles Appeal.



World Day of Prayer Aotearoa New Zealand contributed \$12,000 to the education and health programme of the Maridi Service Agency in South Sudan.



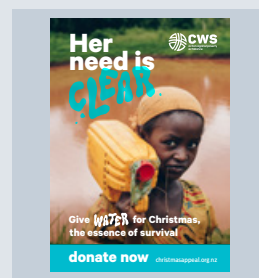
Archbishop David Moxon spoke to the 2019 Supporters' Council in Hamilton on the ecumenical and interfaith response to human trafficking and slavery.



In September, CWS was pleased to welcome Pacific Conference of Churches' General Secretary, Rev James Bhagwan.



The Methodist Women's Fellowship raised \$15,944 for the Special Project: Let the Children Live in Fiji.



Donors gave \$397,392 to the 2019 Christmas Appeal, Give Water for Christmas.

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE STRATEGIC REPORT

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

CWS is in the second year of the strategic plan, partnering with global communities to transform lives.

1. Grow downwards: Attract a younger support base

The results of the fundraising collaboration with Black advertising are offering promising returns on the additional investment agreed by the Board. Gifted, our ethical giving programme, proved the most effective strategy in reaching new donors and the organisation's appeal beyond the churches. The focus on Rhoda a young displaced mother in South Sudan proved a compelling case that almost doubled income from the previous year. Together with the Christmas Appeal focus on grandmother Farazia's prayer for water in Uganda, Gifted added or reactivated a significant number of donors. The Christmas Appeal provides a significant opportunity for younger people in churches to learn about the work we do together.

The Covid-19 lockdown prevented some activities from going ahead in early 2020 while the decision was made to extend Operation Refugee until November. The new 'banquet' option has proved popular and there is more interest in the walking challenge.

2. Tell Stories: Communicate creatively and deeply about CWS's work

The work our partners are doing is highlighted in the stories accompanying the four seasonal appeals and through CWS Update. We continue to have very good coverage in church publications. A surprise bonus to the Christmas Appeal was a video filmed by the Centre for Community Solidarity in Uganda and completed by Black Advertising. A second one was made to thank people for their generous donations – available on our YouTube channel. Staff spoke in churches and to other groups.

CWS made oral submissions to the Foreign Affairs and Defence Select Committee in response to their enquiry into aid in the Pacific and to the Environment Committee on the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon)

Amendment Bill. CWS advocated for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, more action to address climate change and the importance of empowerment, democratic voice, identity and self-determination in the Pacific. CWS supported the Zero Carbon Bill, asking that everything be done to limit the global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius.

National Director Pauline McKay featured in a short video, The World is Watching, along with CEOs from other agencies. The video was the first step in a joint effort to focus attention on the bombing in Idlib, Syria and the plight of people displaced by the conflict. A planned media trip to Lebanon with reporter Mike McRoberts was cancelled due to Covid-19. The video is available on our YouTube channel.

CWS acknowledges the stories, images and videos shared so generously by our partners.

3. Build Beyond: Widening engagement with NZ churches and other Christians

CWS is grateful for the support of our four partner churches and the Quakers. This year the CWS Board established a group made up of Board and staff members to develop a strategy for engaging with Maori and Pasifika Churches. Deepening our relationship with Maori churches is one tangible expression of our commitment to Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

This year's Refugee Sunday resources focused on the plight of Syrian refugees. Rev Dr Peter Matheson contributed to the Peace Sunday resources that included brief examples of some of the peacemaking work our partners do. CWS welcomes the increased interest in these designated Sundays.

Covid 19 has restricted the opportunities for staff to speak in local parishes and some fundraising activities including the Methodist Women's Fellowship and Presbyterian Women Aotearoa's special project.



“Building resilience of the community is a long-distance race and lacks the adrenalin rush of rescue and relief. While addressing the immediate needs (during a disaster such as Covid-19), it is important to continue and even strengthen the more sustainable disaster proofing processes, so that the communities can thrive in the days to come. These are the more ‘boring’ tasks, but foundational if communities are to become sustainable, rather than lurch from one crisis to another.”

– Edwin, Human Rights Foundation

4. Think Ahead: Developing skilled staff with succession plans in place

CWS welcomed Jordyn Kotara as Administration Assistant, covering for Sarah Wewege on maternity leave. Steve Hamlin resigned as International Programmes Officer. In the two years he was with CWS he made a major contribution to the work of the international programmes team.

In January we moved into new offices in the Aldersgate Centre. All staff worked at home through the lockdown, meeting weekly and as required on Zoom.

5. Partner Well: Resource, empower and support worldwide partners

CWS made development grants to partners and provided humanitarian assistance in 17 countries and the Occupied Palestinian Territory as well as responding to 12 emergency situations. These included additional support for partners distributing food and hygiene supplies when Covid-19 first appeared, and continuing support for displaced people of South Sudan, Rohingya refugees and Syrian refugees.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a marked impact on all partners. They have been able to share good quality health advice and actively protect their communities from the virus and the hunger that has come with it. Existing programmes were suspended or modified to deal with the changed circumstances. Some have reported growing tensions and an increase in violence. Many had to quickly deal with communities without food or livelihoods. People who had benefited from agricultural programmes were in a much better position to cope with the lack of food.

In February, Trish Murray, International Programmes Coordinator visited the five Indian partners based in Tamil Nadu. All expressed their thanks for the long-term support from CWS and pointed to substantial transformation for the poorest people in their communities.

Bequests

Our grateful thanks for bequests left by: Margaret E Burnett, Hazel Christie, Joyce Dyer, Margaret O Malcolm, Heather M Schofield, Joy Schwass, Hazel J Simpkin and Lois Wilson. A special thanks to those who made donations in memory of those who died.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIPS WORLDWIDE

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

Africa

CWS contributed additional funding to an ACT Alliance appeal to help families replant gardens and replace lost livelihoods in **Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe** after Cyclone Idai.

In South Sudan the *Maridi Service Agency* reported 301 students had sat exams in their High School, 93 students had graduated from their two preschools, and 67 students (including 49 girls) had received scholarships to attend 6 schools in the area. Some received books and uniforms while sanitary pads were distributed to girl students. MSA has seen increased interest from parents wanting schooling for their children because of the work they do. MSA continued to run MaridiFM, the HIV and AIDS clinic, and small business and agricultural training programmes for displaced families headed by women as well as promoted protection from Covid-19. MSA is keenly involved in peacemaking and offers support to families who have fled conflict areas.

In Uganda the *Centre for Community Solidarity* constructed 67 rainwater tanks ahead of the rainy season and lockdown. This year local government funded 20 more. The 25 local associations received training on Covid-19 protection including handwashing and were able to share good information in their communities. CCS built simple foot-operated handwashing machines which can be seen in operation on our YouTube channel.

Regional Total \$88,063

Asia

In Bangladesh CWS provided further support to *ACT Alliance Bangladesh* assisting Rohingya refugees. A small grant was made to the *National Garment Workers Federation* so they could distribute leaflets, hygiene kits and information to factory workers vulnerable to Covid-19.

In India partners began responding to requests for information on Covid-19 in January. Tamil Nadu has proved particularly vulnerable to the virus and all

partners negotiated changes in their programmes. *EKTA* shifted some of its work into Covid-19 specific programmes but continued gender training work where it could. An initial 371 dry ration packs were distributed to widows and others who did not receive government rations. The five children's clubs are encouraging healthy relationships and promoting good gardens. In six months 48 children have been rescued from trafficking at the Child Help Desk they run – one boy remains in their care as they have been unable to contact his parents in Bihar state.

The Human Rights Foundation expressed concern about fundamental changes in government processes that are threatening the rights of people to have a say in their region. Its priority is to strengthen the participation of women, Dalits and Adivasi or indigenous people in government. Some training of elected representatives and human rights defenders proceeded but HRF reported work is becoming harder to work in the current political environment.

LAW Trust (Legal Aid to Women) or Neythal worked on the rights of the fishing community and the development of a national fishing policy. Fisherworkers were not allowed to work during lockdown. Funds were rechanneled to provide emergency food to workers with none and for hygiene kits. Training took place by Zoom.

Social Action for New Development has wide ranging programmes aimed at assisting Dalit and Tribal people improve their livelihoods and receive fair treatment. Scavengers or the people who collect human waste are one such group which they have long supported. Under Covid-19 they have advocated for communities who have been denied government rations and other entitlements, trained local councils on protection and provided personal protective equipment.

The Women Development Resource Centre has mobilised Dalit and Tribal women to support each other to achieve greater respect for human rights and improve livelihoods. Now with 27,082 members, the movement has successfully educated many on their rights and



"There is a need to support the empowerment of indigenous Church and communities in Papua as they continue to face ongoing human rights abuses and structural violence."

**– Pacific Conference of Churches General Secretary,
Rev. James Bhagwan**

found ways for communities to advocate for access to government entitlements. For example there are now 17 deep bore wells in 14 villages providing safe drinking water and four community halls. Staff and volunteers educated vulnerable communities on Covid-19 protection and provided emergency rations and cash vouchers for those who missed out on government schemes.

In Indonesia *ACT Alliance Indonesia* completed its recovery programme after the 2018 earthquake and tsunami with transitional housing and new livelihoods.

In the Philippines *Developers Foundation* continued its work on improving local economic development, disaster preparedness training and climate change education.

In Sri Lanka the People's Forums promoted by *Movement for Land and Agricultural Reform (Monlar)* reached new people and taught regenerative or eco-agriculture practices to small farmers. Monlar has supported campaigns to promote food sovereignty and advocate for the rights of plantation workers (including teapickers) to earn fair wages and grow their own gardens. Some funding was reallocated to provide food rations to vulnerable farmers and plantation workers under Covid. *The Women's Centre* ran gender and training programmes for women workers, and distributed dry rations and hygiene kits to unpaid workers and plantation workers. The day care centre, newspaper, library and campaigns supported the education and rights of women workers. *Devasarana* ran programmes to improve rural livelihoods and promote ethnic understanding, reconciliation and peacemaking, including in the north. With the local community they cleared land previously occupied by the military for new farms and assisted 543 farmers start poultry or jackfruit production.

Regional Total \$484,846

Latin America

In the Bahamas, CWS contributed to the *ACT Alliance* relief appeal after Cyclone Dorian.

In Haiti *Institut Culturel Karl Lévéque (ICKL)* suffered a major burglary that undermined their programme. The political situation and gang activity has made it harder to operate. It is supporting the Douphiné community to build a new school and maintained academic support to three schools. Books, uniforms and equipment were supplied to the schools along with some teacher salary support.

In Nicaragua *Consejo de Iglesias Evangélicas Pro-Alianza Denominacional (CEPAD)* works through the 40 Community Development Committees it trains and supports. CEPAD supported them to implement 53 locally agreed projects including sewer installation and access road improvements. 100 trained young people provided psychosocial support to 486 people, 696 demonstration gardens were started, 84 women learnt craft and business skills to improve their livelihoods and 222 women established productive home gardens, some including chickens and pigs. Masks, healthcare and hygiene kits were delivered to small farmers worried about Covid-19.

Regional Total \$72,200

Middle East

In Palestine/Lebanon/Jordan/Israel the *Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees* worked with Palestinian and Syrian refugees and sometimes poor communities surrounding the camps. They ran primary health care clinics and medical days, provided education for refugees of all ages including literacy training for adults. Local communities were encouraged to assist vulnerable people – some distributed emergency food and women at the Al Husn camp in Jordan began producing facemasks. Emergency rations and cash grants were also distributed.

Regional Total \$97,493



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIPS WORLDWIDE

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

Pacific

In the region *the Pacific Conference of Churches* strengthened its work on self-sufficiency and respect for creation, especially in the search for climate justice. PCC advocated for self-determination for Guam, Maohi Nui (Tahiti), Kanaky (New Caledonia) and West Papua, including at the Pacific Forum, directly with governments, and in the United Nations. Some Pacific governments are promoting the interests of West Papuans and expressing concern about serious human rights violations that occurred. Actions continue in an effort to stop violence against women and children. CWS provided funding to the *Pacific Theological College's* programme, "Reweaving the Ecological Mat".

In Fiji *the Social Empowerment Education Programme (SEEP)* launched Go Organic! Grow Organic! encouraging traditional and new methods of agriculture.

In Samoa CWS supported the *Family Centre's* medical and household support during the measles epidemic.

In Tonga *the Tonga Community Development Trust Ama Takiloa* encouraged local women's groups to improve livelihoods and sustain their cultural traditions.

Regional Total \$53,804

International

As a member of the *ACT Alliance* CWS contributed core funding to its work and to the *CHS Alliance* (Core Humanitarian Standard) as an associate member.

Total \$6,805



Appraisal, Monitoring and Evaluation

CWS visited partners in India. Staff attended meetings with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and the CID Humanitarian Network (formerly the NGO Disaster Relief Forum) of which it is a member. Reports on these visits and other evaluations were considered by the International Programmes Working Group on behalf of the CWS Board.

Total \$8,743

Total Programme Funding \$811,954



CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

INCOME

Christmas Appeal	\$ 397,392
Regular Appeals	\$ 172,279
General Donations	\$ 232,518
Designated Donations - Development (including Gifted, Operation Refugee)	\$ 165,399
Bequests	\$ 173,693
Designated Donations - Emergency	\$ 88,327
Grants (Church and Trust)	\$ 58,904
Other income	\$ 77,918
Total Income	\$ 1,366,430

EXPENDITURE

International Programmes Funding	\$ 811,954
Education and Relationships	\$ 3,983
Promotions	\$ 178,131
Coordination (including all staffing costs and depreciation)	\$ 549,213
Total Expenditure	\$ 1,543,281
Excess of Income over Expenditure	(\$ 176,851)

Note: The deficit includes funding from reserves for the new fundraising initiatives approved by the CWS Board.

This summary is taken from the statement of accounts ready for audit. The audited accounts and annual review will be available after they have been accepted by the Annual General Meeting.

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE AT WORK

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020



Christian World Service is the development, justice and aid organisation of churches in Aotearoa New Zealand. The primary objects for which the Trust is established are:-

- (a) to support groups around the world who are working to overcome poverty and injustice in their own communities;
- (b) to respond effectively and efficiently to emergency situations around the world;
- (c) to encourage people in Aotearoa New Zealand to understand the causes of poverty and injustice and participate in action to overcome them;
- (d) to encourage theological reflection on the work of Christian World Service and to foster spiritualities which sustain people in their struggle;
- (e) to carry on any other charitable object which the Christian World Service Board considers would directly or indirectly advance the charitable objects of the Trust.

Working with partner churches

- › Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia
- › Methodist Church of New Zealand
- › Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand
- › Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- › Christian Churches New Zealand

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CHS Alliance

CWS is a member of the ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together), a coalition of 135 churches and faith-based organisations that work together in humanitarian assistance, advocacy and development in over 120 countries. Help is provided regardless of religion, politics, gender, sexual orientation, race or nationality and to the highest international codes and standards. CWS works within ACT Alliance policies. CWS is an associate member of the CHS Alliance.

Our Values

- › We believe the provision and enjoyment of the basic necessities for living a decent, just and humane life is God's will for all humankind.
- › Our task is to work with our partners to change those structures and systems, which imprison human beings in poverty and injustice.
- › We are committed to giving special attention and support to the struggles of children and young people.
- › We believe it is critical to listen carefully to our partners before undertaking any action or programme and to learn from the networks that we are involved in. This is a continuing process of working together to change our world.
- › In times of natural and human created disasters, CWS provides a way for New Zealanders to respond with compassion and appropriate action.
- › We believe that transformative change cannot occur unless we are prepared to stand alongside our partners and speak out on the issues and concerns that affect their lives.
- › We support people of all ethnicities, religious beliefs, gender and race.



COUNCIL for
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT



CWS is a member of the Council for International Development and has made a commitment to the CID Code of Conduct. The Code requires members to meet high standards of corporate governance, public accountability, and financial management.

CWS is an accredited Living Wage Employer.

Christian World Service wants all people to have food, water, dignity, justice and lives free of violence. We are committed to tackling the causes of poverty as well as its effects. We take on global issues like climate change, violence against women and poverty. We work with committed local partners in over 20 countries to strengthen communities, and cope with challenges like climate change, conflict and the loss of livelihoods. They are supporting poor people to set up businesses, practise eco-agriculture and influence the decisions that affect their lives. When disaster strikes, they know who needs help first and how to make it happen. Poor people can rely on our partners for the long term support money can't buy.

- We do not parachute into a community but work through strong long term partnerships.
- We work in partnership with local groups who are the experts and the activists.
- We work at the grassroots with vulnerable and marginalised people.
- We trust the wisdom of the local community to know what is needed and how best to do it.
- We support self-determination and the role of women in development.
- We share their stories and concerns with New Zealanders so we can look after each other.

CWS welcomes feedback on its operations. If you have specific questions or feedback about our work, please contact the National Director at: cws@cws.org.nz.

Complaints may be addressed to "The Complaints Focal Person" and mailed care of CWS or emailed to: complaints@cws.org.nz. For complaints in relation to the CID Code of Conduct, contact code@cid.org.nz or find more details about how to make a complaint at www.cid.org.nz/about-2/code-of-conduct/.

Photography by: ACT Alliance/Paul Jeffrey, CEPAD, Centre for Community Solidarity, Church World Service Asia, Maridi Service Agency, SEEP, Trish Murray, and the Women's Centre, Human Rights Foundation.

CWS is registered with the Charities Commission. Our registration number is CC22288.

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**Christian
World Service**
ACTION AGAINST POVERTY