

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA (AUSTRALIA) LIMITED

A LOOK BACK AT 2022

Dear Friends,

What a wonderful year 2022 has been. From being able to send our first teams, volunteers and visitors back to Africa for the first time in 3 years, to celebrating the 20-year anniversary of Hands at Work both in Africa and here in Australia. We can see God's hand and faithfulness at work weaving together a beautiful tapestry of which you and I are all a part of.

We were able to meet together once again this year for the Annual Hands Australia Advocates gathering in Canberra in March. It was a special time of connecting together as we continue to deepen our understanding as we advocate for the most vulnerable in Africa. November also saw us hold a special celebration to welcome home returned volunteers Stephen and Busie Jones as they returned to Australia after 11 and 19 years respectively with Hands at Work in Africa and as they now spend this new season in Australia.

We are so grateful to each one of you who has given so generously throughout 2022, and for your faithfulness in praying and advocating for children, families and Care Workers you know by name. We are also so thankful for the growth we have seen this year in existing partnerships, and for the new partners who have committed to support children and communities heading into 2023 and beyond. Gods richest blessings to you and your family this Christmas season.

Rachel McLaughlin and Melissa Warren,
on behalf of the Hands at Work Australia Team

Praise the Lord!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

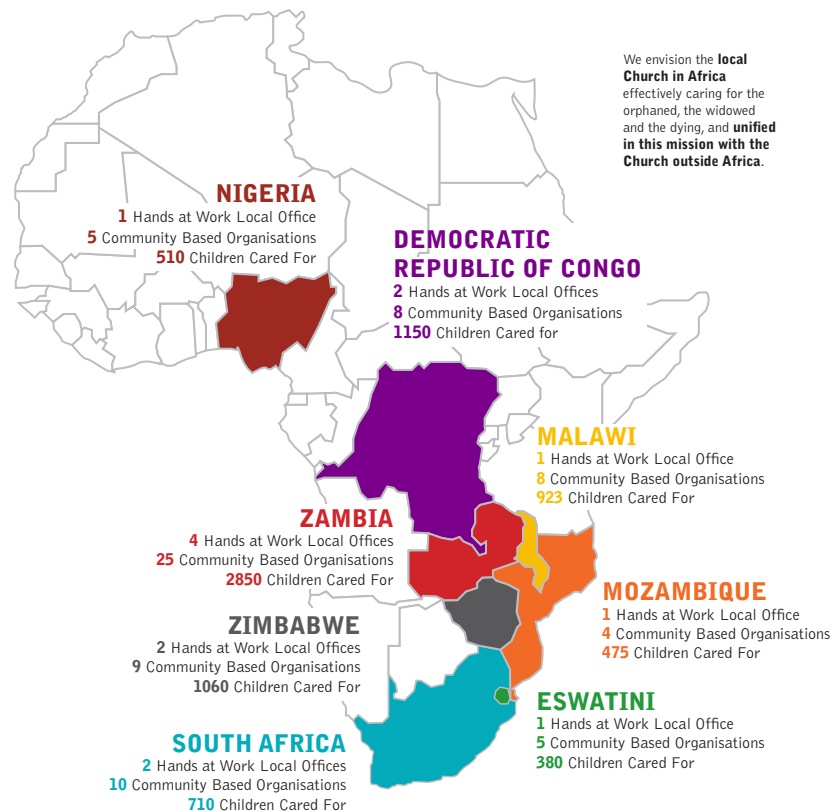
The Lord lifts up the humble;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

— Psalm 147:1-6 (ESV)



YEARS OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS


WHERE WE WORK



Our mission is to, through relationship with the local Church in Africa, challenge, encourage, develop and support the ministry of servanthood among those in need in their community through the replication of the Hands at Work community intervention model.

We believe the biblical mandate to care for the orphaned, the widowed and the dying is not only for the Church in Africa, but also elsewhere, and Hands at Work will be a prophetic voice to the Churches outside Africa, challenging them to fulfill their mandate.

THE MOST VULNERABLE CHILD

 **8,063**
Children Cared for
in 76 Communities
Across Africa

 **1,450**
Children Cared for in 12 African
Communities Supported
by Australian Partners

Hands at Work has a dream of raising up a generation who love Jesus, are committed to their families, belong to the local church, are generous to the poor and are positive role models in their communities. We are dedicated to engaging with our youth and equipping them with skills which will prepare them for a positive future, including giving back to their local communities. Judah is one example of how God is working through the next generation to do great work for His church and people.

In a house that was deteriorating and in disrepair, a young Judah found himself the sole caregiver to his siblings after the passing of his grandmother. When Care Workers in Chisamba found them sleeping in bushes, they recognized their immense vulnerability and lovingly brought Judah and his siblings under their care. Through daily hot and nutritious meals, Judah's health improved. Soon Judah discovered that **God had even greater plans for him than the restoration of his physical body.**

When a youth discipleship programme started in Chisamba, Judah and three other young men were invited to participate and learn practical life skills as well as to be discipled and mentored by Hands African leaders. Through this, **Judah experienced the depth of God's love, including deep healing and transformation.**

When heavy rains caused many houses to collapse in Chisamba in early 2022, Judah was able to **use skills he had learned to help rebuild homes and share the hope that he found in Christ.** For more about Judah's story, please click [here](#).

"People laughed at us. They said we counted as nothing in the community."

- Judah | Chisamba, Zambia

"Let no one make little of you because you are young, but be an example to the church in word, in behavior, in love, in faith, in holy living"

- 1 Timothy 4:12 (BBE)



PRIMARY CAREGIVER (PCG)



"For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations."

- Isaiah 61:11 (ESV)

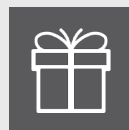
As Hands at Work continues to **strengthen the whole family**, we have increased our focus on community gardens. In the Pimai B community in Zimbabwe, Gogo Violet's life has been transformed since becoming a part of one of our community gardens. Gogo Violet began attending the community garden when she was at the height of alcohol addiction. Here she was able to hear the Gospel, receive prayer, and was encouraged to break the chains of addiction. Now Gogo Violet is alcohol free, thriving with the love of Christian community, and able to provide financially for her family through the garden profits. Apart from the food the garden provides, she was able to buy fertilizer to reinvest in the garden and a special Christmas meal for her family. This income generating activity helps **build resilience** by enabling PCGs to engage in sustainable and profitable food production, while simultaneously providing food security for children at the Life Centre. She has **learnt the skills to care for her own family and earns a small income as Hands at Work purchases the food for the children's daily meal from gardens run by our local caregivers.** For more about Violet's story, please click [here](#).



SHARE



PRAY



GIVE

CARE WORKER



1076
Local Volunteer Care
Workers Across Africa



180
Care Workers in Communities
Supported by Hands Australia

Care Workers are the heart of the ministry of Hands at Work as they are the living presence of the servant Christ in their communities. When she heard the call from the pastor in her local church, Mama Safi stepped forward to become a Care Worker in the community of Toyota. Mama Safi grew up in a broken home there, so she has personal knowledge of the struggles that the children she serves face. She and her husband regularly struggle to get enough resources and they have tragically lost three of their seven children. Despite all of this, she has experienced God's love in the process. She and the Care Workers in Toyota are a **tight knit family** that meet regularly for Relationship Groups. Mama Safi loves to learn about Jesus in this group as well as share about her life. A shining example of Mama Safi's commitment to Toyota and the children is Mwete. Mwete is a young boy who devastatingly lost his whole family. Feeling the stir in her heart, she invited him to live with her family. Mama Safi says that, **"his presence in my family was not a struggle because I trusted God."** Mama Safi exemplifies the heart of hundreds of Care Workers across Africa who run towards the problem in their communities. For more about Mama Safi's story, please click [here](#).

"I became a Care Worker when I received an invitation from my pastor to join the work of caring for orphans and vulnerable children. Right there, I said that as long as it is the work of God, I would like to support this work."

- Mama Safi



Meet
Mama Safi

from the Democratic Republic of Congo

Toyota Community

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA



"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

- Proverbs 22:6

A key emphasis for Hands at Work has been identifying and **growing African leaders** who desire to sacrificially **give of themselves** to serve the most vulnerable. An example of this strong commitment to discipleship can be seen through the experience of young African leaders like Jones. Jones, who grew up in the community of Mwaiseni, Zambia, was orphaned at the age of 12 becoming the head of his household and caring for his two younger brothers. In those very difficult years he received love from Care Workers. As he grew older, it became evident that he had a **heart for vulnerable children** like him. Jones makes a daily choice as an adult to provide love and care for the children Hands serves in hopes that more children like his younger self will grow up with the support they need to overcome life's tragic circumstances. Jones expresses: *"Through serving with Hands at Work I've learned that life is not about myself. One thing that I've seen is that people come from different countries just to serve and live for other people. Where I am today is because of other people who were there to support me."* More on Jones' journey: [here](#).



138
African
Volunteers



20
International
Volunteers



5
International
Volunteers from
Australia

HANDS AT WORK AUSTRALIAN OFFICE



98

Partners Around the World



16

Partners in Australia



13

Volunteers in Australia

In March this year we were able to hold our second Annual Hands at Work Australia Advocates Gathering in Canberra, ACT. Hands Australia advocates travelled from Victoria and NSW to meet together for a time of connection and reflection. We were challenged by a word from George Snyman on what it means to live out Kingdom Culture, that our lives embrace the vulnerable and broken in our midst. We also deeply explored the “Domino Effect”, Jesus “fell” on us and transformed our lives, and we can “fall” on others creating a chain reaction of blessing.

This year, we were able to send four teams to Africa, for the first time since 2019. These teams spent time in South Africa, Eswatini, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe and Zambia. An additional construction team planned by Hands at Work Africa with members from partner church Sunbury Baptist were also able to spend time in South Africa constructing a playground for the children in the Mluti community. What an absolute joy it was for our team members to be able to connect/reconnect with the Care Workers, Children, Service Centre staff and Regional Support Team members after 3 years of not being able to travel. It was such an encouragement to have our returning teams share on our monthly Hands on Deck calls bringing new stories of children, care givers and care workers they had met and walked with, injecting a fresh fire into our times of meeting together.



“We can really see God working in our hearts and we feel like we have learnt so much about our Heavenly Father’s heart for the poor and the vulnerable.”

- Nico and Linda Mellett,
International Volunteers in Zambia

We were also able to send out our first volunteers to Africa in a number of years. Andrew Gilbertson from Victoria spent 3 months serving with the Hands at Work Projects Team, based out of South Africa. Andrew was involved with the project to construct a playground in Zwelisha community and also had the opportunity to travel and spend time in the communities in Zimbabwe.

Hands Australia volunteers, Nico and Linda Mellett and their 4 children began serving with Hands at Work in Zambia as long-term volunteers for 12 months. Linda and Nico and their children have been deeply impacted and moved by the stories they have heard, and the children they have met so far during their time in Zambia. For more from the Mellett family please click [here](#).

In July, long term volunteer Shana Brunt returned from 3 years serving in Zambia, and in November we held a special “Welcome Home” event in Sydney for Stephen and Busie Jones, who have returned to Australia permanently to start a new season of their lives here.

We have continued our monthly rhythms of meeting together through 2022, with times of prayer, Hands on Deck calls, and the bi-monthly bible stories. These calls have been a blessing and encouragement for all who participated.

“See to it that you complete the work you have received in the Lord.”

-Colossians 4:17



OUR JOURNEY, MY LIFE, HIS STORY

Each one of us has a story to tell and a journey with Hands at Work over the last 20 years.

We had a very special Hands on Deck call in November celebrating the story of Hands at Work in the lives of those of us here in Australia.

Rachel McLaughlin reflects on this time together “it was such a blessing to hear from each one and **to see how God has called each person into the Hands ministry. He has woven together a beautiful tapestry that we are all a part of** and wonderful to see him continue to weave as we go forward.”

Throughout the year Hands at Work in Africa shared stories of children, care workers and volunteers whose lives have been transformed through what God has done in the last 20 years.

Kara McLaughlin reflects, “Over the past six years with Hands, I feel like **I've been able to get to the heart of the Father.** To get to know on a deeper level those truths that He says about himself of his love, his grace, his mercy, his faithfulness, how he is slow to anger. I've got to know his compassion and that his heart is to bring healing and to bring restoration. **He doesn't look away from the suffering and the pain.**”

To read more of Kara's reflection and the reflections and stories of others click [here](#).



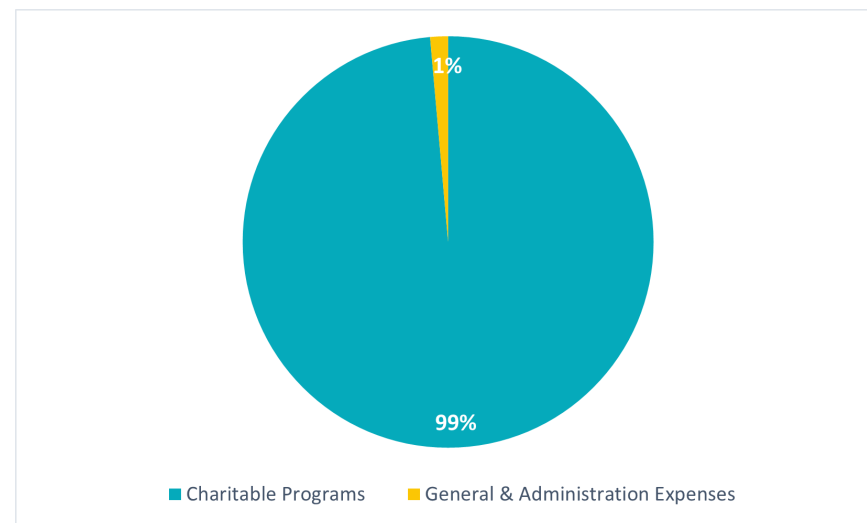
“But you, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness.”

-Psalm 86:15

“I'm so excited about the next chapter of Hands at Work for a few reasons. Our vision is laser focused on Jesus, the only one who can truly bring transformation to all of us. [Our leaders] didn't have to learn about the Hands model; they experienced it. And they are determined to bring that same amount of love to the most vulnerable children in their communities. Most of our partners are churches that have been with us for many years, and they are deeply invested into the Hands model. They have made it personal and it's an act of worship from their side. These things excite me for the next chapter of Hands at Work.”

-George Snyman
Hands at Work Co-Founder

FINANCIALS



2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JUL2021 - JUN2022