

Celebrating Partnership

The past year has presented opportunities to continue to explore, and gain deeper understanding of the synergy and interconnectedness of ADRA's purpose "to serve all humanity so they may live as God intended" with the South NZ Conference vision of "KNOW, LIVE and SERVE". Supporting churches to be ADRA (Adventist Development and Relief IN ACTION) in communities within the South through continued COVID challenges provided opportunity to help those individuals and families most affected, as well as highlighting an urgency to revision the Church Transformation Partnership methodology of supporting churches to develop and implement effective projects.



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **COVID (Omicron) 'Love Thy Neighbour' Response** - 8 churches provided practical needs based relief in Blenheim, Rangiora, Christchurch, and Dunedin
- **Community Transformation Partnerships (CTP)** - 6 churches implementing projects, including Depression and Anxiety Recovery (DARP) and food and connection caravan ministries
- **Community Champions Conference (Virtual)** - 11 representatives from the South Island joined in the 2 day event of equipping and networking
- **Emergency Relief Fundraising Events** - 4 church events were run to raise money for the Ukraine and other ADRA emergency responses
- **Local Story Collection** - a variety of stories were collected during a visit to Christchurch to share at the Champions Conference and other events across New Zealand

Impact Story

ADRA has partnered with local churches and Adventist Health to enable churches to lead Depression and Anxiety Recovery Programmes, as a means to connect in relevant and meaningful ways to their community and help bring hope.

Suffering with depression for many years Dean's life had become confined to interactions with his mum and very little meaningful engagement with life. Skeptical, but desperate to find help he joined a DARP group, and through the practical teaching, loving and caring support of the leader and group was able to start to find his own sense of self worth and purpose again. Dean still struggles at times, but knows where to find help and the support required to continue his healing.



"There was a real feeling that these people knew what they were talking about and cared how you were and how you doing". Dean

Your continued vision for community engagement will help create more stories like this!

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES ENABLED THROUGH SUPPORTER GENEROSITY

Our International impact, empowering people to overcome poverty, continues to be fueled by the generosity of church members and loyal supporters. This past year saw ADRA embark in a new model of partnership with MFAT (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade) to deliver a multi country development project in the Pacific (Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu) and South East Asia (Timor Leste and Myanmar) for the next 5 years. This SHAPE project, (sustainable health, agriculture, protection and empowerment) in addition to our continued project in Cambodia will impact more than 120,000 lives.

During the earlier part of 2022, as the stories of devastating war in Ukraine were unfolding, ADRA saw the heart of generosity poured out through donations towards our disaster relief and preparedness offerings and appeal. Church fundraisers and individual giving contributed to the largest single appeal in the recent history, of over \$100,000 (across NZ) being raised to help the people of Ukraine. This has enabled ADRA to plan for and access additional funding to implement a direct response, overseen by our Programme Managers here in New Zealand.

Our fundraising efforts continued throughout the year with a desire to connect church communities to more stories and impact of what ADRA is able to achieve through their generosity. As we have connected with individual donors and heard their stories over the past year we continue to be inspired and encouraged by their faithfulness and selfless attitude to helping those in hardship, even when they themselves are facing serious and challenging circumstances.



LOOKING FORWARD

Plans and resourcing are in place for the coming year to invest in the re-visioning of Community Transformation Partnership, including:

- New Zealand wide collaboration and consultation with Church and community leadership
- Development of training and additional resources to support project design and community assessment

We are excited by the opportunity to work in closer collaboration with both Health and Discipleship ministries as well as Conference and local church leadership to ensure growing impact and connection in our communities is sustained by the Holy Spirit and a movement of passionate disciples and churches.

We are eagerly anticipating involvement, once again at South camp, and look forward to the opportunity to connect with many as we capture renewed vision and share moments of worship together.

IN APPRECIATION

On behalf of the ADRA team, I wish to express heartfelt appreciation to the leadership of the South Conference for the continued financial investment for community projects, and for their vision, support and encouragement. We also want to thank our local partners Tindall Foundation and Sanitarium who enabled the Love Thy Neighbour response and ongoing community funding. Lastly, and with humble gratitude, the local church Pastors, champions, volunteers and supporters who give countless hours, personal resources, and a piece of their heart each and every time they serve, and demonstrate ADRA in ACTION. The challenges we all face in New Zealand with the widening poverty gap are daunting. But our God is faithful and promises to do far more than we can ever imagine. So let us not grow weary of doing good together, for in due season we will reap... for God's kingdom and His glory.



MARANATHA SALLY ANNA KERYN SAHARA SARAH

Thank you for being Justice, Compassion and Love for those who need it most!