THE GIRLS & BOYS BRIGADE



YEAR IN REVIEW



WE BELIEVE ALL CHILDREN DESERVE A BRIGHT FUTURE







Another year of heartache and joy. Each of us have experienced a rollercoaster of emotions, from despair to satisfaction. Despite challenges, we at The Girls & Boys Brigade remain optimistic - an outlook that has enabled us to survive and thrive for the past 140 years!

My involvement with the Brigade began in 1979, under the chairmanship of my father, Sir Vincent Fairfax. I was one of several councillors who met together in the same building we have occupied since 1912. Our meetings were formal – there were only men at the time, and I don't think we were offered a cup of tea! But we were dedicated to advancing the welfare of the membership, and we remain that way today.

One of our oldest alumni, if not the oldest, is Ron Young, who will be turning 100 this May. Ron says the Brigade gave him a safe place to go during his young schooling days and taught him values he still holds strong today. "It kept me out of trouble," he recalls. I am confident many of the children and youth at the Brigade today could say the same thing.

I thank those who continue to support us and make us strong.

John B. Fairfax AO

"The Girls & Boys Brigade is our safe place in a big city that makes a huge difference between being able to connect or being isolated. Even through lockdown, they kept in touch when others didn't and assisted practically. Please endeavour to support it." - Parent

"Supporting children and youth to dream big"

Mission AND Vision

THE GIRLS & BOYS BRIGADE HAS THREE CORE PROGRAMS:

- Children's Program
- Youth Program
- Family Support Program

Thanks to you, The Girls & Boys Brigade continues to provide a welcoming, safe place for children and youth who need a helping hand, just as we have done since 1882. Our support allows children and youth aged 5-18 to advance despite adversity.

Based in Surry Hills, our programs are open to children, youth and their families living within the City of Sydney local government area. The families who access our services experience a wide range of financial, social, educational and housing challenges.

These programs focus on educational support, recreation, life skills, vocational workshops and tailored assistance for family challenges. Our support starts in primary school and continues until our youth finish high school. Through early intervention and a holistic service model, we respond quickly to the changing needs of our families. This helps children, youth and their families to deal positively with life's challenges and improve their long-term outcomes in the areas of education, employment, health and wellbeing.

We are enormously grateful to our supporters who stand with us to build capable young adults and thriving families.





MESSAGE FROM THE Executive Officer



The Girls & Boys Brigade has seen its fair share of history over the past 140 years. From recession to war to pandemics, the children who attend the Brigade have seen Australia at its best and at its worst. The history living in the Brigade's walls could fill countless volumes of tales of hardship, change and progress. One thing that does endure though, is the ethos of what makes the Brigade such a special place - that all children, no matter their start in life, should have an equal opportunity to thrive and reach their potential. This is something we work hard to achieve every day.

The past year has been tough and tiring. We have endured another year of uncertainty, change and limits to what we could do. The effects of the pandemic, both economical and physical, were in full force. The Brigade's programs were affected, but we were flexible to these challenges as we saw increases in attendances and enrolments. The challenges were new and unique, but we planned and improved the services we offered so that everyone was supported. Life as we know it will be something that this generation of children of the Brigade will live with for their foreseeable futures. They will continue to be adaptable, resilient, and take it all in their stride – and we will be there to support them and follow in their incredible example.

As tough as 2021 was, we have always maintained that the Brigade is a happy place; full of laughter and smiles from the children and youth. There are countless stories from the year of how the children and youth have overcome adversity, adapted to new ways of working and living, and showed all of us how it's the simple things that make us the happiest. It's these small moments in time that make you realise how special a place the Brigade is.











Last year we received some generous funding for a much-needed upgrade to our basement area, and the addition of a lift. The basement holds a special place in the Brigade building, as it transforms into many things – a football pitch, a ninja course, a yoga studio and much more. As the only space that children and youth can run around in, it needs to be maintained and kept up-to-date. The funding received for this project in 2021 will be expended in 2022 due to Covid related delays.

This year is another busy year at the Brigade. There will be an increase in our service offering to ensure we are meeting the current and future needs of our youth. We will also be expanding the support services offered to our families, and we will be adding to our suite of educational and recreational programs for our children. None of this can be done without loyal supporters. We are so grateful for the unwavering support through a very tough time. Thanks to you, we are able to help more children, youth and their families and keep up with an ever-changing and demanding world.

On behalf of our President, John B. Fairfax, our Chairman, Cam Smith, the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers of The Girls & Boys Brigade, thank you for all the work you do to support us. We look forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

Stefan Lamour-Jansson







2021 saw the growth of the Family Support Program with the addition of a dedicated Family Support Officer. This has led to the formalisation of the program policies and outcomes.

The ongoing impact of COVID saw a 100% increase in families accessing our services for support with complex challenges. Much of this support has been given in the areas of housing advocacy, accessing financial support during Covid-19 lockdowns and providing education and emotional support during school closures.

A SNAPSHOT OF THE FAMILIES WE SUPPORT:

100% are low-income families

85% are living in social/community housing in Surry Hills, Redfern and Waterloo

75% are single parent families

40% are from non-English speaking backgrounds

15% are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

5% of children or youth have diagnosed special needs

MARIE & DAHLIA'S STORY*

Marie came to The Girls & Boys Brigade in 2020. She was struggling in a destructive marriage and her daughter Dahlia, who lives with Autism, needed support with school. English is Marie's second language, and having the courage to leave her safety net behind was difficult. Marie had never dealt with banking institutions or services like Centrelink and struggled to fill out forms in English.

The Family Support Program gave Marie the emotional and practical help that other specialised services could not offer her. She received help to navigate services like the Department of Housing, NDIS, Centrelink and banking institutions so she could begin life as a single mother.

Through the program, we helped Marie settle into new accommodation, sourcing furniture and new curtains to ensure her apartment was comfortable and safe. We also taught Marie how to pay bills online and set up her wifi at home. Our team liaised with Dahlia's school to ensure she got the right educational support, tailored to her needs. With our help, Marie was able to access counselling support and cope with the fallout from her separation.

Because of the Family Support Program, Marie felt empowered to give Dahlia a safe and secure new life. "The Girls & Boys Brigade are a family for me," Marie told us. "They are very supportive and they understand me. I've never had this before, it's everything to me."







The Pantry and Dinner Programs have continued to be an essential part of our operations in 2021.

Whether it's picking up a few items from the Brigade Pantry, or having essential grocery packs delivered to their doors, families have had continual access to food when they need it most.

As our food programs grow, so too have our relationships in the local community. Not only have we strengthened our ties with Foodbank and Oz Harvest, we have also been amazed by local restaurants and cafes generously providing gourmet meals for our Dinner Program. This program quickly became a favourite amongst families.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

200+ families supported

676 support occasions

325+ support calls made during lockdown

736 essential pantry packs delivered

1,390 freshly cooked meals delivered



BOLORMAA'S STORY*

For Mongolian mother Bolormaa, being connected to The Girls & Boys Brigade was their only hope during 2020.

Bolormaa's family moved to Australia in 2016 so her husband could study a Masters in Business.

She and her husband both work casual jobs. When lockdown hit in March 2020, Bolormaa was laid off from her job in a nail salon. She was given a letter referring her to Centrelink, but being here on student visas, their family was ineligible for any government assistance.

With two children at home, life felt on hold, but the bills did not stop. With her children's full school fees and her husband's university fees to pay for, there wasn't much money left for anything else. Thanks to your support, Bolormaa received weekly grocery packs through our pantry service. It was a relief having one less thing to stress about.

Bolormaa said "We really appreciate having The Girls & Boys Brigade to help us. Our kids learnt English here and they were able to connect through online groups. Staying in touch meant a lot to us."







During another disruptive year of school, the Homework Program continued to be a stable and reliable place for Primary School students to receive support.

The program remained open during lockdown, operating under the same regulations as schools. Our team noticed an increase in confidence in students attending the program during this time, saying they thrived from receiving more one-on-one support and the freedom to work on projects that interested them.

However, remote learning was a reality for many students. The Brigade supported children at home with educational packs, supplies and friendly phone calls - all helping to keep them engaged through the tough months of lockdown.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1.491 attendances

290 hours of Homework support

1,200+ education sheets produced in lockdown

BEN'S STORY*

Ben started the year without being able to read or sound out the alphabet. School, in particular reading, was very challenging for him. He made a few trips into the Homework Room in early 2021, before he began to avoid it and the frustrations that came with reading.

Through encouragement as the year went on, Ben started to develop a really strong interest in reading. He first mastered the alphabet and the various sounds letters make, before he began to read some of the many books we have available in the Homework Room.

By term four, Ben had become a passionate reader. Not only did he visit the Homework Room every afternoon, he began reading at home as well. He is now a regular borrower from our Homework Room library.

Ben is one of many children who have shone brightly in the Homework Room this past year.

His new passion and ability for reading has really lifted the spirits of all of our staff.









The Youth Program created opportunities throughout 2021. Early in the year, 10 youth were selected to learn photography in a series of workshops hosted by Australian photographers and local creative agency Special Group. After 2 months, the project culminated in an exhibition of the youth's work for their friends, family and local community.

Staff also welcomed the opportunity to work with the new Inner Sydney High School and run a series of growth mindset workshops. Throughout the lockdown the youth program was delivered from the centre as well as online. Zoom dinners became a weekly favourite, with participating youth receiving ingredients to learn to cook their own delicious meals.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

1,401 attendances

5 skills building workshops

155 lockdown deliveries

183 sports night attendances

195 dinner night attendances



SASHA'S STORY

Sasha attended The Girls & Boys Brigade from Kindergarten until she finished high school. Looking back, she realises how important it was to have been around children who were living through similar experiences. The Brigade gave Sasha space to relax, have fun and not worry about the stresses of her home life.

During primary school, her mother was diagnosed with a rare skin disorder that made her unable to leave the house, and her father passed away. Attending the Brigade meant Sasha didn't have to miss out on opportunities such as attending weekend camps, participating in horse riding, abseiling and other adventure activities. "I wouldn't have been able to do this without the Brigade," Sasha says. "The trips were so special to me. They allowed me to bond with the other kids and make lifelong friends."

In the Youth Program, Sasha fondly remembers being respected and treated as an adult by the staff. "They taught me that my future held endless opportunities and encouraged me to reach for my goals. I am so thankful for every staff member and volunteer who took the time to sit and talk with me. They genuinely cared. TeenFit taught me the importance of nutrition and exercise. It allowed my self-esteem to grow, and I am now studying for my Cert. 4 in Fitness."

"Overall I feel very accomplished," Sasha says. "I look forward to what lies ahead."









The School Holiday Program gave children and youth the opportunity to visit the many exciting activities and places Sydney has to offer. Excursions included paddleboarding at Manly, bustling days at Taronga Zoo, and watching a performance at the Sydney Opera House.

School Holiday Programs for the second half of the year were confined to the Brigade's centre due to lockdowns. This didn't stop the team from planning days full of competitions, cooking and art activities, all providing respite and connection in an otherwise challenging time.

Children and youth at home received activity packs full of exciting games and supplies to keep them occupied.

PROGRAM OUTCOMES.

981 child attendances

223 youth attendances

104 vacation care packs delivered

45 incursions

18 excursions

1 camp

THE ROBINSON FAMILY

Susie and John Robinson moved to Australia in early 2020.

With COVID-19 lockdowns and remote learning, settling into a normal routine seemed impossible. They were on a tight budget since moving, and John could only afford to take a few days off work over the summer holidays to be at home.

"Having the Vacation Care Program has been such a big help" Susie said. "Being a part of The Girls & Boys Brigade family has been one of the highlights in our kid's lives."

Over the summer holidays, their three children had a place to play and make friends. They attended excursions to the Opera House, to the movies and participated in fun arts & crafts activities in the centre.

Because of the Vacation Care Program, Susie and John didn't have to stress about their daughters having nothing to do while they went to work. They knew immediately where they could turn to for a fun, adventure-filled holiday.



The Sydney lockdown disrupted the plans for camps in 2021.

However, one camp was able to take place.

In June, a dozen children enjoyed a three-day stay in Pearl Beach, during which time they participated in a number of outdoor activities including hiking in Brisbane Water National Park.

YEAR 6 PEARL BEACH CAMP

June marked our first camp of the year as Miss Mel, Mr Bill and Mr Stu took 11 of our wonderful year 6 children up to Pearl Beach on the Central Coast for a three-day, two-night adventure. The camp was full of activities, laughter, escapades, fabulous food and wonderful weather.

Despite it being called a camp, our children and staff stayed in a lovely four-bedroom house which blew the minds of our children, many of whom described it as a mansion. The children had been full of excitement for weeks leading up to the camp and the experience certainly did not disappoint.

The camp provides a fantastic opportunity for our children to explore areas outside of Sydney, get in touch with nature, experience activities they don't normally get to experience, as well as the chance to bond with their peers and further develop their relationships with our staff. The children experience a lot of self-growth, improve their confidence and enhance their people and relationship skills throughout the camp.

The weekend away commenced with two fun and very sweaty games of laser tag in Gosford. Both games were highly competitive as everyone battled for the title, desired to achieve rapid fire mode and desperately wanted to shoot our staff at every opportunity. In the end the Green Team was victorious.

From laser tag, the bus full of children headed to Pearl Beach to make the "mansion" feel like home for the weekend. The house was full of laughter, dancing and excitement all weekend long, but especially on first viewing of the accommodation.

Day one finished off by watching the sunset at Pearl Beach followed by a barbeque and a raucous game of werewolf, a social deduction game where players have to convince other players they are not werewolves even if they are assigned to being a werewolf. Each child got deep into characters they took on different personas and aliases for the game.

Day two started with bacon, eggs, hash browns and a hike through the Brisbane Water National Park. The energy from breakfast was well and truly expended as the group was rewarded with a stunning view of the Hawkesbury River from Warrah Lookout.

After the hike everyone regrouped and headed to Empire Bay to catch the local ferry along the Brisbane Waters to Woy Woy as the group soaked in the stunning views and glorious weather. Once the group arrived at Woy Woy everyone ordered some fish and chips for lunch and then watched the pelican feeding. The staff thought the children scoffed down their lunch all too fast, but their sensibilities were recalibrated as they watched the pelicans fight over and demolish their lunch. Perspective is always a good thing.

The next morning the group packed up and said goodbye to the "mansion" that had graciously accommodated them for the previous two days. But one last activity was still scheduled before returning home – ice skating in Erina. With much trepidation everyone took to the ice. By the end of the three-hour session everyone was far more comfortable on the ice, showing off their ability to navigate tight corners and intentionally fall over and slide on the ice.

Needless to say, everyone had a phenomenal and unforgettable weekend.

OUR THANKS

The Girls & Boys Brigade rely almost entirely on the generosity of everyday Australians, major donors, corporate partners, trusts and foundations to help us provide our services and programs free of charge. 100 per cent of donations to The Girls & Boys Brigade support programs for children, youth and their families, net of Fundraising Expenses. The Girls & Boys Brigade Foundation funds the administrative costs and we do not receive any government funding.

We are enormously grateful to our supporters who stand with us to build capable young adults and thriving families.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF DONORS OVER \$1000

Antoinette Albert
Charles & Hannah Alexander
Allsopp Family Foundation
Kate & Bill Anderson
Ian Armstrong
Ruth Armytage, AM
Helen Ashdown
ATS Charitable Foundation
William Bennett

William Bennett
Bourke St P & C
Brendon Bovill
Bridgestar Pty Ltd
Andrew Buchanan
David Cadwallader
Cater Charitable Trust Fund

Judith Chapple City Tattersalls Club Ann Corlett AM Geoffrey Cottrell

Count Charitable Foundation Lynne Downes

Bryan Duignan
John Fairfax, AO &
Libby Fairfax
Mike Forsdick
Scott Furby
Susan Garvan

Daniel Gauchat AM Philip Gosse Sally Gosselin Deborah Griffin Edward Griffin Janet Grimsdale Richard Grimsdale Gina Grubb

Hand Up Foundation
Kate Hayward
William Hayward
Elizabeth Litchfield
Kylie Macdonald
Sue Maple-Brown AM
Paul Masi

Pamela McGaw Morgans Foundation Andrew & Prim Murray Family Foundation Wendy Nash Nexia Sydney Frances O'Riordan

Chiho Otani Anabel Parbury Libby Plaskitt Peter Plaskitt

Sandra Plowman

RAIZ Invest Limited Fiona Ratcliffe Kenneth Reed, AM Malcolm Reid Rob Rich John S Robertson St. Michael's Golf Club Josephine Strutt

Paul Strutt
Rob Summers
Jim Tait
Howard N Tanner AM

The Abbott Foundation
The Eric Dare Foundation
The Fullerton Hotel Sydney
The Jibb Foundation
Annalise Thomas
Rob Thomas
Marten Touw
David Uther, OAM &

Mrs Uther

Vivienne Court Trading Pty Ltd

Claudette Wadsworth
Wellington Management
Australia Pty Ltd
Sarah White

James Williams

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OF CORPORATE & COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Alexandria Park

Community School

Arthur Charles
Arthouse Kitchen

ATYP

Bourke St Public School Barwon Investments Blackheath Golf Club Blooms The Chemist

Callaway Café Maybach Centuria Capital Pty Ltd City of Sydney Council

City of Sydney Council
City Tattersalls Club
CountPlus One
Crown St Public School

Crown St Public School

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

Dropbox

Epoch Capital Pty Ltd

Foodbank

The Fullerton Hotel Sydney

Grill'd Surry Hills
Gavin Coopey,
More Strategic

Hayball
Jasmine Theophile
King & Wood Mallesons
Kristian Molloy
Local Rewards
Loluk Bistro
Microsoft
Michael Bogle

Mike Galvin

Nexia Sydney Oz Harvest

Peak Investment Partners
Property Industry Foundation

Sam Masi

Sandersons Mercedes Benz

Rushcutters Bay The Special Group

Surry Hills Creative Precinct Taylor Construction The Char Rotisserie The Medusa Hotel Tigerspike

Unispace

Turner Architects

Wombat Crossing Vineyard

VOLUNTEERS

Jayne Ambrose Susan Bennett Michael Bogle Rona Bowrey Lily Brown Philip Burfurd Judy Chapple Elizabeth Clark Samantha Dunlop Andy Fairfax Jane Farnsworth Richard Flood, PGA Mike & Vera Forsdick Liz & Scott Furby Mike Galvin Maria Gardose Tim Gilbert Maggie Grady Jean Findlay Gray Natalie Grech

George Karhan
Blake Klaassen
Peta Landman
Carol Lane
Mia Lin
Rob Lyneham
Kylie Macdonald
Vicki Mack
Lee Manfred
Susie Manfred

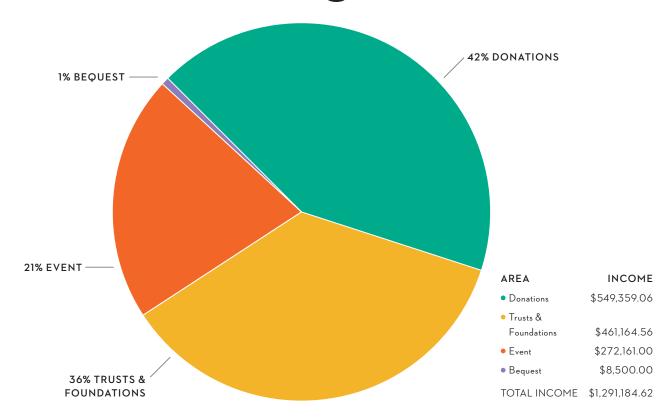
Jane Mander-Jones

Susie Manfred
Virginia McGill
Hunter McPherson
Zak Morcillo
Sami Munetsi
Sasha Murray
Nick Nicolitsis
Joshua O'Rourke
Shellee Parker
Monica Pye
Michaela Rahardja

Andrew Ratcliffe
Anthony Ragonese
Dean Raynor
Cam Smith

Linda & Paul Strutt Robert Takala Roger Tallboys Nick Thane Alyssa Warren

Fundraising Income



Program Funding



\$10,000 Family Support Program



\$122,000 Fundraising Development



\$10,000 Youth After-School Drop In



\$7,500 Youth Vacation Care Program

Collier Charitable Fund

\$20,000 Children & Youth Education



\$10,000 Family Support Program



\$24,000 Camps

The Glendonbrook Foundation

\$35,000 Family Support Program



\$42,500 Youth Program Maple-Brown Family Charitable Foundation

> \$30,000 Program costs



\$22,000 Technology Upgrade WELLINGTON MANAGEMENT®

Youth Program







The Girls & Boys Brigade recorded a surplus for the year of \$48,985.

In another year of disruption to both programs and fundraising activities, this is a very pleasing result financially and is again testament to the consistent support received from many individuals, private foundations and the corporate sector.

Net fundraising income increased by 6% and covered all program expenses for the year. These increased by 9% over 2020 and only in part reflects the extraordinary extra effort by all those on The Girls & Boys Brigade team, often in very difficult circumstances.

Income from The Girls & Boys Brigade Foundation, along with investment income, again fully covered The Girls & Boys Brigade Administration expenses for the year. The aim is for this to continue, so that all of net income from fundraising can be spent on the front-line programs which make such a difference to the clients.

Administration costs increased in 2021 mainly as a result of higher staffing, consulting costs and asset write-offs.

The Girls & Boys Brigade plans to increase services further in 2022 and major capital works are planned for the building to help achieve this. We are very grateful to the Jibb and John B. Fairfax Foundations for the significant funding this will require, as well as to all those whose generosity enables The Girls & Boys Brigade to continue to impact peoples' lives in such a meaningful way. The Girls & Boys Brigade is a Deductible Gift Recipient, so all donations over \$2 are tax deductible.







DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR TO 31 DECEMBER 2021

INCOME	2021	2020
Fundraising Income	\$969,520	\$890,424
Fundraising Event Income	\$272,161	\$126,360
In kind donation - inclusive of Office Renovation	-	\$100,160
Total Fundraising Income	\$1,241,681	\$1,116,944
Distribution from GBB Foundation	\$240,000	\$192,500
Nett Income from Investments & Imputation Credits	\$108,561	\$28,469
ATO Covid Relief	-	\$100,000
Other Income	\$14,055	\$975
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,604,297	\$1,438,888
EXPENSES		
Administration Expenses	\$269,279	\$188,421
Basement Refurbishment Expense	\$43,793	-
Fundraising Event Expenses	\$81,419	\$36,378
Fundraising General Expenses	\$387,024	\$350,611
Program Expenses: Children's Program	\$394,924	\$407,607
Youth Program	\$166,583	\$204,213
Family Support	\$212,290	\$97,437
Total Program Expenses	\$773,797	\$709,257
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,555,312	\$1,284,667
NET OPERATING SURPLUS	\$48,985	\$154,221

This Statement is unaudited. The full audited 2021 Financial Report will be available on our website from June 2022.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

There are many ways you can join us in making a significant difference to the lives of children and youth in our community.

- Donating
- Leaving a gift in your will
- Attending one of our events
- Volunteering
- Becoming a Corporate **Partner**

Founded: Sydney 1882 President: John B Fairfax, AO Chairman: Cam Smith

Treasurer: Mike Forsdick

Directors:

Ruth Armytage, AM Graham Bates Andy Fairfax

Kylie Macdonald

Paul Masi

Fiona Ratcliffe Paul Strutt

Executive Officer: Stefan Lamour-Jansson Company Secretary

& Finance Manager: Andrea Molloy

Administration Officer:

Tory Leary

Programs Manager: Tracy Clifton

Youth Coordinator:

Family Support Coordinator:

Rebecca Mackay

Program Coordinators:

Stuart Wright Melanie Fletcher Camilla Fitzsimmons Salote Tamata Support Officer: Lily Thompson Fundraising Manager:

Roslyn Miller

Fundraising Coordinator:

Emma Stubley

Foundation Chairman:

Paul Masi

Phone: 9319 4509 Email: info@girlsandboysbrigade.com.au Website: www.girlsandboysbrigade.org.au $\mathbf{Address:}\ 404\ \mathrm{Riley}\ \mathsf{St}, \mathsf{Surry}\ \mathrm{Hills}, \mathsf{NSW}\ 2010\ \mathrm{or}\ \mathsf{PO}\ \mathsf{Box}\ 225, \mathsf{Surry}\ \mathsf{Hills}, \mathsf{NSW}\ 2010\ \mathsf{ABN:}\ 40\ 409\ 258\ 077$

Thank you for supporting the Brigade in so many ways. Together we can help children and youth in need realise their full potential.

Follow us 🚹 Facebook 😇 Instagram in LinkedIn

