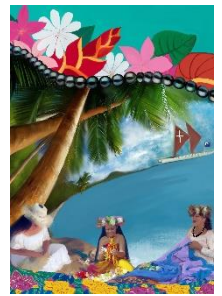




WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 7th MARCH 2025

“I Made You Wonderfully”

Service from Cook Islands



PROJECTS TO BE SUPPORTED

Each year World Day of Prayer offerings throughout the world go to projects chosen by the National Committees. World Day of Prayer Aotearoa New Zealand worked with the following organisations when selecting projects: Christian World Service, the Bible Society and the Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy

Christian World Service –Tonga Community Development Trust (TCDT), and its work with the Amatakihoa women’s groups in Tongan village communities.

Tonga continues to recover from the devastating impacts of natural events like the Hunga Tonga Hunga Ha’apai (HTHH) disaster in January 2022, and the Covid-19 pandemic. Response programmes associated with both these threats are now mostly complete, but vulnerabilities and impacts remain. TCDT has observed the increasing hardship faced by many vulnerable families due to the rising cost of living. Women and children, elderly, and persons with disabilities are the most affected. Households refer to the situation as “fusimo’omo”, meaning that family income always falls short and never meets the family needs and responsibilities. Saving money is not possible for many. Amatakihoa members have requested assistance to establish small enterprise activities to generate extra cash, food, or goods which will help fulfill responsibilities to their family. Consultation with Amatakihoa communities in February 2024 refined a selection of strategies which TCDT will implement to help diversify family incomes and increase food security. TCDT will provide training and support on fruit tree growing, home based poultry, and income generation from traditional weaving.

Budgeting, and small business development will also be covered. This will improve and increase the informal sale of traditional/cultural products such as tapa and fine mats to family and community members living overseas, and to the growing tourism market. TCDT also proposes mental health awareness training in village communities, and creating a network of community representatives who will provide links to professional referral services. Having resources to aid positive mental health enhances the likelihood of better preparation for, and ability to cope with disasters, leading to greater resilience. <https://cws.org.nz/>

Interchurch Council for Hospital Chaplaincy in New Zealand

Chaplains are available for all patients, their families or whanau and members of staff, for people of all faiths and none,

- to offer time to listen
- to encourage
- to support
- to help in looking at life issues
- for prayer
- for sacramental ministry
- for blessings

www.ichc.org.nz

The Bible Society – Healing the wounds of trauma in the South Pacific

Thousands of people living in the Pacific Islands remain in urgent need in the aftermath of cyclones, floods, the pandemic, volcanic eruptions and many other issues such as domestic violence and rape, human trafficking and child abuse that are common throughout the South Pacific. Due to the considerable number of natural disasters that take place throughout the South Pacific, local people also face challenges because they need to be prepared beforehand for when these disasters occur.

Partnering with churches, the Bible Society in the South Pacific is aiming to reach the worst affected communities using the Trauma Healing programme. This is a programme which has been especially designed by experts from the American Bible Society, and has been adapted and is being used by many Bible Societies throughout the Fellowship, such as in Rwanda with genocide survivors.

Two groups the Bible Society of the South Pacific will be focusing on with the programme include those who have been traumatised by the recent pandemic and by the volcano eruptions in Tonga.

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Project Goals

To equip two hundred church leaders to be programme facilitators and to empower local leaders to assist traumatised people.

To translate and publish the trauma healing materials into the languages of the South Pacific.

To make the booklet “Healing the Wounds of Trauma’ available in English to church leaders during their training.

www.biblesoc.org.nz