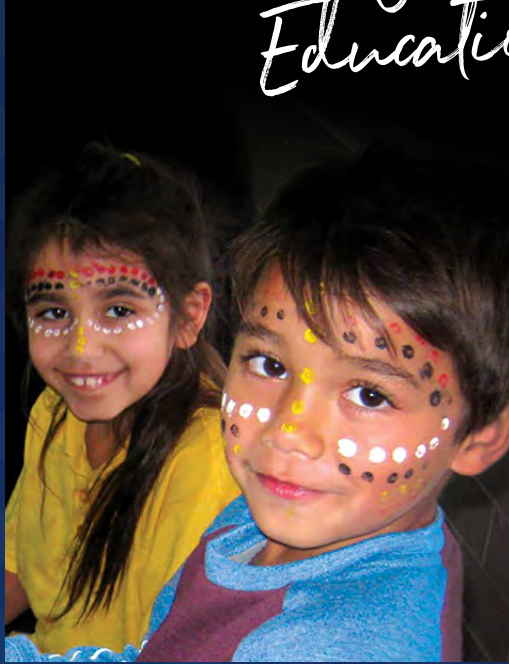




**Edmund Rice**  
FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA  
*Liberating Lives Through Education*

# *Liberating Lives Through Education*







## Our Vision

Our vision is for access to quality education and life-long learning opportunities for all, supporting empowered communities that determine their own futures.

## Our Purpose

ERFA's purpose is to support the education of the most vulnerable. For ERFA, the best education represents life-long learning where skills are imparted and applied, lessons learned and life skills mastered. ERFA's focus on education is not only in life changing education for children, but in skills such as financial literacy, farming, trades, health and human rights for adults. The link between education and empowered, self-sustaining and healthy individuals and communities is clear. The right education transforms and liberates lives, every day.

## Our Values

Presence, Compassion and Liberation are the values that underpin ERFA's vision for access to quality education and lifelong learning for all, supporting empowered communities to determine their own futures.

### Presence

- Relationships built on integrity, mutual respect, trust, accountability and transparency
- Standing in solidarity with the disadvantaged and those living in poverty
- Belief in the equality and dignity of all persons

### Compassion

- Our fundamental response is compassion which awakens us to our responsibilities and compels us to take action to eradicate poverty and suffering
- Being sensitive to and informed by the culture, experiences and hopes of local people

### Liberation

- Empowerment through education which promotes human development and increases the capacities of local people to break the poverty cycle and determine their own futures

In 2019, ERFA:

WORKED IN  
**11** Countries

(Australia, Bolivia, Kenya, PNG, South Africa, South Sudan, The Philippines, Tanzania, Timor Leste, Uganda and Zambia)



DIRECTLY IMPACTED  
THE LIVES OF  
**71,429** People  
(and hundreds of thousands more indirectly)



DISBURSED  
TO PROGRAMS  
**\$2,792,724**  
Globally



PARTNERED  
IN DELIVERING  
**35**  
Programs



Through ERFA **Partner Programs:**

**476**  
people with *Disability*  
and living in poverty were  
directly supported



**28,892**  
*Children*  
received health and  
education services



**24,795**  
*Women*  
were supported  
in economic  
empowerment, health,  
vocational training  
and mentoring



**2,541**  
*people Employed*  
in paid and  
volunteer work  
directly supporting  
communities





## Financial security IN RURAL ZAMBIA

Wakume, is a woman over 70 years old who is taking care of grand children in Limulunga royal village. Life has been hard for her as a single-female head of household. With the support of Edmund Rice Foundation Australia, Wakume was one of the community members who received practical education in livestock, crop production and entrepreneurship. Since that training, Wakume's wellbeing has taken a significant positive turnaround. Her stock of chickens has increased by more than 50% and she has a much improved income to pay for necessities. She is able to save some of her income from her poultry enterprise through the Community Savings Group and she feels confident that, if there's a financial emergency, she will be prepared and able to deal with it.



## A living story of change IN BOLIVIA

Life has not been easy for Josué and his brothers and sisters. His father died when he was 7 and he struggled at secondary school. Josué received support and tutoring from the Christian Brothers' Centre (Centro Hermano Manolo) in the chaotic La Cancha marketplace in Bolivia.

After six years attendance, he finished school and joined the Police Academy. In December 2019, Josue graduated as a police officer. He invited his mother and the Centre's director to be present as his caregivers. Josué considers the Christian Brothers and the Centre staff as his family. In a very touching moment, as Josué mentioned during his graduation that if it weren't for the Centre he would not have made it, we witnessed a living story of change.



## Spicy vinegar IN THE PHILIPPINES

A group of women in Maasin are taking some inspiring action whilst waiting to have their newly established association's "sustainable livelihood program" funded by the Philippines government. It's been a hard road over the last two years, participating in Edmund Rice trainings and meeting government requirements for funding. Now that it's done, and whilst waiting for news, the group has used what they've learnt – together with some entrepreneurial flair – and started a small scale business making and selling "Sukhang" (a spicy Filipino vinegar). The vinegar, chilli and other spices used are all native and homegrown and, from a start-up capital of only A\$40, the group's "sukhang" is slowly becoming known as one of Maasin's prides. They were a sold-out hit during the City Agricultural and Trade fare and orders are coming from locals, restaurants and stores. The Association is still hoping to receive government funding but, for now, members making the "sukhang" are looking to increase production.



## Pro-active presence, compassion and liberation HUON VALLEY, TASMANIA

Because of the strong Eddie Rice presence and relationships created over many years in the Huon Valley of Tasmania, a compassionate response to the bushfire devastated community throughout 2019 year was possible. Edmund Rice Camps Tas held specially designed afternoon programs for young people directly affected by the traumatic fires. Children had fun and created friendships while their families dealt with damages and loss. ERECTas also partnered with a Catholic girls' school in Hobart to facilitate their year 10 school camp to the bushfire affected area. The girls stayed at the previously used evacuation centre in the rural township of Huonville. From there, with supervision from ERECTas, they provided support to students in primary schools, assisted in the Huon Eldercare Nursing home and worked with local council in replanting trees. The Eddie Rice response to community needs with genuine pro-active presence, compassion and liberation was a highlight of the year.







## What's great about DONATING THROUGH ERFA?



We work with the poorest of communities, helping them to create solutions for what they've told us are their biggest needs *(not telling them what we think they need).*



Your donation will go to creating the best possible lasting impacts *(that communities will own).*



We work to safeguard your funds from the risk of complex issues of corruption, human rights abuses and terrorism.

### ERFA's Approach to Child Sponsorships

- ERFA delivers and funds community-based education projects.
- ERFA doesn't offer or fund individual child sponsorships nor can we provide tax deductibility for these.
- ERFA supports community programs such as schools (salaries, training, food) and they in turn may offer free or subsidised placements for students.

## ERFA PROGRAM FUNDING *How does it work?*



ACFID  
MEMBER





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**ACFID  
MEMBER**

Edmund Rice Foundation (Australia) is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity. To lodge a complaint against our organisation, please email the CEO at [ceo@erf.org.au](mailto:ceo@erf.org.au). Our complaints handling policy can be found on our website. If you are not satisfied with the response and believe our organisation has breached the ACFID Code of Conduct, you can lodge a complaint with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee at [code@acfid.asn.au](mailto:code@acfid.asn.au). Information about how to make a complaint can be found at [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au).

*Names of some of the people in this report have been changed to protect their privacy.*

Images in this report courtesy of program staff and photographer Mark Chew [www.markchew.com.au](http://www.markchew.com.au)



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