



Edmund Rice
FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA



Liberating Lives Through Education

IMPACT REPORT

**LIBERATING LIVES
THROUGH EDUCATION**

The background of the slide features a blurred photograph of students in a classroom, with one student in the foreground wearing a grey hoodie. A solid blue overlay covers the entire image. In the center, there is a stylized graphic consisting of concentric, swirling lines that form a circular, eye-like shape. Overlaid on this graphic is the text "OUR VISION" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters.

OUR VISION

is for access to quality education and
lifelong learning opportunities for all,
supporting empowered communities
that determine their own futures.





IN 2017 ERFA:



Directly impacted
the lives of

**141,420
PEOPLE**

(and hundreds of
thousands more indirectly)



Worked in

**10
COUNTRIES**

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



Partnered in delivering

**35
PROGRAMS**



Disbursed to programs

**\$2,287,476
GLOBALLY**





THROUGH
ERFA PARTNER
PRGRAMS:



5,909
CHILDREN
received an education



2,237
PEOPLE
with disability and
living in poverty were
directly supported



61,414
WOMEN
were supported in economic
empowerment, health, vocational
training and mentoring



Formal
Education



Education for
Sustainable
Development



Community
Education



Development
Education



ERFA is an international development organisation with a global footprint.

Our commitment is to supporting the education of the most vulnerable. Programs delivered through our support have a clear and deliberate focus on the education of people and their communities, to develop the life skills to change their own world and be a force for positive change around them. In partnership with others across the globe ERFA is seeking to support the UN Sustainable Development Goal Number 4:

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

ERFA's focus on education is not only in life changing education for children, but in every day skills such as financial literacy, farming, trades, health and human rights for adults.

ERFA education programs are in four (4) core areas:

1/ Formal Education

programs delivering education in pre-schools, primary schools and secondary schools.

2/ Community Education

programs developed with communities to promote learning and social development with individuals and groups using a range of formal and informal methods.

3/ Development Education

programs which enable people to understand and participate in tackling the root causes of injustice and inequality. Key components are human rights, social justice, environmental education, gender education and inclusive education.

4/ Education for Sustainable Development

programs promoting the development of the knowledge, skills, understanding, values and actions required to create a sustainable world, ensuring environmental protection and conservation, promoting social equity and encouraging economic sustainability.



Pre-schools

**Primary and
secondary schools**

Alternative education
(out-of-school
children and youth)



Human rights advocacy
(disability, child rights, gender
equality and female empowerment)

**Environmental
sustainability**

**Peace building and
conflict resolution**





Special needs

School outreach, **camp**s
and youth mentoring

Vocational



**Reproductive
health** and HIV/AIDS

Water, **sanitation**
and hygiene

Livelihoods and income
generating activities



Agriculture

Job skills training

Health and
healthy living





ERFA'S VALUE

Our small team works to be a highly effective organisation that delivers significant impact to all of our stakeholders. The three core areas of our work and the value we bring to each of these is outlined below.

Liberating Lives Through Education

Empowering, inclusive, high impact programs

- Strategic planning
- Monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Training to program staff
- Risk management
- Financial management
- Self-reliance



Partnering with Australians for Impact

Supporter relationships

- 2,500 plus supporters
- 40 plus schools
- Program reports
- Corporate relationships
- Fundraising
- Immersions and experiences



A sustainable organisation

An efficient and effective organisation

- Legal compliance
- Financial management
- Staff skills and expertise
- Governance
- Funding diversification



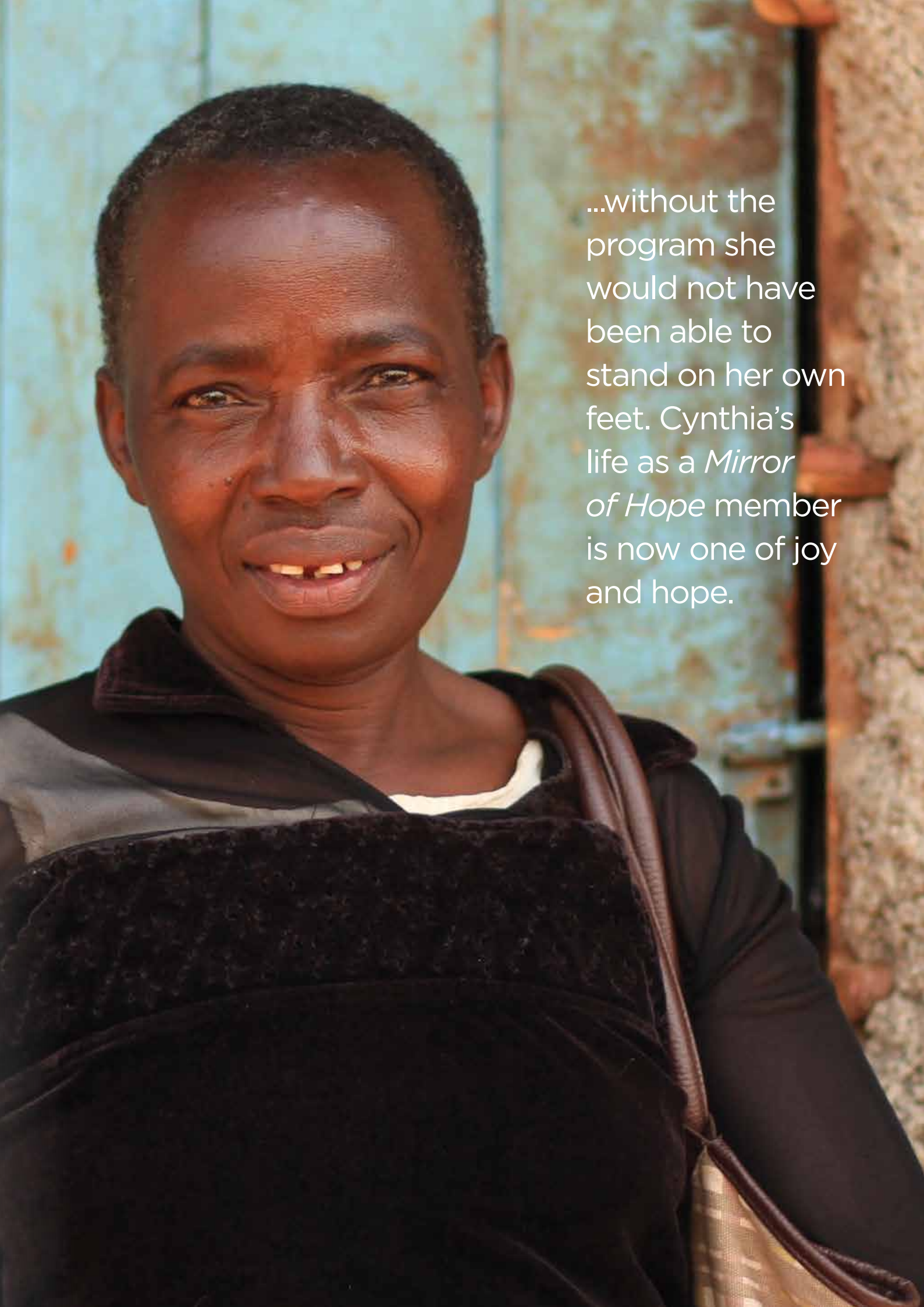
CYNTHIA'S STORY

Cynthia lives with HIV/AIDS and joined the Mirror of Hope (MOH) Women's Empowerment Program in 2011. Through the program, Cynthia received psycho-social support and education on adherence to medication and combating stigma. Importantly, Cynthia also received business training which was instrumental in providing the skills to run a successful business and to acquire a small loan.

Prior to joining the **Mirror of Hope Women's Empowerment Program**, Cynthia was constantly begging for food and handouts. She was also suffering various ailments as a result of her HIV status. Through sharing with other women in the program and finding the best counselling through her program peers, Cynthia now enjoys good health and at the same time has had her dignity restored through being able to create a means of living in her business selling fish. Another advantage of the program was that Cynthia was able to place her children in the **MOH school holiday program** thereby ensuring they were cared for during term break.

Cynthia reports that her life as a **Mirror of Hope** member is one of joy and hope. She believes that without the program she would not have been able to stand on her own feet. Her training has assisted her in managing a successful business that caters for basic family needs such as food, rent and clothing. Cynthia is also saving money in her **Mirror of Hope** savings and lending peer group.

Cynthia's goal is to buy land and build a house for her family. She believes that through the support of staff and peers in the **Mirror of Hope Women's Empowerment Program**, she will one day have a home she can call her own.



...without the program she would not have been able to stand on her own feet. Cynthia's life as a *Mirror of Hope* member is now one of joy and hope.

WEAVING YOUR FUTURE

Just because you had a rough path, came from the wrong side of town or people talked you down, doesn't mean you can't work on making your dreams come true. Catherine believes that, as long as you think you can do it, you can make it your life's mission to achieve your dreams.

Catherine, a young lady raised in the slums of Mukuru Kwa Njenga says, "It is good to ensure that as much as one has dreams, you have the ability to turn your dreams into reality". For her, the Ruben Centre provided this opportunity. Catherine visited to see if she was eligible for any of the courses through the ERFA funded Human Development & Skills Training Program. Even though she had great difficulties throughout her school years and many had told her she would never be able to learn, she decided she would like to try weaving. Importantly, Catherine believed she could succeed if she went back to Ruben, as this is where she had found support in her early years through medical interventions and school assistance.

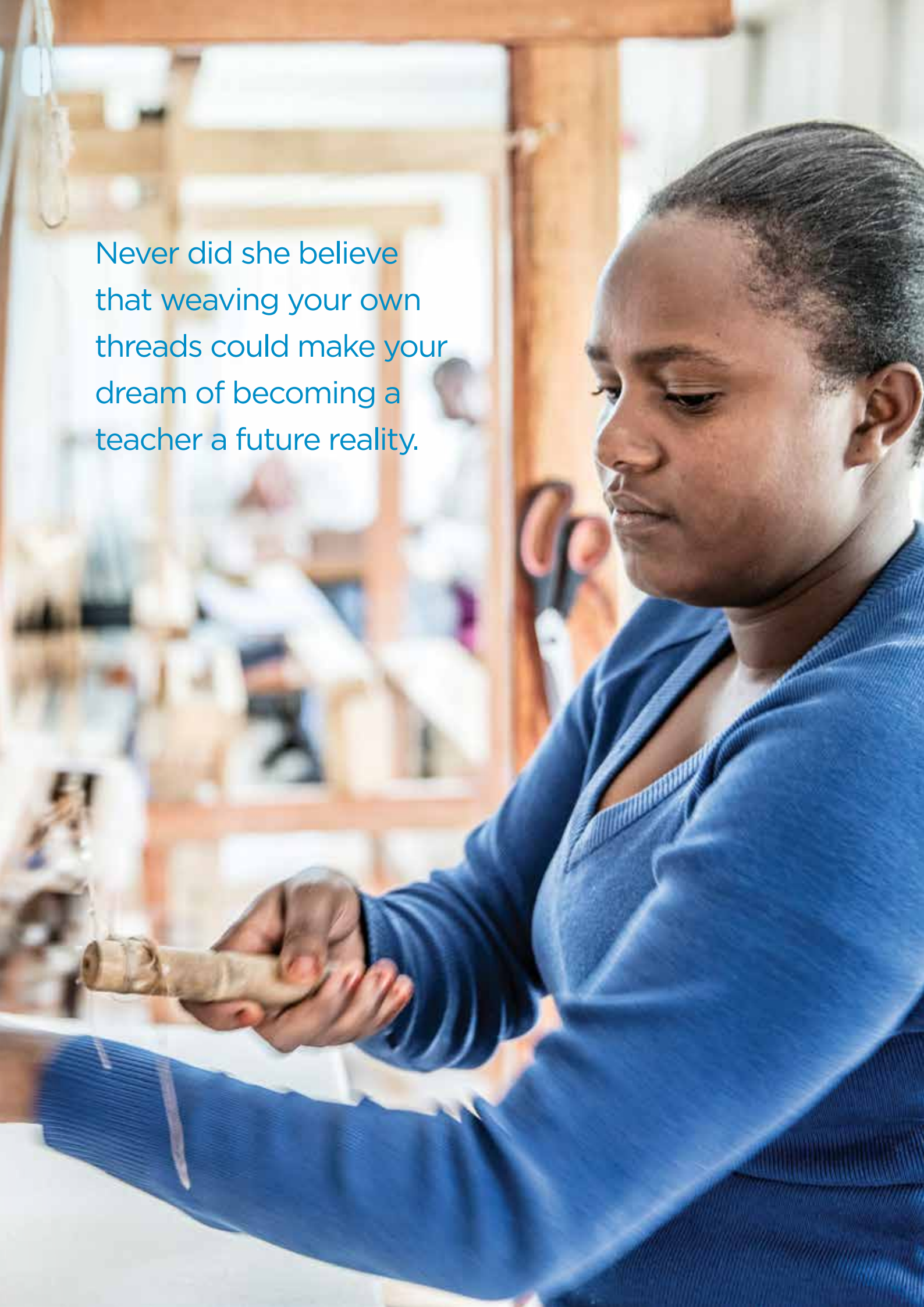
She commenced the weaving course in April 2017 and quickly learnt to create her own designs. As part of her learning, Catherine went along to a number of field days, including the Machakos Show, and little did she realise that this would be the first thread in weaving her own future.

Catherine finished her course with flying colours and decided that her life could be better if she had the ability to purchase a loom and sell her own woven designs. She was invited to be part of Ruben Centre's Transition-to-Work program, and was then eligible to purchase a loom through the Voluntary Savings & Loans Program. As part of the loan arrangement, the loom was housed at the Centre and she was able to work each day, thereby giving her the opportunity to repay the loan.

Catherine was to receive her biggest break in May 2018. Teachers from Spring Hill College asked the Ruben Centre to advise on setting up a weaving course and to recommend an on-the-job trainer for other people to learn this great craft. Catherine was recommended and, even though she continues to pay off her weaving loom loan, she is now fully employed and enjoying every moment of her new training career. Next step a fully fledged teaching career!

Never did she believe that weaving your own threads could make your dream of becoming a teacher a future reality.

Never did she believe
that weaving your own
threads could make your
dream of becoming a
teacher a future reality.





Our lives feel uplifted
so gently because of the
livelihood given and
entrusted to us by ERM.

GENTLY UPLIFTED

The major industry of Minoro in the Philippines is sugar cane growing. Work is seasonal and pay rates are very low. Generally, the people are squatters on land owned by the sugar plantations. Five years ago, with ERFA's support, **Edmund Rice Ministries Kabankalan** undertook a survey of the locals that identified the need for programs which would increase living standards and bring people together in groups or "communities" to learn, work and save together for mutual benefit.

Roberto Iligan was initially hesitant to join a "community" because of previous experience with other groups. However, he could see the potential benefits for himself and others who were experiencing extreme hardship. The difference, according to Roberto, is that ERM staff recognized that the Minoro people live simply and depend on the resources they have in their community. He says "Our lives feel uplifted so gently because of the livelihood given and entrusted to us by ERM".

Since joining the Minoro "community", Robert has become President and has learnt how to relate openly and honestly with people and how to manage expectations. The community has two established projects including a "sari sari store" (convenience store) and a piggery which raises piglets for sale. They have recently added another project which converts sugar cane waste into bio-fuel briquettes providing a source of fuel and income whilst having a positive impact on the environment.

The Minoro "community" is made up of 15 members who all contribute to the work required and who meet regularly to learn and share ideas. Roberto is responsible for the book-keeping and reporting and, as the President, works to inspire those within his "community" and others to nurture the spirit of working together. He says "I am thankful that my skills have been developed and that I am continuously learning new financial and practical skills. ERM is there to support and guide us. Their presence is very much appreciated and their commitment to us is firm. They have never let us feel that we are alone."





EDMUND RICE FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

ERFA Office

Ph • 07 3621 9649

Fax • 07 3621 9688

Email • info@erf.org.au

Chief Executive Office

PO Box 130

Virginia BC QLD 4014

ABN 28 153 110 055

www.erf.org.au

LIBERATING
LIVES
THROUGH
EDUCATION



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. 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. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at www.acfid.asn.au



Edmund Rice
FOUNDATION AUSTRALIA

Liberating Lives Through Education

IMPACT REPORT

**LIBERATING LIVES
THROUGH EDUCATION**