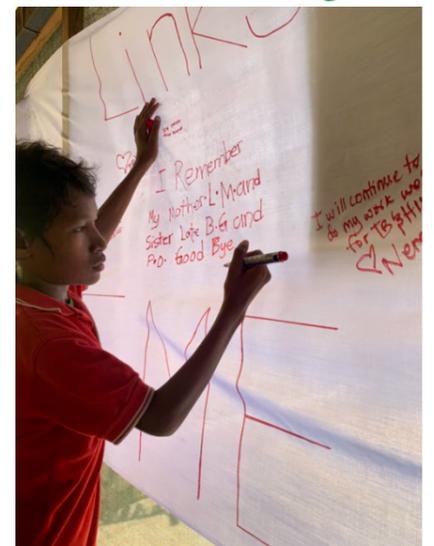


World AIDS Day 2019

Each year, December 1st marks World AIDS Day—a day to reflect, remember, and propel ourselves forward. This year's Links of Hope World AIDS Day Memorial Service was both somber and uplifting. The fantastic speakers put it well-- we have come so far over the past 37 years since the start of the HIV epidemic, but there is still further to travel. Medications have made it so that people living with HIV may live full, healthy, and prosperous lives and that no child has to be born with HIV. However, stigma still plagues our globe and hinders people from accessing tools for HIV prevention, care, and treatment.

Too many people in Papua New Guinea would prefer to live with the virus in secret rather than seek care, due to discrimination. At Links of Hope, we're calling for a Stigma Free PNG! We hope to see the end of children losing parents due to HIV or having to navigate HIV themselves.

The memorial service consisted of a keynote speech by Mr. Valentine Tangoh from the National AIDS Council Secretariat, heartfelt memorials by representatives from the Links of Hope team, an inspiring speech from a Links of Hope caregiver, a candle light vigil, and signing of the Remembrance Banner. Put particularly well by a representative from Anglicare PNG, "[The memorial service] was a special and meaningful program with the beautiful people and we absolutely enjoyed the Service with many positive smiles and energy among the beneficiaries, staff and partners. Thanks for inviting Anglicare to be part of the program and we pray and hope Links of Hope will progress well into communities to reach more to stamp out HIV stigma and transmission."



A Big, Christmas, Thank You!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our supporters - both on the ground in PNG, Australia, and around the globe - who made the 2019 Christmas Parties in Port Moresby and Mt. Hagen possible. Both parties included games, snacks, a visit from PNG Santa, gifts for each child, and lunch for the families. Between the two, nearly 200 children attended and endless fun was had! A particular thank you to the following groups and their invaluable contributions:

- Soroptimist International for organising the Port Moresby party;
- The Ela Murray International School for donating gifts for all 240+ LOH children in Port Moresby;
- The U.S. Embassy to Papua New Guinea for donating gifts for all 60+ LOH children in Mt. Hagen;
- Paradise Foods for donating ice cream, snacks, and biscuits for both the Port Moresby and Mt. Hagen parties;
- Pacific Industries for donating soft drinks for the Mt. Hagen party;
- Sir Brian Bell Foundation for contributing hygiene supplies for the children;
- The Coral Seas Hotel Group and Grand Papua Hotel for supplying lunch and gifts.

We are of course forever grateful for our partnerships and support from Deloitte, Capital Insurance, Kraft Heinz, TruKai, the All Nations Women's Group, and the incredible team of volunteers who cook lunches for our pre-school literacy program.

We couldn't have pulled off these parties without our dedicated Board of Directors and our staff teams in Port Moresby and Mt. Hagen- headed up by our Operations Manager Seruma and our Business Development Manager Lucy.

****An important note to our supporters: if you are ever contacted by an unfamiliar person or by a non-Links of Hope e-mail address, claiming to be a representative of Links of Hope, please contact us before responding. Thank you! Linksofhope.pg@gmail.com**

Child Protection

Links of Hope enacted a new Child Protection Policy in mid-2019. As an organization, protecting the rights and privacy of the children we work with is of utmost importance. Part of this includes holding our sponsors accountable for protecting the privacy of the children, as well; some key privacy terms are outlined below and you can see the full Child Protection Policy document on our website. If you have any questions, please contact: development.linksofhope.pg@gmail.com

- A child's privacy is, for instance, violated by the production of unauthorised publicity material (pictures, films, texts, etc.) featuring the boy or girl; or by presenting sensitive information within a context that reveals the child's identity.
- We handle children's names carefully, especially in connection with sensitive information
- No label of a child's health or socioeconomic status may be assigned to media

If you choose to share information about Links of Hope or a sponsored child, a good rule of thumb is to only use pictures where a child is smiling and leave out any identifying or sensitive facts.

Thank you for helping to protect the children we work with!

What's on Tap?

We cannot believe it's already 2020! We're wishing for a safe, healthy and productive New Year, starting with some key activities.

January:

- Uniform and school supply distribution. All sponsored children will receive the supplies they need to enroll in and attend school. This comes at an additional cost to the organisation, so if you would like to contribute a little extra for your sponsored child, please contact us to learn how to do so.
- School enrollment

February:

- Start of year-long pre-school literacy and caregiver health literacy programs.
- We're moving! LOH programming will be in new locations this year. Let us know if you're looking for us.



Links of Hope Staff Spotlight

Meet Fiona, the Links of Hope Mt. Hagen Operations Coordinator. Prior to working with Links of Hope, Fiona ran the accounts and female empowerment programs at a coffee exporting company in Jiwaka Province, in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. Working with the 'mamas,' she strove to develop a savings



culture in coffee communities and helped women open savings accounts and have financial literacy. Fiona is passionate about serving people and creating a conducive environment to raise healthy and happy children. Beginning her role at the start of 2020, Fiona is excited to take Links of Hope Mt. Hagen to new heights. Her first priority is to develop stakeholder and strategic partnerships, "I want to make sure people know what we're doing and *WHY* we're doing it!"

