



## Dear Supporters of Mission Without Borders,

As we swelter under the harsh Australian summer sun, it is hard to imagine what life is currently like in the depths of winter, in our field countries of Eastern Europe. Without a good winter coat and boots, many children spend months cooped up at home or inside their Children's Home, with little to amuse themselves. Many abandon school in the coldest months as it is simply too cold to walk the many kilometres to school. The light of day is but a few short hours and often leads to despair, so where is the hope in this situation? Mission Without Borders, with your support, is providing help and hope in many ways, but we all also wait with the families for the relief of spring.

When it arrives, children can once again enjoy the great outdoors and for families with land, even as little as 1m<sup>2</sup>, they eagerly await the warmer temperatures to grow crops for food and even profit. It was therefore an incredibly exciting time in March last year, when for the first time Mission Without Borders organised and implemented the 'Seeds of Hope' campaign in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Family-to-Family (F2F) families were recipients of the 'Seeds of Hope' parcels of seed. They were of superior quality, well suited to the taste buds of Bosnian families as well as most suitable to the soil and climate. There was an air of excitement amongst the families and the staff of Mission Without Borders, as they saw this as a great, concrete way to meet the family's needs. All the sweeter was the fact that the bounty would be the result of their own efforts, rather than a family simply, humbly receiving food parcels.



*The whole family is involved*

Building capacity for self-sufficiency has always been a fundamental part of our work with families and this new initiative fits well into the current, successful model

of helping families. Families received one or two parcels of seeds, depending on the size of their family and land they could use. Carrot, cabbage, lettuce, potato, onion and spinach seeds were just some of the seeds the parcels contained.

After sowing the seeds, great time was invested in watering and cultivating the vegetables (a challenging task if a family does not have connection to the water supply). It was great for us to witness the nicely ploughed fields and see how proud the families were of their hard work. A favourable climate, lots of sun and the effort of the families paid off; **every family was successful in reaping a great crop!**

Snjezana Kurtanovic, a mother in our F2F project, shared the following about the 'Seeds of Hope' project, "This means so much to us! Our entire family worked together in the field. Even my neighbour, Emira, who also received a parcel of seeds, came to help us to sow. Of course, I helped her when it was time to plant her seeds. I can't begin to express what it meant to us. We had sufficient food for the entire year. Even having just enough potatoes and onions was more than we could ever have expected. Please pass on our thanks to all those who contributed to this project!"

Ferzija Fejzic (another Mum in the F2F project) shared, "The vegetables provided such a good yield that we had enough for



*'Seeds of Hope'*

the summer and autumn. We even have potatoes for the entire winter. We froze part of the harvest, so we can eat it during the winter. This was an enormous help to our family. May God bless all those who helped us through these seeds." One cannot fully appreciate what this project meant to Ferzija by only hearing her words. You needed to see her face and eyes to understand the significance of this campaign.



*Enjoying the delicious vegetables*

As the Bosnian families in our F2F project have next to no income, the money saved by growing their own vegetables, meant they were able to use their meagre income on the other essentials of life. This gift of mercy poured out left the families feeling loved, nurtured and empowered!

**Can you help us as we launch this project in each of our field countries?** Albania, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Moldova, Romania and Ukraine would all love to offer these 'Seeds of Hope' seeds this spring to families in need. **\$25 will purchase one box of a selection of superior grade seeds that will yield the best crop.** Each field country will choose vegetables most suitable for the climate, soil and tastes of the beneficiaries. The time is right to buy the seeds and prepare the ground to plant as soon as the weather warms up. **Can you help us?**

# 'Gift in Kind – Operation Cover Up'

2011's activities are underway and the packing in Sydney and Melbourne is once again in full swing. Winter this year has been harsh, with snow arriving early and therefore your knitted items are in high demand. Be encouraged and inspired to make your contributions, however large or small!

## As the year gets underway, there are some important things to keep in mind:

- Our containers go all year round and therefore there is no urgency to get your knitted items to us. If they just miss one shipment, another will go within a few months.
- We must remember not to burden our Collection Points. They are busy people who are passionate about our ministry and give freely of their time and resources. Please arrange to get your knitted items to them or make arrangements that beneficial for everyone.
- If you can help us out by being a Collection Point and are especially able to help collect items from the less mobile, we would love to hear from you!



## With companies providing excess stock we are accepting the following items from individuals:

### Knitted, Crocheted and handmade items:

- **Blankets** – large and small.
- **Jumpers** – the older children, teenagers and adults are in greatest need.
- **Scarves, beanies, and bed socks.**
- **Knitted Teddy Bears**

- **We are not able to accept the tiny sleeveless jumpers known as 'Aids Baby Jumpers'.**
- **Patchwork quilts**
- **All items for sewing, embroidery, knitting and craft activities - material, wool, needles etc.**

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW (CUSTOMS REGULATIONS WE MUST ADHERE TO)!**

## COORDINATORS AND COLLECTION POINTS

Please contact our office, or your nearest collection point listed below, to organise getting your donated goods to us in Sydney or Melbourne.

God bless,

*Michelle Dorey*

Michelle Dorey

### David Turner is the Australia-wide Coordinator

Sydney Office:  
10 Stubbs St, AUBURN NSW 2114  
PO Box 7533 SILVERWATER NSW 1811  
Phone: (02) 9647 2022  
Email: dturner@mwbi.org

### John & Hermina Thierry Victoria - Geelong:

24 Coulter St NEWCOMB VIC 3219  
Phone: (03) 5248 7437  
or 0407 502 733

### Carlene Irwin in Tasmania

114 Sheffield Rd  
SPREYTON TAS 7310  
Phone: (03) 6427 3113  
*(note Carlene's new phone number)*

### Yasmin Scott in Queensland (Brisbane):

*\*\*\*Please not Yasmin's new address for drop-offs.*

45 Randall Rd,  
WYNNUM WEST QLD 4178  
Ph: 0402 232 259

*Yasmin requests that items be delivered in boxes wherever possible*

### Jenny Grainger is our Victorian Coordinator:

3 Exner Drive  
DANDENONG VIC 3175  
Phone: (03) 9795 6141  
Email: jenn.mwbvic@internode.on.net  
Workshop: 8 Birch Avenue,  
DANDENONG NORTH VIC 3175  
*(Open Fridays 9am-3:30pm school terms only)*

### Leila Lydeamore in South Australia:

33 Ina Close CRAIGMORE  
South Australia 5114  
Phone: (08) 8255 0092  
Email: leila@chariot.net.au

### Debbi Wilson in Western Australia

Unit 4, 110 Matheson Road,  
APPLECROSS WA 6153  
Phone: 08 93162466 0417926695  
Email: deb7543@gmail.com

*You are no longer able to just drop off your donations to Debbi's home!! Please contact her to arrange a time for drop off (now only possible weekends or weekday evenings).*



**Street Address:** 10 Stubbs Street AUBURN NSW 2144  
**Opening Hours:** 9am-5pm Monday-Friday  
**Postal Address:** PO BOX 7533 SILVERWATER NSW 1811  
**www.mwb.org.au**

**Michelle Dorey**  
National Director

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