

PLEASE HELP END CARLO'S SUFFERING

Australian based not-for profit organisation, The Good Sams Foundation, is urgently asking the local community to help provide financial support for a critical and life changing surgery for 10-year-old Carlo.

Carlo is 10 years old and lives in the Philippines with his grandmother. He has a fast-growing facial tumour which is severely impacting his quality of life.

Living in Bacolod, one of the poorest cities in The Philippines, he attends the daily nutrition program run by the Sisters of the Good Samaritan.

The tumour is benign and operable but is rapidly growing, doubling in size between doctors' visits in recent months.

Carlo's tumour reaches over 8.5cm and impacts his ability to eat, sleep and drink.

With his grandmother as his sole carer, she has no way of raising the funds needed to remove the tumour and the distress it causes Carlo.

Carlo's medical condition requires immediate attention and the passionate Sisters of the Good Samaritan are determined to make sure Carlo lives a long and healthy life. The Good Sams Foundation is seeking financial support to cover the expense of the surgery.

Foundation Executive Director, Andrew Markwell believes there is a Good Samaritan in all of us and is appealing to everyone who might be able to give up their coffee for a day to make a direct impact on a young boy's suffering.

"Can you imagine his difficulty eating and drinking, breathing and sleeping?"

"We are so blessed in Australia with our healthcare services and unfortunately the systems overseas are not able to support vulnerable children like Carlo," he said. "I'm asking everyone to consider helping Carlo get his smile back!"

The appeal aims to raise \$15,000 in donations by the end of April. A bold ask that the Good Sams know can be achieved with the compassion of the Australian community.

All proceeds are going directly to supporting Carlo with his surgery taking place in the Philippines. If there is any left over, it will go to the Good Sams nutrition program which brought Carlo to us in the first place."

Carlo and his grandmother are just one of six hundred families that the Good Sams Foundation Outreach Centre will support this year alone.

To make a donation or learn more about the Help Carlo Campaign, you can visit <https://help-carlo-campaign.raisely.com/> or search Raisely - Help Carlo.

About The Sisters of The Good Samaritan Foundation

The Good Sams Foundation is the charitable fundraising entity of The Sisters of the Good Samaritan. Since 1857, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan have brought refuge, education and hope to the most vulnerable women and children. Inspired by their stories and continuing mission, the Foundation builds partnerships that deliver practical help and nurture communities. Their vision and impact extend from Australia to current operations in Kiribati, Timor Leste and Bacolod in the Philippines.

The Good Sams Foundation believes that Good Samaritans come in many forms, whether they be professed Sisters, Oblates, community members, men or women. Partnerships with like-minded people and organisations are increasingly part of the Good Sams model, as they seek to extend the

reach and capacity of their life-changing programs. The work of the Foundation remains grounded in community and in connection to the Spirituality and stories of the Good Samaritan Sisters.

In the Philippines, as well as the nutrition and education programs, the Foundation has raised money to support the poor through the Covid pandemic, the devastation of Super Typhoon Rai and a fire that recently devastated a squatter settlement.

In Timor Leste, the Foundation is supporting more than 150 students with secondary and tertiary scholarships. In Kiribati, the Foundation has undertaken to build three new classrooms for local children and supports an early childhood program, a prisons ministry as well as higher education, mental health and disabilities programs

In Melbourne, there is emergency accommodation for women and children experiencing family violence or homelessness. In central Australia, the Santa Teresa Spirituality Centre is an enterprise where Local Aboriginal women paint and sell their unique artworks and fabrics, generating income for the community and sharing their culture and knowledge of country.

In Western Australia, the Foundation supports a breakfast program for school-children in Mt Magnet.

About Andrew Markwell FFIA CFRE

Andrew has extensive experience in the Not-for-Profit sector and in charitable fundraising for health, education and welfare organisations.

As President of Fundraising Institute Australia, he led the establishment of the Code of Ethics and Standards of Fundraising Practice, Chaired the Ethics Committee and was Australia's representative on the Certified Fundraising Executives International Advisory Panel. He is a Fellow of FIA.