

Asian Aid USA, PO Box 2258, Collegedale TN 37315
 email: support@asianaid.org toll-free: 1-866-569-7933

Asian Aid USA Staff

Asian Aid USA is proud to welcome three new staff members this year.

Rob Rainey, VP of Donor Relations: Rob has recently filled this important role of liaising with our donors to continue to grow the impact of Asian Aid USA.

Sheina Cenatus, Sponsorship Coordinator: Sheina is responsible for all coordination of sponsored children with donors and also liaises directly with the countries where we operate.

Shana Browne, Marketing Assistant: Shana is responsible for the production of all marketing material and media.



Back row (left to right): Jim Rennie, CEO and Rob Raney
 Front row (left to right): Anne Binette, Office Manager, Sheina Cenatus, Stacy Jones, Finance Manager and Shana Browne

**You are invited to help
 the life of one child
 who desperately needs
 a sponsor today**



Please help us, it's so easy to become an

AMBASSADOR

You have the ability to inspire your church family to help sponsor 500 children who need hope for the future.

As a friend of Asian Aid, we invite you to team up with Shawn Boonstra, Honorary Ambassador, to share Asian Aid with your church. You have the ability to inspire your church family to sponsor children who need hope for the future.

**It is as easy
 as 1 - 2 - 3!**

- 1 Get permission from your pastor or board and choose your date!
- 2 Play the DVD with Shawn Boonstra and he will fully explain our sponsorship program!
- 3 We will equip you with everything to set up a display table and have actual child profiles to sponsor!

**You can do a
 presentation**

- At your church or Sabbath school
- As a special church service
- Create your own event

For information call Asian Aid: 423-910-0667 or email: support@asianaid.org

“ Like you I am excited about Asian Aid. We seek your help to let me introduce Asian Aid to your church or community and sponsor more children in need! ”

Shawn Boonstra

Honorary Asian Aid Ambassador





Anniversary Appeal

Your gifts are 'Giving Hope - TODAY'
Because of you, Asian Aid is able to touch lives in Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Nepal, and Sri Lanka

Sunrise Home classroom development need!

It has been over six years since we built Sunrise home with your support. Before that for many years the home was in a small building in the city and the children all slept in two rooms on the floor. The dream was for a new home and the dream took shape with your help. Now Sunrise has over 150 orphans who love their home. Everyone has a bed in a dormitory room with four or six per room, a cafeteria where they get good food and a 10 acre farm where they learn about agriculture and provide the home with fresh vegetables and fruit. But just as any family grows the children who started at Sunrise in the beginning are getting older. Now, over 25 attend Adventist boarding colleges, studying to be nurses, engineers, pastors and other professions. Sunrise is still their home and they return every holiday and school break.

Below: Older students in need of a vocational training room!



The Orphanage has an urgent new need:

A special building to act as a special classroom

- **Older children need vocational training.** Can you imagine having 30 teenagers home for the holidays! Wow, one or two is normally enough for a family. You love to have them home but you need to keep them busy. Sunrise needs a vocational training room where they can learn practical skills to help them. Computers, electronics and sewing and dress-making equipment are needed. This classroom will be a great study and recreational space for these deserving teenagers – they need this special room!
- **Young children:** Each month Sunrise receives new young children. These kids come from terrible backgrounds including being found abandoned on street corners or even at railway stations. These children arrive at Sunrise Home lacking social skills. They have to be taught the basics of life and how to speak basic English before they can go to school. Sunrise is in need of a kindergarten room to give these kids Hope.



For 50 years, through thoughtful gifts, Asian Aid has provided education to orphans, the poor, the blind and deaf. Women have found medical relief and fresh water wells have been supplied. But there is much more to do and the children keep coming!

During the last quarter of our 50th anniversary, Asian Aid is seeking to raise \$1,000,000 to complete projects in two locations - Sunrise Orphanage and Myanmar College. Gifts will also help with the total cost of running Asian Aid's core program of supporting and educating over 3,500 children in Adventist mission schools.

Myanmar Union College - Our only Adventist College in the country - is greatly over crowded. A new girls dorm is desperately needed. There are about 250 girls living in the current dorm which was built to hold 150. The boys are dealing with overcrowding in a different way - over 350 boys use five toilets! Can you imagine the struggles for both the girls and the boys? For safety and health reasons, these conditions must be improved.

Below: Currently only five outdoor toilets for over 350 boys!



Your support of Asian Aid indicates an interest in the ministry of mission work. With your help the children at Sunrise Orphanage and Myanmar College will be able to study and grow in a safer, healthier environment.

New Field Officer in Myanmar



Left to right: Jaime Jorge, Ciin and teacher

As our first – and only – field officer in Myanmar, Ciin Zen's job is to visit the schools where we have students, check in on the children, and update records. Ciin is based in the capital city Yangon and has to travel throughout Myanmar. Visiting some schools may take a long time and be very challenging. Last week her report read, "I went to Myat Kyaw schools in Dawei and had to take cycle taxi and then walk to school for an hour because the road is not good due to heavy rain. It took me two days even though the students are very few in that school. Then I visited another school which took me another four days including traveling. I was not able to visit one school (Laypota Adventist Seminary) due to fighting and shooting between Myanmar government and the Karen group near the school. There were no phone connection in those school areas so I wasn't able to update end of the week."

Please pray for Ciin as she travels to check on the children in Myanmar.

Tin Tin Khaing comes from a large Buddhist family, born the fifth child out of seven children. Her parents are day laborers who consistently struggle financially. For Tin Tin's parents, they were filled with relief when their four older girls got married.



Growing up Tin Tin attended Eric B. Hare Adventist Academy in Southeastern Myanmar. Sponsored by Garwin McNeilus, a United States Adventist businessman, she grew fond of her teachers at the school who inspired her to want to become a teacher.

At 10 years old she desired to be a baptized member of the Seventh-day Adventist church. However, her sister, married to an Adventist teacher, told her she was very young and encouraged her to continue to learn more about Jesus and the Adventist beliefs. She also advised her to concentrate on her studies.

In the area where she lived, Malaria was quite common and Tin Tin was struck becoming very ill. Her brother-in-

law prayed for her and counseled her to believe in the healing power of Christ Jesus. Trusting in his advice, she prayed earnestly and was amazed when she recovered from malaria within a few days. That miracle strengthened her belief in God and when she was in 7th grade she attended baptismal classes and was later baptized.

Tin Tin is eternally grateful for the support from her sponsor and the Adventist school system. She insists that without sponsorship she would not be pursuing her dreams by majoring in elementary education at Myanmar Union Adventist College. Most importantly, she says that she would not have found Jesus.

"When I was in elementary school I prayed to God that I go to high school and college. Now I have that opportunity to do that because of my sponsor," she says. "When I become a teacher I want to tell my students about sponsorship and the importance of education," she concludes.

Real Rescue & Rehabilitation

Note: Names and parts of what happened to 'Seema' have been changed to protect her privacy.

For Operation Child Rescue, rehabilitation is a key part of our mission — helping women such as Seema. In August 2016, 30-year-old Seema finally walked through our doors to safety.

Years earlier Seema married her husband Raju, ready to begin a beautiful new chapter of her life — filled with hopes and dreams. Not long after the wedding, the new couple moved to a large city for a new start. All seemed well at first, but their relationship became strained when Raju began to work in Dubai. Dubai is a four hour flight north across the Arabian Sea, a flight that was taking him away from her for longer and longer periods. Struggling financially, Seema tried to find work but she found it very difficult.

As time went on, Seema's marriage worsened. It seemed that no matter how hard she tried, her husband drifted further and further away from her. He began having an extramarital affair, cutting off all communication with Seema and eventually cutting her off financially. What was she to do? Hurt by the status of her marriage, she turned to her in-laws. Time and time again they rejected and verbally abused her when she reached out. With her own family being very poor, she felt that going home was not an option. Life had become bleak. Where could she turn?

Seema was all alone. She had a place to live but no way to continue to afford the rent. She felt she had no future — no hope. Depression set in as she pondered what her next move would be. She learned that divorce came with many expenses. If she could not afford housing, how could she afford a divorce?

One day, while she was feeling very sad and confused, she was introduced to Ninga. He claimed to be well connected with the entertainment world and willing to help her connect with them — potentially opening many doors. With the promise of financial freedom, freedom from her marriage, and the freedom to live the life she deserved, Seema moved forward in the hopes that Ninga would fulfill her needs.

Ninga asked Seema to move into a larger home with him with the promise that she would be able to network with directors and producers who could possibly cast her in their TV shows. Instead, her freedoms were taken away forcing her into a life of debauchery and slavery making her totally dependent on him.

Not wanting to continue living with Ninga, she attempted to escape from her prison. Each time she attempted to escape she was caught and severely beaten. Ninga repeatedly threatened to kill her and her family if she tried to escape or seek help.

Wanted in more than three states, Ninga was finally arrested. Seema took this as an opportunity to escape to her brother. Under the impression that she was safe with Ninga, he was shocked to learn the truth of her situation. He brought her to a staff member at his work who knew of Operation Child Rescue and its safe house 'Azadi'.

Seema was welcomed into the safe house with open arms. At last she was secure. At the house, Seema's needs for an unthreatened shelter, medical care, trauma counseling and legal assistance were being met. The team at 'Azadi' counseled Seema and encouraged her to begin anew with courage and confidence. The safe house 'Azadi' provided by donors like you, has given her and many others the courage and a place to start a new life.

OPERATION CHILD RESCUE

Solomon and His Promising Future

Solomon Konda is from a small village in the state of Odisha, India. While living there Solomon and his sister Rani attended the government school.

Polio had rendered his father handicapped from a very young age. His inability to move around made it difficult for him to find a job even as a day laborer. His family suggested to him that he pick up the tailoring trade and become the village tailor. With the support of his wife, he is now able to provide the basics for his family.

While Solomon was in the third grade his family was thrown out of their village because they had accepted Jesus as their Savior and became Christians. Fearful of how they would influence others, the village council took a drastic step by casting them out of the village.

Having lost everything they sought the help of their church pastor. He had compassion on them and gave them a place to live in the vestry of the church. Solomon and his family



lived in the vestry for a few months. During that time, Solomon and his sister were not able to attend school and his father and mother were not able to work anywhere except around the church. Seeing that the vestry could not be a permanent place for the family, they went to live with Solomon's grandmother who lived in a tin shed in another village.

After learning about the family's situation from the local pastor, other local church leaders pitched in to help. The section president brought Solomon and Rani to the Seventh-day Adventist boarding school in Khurdha and requested that the principal accept them into the Asian Aid program. "We don't refuse any children", said Principal Isaac Kumar. "We Adventist belong to a big family and we have to help each other." Solomon, now 15 years old, is quickly catching up in school. Although he was studying in third grade in his village, he found it hard to understand and adjust to the English curriculum. The school provided tutoring in English and he was admitted into kindergarten. His teachers observed that he was a bright and a quick learner. He was given a double promotion last year which allowed him to skip the first grade and go directly to the second grade. Through the Asian Aid sponsorship program and team of dedicated teachers, he is pushing forward towards a promising future.

Sponsorship Gift program

ALL SPONSORS PLEASE NOTE - We have been reviewing our sponsorship gift program and have some exciting news.

All children love to get presents and we know you want to give your sponsored child a special gift. The gifting process comes with many challenges. The challenges both Asian Aid and sponsors experience include:

- High cost of postage.
- Gift not reaching our office in country.
- Gifts missing during in country delivery.
- Student owing duty on a package that they can't pay.
- Packages arriving opened and items missing.

From January 1, 2017

we will have a new gift policy and procedure:

All children in each country will continue to receive one gift a year around Christmas time. The Gift Fund will continue to support the annual Christmas gifts which will be separate from the personal gifts that can be ordered.

Personal gifts

Donors will no longer be able to send gifts direct.

India: Sponsors will be able to select a gift from a new gift catalog and purchase it through our office. We will have a selection of gifts on our website or provide an order sheet for you to mail to us with your gift selection. The gift selections will be age and gender appropriate. Sponsors will purchase a gift from the selection, write a letter to the child and send the letter and your payment to our AAUSA office. The gift, along with your letter will be sent from our India office direct to your child.

There will be two close-off dates each year:

1. **May 30:** Final date to order gift
August: Gift with your letter will be delivered
2. **November 30:** Final date to order gift
February: Gift with your letter will be delivered

PLEASE NOTE: THIS DOES NOT BEGIN UNTIL 2017
SO THE FIRST CUT OFF DATE FOR CHOSING A GIFT WILL BE
MAY 30, 2017 FOR AN AUGUST, 2017 DELIVERY.

Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Myanmar: Unfortunately due to costs and unreliable delivery we cannot offer gift programs in these countries, yet. As a reminder, every child in every country will still receive the Christmas gift from their sponsor by Asian Aid provided through our Gift Fund.

amazon smile

Your Amazon purchases can help our children!

Do you shop on Amazon?

Now you can support Asian Aid USA
every time you purchase from Amazon.

When you do, 0.5% of any/all purchases will be
donated to us by Amazon.

To begin, simply go to smile.amazon.com and then
designate Asian Aid USA as your chosen charity.

Then you can start your regular shopping.

Happy Shopping!



AAUSA CEO Jim Rennie trying out farm work in India
... or is he 'stuck in the mud'?

Dear Friends of Asian Aid,

It's hard to believe it's another year- end time again. I have been in this role now seven years and I am always humbled as every morning I see your mail and on line support for those we serve.

Thank you! Over 3,500 children every day are in Adventist mission schools in six countries learning about Jesus and getting an education that before they could only dream of. I wish you could sit with me beside children in our special schools which include the slum, blind, deaf and orphanages. Each child has an amazingly sad story to tell, but with your help, **you have given them hope.**

Many of us don't know much about the country of Myanmar (used to be Burma). With a population of 53 Million, it is over 85% Buddhist and until recently army controlled. Public evangelism is still banned so the Adventist mission schools are a key outreach for the church and introducing children and their families to our Heavenly Father. Just read the stories of the children needing sponsorship to see the need!

The only college the church has in Myanmar has urgent needs for the boys and girls dormitories. There are over 500 students in these dormitories. The kids are happy to be at school but you would not be impressed with the condition of the dormitories.

We have to help.

It's a huge ask, I know, but right now to complete all the needs at Sunrise, get the college in Myanmar up to a standard they deserve, and meet all our other project goals **we need to raise \$1,000,000 to our "Where Needed Most fund."** Any donation makes a difference but to get tax deduction for 2016 your envelope must be post-marked no later than December 31, 2016.

When I was at Sunrise home last, I sat with Srikanth Allu a young man who lost both parents at an early age and came to Sunrise when his Auntie could no longer cope. He had been working in the fields with no promise of a future and now after graduating from high-school is studying for his Engineering degree at a college. He is so grateful to his sponsor! With a tear in his eye, he hugged me and said, "Thank you, Sir". Then, I had a tear in my eye!

THANK YOU for your generosity and from Asian Aid USA,
I want to wish you all a very special Christmas.

Jim Rennie AAUSA CEO

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Asian Aid's 3ABN time is every Friday at 8:30pm PT, 9:30pm MT, 10:30pm CT, and 11:30pm ET.

Missed an episode on 3ABN?

Watch them all at your convenience on our website (www.asianaid.org) under "Resources" and then click "Video Library".

Like us on **facebook** facebook.com/AsianAidUSA

Current sponsorship rates:

Day: \$25 Boarder+: \$48
Day+: \$32 College: \$65
Boarder: \$38 Nursing: \$90

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding your sponsorship payments.

For more information, articles and videos on our sponsorship program and the many projects we support please visit our website asianaid.org



Can you help?

We are asking if you could share what you know about Asian Aid with the world.

We desperately need sponsors and you are our best Ambassadors.

Please tell others about Asian Aid and if you would like flyers, or other promotional materials, to distribute please contact us.

What is Your Legacy?

Most of us give very little thought to this. We know our reward is eternity spent with Him and are satisfied to bask in that. However, until our Savior returns, we have the opportunity to use our assets to maximum capacity through a well thought out, planned allocation of our estate to benefit the lives of others.

If you believe in the impact Asian Aid is having on so many children's lives, why not consider an estate gift or designate all or a portion of your will to advance the mission of caring for underprivileged children?

Because Asian Aid is a ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, you can accomplish this through your local Conference Trust Department, or with the assistance of your Financial Adviser.

Thank you for giving this careful consideration.

Please contact us for further information:

Call toll-free **866-569-7933**
or email support@asianaid.org
to arrange for a professional advisor to contact you.

THESE CHILDREN URGENTLY NEED YOUR SPONSORSHIP



Cin Lam has five brothers and one sister. His favorite school subjects are Bible and Myanmar. He likes playing football and wants to become a pastor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19658**



Nay Thu's family is very poor so after he passed 6th grade he worked for two years as he did not have money to study. His favorite subject is History.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19667**



Khin Mar wants to be a teacher. Her parents are poor and don't get work often. Her favorite subject in school is Math and drawing.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19649**



Pyit Phyto's father passed away so his mother has to provide for the family of nine. He likes drawing, playing football and wants to be a mission worker.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19693**



Soe Min's family trust and believe in God. They are very poor so he hasn't been able to attend school in three years. He wants to be a doctor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19651**



Lin Lin wants to be a teacher, but there's not enough money for school. Her favorite subjects are Bible and English, she plays guitar and loves football.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19685**



Van Ro enjoys reading, singing, sewing, and wants to be a health teacher. Her sick mother is the only income earner as her father passed away recently.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19698**



Samuel Win enjoys singing and playing football. He likes Science school and be a school teacher so he can help other kids like him.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19830**



Saw Klu is a 5th grade student in Myanmar. He likes playing the guitar and football. He would like to be educated and become a teacher.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19828**



Dal Thawn's parents deserted him. He loves to read, swim, study music, play the guitar and sing. He wants to grow up to be a piano teacher.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19623**



Myin Myint's family is large and her parents struggle to pay all their tuition fees. She likes writing, reading, skipping, swimming and wants to become a Doctor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19711**



Wai Zin's family has a very low income and need help to pay for his school fees. He enjoys all kinds of music, computer classes, and wants to be a pastor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19724**



Mu Dar Khu's family is too poor to send her to school but she wants to finish her education and become a teacher. She sews, sings and plays the guitar.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19852**



Thet Hnin Aye would like to become a doctor. Her family is very poor and can't afford the school fees. She is in 6th grade at Pyin Oo Lwin SDA school.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19784**



Ngin Khen will have to stop studying as his family struggle in an unstable economy. He needs help to achieve his dreams to be a music teacher.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19625**



Ngua Tha lives with his parents, brother, and two sisters. He enjoys playing guitar, his favorite subject is Math, and he wants to study to become a doctor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19786**



Aye Lay's family has five brothers, two sisters and limited income. She likes cooking, swimming, English, and would like to be a successful business woman.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19678**



Sri Ppujitha is in the 5th grade at Imbrahimpatnam school in India. She is very tidy, loves music, singing and wants to become a school teacher.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U18515**



Te Yati is excited to go to school but her mother is often sick and the family cannot afford tuition fees. She wants to be a scientist when she grows up.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19787**



Ha Ling has two brothers, and three sisters, but his parents only make enough for daily needs. He loves history, enjoys preaching and wants to be a Pastor.
\$38 Boarder
ID: **U19778**