



Welcome dear PiCCA Supporters!

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Haku Women's Collective now a PiCCA partner



In March PiCCA members voted to provide support to the Haku Women's Collective in Bougainville. Funds will be provided to fund the construction of a community centre from which community development programs will be run for more than 2,000 people in its first year of operation. The building will also support a social enterprise as well as providing running water and ablution facilities for women escaping domestic violence.

Haku is a disadvantaged community of 50,000 people who are reliant on subsistence farming. The impressive women running the collective are taking a leading role in addressing a range of social issues in their communities, and working to develop employment opportunities.



PiCCA Directors Steve, Stephanie and Warren recently met with Veronica Henderson and her husband Les to talk about the work of our organisations. Veronica is the President of the Brisbane Bougainville Community Group (BBCG) which raises funds to send much-needed medical equipment and other essential goods to Bougainville. PiCCA and BBCG are looking at ways to support one another's work. Veronica is from Haku and it turns out that her sister is a

member of the Executive of Haku Women's Collective!

Want to help?

[Contact us](#) if you have relevant skills or networks.
[Donate](#) to PiCCA - so we can complete all stages of this project.

Support the Brisbane Bougainville Community Group's fundraising dinner: Friday 19 May 6.30 - 11.30 pm at Emporium in Fortitude Valley (\$110 per person). [Email Veronica](#) for tickets.

The intricacies of working in Sri Lanka



Latest reports from our partners in Mannar, Sri Lanka, continue to highlight the complicated intricacies of working there.

Ganesh is the Hindu deity which symbolises the 'removal of obstacles'. At first it seemed that a newly installed statue of Ganesh created an obstacle but, in fact, the statue has resulted in a bigger and better site for the construction of a permanent commercial kitchen for the Manna Women's Catering Company. [Read more...](#)

The women in the company have visited the new site and are reported to be "over the moon" about its potential.

PiCCA's [Strategic Plan](#)
[2016 Annual Report](#)
[2016 Audited Financial Statements](#)

are now available!

An engineer's experience in remote Nepal



In December 2016, [NAFA Old](#) (one of PiCCA's partners in Nepal) contracted Sadit Maharjan, a young engineer from Kathmandu (at left in photo above), to oversee the construction of classrooms in four villages in the remote Dhading district. PiCCA has contributed funding for a multipurpose classroom.

"With limited skilled manpower, rugged terrain, and no mechanical equipment, it wasn't going to be easy. But the existing conditions of the schools, the children, hopeful eyes of the people, and motivation from everyone around gave a huge boost to my confidence. I realized that I just had to do this."

"I am confident that the builders are well equipped with adequate knowledge and practice, and that they will be able to carry on the rebuilding after I leave. For me, this has been the greatest satisfaction."

"My stay in Tawal has been a whole new experience for me. Beside supervising construction, living a rural lifestyle, learning Tamang language and cultures, I have also had the chance to witness firsthand

the struggle and hardships of the people here. I have felt the patience of the men on the site who worked day in and out, and broke-up a huge room-sized boulder manually. When I saw the sweat dripping off the people walking past me carrying loads twice their weight, I forgot my own tiredness. When I saw the pain of a mother giving birth to her child right on the ground, helpless, with no medical aid, I forgot the stinging pain in my feet."

"During my stay here, I have bonded with a lot of people, especially with my host family, Kanchha, Lala, Rinchen and newly born Dev. The amount of love and respect from the people here has driven me and has helped me persevere through the tough times. The rewards that my soul has received here are the moments that I shall cherish all my life."



NAFA is still fundraising to help communities rebuild after the 2015 earthquakes.

There's a fundraising dinner, celebrating Nepalese New Year, 5pm - 9.30pm on Sat 13 May at the Good Samaritan Centre, Lourdes Hill, Hawthorne, Brisbane.

Contact [Rod Setterlund](#) for tickets (\$45 per person). Everyone is welcome.

PiCCA is looking for ideas for future projects

Do you work in development, or know someone who does? Do you currently support an overseas organisation that is doing terrific work and wants to do more?

PiCCA is starting to think ahead to future projects for 2018. (You need to be a Member of PiCCA to put a potential idea forward.)

[Contact us](#) - we'd love to hear from you!

PiCCA would like to thank San Souci PR and Grant Thornton for generously providing their wonderful services on a pro-bono basis!



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