

## Naqaqa Giving Foundation's charitable work in 2017



The Naqaqa Giving Foundation (NGF) assisted people in Fiji with their education, health & medical care, utilities, meals, building assistance, clean drinking water, agriculture, business advice, fishing equipment, internet connectivity, clothing, and in many other ways. NGF helps children and families with little to no income living in rural villages.

Fijian villages that have received direct assistance in 2017 include: Vivili, Naidi, Tacilevu, Naweni, Kanakana, Nagigi, Nabalebale, Nakorovatu, as well as the town of Savusavu. Successful outcomes include the following projects:

**Savusavu Medical Centre** is the largest NGF project to date. Established in 2010, the Savusavu Medical Centre continues to provide the community with its only private medical care facility, offering the only 24-hour on-call doctor willing to visit patients at home. The full-time general practitioner of medicine, Dr. Ishaque, has his earnings guaranteed by NGF, enabling him to offer a high quality service to a small community. NGF provides business and accountancy advice and NGF initially stocked and renovated the structure and continues to provide the building and the Dr.'s quarters without charge. NGF arranges for volunteers and experts to visit and advise the facility as well as provide care and clinics to the local population for free. NGF employees provide maintenance for the facility at no charge. In 2017, the Savusavu Medical Centre treated over 2170 patients, many having multiple consultations over the year. In 2016 The Ministry of Health inspected all such medical service providers in Fiji and found the Savusavu Medical Centre to be the most highly rated nationally. **Since it opened, the Savusavu Medical Centre has provided consultation to over 50,000 patients.**

**NGF Early Childhood Projects** NGF provides a safe, clean, well-designed and well-stocked place for parents, or primary care givers, to be with children. NGF provides staff and volunteer experts to help parents and children between two- and five-years-old to bond, teach, and learn together. NGF provides experts to advise the parents in workshops and classes. Many children from villages in Fiji struggle when they begin school because they do not speak English at home. Otherwise intelligent children struggle, so NGF provides at no charge a place to play, sing, colour, do crafts, cook, and learn in both Fijian and English. Local kindergarten teachers have informed NGF they know when a child attended our "Mommy and Me" inspired thrice-weekly gatherings because of their confidence, aptitude, and greater knowledge.



**Agriculture** NGF provides over 150 acres of land to local people to farm. More than thirty-five subsistence farmers grow food for themselves, their families and the community on land leased by NGF. NGF maintains trails and roads for the farmers to access their crops. Some of this land was designated for residency for those without land of their own for living. NGF provides water to all and electricity to some of these residents. NGF asks that these farmers not use pesticides or insecticides and NGF offers training in organic farm practices. Part of this land is used to teach Fijians how to generate an income from farming, demonstrating new crops, how to sell fruits and vegetables at market or to local resorts, rather than purely subsistence farming.

**Donations** NGF works with many others to bring needed items to Fiji to be distributed to local people at no charge. NGF partnered New Zealand based not-for-profit *Let Them Fish* to import and distribute used fishing equipment.

NGF distributed many items to villagers during 2017, including medical supplies, toothbrushes, clothing, books, educational supplies, reading glasses, toys, household items, and more. NGF is careful who receives these items and we use years of experience to know the children's clothes are most needed at the orphanage, or a particular village have boats, so the fishing lures will be used well there.



**Sport** NGF worked with Squash Association of Savusavu and The L. T. Murray Family Foundation to fund twice-weekly free Squash (a racket sport) coaching to local children. Funds were used for coaching, court time and equipment, and enables the best players to take part in regional competitions. Fiji's National Squash coach has since recognized the Savusavu's Junior Squash Program as being the best in all of Fiji and in 2017 three junior players from Savusavu were selected to represent Fiji at two international tournaments in Australia. These three children were the only ones to represent Fiji in the international competitions. Eka TabaKaucoro (16) of Nagigi village and Ratu Jone Fugawai (12) of Waivunia village each won the runners-up final for their age group, in Melbourne, Australia. It was their first time to travel outside Fiji.



**Clean Drinking Water** NGF partnered with Give Clean Water and The L.T. Murray Family Foundation to get clean drinking water to villagers. In 2017 NGF installed rain catchment systems in two villages (Taci Levu and Naweni), giving each village 10,000 liters of water storage. Since installation, these tanks have never run dry. NGF also distributed water filters, with 20-liters of storage, to one hundred households. As a result of NGF's efforts to get people clean drinking water over 1,000 people now have regular access to reliable clean water.



**Volunteers** In 2017 we had many wonderful and hardworking volunteers. We helped Optometrists from Australia provide free eye clinics. In four days they examined and gave glasses to 443 people. Several people who were examined would have lost their sight completely but for intervention. We had two clinics at The Savusavu Medical Centre, seeing 125 people on day 1 and 120 people on day 2. In Nabalebale village 118 people received care and at Nakorovatu Medical Centre 80 people were seen and received glasses.

A talented Chiropractor, Dr. David Leach, has been basing his free clinics at the Savusavu Medical Centre, twice (sometimes three times) a year, for the last five years. In 2017, Dr. Leach was joined by fellow chiropractor Dr. Scott Champion and together they saw over 80 people per day. During the five years these volunteers have provided thousands of free chiropractor treatments to over two thousand patients.

NGF has been fortunate enough to have too many volunteers to mention here, but we are grateful for them all.

**Utilities** NGF paid the electricity bills for impoverished households

**Internet Access** NGF paid for two villages to have internet access. This is an ongoing project established in 2008 to provide an internet connection for school work and personal health research.

**Women's Groups** NGF provided funding to the leaders of two village women's groups, enabling women to meet, share experiences, and support women in the community who are in challenging situations, particularly those suffering domestic abuse.

**Jobs** All NGF employees are citizens of Fiji. Providing regular employment to Fijian and Indo-Fijian locals enables these people to gain independence and provide for their families and community.

**Animal Care** NGF paid for the neutering and spaying of cats and dogs.

**Education** NGF paid for school supplies to primary and secondary students, including uniforms, shoes, stationary, bags, books.





**Building Assistance** In 2017 NGF worked with a group of student architects from the United Kingdom, CAUKIN Studio, to design and build two new buildings. A Community Hall for Vivili village, to replace the hall that was destroyed by Tropical Cyclone Winston in February of 2016, and a Kindergarten Schoolhouse for Naweni District School. These buildings were funded entirely from donations and were built by volunteers. Particular thanks goes to Charlie Gilbert and his family their generosity toward the Vivili Community Hall, and to The L.T. Murray Family Foundation for their generosity to the Naweni District School. Fulton Hogan Hiways also gave generously to both projects. The Volunteer labor was arranged by CAUKIN Studio and the volunteers came from England, Wales, Ireland, USA, India, Australia, Indonesia, and even more places. The villages also provided strong and able hardworking people to complete these ambitious projects.

### Vivili Community Hall



### Naweni Kindergarten



To keep this newsletter relatively short, we haven't listed everything NGF did in 2017. We have many people to thank for their donations, people who make our charity work in Fiji possible. We are so grateful for your support in 2017 and we hope you'll continue to support our effort in the future.

Vinaka vakalevu and lolomas from Fiji (Big Thanks and Love), from Naqaqa Giving Foundation.