

A GIRL & HER WORLD ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Thanks for taking the time to read our 2014 Annual Report.

Like every year since we started it has been a big year that exceeded our expectations. Amazing what a group of volunteers can achieve around dinner tables on the weekends and evenings when we have such great supporters and such a fantastic team on the ground in Fiji.

Together we supported 47 Girls to go to school in 2014 and helped 15 of their families with income generating projects.

What started with 1 Girl with not quite enough money to get back to school in 2011 and another hitchhiking into town to stay up to date when her parents had to take her out of school, is now a program that supports 47 Girls. In just a few short years.

2014 was a year of some firsts for us: Our first Crowdfunding campaign in the lead up to Christmas raised \$2,000 and our first Event, a house party with 60 guests, raised almost \$5,000. It was also the first time we've been called 'Glam Ladies' when the event was picked up by The Herald! We laughed a lot!

\$5 Fridays have continued and throughout the year we have raised around \$600 when we have highlighted a need and let you know about it, through donations of \$5 a pop. Thank you.

On one of our monitoring visits to Fiji, we collaborated with the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre and local police to hold a Rotary sponsored Staying Safe workshop where Girls and their mums learned about how to protect themselves from sexual assault and were given the direct number of a female officer in their area, trained to advocate for them.

Hornsby Shire's glam ladies send girls to school in Pacific nation

SARAH SWAIN HORNSBY ADVOCATE JANUARY 08, 2015 12:00AM

SHARE



SAVE THIS STORY



We have attracted new supporters like **Fitness First in Hornsby** who spin and Zumba for the Girls and our ever faithful friends the **German International School Sydney** continue to have fetes and fundraisers. They are also planning to take a team of 18 senior students to experience life and connect with our Girls in community we work with in 2015.

Our other Girl Ambassadors raised funds in their schools through mufti days and cake stalls and brought in hundreds of dollars as a result. **Click here** to find out more about becoming a Girl Ambassador.



As always our Fiji Coordinator **Urmila** was remarkable in her capacity to make everything happen on the ground and work with our local volunteer team to identify needs, work with other local community organisations to support families, make sure every Girl has the stationery and uniforms she needs and do it all with grace and a smile!

We are a team of volunteers but as we were once questioned, what makes us different to a bunch of do-gooders trying to change the world with our magical capes? We know Fiji, we've lived there, we work through experienced people on the ground who really make everything happen, two of us work in international development during the day making us aware of essential policies for protecting children for example, and how to monitor and evaluate grassroots projects like a Girl & her world. But, having said that, we are volunteers, and sometimes a receipt is late arriving or the annual report comes out the following May. So thank you for your trust in us, but also your patience.

We are constantly blown away by the bravery, strength and resilience of the Girls we work with and their families. They are a wonderful investment. They are breaking cycles of poverty.

Many lives are being changed in the process of partnering with us to see them fly, we are grateful some of those lives are ours.

We hope in the process of connecting with us however you do, something of this metamorphosis has touched you as well, it can take your breath away...



Jane (I'm the one in the middle) with team 'a girl & her world'

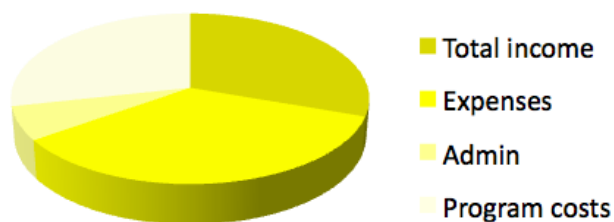
Also if you'd like to know more about our story, I'd love you to purchase my e-book '**Behind the Smiles**' 100% of the sales price goes back to our program and you'll enjoy some stories of my time living and working in Fiji.

Warmly,

Jane Kennedy

Co-ordinator
a Girl & her world
May 4th, 2015

2013



Total income \$12,328.20

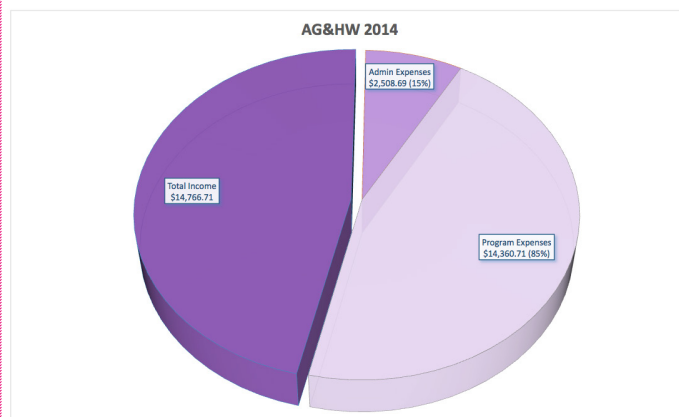
(note this figure is YTD and doesn't capture Cmas appeal donations)

Expenses - \$14,161.00

*** Admin - \$2,599.00**

**** Program costs - \$11,562.00**

2014



Total income \$14,766.71

*** Admin - \$2,508.69**

**** Program costs - \$14,360.71**

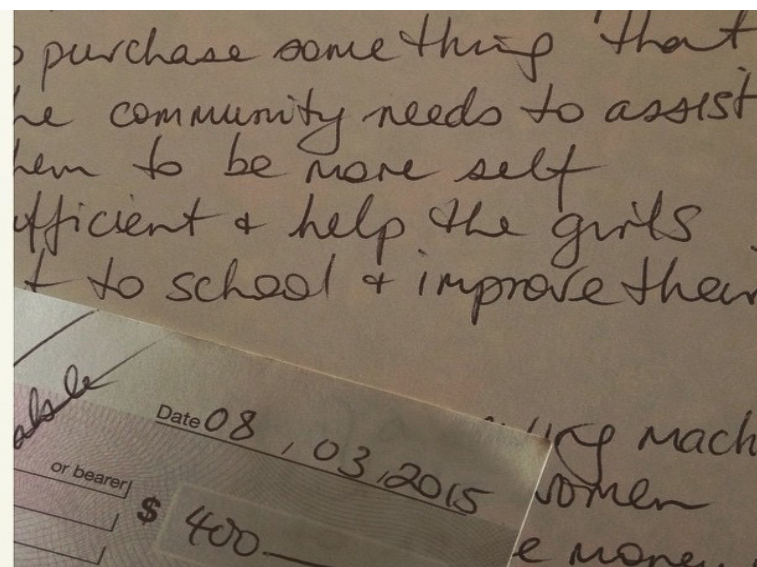
Just so you know:

Admin includes things like getting business cards printed or caps made and paying for (heavily discounted) digital and promotional costs. When our Fiji based volunteer team get together we cover their costs to do so.

Program costs include the cost of getting girls back to school such as school fees, uniforms, shoes, bags, stationery, travel expenses, sanitary pads, one off homework costs such as internet usage or printing. It also includes a 2 day per week allowance for our in-country Coordinator **Urmila** at the Fiji award rate and her costs for running the program such as a mobile phone allowance and transport. Program costs also cover expenses associated with setting families up with income generating projects.

A LOT of our work is done by volunteers contributing time, resource and skill in kind and is not reflected here by income and outgoing figures. When our Sydney based team travel to Fiji, we cover our own costs.

We never hand out cash to anyone and have accounts with a number of local businesses who provide the above items for the girls to collect. Money is transferred to Urmila through Western Union as it is cheaper than through a bank. One of the members of our local volunteer team is a Policeman and will accompany Urmila to pick up transfers when the amounts are large and need to go straight to the costs of a chicken coup or to a school for fees for example.



We are working on tax deductability but be reassured we are a registered charity CFN 22201 with an ABN 46 599 053 967

Want to give? [Click here](#) to find out more



Snapshots of Change 2014

Luisa's story (as told by Urmila)

A request for support was referred to me in 2014 and so I carried out an assessment to see whether or not it was a genuine case. I met Luisa. She was staying with her sister as both of her parents had died. In 2012 she had been in year 12 and had come top in her year, which had been her goal. However she had been taken out of school for all of 2013 as her sister had no money to pay for her to attend school. ⇐⇐

Luisa is a very quiet girl. a Girl & her world provided support for to her so she could attend school again in 2014. She did very well throughout the year and all of her teachers and the principal were so pleased with her as she worked hard and is a good student. She engages in church, she's a leader of the youth group, she looks after her niece and nephew (often on her own for long periods of time when her sister goes to stay in Suva) and also cuts the firewood and cooks the food for the family.

Thanks to Luisa's hard work, strong ambition and with support from **a Girl & her world** she came top of her year again when she completed school in 2014! This really was against all odds. She is now moving to Suva to attend university (with the support of a scholarship she was awarded) where she will study to become an accountant or a teacher of economics. Her sister has also moved to Suva so she will stay with her. We are very proud of her.



*we are so proud of Luisa
and all that she has
achieved through refusing
to give up on herself and
her future!*

*one of our girl Ambassadors raising funds
and awareness at her school.*



Angel's story (as told by Urmila)

Six year old Ankriti, or as we call her 'Angel' is one of 7 children. Her mother was killed 5 years ago. She and one of her daughters were walking to the shop to buy schoolbooks for her daughter when she was hit by a car. The daughter didn't go to school for a year as a result of trauma and injuries. Her father was in a building accident where he fell from a high story building and had to have brain surgery and be in hospital for three months. The father had been trying to support the whole family but was unable to work due to his injuries. The school contacted me saying that several of the children from that family hadn't been in school for a long time. I went out to visit the family.

I learned about the death and injuries of the children's parents and spoke to the children about attending school. They told me "we have no food, how can we go to school when we have no food and our stomachs hurt?" I saw that there was indeed no food in the house. The father had managed to get a small bit of cassava and that was all they had to eat. I was very moved by the hardship the family were living in and straight away told Jane and two other local organisations about them.

As a result of teamwork, the family received clothes, groceries, utensils, hygiene packs, the compound was cleaned and they now receive \$110 and a food voucher per month from the ministry of social welfare. I also helped the father get some work that he was able to do.

The children are now all back in school. Angel is in year one. The eldest son recently scored the second highest mark in his year, won a scholarship and is now at university. Another son is living with me for a while so our family can support him with attending school. a Girl & her world works mainly with Girls but Girls are often part of big families that need help. When we work together with other organisations as well, we can really make a difference in people lives.

Can you help? We need:

- **Girl Ambassadors** to raise funds and awareness in their schools
- A **social media volunteer** to manage the way we interact with Facebook, Twitter and Instagram (this could be an internship)
- **People to sell** our resources. We have 'fundraising boxes' with beautiful candles, branded caps, bags made by the Girls' mums and often chocolates donated by Ferrero. These make good school fete kits.
- **Fundraisers.** There are SO many ways. We are registered with GoFundraise and you can organise an event through them in your community.
- **Corporate connections.** Symes Consulting connected with us this year through their women's mentoring program and support us through this network. There are endless possibilities

Contact us

Website www.agirlandherworld.org

Email info@agirlandherworld.org

We are on **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Instagram**

We'd love you to connect with us or drop us a line if you'd like to get involved. Or let us know how what we are doing resonates with you.

Vinaka!

