

# Will you make a difference as a National Council member?

Are you passionate about transforming lives affected by leprosy? Or perhaps you know someone who can contribute greatly to the ongoing work of The Leprosy Mission Australia?

The Leprosy Mission in Australia has been operating for 110 years and as a registered charity we have an amazing group of supporters who are Members of The Leprosy Mission National Council.

***"To actively engage with the work of TLMA as a National Council member, adds a whole new dimension to your relationship with those affected by leprosy and with those working to see Leprosy defeated and lives transformed."***

— Colin Martin, Council Member

This group of people are an integral part of our ongoing work serving people affected by leprosy and disability. The key components of a National Council Member can be summarised in the following five points:

1. You will own the Vision of The Leprosy Mission Australia
2. You will own the Mission of The Leprosy Mission Australia
3. You will own the history of The Leprosy Mission Australia
4. You will elect the Board and hold them to account.
5. You will vote whether The Leprosy Mission Australia has fulfilled its mission statement in the event that it is proposed that it should no longer exist.

## Celebrating a joyful life.

Joy Burnett was a long-time supporter of The Leprosy Mission Australia and an active, joyful member of the Townsville Auxiliary since 1994. Unfortunately, health issues forced her to step back from volunteering in recent years.

A loving wife, mother, grandma, and great grandma, Joy passed away in May this year. She will be greatly missed by her family and all who knew her. Please pray for God's love to surround her family and friends.



The National Council comprises of a total of 40 members, made up of no more than 22 General Representatives and 18 State Representatives from six states.

We currently have vacancies for both General and State Representatives and are seeking nominations and expressions of interest from people who are eager to contribute to the work of the mission in this way.

Our National Council members make a valuable contribution to the organisation. They are integral to our supporter base around the country, whether it is by engaging in and running local events, praying, or supporting the staff team and Board.

***"Being a member of the National Council means you are part of a great team. It is good to be connected with the mission in this way and doing something where you can make a difference."***

— Denise Scott, Council Member

To find out how to get involved go to our website.

**Please prayerfully consider being part of this important work. Pray that God will stir the hearts and minds of people to contribute their passion, skills, and time. Pray for the National Council as they carefully and effectively support the work of The Leprosy Mission Australia.**



## Your prayers are impacting lives like Karuna's today!



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#### Your compassionate prayers and support are needed for Karuna and her mother.

Together, they live in a small mud house, with very little furniture in an informal settlement in Nepal. Karuna's father took his own life three years ago, leaving Karuna and her mother to fend for themselves. Karuna dropped out of school two years ago at the age of just thirteen to help bring in income. Her work as a labourer's assistant, is a dangerous and very physically exhausting job. Karuna would gladly change jobs immediately if she could. Even more, Karuna wants to go back to school with her friends.

It was about two years ago that Karuna first found a pale patch of skin on her left wrist. She did not feel unwell and so was not worried. Recently, a visiting female community health volunteer asked if anyone had skin patches. She was able to refer Karuna to the clinic holding a Mini Leprosy Elimination Campaign (MLEC). While she had heard the word leprosy before, she did not understand what it was. Now with this diagnosis she is feeling anxious and afraid. **Your prayers to overcome fear and avoid self-stigma are important right now.**

With Multi-Drug Therapy Karuna will be able to defeat this disease. With support from the IMPACT project (Integrated Mobilisation of People for Active Community Transformation) her mother is part of a recently formed Self-Help Group (SHG).

The project will look at supporting Karuna to go back to school. If this is not possible then Karuna would also be eligible to join a SHG.

**Pray for Karuna as she takes the course of MDT to cure her of leprosy. Pray that she will not suffer further physically, and that her community will be accepting of her. Pray that Karuna will be able to attend school again or find safer employment through a SHG.**

**Pray for the IMPACT project as they support Karuna, her mother and many others in the community. Pray that more members of the community will come forward for testing and to receive support to live a full life.**



This project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). Thanks to ANCP and our supporters, these projects are able to help improve the well-being of people affected by leprosy and disability.

**Thank you for your prayers. To support people like Karuna and her mother financially through the IMPACT project, please scan the QR code or follow the link.**

<https://www.leprosymission.org.au/projects/integrated-mobilisation-active-community-transformation>







## Your compassionate prayers and support continue to enable children in Nepal to go to school.

The new SEED project (Supporting Empowerment through Education Development) continues from the SER (Socio-Economic Rehabilitation) Education Program. The 82 students who are currently enrolled in the SER program will continue to be provided with scholarships to support their education through primary and secondary school.

The progress of each student will be tracked to see the impact of the SEED project in their lives and for their families and communities.

Students will be provided with counselling and well-being checks to ensure that their mental health is properly addressed. And to help students to integrate into the wider community two financial awards will be given towards extra-curricular activities.

People around Australia help students through prayer and by providing one off gifts or ongoing support through the monthly regular giving program, tlc (total loving cure).

Thanks to your faithful prayers, students just like Mamata and Nishsal receive scholarships and school uniforms which enable many families to continue to send their children to school – thus improving their future employment prospects. Education also means that children are able to have hope for a better future.

Mamata enjoys being able to play with other children and be carefree. This is in contrast to her mother, Maya, who has had to have surgery on her hand due to nerve damage from leprosy. Long stays in hospital has left Maya feeling burdened by what life has dealt her. Thanks to The Leprosy Mission Nepal, Mamata has much to smile about.

Nishsal lives in a remote district of Nepal. He is a diligent student, currently in Grade 5 and dreaming of becoming a doctor. Nishal's father was diagnosed with leprosy at age 12 and was on Multi-Drug Therapy for two years.



Thanks to The Leprosy Mission Nepal, Mamata has much to smile about.

He faced stigma in his home village and had to move. Now, although financially very poor, Nishal and his family are very grateful for the support of The Leprosy Mission Nepal.

Thank you for praying for a world in which children affected by leprosy, facing discrimination, and disability can remain in school. Thank you that they have an opportunity to live a full life and make a positive impact in their family and throughout their community. Your prayers make a real difference so that together we can make leprosy a thing of the past.

Pray for students in Nepal who are affected by leprosy, disability, and discrimination, either directly or through their parents or family members. Pray that inclusion in the SEED project will lead to positive outcomes around education, inclusion, mental health, and livelihoods.



Nishsal is a diligent student, who dreams of becoming a doctor.

Pray for the staff and volunteers of the SEED project as they provide educational support to these students and seek to ensure their whole well-being is looked after.

Pray that more people will take up the opportunity to provide ongoing tlc to a child as they attend school to give them the best chance in life.

**This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us.** — 1 John 5:14

You can provide ongoing tlc (total loving cure) for children like Mamata and Nishsal by scanning the QR code or following the link.  
<https://www.leprosymission.org.au/projects/tlc-education-training>

