

A BIG
THANK YOU

Together we raised :

\$7,500

from Ellen & Brydie Hawthorne and
Forget Me Not Australia.

More than 80%
of children in orphanages
are NOT orphans



MILLIONS OF CHILDREN HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM THEIR FAMILIES, TRAFFICKED INTO ORPHANAGES AND USED TO GENERATE FUNDS – THIS IS A FORM OF MODERN DAY SLAVERY. WELL-MEANING PEOPLE WHO ARE DONATING TO ORPHANAGES ARE UNINTENTIONALLY FUELLING THE GLOBAL ORPHANAGE CRISIS. THE MORE DONATIONS FLOOD INTO ORPHANAGES, THE MORE ORPHANAGES OPEN AND THE MORE CHILDREN ARE SEPARATED FROM THEIR FAMILIES TO FILL THEIR BEDS. YOUR DONATION WILL HELP GET MORE CHILDREN HOME WITH THEIR FAMILIES, WHERE THEY BELONG. THANK YOU!!

www.forgetmenot.org.au

Over the past 18 months, Brydie and I have had the opportunity to be apart of Forget Me Not Australia's 'Change Agents' program. An organisation fighting against child trafficking in Nepal, India and Uganda. In July 2016, we attended a conference in Queensland and were challenged to spread awareness whilst raising \$3,000 each for the cause. By reaching this goal, we would have the opportunity to travel overseas to Nepal and visit young girls whose lives have been tragically affected by child trafficking and witness the change we are apart of.

Pope Francis appealed to the world community earlier this year to raise the fight against child trafficking. He stated: "the trade in human beings" as "a modern form of slavery, which violates the God-given dignity of so many of our brothers and sisters, and constitutes a true

crime against humanity." He has also praised the effort of organisations around the world to their "commitment to the recovery and rehabilitation of victims."

Some important facts about the Forget Me Not Australia's 'Change Agents' Program:

- Forget Me Not Change Agents works to educate and stop people from volunteering in Overseas Orphanages.
- Forget Me Not was represented at the recent Modern Slavery Enquiry in Canberra in August and as a result of our representation - Senator Linda Reynolds is supporting a bill to ban Australian citizens from volunteering at Orphanages overseas.
- Forget Me Not educates rural communities in Nepal, India and Uganda and parents about the dangers of child trafficking. The empty promises of education for their children tempt parents leading them to pay their children to be educated at 'boarding school', only to sell them to orphanages for the purposes of using them as assets to coax money from well meaning westerners as 'sponsorship'.
- Forget Me Not carry out life changing rescues from orphanages. They aid in the recovery, both mental and physical rehabilitation, and aim to reintegrate the child's family and provide ongoing support in Nepal, India and Uganda.
- Forget Me Not strongly believes children are not tourist attractions. The process of volunteering in overseas orphanages must stop, to eliminate the process of child trafficking.

Kiosk for Kids

From Mid-term 3, 2016, we have been running an after school fundraiser called Kiosk for Kids, selling snacks on bus lines in a wheelbarrow to fellow students.

The support from the O'Connor community was amazing.

By June of this year we had officially reached our target of \$6,000 and both Brydie and I couldn't have been more grateful. We decided that together, we would continue Kiosk for Kids and challenge ourselves to spread the awareness. We have now completed our fundraising, reaching approximately \$7,500 from various networks, with our strongest being from the support of O'Connor Catholic College.

On behalf of Forget Me Not and ourselves, we would like to extend our gratitude to the O'Connor community for the on going support we have received over the past year. We look forward to reporting back to the College our experiences following our trip to Nepal.



