

inTouch

Official Magazine of The Leprosy Mission New Zealand

Issue 445 / Spring 2019

Cure One Update

Annual Review 2018



The Leprosy
Mission
New Zealand

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Welcome

Welcome to the Spring edition of inTouch! Inside you will find wonderfully uplifting stories of lives that have been changed forever thanks to your kind support.

Having worked at the Leprosy Mission now for 12 years, I feel truly blessed and humbled to be able to continue working with our supporters and partners to bring hope and light to those suffering, as we strive to bring an end to leprosy transmission by 2035.

It has also been amazing to witness advances in technology that enable us to support leprosy-affected people in new and effective ways. This year we are thrilled to be launching the new Leprosy Mission Pushpay app which will make supporting the work of The Leprosy Mission incredibly easy and secure anytime and anywhere. You can read more about Pushpay and other secure giving options on page 12-13.

The needs in this world can seem overwhelming and we give thanks to our God and incredible supporters like you, that we can continue to cure, care for and restore the lives of people affected by leprosy living in some of the poorest and most remote areas in the world – people like Kanti and her family.

Kanti is a little 13 year old girl from India. A few years ago, Kanti developed a penetrating ulcer on the sole of her right foot, which soon turned into drop foot - two telltale signs of leprosy. It is saddening to see a young girl have her life disrupted by this disease, but because of wonderful people like you, together we can bring light and hope into Kanti's life.

As you read the many life-changing stories in this magazine, please continue to pray for individuals, their families and communities affected by leprosy.

God bless,



Gillian Whitley
Executive Director



Gillian meeting Thresia in Papua New Guinea.

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand
Incorporated is a Registered Charity
Number CC37638

Following Jesus Christ, The Leprosy Mission New Zealand seeks to bring about transformation; breaking the chains of leprosy, empowering people to attain healing, dignity and life in all its fullness.

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Thank you to Bruce Millar, Bhupinder Singh, Jane Walker, Prashant Chaudhary and Ronne D'Souza for the amazing photos we feature.



Cover Photo: Image of Oswald from Bougainville who was featured in Annual Appeal 2018.

Kanti Begins her Cure One Journey

Kanti is a delightful 13 year old girl from India.

She is our new Cure One ambassador who represents children whose lives are still being affected by leprosy today.

To understand Kanti's story we must realise that her young life has not been easy. Her father works as a packer but it is three days' travel from home. He sends money back to the family from the little he earns. But it means Kanti only sees him once every two years when he has a chance to travel back home. Her mother is a daily wage labourer. Their home is on encroached government land, meaning they can be evicted at any time.

Kanti's story started five years ago, when Kanti's mum Sarita realised there were discoloured patches all over Kanti's little body.

"Since skin disease is common in our village, we didn't take it seriously."
Sarita told us.

It was not until later, when an ulcer developed on the sole of Kanti's right foot, that she took Kanti to the local hospital. Kanti was diagnosed with leprosy. Because of delayed treatment, Kanti has developed drop foot on her right leg. The family was devastated by Kanti's situation.

Fortunately, a villager told them about the Leprosy Mission Hospital in New Delhi. He was once affected by leprosy but now completely cured thanks to the Leprosy Mission in India.

'He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.' Psalm 147:3

When Kanti arrived at Leprosy Mission Shardhara Hospital, she was immediately put on multi-drug therapy, the cure for leprosy.



While Kanti is in hospital, she will receive daily medication and have her open ulcer cleaned and dressed every day to prevent infection. She will also be given physiotherapy to ease the stiffness in her foot.



Cure, Care for and Restore

There's so much that can be achieved through Cure One. Kanti can be cured from leprosy, and she will have the opportunity to undergo reconstructive surgery to correct her drop foot.

Your kindness also means Kanti can be restored to her community and go back to school, continue her education and play with her best friend Pooja.

You have the power to Cure One, like Kanti.
Together, we can take the sadness out of Kanti's life. We will keep you updated with her progress over the next year.

If you would like to become a Cure One Supporter, please visit cureone.org.nz or contact Kiri on 0800 862 873 or email kiri.debeer@leprosymission.org.nz

A Brighter Future for Sita - Thanks to You

We wrote to you about Sita earlier this year. Thanks to your prayers and support, she can look forward to a brighter future.

When Sita was first diagnosed two years ago, her husband and family abandoned her...

"I love people here in Anandaban Hospital. I was rejected by my family but doctors and nurses care for me. I feel loved here," says Sita.

Thanks to wonderful supporters like you, Sita is cured of leprosy. She also received reconstructive hand surgeries to correct the clawing in both of her hands.

"I do physio exercises regularly on both of my hands. I'm slowly gaining more movement in my hands," says Sita.

Thank you for filling Sita's heart with hope and joy.

Sita is hopeful for her future. She wants to look for a job so she can earn money and support herself.



Shanti and Tina are Sita's best friends at Anandaban Hospital. They encourage and support each other during their hospital stays.

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When Gillian met Sita she had a message for supporters like you... *'I am happy and I would like to say thank you.'*

A Medical Breakthrough

Dr. Indra Napit is the Medical Director as well as an Orthopaedic & Reconstructive Surgeon at Anandaban Hospital, Nepal.

He works tirelessly with the team to ensure leprosy patients receive top quality leprosy and orthopaedic services.

Five years ago, leprosy patients needed to have two surgeries on each leprosy-affected hand; and between each surgery, fingers needed to be rested for 3 months.



Dr. Indra has developed a new process to carry out reconstructive hand surgeries by combining two surgeries into one. So the hospital admission time is reduced significantly from 6-8 months to 8 weeks.

It means Anandaban Hospital can have greater capacity to treat more leprosy patients, and continue to offer a lifeline to people like Sita.

"It is a real joy to see the happiness in the faces of leprosy patients after surgery," Dr Indra says.

With God's grace, you have provided a miracle in PNG.



Last year your donation to our 5x match appeal went straight to curing people whose lives had been devastated by leprosy in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville.

Through supporters like you, the appeal target was met and NZ Aid Programme matched this 5x to help children and families affected by leprosy like Thesia - **thank you!**

Thesia is a young girl we wrote to you about in January last year. Thesia's leprosy started with a badly swollen face, then continued to spread in a vicious attack on her little body.

Thesia stopped going to school because of the deep ulcer on her foot. She was very self-conscious of her resulting limp and ashamed at how it made her different.

Through God's love, there is always hope.

Because of incredible people like you, Thesia has received the full course of leprosy medication and she is now cured of leprosy!

Thesia and her family received counselling and support from Leprosy Mission Volunteer Community Facilitators. She knows she is accepted, loved and cared for. The medical staff also taught Thesia about self-care for her ulcer.

"Through the help of The Leprosy Mission, I felt confident enough to go back to school." Thesia smiles.

Thanks to you, Thesia has her school fees and uniform paid for.



"It makes me happy to be back at school. Now I get to spend lots of time with my friends." says Thesia.

"I love to read and draw. My favourite story is Princess Sofia." Thesia beams.

Once shy and disengaged, Thesia is now empowered and hopeful for a brighter future.

'Now I know leprosy cannot stop me from pursuing my dreams.' Thesia declares.

Your kindness also means Thesia's father can participate in the income generation activities which are part of LMNZ's Sustainable Livelihoods Development Project. He can learn a skill and earn a sustainable income to provide for his family.

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Restored by you

Niran can fight for his dreams.

We have shared Niran's story with you over the past year. Thanks to the commitment and prayers from our wonderful Cure One supporters, Niran is in a much better place now.

Only 11 years old, leprosy attacked Niran's little body and left him with numbness and loss of feeling in his face and hands, and a left eye that could not fully close.

Simple tasks like holding a pen and lifting a box became very challenging for little Niran.

Devastated, Niran isolated himself from everyone. He was insecure about the white patches on his body. Niran stopped going out to play with his friends.

Niran is on the road to recovery

Thanks to incredible people like you, Niran is completing his 12 months of multi-drug therapy. He is diligently continuing his physiotherapy exercises to reduce the clawing in his hands. Niran also received regular eye treatment to stimulate the muscle movement around his left eye.



"Earlier I could not close my left eye, but after regular treatment, I can close my eyes now!" Niran smiles.

A few months ago, Niran was admitted back to the Leprosy Mission Hospital because of leprosy reaction. (This occurs when the immune system begins to fight the leprosy bacteria or remnants of dead bacteria a little too intensely. This can cause painful swelling and permanent nerve damage.)

Thankfully, Niran is in the safe hands of the doctors and nurses and is receiving treatment for his leprosy reaction.

Niran was very shy and quiet and did not like to interact with people. However, after receiving treatment and counselling from the hospital staff, Niran has regained his confidence and is hopeful for his future.

"My favourite subject is Maths. I want to become a mechanical engineer when I grow up then I can look after my family." Niran declares.



"I love the colour blue. I want to drive a blue car when I am older." He says.

Niran will also have the opportunity to receive reconstructive surgeries to correct the clawing on his hands. He will be able to play cricket with his brother and his best friend Raja again.

Thanks to you, Niran is not only on the road to physical recovery but also towards overcoming his fear of what the future could hold. Your kindness and compassion has made it possible for Niran to learn and hope again.

Annual Review 2018

Thanks to your ongoing generosity, The Leprosy Mission New Zealand (LMNZ) remains committed to curing, caring for and restoring people affected by leprosy.

Your kindness and generosity continues to instil in us heartfelt gratitude. The significant impact of your invaluable contributions in the past financial year is underpinned by the \$2,607,013 we could commit to our overseas ministry.

We cannot thank you enough for joining hands with us in our important mission, making this life-changing work possible.

Throughout 2018, projects you support brought essential services and support to leprosy-affected individuals, their families and their communities. We are extremely grateful to our staff worldwide for their devotion and determination.



Cure



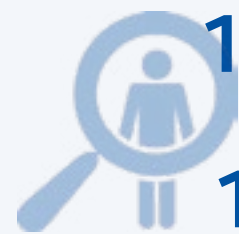
Indonesia

Indonesia has the third highest number of new leprosy cases in the world. LMNZ has entered into a funding partnership with Netherlands Leprosy Relief - Indonesia to support a new project in the high leprosy endemic region of West Java.

Bougainville

LMNZ through its supporters and in partnership with the NZ Government's Aid Programme*, leads the Bougainville Healthy Community Programme which strengthens communities, helping them to be healthy and leprosy free.

With your support in 2018,



1,730 leprosy cases were put on multi-drug therapy treatment in New Zealand supported projects.

1,125 new leprosy cases were diagnosed in New Zealand supported projects.



Care



Nepal

LMNZ is a supporting partner of the Leprosy Mission's Anandaban Hospital in Kathmandu. The hospital's goal is to provide comprehensive quality care for leprosy-affected patients and basic medical services to the local community.

India

LMNZ has been supporting Muzaffarpur Hospital over an extended period of time and are delighted that the hospital is now fully sustainable for their everyday operational costs.

With your support in 2018,

445 people received ulcer treatment and reconstructive surgery in New Zealand supported projects.

6,005 people were taught about self-care for ulcers in New Zealand supported projects.

2,505 pairs of protective sandals were provided in New Zealand supported projects.

3,571 people were supplied with assistive devices (prosthetics, crutches and wheel chairs etc) in New Zealand supported projects.



Restore



Papua New Guinea

The Sustainable Livelihoods Development Programme's goal is: Sustainable livelihoods and health for individuals, families and communities affected by leprosy and disability in PNG.

Bangladesh

The Chittagong People-Led Development programme gives people affected by leprosy and disability the skills and support they need to become full, self-reliant and productive members of their communities.

Ethiopia

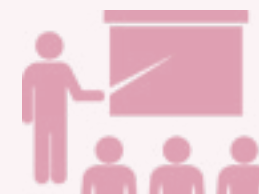
LMNZ continues to provide educational support grants for children affected by leprosy in Ethiopia.

With your support in 2018,

3,475 people were in self-help groups in New Zealand supported projects.

5,771 people were trained in advocacy, leadership and rights in New Zealand supported projects.

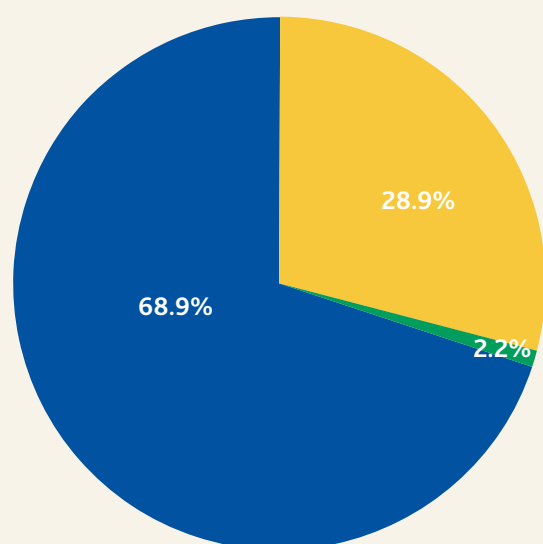
1,086 Village Health Volunteers were trained in Health Development in New Zealand supported projects.



Together in 2018,
the Leprosy Mission NZ, as part of
the Global Fellowship,
has supported

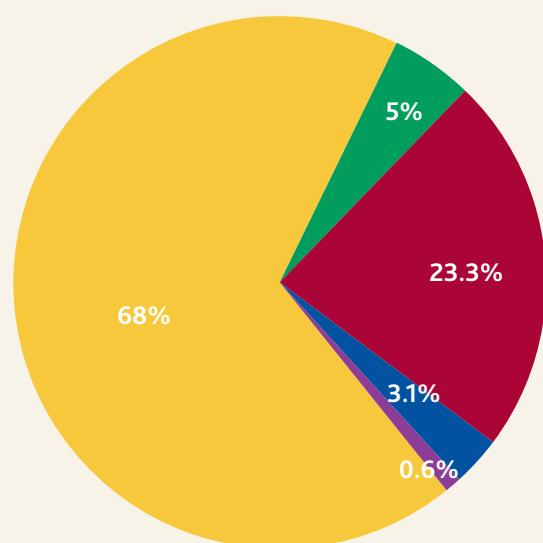
609,406,817 people
worldwide.

Income Received



NZ Government Grants	28.9%	\$1,222,367
Private Income	68.9%	\$2,913,258
Interest/ Other Income	2.2%	\$93,745
Total	100.0%	\$4,229,370

Where the money goes



Overseas Ministries	68%
Education	5%
Investing in future income and communicating to the NZ public	23.3%
Administration	3.1%
Depreciation	0.6%
Total	100%

The Year in Figures

This financial information summary is for the 12 months from 1 January to 31 December 2018, and is from the fully audited accounts. The Annual Report is available at www.leprosymission.org.nz/AnnualReport18

Thank you for your committed support.

Thank You

On behalf of people and families affected by leprosy we would like to thank every single one of you who have supported us in our mission.

We would like to acknowledge all of our financial supporters, including individual donors, those who have passed away and so thoughtfully remembered us in their Will, The New Zealand Aid Programme (the NZ Government's official aid for developing countries), churches and businesses, and The David Ellison Charitable Trust.

Over the last 12 months our volunteers have given countless hours of their time, and we cannot begin to express just how much of a difference this has made to our work. We would also like to thank our Prayer Partners for continuing to remember our work in their prayers.

We are very thankful for the ongoing commitment of our Committee members, our Society members and our dedicated Board members who give their time and skills and support us so willingly.

Finally, we would like to thank our field partners and The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship for all of their hard work and support.



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Youth Advocates 2019



Connecting young people to our mission is something we do with great joy.

Earlier this year, nine amazing young adults joined us to visit leprosy-affected communities and see first-hand the Mission's work in Nepal.

Their goal this year is to raise funds to help replace the bus for The Leprosy Mission's Anandaban Hospital in Kathmandu.

Some of the Youth Advocates would like to share their thoughts and experiences with you.

Hannah Warden

"My favourite part of the trip was listening to the stories of the people we met during our time in Nepal. Everyone was very generous and open with us about their stories of joy and hardship. I really loved to hear how peoples' lives have changed and I was particularly inspired by some of the staff members who devoted themselves to be able to change these lives."



This year's Youth Advocates are raising funds for a much needed new bus for Anandaban Hospital which will enable hospital staff, medical supplies and equipment to be transported between the hospital and satellite clinics.

Isabella Mellis

"In New Zealand, it is easy to forget that discrimination against people because of a health condition like leprosy goes on. I had not heard much about leprosy before, but when I did some research I was shocked to discover the intense stigma surrounding this disease. As a Youth Advocate, I want to do my best to help those affected by leprosy by raising funds and awareness."

Come with us in 2020! Applications are open now!

For more information, and to apply, please go to leprosymission.org.nz/youth-advocates or contact Hannah on youthadvocates@leprosymission.org.nz or call 0800 862 873.

You can donate to the Youth Advocates' fundraising efforts at leprosymission.org.nz/youthadvocates19

Important Update on Giving

This month, we are excited to announce an important update to giving at the Leprosy Mission New Zealand. As you know, your kindness and financial partnership with us is how we are able to help change the lives of those affected by leprosy around the world and achieve our goal of ending leprosy transmission by 2035.

We value our incredible supporters like you, and want to make sure you are aware of this exciting new giving platform, which allows for simple and secure giving through mobile and online.

Introducing Pushpay

Pushpay is a free mobile app that enables you to donate to the Leprosy Mission New Zealand quickly, securely and conveniently. It's easy to set up and use, and makes giving to support people affected by leprosy as simple as a few taps on your phone.

With Pushpay, you are now able to initiate giving on your phone by **texting 'leprosy' to 818**. You will receive a link to the Leprosy Mission NZ's giving page where you can easily follow the steps to give.

You can also **text 'lmnz app' to 818** to download the Leprosy Mission New Zealand app to give, and you can read more about the stories of lives you helped transform, plus the latest updates of the Mission's work.



Feel free to call us on 0800 862 873 if you have any questions. We are more than happy to help!

You can also read more about Pushpay at www.leprosymission.org.nz/pushpay

"A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

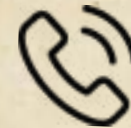
Proverbs 11:25



Other secure ways to give:

We really value your support, and we want to make it easy for you. So here are other **easy** and **secure** giving options you might want to consider:

Telephone



Talk to us direct at the Leprosy Mission office in Auckland on the free phone number **0800 862 873** and you can make a secure debit/credit card donation payment over the phone.

Online Banking



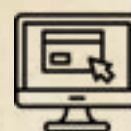
If you have set up online banking with your bank we are a **registered biller** so you can look us up by name (Leprosy Mission NZ) to make a donation that way.

Bank Deposit



The Leprosy Mission NZ bank account is: **02 0264 0029018 05**. In reference field please enter your name and phone number (and supporter number if you know it).

Leprosy Mission Website



You can make a secure payment direct on our website with a debit/credit card at leprosymission.org.nz/donate



Supporters Corner.....

Thank you for all the notes and messages you sent throughout the year. There were many heart-warming comments from wonderful supporters, so we just had to share a few –

"I firmly believe in the work of the Leprosy Mission New Zealand and will continue to support all efforts to eradicate leprosy. God bless you all as you serve with compassion, for dignity is being restored to those who suffer, and healing brings new life - and big smiles too."

Ann, Omokoroa

I trust the Leprosy Mission New Zealand continues its wonderful work, especially endeavouring to reduce the incidence and stigma of this disease among a lot of very disadvantaged peoples.

Lindsay, Christchurch

"Many thanks for the work that you are doing to cure, care for and restore people affected by leprosy, and assist others struggling with disabilities. I love being part of this work that fulfils Jesus' command to 'heal people affected by leprosy'."

Elizabeth, Hamilton

Rhema Cure One Day - 26th September



We're on a quest to change lives and we need YOU!

as we continue in our mission to defeat leprosy. We need your help to reach those who are afflicted by leprosy.

Please pray for and listen in to this special day of compassion and generosity of heart, and learn how you can Cure, Care for and Restore the life of One Person affected by Leprosy!

What a wonderful way to achieve a world without leprosy, one person at a time.

Your support brings hope and a brighter future for someone affected by leprosy, like Kanti.



We are delighted to have the opportunity to be back in the studio with Radio Rhema.

With the help of Radio Rhema and Life FM, we are now able to spread the heartfelt message of the Leprosy Mission New Zealand nation-wide - **No Child with Leprosy by 2035.**

You are invited to be part of this amazing journey

The Leprosy Mission Prayer:

Almighty Father, the giver of life and health, look mercifully on those who suffer from leprosy. Stretch out your hand to touch and heal them as Jesus did during his earthly life. Grant wisdom and insight to those who are seeking the prevention and cure of the disease; Give skill and sympathy to those who minister to the patients; Reunite the separated ones with their families and friends; And inspire your people with the task set before the Leprosy Mission, That it may never lack either the staff or the means to carry on its healing work. In accordance with your will, and to the glory of your holy name, We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Thank you so much for standing with us in prayer.

If you wish to receive Prayer & Praise diaries, please contact Denise on 0800 862 873, or denise.herd@leprosymission.org.nz

Your Gift in your Will Changes Lives!

We are blessed when supporters leave a gift in their will to defeat leprosy and transform lives. Big or small, each gift is precious in helping to reach more people affected by leprosy to deliver vital services. With these precious gifts in 2018 leprosy work, through Hombolo Leprosy Hospital in Tanzania, was boosted with substantial project vehicle repairs for their outreach programme.

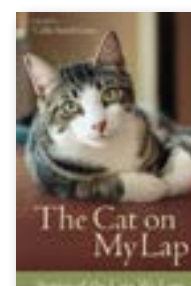
This vehicle is significant as it allows for much greater outreach to the wider regions of Tanzania, and for many more villagers to be diagnosed and treated who would otherwise be unable to receive medical help, and therefore go undiagnosed and unaided.

The outreach teams also provide health education within the villages and local schools about major diseases and ways to avoid them, helping to bring about lasting change – all thanks to people like you!

Your gift will make sure there is hope, light and life for those affected by leprosy – a powerful way to serve leprosy-affected families for generations to come.



If you would like to include a gift in your Will, please contact Gillian on 0800 862 873 or at gillian.whitley@leprosymission.org.nz



The Cat on My Lap

Our cats are more than pets. They bring companionship, humour, and a sense of mystery to our lives that no other pet can match. In this charming collection of true stories, you will find cats of all shapes, sizes and demeanors.

\$25 includes P&H



Alfie - The Doorstep Cat

Alfie is homeless and abandoned. But as life throws its worst at the residents on Edgar Road, they soon realise how much they all need Alfie - a cat who brings hope in the darkest times and who will always be a friend to those in need.

\$30 includes P&H

Buy a book and help end leprosy

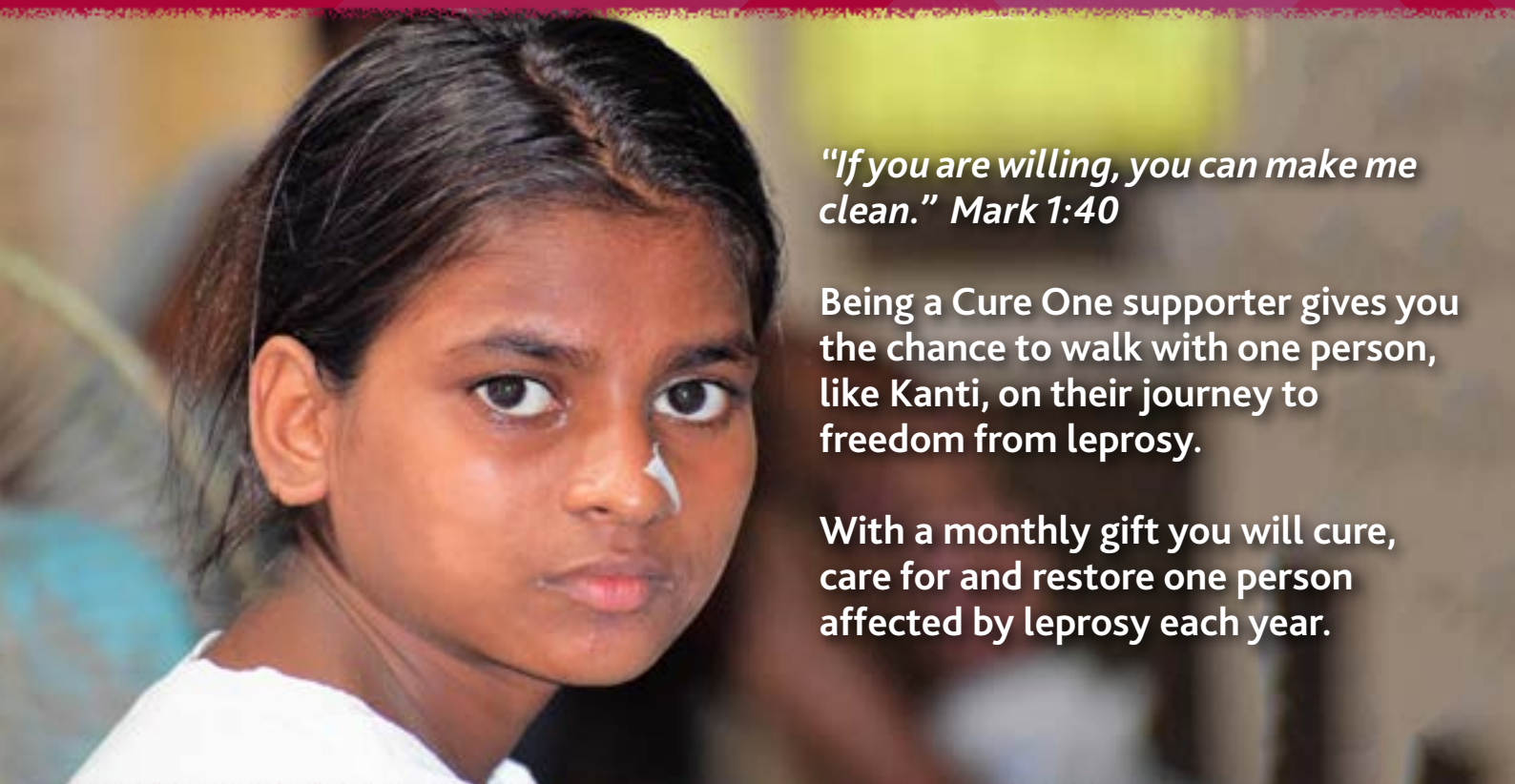
The above are only a sample of the books available for purchase.

To view all books, please visit www.leprosymission.org.nz/book-store Alternatively, contact Carolyn Currie on 0800 862 873 or carolyn.currie@leprosymission.org.nz

Free postage throughout New Zealand.

Cure One today

A world without leprosy tomorrow



"If you are willing, you can make me clean." Mark 1:40

Being a Cure One supporter gives you the chance to walk with one person, like Kanti, on their journey to freedom from leprosy.

With a monthly gift you will cure, care for and restore one person affected by leprosy each year.

Call 0800 862 873

Join Cure One at cureone.org.nz

Or for more information please fill out the form below and post back to us.



Cut along dotted line



The Leprosy
Mission
Cure One

If you would like to find out more, please cut out this form and send to:
Cure One Enquiry, The Leprosy Mission New Zealand, PO Box 96262, Balmoral, Auckland 1342



I would like to find out more about becoming a regular supporter with Cure One

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Comments: _____
