




The Leprosy
Mission

New Zealand

Te Mihana Tūwhenua o Aotearoa

Annual Report 2019



"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden."

Matthew 5:14

Our Story

- For over 100 years the Leprosy Mission New Zealand (LMNZ) has been creating life-changing connections between New Zealanders and people affected by leprosy throughout the world.
- We are dedicated to curing, caring for and restoring leprosy-affected people, families and communities.
- Over the last 25 years, 15 million people have been cured, but there are still 5 million people affected by leprosy today.
- LMNZ, in partnership with our supporters and the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship, are dedicated to transforming lives and ending leprosy.

LMNZ is a member of the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship, and we share the following Vision, Mission and Values:

Vision: Leprosy Defeated, Lives Transformed.

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

Our Values: Because we follow Jesus Christ, we value Compassion, Justice, Integrity, Inclusion and Humility.



Our commitment to you

While the Leprosy Mission New Zealand holds itself to the highest standards in all activities it undertakes, there may be times when this standard cannot always be achieved or be perceived to be achieved. The Leprosy Mission New Zealand has policies and a Safeguarding Code of Conduct addressing child and vulnerable adult protection. In the event of a complaint being received by the Leprosy Mission New Zealand, we will endeavour to investigate, put things right and learn from the experience.

In the first instance, please contact us:

Email: enquiries@leprosymission.org.nz

Phone: +64 9 630 2818

Freephone: 0800 862 873 (NZ Only)

If you have raised a complaint with The Leprosy Mission New Zealand and are not satisfied with the response to that complaint you may contact:

Fundraising Institute of New Zealand, a sector organisation of which The Leprosy Mission New Zealand is a member and which commits to ethical and best practice fundraising.

Website: finz.org.nz

You can also contact Charities Services, part of the Department of Internal Affairs.

Website: charities.govt.nz

The Council for International Development (CID), the national umbrella agency for NZ organisations working in International Development.

Website: cid.org.nz

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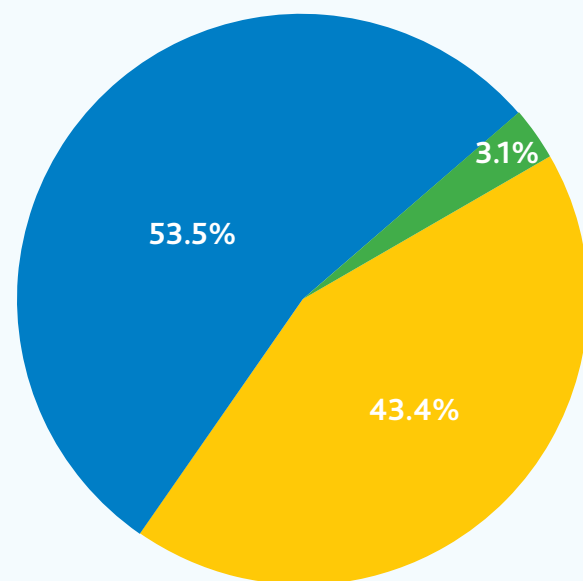
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*We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to
Bruce Millar, Jane Walker, Jasleen Kler,
Jasper Oei, Kelsey Kwan, Michael Bradley,
Phil Johnstone for the amazing photographs
featured in this annual report.*



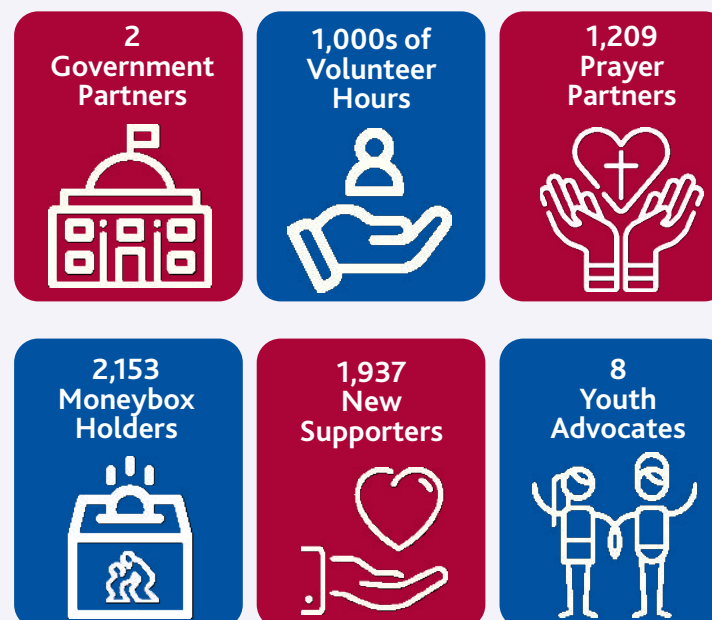
Income Received



NZ Government Grants	43.4%	\$2,256,748
Private Income	53.5%	\$2,781,246
Interest/ Other Income	3.1%	\$159,386
Total	100.0%	\$5,197,380

Thank you for your generosity

Our sincere thanks to all our wonderful supporters. Thanks to your commitment to our mission, we are able to make a difference to the lives of leprosy-affected communities we work with in the Pacific, Asia and Africa.



Welcome

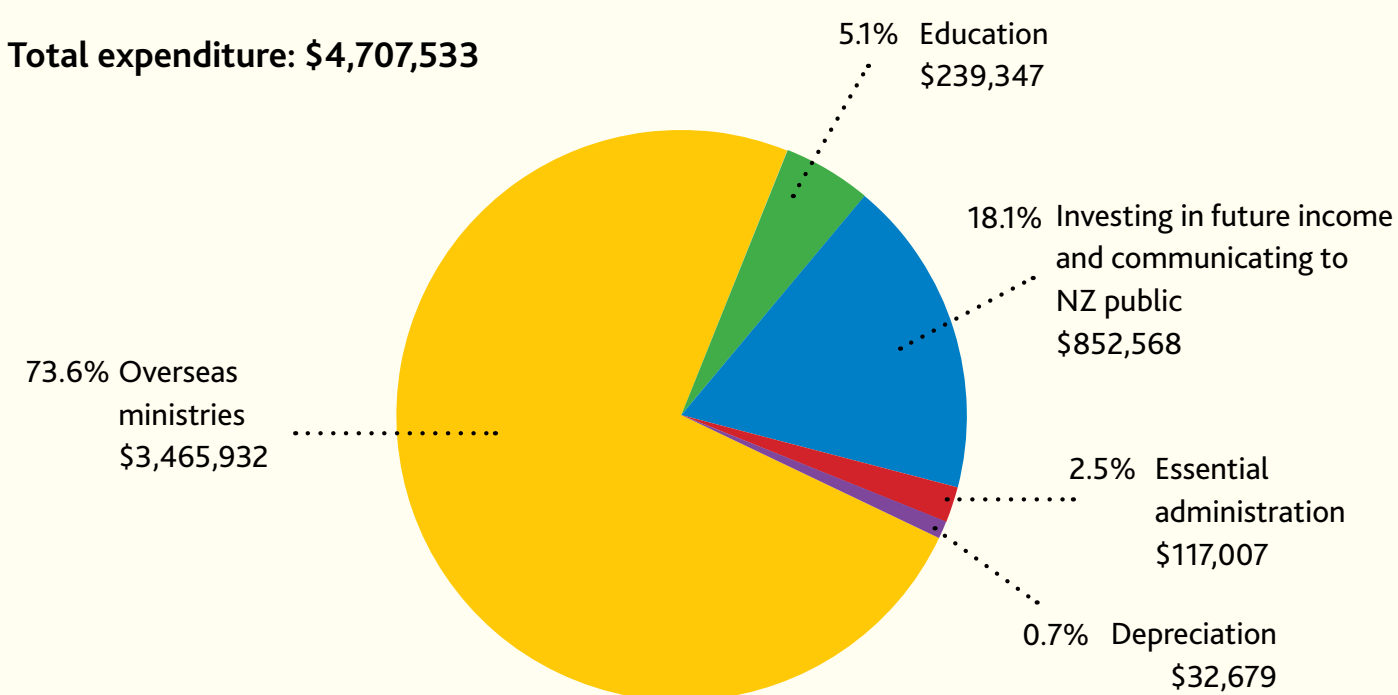
Annual Report of The Leprosy Mission New Zealand Incorporated

'Peace be to you, and peace be to your home and peace be to all that you have.'

1 Samuel 25:6

Where the money goes

Total expenditure: \$4,707,533



Requests for further information regarding the Annual Report can be made directly to the Executive Director, The Leprosy Mission New Zealand.

I write this in 2020 to reflect on our 2019 year; however I would like to start by saying you have all been in my prayers and thoughts as the world is navigating its way through such unsettling times with the Covid-19 pandemic.

The scripture above provides us reassurance, as He has been faithful in the past, He is faithful now and will be into the future, that regardless of what we face, He is with us.

On behalf of the LMNZ Board, I am pleased to present the 2019 Annual Report to you. We would like to thank our supporters, members and volunteers for their gifts, their time and their prayers. The Annual Report is an opportunity to highlight and celebrate what can be achieved with loving care and support for people affected by leprosy, and the continued provision of our Lord.

2019 was a pivotal year as we finalised Leprosy Mission New Zealand's strategic plan 2019-2023. It is encouraging that the work already supported by you to cure, care for and restore those affected by leprosy is clearly aligned to the Global Fellowship Strategic Plan 2019-23 of Zero Transmission, Zero Disability and Zero Discrimination.

In 2019 we increased donations over 2018 and welcomed new supporters to join our journey to end leprosy. We were able to increase our commitment to Overseas Ministry.

Financials

Income for the year ending 31 December 2019 was \$5,197,380.

Operating expenditure for the year was \$1,241,601 and the amount committed to Overseas Ministry was \$3,465,932.

The overall surplus for the year of \$489,847 will be used to fund future projects and the effective running of the organisation.

Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship

As one of the 30 members of the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship, we join together to maximise our impact for people affected by leprosy.

The Global Strategy 2019-23 was implemented in 2019 by Global Fellowship members with ambitious strategic priorities towards ending leprosy. These strategic priorities are Zero Transmission, Zero Disability and Zero Discrimination and a confirmation that in all our work we are Christ centred.

Zero Transmission is the focus priority of the Global Strategy and the aim is to have Zero Transmission of leprosy by 2035. In New Zealand we have adopted this goal and communicate this message as No Child with Leprosy by 2035.

The New Zealand Focus

Leprosy Mission New Zealand works in partnership with Leprosy Mission implementing countries, grassroots organisations and as a supporting partner in Bangladesh, Bougainville, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Nepal and Papua New Guinea.

Each story shared with you from these partner countries during 2019 is a story of hardship, determination and joy. Each person is precious in the sight of God. The lives of Abu from Bangladesh, the twins Philomon and Philomena from Bougainville, Heizen from PNG, Kanti from India and Lalsari and Bishal from Nepal are lives, along

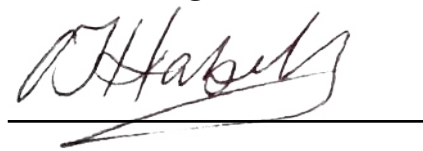
with many others, that have been blessed through your support. As each of them overcome leprosy their lives become an inspiration to us all.

We continue to be grateful to each of our faithful supporters as well as new supporters who have been moved by these stories and have reached out and given their time, gifts and prayers to heal people around the world of leprosy. This work is made possible by God's Grace and your commitment.

We are thankful for funding in 2019 through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) NZ Aid Programme for projects in Papua New Guinea and Bougainville.

We do hope you enjoy reading the pages of this 2019 Annual Report. It is a testament to how New Zealand is contributing to a world where the vision of *leprosy defeated and lives transformed* is fulfilled.

With blessings,



Odele Habets
BOARD CHAIR
The Leprosy Mission New Zealand
Incorporated



Who we are

Board Chair

Odele Habets BHSc, PostGradDipDev (Distinction), GradDip (Biblical Studies/ Theology)

Board

Grant Pollock BBS, CA - Treasurer

Anne Ratliff PostGradDipBus, P.M.E.R

Phil Johnstone BA (Hons), Dipjour

Rev. Kathleen Gavin Dip Physio, Dip Biblical Studies, Dip Clinical/ Pastoral Counselling

Dr. Peter McGhee NDA, MBus (Hons), MEd (Hons), PhD

Andrew Stott BCom/BA, MBA

Jo Burnett BNurs

Blair Matheson MBA

Andre Stuart BE

Executive Director

Gillian Whitley MBS(HR Management), PGDipArts(Psych)

Auditor

Peter Conaglen PP, BMS, Dip Min
Charity Integrity Audit

Hon-Solicitors

Gaze Burt

Cure *Zero Transmission*

Leprosy is a disease associated with poverty. It is easily curable.

Your support has helped find and diagnose those affected by leprosy, it has helped them start multi drug therapy treatment and has ensured they followed this treatment consistently to be fully cured.

Zero Transmission of leprosy can be achieved by:

- Early detection and treatment of new leprosy cases, which helps interrupt the transmission of leprosy.
- Reducing infection risk through Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP), a one-dose of Rifampicin to people that are close contacts.
- Improving water, sanitation and hygiene to reduce contamination and to prevent secondary infections for people affected by leprosy.

Indonesia

Indonesia has the third highest number of new leprosy cases in the world. Leprosy Mission New Zealand is a supporting partner of Netherlands Leprosy Relief - Indonesia to support the **PEPCOM project** in Indonesia.

The project specifically targets the district of Indramayu - a high leprosy endemic region in West-Java to stop transmission. Through active case finding, new leprosy cases are detected to receive treatment. The community awareness programme will identify and support close contacts of a person affected by leprosy to receive a dose of Rifampicin, an antibiotic, reducing the risk of transmission of leprosy. Studies show that this may reduce the likelihood of contacts developing leprosy by up to 60%.



1,754 new leprosy cases were diagnosed in New Zealand supported projects.

Bougainville

Bougainville is an island that has been ravaged by civil war and poverty. It is one where leprosy hotspots still exist today. Leprosy Mission New Zealand through its supporters and in partnership with the Autonomous Bougainville Government and the NZ Government's Aid Programme, supports the **Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme**. Covering more than 95% of the population, this project strengthens communities by improving their health, hygiene and governance practices.

The staff training team delivers training to Village Health Volunteers on health, water, sanitation, rights and community governance.

Village Health Volunteers and the Leprosy Control Officers assist in the detection, diagnosis and treatment of leprosy and other diseases; the project also educates and empowers preventive actions to improve community water facilities and waste management.

The people of Bougainville, empowered by you, are creating healthy communities to live in and a future free of leprosy.

1,683

people affected by leprosy received multi-drug therapy treatment in New Zealand supported projects.

Heizen is cured of leprosy

Swollen nodes started developing on Heizen's ears and elbows, and his left hand started to claw from nerve damage, leaving Heizen unable to write or play his favourite sport - touch rugby. Heizen became too weak to go to school. He couldn't even help his mother with simple household chores.

At just 12 years old, Heizen was diagnosed with leprosy with the help of **village health volunteers** in his community.

Thankfully, because of our incredible supporters, Heizen was taken good care of by local village health volunteers, Peter and Flora. They took Heizen to a nearby health clinic and ensured he received and completed his full course of multi-drug therapy.

Heizen is now cured of leprosy! He is back at school, with new school stationary and a proper uniform.

"I enjoy writing and maths. I'm looking forward to going back to school!" Heizen rejoices.

It is vital that we train community members to detect leprosy and provide treatment. These village health volunteers enable us to reach some of the most remote places on earth, travelling through difficult terrain to ensure children like Heizen are diagnosed and can complete treatment to overcome leprosy.



Through the love and kindness of supporters like you, Heizen and others affected by leprosy in Papua New Guinea have the best gift that they could ever receive - access to the cure for leprosy and a bright future!

Care *Zero Disability*

Disability is not an inevitable consequence of leprosy but people continue to be affected by it if not treated early. **Thanks to you** we can provide cutting edge healthcare to people affected by leprosy.

Hospitals that you support provide reconstructive surgery, physiotherapy and ulcer treatment. In our projects, people affected by leprosy are taught self-care for ulcers to prevent disability and provided with assistive equipment, crutches and wheelchairs as well as prosthetics.

Nepal

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand is a supporting partner of the Leprosy Mission's Anandaban Hospital in Kathmandu. Anandaban means 'Forest of Joy' as the hospital is located in the Kathmandu hills surrounded by trees. The name also reflects the warm welcome and holistic care provided at the hospital which is a centre of excellence in Nepal.

Anandaban Hospital provides comprehensive quality care for people affected by leprosy including clinical diagnosis, physiotherapy, ulcer care, surgery and prosthetics. As a hospital close to local communities, there is provision of general and emergency medical services to the catchment community for fee-paying patients.

Each year the Youth Advocates from New Zealand have an immersion experience at Anandaban Hospital, staying on campus and witnessing the work of each specialty area while meeting people affected by leprosy and the medical and support staff on the frontline. In 2019, their project was to raise funds for a hospital bus to transport staff and supplies for satellite clinics.



824

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

India

LMNZ has been supporting Muzaffapur Hospital over an extended period of time and are delighted that the hospital is now fully sustainable for their everyday operational costs. Financial support has transferred to the Leprosy Mission's **Salur Hospital in Andhra Pradesh (south-east India)** aiming to partner with them towards sustainability.

The connection with Muzaffapur Hospital has been significant and links with the surrounding villages strong. As a result, a new community project was developed to support these local communities impacted by leprosy to be more resilient through children's education, youth preparedness for work, health awareness and life skills.



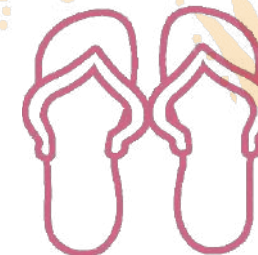
4,705

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



1,335

people received physiotherapy in New Zealand supported projects.



3,564

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



2,179

people were supplied with assistive devices (prosthetics, crutches and wheelchairs etc) in New Zealand supported projects.

"I give thanks to God. I would like to say thank you... Thank you so much for caring about me and my family," says Lalsari.

In Nepal, Lalsari and her 9 year old son Bishal have both faced the devastating consequences of leprosy.

Bishal was first diagnosed when Lalsari noticed patches on Bishal's hands. Having also contracted leprosy in the past, she knew the telltale signs. What she didn't know was how Bishal's leprosy would affect the whole family.

Shunned by members of their local community, Bishal's young body also reacted against the leprosy bacteria. Lalsari was forced to leave her husband and daughter and take Bishal urgently to the hospital.



Thanks to our incredible supporters, and the love and care from doctors and nurses at Anandaban, Bishal was put on a 24 month course of multi-drug therapy and is now **cured of leprosy**.

He also received medication to fight against leprosy reaction (an immune system response to leprosy bacteria) and he is now making good progress with his recovery. Bishal's family would never have been able to afford this special care and are very grateful.

Lalsari and her family now have hope for the future.



"I have not lost hope. As long as there is life, there is hope, I can do something to earn a living and take care of my children. I can be happy again," Lalsari says.

Through the Leprosy Mission **community outreach programme**, both Lalsari and her husband have found jobs at a nearby paper factory in Kathmandu. The paper factory also provides accommodation for its workers, giving Lalsari and her husband a place to call home. **The family is united thanks to you.**

Bishal is now back at school and he enjoys learning with his friends.

'Now I feel belonging. I have a place to stay and work,' Lalsari says gratefully.



Restore *Zero Discrimination*

In the projects you support, people affected by leprosy are restored back to their communities and empowered to challenge injustice and self-advocate for their rights and entitlements.

New Zealand supports livelihoods development in all its projects. This involves livelihoods training and opportunities for income generating activities, that people affected by leprosy need in order to lift themselves out of poverty and build a better future for themselves and their families.

38 countries still have legislation that discriminates against people affected by leprosy. Led by the empowerment of leprosy-affected people, Leprosy Mission New Zealand, as part of the Global Fellowship, advocates for the removal of discriminatory legislation.

Together with your support we will see leprosy-affected people enjoy full participation in public, social, economic and cultural life.

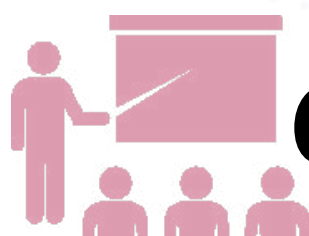
India

In 2019, The Leprosy Mission New Zealand and The Leprosy Mission Trust India started a new programme called **Children Unite for Action** to meet the educational needs of children and youth in communities affected by leprosy. Over the course of five years, the project will work with 1200 young boys and girls affected by leprosy & other disabilities and ensure these children have the necessary skills and knowledge to access quality education and attain desired careers.

Ethiopia

The Leprosy Mission New Zealand continues to provide **educational support grants** for children affected by leprosy in Ethiopia.

3,824 people in self-help groups in New Zealand supported projects.



6,068 people were trained in advocacy, leadership and rights in New Zealand supported projects.

Bangladesh

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

Self-help groups have been the key to the project's success. In the self-help group, members receive training, collectively develop savings and are then able to access loans to start up new businesses. The businesses people affected by leprosy have opened are wide-ranging including: tailoring, cow rearing, vegetable gardening, vermicomposting, grocery and clothing businesses.

As members' economic independence and confidence grow, so too does their ability to pursue their rights as equal members of society.



1,294

people were trained in income generating activities in New Zealand supported projects.

1,152



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

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.

2019 was the third year the Leprosy Mission New Zealand worked in partnership with The Leprosy Mission PNG. Communities received training on income generation, gender issues, health and managing micro-credit. 93 Community Facilitators raised awareness of leprosy in 50 communities and referred patients to health clinics.

Abu's life is transformed

Abu was only 13 years old when he contracted leprosy. Due to the terrible stigma surrounding the disease in his community, Abu was thrown out of his home. Without any support, Abu was forced to leave school and beg for food.

Left untreated, both of Abu's hands became clawed and his feet developed terrible ulcers. To add to the nightmare, villagers in his community threatened him with physical violence, leaving Abu fearing for his life.

"Go away," they said, "or we will throw you in the river."

Abu couldn't go to school, or even the local tea stall in his community. Abu was alone, in pain and unwanted.



Thankfully, Abu was put in touch with one of the local Leprosy Mission self-help groups that our supporters' donations help to fund. There, he was given a cure for his leprosy and the opportunity to catch up on some of the learning he had missed through not going to school.

Abu was taught to care for the ulcer on his foot, and shown physiotherapy for his hands. He felt love and a sense of belonging for the first time, and has now been accepted by his wider community who now have a better understanding of leprosy.



Abu was also given business development training and a loan to start up his own modest grocery shop. He is now a successful businessman and can earn enough money to provide for his family and support his children's education.



Abu is the President of his self-help group. Despite the pain he has gone through, Abu's heart is full of love and he advocates for and helps others who are affected by leprosy in his community.

"People affected by leprosy need help, not the rejection that I experienced as a child. Let's not leave them in that place," Abu says.

Global Fellowship

The Leprosy Mission was founded in 1874 and has played a major part internationally in working towards the elimination of leprosy.

Today, The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship is a global federation of 30 Leprosy Mission national organisations.

We work together towards our shared vision of *leprosy defeated, lives transformed*. The two halves of that vision are equally important. As a holistic charity we focus on the physical, social, spiritual and psychological needs of people affected by leprosy.

Together in 2019, the Global Fellowship has achieved many successes to take us closer to our vision.



Photo caption: Brent Morgan, TLM International Director and Amar Timalisina, Global Fellowship Board Member and personally affected by leprosy, made a powerful statement representing the voices of people affected by leprosy at the UN conference in 2019.

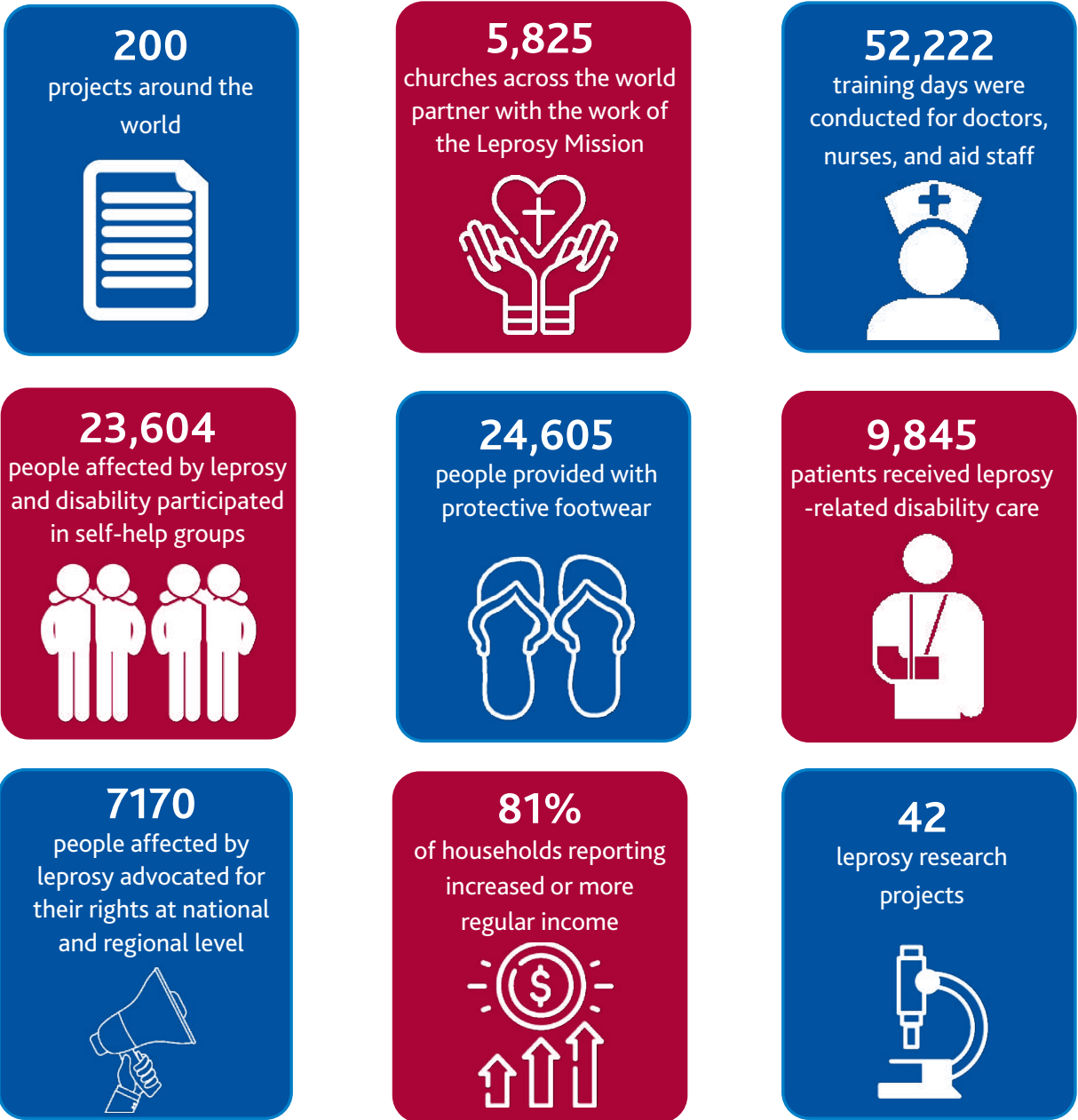
Global Advocacy

The Leprosy Mission is actively engaging with UN agencies, through different mechanisms, to uphold the dignity and human rights of persons affected by leprosy and persons with disabilities.

The Leprosy Mission global advocacy has focused its work on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and has been annually attending the Conference of the State Parties to the CRPD. At these meetings, The Leprosy Mission has the opportunity to raise awareness of the issues faced by people affected by leprosy and ensure that their rights are considered by the UN and the State Parties.

The Leprosy Mission has also ensured that people affected by leprosy have been able to speak on their own behalf at the United Nations. Amar Timalisina attended the CRPD Conference of the State Parties in 2018 and 2019 and in April 2019, U Soe Win from Myanmar also met with the CRPD Committee in Geneva.

It is only supporters like you in member countries across the world that enables the International Office and people affected by leprosy to advocate in these global forums to bring about change in this world. Thank you.



Statement of Service Performance

Leprosy Mission New Zealand

For the year ended 2018

Description of entities outcomes

Resource and support field programmes that cure, care for and restore people with leprosy

Description and quantifications of entity's outputs

Chittagong People-led Development Programme, Bangladesh

- Total of 3,824 members in 248 Self-Help Groups structured in 11 Federations under 1 community-based organisation (Disabled People's Association).
- 235 (79 Male, 156 Female) leaders of Federation and DAPA trained in advocacy and rights.
- 304 (173 Male, 131 Female) participants received technical advice, mentoring and support to identify and run income generating activities.
- 2129 (396 Male, 1733 Female) loans issued to members of Self-Help Groups. Total received was Tk46,831,800 with an average loan per member of Tk 21,997.

Bougainville Healthy Communities Programme, Bougainville

- BHCP is now operating in 12 Districts out of a total of 13 Districts in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. It is active in 850 out of 862 communities.
- 966 village and Ward support visits in 2019.
- 1,700 Village Health Volunteers trained in health development.
- 1,964 Village Leaders trained (1,080 Male, 884 Female) in Leadership and Community Development.
- 164 new confirmed leprosy cases in 2019.

Sustainable Livelihoods Development Programme, Papua New Guinea

- A total of 93 (48 Male, 45 Female) Community Facilitators trained and providing support to 50 communities on livelihoods and health.
- 50 leaders trained (30 Male, 20 Female) from 50 communities on Leadership and Community Development.
- 1,081 (556 Male, 525 Female) community members trained on Livelihoods Development & Business Mentoring.
- 449 people affected by leprosy in target communities on Multi-drug therapy.



Photo caption: 2019 Youth Advocates with Anandaban Hospital staff in Nepal.

Financial supporters

We would like to acknowledge all of our financial supporters including individual donors, bequestors who have left legacy gifts or memorium gifts, The New Zealand Aid Programme (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade), churches and businesses.

Board and Committee

The Leprosy Mission is governed by a highly skilled and committed volunteer Board. These are fixed term elected positions. In 2019, Anne Ratliff stepped down as Board Chair. We honour and thank Anne for her services and expertise in the past seven years as Board Chair and her ongoing commitment as the Vice Chair of The Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship Board. We are also very thankful for the commitment of our Committee members and our dedicated Board members who give their time and skills to support the Mission so willingly.

Prayer Partners

Prayer is fundamental to our work. We would like to thank our Prayer Partners for continuing to remember our work in their thoughts and prayers.

Field partners and Global Fellowship

We would like to thank our field partners who are on the frontline carrying out the mission, and to the Leprosy Mission Global Fellowship and International Office. Together we each play our part in supporting each other to see leprosy defeated and lives transformed.

Volunteers

Over the last 12 months our volunteers have given countless hours of their time, and we give thanks and praise for their enthusiasm. We appreciate their vital help in our office, their churches and communities.

Youth Advocates

Each year the Leprosy Mission Youth Advocates have an immersion experience in Nepal. In 2019, they raised over \$25,000 for a new bus for the Mission's Anandaban Hospital in Kathmandu.

Staff

Lastly, we want to acknowledge the Leprosy Mission staff team for their service and dedication in defeating leprosy and transforming lives.

A young woman with dark hair, wearing a pink top and a red necklace, is smiling and looking towards the camera. In the background, a person is lying in a hospital bed, partially covered by a green blanket. The setting appears to be a hospital room.

Thank you

for making this life-changing
work possible!



Cure One Today

**A world without
leprosy
tomorrow**