



ADOPSI

Supporting education in Indonesia ... one student at a time

A Newsletter Published by

Persekutuan Kasih Kristus Arizona (PKKA), Inc. (*Love of Christ Fellowship Arizona*)

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Enhancing PKKA Mission Through Helping Students in Poor and Remote Districts

By Dr. Peter Suwarno, PKKA's Co-Chair

Various surveys* confirmed that the inequality in education opportunity and participation in Indonesia is due to the significant gap between the rich and the poor as well as the disparity in geographical areas. The poor, especially those living in the rural and remote areas, are disadvantaged when it comes to educational access and prospect due to limited facilities, quality of teachers, as well as transportation.

This applies to some schools that PKKA currently supports, including those in South Sumatra and Papua. While many of these students attended low quality schools that would make it difficult for them to compete with urban schools attended by students from affluent families, participation in these schools is the only means for them to have the opportunity to work and help their families in the future.

In addition to tuitions, these students have to deal with issues of meals and transportation. Not surprisingly, students that do not have enough funding for their schools ended up dropping out of schools. It is the PKKA's mission to help them continue attending schools by reducing the burden of these students. By helping the students pay the tuitions, at least they have one less thing to worry about, so that they can focus more on their active participation in these schools.

PKKA is aiming at expanding this type of support to cover larger number of students in different rural Indonesia's schools. Increasing support for the tuition of these students also means giving more students from rural and remotes districts the opportunities for education as well as possible employment, which in turn will help to elevate them and their families out of poverty.

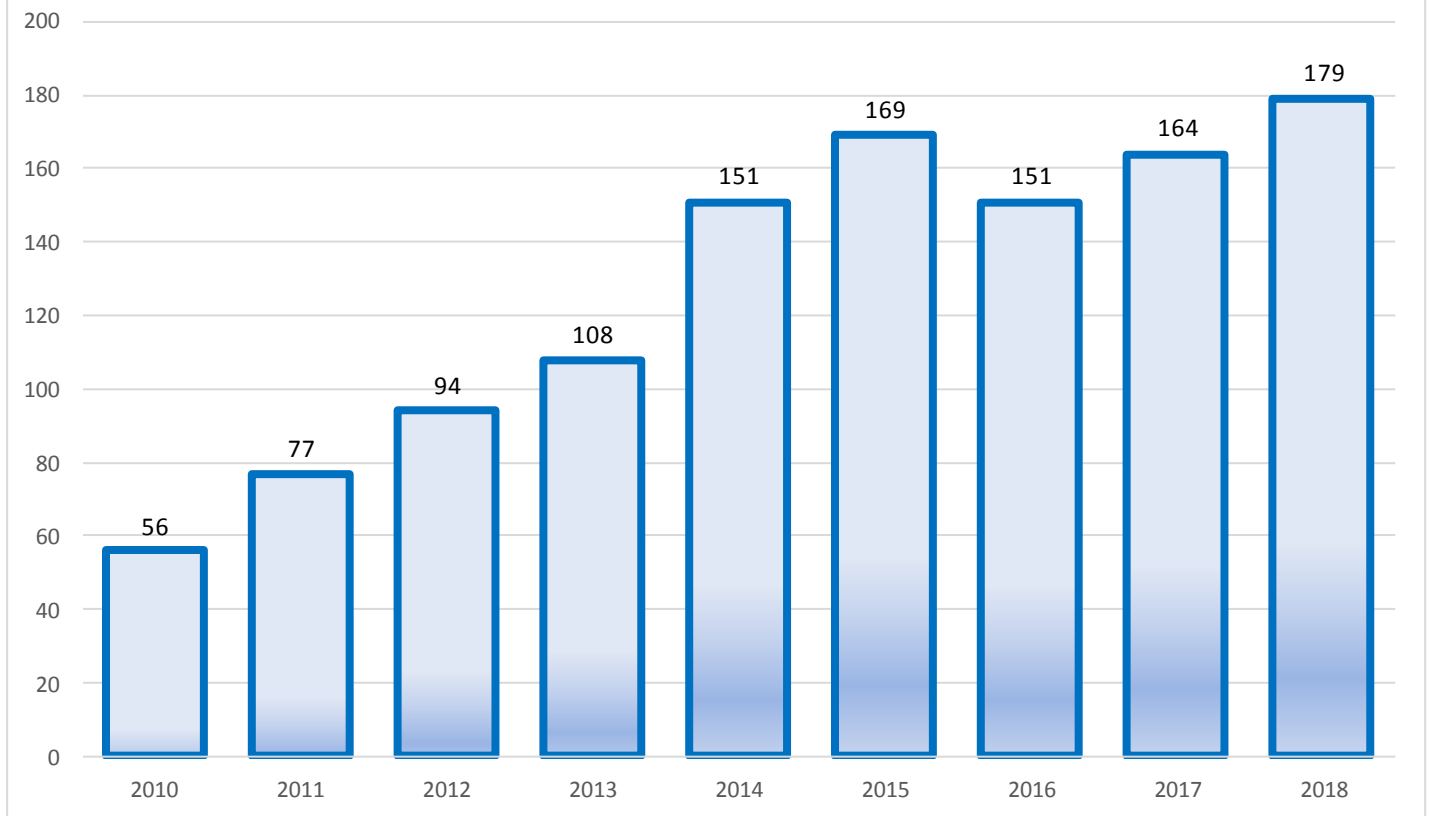
*See OXFAM report in:

<https://www.oxfam.org/en/research/towards-more-equal-indonesia>



Dr. Suwarno with some of PKKA Scholarship recipients from South Sumatra

Number of Scholarships Distributed



Scholarship \$ Distributed



The 11th Annual Benefit Concert

The 11th Annual Benefit Concert was conducted on Saturday, October 13, 2018 at the Resurrection Catholic Church in Tempe. The concert featured Indonesian performances of music, songs, dance, and angklung instruments. The following photographs depict the atmosphere of the event. The audience enjoyed the variety of the program and authentic Indonesian food, while obtaining more detailed information about PKKA and its mission. The next Annual Benefit Concert is scheduled for Saturday November 16, 2019. Mark your calendar and hope you can join us!



SPECIAL MESSAGES FROM A PKKA SUPPORTER AND A SCHOOL RECIPIENT

**By Lionel Diaz, President
Eloisa Diaz Education Foundation
June 28, 2018**

The Eloisa Diaz Educational Foundation has supported PKKA for several years, partly because of its philosophy which is very similar to ours: 1) continue to support students who are hard-working, year after year until they finish high school or in our case college, 2) include vocational education where appropriate along with preparation for college education and 3) focus on leadership development and support of students who are contributing to their community. We are impressed that almost 100% of our donations to PKKA go to scholarships and the annual tuition is low enough so that our award can support several students.

We have supported students in Arizona from communities where they are usually the first in their family to attend college. We also have supported students from refugee communities trying to help their youth continue their education. It is a pleasure to also assist this educational effort by the Arizona Indonesian community. With great respect for the late PKKA founder Andy Soesilo, we are happy to support and help keep his effort and dream project going.

**By Fr. Nana Justinus Sujana, Osc
Crosier of Sang Kristus Indonesia
June 2018**

I have been blessed and fortunate enough to get acquainted with PKKA. It started with a personal relationship with one of the founders, the late Dr. Andy Soesilo and his wife, Mrs. Lanny Soesilo. From them I began to understand the vision, mission, and what truly drives the organization to fulfill its goals. PKKA is a true embodiment of Christ's universal love - the love that knows no boundaries: geographical, racial, or beliefs/spiritual. The organization really lives up to this definition, as I see and experience myself, in their help sending the children of the local parish where I came from, to further their education. There are currently twenty children from PKBM Bina Cahya who have been attending school with the help of PKKA covering their annual tuitions.

PKBM Bina Cahya is a vocational school founded in 1972 in Cigugur village, Kuningan, West Java province of Indonesia. The school's mission is to provide education for a betterment of the people who live in the surrounding area. The village itself consists of mostly non-educated, lower-income blue collar workers. PKBM Bina Cahya was founded with a specific mission: to provide the kids of the community with specific skillsets that will enable them to land a job immediately, launching them into a better adulthood with higher earning capacity. One of the skills that were taught in school is construction, as it is currently in high demand, as the area surrounding the village has been growing towards globalization.

Most of the students have graduated primary schools from various public schools located within the district. However, these students come from poor families who struggles to put food on their tables, let alone pay for tuition to go to secondary school for continued education. Here is where PKKA came into the rescue. The scholarships gave them a ray of hope for better futures. PKKA's work resonates with how the Israelites were 'enabled' and 'brought/lead' to a better future at the Promised Land. The organization acts as the Moses and Joshuas, leading underprivileged children into a better future.

May God always bless our support, and the efforts by PKKA, to help and lead these children to a more dignified life, as He has planned for all mankind.

If you are interested in partnering with us for this good cause, please write your contribution check to "PKKA, Inc." and mail to:

*PKKA, Inc
1955 W. Baseline Rd, Suite 113-330
Mesa, AZ 85202*

Please include your mailing address, phone and email address