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Helping Today's Vanuatu Children for Tomorrow



## Progress Pikinini

Progress Pikinini is a charity that is determined to help the children of Vanuatu to have a brighter future. We do this by providing a holistic approach sourcing donations for education and home life. We not only distribute to the children, but also schools in need. This includes reading books, school furniture and funds towards special projects.



Vanuatu is a South Pacific Ocean nation made up of 82 islands that stretch 1,300 kilometres. With a fairly large population for the island's size, around 260,000, Vanuatu is home to thousands of children that need help. Less than 50% of Vanuatu children go on to high school.

Many primary schools lack the basics for education, and with recent natural disasters causing immense damage to community's infrastructure the children of Vanuatu need all the help we can provide. Help the children of Vanuatu reach for a brighter future with us today.

## About Tracey Farnsworth Director/Founder

In early 2015, I attended a parent/teacher night for two of my local Vanuatu children whom I'd become a sponsor for. I quickly realised that what I saw in this school mirrored the sad truth for schools across the island. They were overcrowded and Teachers had minimal resources. It really hit home for me when I saw a reading corner in a Grade 5 classroom without a book in sight. I asked where the books were kept – the answer was simply that there were none. The school couldn't afford them. With that, the charity Progress Pikinini began in February 2015.



Then Cyclone Pam wreaked devastation on Vanuatu. This left permanent damage and destroyed many children's belongings. Progress Pikinini's goal is to support Vanuatu schools' and children with the essential educational tools they need. Things like storybooks, educational texts books, stationery supplies, arts and crafts, educational toys, drink bottles, lunchboxes, school bags and computers.

But over time, donations have come to include other everyday items that locals simply cannot afford. We send Clothes, Shoes, bedlinen, Towels, First Aid, Toiletry Items and even Toys so that children can enjoy being children.

With bases in Melbourne and Vanuatu, Progress Pikinini facilitates shipping of donated goods from all around Australia to the islands of Vanuatu. We also accept monetary donations, 100% of which go to Progress Pikinini's cause of making life more liveable for the communities. We shipped our fourth 40-foot Container in February this year, 2019. The generosity of several Australians and Australian businesses resulted in donations that helped, as well as monetary donations that made even more possible. It is my hope that people's generosity continues to make things possible for Progress Pikinini and the Children of Vanuatu.

**Progress Pikinini started as a dream to fix a troubling issue affecting our future generation - the inability to afford a quality education in Vanuatu.. It's my mission to turn my dream into a sustainable reality...**

*Tracey Farnsworth*

