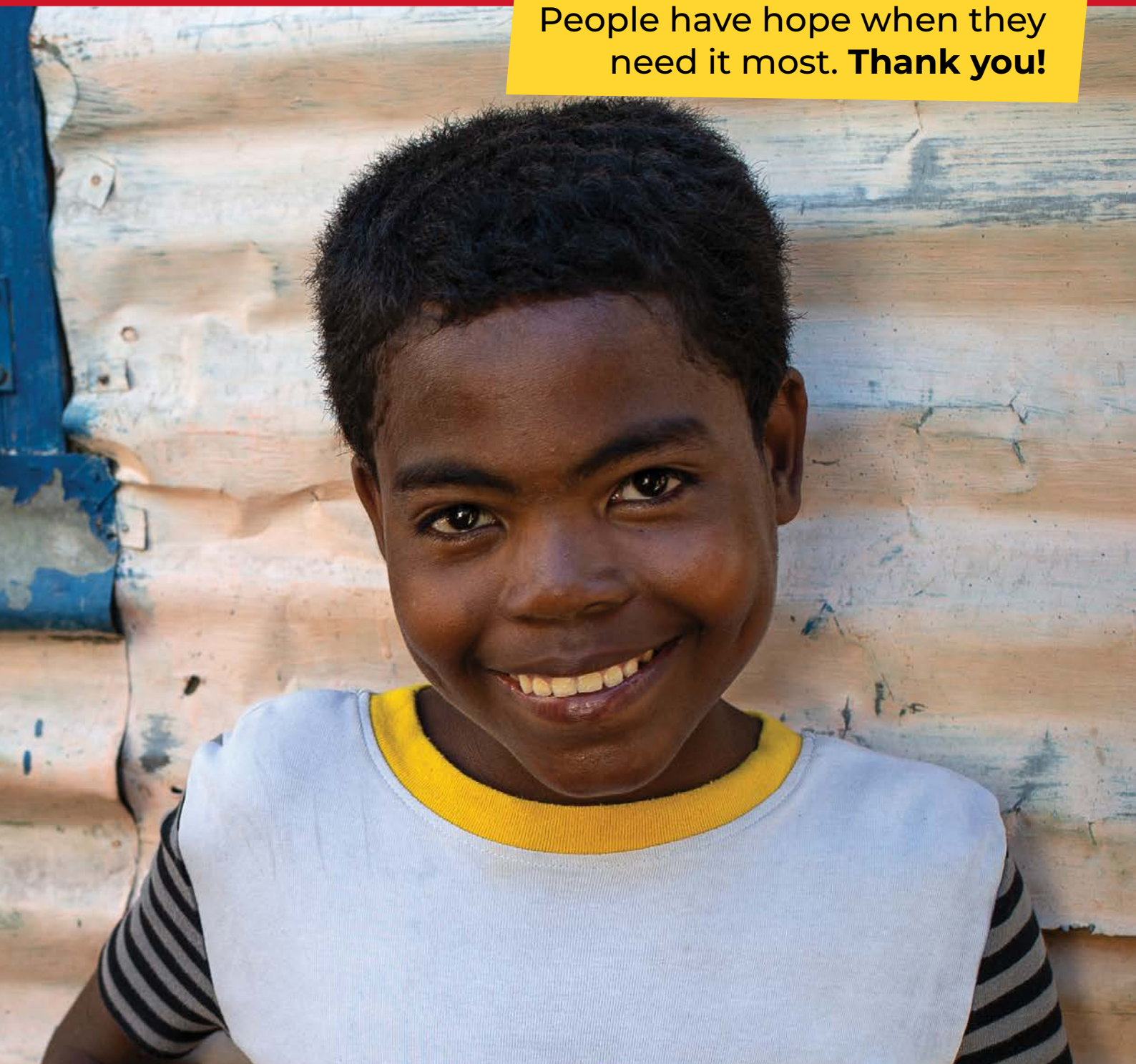


# BECAUSE OF YOU...

People have hope when they need it most. **Thank you!**



## INSIDE

- How you helped answer **two** life-changing prayers
- Jitesh has begun the **biggest** year of his life
- The life-changing difference **you've** made



# BECAUSE OF YOU...

**lives have been transformed**

In the past year more than **3.89 million people** have been helped, here's just an example...



**4,966**

assistive devices provided, including wheelchairs, mobility aids and glasses.



**779,855**

people supported with medical and rehabilitation services.



**1,148,780**

people screened for eye diseases to prevent blindness and low vision.

In addition, **654,622 people treated for diseases that cause blindness.**



**13,866**

health workers trained.



**4,453**

people supported with mental health services.

**2,465,808**

people protected from Neglected Tropical Diseases.

A historical moment in history, because of you, we are on the brink of completely eradicating River Blindness in areas where we work.

## THANK YOU

**for bringing much-needed transformation and hope to the world's most vulnerable situations.**



## THANK YOU SO MUCH.

To a truly kind-hearted person (you!),

It all starts with you.

Every person who sees with their own eyes after a lifetime of going needlessly blind. Every child walking confidently for the first time after recovering from surgery.

That's because of you.

If you've recently joined us, let me welcome you to this incredible movement of the heart. You are part of a family of people who share your deep compassion.

And if you've been with us for years, I can't thank you enough. You're answering a call to care for people with disabilities living in extreme poverty.

Our work only happens through generous people like you. What a wonderful way to love one another as God loves us.

You'll see in this report how you've changed lives — for children like Oscar and Umar, whose sight has been restored. And Jitesh, who will walk without pain for the first time in his life.

Thank you for your kind heart.

Jane Edge  
Chief Executive Officer  
CBM Australia

# BECAUSE OF YOU...

people around the world have hope.

## OUR WORK INTERNATIONALLY

**11 countries** where our international programs operated

**35 countries** working with our advisory services

### Bangladesh

People in disadvantaged communities, including children, have improved access to **specialised rehabilitation services and strengthened health systems**. \*

### Nepal

Community work is being conducted in remote villages, helping people to **access health services** including sight-saving procedures, physiotherapy, counselling, and mental health support. \*

### Laos

People with disabilities have been trained to advise government and UN bodies on how their programs can better address disability rights. ^

### Indonesia

**Livelihoods training** was provided for people with disabilities to find paid jobs or start small businesses was provided. \*

### Philippines

People with disabilities are more **included in government responses** when disasters like typhoons and cyclones hit. \*

### Papua New Guinea

People with disabilities, particularly women, have better access to **eye and ear health, rehabilitation services and assistive technology**. \*

### Fiji

Children with disabilities have better access to **physiotherapists, speech therapists and nutritionists** in their communities. \*

### Solomon Islands

Organisations of People with Disabilities are strengthened to better advise other organisations on how to include people with disabilities. ^

### Nigeria

Two sight-stealing tropical diseases, River Blindness and Trachoma, are on the brink of total eradication in areas where CBM operates due to **widespread and far-reaching distribution of medications** to remote communities. \*

### Kenya

Families at risk from drought and failed crops have received support to buy **food and essential supplies**. Farmer groups are being trained in **new climate resilient techniques**. \*

### Madagascar

**Life-saving aid of food and water** was provided to families that were at risk of acute starvation during the drought in the country's south. \*

Our work is only possible through kind-hearted people like you.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH.**

\*CBM acknowledges the support of the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

^CBM acknowledges work undertaken in collaboration with, and funded by, advisory partners.





## You answered a child's prayer...

### Oscar received cataract surgery because of you

13-year-old Oscar has been going blind since birth. Even though he is one of the brightest in his class, cataracts have robbed him of his childhood. And they threatened to destroy his adulthood too.

But YOU helped answer Oscar's prayer for God to save his sight. He received sight-saving cataract surgery because of you! Not only is Oscar now more involved at school, but he can also play football with his friends and help his mother with household chores.

*"Now I can see well and I can read what's written on the blackboard even if I'm not sitting on the front bench."* – Oscar

## ...and a mother's prayer.

### Umar's sight-saving treatment has begun because of you

6-year-old Umar was born with cataracts. It has broken his mother Johara's heart to watch her son go blind. And every day she feared for his safety. Her worst nightmare came true the day Umar was walking along the road and was hit by a motorcycle.

Johara prayed desperately for her son's sight to be restored. And we are so happy to share that Umar's sight-saving treatment has begun. God has worked through your kindness to answer a mother's prayer. Umar has successfully had cataract surgery in one eye, and scheduled to have the second surgery within the month... all because of you!

*"Umar is counting the days until he goes to hospital! When we arrived, he asked, 'What day is it?' When he heard, he exclaimed, 'Today is the day!'"* - Johara

## Thank you for giving TWICE THE SIGHT to people going needlessly blind from cataracts.

### BECAUSE OF YOU and our generous Hope Growers...

People could receive **twice the sight** through your **one gift**.

It was truly inspiring to see our family of generous supporters acting together as one to stop children like Oscar and Umar from going needlessly blind.

Our special group of Hope Growers faithfully contributed to the Tax-Time Matching Gift Fund – an incredible \$362,984 – to motivate others to donate. It meant your one gift could give **twice the sight and helped more than 21,999 to see!**

To our extraordinary Hope Growers, THANK YOU for your remarkable kindness which inspired others to give so generously... so even more children like Oscar and Umar can receive sight-saving surgery.

*"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."* 2 Corinthians 9:9





## You are helping Jitesh through the biggest year of his life



**You might remember Jitesh, an incredibly smart 16-year-old who's top of his class, loves science, and absolutely adores cricket. But instead of being able to enjoy playing the sport he loves or have any hope of reaching his full potential, Jitesh has lived in terrible pain. All because he was born with clubfoot — a condition that's completely avoidable!**

Time was running out for any chance of treating Jitesh's neglected clubfoot. But thanks to you, Jitesh has now successfully received his first few surgeries. He is well on the way to completing the 12 months of repeat surgeries and rehabilitation he desperately needs.

**The finish line is in sight for Jitesh. He will soon be able to walk because of you!**

Thanks to your kindness, Jitesh now has hope to achieve his dreams, like becoming an engineer! But it's also the simple things he has yearned for, like walking to school without needing the physical support of his brothers, or going to the toilet on his own for the first time in his life.

Jitesh is so excited for the whole world of opportunity that awaits him...

*"I'd be able to walk and I'll be very happy. I will help with any kind of chores in my home. I will study and will go on to become an engineer after I have recovered. I want to do good work being an engineer."*

## Thank you for bringing Water For Life

**Your generosity is transforming communities caught in one of the world's biggest crises.**

Nearly two billion people have no choice but to drink contaminated water, with 1,000 children under five dying daily as a result. When we shared this devastating reality, your response was overwhelming. Because of you, safe water now reaches the most vulnerable. You've provided accessible water points in remote villages, set up life-saving hand-washing stations in isolated schools, and funded safe water wells that will serve communities for generations. Thank you!



## Dilmaya received mental health support because of you

Since age three, severe epilepsy caused Dilmaya to have up to six seizures daily. At school, classmates would exclude her and teachers would punish her — all because her condition was so misunderstood. At 18, Dilmaya's mental health had deteriorated so badly that her life was in danger.

But you poured love, understanding and generosity into her life. Because of you, Dilmaya now receives proper epilepsy treatment, resulting in fewer, milder episodes. Your kindness provided her with mental health support through CBM's partners in Nepal. For the first time, she has someone to talk to who truly understands her struggles. Your compassion has given Dilmaya hope where there was once only isolation and fear.



## Because of you, Olubunmi has been set free

You may recall Olubunmi's story. When she gave birth to her first child more than 27 years ago, it left her with a tear in her birth canal - a fistula. The fistula leaked urine uncontrollably and the smell made her deeply ashamed. She was trapped in a desperate cycle of misery... **until your kindness set her free.**

Because of you, Olubunmi received corrective surgery for her fistula. She is now healed!

*"I am free. I can do anything I like now. I am very glad, very happy."* - Olubunmi

And there's more good news! Thanks to amazing supporters like you, our partner organisation was able to provide many more corrective surgeries for women with fistula. They've also been training medical staff throughout the region, educating communities, and teaching women and girls advocacy so that women like Olubunmi aren't forced to endure decades of misery and isolation.

**Only your kind heart**



# Join us for Miracles Day



Each year on Miracles Day, the CBM family joins forces to give the miracle gift of sight to as many people as possible!

Since Miracles Day began, generous Australians have given more than 400,000 gifts of sight!

If you agree that no one should live needlessly blind from cataracts, when a short \$33 surgery could restore their sight, then join us on Miracles Day.

Look out for more information in the mail soon!

***"I'm so passionate about CBM. They change people's lives!"***

– Lucy Holmes, Christian Radio Host and faithful CBM Ambassador.



## Victory for accessibility that YOU helped achieve

Years of persistent CBM advocacy alongside our partners and you, our donors, finally paid off on International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3.

Australia's government announced \$12 million for assistive devices and supports in the Pacific, plus an ambitious new International Disability Equity and Rights Strategy!

Days earlier, we listened in the Minister's office as the head of the Pacific Disability Forum shared her vision for Australian aid's life-changing impact for people needing devices to see, hear, move, and live in inclusive communities.

Your voice was in that room too, making this possible and proving we can bring change for people with disabilities in our region, together. Thank you!



## Banks are phasing out cheques... but there is no need to worry

For some, this may be a significant change, but we are here to help you with the transition of no longer being able to donate by cheque. Here are some other ways you can continue to change the lives of people in need through CBM:

### DIRECT DEPOSIT

**Bank:** National Australia Bank (NAB)

**Account Name:** CBM Australia

**BSB (Branch):** 083 363

**Account No:** 515 283 476

**Reference:** This is your unique supporter number (found on the back page of your receipt), and your surname/organisation name.

### ONLINE

[cbm.org.au/donate](https://cbm.org.au/donate)

OR Scan this QR Code



We understand not everyone has access to computers or feels confident donating in this way, which is why our team are here to help you navigate these changes. Don't hesitate to call our friendly team on 1800 678 069 for support.

## SAVE THE DATE

**You're invited! Come along to a special morning tea with CBM CEO Jane Edge. Enjoy an inspiring morning as Jane shares updates on how your support is changing lives.**

### Dates and Locations:

Perth – Thursday 18 September

Adelaide – Friday 19 September

Sydney – Wednesday 19 November

Melbourne – Friday 21 November

**Time: Arrive at 9.50am for a 10am start, morning tea included.**

**Look out for your invitation in the mail!**

**Need to update your details?** To ensure you don't miss out on upcoming events, check we have your correct details by calling our friendly team on **1800 678 069**.



**YES!** I offer my hand to help people with disabilities living in poverty.



Wherever there are people with disabilities living in poverty, I offer my hand to CBM to help them. I want to use the power in my hands today to help those who need it most.

**THANK YOU**  
for your life-changing gift.

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Thank you!

Gifts of \$2 or more to CBM Australia Overseas Development Fund are tax-deductible. Every dollar from every donation made to CBM Australia will go towards fulfilling our vision for an inclusive world for people with disabilities. Your gifts will be invested prudently in what you've given to or where it's needed most. CBMA is committed to protecting your personal information. To find out how we store, secure and use your information read our Privacy Policy at [cbm.org.au](https://cbm.org.au) or call us on 1800 678 069. If you would like to change the frequency you receive updates about CBM Australia's work please contact us at [cbm@cbm.org.au](mailto:cbm@cbm.org.au) or call us on 1800 678 069.