



December 2020

THANK YOU for your TRIBUTES TO NEVILLE, our FOUNDER and LEADER for more than 40 YEARS

"Neville was more than a friend to me, he was a co-labourer, he was a teacher, and he was a tireless advocate for the deaf around the world. His accomplishments on behalf of the deaf are too numerous to list, but there are many, many deaf folks around the world who owe much to this dear man." *From Michael Gantt, Kenya Development Fund, Vermont, USA*

"Neville truly was a pioneer in Deaf Ministries around the world. With God's help Neville saw a door that needed to be opened and he walked through those doors taking as many of us with him as possible. Now he has opened his last door and we know his goal would be for all of us to follow him when our time here is finished. Neville wanted Deaf people to walk through the door of heaven and he spent his life showing them the way." *From DeafChildHope, Papillion, USA*

"In 1999, The first DMI Conference was held in Davao City, that was the time Neville stayed for almost 1 month in Davao City, to conceptualize the 1st Deaf International conference, We were under WOI at that time yet, and the Lord seems to impress upon Neville to get out of WOI umbrella, and form what is now DMI. He even ask me, suggestion, as to the possible name, which come out to be DMI. To all the DMI workers, staff & family, Neville has left "The legacy" for the deaf in each of our shoulder, The legacy needs to be passed on to the next generation." *From Ps Joshua Asuela, Deaf Ministries Institute, Davao Philippines*

"Neville, like a True Servant of the Lord, you lived your Days on Earth Serving the Less fortunate and Vulnerable Deaf children and Adults across the globe. Even as you Dance with the Angels in Heaven, your Christ like Character, Charm, Wisdom, Selflessness and Generosity will be Missed by Many. You gave your Blessings when we named our First Born Son after you. For Some you might be gone, But to Us as A family you will Forever Stay in our Hearts and we will Forever Remain Indebted to you for Making Us who we are Today. RIP Sir. OUR Family Tribute."

From Weseley Agengo, Principal Immanuel Christian School for the Deaf in Kenya

"Neville Muir was the highest example of Christian Living I have ever met" *Alain Muhindo, Principal of Beni School for the Deaf, CONGODEvelopment Fund, Vermont, USA*



During the coronavirus lockdown in Melbourne we were very restricted in office hours and most work was done at home. If you did not receive the September Deaf Action Newsletter please contact us!

There will be a special Deaf Ministries International Tribute Newsletter that includes tributes to Neville Muir, our Founding Director. It will be posted on the webpage www.deafmin.org or please contact the office if you would to receive it

NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/

Tributes Continued...

"We from DMI Bicol Deaf Action/ Fishermen of Christ Inc Phils deeply mourning for his departure. We will never forget "Sir" Neville. We respect him and love him so dearly. No words can express how much we thank and appreciate him for all the things he has done for our Organization. He did his best to support the ministry here in the Philippines specially the deaf people. We treasure all the wonderful memories of his visit when he was alive. To the family of this good man, our prayers and deepest sympathy for your bereavement. You are so lucky for having a godly head of the family. And to us all DMI Family, let us all help one another and support each other."

From DMI Bicol Deaf Action/ Fishermen of Christ School Inc

"Many deaf people together with sponsors in Denmark and in the Faroe Islands know Neville Muir, for his great efforts with work among deaf children and young people in Asia and Africa. He has completed the work of the Lord, and receives great reward in Heaven. We know him and his wife from Holland in 1992, when we had a conference for the deaf, to our astonishment he interpreted 3 languages at once, ie. left hand to the Japanese deaf, and right hand to Korean deaf and spoke another language to the hearing. Incredible!"

Ps. Jan Tausen Zachariassen, Sponsorship Coordinator in Denmark

"The life of Neville Muir: We met the Muir family for the first time at International Deaf Christian Conference in Norway in 1980. Since we kept contact with them and helped them by praying and support financially. We praised God for Neville's life and would like to give the letter of "F" in his life. He Followed God's guidance, was Faithful Man, good Father to his children, wanted to Feed poor deaf world by support financially and food, was a good Friend to many friends in the world and finally his work (DMI) will never be Forgotten!"
Bob and Gabi McFarland, Sponsorship Coordinators and Speaker in the U.K.

"His legacy lives on. Praise God!"
Donna and Members of Logan City Deaf Church, Queensland, Australia.

"Thank you for the support and loving us. We love you always."
from Jiselle and deaf students at FCLC at Ligao, Philippines

"It has been a privilege knowing Neville Muir and that he was an inspiration to everyone around the world."
Jane B. Australia

MYANMAR



The family of Mrs Zung Hlawn Tial, the Principal of Muir School in Kalay has joyfully welcomed the arrival of a baby girl, named Ruth meaning "most precious love". The students will be very pleased to meet her when they return to school but parts of Kalay are in lock-down now and the school has been closed until the pandemic improves again

in Kalay.

The covid pandemic is worse in Yangon and has spread to many areas of the city. Food costs have increased making it hard for our deaf community there. Food gifts of rice and oil were distributed a

few months ago and 30 families have been helped again in October.

KENYA and UGANDA

The cost of food is still a big problem for our deaf people in Kenya and Uganda. Thank you Sponsors and Supporters for continuing to send sponsorship donations, and extra donations for food. The schools in Kenya and Uganda are not permitted to open yet so sponsorship payments are being used to provide food for the deaf families who cannot afford to buy it while food costs are so high. This is keeping the teachers busy too. Our leaders are buying food in bulk and packing it into food parcels then delivering it to families in their villages. Maize meal, rice, beans, cooking oil, cabbage, cassava, bananas, paw paws, and any other crops grown on the school farm are providing good nutrition for them.

THE D.R. CONGO – BENI School for the Deaf

This school opened again on October the 5th after their school holidays. THANK YOU Australia and Norway for donations to build the kitchen and purchase cooking and eating utensils. The kitchen is built; and the pots, plates and utensils have been purchased. So the students can now enjoy a hot healthy lunch cooked inside. You have made these children very happy.



New Farm Project: The next good idea from the Principal at Beni is to start a 'food garden' on the school land so that the students could learn how to grow their own food. It is also a wonderful opportunity to start vocational training in farming for the older teenagers, as well as learning the basic subjects! We are amazed how the vision of our hearing impaired School Principal is changing the future for these deaf students!

There is also a farm next to the school compound that is available to buy. It already has crops growing! The project has been fully costed at AUD23,000 to buy! The school is happy to start the school garden first; so if you would like to donate to the **Beni School Farm Project** please mark you donations "Beni Farm". We have already received a \$10,000 donation from Australia towards this! Thank you very much!

RWANDA and ZAMBIA - THANK YOU SPONSORS

Alphonsine UWIMANA in Rwanda is studying Year 3 in Business Management at the University of Tourism, Technology and Business Studies, in Kigale, Rwanda. Alphonsine also manages the accounts for our DMI office in Rwanda and shares a rented house with her sister who is also deaf.

Maliza and Hastings in Zambia have returned to school and are very happy to join their friends again after staying home for so long. They love school. Hastings gained the highest results in his Junior Secondary exam and has been promoted to Grade 10. Maliza really enjoys going to school where he receives special help and has friends.



BACOLOD DORMITORY - PHILIPPINES

The children returned to the Bacolod Dormitory in July and re-enrolled at the Special Education Center for the 20/21 school year. The teachers prepare and print work modules for the students, but the students are not attending the school. They complete their work modules in the dormitory and their work is corrected by the teachers at school. The children also enjoy games, computer learning and play time with their deaf friends at the dormitory. They must follow the coronavirus guidelines and wear masks if they go out.



F.C.L.C. - LIGAO - PHILIPPINES

Some areas of the Philippines have been devastated by 5 typhoons recently and they often hit the area of our school! The wind and heavy rain has destroyed and damaged buildings, roads and telecommunications. Some of our teachers' and students' homes were destroyed, flooded or damaged. The rain and floods have destroyed plantations and rice fields.



Most of the school buildings were not badly damaged this time, but the roof of the guard house at the school was blown off and dumped in a rice field! Damage to our school buildings is less now because after each typhoon the school buildings are rebuilt to a higher standard. But the trees, farm crops and plants are usually blown down or washed away!

The school was without electricity for weeks and this made it very difficult for the teachers to print the work modules for the students to complete at home. Some of the high school students and those who live a long way from the school are learning online.

Once again our graduating students have excelled and gained very high results in their final exams! Cyrene Aria, Jiselle Jash and John Carl will continue their study at Colleges of their choice. Mary Hazel also gained very high results. She has already been running her own business from home, but sadly her parents' home, including her established home business, was washed away by high tides due to the typhoon! Life is hard for our deaf families.

I send my best wishes for a **HAPPY CHRISTMAS** to you and your family.

THANK YOU very much for your ongoing Sponsorship and Support. I am sorry that we cannot send you a Christmas Card from your student this year due to the pandemic and travel restrictions. We are including a bookmark instead. I will try to organise new photos of students and make new Sponsorship cards next year.

warm regards,
Jenny Reid

If you have a question about your sponsored student please contact Jenny by email or text.



www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/

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Donations:

Please make cheques payable to:
Deaf Action

Details for EFT: BSB: 633-000
Account: 145834263

Credit Card facility available at office
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