



Deaf
Ministries
International



Deaf
Action

ANNUAL REVIEW 2023

www.deafmin.org | +61 3 5940 5431 | www.deafmin.org/deaf-action/



Who **we** are



Deaf Ministries International (DMI) is an International Christian ministry network taking the gospel, education and employment to the Deaf all around the world.



Deaf Action (DA) is the secular aid and development arm of Deaf Ministries International, working to break the cycle of poverty and discrimination faced by the Deaf around the world.

DMI and DA are both Non-Profit Organisations.

Vision statement

We seek to establish resources and facilities to bring the message of Christ and aid to Deaf people. Our goal is to improve the life conditions for the Deaf in all parts of the world. Through church life and different social, economic and educational initiatives, we support the Deaf in their effort to achieve good and dignified lives.



About us

In 1965 Neville Muir sponsored a Deaf Korean child through World Vision. Little did he know that the simple act of sponsoring a child would lead to a life spent spreading the Christian message to the Deaf, and improving the livelihoods of Deaf communities around the world.

In 1979, Neville and his wife Lill moved to South Korea to establish a small church for the Deaf in the basement of a Methodist church in the coastal city of Incheon. One of the four members of that first church was the boy Neville had begun sponsoring 14 years earlier. Over the next few years a further 13 Deaf churches were planted in South Korea, all of which are today served by Deaf pastors.

Since then, the mission has spread to 21 countries around the world where churches, schools, small factories, farm projects, dormitories and Christian centres have been established to bring aid and the message of Christ to the Deaf.

After coming under the umbrella of various other mission organisations since its inception, in 2000 Deaf Ministries International was established in Australia as an independent mission to the Deaf. In 2007 Deaf Action was also established to focus on DMI's aid and development projects.

Serving the Deaf for more than 40 years and establishing more than 180 churches is a history we praise God for, but we believe it is only the beginning. We'd love for you to join with us as we continue to bring aid and a message of hope to the Deaf around the world.





Staff



Andrew Miller - International Operations Coordinator

Andrew runs the day-to-day operations of DMI globally and heads the Australian office. Based in Sydney, he has been involved with DMI for many years as a supporter and volunteer worker. Andrew spent 20 years running his own business and pastoring an international church before joining DMI's leadership team.



Matthijs Terpstra - International Development Coordinator

Matthijs oversees all our development projects and ministries to the Deaf. He is a Norway-based Dutchman. Deaf, he has been serving with DMI for eight years, and also serves as our Norway office head. Matthijs is in every respect the very future of DMI and a role model for the many, many Deaf under DMI's care.



Susi Tjhai - Finance Coordinator

Susi has the formidable task of preparing all our budgets and sending the funding exactly where it needs to go. She ensures that we are compliant with Australian rules and regulations, and that the vision in our hearts becomes reality on the ground. She has been working with DMI for eight years.



Amy Jack - Communications Coordinator

Amy is responsible for producing our newsletters, managing our website and social media. She has been working with DMI for fourteen years. She brings superb design skills and infectious cheer to the office.



Kay van Namen - Sponsorship and Administration Coordinator

Kay keeps the office humming. Deaf, she oversees our student sponsorship program and the running of our Melbourne office. A mum of two and has been working with DMI for two years. Kay is key to communication with our supporters.

Senior Advisors



Gunnar Dehli - International Advisor

Gunnar, from Norway, brings a wealth of experience and wisdom to the role of International Advisor. He provides spiritual leadership and advises our senior management in the office and in the field. He is also a valued member of our International Board. Hearing with a Deaf son, he has worked amongst the deaf for over 40 years in various senior capacities and with DMI for over 10 years.



Steve McAllister - International Advisor

Steve is from Australia and has been serving with DMI for 5 years. The Chair of our International Board, his background is in Christian education. He worked as Principal of Chairo Christian School - Pakenham Campus, for 19 years and brings wise and compassion oversight to our organisation.

2023 Report



Throughout 2023, DMI has continued to achieve its mission goals, building on the wonderful work started by Neville Muir over 40 years ago, building church communities, schools and employment opportunities for the Deaf throughout the developing world.

The year began with distinction as Neville was posthumously recognised as a Member of the Order of Australia for “significant service to the Deaf community, and to international Christian ministry”. This was long overdue! It honours not only Neville but his family and DMI as an organisation as well.

On the back of this recognition, we were this year able to receive generous endorsements from former Prime Minister John Howard and Jesus Racing legend Andrew Fisher. Both graciously provided video support which feature on our social media and are played at presentations. These add further credibility to the vital work we are doing and raise the profile of DMI and Deaf Action in the public arena.

This was the first year since 2020 that we have been free of COVID restrictions. As such, it was a year of much travel. Between us, Matthijs and I visited Japan, UK, US, Philippines, the Middle East and several African countries to oversee operations, train staff and raise funds. These travels were fruitful and paved the way for a number of developments.

In September we held our 8th International Conference in Mombasa, Kenya. Our conferences are usually held every three years but because of the pandemic, this was our first in six years. With 81 attending, field workers, staff, volunteers, supporters and mission partners were able to gather together to build friendships, develop working relationships and strengthen ways to achieve our mission goals. The conference included teaching from keynote speaker In Yeong from Korea, presentations by field directors, workshops and more meetings than flies on a carcass.

DMI's primary goal is to take the Christian gospel to the Deaf all over the world. It has been wonderful to see dozens of Deaf baptised this year across all our fields. But our work is more than just dunking people. It also involves leading people to a mature faith in Christ. We held numerous Fatherheart schools across Africa to disciple believers in the faith and help them personally experience the love of the Father in their lives.

We saw other developments in our schools. Our newly integrated school in Kenya expanded its land and farming project to grow crops for its school lunch program. Our Kenya school continues to produce the highest achieving Deaf students in the country. In DR Congo, our Beni secondary school has begun and a new school in Minova is beginning to take shape and grow rapidly. We began to sponsor a class of DeafBlind students in Burundi. Our school in Myanmar has restarted amidst terrible civil unrest. And our Ligao school celebrated its 40th anniversary. That's 40 years of excellence in raising young Deaf children through Christian education! Our sponsorship program is the backbone of our schools and we are grateful to our student sponsors for their faithful provision.

Our grand vision to see three seminaries for the Deaf on three continents is taking shape. The International Board has determined that a new Bible School for Africa will be built in Rwanda, hopefully by the end of 2025, while existing schools in Uganda and Tanzania will continue to train local leaders. Plans for seminaries for Asia and Europe/ the Middle East are on the horizon.

While regular means of sharing the gospel with the Deaf remain central, some new avenues opened up over the last year. Thanks to the generosity of one church, 10 Galaxy tablets and 5 portable projectors were distributed across some of our African fields, enabling the gospel to be shared visually in the most remote regions. 200 sets of Manga Bibles donated from New Life Ministries in Japan were also given for distribution across our fields. Our happy association with Wycliffe has seen the SUN program developed in a number of our fields further opening the gospel to the pre and semi-literate Deaf.

Donations of motorbikes for our evangelists made a huge difference in their ability to minister in more than one location in a day and reach the Deaf in remote areas that had never been accessed before with the gospel.

Employment projects made possible through grants from DMI and the MREDF fund have seen several community projects and dozens of individual businesses start and grow. These are in addition to the dozens of projects already running in schools and amongst church members. The largest of these new projects was the clothing workshop built in Egypt in November. This employs 25 Deaf and, it is projected, will produce a wide range of items from linen to underwear to dresses, bringing an income to an economically desperate people and producing goods that are much needed in the Deaf and broader communities.

The year had its share of challenges. Malawi was destroyed by tropical cyclone Freddie, the strongest typhoon ever recorded; DR Congo and Myanmar were devastated by civil unrest, and Uganda suffered a food crisis. Some fields required pruning to maintain the integrity and viability of the organisation. We were sorry to see our school in Davao close and our leadership in Syria step down. Because of global tensions, inflation and poor exchange rates hit us hard (including our supporting countries), adversely affecting all fields.

Despite these hardships, and that overall giving was down this year, we are thankful that once again 100% of our budgets were sent to the fields each month. This is due to Divine oversight and the kind and sacrificial giving of our supporters to whom we are ever grateful. Special fundraising events raised around AUD15,000 and two wills left to us have enabled developments with our school and church facilities.

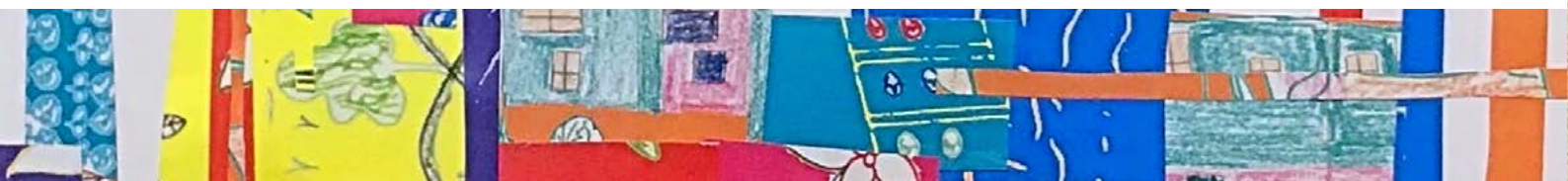
We are also grateful to our tireless volunteers, local representatives and board members. We retain a true joy in serving in a ministry that enables God's Kingdom to come to the earth. There is a thrill in seeing blessing unfold before your eyes and partnering with others in that wonder.

We are excited for the coming year and look forward to seeing the new Bible school in Rwanda take shape, the construction of our first church building in Kenya and the development of a second school and dormitory for the Deaf in DR Congo. With your help and generous donations, we hope to see these come to fruition.



Andrew Miller International Operations Coordinator

The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down. The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. (Psalm 145:14-16)



Our fields

Recipient Countries	% of Support	Supporting Countries	2022% of Support
Burundi	6.7	Australia	58.8
China	2.2	Denmark	0.5
D.R.Congo	10.1	Germany	3.1
Egypt	2.6	Japan	7.7
Middle East	0.3	Norway	8.5
Kenya (Church)	5.7	South Korea	1.0
Kenya (School)	10.3	U.K	3.1
Malawi	2.6	U.S.A.	17.0
Myanmar	3.7	Holland	0.2
Philippines (Church)	3.3		
Philippines (School)	16.3		
Rwanda	5.8		
Tanzania	5.4		
Uganda	23.0		
Zambia	2.6		

Our supporting country representatives

JAPAN



Kami Alexander

UK



Alison Hayes

USA



Min & Esther Yoo

SOUTH KOREA



In Yeong

GERMANY



Adelindis Braun

SINGAPORE



Ami Fujioka



Our goals

Goals for increasing our Gospel / Ministry network:

- Establishing strong local church communities
- Establishing Deaf Bible schools on three continents: Europe, Africa and Asia.
- Holding regular DMI International Conferences
- Providing discipleship training through Fatherheart seminars
- Organising local/continent leader (annual) gatherings

Goals for improving our Education:

- Ensuring good quality education to qualify for government financial support.
- Establishing Bible schools in three continents: Europe, Africa and Asia.
- Providing education to 1,000 deaf children (between ages 3 and 18) (currently around 600 children)
- Seeing 20 Deaf people attending tertiary/university (theology) institutions
- Providing education for 250 Deaf vocational students

Goals for improving our Employment:

- Self-Sustainability Fund (SSF) providing community business initiatives to generate at least 10% of local revenues annually to cover local DA/DMI administrative costs, e.g., teachers, evangelists, office costs etc. DMI can then decrease its partner's budget by 10% annually, simultaneously creating job opportunities from SSF.
- MREDF group loans reaching at least 80 people every year in at least four countries (4 group loans with 5 persons per country) aiding 400 people in five years.
- Having at least 40% female workers by 2026.
- Every DMI school owning at least one agricultural field with three kinds of crops.
- Deaf eco-system business keeping the money within the network's initiatives

Our churches

The Deaf are one of the last groups in the developing world to be reached with the gospel. Over the last 40 years, DMI have planted 180 Deaf churches serving 6,000 people every week, and have developed numerous Bible training centres and commissioned dozens of local evangelists to take the message of God's love to their own people in their own sign language.

The result is transformed lives.

Those who were left without hope have been given real hope. Those who were once neglected as worthless are now loved and able to love others. Those who thought they had no future have found full life.



When I was 13 years old, I woke up one morning, and was suddenly deaf. This destroyed my whole world. But the church took me in. Today, my greatest passion is to be a role model for young Deaf Rwandan girls. I want to be able to give them skills, hope and a trust in the God who made them.

Masengesho, (Rwanda)

"I was the first child that Neville ever sponsored. He never stopped caring for me. Today, I'm so happy to pastor the church on Gangwha island just south of the border to North Korea."

- Doo Hyong, (Korea)



"I love going to the school here in Llgao but it's the church services that really inspire me. I can't wait to go and hear Ps Arnel's sermons. The church gives me life."

- Maria, (Philippines)





Our pastors

DMI has dozens of trained Deaf pastors working with a multitude of Deaf evangelists, serving in countries all around the world. Many pastors lead multiple churches. Some of those churches have hundreds of congregants, others are remote, reaching out to just one or two. All are precious. All are worth reaching. Here are just a few of our pastors.



Doo Hyong Lee – was the start of it all, the first child that DMI ever reached. He was so touched by the love and kindness of Neville, that he was drawn to the gospel and is today the pastor of a thriving Deaf church on Gangwha Island, South Korea.
“When I was 17 I audibly heard the voice of God. That’s extraordinary given that I’m Deaf! And God brought me into a faith that has led me to ministry.”



Mary Goreth - is an elder of the Deaf Church in Rwanda and is a pioneer in the Deaf Church in Rwanda. In no small part to Marie Goreth the Deaf Church has grown and expanded in Rwanda.
“Establishing the Deaf Church in Rwanda was a challenging journey. I visited the Deaf at their homes and in bars, shared the Good News with them. Later they agreed to join the church, now it has grown. I am grateful to God for His presence and thankful for the continuous foundational support provided by DMI since the inception of Deaf ministries in Rwanda.”



Papy Kwabo - became deaf at 6 months of age and was rejected by his father. Yet he has persevered to become highly educated, our Director in DR Congo and a pastor of our churches there.
“The Lord has always enabled me to do well. I was rejected by my father as worthless but it was God who made me worthy. He has a plan for me and the Deaf of Congo, and DMI is helping me to execute that plan.”



Alphonsine Uwimana – lost her parents and two brothers in the Rwandan genocide and this affected her horribly. Yet she found hope in the Lord and today pastors in one of our 9 churches in Rwanda.
“DMI was my parent, providing for me, educating me and guiding me. DMI also helped me through the healing process. Because of this, I can now minister to others and share with them the love of God in Jesus,”



Naing Naing Kyaw – is the first Deaf person to ever study theology in Myanmar. Long since graduated, he now has the challenging role of pastoring a large church in Yangon, Myanmar, in the middle of a pandemic and unrelenting civil unrest. Yet pastor he does, faithfully, graciously, fearlessly.
“There are so many people who don’t know God. My vision is to reach out to as many people as possible, especially Deaf people, and share with them the love of God in Christ.”



Community projects

- providing self-sustainability



Kitchen Gardens, - DR Congo, Kenya

Our school kitchen gardens serve four purposes: meet an immediate food need, educate students in horticulture, provide employment for our school graduates, and bring an income into the community. They also - importantly - bring a measure of self-sustainability into the school communities. Our project in DR Congo became fully self-sustainable (meeting the above objectives) within 18 months of its inception. Our project in Kenya has begun and saves over \$20,000 a year in food costs to the school.

Sewing Workshop, Burundi & Kenya

In Burundi, we have a dozen sewing workshops which train Deaf women (and men) in tailoring and help provide an income for them. In the world's poorest country, this is a godsend. It also promotes generosity. Each year, these ladies give hundreds of dollars back to the Deaf community from their profits. In Kenya, our sewing workshop was set up to give work to Deaf women with HIV providing not only an income but a place of refuge where they can feel loved and accepted despite their disability and disease.



Farm, Rice Mill and Shop, Ligao, Philippines

At our school and dormitory in Ligao, Philippines, we operate a farm and rice plantation. The farm grows tropical crops such as coconuts, pineapples, and avocados; and raises cows, pigs and chickens. This farm provides work for the Deaf (often graduates of the school), income for the school and food for the dormitory. The school also owns and operates a rice mill, providing a vital service to local farmers. At the front of the school there is a small shop, selling farm produce and other groceries to the local area.

Soap Project - Uganda

The new soap project at our vocational school in Uganda is the first of numerous IGAs planned for the school which has 300 students. In the coming year, it's hoped that beekeeping, knitting and a bakery will see further development of the school and the students' skills.

Soap and Batik Project - Tanzania

Our latest project involves manufacturing soap and batik material for sale in markets. Still in the early stages, we hope to see this bring a measure of self-sustainability in the coming year.

Farm Project, Malawi

Sadly, our farm project in Malawi was completely destroyed in tropical cyclone Freddie in January, 2023.



Community projects stem from **grants to communities**. They are not loans to be repaid. All proceeds are paid forward into the community.



Micro-loan projects

- providing self-sustainability

Access to financial opportunities is crucial for businesses everywhere worldwide.

Deaf individuals in Africa often face barriers in accessing financial resources and opportunities to start their own businesses. Traditional financial institutions may not trust or believe in them due to their disability, leading to limited access to funding to start or expand a business. Deaf people may also lack opportunities to develop their business skills due to limitations in their education or commercial network.



One solution provided by DMI to this challenge is the Menno and Ruth Ediger Development Fund (MREDF), which provides personal loans to groups of 3-5 people who want to start or grow a business. The group approach helps overcome limitations, promotes learning from each other, and provides support among the group in their own language - Sign Language. The borrowers also help each other by using their networks to get more clients for each other's businesses. This way, everyone's business can grow and succeed together, and the group can achieve their goal of successful loan repayment.

Recent Developments

In Rwanda, Deaf Action distributed loans to five groups of three individuals. Participants attended a training program and afterward received loan approvals to begin their own businesses such as running small bag shops, opening canteens, and farming on rented land. Before receiving the loan, most of the borrowers were unemployed.

In Tanzania, four groups were formed with 20 participants, including 11 ambitious and determined women. Some of the borrowers used the loans to purchase products in bulk and resell them individually to start their own small businesses, as well as to plant crops on land they already owned. This initiative is helping to improve their livelihoods and boost the local economy.

Similarly, in Uganda, six groups were established with 18 participants, including 7 females. One group is working together on a carpentry business, while others are running individual businesses such as farming.

Exciting developments are also taking place in Burundi and Congo, as both countries have recently received USD 10,000 in funding to start group loans consisting of 3 to 5 persons. This funding will bring a new wave of entrepreneurship to the country.

Micro-loans are **loans to individuals**. They are to be paid back and all profits go to the individual and their family.



Our schools

Immanuel School for the Deaf, Kenya (K - 8)

Formerly the Immanuel School for the Deaf, IICS is a pioneering school, in 2022 integrating Deaf and hearing students on the same campus. The Deaf students at this school regularly achieve the highest results out of any Deaf school in Kenya. Many of the students go on to study at high school level, or go into vocational training. In 2022, the school expanded to include secondary education, a milestone for the school and for the students attending. The dormitory allows students from remote areas to live at the school during term time. We currently have around 130 students enrolled.

Muir School for the Deaf, Myanmar (K - 6)

Situated in northern Myanmar towards the Indian border, the school educates approximately 30 students. The students come from villages and farming communities in the surrounding areas. Most stay in the dormitory at the school, together with some high schoolers who have graduated from the school. Recent civil unrest has interrupted studies and brought danger to the doorstep of the school, yet our teachers continue to bravely teach and our students continue to cherish their education.

Beni School for the Deaf, D. R. Congo (K - 6)

Our Beni school has approximately 60 students enrolled. Many are teenagers who have never been to school before. Around a quarter of our students have lost one or both parents through war or diseases such as Ebola. In 2022, we were able to build a secondary school on the campus. This is a huge step, enabling the students to go on to higher education and preparing them for meaningful employment.

Minova School for the Deaf, D. R. Congo (K - 6)

Our newest school, it was started by Temo Mwindu with nothing but a piece of land given as a grant from the government. Today it has 64 students, 30 of whom stay at the school in the sparsest of conditions. The school rents a small farm which grows potatoes, beans and maize and these, more than anything else, sustain the population of the school. We hope to invest more in the school in the coming year.

Bacolod Dormitory, Philippines (K - 12)

In Bacolod we run a dormitory to provide accommodation for students from surrounding villages who are too far from a school for the Deaf. The younger students attend the Special Education Centre and the older students attend the Bacolod City National High School. Still recovering from COVID-related restrictions, the Bacolod Dormitory is currently operating as a scaled-down boarding house.

Bicol Deaf Action, Ligao, Philippines (K - 12)

Our school and dormitory in Ligao (formerly known as 'Fishermen of Christ Learning Centre') caters for around 80 students. This school also has rice fields and a farm with pigs, chickens and plantations of coconut trees, avocados and other vegetable crops. It also has a rice mill. Deaf farm workers live at the school and manage the farm. This supports the school and provides food for students in the dormitory. They also offer small business training for students who have graduated from the high school, and offer business start-up loans which the students pay off as their businesses become viable.

Our schools

Neville Muir Comprehensive School for the Disabled, Uganda (7-12+)

Located in Lira, central Uganda, this vocational school teaches carpentry, tailoring, hair dressing, building construction, cooking and farming. They also run classes in computer work, Bible teaching and other subjects. The school educates 300 disabled, deaf, blind, orphaned or very poor young people with an education in life skills to become self supported in their adult lives. Dennis Dagkene, the Director of the school, is Deaf, physically disabled, and was an orphaned street boy.

Immanuel Church of the Deaf Bible School, Uganda

This is the first of three planned Bible schools to train the Deaf to take the gospel to the Deaf. Situated in the capital Kampala, our Bible school trains students from all over Africa and currently has 12 students enrolled. Many of our graduates go on to evangelical and pastoral work. Future Bible schools are planned for Europe to serve the Middle East and the Philippines to serve Asia. In this, we will have three seminaries for the Deaf on three continents to see the gospel taken to the Deaf all over the world.

Educational programs for the Deaf, Upper Egypt

In Upper Egypt, we have begun an educational program, the beginnings of our own school there for the Deaf. This school teaches Deaf children and illiterate Deaf adults, providing a basic education and life skills.

We also support Deaf students in Uganda, Zambia and Rwanda who attend non-DMI schools and colleges.





Child sponsorship

Our child sponsorship program supports hundreds of deaf students in seven countries across Africa and Asia. The sponsorship program enables these deaf children to access education.

For many of the children, this is about much more than providing the chance to learn to read and write. Many of our sponsored children come from incredibly poor backgrounds and remote areas. Until DMI made contact with them, many of them were trapped in a silent, frustrating world, never having learned sign language. Some of them don't even know their name when they come to us.

Our sponsorship program enables these children to come to school (sometimes staying in one of our dorms), to learn to communicate, and to become a full member of the community for the first time in their lives.



Joriz

"I am in Grade 6. Soon I will complete my elementary level. I am so excited about it! I love playing basketball with my friends in school after class in the afternoon. This is our bonding moment. I live at the dormitory because our home is far from school. In this way, I learn to become independent and take good care of myself."

- Joriz Timothy, (Philippines)

"I am in Grade 4. My best friend is Tessy. There are many teachers and pupils at my school. The school has a school bus and beautiful classes. We have a playground where we can play games after school. I like to join university and become a nurse when I grow up."

-Iddah Auma, (Kenya)



Iddah

Meet Sylvia

- a testimony

Sylvia squeals with delight and leaps toward the camera. I've never seen anyone so excited to be interviewed. She looks so happy to see me, but maybe she's just glad to be pulled off her work shift. I choose to believe the former but whichever it is, she is absolutely giddy with glee. While the interpreter is getting ready, Sylvia takes off, with me in hand, and gives me a tour of the facilities there at the DMI church in Makerere, Kampala. Each room, every plaque on a wall (usually dedicated to Neville) brings a fresh squeal and more infectious laughter. This is a firecracker with a whole lot of joy in her heart.

We begin the interview and I ask her to tell me about Kampala. This question draws more cackles and squeals and excitable signing. "Kampala is a good place and very peaceful," she tells me with a big smile. She lunges toward the camera, still giggling. "Did you catch that? Kampala is a very good and peaceful place!" "Yes," I assure her. "I caught that and I'm glad it's such a nice place. I look forward to visiting as soon as I can." This suggestion is almost too much for her. She claps her hands and breaks into such raucous laughter she almost falls from her seat. "Kampala has good security," she continues, beaming, and we thank God for Uganda."

"Tell me about your childhood," I ask her. At this, her whole countenance changes. Her face drops and she slumps in her seat. The peals of joy are replaced with the groans of one in agony. She was an orphan, she tells me. Her mother died when she was a baby and her father died when she was five. She was moved to her grandmother's house and that's when the real trauma began. She was an alcoholic. "Every night was suffering and misery for me," Sylvia tells me, on the verge of tears. Her face has completely changed. The glow has gone, a stony darkness has come.

She found she had some relatives in Kampala, 270kms from her grandmother's home, so she left to stay with them. They took her in and gave her a bed and some food but nothing more. "They had no love for me either," Sylvia laments. "They just gave me some food and then told me I had to pay for it. But I was just a child, and a Deaf one at that! How could I pay? I had no-one in the world who cared for me, no-one who loved me. I felt so completely isolated."

One day, when Sylvia was 9 years old, she met another Deaf girl who asked her if she'd ever been to school. Without being able to pay fees, that was never an option. But this girl told her that the Deaf school in Kampala, run by DMI, might be willing to support her, and when she met Rev. Bulime, the pastor at DMI's Immanuel Church of the Deaf, he arranged for Sylvia to go to school for the first time.

What was that like?

The Sylvia I had first met - all effervescence with big smiles and a bigger laugh - returned. "I was so happy. For the first time in my life, I felt accepted, excited. I felt loved!" She begins to squeal again and I can see why. Before attending the school, Sylvia's life had been characterised by frustration, loneliness and fear. After starting at the school her life became one of relief, friendship and an uncommon zeal for life. These are the darkness-and-light, before-and-after stories which are so typical of the DMI student experience. This is what we, as supporters, long to see. This is the wonderful bang that we get for our buck: radically changed lives.

Sylvia's life would change again in 2006. At the age of 13, through the work of the Immanuel Church of the Deaf and under the guidance of Rev. Bulime, Sylvia gave her life to Jesus and was baptised. This began a transformation in the way that Sylvia saw herself, her deafness, and the world around her. "I know who I am now," she explains. "God made me just the way I am, He has His reasons for this and I'm so thankful for that." Indeed, it is Sylvia's deafness that has allowed her to gain an education, something her hearing sister could never be afforded.

Sylvia's life has become one of selfless abandon. This is in no small way because, through prayer and guidance, she has learned to forgive those who hurt her. The focus of her life now, she declares, is to help others. She serves in church. She works on staff. She leads the praise and worship. I can see how gifted she would be in this, leading the congregation with her unrestrainable joy, her gorgeous gestures and her trademark squeals.



Our Resources

100% of our funds come from private donors

General funds

Singular or recurring donations for general use. Can be used for any area of ministry or in any aid and development program.

Student sponsorships

Recurring donations for education. Providing children, youth and adults Deaf education and vocational training.

Designated donations

Recurring donations for specific people or projects. Donors can support specific evangelists, employees or aid and development programs etc.

Singular or recurring donations for special campaigns. Donors can support campaigns for food or disaster relief etc

Self-Sustainability Fund (SSF)

For-profit community projects aimed to increase local revenue to encourage self-sustainability. Do not require repayment. For Deaf schools, congregations or communities on a meso-level.

MREDF Loan fund

Small business loans to start individual/group businesses with joint responsibilities and peer-to-peer support. For evangelists, church members and other volunteers on a micro-level.

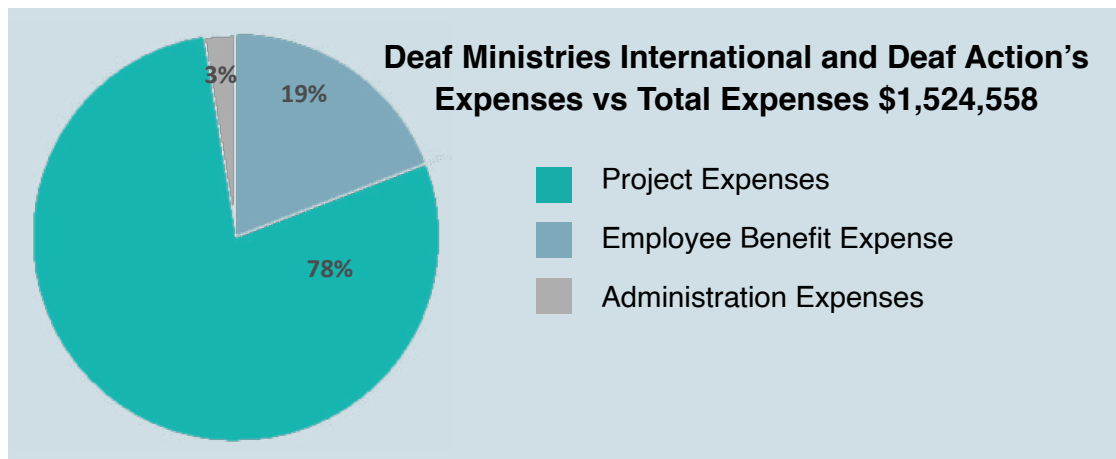




Financial report

Deaf Ministries International Ltd and Deaf Action Ltd Consolidated
 Statement of Income and Expenditure and other comprehensive income for the year ended
 31 December, 2022

	2023 \$	2022 \$	Change \$	Change %	Movement
Revenue	1,267,789	1,430,354	(162,565)	-11%	↓
Employee benefit expense	(217,134)	(217,827)	(693)	-0.3%	↓
Donations towards project expenses	(859,193)	(1,235,318)	(376,125)	-30%	↓
Conference Expenses	(28,323)	-	(28,323)	100%	↑
Administration Expenses	(77,965)	(100,196)	(22,231)	-22%	↓
Depreciation	(703)	(534)	(169)	32%	↓
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	84,471	(123,521)	(71,022)		
Other Comprehensive Income for the year	-	-			
Total Comprehensive Income for the year	84,471	(123,521)			





Partnerships

DMI and DA are headed by an international board, yet are increasingly handing over and encouraging autonomy in the field through the establishment of boards in each country or region. Our goal is to transition away from a traditional top-down organisation to a network of independent but coordinated bodies. Several of our local units are led by committees which have not yet been formalised as boards.

International Board

Steve McAllister (Chairperson) - Australia. Steve (hearing) serves DMI as Chairperson of the IB and as a member of the Australian Board. DMI is blessed to have Steve's faith, wisdom and experience at the helm of its most senior team.

Andrew Miller - (Secretary) – Australia. Andrew (hearing) heads our Australian office and is our International Operations Coordinator.

David van Namen – Australia. David (Deaf) has worked with DMI for decades. He is currently Chair of the Australian Board.

Gunnar Dehli – Norway. Gunnar (hearing) has been a much loved and leading figure with DMI for many years and serves as our International Advisor.

Heidi Woll - Norway. Heidi (hearing) has been associated with DMI since 1980 and was one of the founders of DMI Norway. She has been the Chair of the Norway board since 2002.

Matthijs Terpstra – Norway. Matthijs (Deaf) is our International Development Coordinator and is the head of DMI Norway. The youngest member of the IB, Matthijs is the future of DMI.

Josephat Mulongo - Kenya. Josephat (Deaf) has been pastoring the Deaf Church in Nairobi for many years. He is the National Director of DMI Kenya and is a leading figure in the leadership of DMI Africa.

In Yeong Heo – South Korea. In Yeong (Deaf) pastored the Chuncheon Church Of The Deaf for many years before moving on to focus on DMI's international work. He oversees financial requests from the fields of DMI.

Pablo Sbertoli - Norway. Pablo (hearing) is a Norway-based Spaniard, is on the Norway Board and has been working with DMI since 1999.

Each member of the International Board, as with our regional boards, is a passionate and mature believer in Christ, and desires to see the mission of DMI achieved, the legacy of Neville continued, and the glory of God known.

DMI's head office is shared between the Melbourne and Oslo offices, overseen by the following boards:

Australian Board

David van Namen (Chair) (D)
Mac Adam (D)
Lorraine Adam (D)
Young-Joo Byun (D)
Steve McAllister (H)
Andrew Miller (H)
Grace Broadbent (H)
Peter Miller (H)

Norway Board

Heidi Woll (Chair) (H)
Pablo Sbertoli (Vice Chair) (H)
Brita Skogly Kraglund
Kirsti Vuorimies (D)
Ulla Maja Braati (D)
Sigrid Låstad (H)

DMI's supporting fields are served by the following representatives:

Japan

Karen Ellrick (H)
Mamiko Rellosa (H)
Kami Alexander (H)
Dave Taylor (H)
Nathan Mikaelsen (H)
Inge Mikaelsen (H)

USA

Peter Pfeil (H)
Esther Yoo (H)
Min Yoo (H)
Irene Kim (H)
Weston Syverson (H)

United Kingdom

Alison Hayes (D)

Germany

Adelindis Braun (D)

Netherlands

Pieter Vergeer (D)

Singapore

Ami Fujioka (H)

DMI's fields are led by national boards adhering to registered constitutions and guiding local staff and operations. (Chairpersons only listed below.)

Bicol Board Philippines

Rev. Albert C. Mercado (D)

Ligao Board Philippines

Lorenda Medes (H)

Congo Board

Stanislas Mugiraneza
Kazingufu (D)

Upper Egypt Board

Refaat Fikry Side (H)

Kenya Board

Jospehat Mulongo (D)

Malawi Board

Fraction Nanjiwa (D)

Myanmar Board

Thein Za Lian (H)

Rwanda Board

Rev. Kayigi Omar (H)

Uganda Board

Olivia Nakigozi Bulega (H)

Zambia Board

Geoffrey Mwandu (H)

Burundi Board

Thomas Bimazubute (D)

Accreditations



Missions Interlink is the Australian network for global mission. It exists to connect Australians with a passion for global mission so they can be more effective in cross-cultural and global mission, and demonstrate unity in Christ.



The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission is the national regulator of charities regulating and register and regulate Australia's 58,944 charities.

Donation Information

Donations can be made by credit card or Paypal from any country on our website:

www.deafmin.org/donate

Bank Transfer Details:

Deaf Ministries International

Acc. Name: Deaf Ministries International Ltd
Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633-000
Account: 145833539
Swift Code: BENDAU3B

Deaf Action

Acc. Name: Deaf Action Ltd
(Tax deductible in Australia only)
Bendigo Bank
BSB: 633-000
Account: 145834263
Swift Code: BENDAU3B

Endorsements



John Howard OM AC SSI
Former Prime Minister of Australia.

"I can think of few organisations that apply practical Christianity in such an effective way. I commend Deaf Ministries International for the wonderful work it has done and I'm more than happy to lend my personal support for its ongoing growth and strength."



Andrew Fisher
Motor sport legend and founder of Life Choices.

"I was really blown away by what Deaf Action does in providing opportunity, hope and dignity for the Deaf. As we look for opportunities to give to the world around us, why don't you consider Deaf Action as an organisation that you can support?"






Nick Farr-Jones AM
Former Australian rugby and World Cup winning captain. Director, Taurus Funds Management.

"I congratulate the team who are behind Deaf Ministries Int. and the great work they do for a large community of Deaf believers. I have been privileged to speak at the Ministries' fundraisers and also personally support their great work. Like many global ministries, they are another terrific example of God and Christ's love in action at the coal face. I personally commend their great work and ask you to consider supporting the Ministry."



Deaf Ministries International
P.O.Box 395, Beaconsfield
Victoria 3807

 www.deafmin.org
 info@deafmin.org
 +61 3 5940 5431

ABN: 96 832 871 076



Deaf Ministries International
P.O.Box 395, Beaconsfield
Victoria 3807

 www.deafmin.org/deaf-action
 info@deafaction.org.au
 +61 3 5940 5431

ABN: 81 692 219 423