



LAFÆK DIAK UPDATE

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Greetings to friends and supporters of Lafaek Diak,

The year continues to be busy in all the foundations activities as well as looking towards the new endeavours that we are working towards. The clinic continues to grow, providing direct health care to Triloka and surrounding communities. Over the past few months we have continued to see an increase in numbers with an unusually long wet season. The clinic saw over 4000 patients in the second three months this year. *Fundação Lafaek Diak* (FLD) is growing too, with new partnerships and new projects planned for the near future. Thank you to friends old and new for continuing to assist FLD's projects to support rural community development in Timor-Leste. Please spread the word about our website and feel free to distribute our newsletter to your colleagues, friends and family.

Mayfield Baptist Church Visit



Mana Maia & Dr Andrew consulting a patient



FLD Staff Receiving Computer training from Maun Alex



Mana Ruth giving English lessons at a local school in Triloka

In July *Lafaek Diak* hosted a visit from members of Mayfield Baptist Church. There were eight members of the congregation in total who came to see what work FLD is doing in Timor-Leste. The group included doctors and a nurse who got the opportunity to experience what a work week is like in the clinic in rural Timor-Leste, quite a different experience to their work in Australia. An English as a second language teacher provided some English teaching to the staff as well as some students from a local school. There was also someone with expertise in the hospitality field she spent her time at *Centro Treino Integral e Desenvolvimento* (CTID) working with the hotel management students. Some computer training was also undertaken by members of the team during their visit. The cross-cultural learning on both sides, that of the Australian visitors' and the side of the Timorese community and *Lafaek Diak* staff, was felt to be beneficial.

Mercy Ship



Maun Juliao having consultation prior to going aboard Mercy Ship

During the month of August the Mercy Ship came to Timor-Leste. This is a ship operated by the American navy with over 1000 personnel onboard from multiple countries. The ship docks in port and provides free medical care for the local people. The ship comes to East Timor every three years (see FLD Update of October 2008 for report on their last visit). FLD nominated two patients both of whom were accepted onto the boat. Both patients went on to have operations done by specialists. They were two of the 20 000 people who received treatment in Timor-Leste thanks to the Mercy Ship. They have now returned to Triloka. The opportunity to have access to the services provided on the Mercy Ship means that they have received treatment they would not have otherwise had access to. Now that they have returned they will be followed up by the clinic for their post operative requirements.

Agriculture

We have commenced the preparation of the fields for the next season of crops and are ready to plant. We have also been accepted by AGEH, a German aid organisation, to have a volunteer come and work in the role of mechanic trainer for a period of three years. It is envisioned that this person will work with the local youth on trainee ships in the maintenance and repair of small farm equipment and at the end of their tenure of 3 years the local people will be able to run a small business in the maintenance of farm equipment.

New Staff and Working Experience Students



Mana Lisia

Since the last update we have seen the departure of our catering staff member who went on to pursue other opportunities. This vacancy was filled in August by Lisia Rosalia da Concecao. As a new member of staff in this department she is a welcome addition to the team and has spent her first month getting to know the other staff and learning her job role.



Albina and Filomena

Lafaek Diak offered two students from CTID, a skills training centre in Baucau for rural Timorese Women, a two-month placement to gain work experience in a community development organization testing out skills they had learned in a ten-month women's empowerment program. Filomena and Albina were a great addition to FLD's team for the months' of July and August.

Small Business



Mana Julie learning about traditional weaving methods

Our weaving cooperative continues to go from strength to strength and this has been enhanced with the recommencement of Intrepid tours through Timor-Leste. As part of their time in the country the tours go to the village of Home and see the weavers. While they are there they have a traditional welcome to the weaving groups' chefi's home, and a demonstration of the tais weaving by the weavers. The demonstration showing all stages of the traditional process from the spinning of the cotton, the setting up of the loom, to the weaving itself and then there is the opportunity to purchase the tais at the shop. This is a great way for tourists to see a traditional part of the Timorese culture and also have a direct impact on a community as the proceeds go straight to the weavers themselves. *Lafaek Diak* was able to link and accompany three such tour groups to *Home* weaving village this past July.

Clinic



Consultation for the maternal and child health



Patient with her new glasses



Presenting a mother with donation of clothes

The Clinic continues to have a major impact within the community delivering health care to the community at Triloka. We continue to offer the ambulatory poly clinic service and the Maternal and Child Health service to the community which is attended by many women in the area. The expansion of the mobile clinic has proved a very necessary part of the clinic service. We have experienced large numbers of patient at these clinics with two of the villages regularly seeing well in excess of one hundred patients. The health clinic continues to grow in the number of patients given treatment also the family planning service has seen an increase in the number of women accessing the clinic. The clinic was donated glasses from Germany and they were distributed among the community giving members of the community the benefit of glasses for those with failing eye sight. We have also been handing out clothes that had been donated to the clinic, especially to families with new born babies.



Mana Anastasia giving out Mosquito Nets

We are always pleased to welcome people wanting to see the work that FLD is involved in and one of the many groups that have been to see was *Australian Institute of International Affairs* (AIIA). As a result of the visit members of the group they wanted to make a tangible contribution to the organisation in the way of mosquito nets. They were

kind enough to donate some money for the purchase of the mosquito nets. We are in the process of handing out the nets to the appropriate candidates. We are pleased to be able to make this difference to the lives of the local community.

Lafaek Diak Scholarships Program

While we are proud of the achievements to date we continue to look forward to the future and have many things we still are wanting to achieve. *Lafaek Diak* through the generous support of friends in Perth has two students currently studying nursing in Indonesia, who will be coming to an end of their studies in 2011. In August this year FLD Director and one Board member were able to visit the two young women, while they were in Indonesia on other business, see the Nursing College they are attending and their progress.



Fernanda and Maria studying nursing in Yogyakarta

We are looking towards being able to offer scholarships to several new candidates. We have already secured the funding for one scholarship for the coming year and now look towards obtaining funding for a minimum of a second candidate, as FLD feels that it is imperative to send 2 candidates at once to study for a support structure for the students while away. The *Lafaek Diak* clinic is in need of a lab-technician and pharmacist as required by the Ministry of Health for accredited clinics. As there is a scarcity for these two professions in East Timor *Lafaek Diak* would like to offer two young people the opportunity to study in these fields and has researched a three year study program in Indonesia for this. *Lafaek Diak* is committed to offering opportunities for promising young people in its rural target area, and sees this as a important investment in sustainable long-term development and building of this new nation. FLD is also committed to offering its long-standing and committed staff the opportunity for continued study, some of whom have only had the bare minimum of medical training during the Indonesian occupation period. Hence supporting the scholarship program is a wonderful way to participate and invest in building the future of East Timor in a very concrete way. Please contact us for details if you are interested to participate.

Future Plans

November sees the restoration of the roof of the doctor's house with a group of 11 people coming from Rotary in Western Australia to work on this project over one week. We are excited at the prospect of being able to have this repair done, to make the roof once again weather tight.

With the completion of the laundry facility that was talked about in the last update we now look towards the next step in the process with the land earmarked and plans in place to see the addition of a water tank. Within this project we would see the addition of a sink in the maternal and child health room, thus giving the midwife much greater access to hand washing facilities during procedures.

As mentioned above, in the agriculture program, we are looking towards the appointment of a volunteer mechanic to see this exciting project take form. They will also be responsible for the tool library.



Lafaek Diak wishes to express gratitude to all friends and partners, both individual and institutional, for supporting community development in East Timor through partnering with *Lafaek Diak*.

Further Donations can be made through international bank transfer to:

Account Name:	Fundasaun Lafaek Diak
Address:	Becora, Dili, East Timor
Name of Bank:	Bank Mandiri, Dili Branch, Timor Leste
Account No:	601-00-0014221-9
Swift Code:	BEIIDJA
Correspondent Bank:	CHASUS 33 JP Morgan Chase Bank of New York