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AFFLIP July 2021 Newsletter

latest news and updates

Dear Susan

Welcome to our mid-year newsletter which has a very definite scholarships and partnerships flavour. AFFLIP Board members and their committees have continued to be busy writing end of financial year portfolio reports, planning priorities for next year with their Talomo counterparts and revising their action plans for the Strategic Plan. Our last Board meeting focused on these things but also on our extensive database and our revised website which I would encourage you to view. This newsletter's feature article written by Loch Mitchell, outlines important details about the scholarships program which has been immensely successful in so many ways. If you are not already a sponsor and would like more information about the program, I know Loch would be delighted to hear from you.

Alastair Douglas
AFFLIP Chair

AFFLIP Partnerships

We are thrilled to announce that last month two companies joined the AFFLIP Partnerships program. These new partnerships are invaluable and bring our current support base to five highly committed companies along with Oreon Partners, My Care Solution and The Magic Libraries Foundation.

Welcome Finstro and Haigh's Chocolates we thank both Brad Prout and Alister Haigh, and their companies sincerely for their commitment to our programs.

The first, FINSTRO, is a Finance Technology company based in Australia with an operations centre in Manila which currently employs 80 people and is set to grow its workforce substantially over the next few years. The company's CEO Brad Prout is currently in New York City setting up a new US office which will also be serviced through Manila. Brad discovered AFFLIP through our revised website and

was keen to hear more about our programs and activities. He has committed FINSTRO to a partnership donation of A\$25,000 and we will work with Brad and his team in July to develop a package of activities/programs to be funded by their donation. This is exciting news indeed and recognition of the great work by Susan Boucher and Roger Saunders in revising the website.

FINSTRO

The second new partner is South Australian based company **Haigh's Chocolates**, through which CEO Alister Haigh has committed \$9,000 over the next three years. The first



donation for the 2021-22 year will provide thirty \$100 scholarships for children at risk of dropping out of school and the distribution of funds for the next two years will be discussed in due course.

Call for Scholarship Sponsors

Loch Mitchell, AFFLIP Scholarships Coordinator

As you know AFFLIP provides \$100 scholarships for students from impoverished backgrounds in Grades 4, 5 and 6 at risk of dropping out of school. The scholarships are designed to encourage these students to stay at school with the support of their parents, through the provision of funds to pay for school fees, books, uniforms, and extra curricula activities.



Every \$100 donated to AFFLIP for scholarship purposes helps one scholar for one year. We are encouraging all our ongoing sponsors and every new sponsor, to consider supporting at least one scholar for each of Grades 4,5 and 6. This means that for \$300, a sponsor can know, support and track one scholar through the



...back to school through the three vital years of Primary School.

The Covid-19 pandemic has upset schooling arrangements everywhere, and the Talomo district in the Philippines where our efforts are concentrated, is no exception. Schools have been closed since early last year and a return to classrooms is not expected until at least January 2022.

Because of the pandemic, in the current school year, every one of our 141 sponsored scholars was issued a tablet and sim card to enable them to join online learning programs and to experience the convenience of using technology for research and other related performance tasks that require online resources. This program has worked very well. It appears highly likely that the scholarship funds for the next school year will be used for a combination of tablet procurement for Grade 4 scholars school supplies for Scholars in Grade 5 and 6. Also due to the pandemic, the school year dates were changed and the current



The new school year will commence on the 23rd of August. These timings are out of sync with the normal start and finish of the school year. It means that our normal timetable for seeking assistance with scholarships has also been altered. Even though we have been able to contact all our continuing sponsors and attract quite a few new sponsors, we are looking for more sponsors. If you are interested in finding out more about the scholarship program please have a look at the AFFLIP website (afflip.com) and if you decide to sponsor a scholar, the website provides the process details. We would love to have more sponsors on board to support the cause.

school year finished on the 10th of July.

Since AFFLIP was first established, 320 scholars have received 3-year scholarships and over that time sponsors have contributed more than \$80,000. All pupils have completed elementary school and have progressed to high school.

Building Partnerships

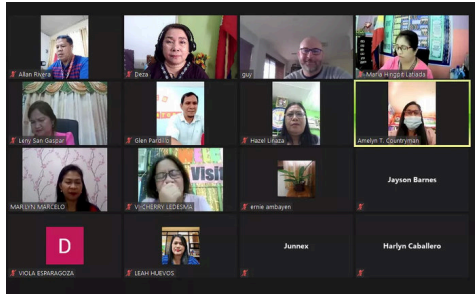
Over the last month Tim Ryan (Coordinator Partnerships portfolio), Tim Jackson (Deputy Chair) and Ali Douglas have had the opportunity to participate in three workshops with Stellar Partnerships Director Linda Garnett.

The focus of our work with Linda has been the development of knowledge and skills in identifying and approaching potential corporate partners. The sessions have been extremely valuable, and we thank Linda immensely for her professionalism and ability to address our specific organisation's needs. We also thank Julia Keady of The Xfactor Collective for her role in facilitating our work with Linda. This opportunity was provided for AFFLIP free of charge.



"Stellar Partnerships is a specialist consultancy building sustainable and profitable partnerships between corporates and non-profits. We provide smart, strategic, and in-depth support for your partnerships. We offer perspective and insights from our experience across the corporate and non-profit sectors, problem solving for your trickiest issues and a process for unlocking your partnership potential. Stellar Partnerships is a proud foundation member of **The Xfactor Collective**, a sector first community of specialist consultants and social change makers." Linda Garnett, Director

COVID 19 News from Talomo



The latest COVID19 related news from our Talomo colleagues continues to be concerning, with many new cases reported in Davao, and teachers only reporting to school on a part time basis. The added issues of working from home with limited access to technology makes teachers' workloads so much greater.

It is however, pleasing to hear reports that most school heads and teachers have had their first vaccination and many have had also had their second. The current school year was extended to July 10th and next year's program will commence on August 23rd, 2021. It is hoped that face to face teaching and learning will resume at the start of 2022 but that is dependent on the COVID19 situation in the entire Philippines, and the pace of the roll out of the vaccination program. One positive aspect of the advent of COVID19 continues to be the significant increase in communication between Board members and our friends in Talomo through Zoom meetings and a variety of social media platforms, due to our inability to send delegations to Davao and vice versa. I am sure these opportunities for communication and collaboration will continue to shape our work together in the future. Once again, the resilience and sense of purpose shown by our Filipino partners continues to be inspirational!

AFFLIP Ten Year Celebration

AFFLIP will be ten years old in 2022!

Many of you have been with us since we first started and have



continued to support our programs, others have joined us on the journey in later years and have also made a great contribution. We want this event to be a celebration for all our members, including present and past Board members and patrons, and our program partners.



Guy Wilson (Events Coordinator) and his committee are planning a great night and we will have more details in due course. For the moment please save the date.



Save the date

Friday, 11th February 2022 at The National Wine
Centre



The AFFLIP 10 Year Anniversary Dinner will be held at The National Wine Centre, corner of Hackney Road and North Terrace Adelaide. Its unique surroundings, nestled in the heart of the Botanic Gardens make it the perfect location for such a celebration. We sincerely hope that you can join us to mark this significant milestone for AFFLIP.

Interested in supporting AFFLIP's work?

We would love to hear from you.



Click on the link below if you want to learn more about AFFLIP's work.

Contact Us

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Check out AFFLIP's website [→](#)

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