

## **Staff Focus - PRAY FOR MAF STAFF**

*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people." - 1 Timothy 2:1 (NIV)*

Our MAF Australia field staff serve in wide and varying roles throughout Australia and the Asia Pacific region. From managers to accountants, doctors, pilots, engineers and IT specialists plus more, serving with MAF is both rewarding and challenging, as most of our field staff work away from family.

### **WEEK 1 July 1-8 PRAYER POINTS - Pray for our staff**

- Pray for the Simmonds family (p.9) as they juggle work, study and family responsibilities. Mark is carrying additional responsibilities within MAF because of staff shortages. Praise God that many of the vacant positions Mark is filling in for at present, will be filled in the next couple of months.
- Pray for the Job family (p.11) serving with MAF in Mareeba. Praise God for the completion of a major overhaul on a plane from Arnhem Land. It is now back in Arnhem Land and flying. Pray for Jason as he continues to build his aircraft maintenance experience and skills. Praise God for opportunities for Kim to tutor students and for their growth in areas they find challenging.
- Pray for Jeroen and Diana Zwijnenburg (p.15). Praise God for a positive and blessed time during their home assignment earlier this year. Thank God for the time spent with family and supporters, as well as enjoying times of rest back in Australia. Pray for Jeroen as he steps into his role of General Manager Aviation for MAF PNG program and for Diana as she takes up her doctor duties at Kompam Hospital once again.
- Pray for David Chandler (p.6) who is a pilot in the Arnhem Land program. Pray for wisdom as he balances flight programming decisions regarding passengers and weather. Pray for physical safety as well as spiritual and emotional wellbeing, whilst living in a challenging environment.
- Pray for the Little family (p. 15) who serve in PNG. Praise God that all four of their children are thriving at school and in the community of Ukarumpa. Pray for the family during times of separation while Andy tours with his flying work and can spend from 5 days up to 2 weeks away from the family at a time.
- Pray for both the Little Family and for Matthew Kaye (p. 15) as they move temporarily to the Goroka base over this month to cover the flying program, as the MAF families normally based in Goroka are away during this time.
- Pray for the Painter family (p.9) who serve in the Cairns support office. Pray for Matt as he takes long service leave. Pray for rest and recovery after a very busy and intense season of work.

## Working Together

*"Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble." - 1 Peter 3:8 (NIV)*

As MAF moves towards integrating all of our support programs around the world, we would appreciate your prayers. We are learning to work more closely with our counterparts in different countries throughout the world. It's a big step and a big job to gather together under one umbrella. The process reminds us of the verse from 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 about the church being one body with many parts. Every individual part is important, and each part must work with all the other parts so the body as a whole can thrive and grow and serve.

## WEEK 2 July 9-15 PRAYER POINTS - Pray for MAF Integration

- Praise God for a successful and uplifting leadership conference that was held in Thailand earlier this month.
- Pray for the leadership team as they process what was discussed during the conference and pray for wisdom in decision making and future direction.
- Pray for every individual within MAF who is experiencing the challenges and anticipation of working closely together with other parts of MAF.
- Pray that MAF as an organisation can continue to seek the heart of God throughout the integration process.
- Pray for unity within the whole body of MAF as we strive to work together, encouraging one another, supporting each other and lifting one another up.
- Pray that Integration may be a fruitful endeavour and will result in many more isolated communities and individuals being served and coming to know the love of Christ.

## **MADAGASCAR**

*"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging." - Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV)*

MAF has served the remote communities of Madagascar since 1989. We have nineteen national staff and four international staff in the country, and operate four planes from the capital of Antananarivo.

In February this year Cyclone Gezani devastated Toamasina, a city on Madagascar's east coast. MAF was able to provide flights for emergency response teams from Medair, local pastors and surgeons. These teams assessed and responded to the overwhelming needs within the city, where buildings were damaged, roads flooded and power lines broken down. Nearly 80% of the city was destroyed and the surrounding countryside was severely impacted, with farmers losing entire crops.

### **WEEK 3 July 16-23 PRAYER POINTS - Pray for Madagascar**

- Pray for the people of Toamasina as they continue to recover after Cyclone Gezani, that those who have lost homes, belongings and stability would find strength, comfort and hope.
- Pray for safety while rebuilding damaged structures.
- Pray for health as infrastructure has been widely damaged and access to clean water and food continues to be limited.
- Pray for the MAF staff as they continue to respond to devastating loss and provide support to organisations working with the affected communities.
- Pray for the people of wider Madagascar, most live in remote villages and struggle for access to medical care, education opportunities and Christian fellowship.
- Pray for the 74 organisations, churches and missionaries, such as Medair, that MAF partners with to serve the isolated people of Madagascar.
- Pray for Andry Rajaobelison who leads the MAF team in Madagascar, pray for wisdom in decision making and supporting the rest of the staff and their families.

## Praise God

*"Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago." - Isaiah 25:1 (NIV)*

Here in MAF we have so much to be thankful for. Thank you for your faithful prayers and encouragement. We want to praise God for all the amazing things that He is doing in the everyday challenges our staff face, and in MAF as an organisation, as we move towards integration. We praise God for the way He continually protects, leads and guides every person involved with MAF.

## WEEK 4 July 24-31 PRAISE GOD

- Praise God that now more than 50,000 people in Chuave District in Papua New Guinea have improved access to life-saving vaccines, following the installation of a solar-powered vaccine fridge at Chuave Rural Hospital. This fridge was delivered and installed through a partnership between Digicel Foundation and MAF Technologies.
- Praise God for the amazing generosity of our supporters who continually reach out to us with stories of encouragement, give their time and energy in raising awareness of MAF's work, pray unceasingly and give abundantly.
- Praise God for the recent flight in Liberia that enabled Liberia's Civil Aviation Authority to check the conditions of four airstrips in one day, a trip that would have taken nearly 20 days by road.
- Praise God for our incredible partners around the world who fly in our planes and reach out to the isolated communities we serve.
- Praise God that MAF can fly doctors from CURE Children's Hospital in Uganda to various locations around the country, meaning that babies born with conditions like hydrocephalus, spina bifida and epilepsy can receive lifesaving surgery and care.
- Praise God for new staff coming on board to serve overseas in many and various roles, as well as those who are joining our support offices in leadership and management roles.
- Praise God for the work being carried out in Chad that will enable school children to learn in their own language. MAF flew development workers Anja Neuhaus and Hissein Tahar Adeli to a remote oasis community Gouro in the Sahara, assessing schools participating in the local language program.
- Praise God for the hundreds of churches around Australia who are preparing to participate in MAF's 14<sup>th</sup> annual Fuel for Father's Day.
- Praise God for our donors who enthusiastically carried the vision of our recent end-of-financial-year appeal.