

# FLYING FOR LIFE



You made a  
*difference*

04 Your Impact in 2024

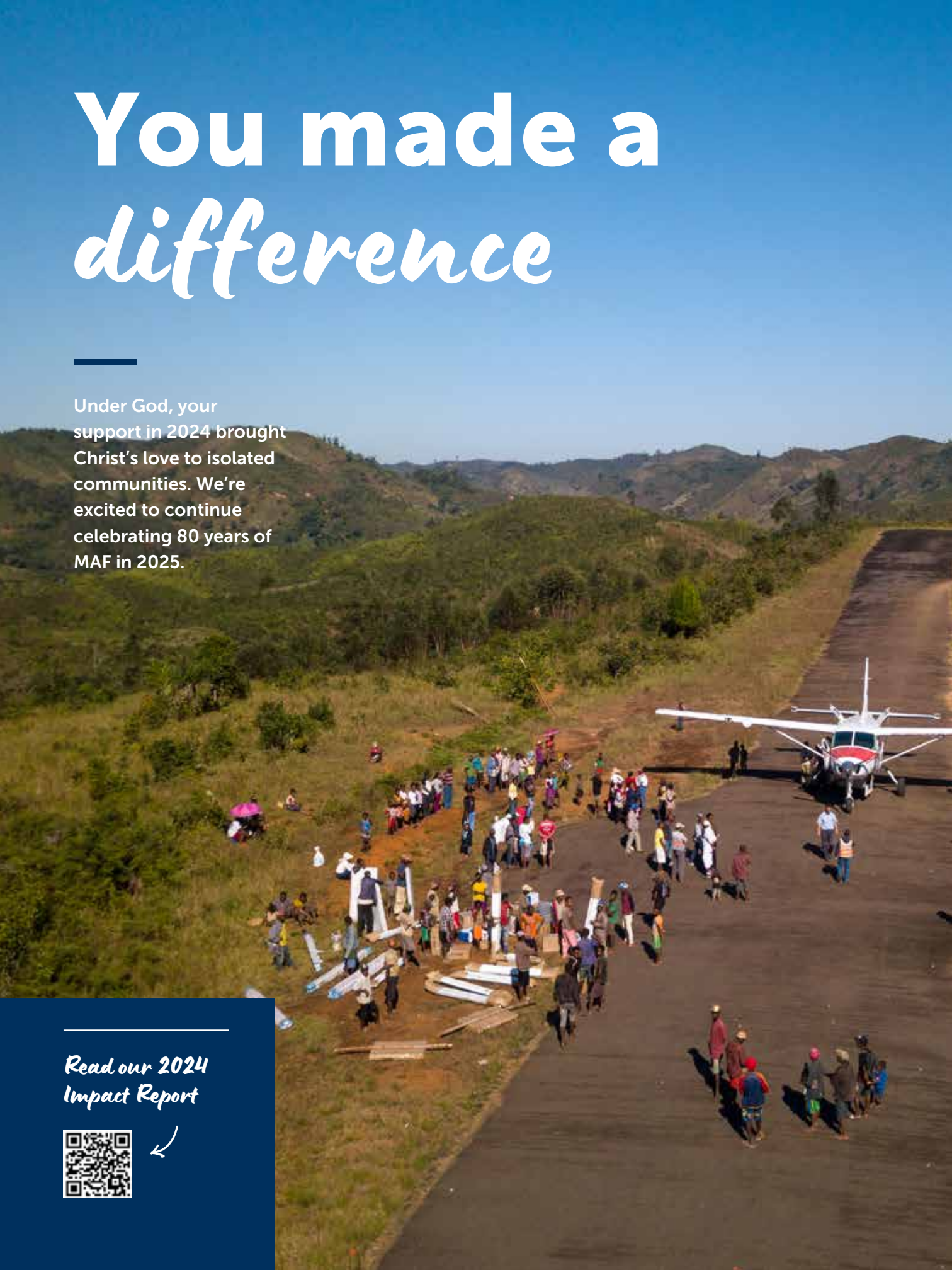
10 Invest in our next good  
and faithful servants

12 Stories of help, hope  
and healing

# You made a *difference*

Under God, your support in 2024 brought Christ's love to isolated communities. We're excited to continue celebrating 80 years of MAF in 2025.

Read our 2024  
Impact Report



## Welcome from the CEO

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In this edition of Flying for Life, we take the opportunity to share and give thanks for how we saw God at work through MAF in 2024. It was a year of exciting growth and connection, and we're so thankful for your faithful partnership.

We've welcomed new staff, both in Australia and into the field, and had the joy of visits from several field team members at our head office in Sydney, sharing powerful stories from the places where MAF serves.

Last year saw the launch of our quarterly online prayer meetings, the segmentation of our supporter base, the rollout of new systems and a refreshed website – helping us better communicate and partner with you in this mission.

Supporters responded generously to new initiatives, like the PNG fuel crisis appeal, our Christmas catalogue, Flight Crew, and campaigns for Mother's Day, Father's Day and Giving Tuesday, alongside our regular appeals. These innovations are helping us serve more effectively and reach more isolated people with help, hope and healing.

We've also had the privilege of seeing a number of new field staff heading to program to serve.

Alongside this it has been a blessing to see several Australian staff visit field locations, deepening our connection with MAF programs and the people they serve.

**"I'm really grateful for the opportunities I had in several MAF programs, to spend time with the people whose lives are being transformed."**

Another great privilege was a day with MAF pioneer Jack Hemmings, who has since passed to glory; he was such an inspiring reminder of the faith and vision that still fuels our mission.

We were richly blessed in 2024, and we are excited to continue celebrating 80 years of MAF in 2025.

Gratefully,



**Chris Barnes**  
CEO, MAF in Australia



# Your Impact in 2024

## Message from the Board Chair

MAF is a very special organisation; one in which we have seen the hand of God over many decades. Out of the devastation and chaos of WWII, God inspired men and women to use aircraft for good, and for the sake of the gospel, instead of harm.

MAF has had every human reason to fail. The world was rebuilding after the immense human and physical toll of war. We suffered a terrible blow with the early loss of pioneering MAF Australia Pilot, Harry Hartwig, and our only aircraft. Yet, time and time again, God has proven faithful, sustaining MAF through many trials.

As we look back on 2024, we continue to give thanks to God for

His sustaining power and provision. We thank God for each of you who pray, who give, and who go in His Name, through the work of MAF.

The isolated communities we serve also give thanks, for the help, hope and healing MAF brings.

Last year, some 14 years after leaving MAF Arnhem Land, I was blessed to return to this special place, and its people. Despite the years apart, the warm welcome I received was humbling.

My adoptive brother Bobby, who I hadn't seen in years, spotted me from afar as I stepped off the MAF plane at Elcho Island. He ran to give me a huge hug and shared how God continues to use him as a witness in his community.

In that moment, God gave me a fresh glimpse of His life-transforming, eternal work through MAF.

The years of sweat, difficulty and tragedy – alongside the joys – were all placed into eternal perspective.

“For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when He comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy.”

– 1 THESSALONIANS 2:19–20

Thank you again to each of you who serve with us. May God continue to bless this special work for His Name's sake.



**Ian McBride**  
Chair, MAF in Australia

Behind every plane, every flight, every parcel, every passenger, there's a story. These numbers from 2024 may seem like statistics, but they carry the weight of real lives and lasting impact.

## Flying people forward

### 📍 Arnhem Land

As a weekly passenger on MAF flights, Charles Yunupingu travelled from Wandawuy to Garrthalala to attend the Makarrata senior program at Laynhapuy Homelands School. These flights enabled him to pursue his education, while staying connected to family and culture. "I've enjoyed Makarrata," Charles said. "My favourite subjects are English, Maths and Speaking."

The program combines classroom learning with cultural responsibilities. "The success of the program is because the students are boarding on country, and they get to return to their homelands

on a Friday afternoon," said Senior Teacher Emma Toll. "On weekends, they're fulfilling cultural obligations, participating in ceremonies or helping with hunting."

Charles was also selected for the Northern Territory Youth Voice Peak Group, representing homeland schools and Indigenous students at government meetings.

"Despite the remoteness of many East Arnhem communities, MAF flights ensure isolation isn't a barrier to education," said Ben Brown, Country Director for MAF in Arnhem Land.



125,356  
Passengers 



## Delivering vital supplies

### 📍 Papua New Guinea

MAF flights provide more than just transport—they're a vital lifeline for remote communities. Store owner Joe John depends on MAF to deliver essential goods like rice, salt, tinned fish, noodles, cooking oil and soap.

"There's no other way I could get freight like this—only MAF helps by bringing it to Wanakipa," he says. These deliveries help families survive, support local store owners, and ensure teachers and health workers have what they need.

Even small items like mobile phone credit are crucial. "When there's no MAF plane and no phone credit, the phone just sits there," says Community Health Worker Eric Lomba.

"When MAF comes, I can call people who need help—or just catch up with family."

In remote parts of Papua New Guinea, MAF's cargo service is so much more than logistics—it's a connection to life, health and hope.

3,979,433  
Kilograms of  
Cargo 



**117** ✈️  
*Aircraft*



**35,270** 🕒  
*Hours flown*



## Flying further, faster

📍 Arnhem Land

"It's about using the right tool for the job, and the Caravan has proved to be exactly that," says former Country Director Matt Henderson.

In Arnhem Land, where remote communities rely on MAF for essential transport, the Cessna Caravan has been a game-changer. With capacity for nine passengers or 1,000kg of cargo, it often replaces two smaller aircraft with a single, more efficient flight.

According to Senior Pilot Phil Techand, the Caravan's faster cruising speed, autopilot, and higher altitude capabilities reduce flight times and improve comfort.

The turbine engine also means lower maintenance and less downtime compared to piston aircraft, helping MAF to maximise its impact.

As the needs in Arnhem Land grow and change, the Caravan ensures MAF can continue delivering help, hope and healing to some of Australia's most isolated communities.

## Flying for education

📍 Papua New Guinea

Instead of trekking for hours through rugged terrain, Justin Petrus, a high school teacher at Eliptamin Junior High School, reached Telefomin in under 10 minutes – thanks to an unexpected MAF flight. Diverted by weather, the flight gave Justin a rare chance to travel quickly and safely over the mountains.

"It was an interesting moment for me, and I thank MAF for bringing me here safely," he said. Thanks to the flight, Justin gained some extra time to complete vital school paperwork.

His journey with MAF came full circle—back in 2014, Justin received his graduation certificate from MAF pilot Mathias at Oksapmin High School in Tekin, and now, years later, it was Mathias who unexpectedly helped him reach Telefomin.

Since 2007, MAF has supported schools like Oksapmin by flying in supplies, teachers and students. For educators like Justin, MAF's flights are more than transport—they are opportunities to grow, serve and inspire the next generation.

## Serving something greater

### Liberia

Meet Bako Ranarivelo and her husband, Nary Razafinimpanana, a missionary couple from Madagascar, now serving with MAF in Liberia. Bako, Finance Manager for MAF's Liberia and Guinea programs, helps ensure flights continue reaching isolated communities with medical aid, education and the Gospel. Nary, an ophthalmologist, volunteers at ELWA Hospital, providing vital eye care.

Though far from home and their three grown children, they've embraced Liberian culture – cassava leaf is now a favourite dish! For them, serving is more than logistics or medicine; it's about being part of a mission that transforms lives. "Every small effort counts," says Nary. "We're part of something much bigger than ourselves."

**1,090**   
*National staff*  
**324**   
*International*



## Empowering our partners

### Guinea

MAF's partnership with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is transforming access in north-eastern Guinea, where a two hour flight replaces a 60-hour road trip.

This time-saving journey helps CRS focus on vital community projects, like market gardening, rather than losing days to rough travel. "In two hours we are there and then we start work. It's a clear advantage,"

said Moussa Dominique of CRS Guinea.

A local doctor in a remote community also called the flight a "huge blessing" for his family, and future medical teams visiting from the USA. By enabling faster, safer travel, MAF helps partners like CRS reach isolated communities with essential services and support.

**1,692**   
*Organisations served*



## Transforming gospel mission

### South Sudan

A new airstrip opened in Naliel, South Sudan in 2024, transforming mission work among the local Toposa people, by drastically reducing travel time and expanding ministry opportunities. Missionaries Peter and Rebecca Franz from 'Seeking the Lost' were instrumental in getting the airstrip built.

"This airstrip was born out of my heart," Peter shared. The journey from Eldoret takes two days by road, but now, flights make access far easier. The airstrip supports a growing mission base, a school, and ministry initiatives, enabling missionaries to reach more people with the gospel.

**1,091**   
*Airstrips across*  
**24 countries**





# Leave a *lifeline* beyond your lifetime

**Dave Martin has the joy of overseeing Gifts in Wills at MAF in Australia. He reflects personally on the significance of leaving a gift in your Will to MAF.**

I love working at mission organisations, and have managed bequests for many years. What stands out to me – whether in conversation with someone planning to leave a gift in their Will for mission, or when I see a bequest come through posthumously – is the desire to make a difference for people they may never meet.

A Will often reflects what someone valued most, or what shaped them through life's difficult seasons. Family, friends, medical or missional charities – it's all there to see. Wills speak of love, generosity, and the hope that their cherished resources will continue doing good in the hands of others.

MAF in Australia is very grateful for the precious gifts given to our mission, through kind gifts in Wills. Bequests help move our mission forward, develop our staff capacity, improve our ability to communicate MAF's missional goals

more widely, and keep our planes in the air.

We have partnered with 'Gathered Here', an online platform that enables people to write 'simple Wills' for free. A simple Will is one that doesn't involve complex investments, like multiple properties, shares or trusts. You can create and edit as many versions as you like on the platform. The Will only becomes a legal document once it is downloaded, printed, signed and witnessed.

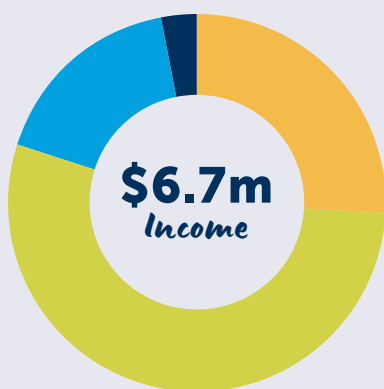
Our goal is to bring help, hope and healing to remote communities through aviation, in the Name of Jesus Christ. We ask you to give some thought to including a gift in your Will to help us achieve our missional goals.

*Leave a gift in  
your Will.*



# 2024 Financials

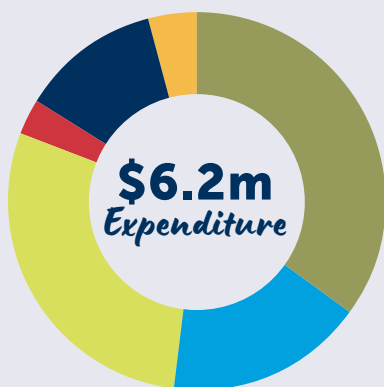
Consolidated Financial Activities:  
MAF Australia and its controlled entities.



## Income

**\$6,727** (000's)

Donations	\$3,616	54%
Staff Sponsorships	\$1,793	26%
Gifts in Wills	\$1,136	17%
Other	\$182	3%



## Expenditure

**\$6,230** (000's)

<b>PROGRAM EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$3,718</b>	<b>60%</b>
Donations made for use in Australia	\$2,187	35%
Donations made for use outside Australia	\$1,026	17%
Employee expenses	\$340	5%
Other local program expenses	\$165	3%
<b>OTHER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,512</b>	<b>40%</b>
Employee expenses	\$1,469	24%
Other fundraising and marketing expenses	\$784	12%
Other admin expenses	\$259	4%

## Surplus

**\$497**

# Invest in our next good and faithful servants

**As MAF retires faithful aircraft like 5Y-BNG through the global fleet renewal program, your support can help continue their legacy.**

In June 2023, 5Y-BNG delivered life-saving cargo to Renk, in South Sudan's Upper Nile State. On board were boxes of medicine and therapeutic food for families fleeing the violent conflict in neighbouring Sudan.

"The sachets were for children suffering from severe acute malnutrition," said MAF pilot Andy MacDonald.

"Ten boxes can treat ten children over six to eight weeks. It may not seem like much, but for ten kids, it meant survival." Flights like these were part of 5Y-BNG's faithful service over many years, alongside other retiring aircraft around the world. But the need remains.

**“MAF's global fleet renewal is about more than replacing aircraft. It's about ensuring safe, reliable service for the long haul.**

In Australia, we're aiming to raise \$1 million by June 30 to support this vital effort.

## **Will you help renew the fleet?**

Your gift will continue the legacy—bringing hope to isolated communities around the world.



*Image: Andy MacDonald delivering life-saving cargo in South Sudan.*



**Continue their legacy.  
Give to the Fleet  
Renewal Project today.**

[maf.org.au/  
goodfaithfuleservants](https://maf.org.au/goodfaithfuleservants)



# Bringing *help* to isolated communities

MAF flies to over 1,000 remote locations, delivering food, medicine and emergency aid. From medical evacuations to disaster response, every MAF flight ensures isolated communities receive vital help when they need it most.

## Emergency flight brings safe arrival

📍 Madagascar

For Norfinne and her newborn, MAF's swift response meant the difference between life and death. While travelling in an isolated part of western Madagascar, Norfinne unexpectedly went into labour, miles from medical help. "We panicked," said her husband, Velona. "We were in the middle of nowhere."

After reaching a small health centre, the nurse quickly recognised the danger: "She cannot deliver naturally. If we don't act fast, both mother and baby are at risk."

MAF helped fly in a medical team and transported Norfinne to the capital city for an emergency C-section – a journey that would have taken four days by road, but just over an hour by air.

"She was stable during the flight," said nurse Aina Nomena Rakotondrazafy. Thanks to the quick intervention, both mother and baby girl, Soavita, are doing well.

**"I was so scared," Norfinne said. "But I'm very happy – I now have a daughter."**





### Partners in Help



We run a food program in Turkana county and have been actively distributing food for the past 15 years. During this time, we have experienced multiple famines in the region and have been able to respond with teams to support. This was made possible through flights chartered through MAF.”

– SERV INTERNATIONAL, KENYA

## Clean water brings clear impact

### Kenya

MAF is helping remote communities, like Thuur in northern Kenya, by flying essential aid to where it’s needed most. Last year, MAF pilot Daniel flew a team from Water Matters Sweden to distribute water filters, providing clean drinking water for families and schools.

The impact was immediate. Villagers watched in amazement as murky water turned crystal-clear.

“Water filters are a lifeline for our community,” said health officer Meshack Gayere. “They ensure safe drinking water for our families.”

This region faces water scarcity, contamination and disease outbreaks, making safe water a rare and vital resource. By partnering with organisations like Water Matters, MAF helps life-changing solutions reach those in need.

“We love partnering with MAF because they fly to remote places where these filters are needed,” said Marcus from Water Matters Sweden. Thanks to their efforts, 17 villages—around 2,000 people—now have clean water, bringing hope, health and a future, free from waterborne disease.

*Read more stories of help.*



# Bringing *hope* to isolated communities

Every MAF flight carries the promise of hope, connecting remote communities to medical care, education and the Gospel.

Whether reuniting families, supporting local churches, or empowering isolated villages, MAF helps people around the world look to a brighter future, by providing practical help and spiritual encouragement, where it's needed most.

## An answer to prayer at high altitude

### Tanzania

MAF brought hope to remote mountain communities in northern Tanzania, where access to essential healthcare had long been out of reach. Thanks to MAF flights, a mobile clinic reached the Maasai community at the Olemilei airstrip, offering lifesaving care to mothers and children.

Before MAF was involved, "Many of our children died from preventable diseases like measles and polio," said Anna Fanuel, a local mother. "Mothers had a big challenge accessing medical care."

Now, the village receives vital services, including vaccinations, prenatal checks and medicine.

**"It is an answered prayer," shared Nashipai. "Today, a MAF aircraft brought doctors and nurses to care for our people."**

Evangelist Elisha, who supports the outreach, added, "MAF played a crucial role in promoting health."

Despite the challenges of flying into high-altitude terrain, MAF's pilots remain committed and continue to bring hope where it's needed most.





## New possibilities in the desert

📍 Chad

In remote northern Chad, where a desert journey can take five gruelling days, MAF brings hope by making life-changing work possible. Association Pour le Développement et la Paix (ADP), which serves the Teda people, relies on MAF flights to bring in short-term workers, who support vital medical, literacy and development programs.

"The Lord has grown our team to where it is, because of MAF," says ADP director Mark Ortman. With safe, efficient air access, doctors

provide urgent care, specialists repair essential hospital equipment in a day, and literacy programs flourish.

MAF's impact goes beyond transport, creating opportunities for connection, empowerment and faith. MAF pilots, like Becki Dillingham, inspire Teda women with new possibilities. At the dusty MAF airstrip, light and hope shine, as lives are transformed in one of the world's most remote and challenging locations.

### Partners in Hope

“

The challenge of reaching some of these areas in Kenya has always been distance, bad terrain, insecurity, and poor infrastructure. MAF has made distance and terrain a thing of the past with the availability of flights to the previously hard to reach areas, bringing sight and hope to these communities.”

– THE FRED HOLLOWES FOUNDATION

Read more stories  
of hope.



# Bringing *healing* to isolated communities

Every MAF flight is a commitment to healing. From flying medical evacuations and delivering vaccines, to transporting healthcare professionals and helping mothers reach safe care, MAF brings life-saving support to over 1,000 isolated communities, restoring health, dignity and hope in places where care is hard to access.

## Reaching vital care in time

📍 Timor-Leste

When Antoniza Ximenes fell seriously ill, local treatment on Atauro Island failed to improve her condition. She needed urgent care at the national hospital in Dili, but a long, risky boat journey across deep waters could have worsened her fragile state.

MAF provided another way. In just 15 minutes, Antoniza was flown safely to Dili, where she received life-saving treatment and recovered within days.

“I thank God because He showed us the way,” said her husband, Godinho. “Flying with MAF helped save my wife’s life.”

During their hospital stay, a MAF care pack offered food, water and a phone voucher—practical support during a difficult time.

MAF pilot Joe Farren reflects, “I think it’s one of the biggest blessings of my life, that we get to meet people in their worst moments and provide opportunities that otherwise wouldn’t exist.”



Image: Antoniza (right) and her husband Godinho.



### Partners in Healing

“

It's very difficult for us to transfer patients from the rural areas by roads, because of the distance and the problem of the roads to reach the national hospital. Travelling from Viqueque to Dili by road would normally take 6 hours, but with MAF, it just takes 35 minutes.”

— JUMENIA, A NURSE FOR THE NATIONAL SERVICE OF AMBULANCE AND MEDICAL EMERGENCY, TIMOR-LESTE

## A lifeline to treatment

### 📍 South Sudan to Uganda

For families flying with MAF from South Sudan to CURE Children's Hospital in Uganda, each flight is a lifeline.

On one journey, 17 passengers, many of them mothers holding babies on their laps, were flown for life-saving treatment of hydrocephalus, a neurological condition.

“Hydrocephalus is eminently treatable,” explains MAF pilot

Matt Marples, “but your quality of life without treatment is horrible.”

In South Sudan, surgery for the condition is unaffordable and unavailable. These mothers, many flying for the first time, are deeply grateful for the chance to access care at no cost. For many, the flight is their only hope.

“If my youngest had been born with hydrocephalus, we would have stayed in Canada a bit longer,”

pilot Matt reflects. “And the outcome would most likely have been good. So many of the people we fly don't have access to that.”

MAF flights offer more than medical care, bringing relief, transformation and a future, that was once out of reach.

*Read more stories of healing.* →





# Recruitment



I have wanted to fly ever since I can remember! It was never anything else for me! But as my faith matured, God helped me see I can use that passion not just for my own enjoyment, but also for a Kingdom benefit.”

— JOE FARREN, MAF PILOT

**Recruitment with Mission Aviation Fellowship (MAF) is unlike recruitment in the corporate world. It's not just about filling roles, but about discerning calling, walking with individuals, and listening for God's leading in their lives.**

Many who serve with MAF recall hearing God speak to them about mission aviation from as young as five years old. God often plants the seeds decades before they come to fruition. Our role in recruitment is to water those seeds, encourage growth, and help people step into their God-given calling.

This process is much like the growth of the mighty Sequoia redwoods. These towering trees grow over 300 feet tall, yet their strength lies in community. Though their roots are shallow, they spread wide and intertwine with others, allowing them to withstand fierce winds and storms. Likewise, those called to serve with MAF need deep faith and strong community to thrive in the challenges of mission life.

MAF seeks people who are rooted in purpose, resilient in adversity and ready to serve. It's about more than experience; it's about the heart and the willingness to go where God leads.

**To those who have said yes to the call,** thank you. You are making a lasting difference.

**To those who pray, support and encourage,** your role matters more than you know.

**To those who sow seeds,** unsure when or how they will grow, you are part of this mission too.

MAF is not just about aviation. It is about people who serve faithfully, strengthen one another and stand firm together. Like the redwoods, we grow stronger as we grow together.

**Is God calling you to serve with MAF?**

Be part of bringing help, hope and healing to the ends of the earth.

*Find out how you can serve with us. →*



# Adopt a Mission

**You can make a lasting difference by choosing to partner with us and Adopt a Mission.**



Meet the Boal family. Peter and Fleur are preparing to serve with MAF in Ukarumpa, Papua New Guinea, where they will provide a home away from home for teenagers whose parents work in some of the country's most isolated areas.

As Residential Hostel Managers, Peter and Fleur will create a safe, caring environment where these young people can thrive. Their presence gives parents peace of mind, allowing them to continue their vital work in bringing life-saving flights, medical care and the hope of the Gospel to remote communities.

For mission families serving in challenging locations, knowing their children are well cared for at Ukarumpa is a profound gift.

Peter and Fleur's role brings stability, support and encouragement when it is needed most.

**“By partnering with the Boals, you help sustain the broader mission of MAF in PNG.”**

Your partnership enables mission families to serve wholeheartedly, knowing their children are in good hands. Together, we can help keep MAF planes flying and hope alive across Papua New Guinea.

**Read more about  Peter and Fleur Boal**



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# Celebrate with MAF

We invite your church to join us in celebrating our milestone of 80 years. Come together to rejoice, give thanks and inspire your community toward mission.



A cinematic event coming to your church soon.



## MAF Mission Spotlight

Honouring 80 years of MAF.

A cinematic event featuring the 'Ends of the Earth' documentary designed to inspire viewers and raise awareness of MAF's impact.

An inspiring time of sharing, prayer, reflection and celebration, honouring 80 years of MAF's impact around the world.



**Find out what's possible at your church.**

[maf.org.au/church-engagement](http://maf.org.au/church-engagement)



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