



FRIENDS OF FIJI

Holiday Greetings, Fiji News, Friends of Fiji Events

December 22, 2016

The Friends of Fiji Board of Directors sends warmest wishes to all of our friends and supporters for a happy holiday season. Thanks to all of our members who sustain us and enable us to continue to serve as a link to the country & people that have enriched our lives so much.

The past week has been another tough one for parts of Fiji. A tropical depression brought heavy rains and flooding. Links to some of the news articles are below and you can find more at Fiji Times Online –

<http://www.abc.net.au>

<http://www.radionz.co.nz>

Friends of Fiji does not have in-country resources to serve as first responders, so we recommend that those who would like to contribute to immediate relief do so through reliable NGOs that have a presence in Fiji. Fiji Red Cross Society, Habitat for Humanity, and Save The Children Fiji are engaged in relief efforts and would be good choices. When donating through the Habitat website be sure to choose “designate your donation” at the bottom of the page to direct it to Fiji.

<https://www.facebook.com/FijiRedCrossSociety/>

<http://www.redcross.com.fj/>

<http://www.habitat.org/where-we-build/fiji>

<http://www.savethechildren.org.fj/donate-now/>

So, what will Friends of Fiji be doing? We will continue to follow the news and Peace Corps Partnership Program, looking for opportunities to contribute toward longer term relief efforts. A great deal of rebuilding from Cyclone Winston remains to be done in addition to this latest disaster. As a small organization without boots on the ground in Fiji the best focus for our efforts is to support initiatives of current PCVs and the other local grass roots organizations that have needs not being met by the government or large NGOs. To that end, your donations are always welcome, and here’s a link to make it easy - [Donate to FoF](#)

Projects Update

Since the update we sent out on November 29th ([click here](#)) we’ve added one more to our Cyclone Winston Rebuilding projects. We’ve fully funded a request from Rise Beyond The Reef to rebuild and re-roof classroom blocks at the Nalotawa District School in Ba. The school was under consideration for a grant from the Japanese Embassy in Fiji but didn’t make the cut. With the funding we provided the classes will be able to get out of tents and back into classrooms in the next few months.

Annual General Meeting & Potluck Dinner

The Annual General Meeting & Potluck Dinner date has been changed to February 4 due to conflicting events in DC. Time & location are the same - 5:00 p.m. at the home of David and Willa Downes, 3327 Mantua Dr, Fairfax, VA 22031 (703-641-0517). All are welcome to attend. The usually very brief business meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will include the election of the Board of Directors for the

upcoming year and any other appropriate business. RSVP not required but greatly appreciated. See more here - <http://www.fofiji.org/events>

2017 Gala

Save the date – Saturday June 17, 2017, 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

National Rural Electric Cooperative Association 4301 Wilson Blvd. Arlington, VA

More details to follow. We need volunteers to help with decorating, food prep, registration, silent auction.

If you can help please email us at info@fofiji.org.