

Dharma Care

Who is Dharma Care and where are they going? This document answers those questions in detail; in fact, it's the blueprint to take you there.



DharmaCare™



About the brand

Dharma Care is an Australian charity dedicated to creating life-changing opportunities for the destitute and disadvantaged. We support those living in regional areas, giving them access to tools and resources that allow them to pursue their true potential.

We believe everyone deserves the opportunity to live a sustainable life filled with purpose, dignity and joy. It's our mission to facilitate lasting change, creating a ripple effect that benefits future generations.

We collaborate widely. Dharma Care is also a member of the [Susila Dharma International Association \(SDIA\)](#), a network of Susila Dharma national organisations and associate member projects from 25 countries. In 2020, SDIA was ranked 261 out of the top 500 global NGOs by NGO Advisor. SDIA is the humanitarian wing of the [World Subud Association](#).



Our story starts in 1982 with a compassionate nurse

Dutch-born nurse Munawaroh English was working in Australia in an aged care setting. She was distressed to see the treatment the residents received.

Seeing residents housed in impersonal facilities and given lots of medication, Munawaroh knew she needed to make a change. This came in the form of Morningside Care, a charity established to operate an aged care facility where she provided residents with everything they needed to live a more fulfilling and dignified life.

In 1989, Munawaroh sold Morningside Care and bought 200 acres of rainforest land next to the World Heritage Border Ranges National Park in Cougal,

Northern New South Wales. With assistance from volunteers, she built the 100-bed Sine Cera Rainforest Retreat, a sanctuary to support even more people through relaxation, rehabilitation and recuperation.

In 2014, some years after Munawaroh passed away, her vision to help those in need was taken over by a team of compassionate and mission-driven professionals. Under the leadership of a new Board and CEO Irwan Freeman Wyllie, the organisation expanded its charitable purposes, with a focus on supporting disadvantaged families in regional communities both in Australia and overseas.



Why Dharma Care?

'**Dharma**' is an ancient Sanskrit word that has taken on many meanings over the centuries. It has both religious and secular connotations relating to truth, reality and ethics. To us, the words '**Dharma Care**' represent a charitable obligation to give something of ourselves in caring for other people who are not as fortunate.



Our mission

Being human means accepting the responsibility to look after those around us who need help, no matter where they are. Dharma Care provides the funds, services, facilities and safe spaces that offer sustainable solutions to the destitute and disadvantaged. **We facilitate lasting change to support and empower current and future generations to reach their potential.** By partnering with tier one organisations, and our caring and compassionate donors, Dharma Care delivers support that makes a real difference to real people in Australia and overseas.

We connect people who care with people in need



Our vision

We want to build a world where everyone is able to live a meaningful life filled with joy and fulfilment, **no matter who they are.**

Our focus

We support and empower people in need in regional communities. We do this by providing the tools, resources and the opportunities they need to build safer and more sustainable lives for themselves and their families.



Our values

- 01 Collaboration**

Every person's situation is different, and we can't provide an appropriate level of support for everyone on our own. As a member of [Susila Dharma International Association \(SDIA\)](#), Dharma Care is part of a network of charitable organisations in 25 countries. We collaborate with these organisations to mobilise a wider variety of skills and resources, ensuring that our donors' funds are put to the best possible use when supporting our causes.
- 02 Integrity**

We have the utmost respect for the people that enable Dharma Care to make a difference. From working directly with disadvantaged communities to managing the generous donations of our supporters, we take great pride in ensuring transparency and accountability in all aspects of our work. It's our promise to always be open and honest about the outcomes of our projects, and to always act with integrity and respect.
- 03 Humanity**

At Dharma Care, we believe that part of being human is accepting the responsibility to love and care for the destitute and disadvantaged. We champion inclusivity, supporting people from all faiths and religions, regardless of ethnicity, gender or age. Both individually and collectively, we are richer in spirit and material benefits when we work together.



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| 04 | Self-determination | We recognise and support people's capacity to manage their own lives and to care for those who depend on them. Our focus is on supporting those in need to guide their lives with dignity, and build a brighter future for following generations. We respect life experience and honour self-determination, recognising the joy that is possible when every individual can achieve their full potential. |
| 05 | Diligence | To make the most out of every donation, and to provide an appropriate level of care to those in need, we focus on effective project planning and doing our due diligence. This includes making sure that any project funding applications meet a long list of our own criteria, as well as external standards and government regulations. We establish collaboration agreements with trusted project partners to deliver the best possible outcomes. |



A ripple effect creating generational change

Dharma Care's work doesn't just help a single person right now; it's a seed that's planted to benefit the wider community both now and in the future. Sustainable change can't be achieved by making communities reliant on handouts. Action, collaborative support and initiatives based on achievable goals are needed to make a difference for generations to come. So that's what we do.

Disadvantages, whether related to wealth, geographical location or opportunity, are typically inherited from the generation before. By empowering individuals to take action towards a better future for themselves today, we create a ripple effect that will improve the lives of future generations.



Supporting regional communities

Dharma Care's focus is on regional communities, both in Australia and overseas.

Despite often being the most in need, those in regional, remote, or rural areas frequently lack support. Major charities often only operate within urban neighbourhoods, and the residents of more isolated communities don't have the means to create their own support system.

We implement programs and projects both locally and overseas that are primarily focused on families. From homelessness and disaster relief to building safe spaces and essential facilities, we work to deliver support to regional communities.



A dynamic, collaborative response

Dharma Care aims to be a constant force for positive change, offering proactive solutions to current and future needs. We identify projects where we can make a real difference. To do this effectively, we collaborate with grassroots organisations who can help us provide the necessary resources and support.

It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a network to deliver sustainable outcomes. As members of [Susila Dharma International Association \(SDIA\)](#), we're connected to a global network of charitable organisations in 25 countries. This enables us to take on challenges in other parts of the world, and to change the lives of those who need it most.





Our difference

We use your donations wisely

Your money directly supports Dharma Care's projects, with **only 15%** going towards the administrative costs associated with running the organisation. This is significantly lower than the average percentage of donations spent on administration by most charities. We can do this because our social enterprise, Sine Cera Rainforest Retreat, also supports our charitable activities. We truly appreciate the generosity of our supporters and carefully distribute our donations to ensure the maximum benefit from every dollar you donate.

We value our supporters

We recognise that donating to our projects means putting your trust in Dharma Care. To show our appreciation, we'll always make sure you know the outcomes of the projects you're supporting. You'll receive a report every six months with photos, progress updates and real stories about how your donation has changed real people's lives. As well as sharing life-changing stories, we'll also update you with concrete facts and statistics so you can see exactly how your support has helped these communities.



We hold ourselves accountable

Transparency and accountability are vital in everything we do, particularly when communicating with our supporters. We undertake our work in a professional way. We have public fundraising approval in each Australian state, DGR status, exceptional risk management practices, and a comprehensive set of policies and procedures to guide the Dharma Care team. On top of this, we're clear about our outcomes and always communicate successful outcomes as well as those that fell short of our expectations. These principles are key to the harmonious relationships we build internally and with our partners and donors.

We work locally and internationally

We're committed to our local communities, but we also acknowledge that our responsibility as human beings means helping those in desperate situations, no matter where they are. As a member of [Susila Dharma Australia \(SDA\)](#) and [Susila Dharma International Association \(SDIA\)](#), Dharma Care is part of an inspirational network of charitable organisations in 26 countries. Partnering with other groups allows us to offer a holistic approach to problem solving that facilitates lasting, generational change both locally and overseas.



We support regional communities

Dharma Care is dedicated to supporting people living in regional communities. While there are many organisations doing great work in Australia and overseas, they often work in urban settings, which means that disadvantaged people in remote areas receive less external support. We identify communities in need, no matter where they are, and offer them the support they need to improve their quality of life.

We offer empowerment

Dharma Care exists to empower those in need, helping them to establish brighter opportunities for future generations. Communities can't achieve lasting change by relying on handouts from those in a more privileged position. That's why we work with vulnerable individuals, families and communities to provide the tools, support and resources they need to improve their lives with dignity and pride.





Our promise

We connect people who care with people in need.

We facilitate lasting change in regional communities in Australia and overseas.



Positioning statement

Dharma Care is an Australian charity dedicated to creating **generational change in regional communities** in Australia and overseas. We do this by connecting people who care with people in need, collaborating widely, and providing the resources that allow the destitute and disadvantaged to **pursue their full potential.**



A photograph of a man hugging a young child from behind. The man is smiling and looking towards the camera. The child has their back to the camera. In the background, a crowd of people is visible, slightly out of focus. The entire image has a dark red overlay.

Acts of kindness,
generations of change.





DharmaCare™





DharmaCare™





Your donations help us to facilitate
generational change in regional
communities across the world



