

foodwatershelter inc

We build early learning, eco-friendly children's villages and big, bright futures

about us

foodwatershelter inc (fws) is an Australian not-for-profit organisation formed in 2005 by five Australian women and now run by around 50 volunteers in Australia and abroad. We build and manage eco-friendly villages in developing countries with onsite education, health and social facilities for vulnerable women, their children and orphans.

Our first project is Kesho Leo children's village in Tanzania, East Africa. Kesho Leo is run by volunteers and local employed staff and is already fulfilling its secondary purpose as a community centre offering education, health and social facilities for its Tanzanian neighbours. It will soon become home to 16 women ('house mamas') who will receive a stipend and head households of their own children and orphaned children - around 80 children in total.

what's so unique about fws children's villages

fws's eco-friendly children's villages aim to give their residents and the local community access to everything they need to lead a fulfilling life - *onsite*:

- **Early & interactive bilingual learning programs** at our onsite Early Learning Education Centre to encourage and empower a generation of children to think, question and enjoy problem solving. Our early-learning chekechea (kindergarten) is open to the children of the local community.
- **Comprehensive health care** and education at our onsite Community Health Clinic initially for Kesho Leo residents and later for the wider community.
- **Social welfare programs** at our onsite Education Centre for residents later for the wider community.
- **Eco-friendly living education** at our onsite Permaculture Organic Gardens Of Eden through classes to the local community about organic vegetable growing, permaculture design, composting, rainwater collection, and more.
- **Eco-friendly design and practice** through eco-friendly architecture, energy systems, and permaculture practices.
- **Community involvement** in the design, building, growth and maintenance of children's villages, Kesho Leo is advised by local board of village elders.
- **Promoting local culture** to ensure Kesho Leo children remain Tanzanian in all ways, and love their own country and culture deeply.

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