



From: Bandak Thechiot Bak

Leader of Mathiang Community of Australia (MCA)

Perth, Westen Australia

**Date: 16/09/2023**

To: Uniting Church

**Glen Waverley, Victoria**

Australia

**Subject: Re Simon Thor Kuon's Fundraising, 29/09/2023**

**Dear Church Members,**



We are reaching out to you about the fundraising party scheduled for the 29/09/2023. The fundraising is for our beloved brother, Dr Simon Thor Kuon Yuot. Simon is a good brother who served Nuer and the people of South Sudan in many ways. He is one of the pioneers of Education and Christianity making him the mentor to so many who followed his footstep in those disciplines. His followers are teachers, pastors and commanders from the two countries.

Simon devoted his life helping people. However, all that changed in a split of a second. On January 03, 2021, Simon had a stroke, a



disease which has brought significant change in his life. This happened in Juba, the capital city of South Sudan. But Simon is lucky to have his wife beside him in every



move he takes. His wife is Nyamakal Thok pictured with him on the left. Nyamakal has been instrumental in Simon's welfare making sure he is okay. She paid his air ticket to Nairobi from Juba and all the medical expenses in one of the hospitals in Nairobi, Kenya where Simon sought advance medical treatment. After the recovery, Simon became impaired both in speech and mobility. Like many stroke victims, Simon is finding it hard to communicate his needs or travel around. There is nothing much the doctors in Nairobi could do as Kenya is also a third world country but much better than South Sudan.

So Nyamakal had to bring Simon to Australia where the two are now living together. Every resource Nyamakal had were exhausted on

Simon's care paying medical bills and sessions for physiotherapist and Occupational Therapist. Like many stroke victims, Simon is now learning everything he used to do like talking, walking and the like.

This learning process should have had an immediate impact had Simon been seen more regularly by this holistic team of physiotherapist, occupational therapist, and General Practitioners all of which could form part in Simon's recovery.

But Simon is neither a permanent resident of Australia nor an Australian Citizen and therefore that makes him ineligible either for Medicare or NDIS which funds such programs. As such, we have talked with him and his wife and decided to work on



pressing needs one of which is an operation to be done on his hand. **That alone costs over \$30,000.00 Au.**

The doctors believe he would be able to straighten his arm and bend it more so than what he is currently doing. **But there are not a lot of Thiang community members in Australia to do this by their own.**

**We therefore come to church members for help. With your support, we can all put a smile on Simon's face and hopefully, he would be able to get back to his feet.** The Fundraising will be held in Melbourne Victoria.

**We would therefore like you to donate whatever you can to our team on the day or before it. Regardless of where you live, we urge you to help us meet this target. Your support is key in solving this problem as it will have an impact on Simon Thor's treatment and will be used for that purpose only.**

To donate, you can send your life changing support to payID below.

Name Bandak Thechiot Bak

payID **0404 971 013**

Yours Sincerely

Bandak Thechiot Bak

Leader of Mathiang Community in Australia  
Perth, Western Australia