

DREAMIN Foundation helps Myanmar

The DREAMIN Foundation contributed \$11,000 in September 2018 to send a 40 foot container to Myanmar filled with surplus medical equipment from the old Royal Adelaide Hospital.

With the dreadful images from Myanmar on our televisions in recent months, donors might question – why? The answer - while much of the government of Myanmar is controlled by the military, the Ministry of Health is not. DREAMIN Foundation and its partners in this project have very strong local health contacts and are confident that the surgical instruments, implants, operating tables, dental chairs, hospital beds, shower chairs, commode chairs, and wheel chairs, and some sophisticated medical equipment, will all be put to good use for the benefit of the population in general.

The initial stimulus and seed funding for the project came from Mrs Elizabeth Penfold, ex SA State Parliamentarian. It then developed as a combined effort with Donations in Kind, a Rotary organisation led in SA by Mr Dave Cockshell of Rotary Lower Light who was overall manager of 42 similar projects. The Rotary Clubs of Prospect and Barossa also pitched in. Prof Robert Bauze, a retired orthopaedic surgeon was the organiser and labourer. He has a strong connection with Myanmar, having made some 25 training and relationship building visits since 1975 when it was known as Burma. On two of those visits, he was accompanied - first by DREAMIN's founder and initial Chair, Dr James Katsaros; and later by our current Chair, Prof Suren Krishnan.

Our contacts in Myanmar have expressed their appreciation of the generosity of DREAMIN Foundation. Prof Bauze will be in Myanmar in November 2018 to check on progress. We await his report.

