



CNCF COVID-19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND REPORT

MARCH 2020-MARCH 2021



MESSAGE FROM CEO HELENITA NOBLE

No words of mine can really convey what our teams in Mongolia and Vietnam experienced as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded in 2020, and the fear and uncertainty of the communities CNCF work with as they faced their lives being dismantled overnight was ineffable. Fear etched in their drawn faces and worn heavy on their already emaciated undernourished bodies as uncertainty plagued their every moment as a global pandemic unravelled and grew in intensity by the day; and this weighed heavy on us all at CNCF and continues to do so as we faced another year of intensifying disruptions.

The children and communities that CNCF works with and beyond continue to be at a heightened risk of dropping out of school, abuse, neglect, exploitation, violence; and trafficking is increasing around the world because of the socio-economic impacts of the global pandemic. Whatever small income generating opportunities people already living in poverty may have once had, have for many now all been lost, leaving such communities even more vulnerable and forcing them into situations for mere survival... for food, drinking water, life-saving medications; let alone keeping some semblance of a roof over their heads.

We witnessed scenes that we haven't seen in almost 20 years as the demand for services escalated, all whilst we received weekly news that more donors were withdrawing funding commitments due to the socio-economic impacts on their own livelihoods, as well as the cancellation of fundraising events and initiatives normally undertaken by our partner offices around the globe, and as remains the case this year also. But, we are pushing through as CNCF does, and we have our community to thank for this. People like you.

Thank you very much for supporting our COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund in 2020, through your support and generosity CNCF were able to deliver emergency assistance to nearly 5,000 people who were in very desperate need, through the provision of food, hygiene, basic living packages, medical care, financial aid and psychosocial support, as well as 24-hour hotline call services, bringing great reassurance to the many. Our teams in the field have and continue to work tirelessly through national lockdowns and movement restrictions which compound our geographical movements as we continue to reach-out to those who are at highest risk of being left behind, especially those living in remote and isolated areas. People who cannot get to us - we go to them. CNCF endeavours with all its might to ensure no one under our radar is left behind nor forgotten.

To say I am incredibly proud and humbled by our teams and their selfless acts, and at times at great risk to themselves, is truly an understatement. I really cannot convey this adequately into words, other than to say, we are deeply blessed and grateful to have such a magnificent team working at CNCF Mongolia and Vietnam and whose tenacity and courage to push through for the children, their families and one another is deeply inspiring.

As you will see in this headline report, we did whatever our resources allowed us to do at the time and we made sure every cent was stretched to its limits. I want to reassure all of our kind donors who supported our COVID-19 Emergency Relief Campaign to know this - 100% of your funding support (less any banking transaction charge) went

directly to those who needed it most; all costs to enable distributions and services were covered by our own reserves.

I speak on behalf of us all at CNCF when I say we remain deeply grateful for what we received from our donor community to assist us in rebuilding lives. As the pandemic still continues, our communities remain in desperate need of life-saving support and we ask you to please consider continuing supporting our efforts in whichever way you can in 2021.

To each and every one of you, we thank you for your generosity and for believing in the work of our Foundation for the children and their communities that we pledge to serve.

**We send you and yours
our very best wishes and
we hope you have all
remained safe and well.**

**Stay strong, stay centred
and be kind to yourselves
and others, this has never
been more important than
now.**



HELENITA NOBLE
CEO

CNCF COVID-19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND TOTAL IMPACT

MARCH 2020 - MARCH 2021



4,732

CHILDREN AND
THEIR FAMILIES

in Vietnam and Mongolia have been supported through CNCF's COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund



1,110

CHILDREN

from our education and medical assistance programmes and their families were supported with financial aid



2,188

CHILDREN

from our education programmes and their families received emergency care packages



479

CHILDREN

received essential Lunar New Year support packages



520

FAMILIES

from our residential programmes and their families were supported with financial aid



60

CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES

received urgent medical assistance and support for procedures



345

CHILDREN

from our residential programmes and their families received emergency care packages



30

CHILDREN

in the community were supported with financial aid by CNCF Emergency Relief Fund through the Ho Chi Minh City Union of Friendship Organizations (HUFO)

*Number includes children and families at very high risk who received emergency support more than once where needed.





CNCF COVID-19 RESPONSE

2020 saw the world face a life-changing event when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Those who were living in extreme poverty and suffering under significant hardship prior to this pandemic experienced, and are continuing to experience, extenuated dire circumstances now.

During these uncertain times, the safety and well-being of our children and their families continued to be CNCF's first and foremost priority. CNCF maintained regular contact via phone calls to children engaged in CNCF programmes to offer constant support. Access to psychosocial support through one-on-one sessions with registered psychologists and social workers was also provided, ensuring the mental health and well-being of each child. Residential children continued to receive 24-hour support while on-site entertainment activities were facilitated throughout lockdown periods.

Critical outreach and emergency relief support was delivered to families in need through home visits and distribution days while ensuring all personal safety equipment and processes were maintained. Assistance included urgent financial packages, food, clean water, medicine and hygiene packages to desperately in-need families and their children across our operations in Vietnam and Mongolia.

CNCF provided interim study materials to our children who often have limited or no access to digital learning tools, ensuring their education was not interrupted. In Mongolia, special television programmes were released, dedicated to pupils and students engaged in education as an interim study measure. CNCF teams continue to organise internal learning activities and support our children with their homework.



Vulnerable families that rely on selling street food or small items, working on farms or labouring for livelihoods were significantly impacted by the pandemic, having lost what already meagre incomes they once had. Many families lost their homes due to their inability to cover rental costs, while others struggled to cover healthcare costs and access critical medications. Recognising the consequential economic impact of the pandemic, CNCF continued to provide assistance to families at risk of eviction by covering their rent and utilities and the costs of emergency medical treatments and medications, supporting the families to rebuild their lives.

The CNCF teams continued to display immense resilience, agility and passion during these times. Operations teams worked around the clock to ensure children and their families were informed of the risks and safety measures of COVID-19. A 24-hour emergency hotline was also established to ensure children and their families could reach for support at an immediate time. Our residential teams in Mongolia and Vietnam remained onsite for extensive periods of time without returning to their homes and own families, to ensure the safety of the children and mitigating the risk of COVID-19 spread.

CNCF has and continues to stringently follow all regulations and restrictions in accordance with the Mongolian and Vietnamese Governments. Hand washing and temperature checking protocols were implemented, while masks and sanitisers were provided throughout the CNCF offices and at our residential programmes.

All CNCF programmes implement safety precautions limiting access to the greater community to ensure children's safety. A number of programmes were suspended, such as the closure of all education facilities and extra curriculum activities, stringent restrictions imposed on residential homes, medical programmes, community development programmes and limiting any non-emergency geographical movement of our staff wherever possible. CNCF also suspended its overseas Volunteer Programme and cancelled all external visits to CNCF.

As the crisis continues, CNCF is currently working with our local partners to identify the most vulnerable families where CNCF operates community development projects such as kindergartens, primary schools medical station construction builds and community fresh water well/tank installations to provide these vulnerable families with the necessary support they desperately need. CNCF is also working incredibly hard to secure necessary funding to ensure core projects can continue providing critical support to some of our world's most vulnerable children.





Human traffickers and those who exploit the vulnerable are sitting vultures in wait knowing that while the world is consumed in distraction and its focus steadfast on the COVID-19 pandemic, predatory opportunities for human exploitation are ripe for the picking. This is one industry that is truly prospering in these times.

The children and the communities that we serve are no strangers to their lives being turned upside down; and we know that human traffickers and those who revel in the exploitation and dismantling of human life for the purpose of greed and self-gratification are taking advantage of this current global disruption to entrap more vulnerable and desperate people - especially children.



They've worked hard and continuously throughout their entire lives to overcome the most demanding challenge of their life - Poverty. Daily wage labourers are severely impacted and struggling more than ever during these uncertain times. CNCF are committed to helping those whose lives have been dismantled, and we do so by keeping the dignity of those who we help intact, but we can only help with the resources to hand.

Remember for our Rebuilding Lives Campaign 100% of donations to CNCF's COVID-19 Emergency fund (less transaction) will go directly to support families to heal, recover and rebuild their lives on the long road to recovery ahead.
cncf.org/emergency-appeal



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The COVID-19 pandemic's consequential impacts on economy and education continue to harm our vulnerable children and their communities the most, while pushing many more into abject poverty. Many livelihoods are at risk as families have lost what meagre income-generating opportunities they once had as industries shut down. The burdens of rental fees, food and daily expenses then plunge them into further risks of homelessness and inability to afford urgent medical treatments. School closures and the lack of means to pursue online learning, have disrupted children's education, whilst children are also at heightened risk of dropping out of school to work to support their families due to financial hardships. Some children have no other option but to stay in their unsafe living circumstances and face increasing threats to their safety and wellbeing. CNCF's support is critical to support these children and families to get through and rebuild their lives."

**- CNCF Vietnam Child Sponsorship
Programme Manager -**

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As frontline humanitarian workers, my team have to adapt to an array of different working methods and challenges. Despite the massive scale of restrictions and measures which had been taken in Mongolia in order to prevent the spread of the virus, our work did not cease during the pandemic as we work tirelessly to support the children and families in our care. We remain in close contact with our children via phone calls and provide assistance when needs arise, such as delivering food parcels, medication, vitamins and psychological consultation. I am proud to say that we have been both highly adaptable and successful in all we have done for our children and their families during these challenging times. Throughout lockdown our work continues to support our communities, and we will always remain true to CNCF Founder Christina's philosophy and mission of giving every child back their childhood and protect them from all forms of threats. "

**- CNCF Mongolia Child Sponsorship
Programme Manager -**



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I work as hired labourer and due to the COVID-19 restrictions, I lost my job at a local diner, which forced my family into a very difficult situation. Our neighbours knew of our situation and were kind enough to give us some food for my two grandchildren, but still that was not enough. I often skipped meals just so that I could save more for my grandson and granddaughter. When I received the call from CNCF, I was speechless and grateful for their emergency relief support. With the support, I was able to afford desperately needed milk and nutritional supplements for my grandchildren. No words can convey my gratitude, thank you CNCF for everything you've done for us."

- Grandmother of a Sunshine Social and Medical Centre child -

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Since the school closed, my son has been staying at home with me. As I have to stay home to take care of him which resulted in a loss of income, the emergency financial aid from CNCF has really helped our family a lot. We were able to buy food and cover daily expenses of the family. Thank you CNCF for supporting our family when we needed it most."

- Mother of a Son Ca Kindergarten child -





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Since a majority of services were shut down due to COVID-19 impacts, our family had lost a significant amount of income which was desperately needed to cover the costs of daily expenses and medical treatments for my grandchild who suffers with epilepsy. I am very grateful for CNCF's support by enrolling my grandchild in the Child Sponsorship Programme and providing emergency food supplies, which has made an enormous improvement in our life. The sponsorship is also a great relief as we are able to cover basic necessities and medicines for my grandchild. Thank you CNCF."

- Grandmother of Child Sponsorship Programme child -

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I would like to express my sincere appreciation to CNCF for your dedication and the support you have provided to my family. Due to the impacts of COVID-19, my father had lost his job and my siblings had to stay home as schools closed. My father was the breadwinner of the family therefore life was extremely hard for us when having no daily income. However, we are very fortunate to receive emergency support from CNCF. All thanks to CNCF, we are now able to afford coal and food while my siblings and I are facilitated to continue my education by online learning. Thank you CNCF and all the social workers for everything you have done for my family and the many more in need."

- A Child Sponsorship Programme child -











THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY OF SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

During these unprecedented times, the steadfast support from our donors and supporters has motivated and enabled CNCF to continue delivering critical assistance and emergency relief packages to the many children and families who are desperately in need. We are grateful and encouraged by the outpouring of generosity and kindness from our community.

As the world continues to face great uncertainty, more than ever, CNCF's work is imperative to ensure children and their communities in our care, the most vulnerable members of our society, are protected and supported to heal and rebuild their lives from the consequential impacts of the global pandemic. Your support helps us give to those who need it most, as our teams continue to reach the many more children and families who remain isolated and at risk.

Donors and supporters such as yourself are our Champions of Children, and we extend our heartfelt thanks and deepest gratitude for your invaluable and continued support.

As we progress into 2021, the pandemic's far-reaching impacts continue to unfold, whilst poverty-stricken and vulnerable communities across our operations in Vietnam and Mongolia struggle with the disastrous consequences of a truly unprecedented crisis. Many livelihoods have been lost, and more at heightened risk - those already living in abject poverty are faced with increasing threats of homelessness, abuse, exploitation and trafficking. Donations are critical in ensuring that CNCF is able to continue delivering essential humanitarian services, and recovery assistance to the children and their communities most in need.

We thank each and every one of you for your further consideration in supporting CNCF's humanitarian work. If you would like to make a donation, please visit cncf.org/emergency-appeal or for more information contact international@cncf.org.



\$20_{USD}

Can provide a family of up to 4 living in abject poverty with clean water, food & hygiene products for a week.

DONATE

If you would like to make a donation, please click on the button above, visit **cncf.org/emergency-appeal** or for more information contact **international@cncf.org**



Many vulnerable children that CNCF supports, come from extremely disadvantaged conditions and often lack of basic necessities.





THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

“Each one of us is only one person. But by joining all the ones together,
we can accomplish true greatness.”

- Christina Noble -

CHRISTINA NOBLE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

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