



# CHILD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME MONGOLIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CNCF</b>	Christina Noble Children's Foundation
<b>CSP</b>	Child Sponsorship Programme





# OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES

**Vision:** A united world where children are free from suffering, poverty, exploitation, fear, and oppression. Where children are aware of their fundamental human rights.

**Mission:** The Christina Noble Children's Foundation is dedicated to serving the physical, medical, educational and emotional needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of exploitation. We establish long-term relationships with the children we support and empower them to live happy, emotionally rich, and independent lives.


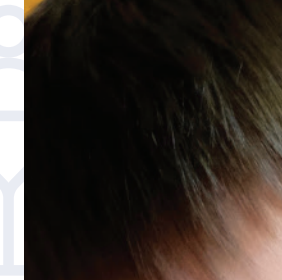
**Values:** Our values represent our beliefs and guide how we behave. They are: Love, Compassion, Respect, Honesty, and Integrity.



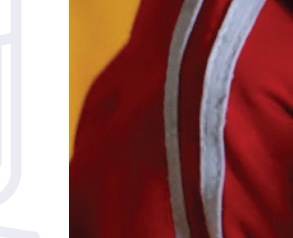
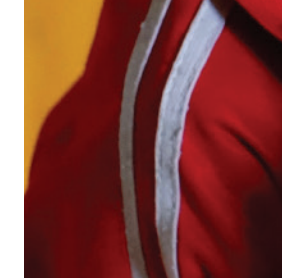
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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Child Sponsorship connects underprivileged children and their families to people from around the world who want to create change in the lives of those most in need.



It is with our most heartfelt appreciation that we would like to thank all of our incredible sponsors for their love, care and commitment to providing many children in need with an education. Your support will ultimately help these children break the cycle of poverty and achieve a brighter future. It is because of you that thousands of people have been able to receive the emotional and physical support they need to flourish.



We want to take this opportunity to say a special thanks to our local government partners who make it possible for us to implement the Child Sponsorship Programme successfully.





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**Every child needs a foundation to grow and develop. I never had a foundation in my life. A foundation means secure growth and long-term development.**

- Christina Noble, Founder, CNCF -



# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

<b>ESTABLISHED</b>	1997
<b>LOCATION</b>	Capital city Ulaanbaatar, Bulgan, Tuv and Selenge Provinces. Bulgan: Bulgan city, Orkhon, Khishig-Undur, Gurvanbulag and Dashinchilen sub-districts Tuv: Bayanchandmani, Erdene, and Argalant sub-districts Selenge: Khutul and Zuunkharaa sub-districts
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	Providing crucial financial and social support to children and their families living in extreme poverty.
<b>PROGRAMME COMPONENTS</b>	Financial support; social work; healthcare; education assistance; clothing, toy, and vitamin distribution; access to the Special Assistance and Education Scholarship funds; full access to CNCF's Give-a-Ger Programme, Arts & Music Programme and Sports Programme
<b>BENEFICIARIES</b>	Disadvantaged children and their families
<b>CNCF INVOLVEMENT</b>	Entirely responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation

## CNCF MANAGEMENT

CEO: Helenita Noble; Director of Operations: Thomas Minter; Programme Manager: Munkhtuul Togooch; Programme Officer: Munkhtsetseg Bold; Social Workers: Baigalmaa Batkhuyag, Altanzul Tsedev, Tuvshintuya Batmagnai, Naranbaatar Batmunkh; Psychologist: Ariunjargal Batsuuri; Doctors: Dr Dashbal, Dr Bayaraa; Driver: Bayaraa Munguntsetseg

## LOCAL PARTNERS

Ministry of Culture, Education and Science; The Family and Child Development Department of Ulaanbaatar; Youth Development Department of Ulaanbaatar; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency and its branches in the 9 districts of Ulaanbaatar; 157 Khoroo Authority (social workers and officials of the khoroo); The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Erdenet; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Zuun Kharaa; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Bulgan; 108 Child Detention Centre (108 nationwide helplines for children); "Unur Bul" government orphanage.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF staff conducts an annual home visit to each CSP child to assess their progress, challenges and living conditions. Updates are also provided at sponsorship distribution day. This report is sent to the sponsor along with a letter written by the child. A monthly report is completed by the project leader and an annual report is sent to all stakeholders.

## 2018 ACTUAL COSTS

USD 80,683.10

## REPORTING PERIOD

January – December 2018

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) in Mongolia continued to provide financial and social support to children and their families living in extreme poverty. Monthly sponsorships provided by individual sponsors and our Special Assistance Fund enabled children to cover the costs of education such as school supplies, uniforms and travel. Children and their families also received medical and psychological assistance and additional training for self-development through these funds.



**1007**  
CHILDREN

were directly impacted by CSP

**212**

total beneficiaries of  
the Special Assistance Fund

**178**

beneficiaries were children  
(aged 21 or below)

**34**

beneficiaries were adults  
(aged 22 or above)

**995** HOMES VISITS  
were conducted

**510** CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
attended personal development  
seminars

**615** SPONSORSHIP CHILDREN & FAMILIES  
benefitted from healthcare programme



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# PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

The Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) was established in 1997. The programme was formed as a response to the extreme poverty and hardship that engulfed the nation at that time and left thousands of children and their families fighting for safety and survival.

Mongolia became a satellite state of the Soviet Union in 1924, governed from Moscow by the communist party. With the breakdown of the Union in 1990 and the subsequent Soviet withdrawal, Mongolia underwent rapid socioeconomic and political changes that have transformed it from a socialist country to multi-party democracy and market economy.

These drastic changes spurred many challenges, impacting negatively on the community due to the closure of workplaces resulting in growth in unemployment, high rates of poverty, increase in crime and homelessness and great socio-economic instability. Sadly, as is often the case, it was the children who suffered the most.

This highly turbulent time led to thousands of vulnerable young people being abandoned, abused, orphaned and exploited. Children dropped out of school at an unprecedented rate and often had no other choice than to go out to work for long hours in order to contribute to the family income. All over the country children were living in horrendous conditions, with many destitute street children's only option being to take shelter in the city sewers. For those living on the streets, the sewers – with warm wastewater flowing through the pipes – was their only refuge against a long and harsh winter climate where temperatures regularly reach  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Since its inception CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme has supported thousands of vulnerable children, many of who now have young families of their own and are living as happy, educated and independent adults. Through the love and care of our sponsors, our team's hard work on the ground and the strength of spirit that lies within our children, thousands of young people have been able to break the cycle of poverty both now and for future generations to come.



# OUR STORIES

## A sponsored child Nomin, 22-year-old

"It is all thanks to CNCF, my kind sponsor and our Give-a-Ger donor that I can stand here today as a confident, joyful and educated young woman. It is because of CNCF that I chose to become an actress. I wanted to improve people's lives emotionally just the Foundation has helped me. I wanted to touch their hearts, give them hope and happiness through my performances.

When my family was struggling, my kind sponsor gave me hope and the opportunity to study that I would not have had. When our family had nowhere to live, the Foundation and a kind donor provided us with a beautiful, fully-furnished new ger, so that we would have the comfort and security of our own home. When I did not have enough money to continue my studies, I was awarded my university tuition fees through CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme. I have now completed my Bachelor's Degree in Acting.

The Foundation has not only supported me, but also my mother with her handmade felt business. They offered advice and assistance when she needed it most; she is now the manager of a non-profit organisation for felt art.

I can't express how much I was blessed, supported and loved by my generous sponsors and CNCF's kind workers. Thank you very much for helping me, giving me hope for the future and for making me a better person."



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# OUR YEAR

IN 2018

# 1007

children directly impacted by CSP

## 454



BOYS

## 553



GIRLS

## 1830

### CHILDREN

aged 21 or below

living in the same household as the sponsored child were indirectly impacted by CSP

## 1716

### ADULTS

aged 22 or above

## EDUCATION ENGAGEMENT LEVEL

### 24

kindergarten

### 12

kindergarten aged at home

### 251

primary school

### 253

middle school

### 132

high school

### 07

informal school

### 59

college

### 186

university

### 58

vocational training

### 16

children graduated

### 30

children graduated

### 10

children graduated



## AGE GROUP OF CHILDREN ENGAGED IN CSP

Age	0-5	6-12	13-18	19-24
Number	36	380	406	185

## 1007 CHILDREN

enrolled in CSP at the beginning of 2018

## 851 CHILDREN

enrolled in CSP at the end of 2018

# CHILD SPONSORSHIP EXPLAINED

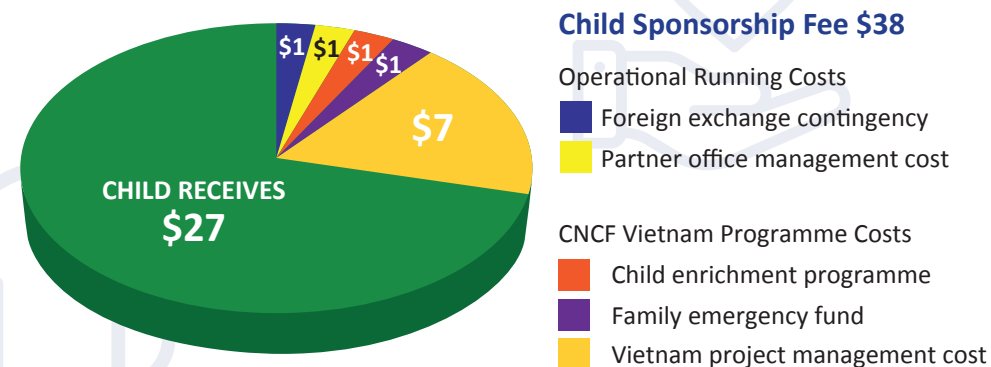
To determine the eligibility of each applicant, our social workers carefully evaluate each sponsorship application and conduct an initial visit to the family-home. CSP applicants often come from single parent homes, have a parent who is physically impaired, an elderly relative is the primary carer, the child has been abandoned or orphaned, or both parents are unemployed or engaged in low paying work. It is common for families to have incomes below the poverty line.

All children in our programme are required to engage in full-time education and supported if there is a barrier to this for instance; both parents are physically impaired.

If children in CSP require financial assistance after the age of 18 and are pursuing higher education, future sponsorship support is discussed with their sponsor.

The monthly sponsorship amount received, is the equivalent of US \$27 in local Mongolian currency, called the "Mongolian tögrög".

These funds provide the crucial assistance needed to cover the costs of education and supplies such as stationery, uniform and travel to and from school. For the vast majority of children on the programme, this support is the only means to receiving an education.



## WHERE YOUR DOLLARS GO

Disengagement rates are low as engaging in education is a requirement of CSP. CNCF believes that education plays a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty.

Distribution days are held each month, where the children and their families come to receive their sponsorship funds. During distribution day the social workers meet with the children to monitor their living conditions to ensure their safety, evaluate their education outcomes, as well as offer guidance and support where required.

The children and their relatives also have access to the Foundation's doctors, who attend distribution days each month to provide free check-ups, advice, nutritional and basic healthcare. Mental health support is also provided by appointment with a newly recruited Psychologist.

# OUR STORIES

## A mother of a sponsored child

“I am a disabled single mother who lives with my son. At that time I had just had cancer surgery and was feeling extremely unwell and hopeless. I couldn't work and had no money to provide for my child. In 2008, my son and I met a worker from CNCF on the streets who told us about the Foundation and how they could help. They found a sponsor for us straight away. I felt so happy. For the first time in ages, I felt some strength and hope back inside me.

In addition to receiving much needed monthly sponsorship money, my son was also given specialised equipment to support his paper cutting hobby. He is very talented at this and creates beautiful pieces of art. Thanks to the support of his sponsor and CNCF, he was able to have his own exhibition. It means so much to me that you are helping my boy achieve his dreams and develop his talents.

There are no words to describe how happy and appreciative we are to receive such great love and support from CNCF and our dear sponsor. From the bottom of my heart, thank you all so much.”



# PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES



## Healthcare

Many of low-income families often face ill-health and an array of life-threatening conditions due to the lack of clean water, sanitation, nutrient-rich diet, or quality healthcare. CNCF provides health check-ups and consultations to the children and their families on sponsorship disbursement days. We also distribute medicines to treat minor conditions and dietary supplements to children and families in need. Financial support for the family is offered through our Special Assistance Fund or the child's sponsor in case of emergency medical treatment.

## Psychological support

CNCF's psychologist provides support for children and families in need of critical assistance. In addition to assessing, diagnosing, and treating children with mental, emotional or social challenges, CNCF delivers general psychological development and well-being trainings to the children, their families and our staff.

## Arts, Crafts and Dance

CNCF believes that feeding a child's spirit and souls is just as important as their academic education. This year, 225 children participated in a range of creative activities through our weekly Arts class, Craft workshops and Dance classes. The experiences enable the children to discover new interests, develop critical thinking, while creating a safe environment to express themselves and develop their emotional intelligence.

## Noble Club

The Noble club is a community service group made up of young people ages 16 and above who are currently or formerly enrolled in one of CNCF's programmes. Established in May 2018, the club presently has 133 members, among them are 103 children from the Child Sponsorship Programme. The purpose of the club is to give back to the community and contribute to the development of Mongolia with the motto "We join to make others smile!".

Through participation in the group, members develop essential life skills such as leadership, problem-solving, creative thinking, communication and empathy. It also lifts their spirits, helps them to feel good by helping others and brings them into a positive community of young people working towards a common goal.

The Noble club focuses on three areas: personal development, public health and education and organising activities to support CNCF, club members and the community.

## Sponsor Visit

This year, 10 sponsors from the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, America, Australia and France visited their sponsored children and their families. These visits support the sponsors to connect with the child and gain a better understanding into the lives and culture of CSP children and their families.



# PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

## Distributions

Instability and poverty are great barriers to a child's education. CNCF provides additional support to children and families in need, to lessen their burdens and enables children to stay in school. This year, CSP and the Special Assistance Fundt distributed school uniforms, books, firewood and coal, warm clothing, food and vitamins benefiting hundreds of people.



47

**UNIFORMS**

were distributed to children in need



308

**PEOPLE**

received vitamin supplies



25

**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

received firewood and coal



10000

**COMIC BOOKS**

on Mongolian history  
were distributed to children in need



48

**FAMILIES**

received food supplies



20000

**WARM KNITTED ITEMS**

were distributed to children  
and families in need

# OUR STORIES

## A former sponsored child now working as a CNCF social worker

“When I first met CNCF Mongolia in 2007, it was the saving light in my family’s life and mine. Because of my father's death in 2003, my mother was left alone to look after my three other siblings and me. She was working as a tailor all day and night just to feed us. We didn't have our own home at the time.

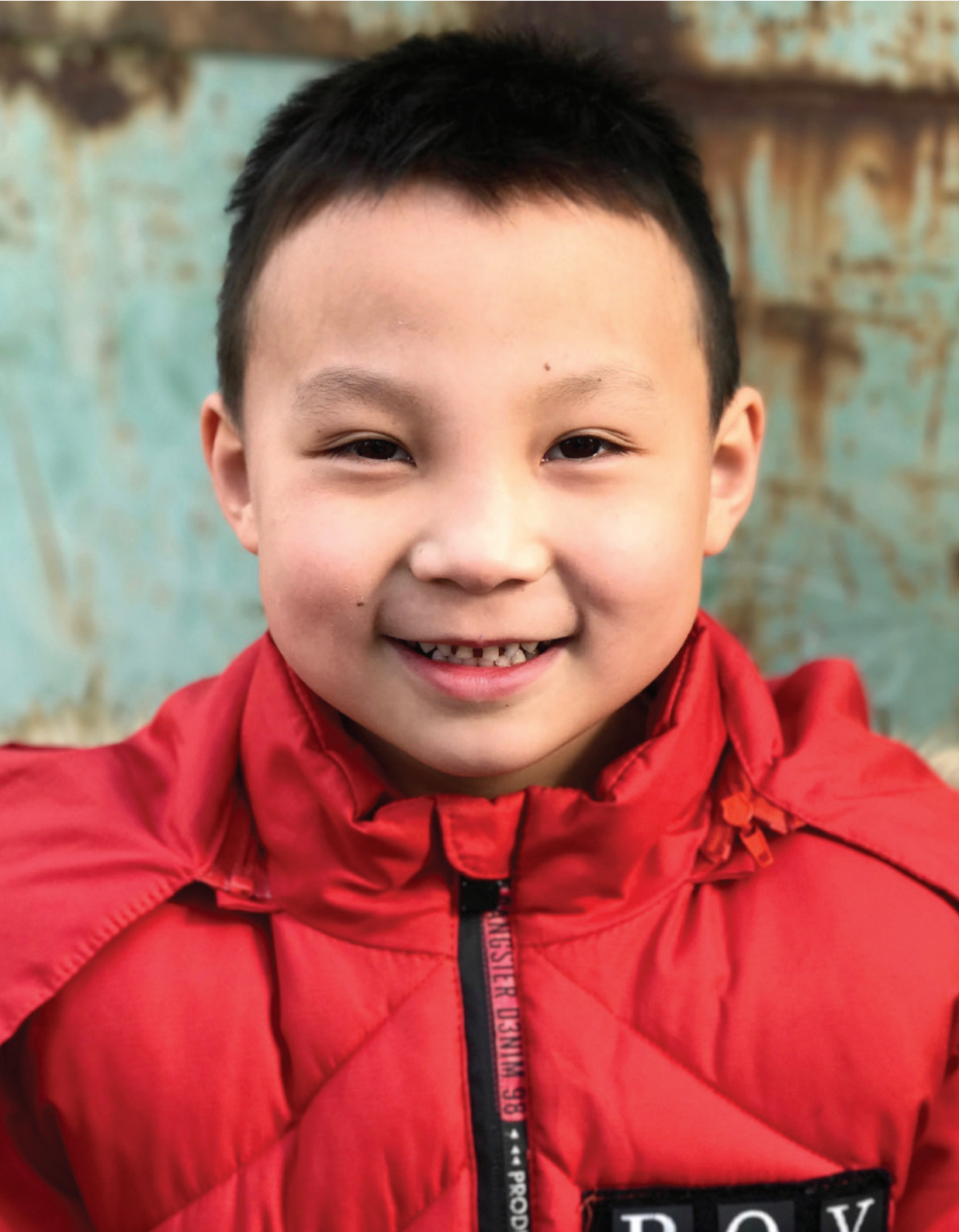
Since I received the sponsorship, our life has changed dramatically. Each month I met with my social worker, and every quarter I had to show them a letter from my school so that they could monitor how I was getting on – this always kept me motivated and on the right track. Each year they visited my home to talk to my family and see how they could support us. It was also an opportunity for me to talk about my future and they would guide me towards achieving my goals.

The support of CNCF and my sponsor made me feel that I had to try my best to become an independent, successful man. Eventually, I started to feel inspired by my social worker. I liked helping others and wanted to make a difference in people’s lives like the social workers at CNCF. During my studies, I received several appreciation certificates and awards; I was always the best student on my course. It made me feel incredibly proud to be acknowledged for my work and passion.

At the moment, my oldest sister is working as a teacher for a Medical University, my second sister is working as a technologist, my brother is working as a high-level plumber and my mother is living in the countryside working as a farmer. I am now working as a Social Worker for CNCF.”







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# OUR STORIES



## A child sponsor, Joss Stewart, Australia

“I sponsor twin 3-year-old boys who live with their mother and three other siblings on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar the capital city in Mongolia. Being a sponsor with CNCF Mongolia is very rewarding for several reasons. Knowing my money each month enables the twins to have decent food, clothing and kindergarten facilities as their mother works full time.

Having visited the family twice in the last 2 years, I have seen first-hand the difference it makes to the mother and the children knowing they have a foreign person care about them and be willing to be kind and help them. The family feels important, and it very much boosts their confidence in life.

I have built quite a close relationship with the family; I respect the mother very much, she does a wonderful job with her children and appreciates the assistance she receives from CNCF in Mongolia.”



# LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

To facilitate learning and personal growth, 11 life skills trainings were offered throughout the year benefiting 300 children. Topics covered included personal and professional development. A further 5 trainings were delivered to 210 children’s parents and relatives.

We believe that providing these opportunities for learning plays a fundamental role in helping children and families to gain the skills, knowledge and confidence to lead happy, fulfilled lives in a modern-day Mongolian society and ultimately breaking the cycle of poverty.

## Children’s training

Title of training	Number of beneficiaries
Reproductive Health	190
Crime Prevention and Law	170
Preventing Addiction	150
Human Development	300
Leadership Skills	300
Sourcing & maintaining employment while studying	50
Job Hunting, CV Writing and Interview Skills	28
Job Hunting, CV Writing and Interview Skills	28
Living Life with Vision	170
How to be Successful in Life	38
Computer Skills	5

## Trainings for the children’s relatives

Title of training	Number of beneficiaries
Positive Discipline	201
Employment and Work Orientation	30
Children’s Rights and Positive Discipline	25
Parenting Education and Family Law	28
How To Maintain a Healthy Lifestyle	30

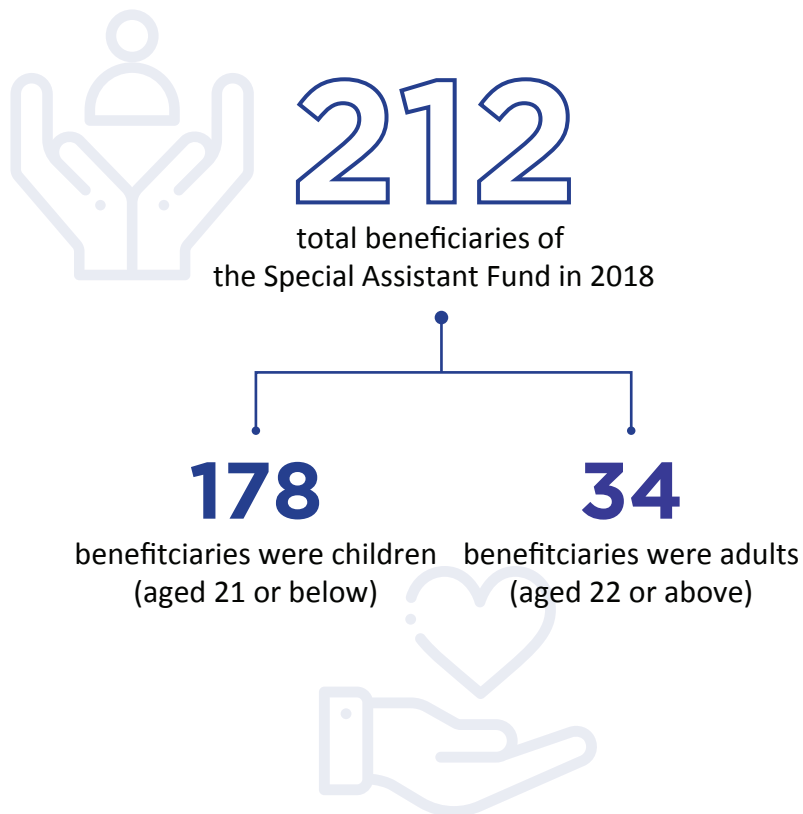
## Staff training

Throughout the year, our CSP staff attended 3 trainings to develop their understanding of psychology, improve their financial management, communication and photography skills. Staff training is also an opportunity for our team to share ideas and gain a deeper understanding of each other, helping to form a more harmonious and supportive working community. Training sessions such as these play an important role in enabling us to provide the best level of care possible for our children.

# CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME SUBPROJECT

## Special Assistance Fund

The Special Assistance Fund was established to provide specialised and emergency assistance to children and families most in need, living in extreme poverty. Financial support is provided for housing repairs, food, clothes, firewood and coal and unique opportunities that support personal development. The Special Assistance Fund also provides financial support for any significant or emergency healthcare needs such as operations, medicines and treatments that may not necessarily be included in the regular healthcare budget.





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# OUR STORIES



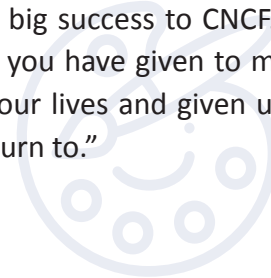
## A mother who received special assistance

“I am very happy to express my gratitude to the Foundation for their financial support. I'm immensely grateful to everyone at the Foundation for their kindness and generosity in helping me. In 2017, my spinal cord was injured and I became 50% disabled after an accident. Since then I have not been able to work.

I couldn't afford an MRI scan which was required to apply for disability allowance. As my son Bilguun is on the Child Sponsorship Programme, I came to CNCF for financial assistance; they approved my request and I was able to get my scan.

It is all thanks to the Foundation that I could get my allowance, as a result, my son was able to receive a university grant from the government which is available to children who have a single parent receiving a disability allowance.

I wish a big success to CNCF. Thank you so much for all of the support you have given to my son and me. It has been a great help in our lives and given us support when there was no one else to turn to.”





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# OUR STORIES

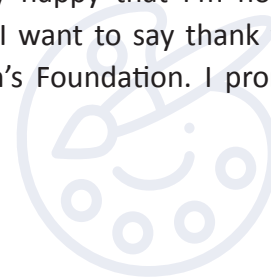


## A child who received special assistance

"I live with my mother and two siblings. My biggest brother is on the Child Sponsorship Programme. The money he receives really helps my family as my mother is unable to work because she has bad health and my dad passed away this year.

I'm very grateful to the CNCF staff because they supported me a lot. In January, I was accidentally fell into a pot of boiling water at home. Then I felt a very bad pain, my mother rushed me to the hospital. After the check-ups, I was advised to stay in the hospital for treatment. We also needed to buy medicines and injections, but we didn't have any money. My mother then went to the Foundation to ask for financial support for my treatment. Thanks to the Foundation my mother could get the medicines and injections I needed.

I'm very happy that I'm now recovered and can go back to school. I want to say thank you very much to Christina Noble Children's Foundation. I promise that I will study hard in the future."



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# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Because the CSP is a supply driven programme, the budgets and number of children enrolled are dependent upon the number of sponsors.

Monthly Child Sponsorship amounts distributed in 2018

**USD 218,698.02**

Extra funds distributed to families/children in 2018

**USD 38,267.84**

Cost of Running the Programme in 2018

**USD 80,683.10**

CSP Mongolia works in cooperation with CNCF group offices in Australia, Hong Kong, Ireland, France, the United Kingdom and the United States to provide sponsorship to disadvantaged children.

Our 2018 audits are available online  
<https://www.cncf.org/finance-policies>

If you wish to change the life of a child in Mongolia, please contact our team in Mongolia or any of our group offices.





For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Mongolia please contact:

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