



**CHILD
SPONSORSHIP
PROGRAMME
VIETNAM &
MONGOLIA**

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



“

When children are educated, they possess something which cannot be lost or taken away from them and which offers them some protection from exploitation and abuse. They will have more power in the labour market; they will be better equipped to provide for themselves in a way which protects their integrity and their dignity.

- Christina Noble OBE -



APPENDIX

OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES	04
PROGRAMME OVERVIEW	05
Vietnam	05
Mongolia	06
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	07
Vietnam	07
Mongolia	07
PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION	08
Vietnam	09
Mongolia	17
GLOBAL STATISTICS	25
OUR YEAR	26
Vietnam	26
Mongolia	29
OUR STORIES	32
A Graduate Thriving	32
Testimonial from a Child	33
Testimonial from the Grandparent	34
Building A Brighter Future	35
Testimonial from a Child	36
Testimonial from the Parent	37
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW	38
Vietnam	38
Mongolia	38
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	41

ABBREVIATIONS

BOLISA	Bureau of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
BSP	Bicycle Support Project
CNCF	Christina Noble Children's Foundation
CSP	Child Sponsorship Programme
DOLISA	Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
ESP	Education Scholarship Programme
HCMC	Ho Chi Minh City
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
PPC	People's Committee
UN	United Nations
USD	US Dollar
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ILO	International Labour Organisation
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation



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.

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

VIETNAM

ESTABLISHED

1994

LOCATION

Ho Chi Minh City (including Can Gio District), Ca Mau Province (Ca Mau Orphanage and U Minh District), Ben Tre Province, Dong Nai Province, and Long An Province (Chau Thanh and Thanh Hoa Districts). Some children enrolled in the programme also reside in other provinces such as Bac Lieu, Dong Thap and Binh Duong

OBJECTIVES

To provide crucial financial and social support to children and their families who are living in extreme poverty, supporting them to work through their challenges, engage in education and become independent and self-sufficient

BENEFICIARIES

Children from severely disadvantaged backgrounds who are not enrolled in education or at high risk of dropping out due to financial hardship. Children who are orphans or street children; children from large families with parents having physical disabilities; children from low-income households; children whose families are living in extreme poverty. Children currently enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme who are over age 16 are considered for further support after high school if they are still experiencing extreme financial difficulty and want to pursue college or university level education or vocational training

LOCAL PARTNERS

DOLISA of Dong Nai, Ben Tre and Ca Mau Provinces, BOLISA of Can Gio District (Ho Chi Minh City), PPC of Chau Thanh District (Long An Province) and PPC of Thanh Hoa District (Long An Province)

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring, and evaluation

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF social workers conduct regular home visits to assess and monitor the needs of the family and provide counselling support. One-on-one meetings with the children and families are also conducted during the year to provide comprehensive annual reports to their sponsors. Based on observations and feedback during home visits, timely support is provided to the children and families. Weekly internal meetings are conducted for CNCF staff to discuss programme related issues. Project visit reports, monthly reports, and semi-annual reports are provided to the Board of Management and an annual review of the programme is made available to all stakeholders

2019 ACTUAL COSTS

The Operational Cost: USD \$42,164
The Sponsorship Distribution Amount: USD \$258,206

REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2019

2020 OBJECTIVES

- To continue providing financial and case management support to enable the children to remain in school and pursue higher education
- To improve case management process and funds disbursement logistics
- To improve sponsor engagement and develop further partnerships with local partners

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

MONGOLIA

ESTABLISHED

1997

LOCATION

Capital city Ulaanbaatar and 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

OBJECTIVES

To provide crucial financial and social support to children and their families living in extreme poverty, enabling them to improve their living conditions and become self-sufficient

BENEFICIARIES

Disadvantaged children and their families living in poverty in Mongolia. Children who are orphans or street children; children from large families with parents having physical disabilities; children from low-income households; children whose families are living in extreme poverty

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

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring, and evaluation

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF social workers conduct annual home visits to CSP children and their families to assess their needs, challenges and living conditions. Updates are also provided at sponsorship distribution days. Reports on updates on the sponsored child is sent to each sponsor along with a letter written by their child. Internal meetings are conducted for CNCF staff to discuss programme related issues and updates. A monthly report is completed by the project leader and an annual report is made available to all stakeholders

2019 ACTUAL COSTS

The Operational Cost: USD \$84,836
 The Sponsorship Distribution Amount: USD \$252,259

REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2019

2020 OBJECTIVES

- To continue providing financial and case management support to severely disadvantaged children and their families
- To improve case management processes and funds disbursement logistics
- To improve sponsor engagement and develop further partnerships with local partners

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2019, CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) continued to provide financial and social support to children and their families living in extreme poverty. The monthly sponsorship amount covers the costs of education including tuition fees, school supplies, uniforms and transportation to and from school that families cannot afford. Children and their families also received medical and psychological assistance as well as additional self-development support through these funds.

VIETNAM

In 2019



866
CHILDREN

in Ho Chi Minh City and four surrounding provinces received monthly financial sponsorship

VIETNAM



achieved an "Excellent" school grade



achieved a "Good" school grade



graduated from college/ university/ intermediate/ vocational training

356 CHILDREN & FAMILIES received counselling support

256 CHILDREN attended life skills trainings and workshops

441 HOME VISITS to CSP children, their families and new applicants were conducted

MONGOLIA

In 2019



917
CHILDREN

were supported through CSP



graduated from university/ college/institute/ vocational training



graduated from high school

819 CHILDREN continued receiving support by the end of 2019

1057 HOME VISITS to CSP children, their families and new applicants were conducted



REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Education is the primary tool to break the cycle of poverty for our children, their families and future generations to come. Having access to education provides the opportunity for young people to develop their self-confidence, academic skills and build social connections within their communities. Access to a quality education is a human right. Through education, young people are enabled to develop academically and create greater opportunities in the labour market, enabling economic stability and an end to the poverty cycle.

Struggling with significant financial hardship, a large number of families living in extreme poverty have no means to cover the costs of their children's education. For many children and young adults, they would often have no other option but to drop out of school to work on the streets to support their families, facing greater risks of abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

Through the Child Sponsorship Programme, we work to provide disadvantaged vulnerable children and young adults with access to education with the provision of monthly financial sponsorships. The programme connects children and their families to people from around the world who want to be part of a rewarding journey to create lasting change in the lives of those most in need. In addition to facilitating a mutually beneficial and empowering relationship, a sponsor provides a lifeline to a family living in desperate and vulnerable conditions, providing them with the financial means to access an education, food, necessities and support.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

The recent years have witnessed positive and drastic changes in the educational system in Vietnam. Despite the substantial progress in achieving universal primary education, the costs of education such as transportation, uniforms, learning materials and other fees remain barriers to accessing education for children in both urban and rural areas. For many families from poverty-stricken backgrounds, the cost of sending their children to school or their pursuit for higher education is well beyond their means due to economic constraints.

CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP) in Vietnam was established in 1994 with an aim to provide crucial support that enables children to enrol in and remain in school. Through financial assistance and social support, CNCF assists significantly marginalised and disadvantaged families by increasing the opportunity for

their children to complete their schooling and improve their career prospects which enables them to break the cycle of poverty that their families have been bound to for generations.

Education equips our children and young adults with skills, knowledge, confidence and greater self-belief that there is a life beyond poverty. The CSP provides a pathway to education which creates opportunities in the labour market, enabling financial independence, transforming young people's lives, the lives of their families and future generations to come. Since inception, the Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam has assisted more than 21,000 disadvantaged children to attend school and pursue higher education, empowering our young people to lead self-sufficient and fulfilling lives.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Beneficiaries

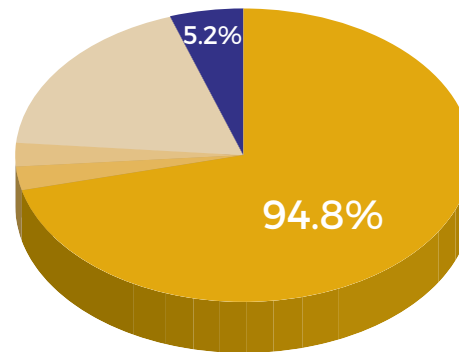
CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam operates in five locations including Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Ca Mau, Ben Tre, Dong Nai and Long An provinces. The programme provides assistance to students enrolled in primary, secondary and high school, as well as those attending university, college and vocational training.

Current children in the programme who reside outside the operating locations are children who have been enrolled in the CSP for several years and have recently relocated with their families. We aim to expand the programme logistics in the future in order to reach more students who remain in desperate need of support.

The CSP consists of subprojects including:

- HCMC Project
- Ben Tre Province Project
- Can Gio District Project
- Long An - Long Tri District Project
- Long An - Thanh Hoa District Project
- Long An - An Luc Long Project
- Dong Nai Province Project
- Ca Mau Orphanage Project
- Ca Mau - U Minh District Project

Case Management



The Child Sponsorship Programme connects disadvantaged students and their families to sponsors who wish to make profound and sustainable impacts on the lives of vulnerable children. Prior to enrolment, CSP staff conduct an initial home visit to each family where an assessment is completed to assess the eligibility of the child. Most families in the CSP, live below the national poverty threshold with the majority of students enrolled in the programme being orphaned or abandoned children, children who come from single-parent families with many young children, families with severe financial hardships or those who have a physically impaired parent or an elderly primary caregiver.

CSP is open to children aged three to sixteen years old. Students over sixteen are considered for sponsorship if they are pursuing higher education and are experiencing extreme financial difficulty. When children turn eighteen, their circumstances are reassessed. To support children in CSP who are

Child Sponsorship Amount \$38

- Child Receives Monthly Amount \$27.00 (71.0%)
- Psychological Development and Life Skills Training (PDLST) \$1.00 (2.6%)
- Child/ Family Emergency Fund \$1.00 (2.6%)
- Child Welfare Support Cost \$7.00 (18.4%)

Child Sponsorship Programme \$36 (94.8%)

- Fundraising and Administration \$2.00 (5.2%)

in need of financial assistance to continue their studies past the age of eighteen, we contact their sponsors to ask for their continued support in covering the child's tuition fees. Full-time education is compulsory for all students engaged in the programme.

Through an initial profile, our sponsors gain a better understanding of their child and the challenging circumstances they and their family are facing. This insight is developed further through the course of the sponsorship through letters, reports, photos and other personal correspondence. Meetings between sponsored students and families and their sponsors are also arranged when possible to foster cultural exchange and relationship.

All CSP students receive monthly financial sponsorships to cover the costs of their education such as school supplies, uniforms and travel. Sponsorship money is also at times used to cover the costs of clothes, food, extracurricular activities and additional training courses.

CSP children and their family during a home visit from CNCF staff.





REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Academic Education

All children and young adults enrolled in the CSP programme attend mainstream schools or vocational programmes. Each student is required to submit a confirmation letter provided by their school at the beginning of the school year and academic reports at the end of each semester. CNCF staff work closely with our local partners, students and their families to monitor each child's school progress and achievements and offer timely support where needed.

Due to financial hardships, many children have to withdraw from school and are forced to work and support their families. When a child is removed from school, we make every effort to meet and talk to the child's family to provide support and advocate for the child to remain in school.

Sponsorship Disbursement Days

Sponsorship disbursement days are organised monthly in HCMC and quarterly in surrounding provinces in collaboration with our local partners. Sponsorship disbursement days create additional

opportunities for CNCF teams to get updates on any further changes in the children and their families' daily lives.

Home Visits

As many of our CSP children and families reside in outlying provinces, ensuring these families are supported through outreach home visits is an important part of programme delivery. Our aim of visiting 100% of sponsored children in the provinces remains a priority.

Through home visits, our staff are greater equipped to provide the necessary support by understanding the current circumstances of the children and their families and the challenges they face. Based on the information from home visits, we are able to assess potential risks ensuring the children are protected and cared for as well as offering additional support and counselling wherever possible.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Project Visits

The support of our local partners is essential to the programme delivery within districts and provinces, enabling us to remain in constant contact with our sponsored children and their families. Our local partners assist with the administration process, support home visits and ensure that we are able to reach the most disadvantaged children in need.

Throughout the year, we conduct project visits to collaborative partnership locations. During these visits, our CSP team works closely with representatives of our local partners to disburse sponsorship funds, conduct home visits, distribute awards for children with high academic performance in school as well as assisting in the provision of life skills trainings and career workshops.

Progress Reports

To ensure precision, quality of care and service delivery, individual meetings with each sponsored child and their guardians are conducted throughout the year. Along with information

acquired during home visits and monthly updates, each child's profile and report outlines the current circumstances and needs of the family which aims to connect the children and sponsors in a personal way.

Counselling

In addition to the financial assistance, CNCF provides counselling support and advice, empowering our children and their families to build connections, work through trauma and develop positive mental health and wellbeing practices. When a student seeks counsel on educational goals, our social workers aim to address their needs to give advice on career plans and study methods.

This year, **315 students** were offered careers guidance on educational pathways, career aspirations. We also provided family counselling support for **12 families** and financial counselling for **29 families**.

Life Skills Training & Workshops

Life skills training is an important component of the CSP, as we aim to provide our students with more than just financial support and we ensure that they are also able to develop personally to thrive within their community. In a constantly changing environment, gaining life skills and knowledge is an essential part of a child's holistic development.

This year, CSP continued to facilitate trainings on

sex education for more than 100 children. Additional topics covered included psychological changes during adolescence, human sexual anatomy and reproductive health and sexual abuse prevention.

In collaboration with DOLISA Ben Tre, training sessions on bullying and school safety were arranged for **68 children** in Ben Tre Province. The training aimed to provide the students with knowledge on bullying, self-defence techniques, integration skills and emotional and behaviour management.

A two-week training course on water safety was organised by CNCF and DOLISA Ca Mau for **25 children** at U Minh District, Ca Mau to educate them on water safety. **23 children** in the district also participated in a workshop focused on recycling and waste management, empowering them to cultivate environmental awareness and encourage waste separation for a cleaner environment.

At the Ca Mau Orphanage, **30 children** participated in problem solving and creativity workshops "play and learn" programme, which included exercises, games and arts and crafts. A one-day trip to an amusement park in Bac Lieu Province was also organised with the participation of **30 children** of the Ca Mau Orphanage. This was a memorable experience for the children as most of whom have never had opportunities to travel outside their neighbourhood. It was an enjoyable day for all.





REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Sponsor & Guest Visits

Meetings between sponsored students, their families and their sponsors are special moments where bonds and connections are formed. It is where the sponsors will see the real and lasting changes that are contributing to the life of their sponsored child, their family and entire community with their support.

In 2019, CSP facilitated **51 visits** from sponsors and guests to the children in CSP and their families. These opportunities do not only foster the connections but also help the sponsors and guests to gain insight into the very real challenges that the children and their families face in their daily lives.

Additional Support

To support students in extreme financial hardship, we provided gift packs to families in support of a fulfilling Lunar New Year traditions which is the most important celebration in Asian culture.

Throughout the year, during scholarship distribution days, our team also delivered thousands of essential items such as school supplies, clothes and shoes to children and families in need as well as recognition gifts for children who are performing well academically.

In 2019, we were also able to provide **10 CSP students** with bicycles from the CNCF Bicycle Support Programme, to commute to and from school, enabling them to improve educational attendance and reduce economic pressures by reducing transportation costs.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Staff Training

Ensuring a high quality of service is an essential requirement in all of CNCF programme delivery. As many of our CSP children come from diverse backgrounds and circumstances, it is crucial that our staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills to offer a professional and high-quality standard of support to our children.

In 2019, CSP staff attended a two-day workshop on supporting children through behavioural management at Ca Mau Social Centre, providing knowledge on basic psychology, creating supportive environments and practical counselling support skills for children. Our staff also took part in a one-day training in An Giang Province on adolescent ambivalence with the introduction of motivational interviewing practice.

CNCF CSP staff also ensure they maintain quality case notes and reporting practices to document the support needed and provided to each child. Reporting is a vital practice to monitor and evaluate the project operations as well as effectively communicate the work of the CSP programme to potential donors. This year, a workshop on English proposal and report writing was facilitated with the participation of all CSP staff members.



REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

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

Following the withdrawal of the Soviet Union in 1990, the nation witnessed drastic changes resulting in the growth of unemployment rates, increased rates of poverty, an increase in crime and homelessness and great socioeconomic 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 work on the streets for long hours in order to contribute to their families meagre income.

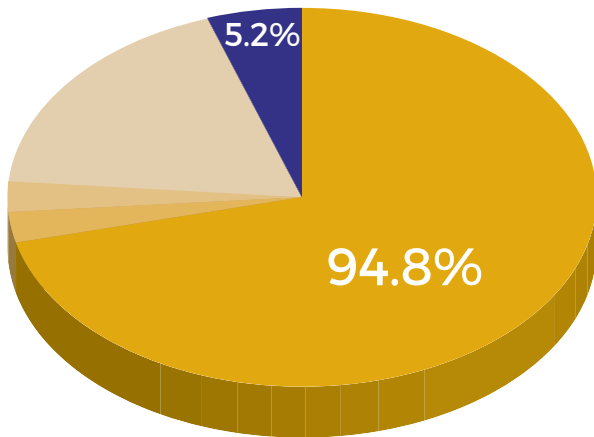
Since its inception, CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme has supported thousands of vulnerable children, many of who now have young families of their own and are living as happy, educated and independent adults. Through the love and care of our sponsors, our team's hard work on the ground and the strength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



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Case Management



Child Sponsorship Amount \$38

- Child Receives Monthly Amount \$27.00 (71.0%)
- Psychological Development and Life Skills Training (PDLST) \$1.00 (2.6%)
- Child/ Family Emergency Fund \$1.00 (2.6%)
- Child Welfare Support Cost \$7.00 (18.4%)

Child Sponsorship Programme \$36 (94.8%)

- Fundraising and Administration \$2.00 (5.2%)

Child sponsorship empowers children, their families and communities to lift themselves out of poverty through the provision of education, basic necessities such as food, firewood, coal and healthcare alleviating some financial pressure and creating greater employment opportunities resulting in greater financial independence. These funds are crucial to enabling the students to attend school and pursue further education.

To determine the eligibility of each applicant, our social workers carefully evaluate each sponsorship application and conduct an initial visit to the family's home. Most families on CSP live below the national poverty threshold. Majority of students enrolled in the programme are orphaned or abandoned children, children who come from single-parent families, families with significant financial hardship or those who have a physically impaired parent, an elderly primary caregiver or both parents who are unemployed or engaged in low-paying work.

All children in our programme are required to engage in full-time education with close monitoring and timely support provided by our staff. 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 financial sponsorship helps cover the costs of education such as school supplies, uniforms and travel to and from school as well as clothes, food and extracurricular activities when needed. Additional financial assistance is also

offered by our sponsors to support the families with healthcare, coal and wood, tutoring and birthdays or other special celebration expenses.

CSP children and their relatives also have access to CNCF's medical staff, who attend sponsorship distribution days to provide free check-ups, health advice, nutritional and basic healthcare support. Psychological support is also provided by our psychologist upon referrals from our social workers.

Sponsorship Disbursement Days

Sponsorship disbursement days are facilitated each month and are opportunities to exchange correspondence between sponsors and children. During the disbursement days, our social workers meet with each child to monitor their living conditions, ensure their safety, evaluate their education outcomes, as well as offer guidance and support where required. For children and families living outside the capital city and those who are unable to attend our monthly distribution, their sponsorship amount is transferred into their bank accounts with semi-annual home visits from our team.

This year, during sponsorship disbursement days, 235 letters, postcards or emails from sponsors were given to the children and 802 additional appreciation messages and Christmas greetings from our children were sent to their sponsors. 57 children also received additional gifts from their sponsors such as toys, drawing supplies and clothes. These thoughtful presents always fill the children with great excitement, joy and gratitude.

CSP children and their family during a home visit from CNCF staff.



REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Home Visits

Home visits are fundamental to ensuring that we reach all of our children, even those who remain in some of Mongolia's most isolated areas. These visits enable us to develop and strengthen the relationship with our students and their families as well as allowing our social workers to gain a deeper understanding about the challenges the families face.

Our CSP team conducts a semi-annual five-day visit to students and their family who reside in the countryside to evaluate their living conditions, support their progress as well as collecting and distributing letters and gifts from their sponsors. An annual home visit is also organised for all children living in Ulaanbaatar.

The home visit assessment is included in the annual report sent along with photos to each child sponsor. The report also contains a written portion by the child with their updates, achievements, challenges and a personal message to their sponsor.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Healthcare

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

In addition to monitoring medical cases, we organise training sessions to raise awareness and provide our children and their families with necessary knowledge on general health and wellbeing practices and illness and disease prevention.

Psychological Support

Mental health support for our students and families in the community is one of our top priorities. The Foundation's psychologist provides support for children and families in need of crucial assistance through client-centred counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy and art therapy. In 2019, **164** therapy sessions were facilitated for **57 children** and **25** one-on-one counselling sessions were conducted for **9 parents and guardians**, empowering them to heal and overcome their traumas.

In addition to assessing, diagnosing, and treating children with mental, emotional or social challenges, we foster a greater understanding of psychological skills, emotion management and maintaining a positive environment through the delivery of trainings and sharing sessions to the children, their families and our staff.





REPORT 2019

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Arts & Crafts

Feeding a child's spirit and soul is just as important as providing academic education. CNCF believes that an education without an exposure to the arts is not a complete education. The arts and crafts classes enable our children to communicate their feelings and develop self-esteem, self-confidence and creativity. For many of our students who face traumatic events in their daily lives, these extracurricular activities create healthy settings for them to express their emotions, heal and flourish.

This year, **232 children** participated in a range of creative activities through our weekly Arts and Crafts classes. The experiences enable the children to discover new interests, develop critical thinking, while creating a safe environment for self-expression and emotional intelligence development. Read our Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme Annual Report here: www.cncf.org/report/

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 CNCF's programmes. Established in May 2018, the club presently has **244 members** with **178 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. The Noble Club supports all its members to their develop leadership skills by creating opportunities to develop ways to give back to the community. The Noble club focuses on three areas: personal development, public health and education and organising activities to support the community.

A new initiative of 2019 was to create a library and a study space for our Noble Club members with books donated by the local community members and CNCF staff. The library also stores two computers for our young people to use who do not have access to an adequate study space or electronic devices to do homework and conduct school research. A weekly book club was also formed to read books and share knowledge and discussions about what they have learned.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Life Skills Training & Workshops

Life skills are important tools that enable our young people to cultivate a strong and positive mindset and develop into active and productive members of their community. To support our children with greater development of interpersonal and professional skills, we organise regular trainings and workshops on a variety of topics such as how to keep a positive attitude, health and hygiene, reproductive health, personal development, resume enhancement and finance management.

Families and relatives of our CSP students also took part in training and workshops on personal development topics. These sessions equipped the caregivers with a positive mindset and the knowledge and confidence that helps them create a healthy and nurturing environment for their children.

Distributions

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

Staff Training

In 2019, training sessions on psychology were facilitated for our staff to gain knowledge of different personality traits and types, emotional intelligence, positive self-expression and communication styles. These sharing sessions are conducted by our psychologist team as part of the personal development programme for all CNCF staff to maximise the quality of services we provide for some of Mongolia's most vulnerable children.

Staff training sessions are also an opportunity for our team to share ideas and skills and gain a deeper understanding of each other, helping to form a positive team culture and supportive working environment.

Sponsor Visit

This year, we welcomed **3** sponsors to Mongolia to meet their sponsored children and their families. These visits support the sponsors to connect with their child and gain a better understanding into the lives and culture of CSP children and their families and see first-hand the positive impacts they are making by their monthly donation.

Special Assistance Fund

The Special Assistance Fund was established as a subproject of the CSP 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 health-care needs such as operations, medicines and treatments that may not necessarily be included in the regular healthcare budget.

In 2019, **168 people** benefitted from CNCF's Special Assistance Fund, including 130 children and young adults aged 21 years old or below and 38 adults aged 22 years old or above.

Community Development

The Community Development Programme uses \$1 from the sponsorship donation amounts for community development activities and projects.



GLOBAL STATISTICS

Poverty is one of the key factors that are highly associated with the education level of a child. When children and young adults are deprived of education, they are more likely to be exploited through child labour practices in a hope to financially support themselves and their families. These experiences cause significant negative impacts on the psychological wellbeing, physical growth and social development of the child as well as increase the risks of greater exploitation, abuse and trafficking.



663 million

children live in poverty ^[1]

152 million

children are engaged in child labour ^[2]

[1] UNICEF 2015
[2] ILO 2016
[3] UNICEF Vietnam 2015
[4] UNESCO 2018
[5] ILO 2015
[6] World Bank 2018

VIETNAM



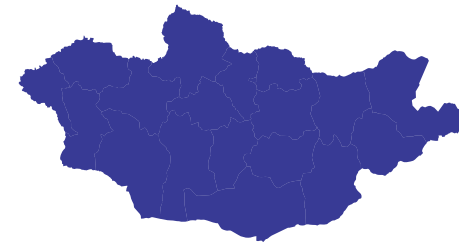
16%

of children are engaged in child labour ^[3]

223,705

young adults (ages 15-24) lack literacy skills ^[4]

MONGOLIA



10%

of children are engaged in child labour ^[5]

2 in 3

poor people have the upper secondary education level or less ^[6]

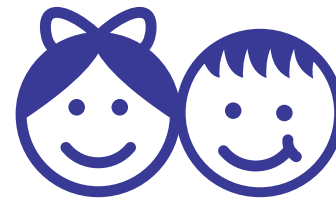


REPORT 2019

OUR YEAR

VIETNAM

One of our core beliefs is that every child can have a bright future if given the right support and opportunities. The Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam aims to facilitate a child's journey of breaking their cycle of poverty through education. The monthly sponsorship funds along with additional assistance and social support enable our students to continue their schooling and overcome daily life challenges to become proud and productive members of their communities.

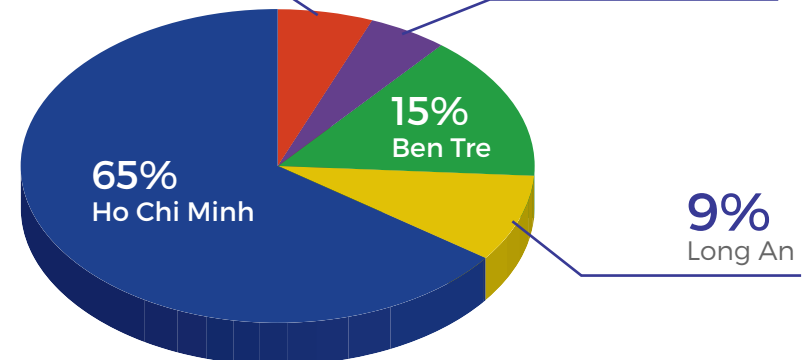


866 CHILDREN

in Ho Chi Minh City and four surrounding provinces were supported through CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme

6%
Ca Mau

5%
Dong Nai



OUR YEAR

VIETNAM

Education Level



attended
kindergarten



attended
primary school



attended
secondary school



attended
high school



attended
vocational
programmes

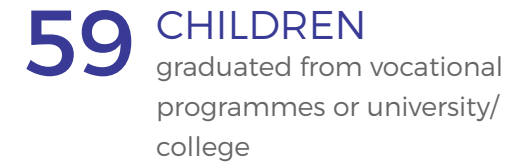


attended
university/college



attended special
needs school

Education Achievement



OUR YEAR

VIETNAM

Additional Support

87 CHILDREN received support from other CNCF programmes

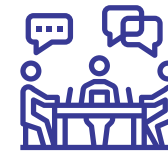
32 PROJECT VISITS to partnership provinces were conducted

21 FAMILIES financially improved and can now self-support

312 GIFTS were distributed to children in recognition of their academic performance



10 BICYCLES were provided to children through CNCF's Bicycle Support Programme



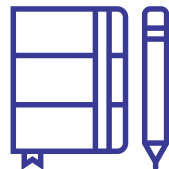
356 CHILDREN & FAMILIES received counselling and advice



256 CHILDREN attended life skills trainings and workshops



56 FAMILIES in need received Lunar New Year gift packs



311 GIFTS (e.g., clothes and school supplies) were provided to provincial children for the new school year



441 HOME VISITS to CSP children, their families and new applicants were conducted this year



OVER 1000 donated items were distributed



USD \$14,937 of extra financial support was provided to sponsored children

OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA

Providing support to ensure every child and young adult is given access to education regardless of their backgrounds is essential to our work. Through the implementation of CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme in Mongolia, students are empowered to gain the knowledge and skills needed to increase their learning potential and greater employment opportunities, building a better future for themselves and their communities.



917
CHILDREN

were directly supported by the CSP



Age Group

Age	Number of Children
5 years old and below	31
6-12 years old	354
13-18 years old	371
19-24 years old	159
25 years old and above	2

836
CHILDREN

resided in
Ulaanbaatar

81
CHILDREN

resided in
the countryside



OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA

Education Achievement

09 CHILDREN graduated from high school

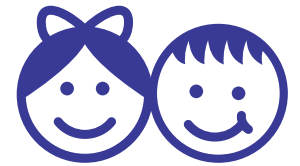
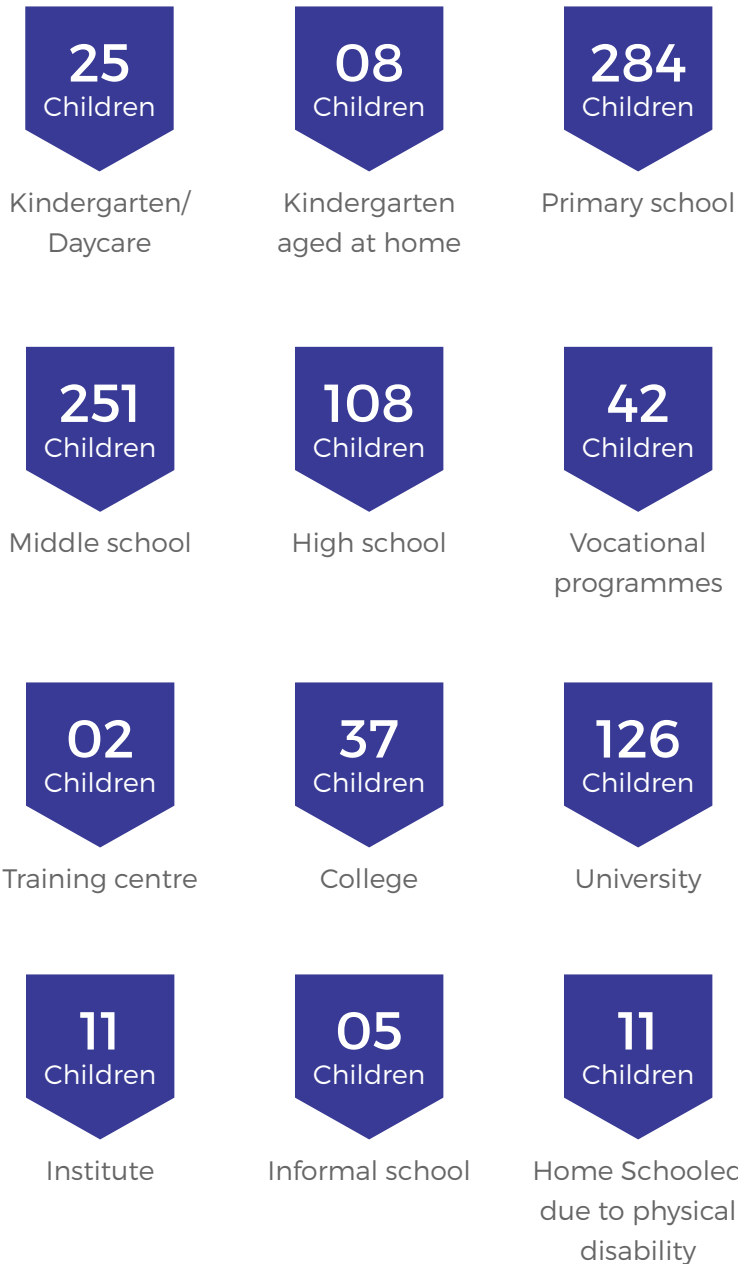
14 CHILDREN graduated from university

02 CHILDREN graduated from education institutes

08 CHILDREN graduated from college

10 CHILDREN graduated from vocational training

Education Level



04 CHILDREN did not attend school for reasons such as ill health. We are working closely to reengage these students in education



03 CHILDREN currently working full time due to family hardship. We are actively supporting these families so the child can return to school

OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA

Extracurricular Activities

232 CHILDREN enrolled in the Arts & Music Programme



80 CHILDREN attended Art classes



152 CHILDREN attended Crafts classes



09 LIFE SKILLS TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS were organised benefitting **over 200** children



03 SHARING SESSIONS were delivered to **60** CSP children's parents and relatives

Additional Support



185 CHILDREN received extra financial support from their sponsors



351 CHILDREN & RELATIVES received vitamin supplements



63 FAMILIES received additional food supplies



50 CHILDREN received new school uniforms



OVER 2500 donated items (e.g., clothes, toys, school supplies, etc.) were distributed



189 COUNSELLING & THERAPY SESSIONS were conducted



1600 WARM KNITTED ITEMS were distributed to children and families in need



1057 HOME VISITS were conducted

1731

CHILDREN aged 21 or below

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

1636

ADULTS aged 22 or above



851 CHILDREN enrolled in the CSP at the end of 2019



REPORT 2019

OUR STORIES

A Graduate Thriving

*Hang was the youngest daughter of a poor family living in a rural province. When Hang turned 3, her father passed away, leaving her mother to single-handedly raise the children. Unable to cover their living costs, the family took shelter in a deteriorated warehouse in a rubber plantation. When CNCF first met Hang's family in 2009, Hang was only 12 and suffering from pneumonia. Hang's mother was utterly devastated to find out Hang's treatment costs as she was unable to pay them. It was then that CNCF's Medical Assistance Programme came in to support Hang to overcome her illness. As Hang began to recover, her education was also secured by the Child Sponsorship Programme.

For 10 years, the financial assistance and the emotional support through the frequent exchange of letters and Christmas cards with the sponsor has been a considerable motivation for Hang to persevere in her educational path. When her mother's health was critically impacted due to an accident, Hang had to leave school temporarily and thought of dropping out to work and take care of her siblings. Thankfully, with the timely counselling and support from CSP staff and the constant encouragement from her sponsor, Hang finally returned to school and was accepted into the University of Finance - Marketing in HCMC.

Moving to the big city by herself, Hang pursued higher education with strong determination, perseverance and hope throughout the years. The day Hang completed her bachelor's degree majoring in International Business was the happiest and proudest day for Hang and her family.

*Names and Identities changed to protect privacy

REPORT 2019

OUR STORIES

Testimonial from a Child

"I would like to say thank you to my kind sponsor and CNCF for always being by my side and enabling me to continue my learning journey. Your care and constant support has allowed me to continue my schooling just like my peers. Over the years, you have not only helped me financially but also inspired and instilled in me a passion for supporting vulnerable people. I hope that your love can continue helping many more disadvantaged children and I promise to learn and become a successful and kind person to be able to support other people just like you do."

- A Child Sponsorship Programme Child -

Identities changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2019

OUR STORIES

Testimonial from the Grandparent

"I am immensely grateful to our sponsor and the staff at CNCF for supporting us. My family has been living in poverty with poor health for such a long time. Thankfully, with your support, we were able to send my grandchild to school and cover my husband's medical treatment costs. It is such a relief that our difficulties have been alleviated and my husband's health has got better. I am lost for words and do not know how to return the favour but I will always remember your kindness and generosity. We will always think of you."

- The Grandparent of a Sponsored Child -

Identities changed to protect privacy





REPORT 2019

OUR STORIES

Building A Brighter Future

*Suvdaa enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme in 2011 when she was 12 years old. When we met Suvdaa, she was living in extremely poor conditions with her mother and brother. Having run away from Suvdaa's abusive father, the family lived off the limited disability payment and child allowance of Suvdaa and her brother. Food, school supplies and other bare necessities were utterly beyond their reach.

Over time, their life circumstances have significantly improved with the monthly financial support from CSP, Suvdaa was able to go to school and receive uniforms and school supplies that enabled her to learn and reach her full potential. The sponsorship funds were not only a means for Suvdaa to continue her education but also helped the family cover firewood and coal costs to keep warm during the winter months. Successfully graduated from high school with good grades, Suvdaa was accepted into the Ulaanbaatar University majoring in Korean. Our Education Scholarship Programme continued to support her education with tuition fees.

Suvdaa has always been a talented and outstanding student at school. With a passion for acting and music, she has volunteered for a variety of acting jobs in a studio and was cast in several advertisements and short films at the Ekh Oron Mongolian Broadcaster. She is fast becoming a skilled professional and is blossoming into a happy, successful and inspiring young woman. We believe Suvdaa's success is a reflection of her dedication and commitment to education and the work she does.

*Names and Identities changed to protect privacy

OUR STORIES

Testimonial from a Child

“I would like to express my gratitude to all the staff at CNCF and most importantly, Christina Noble for being the driving force behind all the good work that CNCF does for children in Mongolia. I can proudly say that my life has changed completely because of CNCF. I am very grateful for the day that I became a sponsored child.

There wasn't always food on our table. To go to school with school supplies and clothes that fit was a dream to me. When we received the sponsorship money for the very first time, my mother told us that I would no longer go to school without proper school supplies nor be hungry. 'We are in good care', she said.

Ever since we have been trying our best to become self-sufficient knowing that CNCF is working hard to make a difference in our life. Despite the improvements in the living conditions, attending university was just simply a dream to me. We could not afford the tuition fees. I almost gave up on that dream until I was enrolled in the Education Scholarship Programme. From a child living in poverty, I was able to develop into a young professional with valuable qualifications and I am now working at the leading Bank of Mongolia.

Thank you to CNCF for being my family, caring about my future and being there to support young people like me. It is because of CNCF that children and young adults can thrive in their life and make positive changes. Thank you to my kind sponsor for not only providing crucial financial assistance but also becoming a source of encouragement for me and my family through the darkest times in our lives.”

- A Child Sponsorship Programme Child -

Identities changed to protect privacy



OUR STORIES

Testimonial from the Parent

"I am the mother of twins who have been enrolled in the CNCF Child Sponsorship Programme since 2012. At the time we were living in a rented dormitory and I was working as a cleaner at a local supermarket. The job gave us just enough to have one meal a day. It was hard for a single mother with no education to bring up two boys, but it was harder for our children to grow up without bare essentials and the chance to go to school. When CNCF came to us, it was life-changing.

CNCF has enabled my children to develop personally and academically. Besides formal education, both of my boys attended the art classes and crafts classes at CNCF which enriched their perspective of life and empowered them to become independent and creative young adults. One of my sons is now studying at the Culture and Arts University of Mongolia and the other boy aims to join the Mongolian military.

I could not be prouder to see my children grow into such healthy and responsible young people. All of these would have not come true if there wasn't for the support CNCF provided to our family. I wish CNCF staff all the best and that CNCF continue supporting other disadvantaged people and giving a light in their lives and being their source of comfort."

- The Mother of Sponsored Children -

Identities changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2019

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of the Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam was:

Operational Costs: **USD \$42,164**

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: **USD \$258,206**

The total cost of the Child Sponsorship Programme in Mongolia was:

Operational Costs: **USD \$84,836**

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: **USD \$252,259**

Heartfelt thanks to our kind donors who enable CNCF to keep this project operating and also to those who generously support with gift and time in-kind which enables us to keep our costs down.

Audit in progress at time of reporting.
Our audits can be found at:
www.cncf.org/finance-policies/



CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES IN 2019

VIETNAM

Distribution Description	Expenditure 2019
Sponsorship Distribution Amount	258,206
TOTAL COST	258,206
Operational Costs	Expenditure 2019
Staff cost	38,537
Training	926
Travel	2,510
Administration costs	191
TOTAL COST	42,164

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES IN 2019

MONGOLIA

Distribution Description	Expenditure 2019
Sponsorship Distribution Amount	252,259
TOTAL COST	252,259
Operational Costs	
Staff cost	57,884
Travel	13,975
Administration costs	12,977
TOTAL COST	84,836



REPORT 2019

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Child Sponsorship Programmes connect children and their families living in poverty 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 and critical support that will ultimately enable them to break the cycle of poverty and achieve a brighter future for themselves, their families and generations to come. It is because of you that thousands of children and young people have been able to receive the emotional and physical support they need to flourish.

Special thanks to our local government partners in Vietnam; **DOLISA of Dong Nai, Ben Tre and Ca Mau Provinces, BOLISA of Can Gio District** (Ho Chi Minh City), **PPC of Chau Thanh District** (Long An Province) and **PPC of Thanh Hoa District** (Long An Province) and Mongolia; **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); and “Unur Bul” Government Orphanage** who make it possible for us to run our Child Sponsorship Programmes successfully.

We thank the Development Interlink, Peace Corps Mongolia, Agi Charity, Mongolian Association of State Alumni (USA), Mr. Galbadrakh, Mongolian Family Welfare Association, Save the Children (MO) and Leonard Bernhardt for providing services to our children to support their healing, growth and holistic development.

All your support makes the Child Sponsorship Programme possible. Thank you.



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

 38 Tu Xuong Street, Dist.3, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

 +84 283 932 6484

 international@cncf.org

 www.cncf.org

 @ChristinaNobleChildrensFoundationInt

 @CNCF_int

 Christina Noble Children's Foundation

Written by: Bianca Joyce, Huong Hoang & Andrew Knott

Graphic Design by: Chi Nguyen

Imagery: Piers Birtwistle

Info Graphic: flaticon.com