



ANNUAL REPORT 2020
**CHILD SPONSORSHIP
PROGRAMME
MONGOLIA & VIETNAM**

“

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 -



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ABBREVIATIONS

CNCF	Christina Noble Children’s Foundation
CSP	Child Sponsorship Programme
ESP	Education Scholarship Programme
BSP	Bicycle Support Programme
HCMC	Ho Chi Minh City
USD	US Dollar
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
E&Y	Ernst and Young Mongolia LLC



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 (CNCF) is dedicated to serving the physical, medical, educational and emotional needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child is an individual who deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of abuse and 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

MONGOLIA

ESTABLISHED

1997

LOCATION

The nine districts (Bayanzurkh, Songinokhairkhan, Chilgeltei, Khan-Uul, Sukhbaatar, Bayangol, Nalaikh, Baga-Khangai, and Baganuur) of Ulaanbaatar city; Erdenet city; Darkhan city; Bulgan city, Khishig-Undur, Curvanbulag and Dashinchilen soum of Bulgan province; Mandal soum of Selenge province; Argalant and Bayanchandmani soum of Tuv province

OBJECTIVES

To provide crucial financial and social support to children and their families living in abject poverty, to enable them to engage in education, improve their living conditions and lead self-sufficient and independent lives

BENEFICIARIES

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

LOCAL PARTNERS

The Family and Child Development Department of Ulaanbaatar city; Youth Development Department of Ulaanbaatar city; 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 city; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Zuunkharaa;

The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Bulgan province; 108 Child Detention centre (108 nationwide helplines for children); "Unur Bul" government orphanage; Development interlink NGO; Khaansuu LLC; Agi Charity NGO; Talita Mongolia; Ernst and Young Mongolia Mongolia; Gegee Education Centre

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

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

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF Social Workers conduct annual home visits to Child Sponsorship Programme children and their families to assess their needs, challenges and living conditions. Updates are also provided at sponsorship distribution days. Reports on the progress of the sponsored child are 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 CNCF Project Manager and an annual report is made available to all stakeholders

2020 EXPENDITURE

Operational Costs: USD \$74,463
Sponsorship Distribution Amount: USD \$ 258,195

REPORTING PERIOD

January – December 2020

2021 OBJECTIVES

- To continue providing financial and case management support to severely disadvantaged children and their families
- To improve case management processes and fund disbursement logistics
- To improve sponsor engagement and develop further partnerships with local partners
- To continue to facilitate on-site and remote trainings and workshops and provide additional family support for children and their families

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).

OBJECTIVES

To provide crucial financial and social support to children and their families living in abject poverty, to enable them to engage in education, improve their living conditions and lead self-sufficient and independent lives

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 with 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

Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs of Dong Nai, Ben Tre and Ca Mau Provinces, BOLISA of Can Gio District (Ho Chi Minh City), the People's Committee of Chau Thanh District (Long An Province) and the People's Committee of Thanh Hoa District (Long An Province)

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is entirely 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 throughout 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 Project staff and the Board of Management to discuss programme related issues. Project visit reports, monthly reports, and semi-annual reports are provided to CNCF Board of Management and an annual report is made available to all stakeholders

2020 EXPENDITURE

Operational Costs: USD \$52,745

Special Assistance: USD \$2,369

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: USD \$250,422

REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2020

2021 OBJECTIVES

- To continue providing financial and case management and additional 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 2020, 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 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.

Throughout the year, our Child Sponsorship Programme team displayed tremendous resilience and commitment to the welfare of our children and their communities, those who had already experienced significant hardships prior to the global COVID-19 pandemic. During the government enforced lockdowns to contain the transmission of the virus, our team remained in close contact with the children and their families via our 24-hour hotline and other telecommunication platforms for monitoring and progress updates. This year, postal disbursement and sponsorship bank transfer were conducted accordingly. Our team also referred students and families to relevant community support organisations for additional support. When on-site meetings and travel were possible, we facilitated home visits to the student's homes to deliver emergency relief packages and conduct progress evaluations. Meetings with children at CNCF's office were also facilitated with safety measures and precautions strictly followed. Having lost what meagre income-generating opportunities they once had, children and families in urgent need and at risk of homelessness were provided with medical assistance for critical treatments and financial aid to help cover their rental costs. With the teams timely responses and unwavering dedication, the Child Sponsorship Programme continued to provide critical support to communities brutally impacted by the consequential economic impacts of the pandemic, helping them to overcome these great challenges and rebuild their lives.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2020



1,788
CHILDREN

were supported through CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme in Mongolia and Vietnam



378
CHILDREN

graduated from Primary School, Secondary School, High School, University, College, Institutes, Intermediate and Vocational Training Centres



graduated from
Primary School



graduated from
Secondary School



graduated from
High School



graduated from
University and College



graduated from
Institute,
Intermediate
and Vocational
Training Centres



367 CHILDREN
attended life skills
trainings and workshops



24 CHILDREN
received psychological
support from CNCF's Psychologists



1,255 HOME VISITS
were conducted
to CSP children, their families and
new programme applicants for
home assessment



Since inception,
**over 45,881 CHILDREN
AND YOUNG ADULTS**

have been supported with monthly financial sponsorship through the Child Sponsorship Programme to remain in school and further their education

REPORT 2020

OUR YEAR

By equipping vulnerable young people with access to quality education and opportunities to further their knowledge and develop into an independent and productive member of their society, CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme facilitates a child's journey of breaking their cycle of poverty through education and building a better future for themselves and their communities. In addition to the monthly financial sponsorship, children and young adults are also enrolled in personal development activities for social and life skills cultivation, as well as receiving additional assistance to overcome challenges and lead self-sufficient lives.



OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA



906
CHILDREN

were supported through CNCF's
Child Sponsorship Programme



498
GIRLS



408
BOYS

831

CHILDREN

resided in Ulaanbaatar

75

CHILDREN

resided in the countryside

360

CHILDREN

come from
single-parent families

769

CHILDREN

enrolled in the Child
Sponsorship Programme
by the end of 2020

1,853

CHILDREN

(aged 21 or below)

& **1,491 ADULTS**

(aged 22 or above),

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

Age Group

Age	Number of Children
0 – 4 years old	09
5 – 10 years old	212
11 – 15 years old	345
16 – 19 years old	219
20 – 24 years old	121

Education

Education Level

25

Children

Kindergarten/
Day care

19

Children

Kindergarten
aged at home

262

Children

Primary School

273

Children

Secondary
School

108

Children

High School

28

Children

Vocational
Programmes

08

Children

Training Centres

40

Children

College

106

Children

University

09

Children

Institutes

07

Children

Informal School

21

Children

Home schooled
due to physical
disability

OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA

Education

Education Outcomes

11 CHILDREN
achieved 'Excellent'
School performance

78 CHILDREN
achieved 'Good'
School performance

222 CHILDREN
achieved 'Average'
School performance

72 CHILDREN
were accepted into
Universities and Colleges



177 CHILDREN
graduated



70 CHILDREN
graduated from
Primary School

45 CHILDREN
graduated from
Secondary School

28 CHILDREN
graduated from
High School

22 CHILDREN
graduated from
University

05 CHILDREN
graduated from
College

04 CHILDREN
graduated from
Vocational Training
Centres

03 CHILDREN
graduated from
Institutes

Extracurricular Activities



91 CHILDREN
enrolled in CNCF's
Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme



14 CHILDREN
attended Art classes



71 CHILDREN
attended Crafts classes



06 CHILDREN
attended Embroidery classes

Home Visits

830 HOME VISITS
were conducted to CSP children, their families
and new programme applicants for home assessment

Psychological Support

12 CHILDREN
received psychological support from
CNCF's Psychologists

24 PSYCHOLOGICAL SESSIONS
AND APPOINTMENTS
were conducted for children

10 ONE-ON-ONE
COUNSELLING SESSIONS
were conducted for **3 parents and
guardians in need**

OUR YEAR

MONGOLIA

Life Skill Training & Workshops



14

TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS were organised with the participation of **176 children**

Special Assistance Fund

57

CHILDREN

aged 21 or below

37

ADULTS

aged 22 or above

were supported by the Special Assistance Fund Programme

Additional Support



281

CHILDREN received extra financial support from their sponsors



134

FAMILIES IN NEED received emergency food supplies



16

FAMILIES have financially improved and can self-support



15

CHILDREN received a new school uniform



646

CSP CHILDREN AND THEIR RELATIVES received vitamin supplements including vitamin D and multivitamins



834

DONATED ITEMS including clothes, shoes, knitted sweaters, blankets and masks were distributed to children and families in need



\$22,585.63

extra financial support and gifts was provided to sponsored children from their sponsors

Staff Training



08

TRAININGS were conducted with the participation of **09 CSP staff**

OUR YEAR

VIETNAM



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

7%

Ca Mau Province

12%

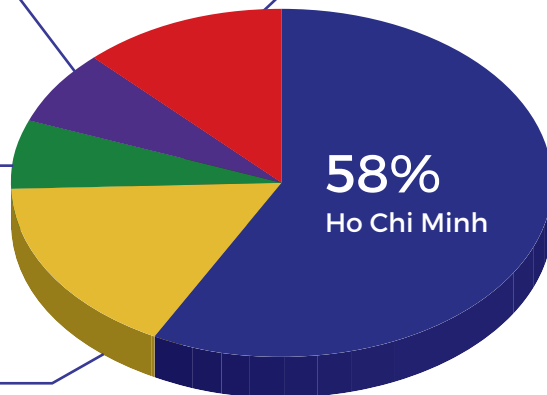
Long An Province

6.5%

Dong Nai Province

16.5%

Ben Tre Province



Age Group

04
Children

Under
5 years old

170
Children

5 - 10
years old

286
Children

11 - 14
years old

233
Children

15 - 17
years old

182
Children

18 - 22
years old

07
Children

Over
22 years old

Demographic Data

389 CHILDREN come from single-income households

322 CHILDREN were previously exposed to the child labour market

Education

Education Level

04
Children

Kindergarten

231
Children

Primary School

276
Children

Secondary
School

189
Children

High
School

25
Children

Intermediate
and Vocational
Programmes

148
Children

University
and College

09
Children

Additional Needs
Education

OUR YEAR

VIETNAM

Education

Education Outcomes



201 CHILDREN
graduated

46

CHILDREN
graduated from
Primary School

57

CHILDREN
graduated from
Secondary
School

46

CHILDREN
graduated from
High School

07

CHILDREN
graduated from
Intermediate and
Vocational
Programmes

45

CHILDREN
graduated from
University
and College

111

CHILDREN
achieved 'Excellent' School
performance

152

CHILDREN
achieved 'Good' School
performance

47

CHILDREN
were accepted into Universities
and Colleges

Home Visits & Project Visits



425

HOME VISITS
were conducted to CSP
children, their families and
new programme applicants
for home assessment



22

PROJECT VISITS
to partnership provinces
were conducted

Psychological Support



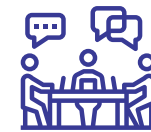
12

CHILDREN
received psychological
support from CNCF's
Psychologist



79

PSYCHOLOGICAL
SESSIONS AND
APPOINTMENTS
were conducted



418

CHILDREN
AND FAMILIES
received counselling
and advice from CSP staff

Life Skill Training & Workshops

06

TRAININGS AND
WORKSHOPS
were organised with the participation
of **191 children**

OUR YEAR

VIETNAM

Additional Support



30 FAMILIES IN NEED
received urgent medical
support through CNCF's
Emergency Relief Fund



22 DESPERATE FAMILIES
received financial aid through
CNCF's Emergency Relief Fund



05 CSP CHILDREN
received support from
other CNCF programmes



02 CHILDREN
were supported
by the Medical Assistance
Programme



03 CHILDREN
were supported
by the Bicycle Support
Programme



26 FAMILIES
received extra financial support
for medical costs, tuition fees
and emergency needs



426 CHILDREN
received in-kind gifts as recognition
for their academic achievements



332 COMMUNITY
GIFT PACKAGES
were delivered to children
and families in the provinces



52 CHILDREN
received Christmas and birthday
presents from their sponsors



OVER 1,000 DONATED ITEMS
were distributed to
families in need



\$21,484.62
extra financial support was provided
to sponsored children



100 GIFT PACKAGES
were distributed to children
in need during the Lunar New
Year Celebration



100 CHILDREN
were supported with hand
hygiene products



01 WELL-EQUIPPED
LIBRARY
was constructed for children
at Ca Mau Social Centre



37 FAMILIES
have financially improved
and can self-support

Staff Training

02 STAFF TRAININGS
were conducted with
the participation of **07 CSP staff**

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

Education is a primary pathway for a child to break their cycle of poverty and go on to lead an independent and self-sufficient life. However, a large number of families living in significantly disadvantaged circumstances often lack the financial means to afford an education for their children. Far too many vulnerable children have to forego their dream of a brighter future to drop out of school and work on the streets to support their families, facing greater risks of abuse, exploitation and trafficking.

CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme connects vulnerable 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 means to access basic necessities. Through the provision of monthly financial sponsorships, disadvantaged children and young adults are provided with access to education and opportunities to develop their self-confidence and build social connections in a safe and effective learning environment.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Following the withdrawal of the Soviet Union in 1990, Mongolia witnessed drastic socioeconomic changes resulting in a rise in unemployment and poverty, along with an increase in crime and homelessness. 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. Many children had no other option but to drop out of school to roam the streets for survival or work for long hours in order to contribute to their families' menial income.

In 1997, the Child Sponsorship Programme was established in Mongolia as an emergency response to the extreme poverty and hardship that engulfed the nation and left thousands of children and their families fighting for safety and survival. Child sponsorship empowers children and their communities to lift themselves out of poverty by alleviating financial pressure that enable students to continue and further their education as well as affording their essential needs and creating greater employment opportunities. Since its inception, the Programme has assisted **24,881** disadvantaged children and young adults to flourish into happy, educated and independent individuals, who are contributing greatly to the welfare of their society.

Beneficiaries

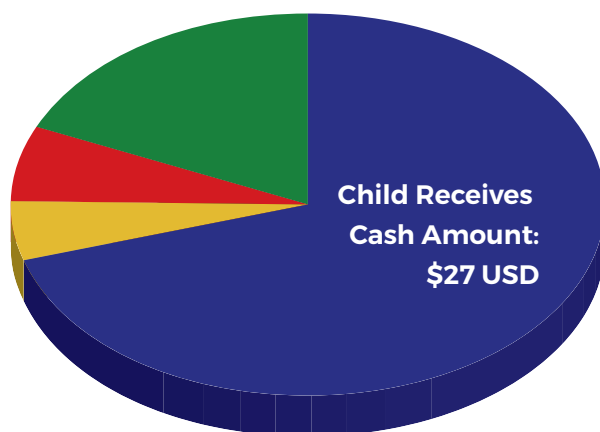
Students enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme are orphaned or abandoned children, children who come from single-parent families, families with significant financial hardship or those who have a physically impaired parent, an elderly primary caregiver or both parents who are unemployed or engaged in low-income work. Most families on CSP live below the national poverty threshold and often lack the basic necessities and financial means to cover the costs of their children's education.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Case Management



Child Sponsorship Amount \$38

- Child Receives Cash Amount: \$27 USD
- Child Enrichment: \$2 USD
- Child Special Assistance: \$2 USD
- Programme Cost And Development: \$7 USD

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. Upon enrolment, our Social Workers carefully evaluate each sponsorship application and conduct an initial visit to the family for home assessment. 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 Doctors, who attend sponsorship distribution days to provide free check-ups, health advice and nutritional and basic healthcare support. Psychological support is also provided by our Psychologist upon referrals from our Social Workers.

Sponsorship Disbursement Days

Monthly sponsorship disbursement days are organised and remain an opportunity to exchange correspondence between sponsors and children. During the disbursement days, our Social Workers meet with each child to monitor their development and education progress, as well as offering guidance and timely support. 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.

In 2020, sponsorship disbursement days took place when nationwide movement and social gathering restrictions were lifted. During this time, **65** letters, postcards or emails from sponsors were given to the children and **340** additional appreciation messages and Christmas greetings from our children were sent to their sponsors. **12** 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.



REPORT 2020

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. An annual home visit is organised for all children living in Ulaanbaatar, a semi-annual visit is conducted for students and their family who reside in the countryside.

Through the visits, the CSP team is able to assess the students' living conditions and deliver support packages, letters and gifts from child sponsors, as well as strengthening rapports and gain a deeper understanding about the challenges the families face. 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.

This year, we continued conducting home visits to families in desperate need to provide emergency medical assistance as well as to the homes of new applicants. All visits adhered to COVID-19 safety measures in accordance to the Ministry of Health.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Healthcare

Due to a lack of safe water and sanitation and the financial means to afford a healthy diet, or quality healthcare, many vulnerable children and families often face ill-health and an array of poverty-related conditions. During sponsorship disbursement days, CNCF Doctors conduct health check-ups and provide consultations and medicines for minor conditions and dietary supplements to CSP children and their communities. Financial support for the family is offered through our Special Assistance Fund or the child's sponsor in case of emergency medical treatment.

Health talks and training sessions are also organised to equip our children and their families with necessary knowledge on general health, wellbeing practices and disease prevention.

Psychological Support

Healing the emotional trauma that many children living in dire situations of adversity have suffered is crucial to CNCF's work. The Foundation's Psychologists provide integral psychological support to children and families in need through client-centred counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy and art therapy. In addition to diagnosing and treating children with mental, emotional or social challenges, our psychologist team also organises training sessions and workshops to enable the students to cultivate a greater understanding of psychology and emotion management skills.

In 2020, **24** therapy sessions were facilitated for **12** children and **10** one-on-one counselling sessions were conducted for **3** parents and guardians, empowering them to realise their potential and heal from their trauma.





REPORT 2020

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Extracurricular Activities

CNCF believes that an education without exposure to the arts is not a complete education. Arts and Craft activities help children to foster communication, listening, attention skills, as well as creativity and imagination. 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, **91** children participated in a range of creative activities through our weekly Arts and Crafts classes.

For full details about this programme, see the Arts & Music Programme Annual Report.

Noble Club

Established in May 2018, the club presently has 271 members with **208** children from the Child Sponsorship Programme. Noble Club members actively engage in the community to provide support through regular community engagement with the elderly, assisting in the facilitation of community activities and supporting young people who have experienced disadvantage. The Noble Club is a great place for like-minded young people to connect, build lasting friendships, develop their leadership skills and actively contribute to positive change within the Mongolian community.

The purpose of the club is to give back to the community and contribute to the development of Mongolia. Club members can develop essential life skills such as leadership, problem-solving, creative thinking, communication, and empathy. The Noble Club focuses on three areas: personal development, public health and education and organising activities to support CNCF, club members and the community.

A library and study space was facilitated with donated books, and 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

CNCF recognises the importance of creating opportunities for our students to develop the skills, behaviours and attitudes needed for their career and adulthood. This year, our CSP children took part in trainings on oral and hand hygiene, English language, procrastination, peer pressure, emotional and time management, life goals, self-assessment and friendship.

All children expressed their enthusiasm participating in the training sessions as they were equipped with knowledge on COVID-19 prevention and effective communication, as well as skills for developing healthy relationships and a positive self-concept, that enable students to overcome the challenges and deal effectively with the demands in their daily lives.

Community Development

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

Additional Support

Throughout the year, our team distributed essential school uniforms, firewood and coal, warm clothing, food and vitamins, to children and families in need through home visits and sponsorship disbursement days, to help lessen their financial burdens and empower the students to focus on their education.

To support children and their families living in abject poverty, who have been significantly impacted by the consequential impacts of COVID-19, CNCF also provided emergency relief packages to assist the vulnerable communities in overcoming the difficulties and rebuilding their lives.

Special Assistance Fund

The Special Assistance Fund was established as a subproject of the CSP to provide specialised and emergency financial assistance to children and families most in need. Support is provided for urgent housing repairs, food, clothes, firewood and coal and unique opportunities that support a child's personal development, as well as for emergency healthcare needs such as operations, medicines and treatments that may not necessarily be included in the regular healthcare budget.

In 2020, **94** people impacted by CNCF's Special Assistance Fund, including **57** children and young adults aged 21 years old or below and **37** adults aged 22 years old or above.

Sponsor Visits

Sponsors visits are an essential part of our Child Sponsorship Programme scope, which facilitate the connection between sponsors and sponsored children through a better understanding into the lives and culture of CSP children and their families and the positive impacts of the monthly sponsorship. However, due to travel restrictions worldwide, no sponsor visits were facilitated this year.

Staff Training

Throughout the year, the CSP team participated in a variety of training sessions and workshops conducted by CNCF's Psychologist team, which focused on personal development as well as enhancing our programme delivery. Topics included supporting children suffering with trauma, art therapy, professional ethics, self-understanding, stress management and obesity and fasting. Our team also took part in a one-day training on basic life support (BLS) conducted by the Mongolian Red Cross Society and received a BLS certificate upon their training completion.





REPORT 2020

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

MONGOLIA

Events & Activities

Graduation Celebration

In September, a graduation celebration was organised to acknowledge the students' academic achievements. During the event, our graduates shared their career aspirations and heart-warming stories about their time with the Foundation. It was beautiful to see the confident, ambitious, and thoughtful young adults our students have blossomed into, and we wish them all the best in the next chapter of their lives. CNCF continues to provide guidance and support whenever possible through long-term and profound relationships as our young people start their new journey.

Friendly Spring Event

This year a special event was organised at the Blue Skies Ger Village, where all CNCF employees contributed to gardening work at the Ger Village in order to create a clean, safe and comfortable environment for our children. The team had a special day to strengthen their bond and the culture of CNCF.

'Ernst and Young Buddies' Opening Ceremony

In partnership with Ernst and Young Mongolia (E&Y), CNCF facilitated a sub-programme to support the foreign language skills of our students. The programme opening ceremony took place on 14th August 2020 with the attendance of students, guest speakers and representatives from CNCF and E&Y. One of the highlights of the ceremony was the motivational speech delivered by one of Mongolia's popular influencers and entrepreneurs, Mr. Ider-Od.B. Icebreakers and games were organised, enabling the participants to engage with one another and facilitate a collaborative environment. Our students also joined in an E&Y office tour and were introduced to the daily work of E&Y employees. All students enjoyed an inspiring day of gaining linguistic experiences in a professional environment.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Despite the drastic strides on Vietnam's developing economy and its substantial progress in achieving universal primary education, the costs of education such as transportation, uniforms, learning materials and other fees remain a leading barrier to access to education for children in both urban and rural areas.

CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme was established in 1994 with an aim to provide crucial financial and social support that enables children to further their education and gain necessary skills to strengthen their employment opportunities, and enable financial independence for a sustainable future. Since inception, the Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam has assisted over **21,000** significantly disadvantaged children to attend school and pursue tertiary education, empowering our young people to break the generational cycle of poverty for themselves, their families and future generations to come.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

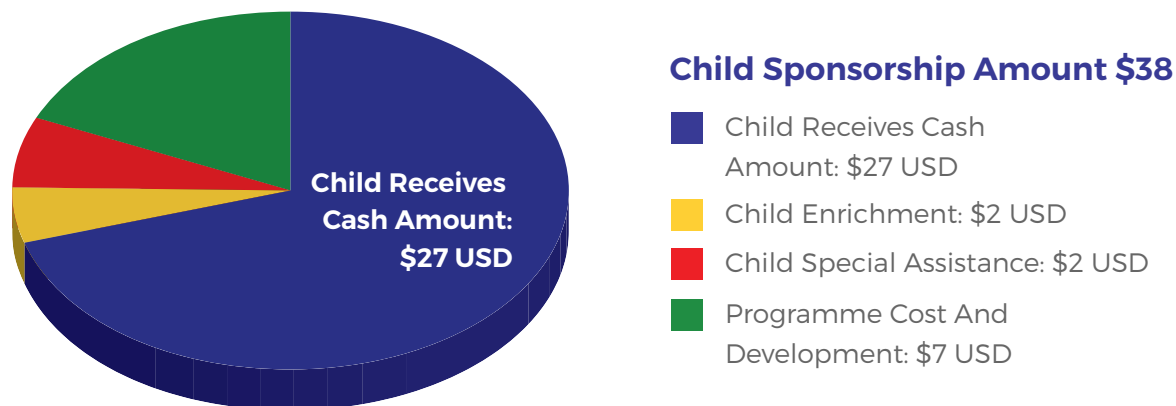
Beneficiaries

Children enrolled in Kindergarten, Primary, Secondary and High School, as well as young adults attending University, College and Vocational Training, are eligible to apply for assistance through the Child Sponsorship Programme. Many of our children are orphans or street children, or those who come from severely disadvantaged backgrounds and at high risk of disengagement in school due to financial hardship. CSP is open to children aged 3 to 16 years old. Students who are over age 16 are considered for support after high school if they wish to pursue tertiary education but lack the financial means to do so.

Currently, the programme operates in Ho Chi Minh City, Ben Tre, Ca Mau, Dong Nai and Long An provinces; and consists of 9 subprojects including:

- Ho Chi Minh City 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 to the lives of vulnerable children. Prior to enrolment, CSP Social Workers conduct an initial home visit to each family where an eligibility assessment is completed. Appropriate intervention and support plans are then discussed and implemented. When children turn eighteen, their circumstances are reassessed. To support children in CSP who are 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.

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

The initial child profiles enable our sponsors to 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.



REPORT 2020

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Academic Education

All students engaged in the 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. Our CSP staff also work closely with the students, schools and our local partners to collect school reports and updates on the academic performance of each student.

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

Sponsorship Disbursement Days

Monthly sponsorship disbursement days are organised in HCMC and quarterly in surrounding

provinces in collaboration with our local partners. This is also an additional opportunity for our team to strengthen relationships with our students and their families and receive additional updates on their circumstances.

In 2020, our team conducted postal sponsorship disbursement during lockdown periods. On-site sponsorship disbursement days took place when movement and social gathering restrictions were lifted.

Home Visits

Outreach home visits are crucial in our programme activities, to ensure we reach all of our CSP children and families who reside in remote and hard-to-access areas. Our aim of visiting 100% of sponsored children in the provinces remains a priority. Regular home visits enable CNCF Social Workers to develop and maintain a strong connection with the students and their families, as well as gaining a greater understanding of the families' challenges and concerns. Being in familiar and safe settings also enables the children and their families to feel more comfortable and facilitates open communication. Assessments on risks and welfare of the students are conducted on a daily basis to ensure timely additional support and counselling are provided.

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 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

Individual meetings with each CSP child and their guardians are conducted throughout the year, which enable CNCF Social Workers to closely monitor the progress of each student. 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.

Psychological Support

In addition to the financial sponsorship, the Child Sponsorship Programme provides crucial psychological support to children in need who are facing with emotional and social challenges. CNCF's Psychologists provide support through a variety of therapeutic techniques and client-centred counselling, empowering children and adolescents to develop skills to deal with challenges, regulate their emotions and form healthy relationships.

Life Skills Training & Workshops

CNCF believes in the importance of life skills in education. Cultivating essential life skills is a crucial and mandatory part of life-long learning that ensures children and young adults are able to develop personally to thrive within their community.

This year, we organised a training on self-awareness, self-evaluation and career orientation for **22** students aged 12 to 17 in Ben Tre Province. A training session on injury prevention was also facilitated for **24** children aged 6 to 10 and their families. **35** children aged 12-17 years old participated in a training on self-care and emotion for adolescents. At the Ca Mau Orphanage, **32** children participated in 2 creativity workshops on waste sorting and recycling.

Water safety is a vital skill for children, particularly those residing in U Minh District of Ca Mau Province where river transportation plays a crucial role in their daily travel. A two-week training course on water safety was organised for **40** children at U Minh District, Ca Mau. **22** children in the district also attended the 'Vietnam Sightseeing' workshop, a play and learn activity hosted by the CSP team, where they were enabled to learn more about Vietnamese culture and develop their imagination, creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Additional Support

Encouragement Gifts

Throughout the year, during scholarship distribution days and home visits, our team delivered thousands of essential items such as school supplies, clothes, shoes, donated household items to children and families in need, improving their living conditions and taking some pressure off the families. In acknowledgement of our student's good academic performance, we award our young people with encouragement gifts to motivate and inspire their determination and commitment to education. We also provided gift packs to families in need in support of a fulfilling Lunar New Year which is the most important celebration in Asian culture.

To support children and their families living in abject poverty, who have been significantly impacted by the consequential impacts of COVID-19 and are at risk of homelessness, CNCF also provided emergency relief packages to assist the vulnerable communities in overcoming the difficulties, as well as financial aid to help cover their rental costs and lessen their hardships, laying the foundation for the families to rebuild their lives.

This year, through CNCF's Bicycle Support Programme, **3** CSP children were provided with a bicycle to transport to and from school, enabling them to improve their educational attendance and alleviate their families' economic pressures by reducing transportation costs. **2** students also received financial support to cover the costs of their emergency medical treatments through the Medical Assistance Programme.

Counselling

In addition to the financial sponsorship, CSP students receive constant social support and guidance from our team. When a student seeks counsel on educational goals, our Social Workers address their needs to give advice on career plans and study methods. We ensure all students in need of counselling receive sufficient assistance. This year, **358** students were offered careers guidance on educational pathways, career aspirations. We also provided family counselling support for **22** families and financial counselling for **38** families.



PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

VIETNAM

Sponsor & Guest Visits

Meetings between sponsored students, their families and their sponsors are special moments where bonds and connections are formed. These opportunities help foster understanding and insight into the challenges that the children and their families face in their daily lives, and remain where sponsors will see first-hand the real and lasting impacts of their sponsorship. In 2020, CSP facilitated **12** visits from sponsors and guests to the sponsored children and their families.

Staff Training

In 2020, CSP staff attended a training session on children's engagement, which is crucial in case management and strengthening the relationships of CNCF and each student. The team also took part in a girl empowerment training organised by Girl Rising. The training equipped our team with the knowledge and skills to further support our young people in realising their strengths and achieving their dreams through role models and our support systems. This was also an opportunity for the staff to learn from each other and share ideas towards the goal of providing the highest level of care and support to our children.



MONGOLIA & VIETNAM STATISTICS

Children growing up in the most deprived and disadvantaged areas often lack access to education, healthcare, nutrition, safe water and sanitation, and most importantly, the opportunities to break from the generational cycle of acute poverty they were born into. Many low-income families perceive education as a luxury that they are unable to afford, whilst children are more likely to be pushed into the labour market with the intention of sharing the financial burdens with their families, and thus, exposed to child abuse, exploitation, and trafficking at a very young age. Children's long-term physical, social, and psychological development and even their future is compromised by significant negative consequences during their childhood and into adulthood.



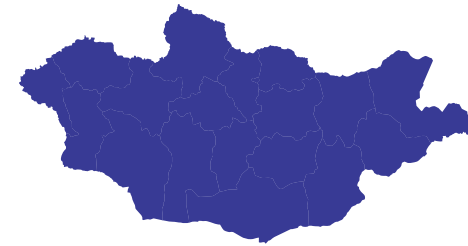
The number of children living in multidimensional poverty has soared to approximately

1.2 billion

due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ^[1]

[1] & [4] United Nations Children's Fund, 2020
[2] Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, 2020
[3] World Bank, 2020
[5] Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, 2019

MONGOLIA



34.4%

students aged 18 to 22 in Mongolia do not have access to tertiary education. ^[2]

2 in 5

poor people in Mongolia are children under the age of 15. ^[3]

VIETNAM



Estimated

over 1 million

children between 5-17 years old are engaged in child labour, more than half of them are in hazardous work. ^[4]

Gross enrolment ratio in tertiary education is

28.6 % ^[5]



REPORT 2020

OUR STORIES

Embarking On A Brighter Future

Tamiraa* first enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme when he was only 8 years old. Tamiraa lived with his family in a small dilapidated and squalid hut in Bulgan province, 400 kilometres away from the capital city. Tamiraa's father passed away due to a chronic heart condition a few years ago, his mother was an alcoholic and severely neglected Tamiraa. For the past years, the support that the Programme provided to Tamiraa was not only the monthly financial sponsorship, but also the emotional assistance that gave Tamiraa the precious hope for a brighter future and gradually lifted himself out of the cycle of poverty.

Through the constant support and encouragement of CNCF and his kind sponsor, Tamiraa was able to engage in education, and equipped with much needed school stationeries, lesson books and uniforms for the best possible educational outcomes. Our CSP Social Workers visited Tamiraa in his home twice a year and remained in close contact with him during the years to monitor his progress and offer timely assistance. Tamiraa confidently moved on to high school, thrived in his studies and filled all at CNCF with great pride. Upon graduation, Tamiraa arrived in Ulaanbaatar city in preparation for his University entrance exam, where he studied under the daily guidance of a CNCF mentor. Despite his challenging early years, Tamiraa showed immense determination and was proudly accepted into one of the most prestigious Universities in Mongolia. Thanks to his excellent academic performance, Tamiraa has been further supported to cover his tuition fees through CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme. Understanding the challenges in the continuation of his education when remote learning was implemented this year, Tamiraa's sponsor provided him with a laptop which was a great help to Tamiraa who would not have access to electronic devices for his studies otherwise.

Today, Tamiraa is studying in his third year, majoring in Law and has blossomed into a happy, confident, and independent young man. We believe Tamiraa's achievements is a reflection of his dedication and commitment to education. CNCF continues to support Tamiraa in his next chapter of becoming a skilled and well-respected professional.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy

OUR STORIES

From Abandoned Child To Thriving Graduate

"My name is Saruul* and I am 21 years old. Today I am delighted to share with you that I have successfully graduated from the Mongolian State University of Medical Science as a Nurse. I am now working full-time at the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit of the National Centre for Maternal and Child Health of Mongolia.

When I was enrolled onto the Child Sponsorship Programme at the age of 7, my sister and I had just lost our father and our mother was suffering with such severe psychological challenges that one day she abandoned us on the street. Fortunately, my uncle took my sister and myself in and treated us kindly just as his own. Despite his hard work, my uncle's income as a security guard was merely enough to cover the daily expenses of his family. I was very worried for my uncle who was under a significant amount of financial pressure at the time. Through the monthly child sponsorship, our lives changed. I was able to cover the costs of my education and help to alleviate some of my uncle's difficulties. CNCF, my sponsor and my family have been a great source of encouragement that has shaped me into who I am today, and motivates me to study hard and keep on furthering my knowledge. My dream of becoming a paediatric nurse began when CNCF came into my life and brought me a hope of a future. Now I can offer my support to other children who are in need of medical assistance, and help nurture them into healthy individuals, just as CNCF has done for me.

To my sponsor, thank you for your support and motivation throughout the years. Thanks to you, I now know that there are many kind people around the world who want to contribute to making a difference in our lives. To CNCF, thank you for always being there for me whenever I need it most. I am also thankful to receive educational scholarships from CNCF, which enabled me to pursue my University education. I am forever indebted for all of your support."

- A Child Sponsorship Programme Child -

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



OUR STORIES

Thank You From A Mother

"I am Enkhee*, mother of twin sons who have been enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme since 2017 when they were 3 years old. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to CNCF Founder Christina Noble, the staff and to the sponsor of my twins, for your immense support and inspiration.

We were living in a small dilapidated ger (traditional Mongolian home) on the outskirts of Ulaanbaatar city when my husband left us after he found out that our son was diagnosed with cerebral palsy. There were many days I did not have any food for myself as all was saved for my children. Life was extremely hard for us, and it was difficult simply providing my children with basic necessities. I cried a lot and often blamed myself that my son would not be able to get the extensive long-term medical care he deserves. One day, we received a visit from CNCF Social Workers who later enrolled my sons in the Child Sponsorship Programme. It was a life-changing moment not only for me but also for my sons. It was the day that we were given hope, hope for a better tomorrow. When a severe storm destroyed our ger, CNCF immediately got us to a temporary safe shelter whilst the team worked to build a more secure ger for us. There are many times that CSP Social Workers come to our home and deliver essential support packages of food and diapers for my special needs child.

I am elated and grateful for everything CNCF and our sponsor have done for our family. CNCF sparks hope to many destitute children and families, and empowers them to thrive for a brighter future. I no longer feel so hopeless for our future now that my children are enrolled in the programme, and I will never give up on striving for all the best for my children. Once again, thank you very much for your love, care and on-going assistance."

- Mother of Child Sponsorship Programme Children -

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy





REPORT 2020

OUR STORIES

Laying A Foundation For Life-Long Development

Man* came from a low-income household and lived with his family in a slum area. Man's father is visually impaired, who makes a living from selling lottery tickets whilst his mother works as a cleaner. The family supports each other to take care of Man's sister who suffers with mental health challenges.

When Man was introduced to the Child Sponsorship Programme, Man was starting 6th grade in a local secondary school. The worry of Man's tuition fees weighed heavy on his parents' shoulders as although they worked hard, the family's sole income was not enough to afford Man's education. The financial sponsorship was an enormous support to enable Man to remain in school and pursue higher education. Man becomes the first member of his family to attend university much to the pride and happiness of everyone around him.

It was through the programme that Man was greatly inspired to advance his English language skills so that Man could write to express his heartfelt gratitude and communicate with his sponsor miles away. Along with the encouragement of Man's parents, CNCF and his sponsor also provided constant support that empowered Man to study hard and eventually graduated from Sai Gon University majoring in International Studies. Man has also excelled in English and successfully secured a job as an English teacher, and is striving to pursue a Master's Degree in English to further advance his career pathway. Man's achievements are a reflection of his hard work and determination despite his disadvantaged childhood background, alongside the right and timely assistance of the Child Sponsorship Programme. CNCF, his sponsor and family were extremely delighted to hear the good news and we wish Man all the best on his new journey.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy

OUR STORIES

A Story Of Resilience

“Looking back on my educational journey, I cannot convey my gratitude to my sponsor and CNCF for being by side for over the past 11 years. I was just an elementary school student when I was supported by the Child Sponsorship Programme. My father abandoned us leaving the living expenses weighing on my mother as she struggled to also look after my sister who suffers with disabilities at birth and myself. I was too young then to understand that I could go to school everyday only thanks to the kindness of my sponsor half a world away. However, I remember how happy I was to receive the beautiful pens and notebooks from my sponsor, how my mother always told me to study hard, aim high and keep trying to achieve good results.

As I grew up, I became immensely thankful for the financial and psychological support provided to help me continue my education, onto College to pursue my dream of becoming an Accountant. A few months ago, when my mother was diagnosed with cancer and had to undergo a surgery to have her leg removed, I was utterly devastated and struggled to cover her medical treatments with my savings and income from my part-time job. During this extremely difficult time for my family, CNCF continued to support us with rental fees so that some of the financial burdens of my family were alleviated.

Your care and assistance to me and my family were a sheer relief to my family's dire circumstances. My mother is recovering well, and I have secured a stable job at a real estate company. We are doing our best to improve our lives and lift ourselves out of poverty. Thank you to my sponsor and CNCF for always being by my side and enabling me to become who I am today.”

- A Child Sponsorship Programme Child -

Identity changed to protect privacy



OUR STORIES

Achieving Dreams Through Determination

"I am very delighted to write this message to CNCF today as a fresh graduate of the University of Finance & Marketing. I still remember 15 years ago when I was only a nine-year-old child, living with my mother and my brother in a small space that we found under the staircase of a run-down apartment building. My father left us when I was little, and my mother suffered with tuberculosis and struggled to scavenge for scrap materials at dumpsites to earn a living for us all. Thanks to CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme I was able to access education and continue my schooling, whilst my mother could focus on her employment. I spent my early years studying primary education at the Sunshine School, and for 15 consecutive years from completing secondary school, then high school and onto university, the care and continuous financial and emotional support of CNCF and my sponsor has instilled in me a strong passion to pursue tertiary education, and the determination to overcome challenges to ultimately break the cycle of poverty for myself and my family.

Today, my family's situation has significantly improved and I have also successfully secured a dream job upon my university graduation. What I have accomplished today is all due to the kindness and encouragement of CNCF and my sponsor, and I know I will achieve many more successes if I continue to work hard. Thank you to my sponsor and CNCF from the bottom of my heart, for enabling many disadvantaged children like me to have a greater chance to strive for a better life. In the future, I hope to be able to support vulnerable communities and empower them to thrive, just like you do."

- A Child Sponsorship Programme Child -

Identity changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2020

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of the Child Sponsorship Programme in Mongolia in 2020 was:

Operational Costs: **USD \$74,463**

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: **USD \$ 258,195**

The total cost of the Child Sponsorship Programme in Vietnam in 2020 was:

Operational Costs: **USD 52,745**

Special Assistance: **USD \$2,369**

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: **USD \$250,422**

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 IN MONGOLIA EXPENDITURES IN 2020

Description	Expenditure 2020
Operational Costs (Staff Costs, Administration and Travel)	74,463
Sponsorship Distribution Amount	258,195
TOTAL COST	332,658

CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME IN VIETNAM EXPENDITURES IN 2020

Description	Expenditure 2020
Operational Costs (Staff Costs, Training, Administration and Project Visits)	52,745
Special Assistance	2,369
Sponsorship Distribution Amount	250,422
TOTAL COST	305,536



REPORT 2020

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. Thank you to our incredible child sponsors for their love, support and commitment to ensure our children have access to the quality education they deserve to achieve a brighter future. 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, and ultimately break their cycle of generational cycle of poverty. Thank you also to the many individuals not mentioned for your gift-in-kind services and additional support in creating a lasting change in the lives of children in need.

We also take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation to our local government partners in Vietnam: **Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs of Dong Nai, Ben Tre and Ca Mau Provinces, BOLISA of Can Gio District** (Ho Chi Minh City), **the People's Committee of Chau Thanh District** (Long An Province) and **the People's Committee of Thanh Hoa District** (Long An Province); and our government partners in Mongolia: **The Family and Child Development Department of Ulaanbaatar city; Youth Development Department of Ulaanbaatar city; 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 city; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Zuunkharaa; The Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Bulgan province; 108 Child Detention centre** (108 nationwide helplines for children); **"Unur Bul" government orphanage; Development interlink NGO; Khaansuu LLC; Agi Charity NGO; Talita Mongolia; Ernst and Young Mongolia; Gegee Education Centre**, who make it possible for us to implement our Child Sponsorship Programmes successfully.



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Infographics: flaticon.com