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### **ABBREVIATIONS**

**CNCF** Christina Noble Children's Foundation

**GV** Ger Village

**CSP** Child Sponsorship Programme

**WHO** World Health Organisation

**UNICEF** United Nations Children's Fund



# 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.



REPORT 2023

# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

**ESTABLISHED** 

1997

LOCATION

Songino Khairkhan, Ulaanbaatar

**BACKGROUND** 

To provide a safe environment and a caring community for vulnerable children, where they are cared for and nurtured, surrounded by friends and supportive adults and enable d to successfully break the cycle of poverty and lead independent and fulfilling lives

**BENEFICIARIES** 

Children up to the age of nineteen years old who come from disadvantaged backgrounds including orphans, children from poor families whose parents or guardians are unable to support them, abandoned children, children living on the streets, and those who have faced or are at high risk of commercial and sexual exploitation, human trafficking, and threats of violence

#### **LOCAL PARTNERS**

Family, Child and Youth Development Agency of Mongolia; Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Mongolia; National Emergency Management Agency; Ulaanbaatar Emergency Management Department; Ulaanbaatar Family, Child and Youth Development Department: General Agency for Labour Welfare Services; Songinokhairkhan District Labour Welfare Services Department; Songinokhairkhan District Police Department, 2nd division; Songinokhairkhan District; Sukhbaatar District; Bayangol District; Nalaikh District; Khan Uul District and Bayanzurkh District Family, Child and Youth Development Department's; Songinokhairkhan District Specialised Inspection Department; Songinokhairkhan District Emergency Management Department; Songinokhairkhan District Land Organising Department; Songinokhairkhan District Civil Registration Department; National Centre for Maternal and Child Health; National Dermatology Centre; Songinokhairkhan District Health Centre; Songinokhairkhan District Child Health Centre; Songinokhairkhan District Health 14th Centre; Songinokhairkhan District Health Centre's 3rd Laboratory: Songinokhairkhan District 40th Family Clinic; 67th public school; 76th public school; 104th public school; 105th public school; 124th public school; 29th specialised school; Songinokhairkhan District Informal School; Food and Technology Polytechnic College; Tavan Tolgoi Fuel LLC; Education and Psychology Department of Mongolian National University; Business Department of Mongolian University of Science and Technology; Songinokhairkhan District Swimming and Training Centre; Mobicom; Unitel; Embassy of the Czech Republic in Ulaanbaatar city; Khan Bank; State Bank; Golomt Bank; Khas Bank; Premium Dental Studio; Gurvan Gal Hospital; Intermed Hospital; Barloworld Mongolia LLC; Gold Father Restaurant; Social and Psychology Research Institute; Mongolian Taekwondo Association; Deseret International Charities Mongolia; Policy Centre; Khan Chandmani Sports Hall; Bugat Resort; Sweet Guys' Union; Tiens LLC; "Lantuun dohio" non-government organisation; "Damakia" Meditation Centre; Foundation of UlsBold; Tsahiur Tumur LLC; "Mongolmilk" LLC; "Maks" group; Next electronics; Etugen university

#### CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is entirely responsible for the protection and development of all residential children, funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation

# MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Educational activities, along with regular health check-ups and therapy sessions are organised for all children at the Ger Village. Meetings with the Director of Operations and Ger Village management team, staff and children are held for programme discussions. Monthly reports prepared by CNCF staff are provided to the CNCF Board of Management, CEO, International Board of Directors and Founder Mrs. Christina Noble. Annual reports are sent to all stakeholders. Government inspections are conducted by the Family, Child and Youth Development Agency and the National Inspection Agency of Mongolia. Health and fire safety inspections are conducted annually by the local district authorities

# REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2023

#### **2023 OBJECTIVES**

- To continue improving and creating a safe and nurturing living environment for children; supporting the children to reach their potential, develop their creativity and cognitive skills
- To continue facilitating activities focused on children's mental health and social skills
- To enhance the quality of programmes for discovering and developing children's talents
- · To organise training sessions, trips, and events to teach children life skills and socialisation
- To boost employee knowledge and skills to improve work productivity



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In 2023, the Blue Skies Ger Village unwaveringly provided a safe and nurturing environment for children who are orphaned, living on the streets, or unable to remain with their families due to severe risks of neglect, abuse, or exploitation. Our commitment to supporting many of Mongolia's most vulnerable children ensured they had the opportunity to lead lives filled with happiness, health, and self-sufficiency.

Through CNCF's holistic approach, we provided our children with a comprehensive education, top-tier healthcare, and robust psychological support at the Ger Village. Additionally, we offered a well-rounded personal development programme, including extracurricular activities and life skills training. Our goal was to equip these children with the tools and resources they need to heal, thrive, and succeed, fostering their holistic growth and empowering them to build brighter futures.

Since inception in 1997,

1,295

#### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

have been provided with holistic integrated childcare services by CNCF'S Blue Skies Ger Village in Mongolia.





CNCF is dedicated to transforming the lives of vulnerable children from extreme poverty and disadvantaged backgrounds, whose families are unable to care for them. By providing comprehensive, child-centred support at the Blue Skies Ger Village, CNCF empower these children to unlock their full potential so that they can become impactful and productive members of society.

This year,



56 CHILDREN (28 boys & 28 girls)

received holistic support at the Blue Skies Ger Village

53 PERMANENT RESIDENTS

O3 CHILDREN graduated from the Village

53 CHILDREN (26 boys & 27 girls)

resided at the Blue Skies Ger Village at the end of 2023



### **Demographic Summary**

07

**CHILDREN** 

were orphans with both parents deceased

39

**CHILDREN** 

have one parent deceased with the other parent having abandoned them or unable to care for them

10

**CHILDREN** 

were living with a single parent unable to care for them



Aged 6-10



Aged 11-15



Aged 16-18



Aged 19-20

#### **Academic Education**

#### **Education Level**



attended Primary School



attended Middle School



attended High School

#### **Academic Education**

#### **Education Level**



attended College/ Vocational Programmes/ Training Centre



attended Informal School



was not enrolled to school at the time of reporting

#### **Extra Tuition**

33

**CHILDREN** 

attended Mongolian lessons

44

CHILDREN

attended English lessons

26

**CHILDREN** 

attended Story reading and telling

45

CHILDREN

attended Mathematics lessons

48

**CHILDREN** 

attended general academic support and homework study classes

#### **Academic Education**

**Educational Outcomes** 



02 05 09 07

#### CHILDREN CHILDREN

graduated from graduated from graduated from Kindergarten Primary School Middle School College



03

#### **CHILDREN**

received scholarships from CNCF for their tertiary education

CHII D



Currently there are

6 GER VILLAGE CHILDREN attending College across the following areas:

- · Culinary Arts (Chef) at the College of Food Technology
- · Bakery at the College of Food Technology
- · IT Engineering at Polytechnic College of Engineering and Technology
- · Tailoring at Polytechnic College of Industry
- $\cdot$  Food Technology at the University of Food Technology
- · Training to become a Hairdresser at a Vocational Training Centre
- $\cdot$  Training to become an Electrician at a Vocational Training Centre



REPORT 2023

# **OUR YEAR**

**Healthcare and Psychosocial** 





CHILDREN
participated in 14 healthcare trainings

workshops across 07 areas





needed further treatment

#### **Psychosocial Care**



INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS
were held to support the mental health

of 56 children



PSYCHOLOGICAL GROUP

were conducted for 38 children



participated in 28 sessions of 17 types of psychological training





CHILDREN'S FAMILY MEMBERS visited their children at the Ger Village



**VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY** 

#### **Extracurricular Activities**

**Arts & Music Programme** 



38 CHILDREN attended Art classes



31 CHILDREN attended Crafts classes



CHILDREN attended Art Therapy



26 CHILDREN attended Modern Dance classes





27 CHILDREN attended Contemporary Music classes (Piano, Guitar, and Ukulele)



31 CHILDREN attended Singing lessons

#### **Sports Programme**



48 CHILDREN attended Taekwondo





CHILD attended a Basketball course



7 CHILDREN attended a Volleyball course



CHILDREN



12 CHILDREN attend boxing



CHILDREN
attended a Swimming course



CHILD attended a Wrestling Course



CHILDREN
attended a National Archery course

### **Events & Workshops**





were organised, 56 children participated







### **Emergency Relief Support**





CHILD received a first aid study package



# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The Blue Skies Ger Village offers comprehensive support to abandoned and neglected children, including residential care, healthcare, psychological rehabilitation, academic education, vocational training, personal and life skills development, and opportunities to pursue hobbies and interests through CNCF's Arts, Music & Sports Programme.

Serving as both a temporary shelter and a permanent home, the Ger Village provides immediate assistance to children found wandering the streets or removed from abusive environments by local authorities. These children receive food, clothing, healthcare, and psychological support while efforts are made to locate their parents or guardians. If reintegration into their families is not possible, the children either remain at the Village under its legal guardianship or are placed in other suitable housing based on their needs.

The Ger Village remains integral to our mission of addressing the unique needs of every child, ensuring they can thrive in a safe, supportive, and caring environment. The holistic support provided enables the children to develop intellectually, socially, and emotionally, helping them reach their fullest potential and ultimately lift themselves out of poverty.

The Ger Village can accommodate up to sixty children at a time, with a maximum of six children residing in each of the ten residential gers. To mirror traditional Mongolian family life, each ger has an assigned staff member responsible for its upkeep and maintenance, who also supports the children in their daily lives. Additionally, all children participate in maintaining their homes and the communal gers throughout the year.



#### **Education**

CNCF is dedicated to overcoming systemic educational barriers and creating economic opportunities for undeserved and underrepresented youth. Many children arriving at the Ger Village have never attended school or have been disengaged from education due to their difficult upbringings and vulnerable backgrounds. To ensure all children receive quality education, we offer access to CNCF's Blue Skies Kindergarten, local public schools, vocational training centres, colleges, and universities. Additionally, our education team, which includes an education officer, primary school teacher, maths teacher, Mongolian language teacher, and English teacher, provides tutoring support.

As residential children complete their compulsory schooling and pursue higher education, CNCF assists them with tuition scholarships through our Education Scholarship Programme. Our teams work with the children both individually and in group sessions to offer essential support for those facing academic challenges. We closely monitor the academic and personal development of every child to provide immediate assistance, which helps improve their school grades, attendance, enthusiasm for learning, self-confidence, and self-esteem.

#### **English Language**

In the first quarter of 2023, we recruited an English teacher to join our team. The children eagerly enrolled in the English course and made significant progress in developing their language skills. Some students even attended a specialised training centre outside the Ger Village during their summer break, demonstrating their commitment to learning. Our dedicated social workers and teachers continue to assist the children with their English assignments, while older students mentor the younger ones. Additionally, English-language cartoons and educational films are regularly screened during school holidays and weekends, further enhancing their learning experience.

#### **Mathematics**

Mathematics is a crucial subject for a child's education, daily life, and future career. At the Ger Village, our maths classes not only spark greater interest in the subject but also boost the children's confidence. Primary school students attend maths revision sessions led by our primary school teacher, while middle schoolers engage in extra classes during their school hours. High school students deepen their understanding by tutoring the middle schoolers. To address any gaps in maths skills, three high school students and six middle school students participated in specialised training sessions during the summer break.

#### **General Education**

Classes based on the national curriculum supported children with their general education and homework. In these classes, the teacher monitored students and worked closely with any children experiencing challenges at school to ensure they did not fall behind academically. To enhance engagement and foster a sense of responsibility among primary school children, we launched the 'We Can' campaign. This campaign organised the children into three distinct groups and included activities such as reading, writing, and a competition to see who knew the most proverbs.



#### **Extracurricular Activities**

#### **Arts**

Arts and crafts assist children in healing from trauma and in developing their communication, listening, and attention skills, as well as enhancing their creativity and imagination. At the Ger Village, children have access to a wide range of artistic activities, including drawing, painting, sculpture, pottery, crafting, and drama.

#### **Art Therapy**

Healing the emotional trauma experienced by many children arriving at CNCF's Blue Skies Ger Village is central to CNCF's mission. Through progressive Art Therapy services, CNCF's Art Therapist and Psychotherapists connect with these children, helping them regain trust, manage stress, and develop self-awareness and overall well-being. The therapeutic techniques employed include drawing, painting, colouring, sculpting, and collage. By discussing the children's art and exploring the inspiration behind their work, our Psychotherapist gains a deeper understanding of each child, working closely with them to address and resolve emotional challenges. In addition to individual therapy, all children participate in group sessions where they are encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings and learn how to support themselves, each other, and their community. Through the creative process, our children explore their emotions, resolve conflicts, manage behaviour, develop social skills, reduce anxiety, and enhance self-awareness and self-esteem

#### Music

In addition to the developmental benefits, music plays an essential role in ensuring each child's well-being and personal growth. Regular weekly music lessons are provided at the Ger Village, supporting the children in learning a variety of instruments, choir and traditional and contemporary dance. The children enthusiastically showcase

their singing, dancing, and musical talents during various events like Children's Day celebrations, "Thank You, Teacher" events, and guest visiting occasions. Additionally, in 2023, they actively participated in the school's "Arts Festival", delivering solo performances in singing, dancing, and playing instruments such as the ukulele and piano, as well as joining group dance performances.

#### **Sports**

To ensure a creative environment for children to explore their interests while being exposed to various and numerous physical, social, and educational benefits, we facilitate a range of sports activities including Cricket, Taekwondo, Basketball, Volleyball, Kendo, Swimming, and Archery.

Throughout the year, our children took part in sports competitions and were awarded 115 prizes and medals, including 110 medals in Taekwondo and 5 medals in Cricket.

For more details about these specific programmes, see the Programme Annual Reports <u>here</u>.



#### Healthcare

All children have the right to access healthcare services. Many children who come into our care have grown up in unsanitary and squalid conditions, exacerbating various threats to their health and well-being. At the Blue Skies Ger Village, we provide children with a wide variety of fresh nutrition, supplements, general and annual health check-ups, and health screenings. Our medical team conducts a comprehensive health check-up for every child upon arrival. Treatments for conditions such as malnutrition, rickets, physical development challenges, and severe dental issues are provided on-site. Our medical team ensures that children always feel safe and comfortable during these check-ups. Referrals to hospitals and paediatric specialists are made as needed. With the support of local hospitals, partners, and medical volunteer teams, we organise regular specialist screenings and examinations for dermatology, tuberculosis, ringworm, dental health, and ear, nose, and throat health

In 2023, a total of 1,010 health check-ups were conducted.

For details about this programme, see the Healthcare Programme Annual Report here.



### Life Skills Training and Workshops

CNCF empowers our children to develop self-confidence, adaptability, and essential interpersonal skills needed to thrive in various circumstances. Regular life skills training sessions and workshops are facilitated for children of all ages. Additionally, our children are encouraged to host topic talks, where they share experiences with their peers at the Village. These opportunities not only help them learn more about each other but also inspire each child to build their confidence and self-esteem.

Children actively acquire life skills through various activities, including helping in the kitchen, participating in household chores, and engaging in gardening tasks. During the summer, they contribute to gardening efforts by tending flowers, nurturing vegetables grown in greenhouses and outdoor plots, and ensuring proper watering. Youngsters under the age of 11 help by peeling vegetables and managing their personal laundry, while those aged 12 and above learn essential life skills such as food preparation, including cutting vegetables, kneading flour and bread dough, baking, and managing their own clothing care, including washing clothes.



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#### Horticulture

At the Ger Village, we aim to create a healthy and sustainable community where our children can learn to understand and respect the environment. Growing our own produce has not only made us more economically self-sufficient but also supported our children's health with an organic, nutrient-rich diet that strengthens their immune systems.

Our Village includes two outdoor greenhouses, an indoor greenhouse, and vegetable plots for growing potatoes and sea buckthorn trees. Each year, a professional agronomist is hired from March to November to oversee cultivation, planting, harvesting, and pruning activities. Both Ger Village residents and children from CNCF's Blue Skies Kindergarten are taught these techniques and take part in daily tasks such as weeding, planting, and preparing produce. These activities help them connect with nature and improve their fine motor skills.

Children work with the agronomist to plant flowers and vegetables, learning valuable life skills and developing a love and respect for the environment. This summer, the eldest girl took on the role of an agronomist from July to September, leading the younger children in harvesting crops. Over the past three years, she has served as an apprentice agronomist, sharing her knowledge and setting a practical example for the younger children.

Our cultivation includes a diverse range of vegetables like carrots, beets, broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, kimchi cabbage, green onions, scallions, spinach, radishes, tomatoes, cucumbers, and anise — 15 varieties in total — along with four types of annual flowers. Additionally, we have introduced three types of fruit plants that have thrived. Together, the children and staff organise the annual harvest festival, where teams compete by preparing snacks, salads, and dishes using the vegetables they have grown. This year, our red tomatoes were particularly successful, yielding twice the usual harvest. Our efforts from March to November have ensured a steady supply of nutritious, homegrown vegetables, marking a significant achievement for us.



### Psychological, Social and Emotional Support

Our Psychosocial Team of four professional and dedicated psychologists provides support and enables children to heal from the trauma they have experienced in their young lives. The range of therapeutic techniques used includes art therapy, play therapy, cognitive behavioural therapy, gestalt therapy, systematic therapy, and drama therapy. An assessment is conducted by our psychologists when a child first arrives at the Ger Village, followed by an individually tailored psychological support plan. Every child at the Ger Village receives regular monthly individual psychological therapy sessions, regardless of their duration of stay. Children in need of more intensive, long-term therapy receive sessions that can range from 1 to 5 weeks, consisting of 8 to 21 individual meetings tailored to address their psychological and emotional needs.

Group meetings are held regularly, divided by age group, where children share their opinions on selected topics, share information about their lives, and discuss how to better support each other.

This technique allows the children to realise that they are not alone and enables them to gain valuable insights from their peers. Through group sessions, our team is able to observe the children's behaviour; body language, emotional expression, attitude, and use of language. The children also learn how to conduct and express themselves in a safe group setting, which enhances the development of their communication and social skills. Such intervention and psychological support enable the children to understand their emotions and how to manage them. Also, psychological training is organised according to the psychological characteristics of the child's age. Using bulletin boards for children and staff, psychologically relevant information is provided in an interesting way.

#### Social Skills Development

In order to increase children's social skills, we organised events in cooperation with the Psychology Programme. In order to help children face and overcome their fears, 10 children participated in the "Extreme" game. We frequently organise Movie Days; for instance, screening movies like "Inside Out" to help them comprehend the significance of understanding their emotions, fostering enthusiasm, and nurturing their psychological well-being. A total of 20 children aged 6-12 years were included in the play therapy sessions. We organised activities to celebrate Children's Day joyfully, aiming to instil positive psychological feelings and create enduring positive memories. A group of 11 to 18-year-old children watched a play titled "The Man Who Laughs", totalling 15 children.

#### Staff Training and Workshops

collaborative efforts Through with Psychology and Healthcare programmes, conducted we specialised training sessions for the employees aimed at enhancing their skills. These training programmes cater to managers, social workers, psychologists, focusing on innovative management techniques and novel approaches to working with children, as jointly organised by both governmental and nongovernmental entities.



### Additional Psychosocial Support Activities

#### Boys' & Girls' Club

The Boys' and Girls' Club was established to encourage trust and communication between the children, empowering them to develop essential life skills. The children support the Ger Village staff in their daily work, discuss and share inspirational stories, and engage in Arts and Craft projects. Our Psychosocial Team closely monitors every child and identifies any challenges which need to be addressed in their one-on-one meetings. The children are divided into five groups and sessions are held once a week.

During the children's summer vacation in June, July, and August of 2023, the Girls' Club dedicated their time to intensive operations. A cohort of 18 girls between the ages of 6 and 14 actively participated in 16 educational sessions. Meanwhile, girls aged 15 and above worked at the "Nairamdal" children's camp. Notably, this year's Girls' Club saw a shift towards greater independence, with reduced staff involvement. The girls autonomously organised activities and meetings, focusing on various subjects such as home cleanliness, inter-gender communication, paper and textile crafts, collaborative painting sessions, sharing favourite songs, and sharing their interests with each other. The Boys' Club also operated regularly with 10 boys aged between 9 and 14. The children-led club provides them with the opportunity to initiate new activities.



### Additional Psychosocial Support Activities

#### **Noble Community Club**

The Noble Club is a community service group made up of CNCF young people aged 16 years and above who are currently or formerly enrolled in CNCF's programmes. Established in May 2018, the club presently has 83 members with 6 children from the Blue Skies Ger Village; the remaining members are all children from other CNCF programmes including CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme and Education Scholarship Programme. Noble Club members actively provide support through regular community engagement, assisting in the facilitation of community activities and supporting disadvantaged young people. 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.

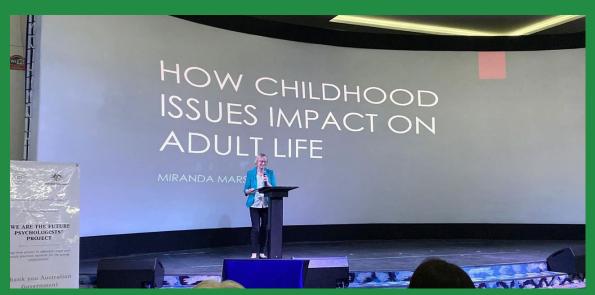
The purpose of the club is to give back to the community and contribute to the development of Mongolia. Club members can develop essential life skills such as leadership, problem-solving, creative thinking, communication, and empathy. The Noble Club focuses on three areas: personal development, public health and education, and organising activities to support CNCF, club members, and the community. Most of our young people do not have access to adequate study space or electronic devices to do homework and conduct school research. A library and study space with donated books and two computers were facilitated, as well as a weekly book club to read, share knowledge and discuss what they have learned.

#### **Family Members Home Visits**

We believe that it is essential to improve the lives of the children's families where in place for a sustainable and independent future. By doing so, and where possible, we aim to eventually reunite our children with their families, bringing peace of mind to our children and a sense of worthiness to their caregivers. Our team conducts home visits to families of Ger Village children to assess their living conditions and provide support where necessary. The children's families and relatives are also assisted in applying for ID cards and other documents required for the state healthcare system, official employment, and finding accommodation where needed.

#### Parents and Relatives Days

Twice a year, parents and relatives still in contact with their children are invited to the Ger Village. It is an occasion for the families to connect and get to know the daily life of their children at the village and where they can see how well cared for and loved their children are. Meetings with our staff are also organised to discuss the children's academic and personal achievements as well as daily challenges faced by the family. Such objectives encourage family members to think about their accountability and responsibility to their own children



### **Maintenance and Improvements**

Our guards and maintenance team play an integral role in the overall function, security, and maintenance of the Ger Village. They are in charge of ensuring the safety of our children, the general upkeep of the Village and enabling the heating of our facilities and gers during the different seasons.

Our children are encouraged to assist in various tasks wherever it is safe and appropriate, helping them develop skills and a sense of responsibility for their home environment. They also have the opportunity to learn sign language from one of our long-time maintenance members, who is hearing impaired, fostering an inclusive, understanding, and supportive community.

Improvements to the Ger Village in 2023 include:

- Furnishing the residential gers
- Installing new security cameras
- Repairing the carpentry room
- Preparing the gers for both winter and summer
- Conducting plumbing inspections and insulating steam boilers
- Replacing the covers of two greenhouses
- Installing hybrid heaters in two gers
- Renovating the kindergarten classrooms
- Upgrading the electrical systems

#### **Events and Excursions**

Almost all our children were deprived of social interaction and child-appropriate activities before their arrival at the Ger Village. It is therefore crucial to nurture our children and introduce them to new and stimulating environments and activities, benefiting their development, psychological well-being, self-esteem, and general life satisfaction.

#### National & International Day Celebrations

We ensure children have access to and participate in varied national celebrations and events such as New Year, Tsagaan Sar (Lunar New Year), Children's Day, Women's Day, and Naadam Festival. These opportunities promote solidarity among our children as they join together to prepare traditional meals, activities, and performances, which enable them to develop a deeper understanding of Mongolian culture and traditions.

#### **Graduation Celebrations**

Graduation celebrations are organised for our children who have successfully graduated from Kindergarten, Primary School, Middle School, Secondary School, and College. The staff of the Ger Village participates in the children's celebratory events at school, sharing their happy moments and encouraging them to thrive further.

#### **Community Work**

As part of an initiative to help cultivate our children's sense of responsibility, empathy, and compassion towards others, our team organised a variety of community work activities throughout the year.



#### **Sports Day**

To promote physical and mental health, Sports Day events are organised at the Ger Village throughout the year. Our children and staff take part in various competitions to encourage closer bonding and build rapport.

#### Farewell Celebration

When a child leaves the Ger Village, a farewell ceremony is held as we wish our children the very best as they embark on a new chapter of their lives. CNCF continues to support all the children through their life stages, ensuring they have a safe and secure home to live in when they leave us.

#### Monitoring and Assessments after Ger Village Graduation

In accordance with our Child Protection and Reintegration Policy, seven of our former Ger Village children currently reside in CNCF's transition homes. These homes accommodate children who have no family, cannot reintegrate with their family, or cannot live independently for other reasons after graduating from the Ger Village. CNCF continues to monitor and assess these children daily, adhering to its safeguarding policy and procedures.

When CNCF successfully reintegrates a child back into their family, it remains in contact with the child and family members until the reintegration process is deemed successful. This process involves a minimum two-year procedure after the child graduates from the Ger Village. For the first three months, our social workers conduct regular home visits to assess the reintegration process. They interview the child and family members separately to understand the circumstances. After the initial three-month assessment, social workers conduct further home visits every three months for the first year and continue unscheduled visits until the end of the second year. If reintegration is successful, the family's case file is transferred to CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme team. If not, the child returns to the Ger Village.

CNCF-assigned social workers, the CNCF Child Sponsorship Team, and a government social worker from the local district are responsible for visiting the child at home and making various assessments until the child reaches 18 years old, or longer if the young adult is still considered dependent.





# **OUR STORIES**

### From Tragedy to Triumph: Suvdaa's Journey

Suvdaa\* faced an unimaginable loss when her father passed away suddenly in 2020. Overwhelmed by grief, her mother turned to alcohol and tragically passed away in 2022, leaving her and her siblings orphaned. After their parents' deaths, they were taken in by their extended family. Suvdaa lived with her grandmother, but as her grandmother struggled to care for them, they sought help from the officials of Sukhbaatar District, and the siblings arrived at CNCF's Ger Village in January 2023.

Initially shy and withdrawn, Suvdaa slowly began to adapt to her new environment. Determined to help her thrive, CNCF's team of social workers, psychologists, and doctors crafted a comprehensive developmental plan. To ensure her holistic growth, we incorporated activities such as singing, dancing, painting, and taekwondo into her schedule. Despite the deep scars of her past, individual counselling and group sessions played a crucial role in her remarkable transformation.

At the Ger Village, Suvdaa found the stability she desperately needed, leading to significant improvements. She excelled academically, artistically, and athletically, joining the song and dance club and showcasing her talents at various events. Her academic achievements placed her among the top students, while her passion for taekwondo earned her gold and silver medals in competitions. With dreams of achieving black belt status and pursuing a career in sports, her aspirations soared.

This incredible transformation was made possible by the unwavering support and dedication of the Ger Village team. In this nurturing environment, Suvdaa found peace and reduced anxiety levels. Her success in academics, arts, and sports, combined with her newfound confidence and sociability, foretells a bright and promising future. Suvdaa's journey from tragedy to triumph is a testament to the power of resilience and the impact of a supportive community.

\*Name and identity changed to protect privacy

# **OUR STORIES**

### From Homelessness to Hope: Misheel's Journey

Misheel\* lived with her mother, father, younger sister, and younger brother. However, her father's departure and an unstable family environment led to their homelessness, often leaving them alone at home. When the situation worsened, with their father absent and their mother either taking the children to stay elsewhere overnight or leaving them alone for 3-4 days, a concerned neighbour reported the situation to the Children's Helpline. This intervention resulted in their temporary placement for over a year.

Once their case was referred from a temporary shelter to CNCF's care, a team of social workers and psychologists held an initial meeting. Misheel and her two siblings arrived at the Ger Village in June 2021. Upon arrival, Misheel was traumatised, academically behind, had communication issues, and exhibited extreme insecurity and timidity. However, coming to the Village marked a significant positive shift in her life.

Now, Misheel lives with her siblings in a stable environment, free from issues such as lack of food, proper care, or a warm home. They attend school, participate in clubs, and lead a good life in a comfortable and nurturing environment. The team's efforts ensured Misheel caught up academically and discovered her artistic talents. She enjoys dancing and singing, actively engaging in art and cultural activities both at school and at the Ger Village.

Misheel participates in various classes such as singing, dancing, drawing, crafts, and taekwondo, and engages in activities outside the Ger Village like swimming, soccer, volleyball, and basketball clubs. She is a nurturing sister to her two siblings, helping them with their studies and showing immense happiness and gratitude for living at the Ger Village, where they have numerous opportunities for positive development.

\*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



# **OUR STORIES**

### A Mother's Gratitude: Transforming Lives at the Ger Village

"My three children live at the Ger Village. After divorcing my husband, I became homeless and, in my irresponsibility and carelessness, I was unaware that my children were staying at the Ger Village. Currently, I work in a glass factory with my partner. Although I don't have my own place to stay yet, I plan to save my salary to buy a ger and take care of my children.

My children are learning a lot at the Ger Village. I am especially pleased with their enrolment in swimming, volleyball, and taekwondo. I had no idea they were talented in singing and dancing. Without the Ger Village, they wouldn't have stayed safe or had the opportunity to develop these talents

I am deeply grateful for the support my children have received, and I want to thank CNCF for helping them grow and become good people. I will always be eternally thankful for the care and guidance provided by the CNCF team".

\*Names and identity changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2023

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of running the Blue Skies Ger Village in 2023 was:

\$268,538 USD

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

Audit in progress at time of reporting. Our audits can be found here.



### **BLUE SKIES GER VILLAGE EXPENDITURES IN 2023**

Expenditure	Amount (USD)
Food items	24,617
Clothes, Uniforms & Shoes	8,115
Children's Celebrations	2,066
Education Expenses & Supplies	1,797
Psychological Development	2,410
Children's Hygiene Supplies	2,803
Bus Fares & Pocket Money for Children	2,319
Math Tutor (Independent)	132
Telecommunications	2,023
Horticulture	1,113
Office Stationery & Supplies	827

Expenditure	Amount (USD)
Utilities (Electricity, Firewood & Coal)	7,230
Equipment & Items	1,454
Cleaning Materials	2,647
Maintenance & Improvements	10,069
Transportation & Vehicle Maintenance	9,859
Sewage Removal	1,730
Staff Salaries (32 Staff)	151,045
Staff Social Insurance (mandatory) & Staff Training	19,683
Public & Staff Relations	1,261
Miscellaneous / Others	1,855
Depreciation	13,483
TOTAL COST	268,538

# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Your generous donations and unwavering support for the Blue Skies Ger Village empower CNCF to provide a vital safe haven for children and young adults at extreme risk of exploitation, abuse, and neglect — those who are orphaned, homeless, or from impoverished families. By protecting and caring for these vulnerable children and equipping them with essential knowledge and skills, we enable them to envision and achieve a future free from poverty and filled with hope.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our financial donors for their critical role in enabling this life-changing project to operate and establishing a solid foundation for our children's future. Additionally, we offer heartfelt thanks to the many compassionate individuals and organisations whose support is instrumental in ensuring our children receive the nurturing and supportive childhood they deserve, upholding the vision of our Founder.

Thank you for being a beacon of hope and making a profound difference in the lives of our children. Together, we are creating a brighter, more promising future for them.





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

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