



Message from BFT Founder and the Director

Dear Compassionate Friends and Supporters of BFT Locally and Around the Globe,

I wish you all a very Happy New Year for 2025! In 2024, BFT has completed wonderful projects, many of which this newsletter highlights. For BFT, even though the world has been in turmoil, with major events bringing trauma to many people, I pray and hope that you have all stayed safe, well, happy and healthy through the year.

The generosity of our many supporters has allowed BFT to improve the lives of many poor Cambodians, particularly in rural villages. This newsletter summarizes a range of the projects carried out through the year. The generous support of Bob and Indu Shah (Devchandbhai & Kankuben Foundation, UK) to build a fifth school in Pong Ro Leu, Michael Couch and his friends Marty Hassing (Summit Jewelers, US) for schools in Pchek Chrom through Bill Taylor (SE Asia Foundation, US) and our friends at P.O.E.M. (France) for building libraries, Steve Murray at Georgia's children of the worlds for school repair and building a new school gate and Friends of BFT in Hong Kong, Germany, Norway, Australia and Cambodia, Rotary Australia and International, and many others. Support from Gillian Cappelletto, Dr. Michael John, Sue & John Ferguson, Gillian & Ben Gray, John Nurse & Jackie Sher, Fiona & David Parkinson, Sharon Pearce & Pete Ridley, Katrina & John Hayward, Carl Fraik & Sally, Edward Conway and others has helped with staff salaries, funding university studies and others.

Friends of BFT Australia continued to provide invaluable support as individuals and through their efforts to coordinate the sourcing of funds from sources including Rotary in Australia and Rotary International.

The continued support of Lions Clubs and friends, Peng Lai Dian in Singapore and Trees of Love along with our many volunteers who have given so generously of their time helps make the BFT's work possible.

Supporters have allowed us to build and expand primary and high schools, add libraries and accommodation for teachers and students, increase the supply of clean reliable water and improve sanitation by building almost 300 toilets, as well as continuing our on-going core activities of providing health and nutrition education and support, teaching English and computer literacy, football skills, peace building and skills development to allow villagers to earn a sustainable living.

New initiatives with the potential to provide better futures were introduced. School Demonstration Gardens and chicken farms (the Gray's family), a responsible cow bank and vegetable farms (Tawingo Funds) are introducing new skills, food supplies and study materials (Stitching Special Needs, Netherlands).

The team here at BFT has continued to do great work, persevering tirelessly to better the lives of poor Cambodians. In this, they have been helped by numerous volunteers, including Threads of Red (US), the Singaporean Medical Team Mission and the Australian Volunteer Program. With assistance from our partner at Happy Football Cambodia Australia we were proud our children and youths could attend the Homeless World Cup (South Korea) and Friendship Tournament (Thailand).

We are forever grateful for the continued support that allows BFT to make a difference for Cambodians in need. We know, however, that there is still much work to do.

We will need to strengthen that support further in 2025 and beyond. We are excited and looking forward to having our first Global Friends Gathering in January. With all of us working towards the same goal, we will overcome the upcoming challenges to build hope, peace, and a better future for our younger generation, with compassion, sympathy, and hard work. I would also like to express my sincere admiration and appreciation to all my dedicated Cambodian and international colleagues and volunteers. Your enthusiastic effort and love is why BFT has been able to help the poor for the past 18 years.

May you and yours have Happiness, Health, Prosperity and Peace in 2025 and always! Please visit us in Cambodia to witness our accomplishments first-hand!

Prof. Long Sedtha





Message from BFT's Volunteer Social Business Mentor,

Being part of the Australian Volunteer Program (AVP) over these past several years has been nothing short of a profound privilege. I have had the opportunity to work alongside extraordinary individuals across Myanmar, Vietnam, and Cambodia, each experience enriching my life in ways I never anticipated.

When I first encountered BFT in 2023, I was struck by several inspiring aspects. The unwavering commitment of Sedtha and the dedicated BFT staff to transform the lives of Cambodian children and families is truly remarkable. Their openness to learn and collaborate with communities, donors, and volunteers speaks volumes about their mission. Witnessing the tangible positive changes in the lives of countless Cambodian families reinforced my belief in the power of community-driven initiatives.

During my journey, I also connected with the Friends of BFT Australia—passionate individuals who volunteer, donate, and raise funds as integral members of the BFT Family. It was eye-opening to discover that there are "Friends of BFT" across the globe. For a small local organization based in Siem Reap, this is an extraordinary achievement that showcases the power of connection and shared purpose.

This blend of commitment, partnership, and impactful change is nothing short of magical. I felt an undeniable pull to be part of this movement, and when the opportunity arose through AVP, I embraced it. In the months I have volunteered with BFT—both remotely from Australia and here in Siem Reap—I have consistently observed how the BFT team operates: with respect, intelligence, and unwavering adherence to their principles. One significant challenge for any local NGO is securing enough resources to sustain operations—keeping the lights on, paying staff, and ensuring continuity in their vision rather than just jumping from one project to another.

However, that challenge doesn't need to be faced alone. With a global alliance of individuals who share BFT's vision and contribute to its realization, we began to think: what if we could bring some of our friends and partners together, so collectively we might explore what our future might hold as we strive to improve the lives of Cambodian communities? This was the thinking behind the BFT Global Gathering, happening in Siem Reap this coming January 23rd to 26th. I am excited to be part of this event which promises to be an inspiring opportunity for us all to come together, share ideas, and explore how we can continue nurturing the magic of BFT. I hope to meet many of you there as we embark on this exciting journey together

Susan Black



New School building in Pchek Chrum Primary School by Michael Couch and Marty Hassing and Summit Jewelers

Pchek Chrum Primary School has a new school building of five classrooms and other necessary facilities. This build will greatly help the school's capacity to help and educate the children of the Pchek Chrum village.



Computer classes supported by Michael Couch

There are now daily computer classes taking place in Tropeng Tmor, Pchek Chrum and other Primary schools. These classes will provide the students with crucial computer skills that they will need for their futures studies and careers.



Training of students in chicken and vegetable farming supported by Gray's Family and Friend of BFT Australia

45 students from Otakok High School attended a training on chicken and vegetable farming conducted by Build Your Future Today Center. The students learned about the basics of poultry care, feeding, vaccination, and marketing, as well as the best practices of vegetable cultivation, irrigation, pest control, and harvesting.



they can focus on their studies. The Students spend their free time growing and maintaining the farm so that they can continue to enjoy fresh egg and vegetables in the future.



Responsible Cow Bank Program Supported by Tawingo Funds

The Cow Bank Program has provided 8 families with 16 cows. The families participated in a 2 day workshop of how to raise and care for the cows. There are 9 more families on the waiting list, hopefully the cows will have healthy calves that can be provided to the families waiting.



Washroom Toilets by Rotary Global Grant

In collaboration with our partners from Rotary, we are thrilled to announce the successful construction of 307 toilets in Tapour School and Village. Congratulations to all the families!



Chicken and mushroom farm in Otakok School supported by Gray's Family, Friends of BFT Australia and Michael Couch

Otakok High School now have a fully functional chicken and mushroom farm that provides that students and teachers with healthy food so that



Third high school at Pong Ro Leu supported by Devchandbhai & Kankuben Foundation, Bob and Indu Shah from UK.

We have just started the construction of the 3rd High School in Pong Ro Leu. The School will include 7 classrooms, teachers office and a library. In addition, the school will have dormitories for both students and

and reliable drinking water for the center's staff, patients, and surrounding households, helping to reduce waterborne diseases and improve the overall health of the community.

Library Project and bicycles, uniform and stationary Supported by POEM from France

La-ak School has received funds to start building a school library. La-ak also received bicycles, uniforms and stationary, making a huge contribution to their quality of life in their school.

Phnom Dang Rek Secondary School Dormitory Supported by Devchandbhai & Kankuben Foundation, Bob and Indu Shah from UK.



The dormitory in Trapeng Popel Primary supported by Michael



Dormitories built in 2024

In 2024, we have helped build dormitories for the schools in the rural Siem Reap Province.

These dormitories help teachers and students to focus on their tasks at school, and reduce their need to travel far to attend school.

Otakok High School Dormitories Supported by Devchandbhai & Kankuben Foundation, Bob and Indu Shah from UK.



Couch school has three rooms. 4 rooms in Kromombol primary school supported by Michael Couch



4 rooms in Tapour primary school supported by Michael Couch



Clean Water system in Svay Lue Health Center of Svay Leu supported by NTTDATA from Singapore and Thailand

Svay Health Center has successfully installed their clean drinking water system. This system will provide safe



Threads of Red

Threads of Red have been back in Siem Reap holding workshops, teaching health education for the underprivileged and setting up eye clinics.

We thank them for their contribution, helping girls make sanitary pads so they can stay in school and provide much needed sanitary products!



Mobile library repair supported by Friends of BFT Singapore

The mobile library is an old car, we have received funds to get it back to its former glory so it can continue to spread joy to the children through reading.



First aid training by BFT Nurse and Medical Volunteers

Our medical team conducted another First Aid training session for

teachers from the seven schools in Tasiem and Kontouth Commune.

The training aimed to equip them with the skills needed to help save lives in various emergency situations. Congratulations to all teachers!



Feeding Program Supported by Melissa's Family and Friends of BFT Hong Kong

At Changha School, a nutritious breakfast is prepared every morning, allowing children to focus better on their lessons without



worrying about hunger. These initiatives highlight the community's commitment to the well-being and education of their children.



Feeding Program in Prey Lngeang Primary School Supported by Michael Couch

provides daily meals from Monday to Saturday, thanks to a volunteer cook from the village.

Toothbrush and paste donation supported by Dreamy Cambodia and Atomy Cambodia

Six schools in Svey Lue have received a donation of over 400 sets of toothpaste and toothbrushes through Project SongKuem. The supplies were given to school children, and will greatly improve the health of the children in these schools!



Family Planning Education Supported by Michael Couch

Our nurse has been actively conducting family planning education sessions to families in Pchek Chrom Village.

These sessions are aimed at raising awareness about the importance of family planning and providing essential knowledge to help families make informed decisions.



Visit to Laos and VFI by Devchandbhai & Kankuben Foundation, Bob and Indu Shah from UK

Our BFT team recently completed a cross-visit to Pakse, Laos, where we engaged with NGOs, exchanged ideas, and observed impactful school and community projects. We sincerely thank Rick and his team at VFI for their warm hospitality, valuable insights, and for showcasing their inspiring initiatives, which is an important step in providing means of transportation to those out of reach of the High School.



Tree Planting by Trees of Love – Jo Reynolds

The Trees of Love initiative allows sponsors worldwide to purchase and plant fruit tree saplings in Cambodia. Over 300 saplings have been planted to celebrate life, give eco-friendly gifts, or remember loved ones.

Distributed in disadvantaged villages, often with BFT-supported schools, these saplings offer long-term benefits: fruit and wood for consumption and income, shade for comfort, and nutrients for the soil. These are truly Trees of Love.



Volunteer Day in Phnom Penh

Oddom, our program Director had the honor of attending the International Volunteer Day, hosted by our partner Australian Volunteers Program.



Water, sanitation and Hygiene training supported by Rotary Global Grant

Our staff, school teachers, and community leaders from Tapour and Prey Lngeang have completed a 3-day workshop on Delivering Effective WASH Training (DEWT) in Siem Reap, to better train and educate the people of rural Cambodia.



Computer Donations Supported by Michael Couch

Otakok High school and the other schools have received over 50 computers from our generous donor in 2024.



BFT learning Center and Classroom renovation supported by Carl Fraik and Family

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our BFT Board Member, Carl, and his family for their generous donation. Their funds have enabled us to renovate our English classrooms and purchase new desktops, desks, chairs, and other supplies for our learning center.



Tapour and Otakok rice and shoes donations supported by Stichting Special Needs Nederland

Stiching Special needs Nederland generously donated 5000kg of rice and 50 pair of shoes to families in need in Tapour and Otakok. Thank you for your kindness and for making a difference in our community!



Homeless World Cup and football program Sponsored by Happy football Cambodia and Australia

Our proud and dedicated football team participated in the Homeless World Cup in Koarea this September, organized and sponsored by Happy football Cambodia and Australia.

Our three football programs in the Siem Reap province is still going strong, with high attendance of both boys and girls on the football pitch!



HFCA SR Sras Srong Community Village Program



HFCA SR Oroong Community Village Program



BFT Village Football Cup in Svay Lue Supported by Michael Couch

The BFT Village Football Cup Tournament was hosted for the first time in remote rural areas, with participation from eight primary schools in December 2024. The event brought immense joy and fun to all involved. Oroong Primary School emerged as the champion, followed by Tropeng Tmor in second place and Pchek Chrom in third place.



Singaporean Medical Team - Project Songkeum and Bottrong

We hosted enthusiastic and professional medical students from Project Songkeum and Bottrong Singapore, who joined our team to provide health education and services. They made a significant impact on children from 8 villages. We are grateful for the memories and partnership. Thank you, Project Songkeum and Bottrong Singapore, for your dedication and generosity



School Renovation and School Gate Building by by Steve Murray at Georgia 's Children of the World in UK

The children and teachers at Oroong School are incredibly happy and grateful to Steve Murray and all the supporters at the organization for their continuous support. The new school gate and classroom renovations have made a significant impact on the school community.





Latest News

8.

THANK YOU NOTES TO BFT FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS ABROAD

Thank you to Gillian and Michael Cappelletto, Sue Ferguson for their ongoing support in funding wages for team members.



We thank Friends of BFT Hong Kong for sponsoring our teacher from Chingha School to university. Sophean will complete an IT major in mid-2025.



to Sharon and Pete, friends in Australia for continued sponsoring our school teacher from Sre Robong to University, An Eng is now in his third year , majoring in Law



and Katrina and John Hayward for sponsoring Nursing studies for one of our young women who has now successfully completed her Nursing School this year!



We extend our gratitude to the SE Asia Foundation for sponsoring our two teachers from the remote rural area of Svay Lue to attend the University of South-East Asia in Siem Reap. They are currently in their second year, majoring in Management.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to David and Fiona Parkinson for their generous sponsorship, enabling one of our female teachers from Oroong, Rama, to pursue her studies at the University in Siem Reap. Rama is currently in her second year, majoring in Khmer literature.



We also want to acknowledge the ongoing support of Friends of BFT Australia, Friends of BFT Germany and their directors who individually and as a group do so much for BFT.



We extend our heartfelt thanks to our new partner and friends in Ireland for organizing the fundraising event, Charity Concert for Cambodia. All the money raised goes to BFT. Special thanks to Mr. Edward Conway and all his friends and family for their help and involvement in making this event run smoothly.



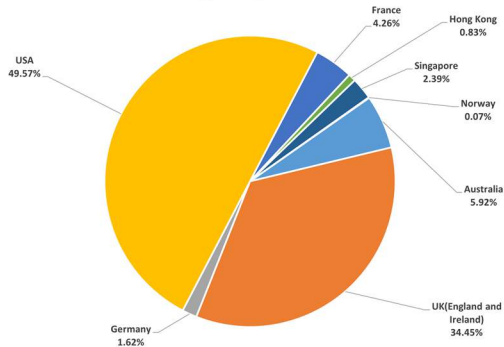


Financials and Recognition

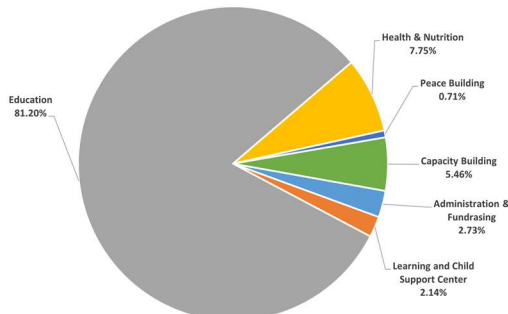
9.

BFT Donations
1 Jan - 31 December 2024
(Total US\$664,422.23)

Note: Amounts shown by country are from official support organisations



BFT Expenditure
1 Jan -31 December 2024
(Total US \$ 642,535.15)



BFT Center received donation income of \$664,422.23 for the year 2024. This is similar to donations in 2023 with a slight increase of 4.45%. The major contribution to the increase in funding comes from our very generous donors in the USA and UK and new funding from Ireland, with our continued valued support from Australia, Germany, France, Hong Kong, Norway and Singapore. The funding has allowed us to continue and further expand our delivery of projects and services in our villages. Importantly, the proportion of expenses relating to administration and fundraising has been kept low, at 2.73% . meaning that 97.7% of the money donated to BFT Center is committed to the delivery of services and projects in the villages. In the village project, 97.7% of the budget is allocated as follows: 57% is dedicated to construction costs, which include the school, library, toilets, hand washing facilities, teacher accommodations, water filtration system, and water storage stands. The remaining 40.70% is used for other operational activities and projects such as training, meetings, travel, project staff, school supplies, feeding, and provision of hygiene supplies.



International BFT Friends

BFT Friends from Australia, America, Germany, Singapore, Norway, England, France, & Hong Kong

Special thanks to our valued local private sector, local and International volunteers and individual supporters from around the globe.

THE DEVCHANDBHAI & KANKUBEN FOUNDATION



OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS



Omhealth

BFT would like to thank all our other friends who have donated over the last 12 months and all BFT Friends around the world who are working tirelessly to raise awareness and funds to support our valued mission. We are very grateful for all your support and passion. It is amazing to see so many people and organizations committed to the BFT cause. We are humbled and grateful to see—people from Cambodia and people from all over the world—engaging in a network to improve the quality of life and opportunities for the Cambodian people who need our help most.

THANK YOU!