



# Annual Report Fiscal Year 2014



Children's Future programming transforms the lives of children and youth in Cambodia. We are preventing human rights abuses, upholding basic rights, ensuring basic needs and providing 21st century leadership skills through meaningful education.



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# Who We Are

**MISSION** To help break the cycle of poverty in Cambodia by providing the country's poorest and most vulnerable children the opportunity to become educated, self-reliant and compassionate individuals.

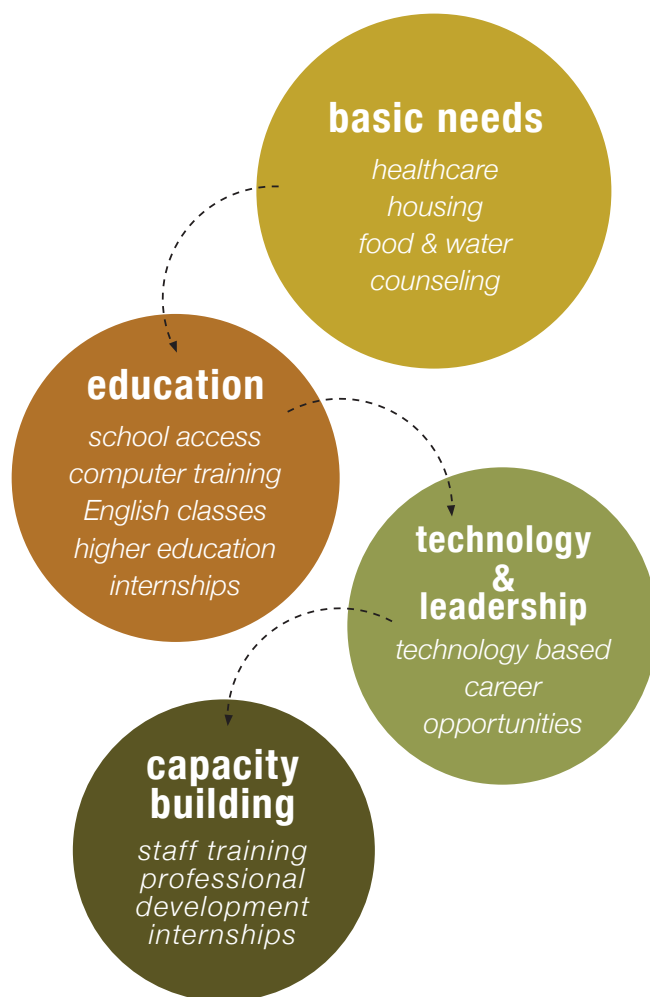
**VISION** A world where all children achieve their fullest potential - becoming positive role models, qualified professionals and compassionate community leaders.

**CORE BELIEF** Children's Future believes that individual transformation is necessary to rebuild a generation of professionals lost by genocide in Cambodia. Every day our comprehensive programs nurture and educate the most resource poor children in a country where too many are forced to survive without the dignity or opportunity necessary to realize their potential.

**HISTORY** Children's Future was founded by Andrew Wolff (American) and Jenny Ciucci (Swiss) after they witnessed persistent yet preventable human rights abuses against children who needed education and social services to reach their full potential. Children's Future incorporated in 2008 and our Learning Center opened in the Ek Phnom District of Battambang, Cambodia in 2010.

**PRESSING CHALLENGES** Cambodia's dearth of skilled, innovative and trustworthy leaders is the ongoing legacy of the Khmer Rouge genocide. Without strong leadership, communities have struggled to change cycles of poverty, malnutrition, preventable diseases, and domestic violence. These difficult conditions have made Cambodia a source and destination for human trafficking.

**OUR TARGET DEMOGRAPHIC** Our target group is the most at-risk youth between ages 5 and 20. Our secondary target is siblings and caretakers of students. 1,000+ people benefit from our programs. Ultimately the community at large benefits as students learn and develop into Cambodia's next generation of positive role models, qualified professionals and compassionate community leaders.



“...Teach a girl to fish and feed her for a lifetime...but before you can teach her to fish, she’ll need a nutritious breakfast, clothes on her back, and a fishing pole...”





## Message From the Executive Director

**A future teacher.**

**A future doctor.**

**A future website designer.**

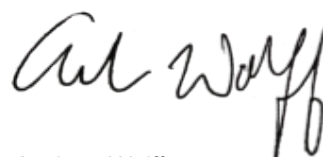
I am now more convinced than ever that this is who you see in the smiling faces of Children's Future. In the five years since our Learning Center opened, our committed staff members have guided a remarkable transformation among our beneficiaries. Children who had been out of school without hope for their future are now tutoring each other in English and creating videos using multimedia software. While our budding computer geniuses shine in the classrooms, our girls' soccer teams shine on the fields.

To keep up with our continued programmatic growth on the ground in Cambodia, we've expanded operations in the U.S. as well. Our staff doubled from one to two and we moved into our new home at the Posner Center for International Development, a collaborative workspace in Denver, Colorado that houses over 100 organizations fighting poverty across the globe.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to all of our supporters who helped us pass the \$500,000 milestone in revenue for our fiscal year ending in June of 2014. Children's Future couldn't exist without your generosity, and an entire community of Cambodian children would be falling far short of their potential.

Please help us continue to nurture the development of Cambodia's next generation of professionals and leaders by furthering your support and sponsoring a Children's Future student or family today. Visit [\*\*childrensfuture.org/sponsor\*\*](http://childrensfuture.org/sponsor). We've come a long way, but still have a long way to go.

With gratitude,



Andrew Wolff,  
Co-Founder and Executive Director





## Sochin

## Future Lawyer

**SOCHIN'S CHILDHOOD** was like that of many Cambodian girls whose families live in severe poverty. Working to help provide for the family was simply a part of life for Sochin. Without food on the table, gaining an education seemed out of the question. When she was approached by a maid agency that promised profitable work in Malaysia, Sochin signed up.

Cambodia faces endemic rates of human trafficking, especially of young girls like Sochin. Nearby countries are often destinations for human trafficking, where Cambodian girls travel in promise of profitable work, only to be subjected to sex trafficking or forced labor. Sochin was days away from being trafficked when Children's Future stepped in to support her.

Sochin is now a dedicated student who teaches English classes to her younger peers. She has high aspirations of giving back to her country by pursuing a law degree to improve the situation of women and marginalized Cambodians. She will begin university in October 2014 through a scholarship from Children's Future as well as begin an internship at the Children's Future Learning Center.

This story is shared with the permission and support of Sochin (20 years old).





## Food for Three Sisters

**SAVIN, BOPHA AND THAVY** (aged 11, 14 and 17) are three sisters who study at Children's Future. They were abandoned by their parents. Even though they have relatives in the immediate vicinity of their home, they receive very little assistance. This year, Children's Future began supporting the sisters to ensure safe housing and adequate nutrition. However, the girls' school attendance became irregular. After a meeting regarding attendance, Children's Future found out that the girls did not have enough food. In June 2014, the three sisters were invited to eat their meals at the Learning Center instead of cooking on their own. Since then, they have attended school every day. In their free time, they are often found in the Children's Future kitchen preparing food with our staff.



## Healthcare Facility Addition

With the financial support of BASAID, a Swiss foundation, Children's Future constructed a healthcare facility in 2014 to provide ongoing, advanced healthcare services for the 230 students and their families served by Children's Future. The new healthcare facility includes a visitation area with enough space for medical files, supplies, and patient privacy. A healthcare team, including Angela Jackson, a volunteer nurse from Denver, Colorado, and Savin, a Children's Future intern, coordinated healthcare services.

# Basic Needs

First and foremost, Children's Future ensures that the basic needs of our beneficiaries are met and that families stay together. Through a dedicated team of social workers, we provide basic healthcare, housing supports, nourishment, clean water and counseling for students and their families.

**In 2014...**

Over **1,000**  
Cambodians  
benefited from  
Children's  
Future  
programs

**230**  
students were  
enrolled in  
Children's Future  
programs

**In 2014...**

**17**

unsafe houses  
were completely  
rebuilt for  
students' fami-  
lies.

**14%**

decrease in out-  
side hospital and  
clinic costs in the  
past year because  
of on-site, trained  
healthcare staff  
at our Learning  
Center.

**555**

health issues,  
including  
respiratory in-  
fections, wounds  
and more were  
treated at our  
on-site health-  
care facility.







## Education

**Children's Future ensures that all students are enrolled and regularly attending public school.** The Cambodian education system provides four hours of school per day to teach math, reading, writing, science and history. Children's Future supports students to attend and succeed in public school by providing bicycles, uniforms, school fees and tutoring. At the Learning Center, Children's Future offers supplemental courses in English, computers, soccer, art, music and more. Our students learn how to think critically and to understand their basic human rights, preparing them to become role models, leaders and professionals.

## Technology

**Technology is quickly becoming a game changer in terms of access to education and employment opportunities in the developing world.** Although internet usage in Cambodia is on the rise, most rural children and youth remain without access. At the Learning Center, our high speed internet provides access to a world of online learning materials unavailable elsewhere in rural Cambodia. Children's Future intently focuses on putting computers in the hands of our students as we position them to be proficient with sophisticated software, cutting-edge technology and website development.

## Higher Education

**Children's Future focuses on ensuring the highest level of education possible for each student.** During 2014, six of Children's Future graduates studied at university with scholarships and guidance from Children's Future. The students are also interning as teachers, social workers, nurses and office managers at the Children's Future Learning Center. Children's Future anticipates that every year, several more students will graduate from secondary school and begin university.

## Leadership

**We recognize that it is only through individual transformation that the students we serve will become skilled professionals and compassionate leaders.**

Programming moves young women and men along a continuum that offers healing from past trauma, self-discovery and empowerment through discussions that nurture, support and challenge them. Each of our staff members encourages our students to stand up for their rights and to explore their own path. Our university scholarship and internship programs ensure that our young women and men are among the few Cambodians that receive degrees, become agents of change in Cambodia and break the cycle of poverty for their family and for the generations that follow.

The UN estimates that of 1,000 Cambodians born today, 290 will never attend school, 390 will repeat first grade and 500 will not move beyond primary school. Only 27 of the 1,000 will graduate from secondary school.



**\$1** invested in education and skills pays back at least tenfold in economic growth.

Source: UNESCO

**In 2014...**

**84**

students learned how to use Adobe Photoshop.

**77**

girls and boys played on organized soccer teams.

**12**

students played on Cambodia's Junior National Team.

**1**

student joined a Cambodian delegation to the World Cup in Brazil.

**100**

percent of our grade 9 students passed their national exams.

**5**

computers and 6 iPads were added to our library, totaling 19 computers and 8 iPads at our Learning Center.





## Fong: Future Tech Pro

**FONG** graduated from high school in 2011 and spent a year working with Children's Future before he received a university scholarship from Children's Future to study Information Technology.

Fong is also a talented artist who uses his combined interest in art and technology as a computer teacher at Children's Future. He engages the students in creative projects through Photoshop, programming and 3D modeling.

Although he is one of the youngest members of the teaching staff at the Learning Center, Fong is a natural leader and role model for both students and other staff members. He is committed to the children and loves to spark their interest in computers, art and education in general.



## Trauma Therapy Training

"There is constant calmness and kindness inside of Children's Future's walls." This is how one of the Foundations Family Counseling therapists spoke of the Learning Center. Four therapists from Foundations Family Counseling in Denver, Colorado, traveled to Cambodia to provide week-long intensive training in trauma therapy for the Children's Future social work team. The therapists trained social workers in play therapy, child development and effects of trauma on the brain. The team provides ongoing support and consultation to our social workers via Skype.



## Sonthea: Future Social Worker

**SONTHEA**, a Children's Future graduate, is attending university and working as a social work intern at the Learning Center. Sonthea believes that Cambodia is in desperate need of good social workers and positive role models. He states, "I want to help my family, to have a good life and be happy. I want to get knowledge to develop my community. I know how many people want to develop this community too and I want to be a part of that."



## Capacity Building

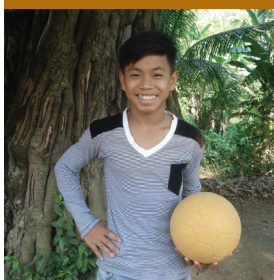
Following the genocide in the 1970s, Cambodia continues to face a leadership gap and a lack of trained professionals. We realize the critical role of staff training and capacity building in the quality and sustainability of our program. To provide the support structure needed, our staff attends professional development training according to their specific job responsibilities. Some of this training is offered at the Learning Center while some is held offsite by partner organizations. This instruction and coaching includes teaching, social work, general leadership, human rights, gender mainstreaming and women's health.





## Savin: Future Social Worker

**SAVIN** is the first high school graduate in her family. With Children's Future's support, she re-entered school after having dropped out for two years to work and help sustain her family. During her last two years of school, she volunteered countless hours with vulnerable children. After her graduation in August of 2012, Savin received a university scholarship from Children's Future and is now studying at Build Bright University in Battambang. Simultaneously, she began an internship at Children's Future as a social work intern and healthcare assistant. Due to her personal background, Savin can relate to the difficulties that Children's Future students face on a daily basis. She continuously advocates to caretakers, doctors and teachers on behalf of the children.



## A Global Citizen

In June 2014, Rithy, a current Children's Future student, was selected and funded by SALT Academy to attend the World Cup in Brazil. He returned to Cambodia with world experiences, wisdom, and stories to share with his community. Rithy said, "When I left I was so happy and excited because I had never been to an airport before or been to another country. In Brazil, I met many people from different countries and we shared some of our culture through greetings, dancing, telling each other about famous places in our country and about our experiences as soccer players. Now I understand that the education in other countries, as well as safety and the environment, is much better than in Cambodia. I will study much harder so that I can get a good job. Today, I am sharing my experiences with people in Cambodia so that they will also understand and study harder to help Cambodia develop. I want my country to be safer day and night, I want to improve the education system, and I want this country to be clean so that it's good for the environment and more tourists will visit."



## Our Local Partners

The following are local Cambodian partners who work with us in Battambang. The organizations provide free or reduced cost trainings and services to our staff and students.

### **OUR STRENGTH**

We work with Our Strength to respond to women's health and social needs of our young women and female caregivers. Our Strength trainers encourage young women to learn their basic rights as women and to maintain their personal health.

### **SALT ACADEMY**

SALT Academy is a Cambodian based soccer organization. SALT has supported the development of six Children's Future soccer teams (3 girls, 3 boys). The partnership has also provided the opportunity for select Children's Future students to travel internationally as part of Cambodian Junior National teams to surrounding countries.

### **BETTER LIVES**

Better Lives supports the establishment of organic vegetable gardens and small businesses. Better Lives has helped grow vegetable gardens, build toilets and dig wells for our students' families in the community.

### **SOCIAL SERVICES OF CAMBODIA**

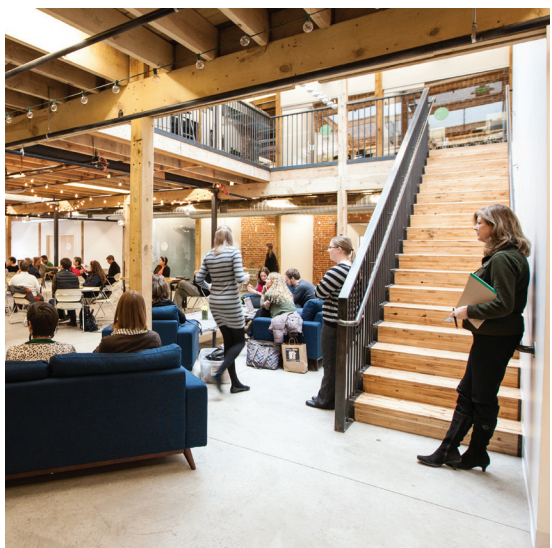
Social Services of Cambodia provides training programs that teach skills specific to managing cases of gender-based violence and other forms of abuse and neglect. Children's Future social workers regularly attend trainings to enhance their skills.

### **DEWEY INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Dewey International University is a private school that provides primary, secondary and university education. Select students from Children's Future study at Dewey.

### **SEEBEYONDBORDERS**

SeeBeyondBorders provides training regarding best practices in teaching. Children's Future teachers attend trainings regularly to develop their creative teaching abilities.



## Our US Partners

### **POSNER CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Children's Future is headquartered at the Posner Center for International Development in Denver, Colorado. The center is a collaborative workspace that offers the exchange of ideas, global cost savings and improved ventures among 100 international development organizations. This workspace reduces administrative expenses, allowing more funding to go directly to programming.

### **GOOGLE**

Google's Global Education department works with Children's Future staff to provide advice and support regarding technology-based education initiatives.

### **UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER**

Professors at the School of Education provide advice and consultation regarding education program enhancement in native Khmer language and English literacy.

### **UNIVERSITY OF DENVER**

### **METRO STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **REGIS UNIVERSITY**

### **UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER**

Children's Future has strong partnerships with Denver area universities that provide student interns, faculty advising and research in areas such as international development, marketing and monitoring and evaluation.

### **FOUNDATIONS FAMILY COUNSELING**

Foundations Family Counseling provides mental health services to Denver area individuals. During 2014, a team of therapists visited the Learning Center to provide training regarding trauma to Children's Future staff.

## Our European Partners

Children's Future has the support of several committed European organizations and individuals. Gönnerverein, based in Switzerland and Children's Future International-EU, based in Germany, have provided financial and programmatic support.



# Fiscal Responsibility

Children's Future has adopted and adheres to the most current and best practices of fiscal accountability and transparency to ensure every stakeholder has full confidence in our fund management. The following are some of the most important principles we practice:

## Children's Future

has ended every fiscal year with a surplus since its inception.

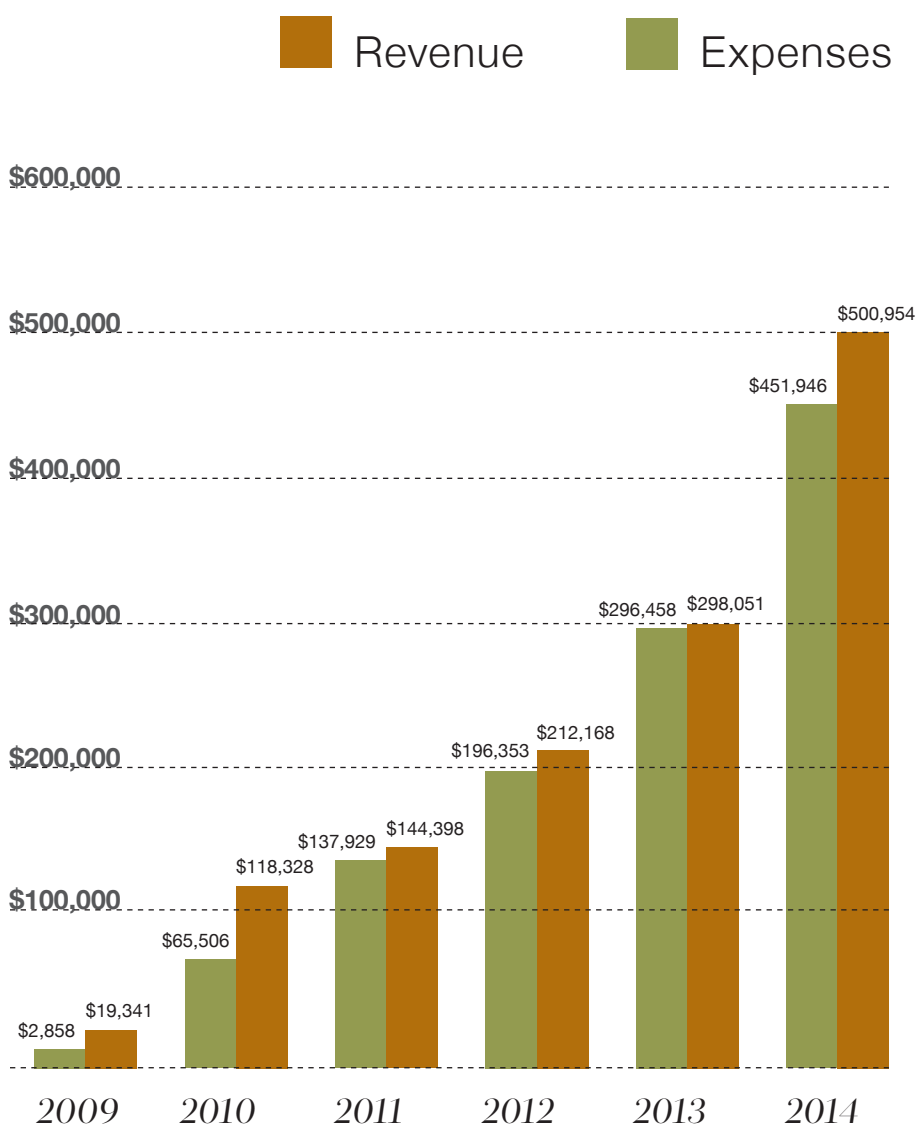
## Children's Future

operates according to an annual budget that has been approved by the Board of Directors prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.

## Children's Future

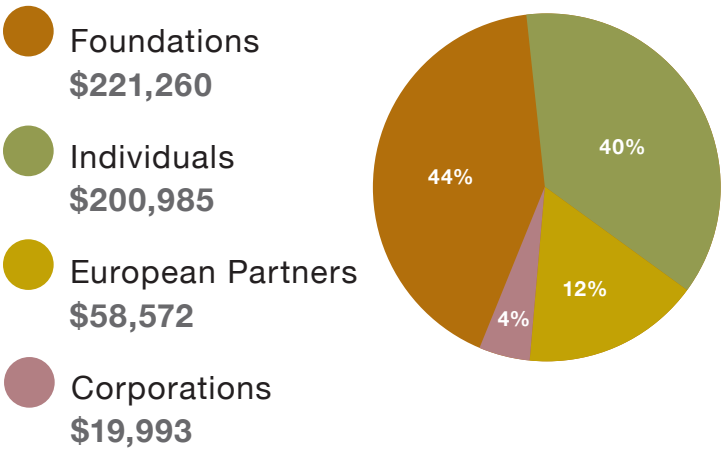
undergoes an annual audit by the independent accounting firm of Crady, Puca & Associates. Audited statements are on our website.

## Total Support and Revenue

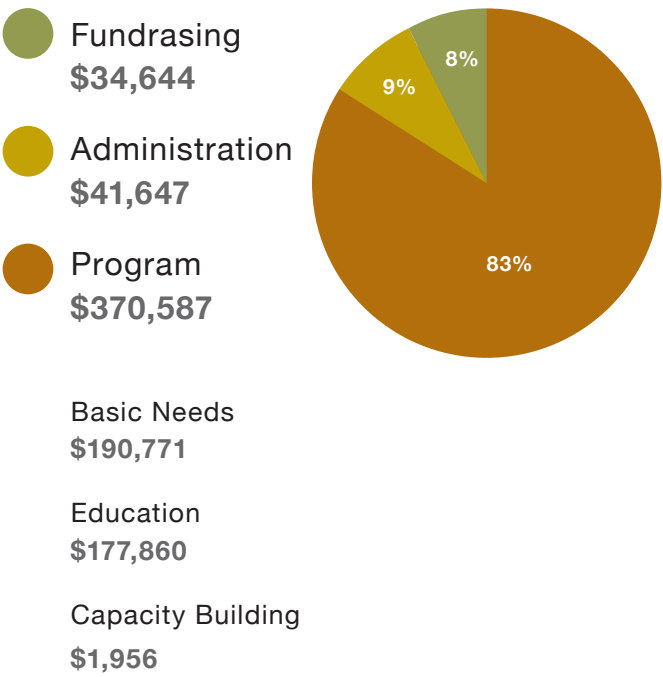




### Revenue by Source



### Expenses by Category



\* \$66,664.77 of the program expenses include property and equipment purchases for Cambodia operations.



## Our Team

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**David Asseoff**

*President*

**Molly Thelosen**

*Vice President*

**Andrew Bourne**

*Secretary*

**Peter Vogel**

*Treasurer*

**Dennis Bellinghausen**

**Jenny Ciucci**

**Rory Hersch**

**Sarah Hidey**

**Sue Shalley**

**Jan Vittum Pilcher**

**Andrew Wolff**

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Allison Long**

*Monitoring and Evaluation*

**Zach Rawlings**

*Clinical Mental Health Counselor*

**Keturah Scott**

*Human Trafficking*

**Dr. Josh Solomon**

*Medical Doctor*

### STAFF MEMBERS

#### CAMBODIA

Jenny Ciucci, *Co-Founder and Country Director (Swiss)*

Martha Kandole, *Operations Coordinator (Ugandan)*

Sokha Roeurn, *Human*

*Resources Intern*

Sokhors Hor, *Child Wellbeing*

*Coordinator & Assistant Director*

Sothea Sam, *Social Work*

*Manager*

Sophorn Ngath, *Social Worker*

Hour Hach, *Social Worker*

Sonthea Pheun, *Social Work Intern*

Giulia Ciucci, *Social Work Advisor (Swiss)*

Angela Jackson, *Nurse (American)*

Savin Fay, *Social Work/*

*Healthcare Intern*

Jon Blumenfield, *School Manager (American)*

Sokha Vann, *Learning Facilitator*

Sreyrath Thou, *Education Advocate*

Kunhean Leng, *English Teacher*

Sophea Yan, *English Teacher*

Sarien Nove, *Khmer/Math Teacher*

Sovann Pras, *Khmer/Math Teacher*

Sreymom Kol, *Librarian Intern*

Lorkfong Bot, *Computer Teacher*

Sitha Bey, *Lead Housemother*

Siyeen Bey, *Housemother*

Sopha Chhey, *Housemother*

Sokleang Lon, *Housemother*

Kosal Boeurn, *Cook*

Piseth Seang, *Security Guard*

Chann Tem, *Facilities Manager*

Ly Vannak, *Security Guard*

Kim Ratha, *English Teacher*

Proum Sopha, *Security Guard*

Ho Sakara, *Computer Teacher*

Pov Borita, *Khmer/Math*

Lim Genev, *Social Worker*

#### UNITED STATES

Andrew Wolff, *Co-Founder and Executive Director*

Melissa Theesen, *Director of Operations*





## Our Supporters

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers and interns gave more than 1,770 hours during 2014, equating to \$44,427 of staff time. Children's Future consistently has more than 75 volunteers and interns across the world.

Areas of volunteer support: communications, public relations, fundraising, writing, marketing, information technology, graphic design, social enterprise development, program development, event planning, grant writing, partnership development, jewelry design, donation entry.

### **FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATE PARTNERS**

Adobe Youth Voices (*United States*)  
Adperio (*United States*)  
American Express Charitable Fund (*United States*)  
Basaid (*Switzerland*)  
Better Lives (*United States*)  
Field Services Unlimited, LLC (*United States*)  
Help for Hope (*Switzerland*)  
J.F. Maddox Foundation (*United States*)  
Marr Munning Charitable Trust (*United Kingdom*)  
Max J. and Winnie S. Rosenshein Foundation (*United States*)  
Rotary Nyon (*Switzerland*)  
S.A. Gardner Fund (*United States*)  
Symphasis (*Switzerland*)  
Taking IT Global (*Canada*)



Help us continue to grow.  
There are several ways to  
support Children's Future...

- ▣ Visit [childrensfuture.org/sponsor](https://childrensfuture.org/sponsor) and make a donation
- ▣ Donate stocks, bonds, and other assets
- ▣ Add Children's Future as a beneficiary in your will
- ▣ Ask 3 friends to sponsor a student (\$35/month) or family (\$100/month)
- ▣ Honor someone with a donation in their name
- ▣ Host a house party for friends/colleagues
- ▣ Request donations in lieu of birthday gifts
- ▣ Run or cycle in a race for Children's Future
- ▣ Tell friends and colleagues about Children's Future