

# 2016

*Annual Report*



**buddhist global relief**

Cover photo: What If? Foundation,  
Lamanjay Community Food Program  
in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

Cameroon

Detroit

Cambodia

Bangladesh

Ethiopia

Detroit

New York City

Sri Lanka

New York City

Bronx

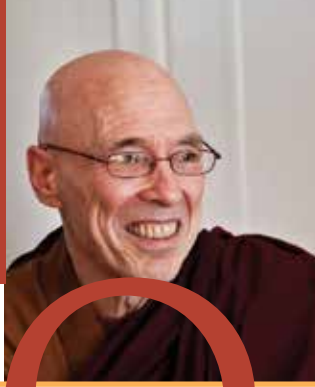


## CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR	2
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS	3
VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS	4
OUR PROJECTS	5
BANGLADESH <i>Meals for Studious Marma Girls</i>	6
BANGLADESH <i>Growing A Sustainable Education</i>	8
CÔTE D'IVOIRE <i>Recognition and Sweet Potatoes for Women and Children</i>	10
ETHIOPIA <i>More Food and Healthier Soil</i>	12
HAITI <i>Full Bellies and Big Dreams in Jacmel</i>	14
OTHER PROJECTS IN BRIEF	16
WALKS TO FEED THE HUNGRY	20
CONCERT TO FEED THE HUNGRY	22
COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN	23
PARTNERSHIPS FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION	24
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	26
ANNUAL SUPPORT	28
HOW YOU CAN HELP	30
LEADERSHIP	32

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

VEN. BHIKKHU  
BODHI



Over the past few years, a narrow focus on the things that divide people has been blinding us to the more important things that unite us, that bind us into a single human family. Beyond our differences of race, religion, and ethnic origins, we all share a common humanity. We all desire happiness, fear pain and suffering, and wish to flourish and realize our potentials. While this wish is shared by people everywhere, far too many lack even the barest requisites of a dignified life: enough food, clean drinking water, adequate healthcare, and a safe environment.

Buddhist Global Relief came into being as a response to this plight, as a conscientious expression of compassion with a specific focus on food security. The Buddha said long ago that “there is no illness like hunger,” and indeed poor nutrition, a diet lacking enough calories and essential nutrients, underlies many illnesses. Infants and children, being in their formative stage of life, are especially vulnerable. Each year, millions of children die before the age of five, with malnutrition contributing to the majority of these deaths.

In our fiscal year 2015-16, BGR funded twenty-five programs that tackle hunger and malnutrition. These programs do so either by delivering food aid directly, or else by promoting education for disadvantaged children, nutritional guidance for expectant mothers, livelihood opportunities for poor women, and ecologically sustainable agriculture, which is also an antidote to climate change. Geographically, our projects extend from Southeast Asia through Africa to Haiti and the U.S. Though small in scale, these projects are life-transforming. They rescue people from crippling poverty and hunger and open up unexpected doors of opportunity.

The success of BGR depends on many people: on our dedicated staff, most of whom work entirely as a labor of love; our capable board members; our volunteers, who often put in several hours a week of selfless labor; and, indispensably, our donors and benefactors whose donations make these projects possible. To all of them we express our deepest gratitude. Let’s continue to work together under the banner of the Buddha’s great compassion. We are truly making a real difference in the lives of people we’ll never meet but who will be forever grateful that we gave them a helping hand.

With blessings,

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi

# MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

K I M B E H A N



**A**s Programs Director, I am privileged to work closely with our partners as they implement the programs we sponsor. During the 2015-16 fiscal year we continued to develop new relationships and deepen relationships with our long-term partners. For example, our partnership with Lotus Outreach helped young women in Cambodia continue their education and even finish university courses. Chantha Luen, a young woman who completed high school and teacher training, chose to return to her village to teach other children. She is an inspiration to us all and an example of how education can change lives!

Malnutrition among children in Haiti has long been a problem. BGR has joined forces with groups in Port-Au-Prince and Jacmel that now provide 6,000 meals a week to children who might otherwise have gone hungry. Most of these children lost their homes in the 2010 earthquake and are still living in tents. This hot lunch may be their only meal of the day. We are also helping such children receive an education so they will grow up to be contributing members of society.

In India, Cambodia, Vietnam, Côte d'Ivoire and Sudan, we are empowering farmers to increase their yields with agricultural methods adapted to a changing climate. Beneficiaries of the program see changes in the quality of their lives as they have sufficient home-grown vegetables to consume and sell the surplus in the marketplace.

During fiscal year 2016, our eighth year of service, BGR maintained steady growth. Our revenues totaled \$589,406, an increase of 8% over fiscal year 2015. Our expenditures totaled \$693,658 of which \$649,785, or 94%, were allocated directly to programs. Our administrative ratio was 3%, and another 3% was devoted to fundraising and promotion.

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, BGR teams are working tirelessly to help malnourished children regain their strength and receive an education; to equip women with livelihood skills; and to enable small-scale farmers to break the cycle of poverty and care for their families. The work we do together touches people's lives. With your help, we can rewrite the stories of those living on the edge of despair, one child at a time, one family at a time.

With deep gratitude and thanks for all that you do,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Behan". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kim Behan  
Director of Programs

# OUR VISION AND MISSION

## VISION

We are inspired by the vision of a world in which debilitating poverty has finally been banished; a world in which all can avail themselves of the basic material supports of a meaningful life—food, clothing, housing, and health care; a world in which everyone can achieve a satisfactory level of education and freely pursue that which gives their life value and purpose; a world in which all people dwell in peace and harmony with one another and with the natural environment.

## MISSION

Our mission is to combat chronic hunger and malnutrition. Bearing in mind the Buddha's statements that "hunger is the worst kind of illness" and "the gift of food is the gift of life," we sponsor projects that promote hunger relief for poor communities around the world. We pursue our mission by:

- providing direct food aid to people afflicted by hunger and malnutrition
- helping develop better long-term methods of sustainable food production and management appropriate to the cultures and traditions of the beneficiaries
- promoting the education of girls and women, so essential in the struggle against poverty and malnutrition
- giving women an opportunity to start right livelihood projects to support their families.

We also seek to raise awareness of global hunger and advocate for an international food system that exemplifies social justice and conduces to ecological sustainability.



Haiti Ethiopia  
Cameroon

Bangladesh Vietnam

Santa Clara County

Ethiopia

Detroit

Côte d'Ivoire

India  
Sri Lanka  
Bronx  
China  
New York City

## OUR PROJECTS

BGR projects are designed to address chronic hunger and malnutrition, to promote greater food productivity at the grass-roots level, and to tackle the root causes of food insecurity. We partner with organizations already operating on the ground, with whom we formulate and implement our projects. These organizations include major international relief agencies, such as Helen Keller International and Oxfam, and smaller or emerging agencies which have a more local focus or address specific needs, such as Lotus Outreach International in Cambodia and the What If? Foundation in Haiti.

Buddhism teaches that hunger is a source of acute pain and a barrier to spiritual growth. BGR seeks to remove that barrier and thereby give others the chance to live healthy lives of dignity and purpose. Recognizing that all human beings share a common desire for happiness, we lend a helping hand to our unseen brothers and sisters across the globe, enabling them to fulfill great dreams and tap unrealized potential.

MEALS FOR STUDIOUS MARMA GIRLS

# BANGLADESH



*Although the facilities are modest, the schools teach the children in their mother tongues and allow them the chance to learn and practice Buddhism*







In the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, ethnic Buddhist children must trek miles across dangerous mountainous terrain to attend schools taught in another language. Once at school, these poor and marginalized children face ethnic and religious discrimination. Many girls cannot even attend these schools: they are not allowed to attend temple schools and walking through the city to government schools is too dangerous.

That's why the Jamyang Foundation supports three schools for girls in three different areas of the CHT. Although the facilities are modest, the schools teach the children in their mother tongues. In

addition to a general education, the students also study Buddhism at the temple, and Buddhist ethics and values are an essential part of their residential life.

In 2015, BGR awarded the Jamyang Foundation a grant to establish a food program for the 106 students at the Yashodhara Girls' School in Bandarban. At the time, the girls were shopping and cooking their own food. The grant allowed the school to hire a cook and fund a meal program for one year. In 2016, BGR awarded another grant to provide school lunches to the 116 students at the Visakha School in Khagrachari. Since the lunch programs were

introduced, teachers remark that their students are happier and more attentive. The schools now have extended classes and pre-school enrollment has increased.

Fourth grade student Kraching Marma's parents never received a formal education. They had always hoped to provide one for their children, but were only able to send their oldest son to school. Because the Visakha Girls' School is close to their village, however, Kraching and her sisters are able to attend. Like many of the other students, Kraching and her sisters are more likely to stay in school now that her family knows she'll get a free nutritious lunch.

GROWING A SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION

# BANGLADESH



*The bamboo, mahogany, and agar trees are all local plants that will not only support the local ecology but will also be a source of income once the plants have matured.*





**B**angladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts region is remote and politically unstable after decades of civil unrest due to the government-sponsored displacement of the natives. In 1974, a group of Buddhist monks formed the educational and social development organization Moanoghar to provide shelter to the children of the conflicts. Moanoghar now runs a school for more than 1200 students, all of whom receive a free or highly subsidised education. About 800 children live at the residential school.

The school has relied on charitable donations since its incep-

tion, and as a result has faced financial challenges in providing adequate food and shelter for its students. Three years ago, Moanoghar applied for a three-year grant from BGR to improve their financial situation and develop sources of income, namely, fruit-bearing trees that would both supplement the children's diet and the school's income.

In the first two years, Moanoghar used the grant money to hire two gardeners and an agricultural director who managed the planting of mango, coconut, and citrus trees, as well as bamboo and bay leaves on two of its 90 acres. In the third year, Moanoghar added

banana, papaya, orange, mahogany, and agar trees. School officials estimate that in two or three years, the children may be eating banana and papaya grown on school grounds. The bamboo, mahogany, and agar trees are all local plants that will not only support the local ecology but will also be a source of income once the plants have matured.

This year, BGR also provided stipend support for 20 orphaned students living at the residential school. "Without this support," a Moanoghar update to BGR states, "it would have been very difficult or even impossible for many of them to receive an education."

RECOGNITION AND SWEET POTATOES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

# CÔTE D'IVOIRE



*Members have earned recognition by village leaders, community, and family members who have benefited from the women's training.*





**S**oro Tiawa lives in the Bouaké District of Côte d'Ivoire with her husband and nine children. Like many women in Côte d'Ivoire, Tiawa is a farmer who grows food to feed her family and earn income but often struggles to support her family. In 2016, however, she enjoyed a 1.5 ton bumper crop of eggplant on her personal plot.

Tiawa benefited from a 3-year grant from BGR to Helen Keller International in May of 2013. The project, entitled Enhanced Homestead Food Production (EHFP) in the Gbêkê Region of the Bouaké District, aimed to address the area's food insecurity, lack of available micronutrient rich foods, and difficulty of

gaining access to markets. The project was an expansion of the already-proven EHFP model in the region.

Helen Keller International (HKI) built a model farm and targeted a women's group of farmers, the Kolotiolo Hokan, or "God Gave us Grace." These women, though experienced farmers, were utilizing pest- and weed-control techniques that were labor-intensive and damaging to the soil. At training, the women learned about the crop pests and diseases their farms were most vulnerable to, and how to address them using natural pesticides. They learned which micronutrient-rich crops to grow, such as the orange sweet potato, a rich source of

Vitamin A. They also received guidance in marketing their produce.

Now, members have earned recognition by village leaders, community, and family members who have benefited from the women's training. Yeo Mehessou, a member of Kolotiolo Hokan, reports that her husband respects her contributions to the family more than ever. "He consults me more and more to make our family's decisions," she says. And more women like Soro Tiawa are able to make plans for the future. She plans on using her extra income to send her daughter to school to learn how to read and write, something Tiawa was never able to do.

MORE FOOD AND HEALTHIER SOIL IN

# ETHIOPIA



*“I was glad to try both the traditional and new methods and see the difference for myself,” says Esmile.*





In 2013, conditions on Esmile Johar's farm were so poor that he was forced to labor for rich investors who rented out his land. Like many farmers in the Ethiopian Central Rift Valley, Esmile's crops were suffering from both the unpredictable weather patterns and the traditional farming methods that used harsh chemicals that degraded his land.

Esmile benefited from a BGR-funded Oxfam America project that continued for three years, from 2013 to 2016. He learned the System of Crop Intensification (SCI), which shows farmers how to grow high-quality tomato and onion crops that are weather- and pest-resistant.

The program asked farmers to compare the results to their traditional methods. "I was glad to try both the traditional and new methods and see the difference for myself," says Esmile.

Esmile worked so hard and was so pleased with his results that his trainer eventually asked him to become one of the fifty target farmers. One was Rukia Yabenkier, a single mother of four who dreamed of cultivating her own land instead of laboring for investors. "Experts came to my house and showed me in my own backyard," she says. "They taught me how to prepare the land, how much seed, fertilizer, and pesticides to use, and how

many times I should water for best results."

All 300 farmers—trainers and learners—were pleased with the results. "Even though I used almost half the seed and fertilizer and only watered the onions two days instead of five," Esmile says, "my yield doubled." Rukia happily reported that she grew almost 335 pounds of onions. Both Esmile and Rukia are investing their extra income in their families' comfort and education and their community's growth. Rukia feels very passionate about sharing what she's learned with others. "My dream is to not only improve my life," she says, "but also to contribute so that others also break the cycle of poverty."

FULL BELLIES AND BIG DREAMS IN JACMEL

# HAITI



*“When the food program returned, the children’s dignity was returned.”*







**T**he Art Creation Foundation for Children in Jacmel, Haiti aims to teach kids to dream big and achieve their full potential. It's not an easy task in a place where hunger is as pervasive as it is in Haiti. Because hungry children can't focus on their school work, the ACFFC afterschool feeding program provides students access to two full meals per day, six days per week. Before attending ACFFC, most of the pupils would only have access to three or four full meals per week.

Unfortunately, drought and political strife led to budget cuts

last year, and the ACFFC had to make the difficult decision to cut their after school feeding program from two meals a day to one. ACFFC reported that even the youngest children felt the weight of the budget cuts, a heaviness and lack of energy that permeated the halls of the school.

Shortly thereafter, the ACFFC applied for and received a \$10,000 grant from BGR to return their feeding program to two meals a week.

Immediately, teachers observed their pupils' concentration return during after school study and

homework sessions. Their moods improved. One chef said, "When the food program returned, the child's dignity was returned."

Ten-year-old Jovin, who used to go many days in a row eating nothing, says his whole life has changed since he's enrolled in ACFFC. Instead of thinking about where he'll get his next meal, Jovin can pay attention and do better in school. Nine-year-old Kenderson says he will "forever be grateful" to the people who helped ACFFC continue their food program. He knows now that he will have "good and healthy" food and won't have to worry.

## OTHER PROJECTS IN BRIEF



### *Bangladesh Buddhist Missionary Society: Food support for orphans in Bangladesh*

The Bangladesh Buddhist Missionary Society, founded and guided by Ven. Jivanda Mahathera, runs an Orphan's Home Complex with a school at Betagi in the rural Chittagong Hills, one of the poorest regions in Bangladesh. A grant from BGR enabled the society to provide a six-months food supply for 54 orphans.



### *Bodhicitta Foundation: Empowering girls in India*

This is year 2 of a three-year project. BGR is partnering with Bodhicitta in establishing a girls' hostel for thirty girls aged 14–20. The girls, who come from the poorest regions in India, are being trained as social and health workers or to qualify in a vocation. In India investing in girls' education can alleviate poverty and the ignorance that oppresses poor girls and women. The other portion of the BGR grant supports a women's job training and community center for women from the Dalit community, the former "untouchables."



### *CENCUDER: Food and education for children in Cameroon*

This project, our first in Cameroon, is a feeding program for poor and disadvantaged children attending Ebase-Bajoh community primary school. Funding covered kitchen equipment, consultants, and food for the students, improving their learning capacity and general health. School enrollment increased 16% and attendance increased 10%.



### *Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR): Providing access to skills development for girls from low-income families in Sri Lanka*

The objective of this project was to assist girls in low-income families who have the minimum qualifications for technical employment but are denied opportunities to receive training due to lack of economic resources. The project provided financial support to 75 girls in nine colleges of technology and 26 girls studying for a Bachelor of Information Technology at the University of Colombo School of Computing.



### *Helen Keller International: Making Markets Work for Women in Bangladesh*

This was the third year of a 3-year partnership between BGR and HKI. The project taught women how to develop agricultural skills and establish community marketing groups so they could work together to process and sell their products. The women learned how to grow seasonal vegetables, save seeds, and market their surplus. The project improved food security for 75 households (375 individuals) across five villages.



### ***International Cooperation Center (ICC): System of Rice Intensification in Vietnam***

With BGR support, the ICC of Thai Nguyen University held conferences, workshops, and field training for hundreds of farmers in Thai Nguyen province. The project improved rice yields and raised incomes by applying improved methods of variety selection, planting, and cultivation. The system was applied to a traditional sticky rice variety called Thau Dau.



### ***Keep Growing Detroit: Long-term strategy for food production in Detroit***

KGD provided training and start-up materials for some 1,300 community and family gardens. These gardens are a model for how a city struggling with economic challenges can use urban gardens to build a greener future, with robust local food economies. KGD also provided classes teaching people across the city to organize, plant, and maintain kitchen gardens.



### ***Lotus Outreach International: GATE scholarships for girls in Cambodia***

This long-standing BGR-Lotus Outreach partnership provides rice support to the families of primary and secondary students on condition the girls remain in school. This year, thanks to the rice the BGR grant provided to their families, 138 girls in Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey provinces stayed in school.



### ***Lotus Outreach International: GATEways scholarships for girls in Cambodia***

The GATEways program enables girls who complete secondary school to go on to study at an advanced level. With BGR assistance, 60 young women who completed the GATE program continued their studies at university or vocational institutes. The grant provided them with housing, books, tuition and a monthly stipend for personal needs. These young professional women will hopefully be the foundation for a brighter future in Cambodia.



### ***Lotus Outreach International: Non-Formal Education in Cambodia***

This partnership between BGR and Lotus Outreach helped over 100 young women escape the sex trade of Phnom Penh. The project provided them with literacy and various vocational skills so they could earn a respectable living and support their families in ways that preserve their personal dignity.



### *Oxfam America: Supporting rice farmers in Haiti's Artibonite Valley*

This partnership, the third year of a 3-year project, sought to improve the food and income security of Haitian farmers through the System of Rice Intensification (SRI). There were 425 direct beneficiaries (50 SRI farmers + 375 other rice farmers who learned irrigation rehabilitation) and their families (approximately 2,125 beneficiaries).



### *Oxfam India: Enhanced food security for women farmers in Uttarakhand, India*

This was the first year of a 3-year project. Over 600 women farmers in Uttarakhand were trained in improved farming techniques designed to increase productivity with fewer commercial inputs, as well as given legal support to improve their access to resources. Participants using climate-change resistant methods experienced yield increases of 30-40%.



### *Rachana: Socio-economic well-being for poor communities in rural Cambodia*

Farmers were trained in the System of Rice Intensification, allowing them to improve their yields even during periods of drought. 784 families, or 2,352 people, benefited from the project. Fifteen new savings groups were formed and sixty such groups received training in record keeping to run their own microcredit programs.



### *Reciprocity Foundation: Vegetarian food program for homeless youth in New York*

As part of its efforts to help homeless and street-involved young people find community and healing, Reciprocity helped over 200 youth aged 13-36 develop a new appreciation for healthy food and the skills to grow it themselves in the heart of the city. Their home cooking program taught participants how to use homegrown ingredients to make simple and tasty meals using fresh ingredients, improving their physical and mental health!



### *Red Cross Vietnam: Hospital meals program in Vietnam*

A single 200-bed hospital serves the entire population of the Tam Binh district in the Mekong Delta, about half a million people. This hospital is unable to provide food for the patients. BGR contributed a third of the cost of vegetarian meals for 200 patients every day. Meals were prepared by volunteers for the Tam Binh chapter of the Red Cross. This is an annually repeated program.



### *Red Cross Vietnam: Educational scholarships in Vietnam*

In rural Vietnam poor families often keep their children at home, especially girls, because they cannot afford school. BGR provided scholarships to 250 children in the Cam Duong district and 236 children in the Tam Binh district. The scholarships covered enrollment fees, uniforms, books, and other costs for the entire school year.



### *Shambala Foundation: First job training for young ethnic women in China*

This project provided 53 young Tibetan women, living mainly in Qinghai province, with supplementary training in specific job skills for work as elementary school teachers. The women designed and led special classes over the holiday breaks for rural children in their home villages, reaching 850 students.



### *Trees That Feed: Breadfruit crop development in Haiti and Jamaica*

Breadfruit is a nutritious crop—easy to grow and rich in vitamins, minerals and protein. With BGR support our partner, Trees That Feed Foundation, distributed 400 breadfruit trees, 200 in Haiti and 200 in Jamaica, providing food and economic opportunity to over 1,600 individuals.



### *Urban Rebuilding Initiative: Urban Community Food Project Expansion in the Bronx*

This project employed Bronx residents, young and old, to grow and help distribute food, earning much needed paychecks and improving the nutritional options available in an economically depressed part of New York City.



### *Valley Verde: Organic gardening for low income residents of Santa Clara County*

This project helped dozens of low-income working families of Santa Clara County, California, develop home gardens, allowing them to grow fruits and vegetables from organic seedlings and learn to propagate their crops in future years.



### *What If? Foundation: Lamanjay Food Program in Haiti*

With a grant from BGR, the Lamanjay feeding project provided thousands of hot meals to children in the Ti-Plas Kazo community of Port-Au-Prince, often their only meal of the day. The children sometimes had to walk miles to get their meals, which are a critical supplement to their families' budgets.



### *What If? Foundation: Scholarship Program in Haiti*

Scholarships sponsored by BGR enabled 154 children to receive a grade K-12 education. For many of these children, an education can mean the difference between growing up mired in poverty, without hope, and a bright future full of possibilities and meaning.

# THE BGR WALKS

The Walks to Feed the Hungry are BGR's primary fundraising and publicity events, and are also a wonderful opportunity to share the joy that comes from practicing generosity. Participants in the 2015 Walks raised over \$124,000 for projects supported by BGR, like the projects that feed hungry school kids in Haiti and Vietnam. Farmers in Africa are learning how to raise enough food to feed their families even in challenging environments, and girls in Cambodia and Sri Lanka are attending universities, all thanks to our generous donors!

In this fiscal year, walks in Houston TX, Los Angeles CA, Milford MI, New York NY, Philadelphia PA, San Francisco CA, San Jose CA, Seattle WA, St. Louis MO, Surrey UK, and Willington CT were attended by hundreds of walkers, while Solidarity Walks in Nagpur, India and Entebbe Uganda shared the word about BGR and the projects we support.

To the many who attended, donated, and most of all to those who volunteered their time and energy to the walks, thank you! May the merits of your offerings fill the world with the joy of giving!

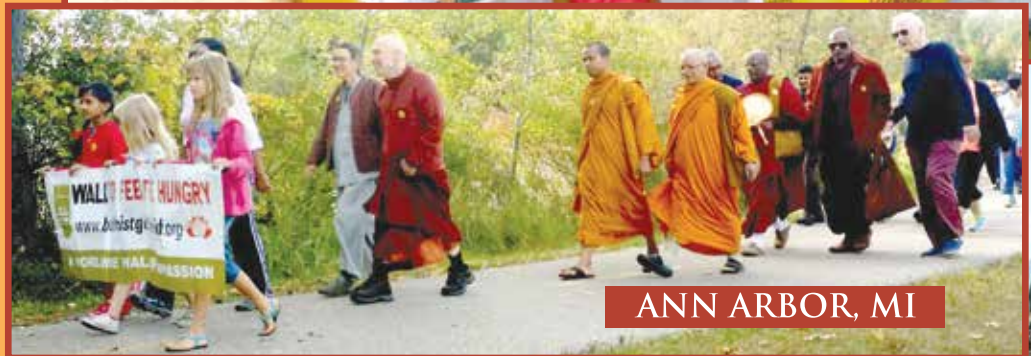
SAN JOSE, CA



NAGPUR INDIA



ANN ARBOR, MI



HOUSTON, TX



UGANDA



NEW YORK, NY



SURREY, UK



SAN FRANCISCO, CA



ST. LOUIS, MO



PHILADELPHIA, PA



LOS ANGELES, CA



SEATTLE, WA



WILLINGTON, CT



# THE BGR CONCERT TO FEED THE HUNGRY

On April 9th, 2016, Buddhist Global Relief held its fifth annual Concert to Feed the Hungry at Middle Collegiate Church in lower Manhattan. The concert showcased an all-star lineup of leading jazz and world music artists at Middle Collegiate Church, a venue with a long history of supporting marginalized communities through its weekly Butterfly Meal Program. The church was a beneficiary of a portion of the concert proceeds.

This year's concert featured Grammy-winning pianist Fred Hersch, Cumbiamba eNeyé, singer-songwriter Becca Stevens, percussionist Rogério Boccato, and vocalist Jean Rohe. Each artist showcased a remarkable command over a wide range of genres that included the American and Brazilian popular songbooks, Colombian folkloric music, and contemporary folk song.

With an ever-widening artistic vision incorporating music and artists from around the world, the Concert to Feed the Hungry is a celebration of BGR's work on behalf of thousands of individuals, many of whom would otherwise be all but invisible to audiences in the West. Over the last five years the concert has united a creative and activist community around a shared desire to alleviate the incredible suffering that results from chronic hunger and malnutrition. Their music is a testament to the power of BGR's vision that the call to compassionate action transcends religion, class, and ethnicity. As we continue this work, we look forward to enjoying the inspiring and uplifting music of our compassionate artists for many years to come!



BECCA STEVENS  
SINGER SONGWRITER



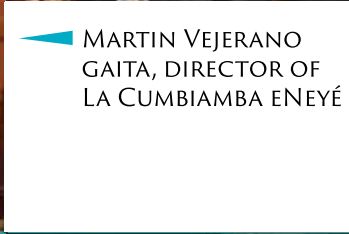
DAN BLAKE  
SAXOPHONE,  
CFH PRODUCER



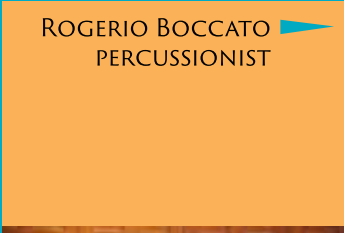
MARTIN VEJERANO  
GAITA, DIRECTOR OF  
LA CUMBIAMBA ENEYÉ



ROGERIO BOCCATO  
PERCUSSIONIST



SEBASTIAN CRUZ  
LA CUMBIAMBA ENEYÉ  
MEMBER



FRED HERSCH  
PIANIST, COMPOSER





# COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN



## Buddhist Global Relief through CFC # 74375

ALASKA CFC  
ARIZONA CFC  
ATLANTIC COAST CFC  
CENTRAL ALABAMA CFC  
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CFC  
CENTRAL SAVANNAH RIVER AREA CFC  
CFC NORCAL  
CFC OF CONNECTICUT & WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
CFC OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
CFC OF GREATER ARKANSAS  
CFC OF GREATER SOCAL  
CFC OF NEW YORK CITY  
CFC OF NORTH PUGET SOUND  
CFC OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA  
CFC OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA  
CHERRY POINT CFC  
CHESAPEAKE BAY AREA CFC  
COASTAL CAROLINA CFC  
DESERT SOUTHWEST CFC  
EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA & SOUTH JERSEY CFC  
FLORIDA PANHANDLE CFC  
FORT POLK -CENTRAL LOUISIANA CFC  
GATEWAY CFC  
GREATER ATLANTA - ATHENS CFC  
HAWAII-PACIFIC AREA CFC  
HEART OF ALABAMA CFC  
HEARTLAND CFC  
HUDSON VALLEY CFC  
ILLOWA BI-STATE CFC  
INDIANA, KENTUCKY & SOUTHWESTERN OHIO CFC  
INTERMOUNTAIN CFC  
KING COUNTY CFC  
LONG ISLAND CFC  
MIDDLE GEORGIA AREA CFC  
MIDWEST CFC  
MONTANA CFC  
NE FLORIDA/SE GEORGIA REGIONAL CFC  
NORTH COAST OHIO CFC  
NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND CFC  
NORTHWEST FLORIDA CFC  
OVERSEAS CFC  
PALMETTO STATE CFC  
POTOMAC CFC  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CFC  
SAN ANTONIO AREA CFC  
SMOKY MOUNTAIN REGION CFC  
SOCAL CFC  
SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS CFC  
SOUTHEASTERN NORTH CAROLINA CFC  
SUNCOAST CFC  
TENNESSEE VALLEY CFC  
VIRGINIA PENINSULA CFC  
WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA CFC



Once again this year, BGR participated in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the official workplace giving program for US federal government employees.

Participation in the CFC is open to non-profit organizations that have undergone a stringent application process and have demonstrated a high level of fiscal transparency and accountability. We are honored to be once again accepted as a participating organization in the CFC, and are thankful to the Board and staff members of BGR for maintaining our high standards of practice.

We wish to express our deep gratitude to the many federal employees who have donated a portion of their paychecks to help the less fortunate and further BGR's mission! If you are a US federal employee we hope you will consider contributing during this coming campaign through our CFC #74375, and spread the word to your colleagues, family and friends at work.

We have listed the different CFC locations that contributed to BGR in the time period covered by this report in the sidebar. We thank them all for their support, and hope that we can add more CFC locations to the list this year, and into the future.

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## ART CREATION FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

ACFFC focuses on the town of Jacmel, Haiti. Their mission is “to build a passionate community of future leaders, visionaries and dynamic thinkers who are empowered to better their lives and their world through the arts and education.”

## BANGLADESH BUDDHIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Ven. Jivanananda Mahathera founded BBMS in 1977 as a non-sectarian, non-communal, non-governmental organization, focused on dispensing humanitarian services especially to helpless orphans, distressed widows, and other indigent men and women.

## BODHICITTA FOUNDATION

The Bodhicitta Foundation, founded in 2003 by the Australian Buddhist nun, Bhikkhuni Yeshe, provides counseling, education, and women’s empowerment to the Dalit community in Nagpur, India.

## CENCUDER CAMEROON

CENCUDER seeks to “enable rural youths and women to acquire survival skills in order to secure a better future for themselves through education and training in life and vocational skills.”

## CENWOR

CENWOR (Centre for Women’s Research) is a non-profit NGO founded in 1984, dedicated to helping Sri Lankan women realize their full potential and achieve equality in all spheres of life.

## ECOLOGY ACTION

Ecology Action of the Mid-Peninsula for 40 years has promoted an elegant, small-scale agricultural system, Grow Biointensive, which produces high yields, conserves resources, and meets the basic need of people to feed themselves.

## HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL

Helen Keller International, one of the world’s oldest non-profits, works in countries throughout the world to prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CENTER

The International Cooperation Center of Thai Nguyen University in Vietnam was founded to encourage international cooperation projects, including research on poverty reduction and crop production biotechnology.

## JAMYANG FOUNDATION

JF supports innovative educational projects for indigenous girls and women in the Indian Himalayas and the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh, combining general education for the modern world with traditional Buddhist wisdom and practice.

## KEEP GROWING DETROIT

KGD promotes food sovereignty in Detroit so city residents will grow the majority of fruits and vegetables consumed. KGD teaches gardening, cultivates a network of gardeners, and invests in the growth of community leaders and food entrepreneurs.

## LOTUS OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL

Lotus Outreach International is dedicated to ensuring the education, health, and safety of at-risk and exploited women and children in the developing world, especially Cambodia and India.

## MOANOUGHAR

Moanoghar’s mission is to support a secure future for the marginalized communities of the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh by providing free or highly subsidized education to the region’s children. More than 1,400 students are currently studying at Moanoghar.

## OXFAM AMERICA

One of the 17 members of the Oxfam confederation, Oxfam America works to “right the wrongs of poverty, hunger, and injustice” with innovative projects, social justice campaigns, and public education in more than 90 countries.

## LOCATIONS OF OUR PROJECTS



### OXFAM INDIA

Oxfam India is a fully independent Indian organization fighting poverty and injustice and creating a more equal, just, and sustainable world.

### RACHANA

Rachana is a Cambodian non-governmental organization that has been promoting health care and ecologically sustainable agriculture among rural populations in Cambodia since 1994.

### RED CROSS VIETNAM

The Vietnam Red Cross, founded in 1946, serves those affected by poverty and provides health care, emergency assistance, and humanitarian relief for the ill and victims of war and natural disasters.

### RECIPROCITY FOUNDATION

RF's Holistic Center for Homeless Youth in New York offers counseling, vocational training and college preparation, meditation, and yoga. The Center initiated a visionary vegetarian meal program to address student hunger for wholesome food, community and dialogue.

### SHAMBALA FOUNDATION

The Shambala Foundation is dedicated to alleviating poverty in Asia by developing community-based, long-term solutions promoting education for disadvantaged communities. Their Orphanage Without Walls works with orphans and their foster families.

### TREES THAT FEED

The Trees That Feed Foundation promotes the planting of high-yield fruit trees. They develop local markets and assist subsistence farmers to transform their yields into agro-forests, planting shade-tolerant trees under the canopies of larger, fruit-bearing trees.

### URBAN REBUILDING INITIATIVE

The Urban Rebuilding Initiative addresses issues of food insecurity, physical fitness, and economic disparity in the Bronx, New York. They work with at-risk youth, young adults, and formerly incarcerated men to convert urban spaces into food production sites.

### VALLEY VERDE

Valley Verde's aim is to increase self-sufficiency and healthy eating through development of organic gardening skills and leadership of low-income immigrants and people of color across Santa Clara County, California.

### WHAT IF? FOUNDATION

The What If? Foundation works with Haitian partners to provide much-needed food and educational opportunities to impoverished children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

# ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

*Buddhist Global Relief is deeply committed to providing relief to the poor and needy throughout the world. To that end, we seek to use our resources with utmost efficiency in order to provide as much assistance as possible for our projects.*

*During fiscal year 2016 (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016), our eighth year of service, BGR maintained the steady growth in donation revenue seen since its inception. Our revenues totaled \$589,406 as compared to \$547,040 in fiscal year 2015, an increase of 8%. Our expenditures totaled \$693,658 of which \$649,785, or 94%, were allocated to direct programs. Our administrative ratio was 3%, and another 3% was devoted to fundraising and promotion. A large portion of the administrative expense each fiscal year is incurred in engaging an independent CPA firm to perform an annual financial statement audit for BGR. This enables BGR to be listed in non-profit organization information sources such as GuideStar, the world's largest source of information on nonprofit organizations, and to participate in combined giving organizations such as the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the world's largest annual workplace charity campaign with pledges made by US federal employees.*

*We are deeply grateful for your continued support!*



BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF

## Statement of Activities

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

### REVENUE

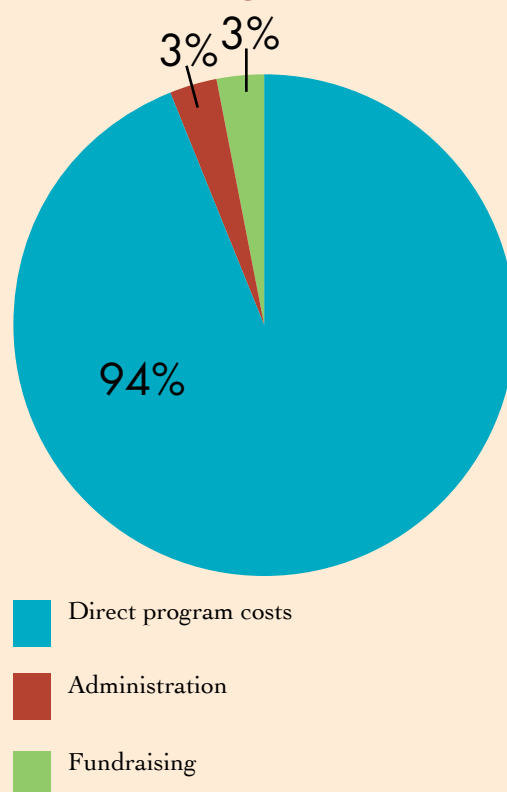
Revenue	
Individual & Business Contributions	\$ 425,452
Non-Profit Organization Contributions	9,669
Foundation Grants	150,045
Donated Goods & Services	4,240
Investment Income (Loss)	(118)
Total Revenue	\$ 589,288

### EXPENDITURES

Direct Program Costs	\$ 649,785
Administration	18,890
Fundraising	24,983
Total Expenditures	693,658
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (104,370)

Administration as a % of total revenue= 3.21%

### Expenses by Category



## Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2016

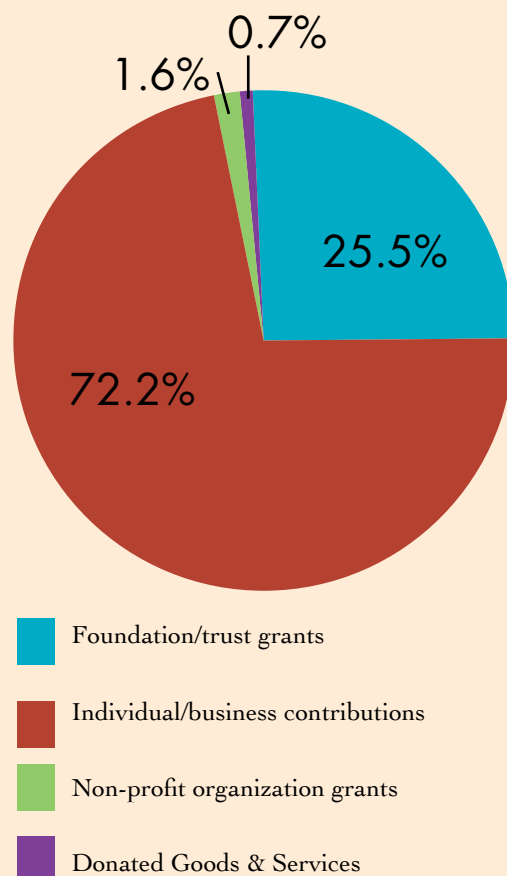
### ASSETS

Assets	
Cash	
Checking	\$ 115,018
Money Market	58,250
Total Cash	173,268
Accounts Receivable	1,184
Total Assets	\$ 174,452

### LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Liabilities	
Grants Payable	\$ 122,000
Accounts Payable	2,270
Total Liabilities	124,270
Fund Balances	
Fund Balance Jul 1, 2015	154,552
Surplus (Deficit)	(104,370)
Fund Balance Jun 30, 2016	50,182
Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 174,452

### Revenue by Source



# ANNUAL SUPPORT

Buddhist Global Relief would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support and partnership during the 2016 fiscal year, July 2015 - June 2016. Your generous donations during this year have allowed Buddhist Global Relief to expand our range of projects, thereby providing relief for more people who are afflicted by poverty, hunger and malnutrition. We owe heartfelt thanks to our friends listed on these pages and to many others we do not have the space to include here. Together, you provide the support that enables us to serve people living in poverty. We are grateful for your generosity.

Each donor is important to us. If your name is not listed correctly, please accept our apologies and notify BGR by calling us toll free at 1-888-852-7579, or email us at [info@buddhistglobalrelief.org](mailto:info@buddhistglobalrelief.org).

## \$100,000 or above

Chao Family Foundation

## \$30,000 to \$39,999

Yin Shun Foundation

Patrick Okell

## \$10,000 to \$19,999

Bhikkhu Bodhi

Robert Brown

Thomas E. Green

Shoyo Taniguchi



## \$5,000 to \$9,999

Foundation Beyond Belief

Benevity Community  
Impact Fund

Tan Teo Charitable  
Foundation

Wisdom Publications Inc.

Fernando & Barbara  
Camacho

Eleanor Heath

John & Lynn Kelly

Carolyn Redfield

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New Buddha Way

Trans World Buddhist  
Association

Annie Michelle C. Tang  
& Sokol Braha

Thomas Brocher

Hung Yang & Po-Hui  
Chang

Allen Fu

Martins Melkis

Shih Nam Sak

Paul Schlaud

Gavin Towler

## \$1,000 to \$2,499

Andrews Foundation

Buddhist Peaceful  
Enlightenment Inc.

Buddhist Society for  
Compassionate Wisdom

Dharma Zephyr Insight  
Meditation Community

Impact Assets

Impermanent Sangha  
New Inc.

Sakyamuni Buddhist  
Meditation Association

Samaritan Medical Center

Sanghapala Foundation

The Stull Family Foundation

Brian Barry

Katherine Baumgartner

David & Elizabeth S.  
Braughton

Paul Cain

Kristofer Charlton-Ouw

Meichu Chen

Jyoti Chhabria

Dane Fredenburg

Fang Hang

Jean Hintermann

Lawrence H. &  
Marianne Jones

Jon Kabat-Zinn

Christopher Konczyk

Ray Lee

Li-Hsiang Liucheng &  
Shy-Ying Liu

David Loy

Mary MacGregor

Lenore Madeleine

William Marsh

Kathleen Miller

Kathleen Minder



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 Avi Silberstein  
 Camie S. Vo  
 Julie Wagner  
 Muriel Wanderer  
 Samson & Pauline F. Wang  
 Yen Sia (Dexiu Shi) Wu  
 Taihua Wu  
 Anonymous

**\$500 to \$999**

Buddhist Association of the United States  
 Metaphoric Direction  
 New York Monopoly Realty Inc.  
 Saranaloka Foundation  
 Sravasti Abbey  
 John-Michael Auron  
 James & Jane Baraz  
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George Clapp  
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 Lisa & Robert Wong  
 Siu Wong  
 Suresh Yadav  
 Sue Yang

Although we would certainly like to publicly thank everyone who donated to BGR, for reasons of space and cost in producing this report, we have to thank them with a general statement of gratitude for their generosity. May all those who contributed to our work, in any way and in any amount, reap an abundance of blessings. If we have inadvertently omitted anyone from the above list, we offer our sincere apologies.



# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## DONATIONS

Your donations feed children and send them to school, provide adults with the skills to improve their livelihoods, and help farmers improve their methods so they can better feed their families. Even small donations can change the world for impoverished families in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States. Together, your donations are achieving great things!

We welcome both one-time and recurring donations. BGR is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your gift is deductible to the full extent allowable under IRS regulations. There are many ways to donate.

### DONATE ON-LINE

Make a secure donation with your credit card via PayPal or Network for Good by selecting the "Donate" option on our website: [www.buddhistglobalrelief.org](http://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org).

### SEND A PERSONAL CHECK, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR MONEY ORDER

Please make your check payable to:  
Buddhist Global Relief  
2020 Route 301  
Carmel NY 10512

### MAKE A WIRE TRANSFER

A wire transfer of U.S. dollars can be made to BGR's bank account. For instructions, please call BGR's toll-free number, 1-888-852-7579.



BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF



# OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP



## WALK WITH US

Hold a walk event, a day of mindfulness, a chant-in, a bike ride, or host your own special event to raise funds and share information about the work of BGR.

## COMPANY MATCHING GIFTS

Your employer may have a matching gift program that will double or triple your contribution. Obtain a matching gift form from your personnel office and send it with your tax-deductible contribution to Buddhist Global Relief, 2020 Route 301, Carmel NY 10512 USA.

## AMAZON SMILE

Shop through <https://smile.amazon.com> and log in, entering "Buddhist Global Relief" as your charity of choice. With every purchase you make, .5% will be donated to BGR.

## MAKE A TRIBUTE GIFT

You can donate on-line using "Network for Good" to honor a loved one or to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion.

## MAKE A CHARITABLE GIFT OF STOCKS OR BONDS

Making a gift of stocks or bonds may help reduce your taxes while generously supporting BGR's mission. For more information, please call BGR at 1-888-852-7579.

## VOLUNTEER

You can support the work of BGR by becoming a volunteer. BGR volunteers are located all over the world. Information on volunteer positions currently open is available on the BGR website.

## STAY CONNECTED

Join us on Facebook and Twitter



See our photo albums on Flickr



Watch us on YouTube



Check out our blog on WordPress  
<http://buddhistglobalrelief.me>

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**2020 Route 301**

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[www.buddhistglobalrelief.org](http://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org)

# Côte d'Ivoire Cambodia

# Haiti Sri Lanka

# India

Santa Clara County

# Vietnam

*To BGR Team Members*

*A very special thank you to our tireless  
volunteers, whose enthusiasm,  
hard work, and support allows us to  
continue our important work.*

# China

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“MAY I BE A GOOD DOCTOR FOR THOSE WHO SUFFER FROM ILLNESS,  
A GUIDE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE GONE ASTRAY,  
A LAMP FOR THOSE WHO DWELL IN DARKNESS,  
A SOURCE OF TREASURE FOR THOSE IN POVERTY AND NEED.”

- *Vows of Samantabhadra, Avatamsaka Sutra*



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