

# BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF



ANNUAL REPORT

---

# 2018



**Cover photo:**  
White Lotus  
Charitable Trust,  
Garden of Peace  
Nutritional Support  
program in India

Bangladesh

Ethiopia

Detroit

Côte d'Ivoire

Vietnam

India

MYANMAR

Sri Lanka

Haiti

Nicaragua

Cambodia





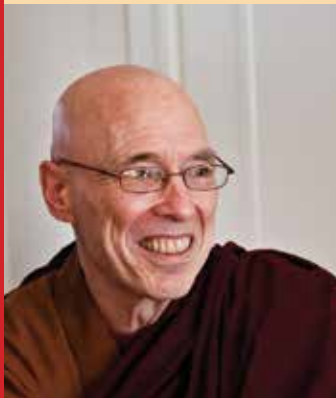
## **buddhist global relief**

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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



**Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi**

This past year, 2018, marked the completion of BGR's tenth year of service, a major milestone for our small organization. The guiding spirit behind BGR, through this decade, has been what I call "conscientious compassion." Compassion in itself is the quality that "makes the hearts of good people tremble with the suffering of others" (as the Visuddhimagga defines it). But for compassion to become an effective antidote to suffering, it must leap out from the inner recesses of the heart into the field of action in a determined effort to liberate others from suffering. This effort is underscored by the word "conscientious," a reminder that the call of conscience bids us put compassion into action.

This is exactly what BGR has been doing in countries extending from Mongolia and Vietnam to Haiti and Nicaragua. As you probably know, we especially focus on girls and women. When we learned that a disproportionate share of those who fall victims to chronic hunger are girls and women, we determined to improve their status, an endeavor that requires, above all, access to education and vocational training. A major slice of our projects thus gives girls the chance to attend school and to pursue their studies even up to the university level. Such projects are helping girls fulfill dreams they would never have imagined possible. Other BGR projects provide women with vocational training, often in ecological agriculture, increasing yields while also countering climate change.

The growth and success of BGR has resulted from the collaborative efforts of our board members, regular staff, teams of volunteers, donors, and project partners. Without the combined efforts of all these groups, none of our achievements would be possible, and for this we are deeply thankful. As you look through this annual report, rejoice in the realization that it is your generosity—of time, ideas, work, or funds—that has enabled us to achieve our objectives. Much, however, still remains to be done to rescue millions of people from the scourge of hunger and malnutrition. I sincerely hope that for many more years we can rely on your dedicated support for our work. May all blessings be with you and your families.

Sincerely, with loving-kindness,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bhikkhu Bodhi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

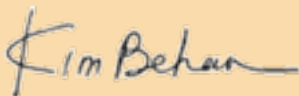
This year, BGR celebrates our tenth anniversary of helping individuals and families lift themselves out of poverty. We are amazed by how much we have accomplished together in a short time. During our first year (July 2008 through June 2009), our revenue totaled \$69,723, with 5 projects funded. During FY2018, our revenue totaled \$680,000, with 40 projects funded. In our ten years of operation, we have raised a cumulative \$3.9 million and funded 74 projects in 22 countries, as well as 23 emergency relief assistance grants.

Your generous support directly impacts the lives of those in need. Our projects feed hungry children, educate vulnerable children and young women, train farmers in sustainable agricultural methods, and improve women's livelihoods throughout the world. In this report, you will learn about some of our education projects, including vocational training for widows in India, single mothers in Cameroon, and young women in Sri Lanka; and primary and secondary education for vulnerable children in Haiti and the children of humanitarian "backpack medics" in Myanmar. These projects are the foundations for improved livelihoods for those they serve, giving them the tools to create better futures for themselves and their families for generations to come.

Whether you have been supporting BGR since our beginnings or have just recently learned about our work, know that your gifts of time, talent, and monetary donations create ripples of blessings to many families and communities. In this year of celebration, we are deeply grateful for your care and generosity which have sustained our organization over the past ten years and allowed us to help hundreds of thousands of people along the way! Thank you for your dedication to BGR's mission.

We extend special thanks to our individual and sangha donors, Dharma centers, partners, BGR team members, and volunteers for your generous financial assistance and tireless support. Together, we will continue to work to support individuals and families in need and end the cycle of poverty— one child, one woman, one family at a time.

With loving-kindness,



Kim Behan



Kim Behan



## VISION & 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:

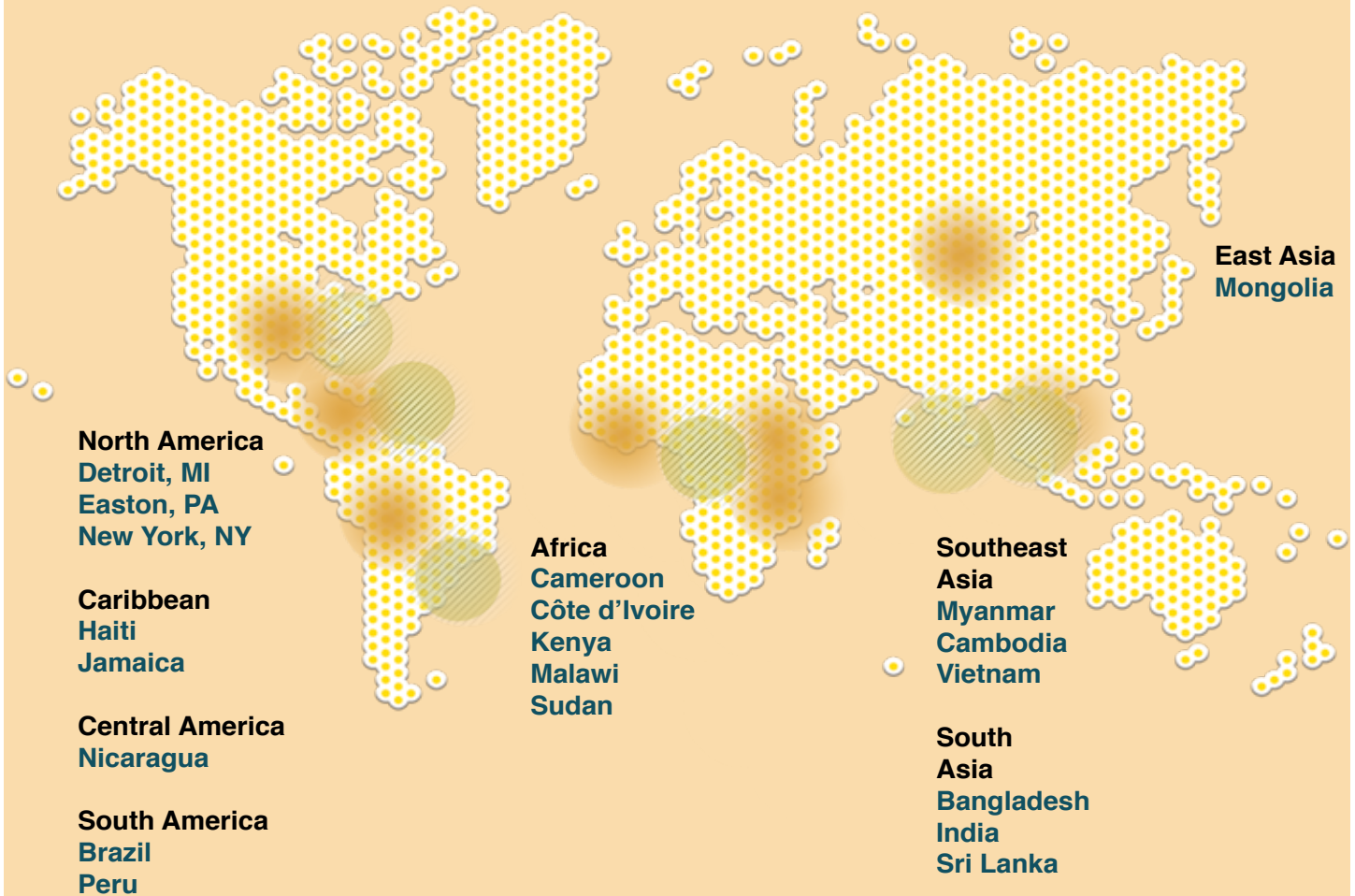
- providing direct food aid to people afflicted by hunger and malnutrition
- helping develop better long-term methods of sustainable food production and management appropriate to the cultures and traditions of the beneficiaries
- promoting the education of girls and women, so essential in the struggle 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.



# OUR PROJECTS

## WHERE WE SERVE



BGR projects are designed to address chronic hunger and malnutrition, to promote greater food productivity at the grassroots 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.

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 people 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.



A NEW VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER  
FOR MARGINALIZED WOMEN IN  
**CAMEROON**



*In the center's first year, 78 widows  
and single mothers completed vocational training,  
and 30 received microenterprise seed grants.*







T

he Centre for Community Regeneration and Development (CCREAD-Cameroon) is a nonprofit working to eliminate extreme poverty and hunger in Cameroon through community-driven programs promoting education and vocational training, inclusion, and gender equity within a framework of environmental sustainability. In 2017–18, a BGR grant supported a new vocational training center for women and girls in Buea’s Mile 16 Bolifamba, a community of 17,850 people, 98 percent of them peasant farmers. More than 85 percent of the community lives below the UN poverty line, and families headed by widows and single mothers are at particular risk.

The goal of the training center in Mile 16 Bolifamba is to lift women and girls out of poverty by providing them with practical vocational education and entrepreneurial and life skills training, as well as seed capital to start their own businesses. In the center’s first year, 78 widows and single mothers completed vocational training in either tailoring or hairdressing, and 30 of these received micro-enterprise seed grants. By year’s end, an additional 186 women were enrolled in CCREAD’s training programs.

The center also provides training in literacy, writing, bookkeeping, project management, and entrepreneurship skills, both to women enrolled in the main training programs and to hundreds of other women and youths in the community.

Ochono Mbi is a single mother who was struggling to support herself and her child before she joined CCREAD’s tailoring program. Like many other poor women in Cameroon, she encountered at CCREAD’s training center her first opportunity to further her vocational education. “Today I am about to start my own personal sewing shop to make a living, support my child, and hopefully train other women,” she said.

Carine Teh was also among the first class of graduating students. After she completed the program, she was one of 30 graduates provided with seed capital to start their own businesses. She said: “The training organized by CCREAD, in partnership with BGR, has not only helped to remove tears from the eyes of poor women but gives hope to the hopeless and aids women to achieve social and economic relevance within the community.”

# THE FATHER JERI SCHOOL

## IN HAITI



*Little by little, this BGR-supported school is working to become one of Haiti's strongest schools, creating a better future for its students.*





T

he Father Jeri School provides a challenging academic curriculum and opportunities for leadership and civic engagement for poor children in the Ti Plas Kazo community in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti. A three-year BGR grant, administered through our partner, the What If? Foundation, financially supported the school, providing salary and professional-development support for teachers as well as educational materials. A separate BGR grant supports the Lamanjay food program at the school, serving 1,000 meals each weekday to students and community members.

The children who live in Ti Plas Kazo are extremely vulnerable to the deficits of the Haitian education system. Because their families are very poor, few can afford tuition, and those who can afford it often have to choose inadequate schools.

Established in 2016, the Father Jeri School now enrolls 310 students in pre-kindergarten through high school. Program Director Lavarice Gaudin spoke to the importance of BGR's support: "Having enough resources to pay teachers and purchase school materials is our

biggest challenge. There's so much that we need, and prices keep rising in Haiti. Little by little, we are on our path to becoming the best school in Haiti—and creating a better future for our students."

Among those students is third-grader Jennika Arius, 8. She loves school and so admires her teachers that she plans to become a teacher herself one day. Her favorite subjects are writing and English. She expressed her gratitude for the meal she receives at school, as often it is her only meal for the day.

Fedora Milcourt, 14, lives with her mother and two younger brothers in Ti Plas Kazo and has attended the Father Jeri School since its founding in 2016. Fedora said: "I love school, and my mom is very happy that I can study here. She didn't get to go to school and recently lost her job at the supermarket after it shut down. Many businesses have closed because of the violence on the streets. But my mom says I have to keep studying and work hard on my grades, so I can achieve more when I graduate. And I will!"

# HANDICRAFT TRAINING FOR INDEBTED WIDOWS IN INDIA



*Following the training, the women's average income grew from Rs 4,000 a month to Rs 7,000, a 75 percent increase.*





B

uilding Bridges India (BBI) works to support and empower women whose husbands committed suicide in despair over their economic struggles, leaving their widows to repay the debt and support their families alone. BGR partnered with BBI on two projects in 2017–18: an organic farming training program (with a reproductive-health education component) and a handicraft and garment production initiative.

The handicraft project provided basic training in sewing and embroidery to 100 women in five villages in the Sangrur district of southern Punjab. Following the skills training, a successful New Delhi fashion designer and entrepreneur led four garment-design workshops on integrating the traditional hand embroidery *phulkari* with contemporary fashion and home-décor design to create marketable artisanal handicrafts. Two entrepreneurship workshops helped women develop knowledge and skills in such areas as market demand and pricing, publicity, product design, maintaining quality standards, and basic accounting.

Following the training, the women's average income grew from Rs 4,000 a month to Rs 7,000, a 75 percent increase. Fifteen workshop participants joined BBI's team to train other women in their home villages in the skills they learned.

"I come from a very poor family and did not have any way to earn an income until I joined the center in August 2016," said Jasveer Kaur. "I learned to use the sewing machine to make clothes and to do *phulkari* embroidery with different color combinations. Now I'm earning enough money to pay for the school fees of my two younger siblings and contribute to household expenses."

A young woman named Kiranpal said: "I joined Balran Vocational Training Centre in July 2017 to train in tailoring and embroidery. Now I can stitch clothes for my family and myself, and I earn an income by selling my clothes on the market."

EDUCATING

THE CHILDREN OF BACKPACK MEDICS IN  
**MYANMAR**



*Through this BGR grant, 56 children  
of backpack medics are able to attend  
school in Mae Sot, Thailand.*





T

he oppression and persecution of religious and ethnic minorities by the Myanmar military has a long and violent history. Over 400,000 people are internally displaced, living in isolated villages or in IDP camps, without access to sufficient medical care. BGR partner Burma Humanitarian Mission (BHM) estimates the infant mortality rate in these communities at 135 deaths per 1,000 births and the maternal mortality rate as 1 in 12.

Since 1999, BHM has supported teams of mobile “backpack medics” who provide health care to members of the country’s ethnic minorities, including the Karen, Kachin, Shan, Mon, and Palaung peoples. Each medic travels to 9–12 villages per month, providing care to an estimated 2,000 people. A BGR grant provided education to the children of these medics at a school safely over the border, in Mae Sot, Thailand. Through the grant, 55 children received tuition, food, uniforms, and school materials in 2017–18. Thirty-one of these

students are the children of conflict-zone medics and 24 the children of medics who staff the office in Mae Sot; three-quarters of these backpack medics and staff are women. The school fills a critical need, as authorities in Mae Sot do not permit migrant children from Myanmar to attend local schools.

The backpack medics generally belong to the ethnic groups they serve; in addition to providing a foundational education to these students, the program also prioritizes teaching the children about the cultures and histories of their respective ethnic groups. Naw Paw Poe, a fifth-grader in the program at Mae Sot, is learning about the Karen people and their history. Tenth-grader Naw Eh La Thar speaks four languages, Karen, Burmese, Thai, and English; she enjoys chemistry and physics and plans to become a doctor. Naw Khlee Moo, an eleventh-grader, said: “I want to grow up and help people, like my dad does.” She aspires one day to become a medic like her father.

TECHNICAL SKILLS TRAINING  
FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN  
SRI LANKA



*Through this project, young women prepare for careers in such rapidly expanding fields as civil engineering and IT.*







S

ri Lanka has a strong history of educating girls and young women, with compulsory education for children of both genders through the lower secondary level and a 92 percent literacy rate. But a significant gender disparity in employment levels persists. Young women in Sri Lanka face rates of unemployment nearly twice that of their male counterparts, with unemployment levels highest among women with secondary school diplomas. But the costs of vocational training and other higher education are prohibitive for many female students.

For several years BGR has partnered with the Centre for Women's Research (CENWOR) in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in Sri Lanka. In 2017–18, the project "Providing Access to Skills Development for Young Women from Low Income Families" supported young Sri Lankan women in preparing for careers in such rapidly expanding fields as information technology and civil engineering. The project also led gender awareness programs for both male and female students.

Scholarship assistance was given to 60 young women and 1 young man from low-income families who are pursuing vocational and higher education. Among these students is Thusharika Kumari, 31, who was working as a volunteer for an organization serving disabled women in her home region. Since childhood Thusharika has lived with a disability caused by polio, but her family's poverty meant that medical care was financially out of reach. Through CENWOR, Thusharika received tuition for a computer course at a local training institute as well as funds for medical care and a pair of orthopedic shoes.

Adhikari Gunarathna was in her final year of engineering study at the Advanced Technical Institute, Galle, and participating in a training internship at a Colombo construction company while also caring for her ill mother. A CENWOR scholarship enabled her to complete needed coursework.

## PROJECTS IN BRIEF



### Arts Creation Foundation for Children:

#### Food aid program in Haiti

The afternoon feeding program of this arts education nonprofit provided hot, nutritious meals, six days a week, to 40–60 children in need in Jacmel, Haiti. On Saturdays and during the summer, breakfast was also served. The program enabled many children to attend school who previously spent their days begging or seeking other ways to feed themselves.



### Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes:

#### Young women's right livelihood and empowerment in Peru

One hundred domestic workers, more than half single mothers, participated in vocational educational training to improve their knowledge of their rights and ability to negotiate for better working conditions, salary, and benefits. The project also provided vocational counseling job placement services.



### Bangladesh Buddhist Missionary Society:

#### Food support program for orphans in Bangladesh

This BGR-funded program fed 54 orphaned children, ages 6 to 17, at the Orphans' Home Complex in Betagi, in the Chittagong Hills region. Under the leadership of Ven. Jivanananda Mahathero, BBMS has provided food, health care, and other humanitarian assistance to the needy since 1977.



### Bodhicitta Foundation:

#### A girls' home and women's social service center in India

This project supported the education and training of 30 poor girls and young women in Nagpur. The students received school fees, clothes, housing, books, and instruction in nursing, social work, and law. Bodhicitta also provided job training to poor women in sewing, computers, English, and beauty care, and gave women legal help where needed. Bodhicitta's food program provided 6,000 meals for hungry children.



### Building Bridges:

#### Organic farming initiative for widows in Punjab, India

This project provided training in organic kitchen gardening to impoverished women. At workshops held on land adjoining *gurdwaras* (Sikh temples) in Punjab, two professors from Punjab Agricultural University trained 300 women in nutrition, natural farming, irrigation, and other subjects. The project also provided workshops on reproductive health for 100 women.



### CENCUDER:

#### Food aid program in Cameroon

The Ebase-Bajoh community primary school in southwest Cameroon serves village children whose parents cannot afford to send them to government schools in town. This program fed 95 hungry children at the village school. The children also received lessons in environmental education, science, and agriculture. The program helped reduce dropout rates, especially among female students.



### Ecology Action:

#### Sustainable mini-farming in Kenya and Malawi

The Grow Biointensive method increases crop yields while reducing use of water and commercial fertilizers. In Kenya, the program trained 1,200 farmers (786 women, 125 youths). In Malawi, 4,086 farmers (1,946 women) participated in trainings; an additional 260 lead farmers (144 women) educated and supported 2,100 fellow farmers.



### Helen Keller International:

#### Improving nutritional outcomes among children in Côte d'Ivoire

In the Korhogo Health District in northern Côte d'Ivoire, more than 40 percent of children experience severe malnutrition. In this second year of a three-year project, 254 health workers in 30 health centers were trained in nutrition education, including breastfeeding and child screenings and interventions. The nutrition education activities reached 29,286 adults (29,198 women), 924 children (715 girls), and 18,520 children under 5.



### Helen Keller International:

#### Improving maternal and child health and nutrition in Kenya

In the second year of a three-year grant, HKI trained 1,745 health workers and managers (1,141 women) in Kakamega County in maternal, neonatal, and child health and nutrition. Other project activities included pre- and postnatal information events, breastfeeding education, vitamin A supplementation for children, and malnutrition screenings for 34,007 children under 5 (17,771 girls).



### Helen Keller International:

#### Expanding household food production in Vietnam

Focusing on women and children under 2, this program distributed seeds, ducklings, and chicks to 100 households in ten villages in the rural Phu Yen district in northwest Vietnam. A model farm in each village provided hands-on training and technical support to local households. The project also supported trainings on maternal and child nutrition and health.



### International Cooperation Center:

#### Training in System of Rice Intensification and capacity-building for farmers in Vietnam

The System of Rice Intensification (SRI) model of rice cultivation achieves increased yields via environmentally sustainable, climate-resilient methods. A BGR grant trained more than 160 farmers (93 women) in SRI cultivation practices in the Dai Tu district of northern Vietnam's Thai Nguyen province.



### Jamyang Foundation:

#### School lunch program for Visakha Girls' School in Bangladesh

Visakha Girls' School serves 121 students ages 5 to 13, mostly from marginalized indigenous families, in the village of Dhoshri in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh. A BGR grant funded a daily hot, nutritious lunch for the girls, ensuring that the children have sufficient nutrition to focus on their studies. The food support encourages parents to send their girls to school.



### Joan Rose Foundation:

#### Children's food aid and food security in Haiti

This program provided two nutritious meals per day, five days a week, to 130 children in Jacmel, Haiti. Feeding the children allows them to focus on their schoolwork, improves their overall well-being, and eases the financial burden on their parents. This grant also provided tutoring to ten students (eight girls), who are expected to be the first in their families to graduate from high school.





### Keep Growing Detroit:

#### Garden resource program in Detroit

This year over 23,000 Detroit residents supported by Keep Growing Detroit harvested locally grown, nutritious food from 1,547 family and community gardens. The grant supported seed and seedling distribution, monthly community work days, and training in soil building, water conservation, climate-resilient agriculture, and other gardening techniques.



### Lotus Outreach International:

#### Rice support for girls' education in Cambodia

In response to the interconnected problems of hunger and limited access to education for girls in rural Cambodia, this program distributed dry rice directly to female students enrolled in LOI's education programs. The rice provided needed nutrition to 128 girls and their families, giving families the food security they needed to keep their daughters in school.



### Lotus Outreach International:

#### University scholarships for young women in Cambodia

A BGR grant fully funded a year of university education for 16 young women through LOI's CATALYST program, which provides scholarships for women's university and vocational education in Cambodia. The scholarship included tuition, fees, textbooks, housing, and a monthly allowance. The grant also provided support for workshops on topics including gender equity, women's health, and financial budgeting and planning.



### Moanoghar:

#### Construction of a children's dormitory in Bangladesh

Founded in 1974 by Buddhist monks, Moanoghar provides education and shelter to children in need in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of southeast Bangladesh. A BGR grant supported the final year of construction of a dormitory to replace a dilapidated building at the Moanoghar school. The new dormitory, called Shanti Bhavan (House of Peace), will house 120 boys.



### North Country Mission of Hope:

#### Educational sponsorship of female students in Nicaragua

In Nicaragua, Mission of Hope aims to break the cycle of poverty by sponsoring girls' education. This year, a BGR grant to Mission of Hope sponsored the education of 112 girls, including 5 attending college. Each student received tuition and/or registration fees, schoolbooks, the school uniform, and access to tutoring and basic medical care.



### Oxfam America:

#### Increasing household food security in Sudan

This food security project provided seeds, agricultural materials, and training in improved farming techniques to farmers in 760 households (approximately 4,050 people, including 2,100 children) in Kass locality, in the western part of South Darfur, Sudan. Farmers reported securing between 40 and 60 percent of their annual food needs as a result of this project.



### Oxfam America:

#### Supporting rice farmers in Haiti

Working in the Délogner community in Haiti's Artibonite Valley, this project trained farmers in the System of Rice Intensification (SRI), supported the cultivation of backyard vegetable gardens, repaired irrigation infrastructure, and facilitated community self-development through the formation of savings groups. The project directly benefited 100 women-headed households.





### **Oxfam India:** Prosperity through resilient agriculture in India

This project served more than 2,000 women farmers in Uttar Pradesh’s Lakhimpur Kheri district through creation of a women farmers’ collective, training in climate-resilient agriculture practices, and other material and educational support. The project aimed to increase income by at least 30 percent for a majority of participating women farmers.



### **Rachana:** Training in climate-resilient agriculture for poor farmers in Cambodia

This project served vulnerable and poor households in twelve villages of two communes in Takeo province in southern Cambodia. The project offered training to 1,065 farmers (783 women) in sustainable and climate-resilient rice cultivation techniques, organic vegetable farming methods, household-level water harvesting, and other subjects. .



### **Reciprocity Foundation:**

#### **Vegetarian food program for homeless youth in New York City**

This project provided weekly communal home-cooked vegetarian meals for homeless and street-involved youth. The grant also trained youth to become peer-to-peer food-program leaders who cook meals, educate other youth, and lead nutrition workshops.



### **Trees That Feed:** School feeding program in Haiti and Jamaica

This school feeding program provided 36,000 breakfast meals to some 900 schoolchildren in five schools in Haiti and five in Jamaica. With meals created using flour made by local entrepreneurs from the fruit of the breadfruit tree, this project addressed hunger and malnutrition, childhood education, economic opportunity, and environmental sustainability.



### **Vietnam Red Cross:** Educational scholarships for poor children in Vietnam

A BGR grant supported 400 students from Cam Duong district and 309 students from Tam Binh district with an enrollment kit that included tuition, uniforms, and books and other educational materials needed for the school year. This aid is essential to helping these children, and in turn their families, rise out of generational poverty.



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

In Vietnam, patients and their families often struggle to pay for hospital-provided meals. This program provided approximately 520 vegetarian meals each day to 200 patients at the Da Khoa Huyen Tam Binh hospital. A BGR grant funded approximately 75 percent of the hospital food budget, or nearly 142,000 meals over the course of the year.



### **What If Foundation:** Lamanjay food program in Haiti

The Lamanjay food program provides what is often the only meal of the day for participating children and community members in the Ti Plas Kazo community of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Based at the Father Jeri School in Port-au-Prince, this year the program served 1,000 substantial, nutritious meals each weekday to hungry children and their families.



### **White Lotus Trust:**

#### **Garden of Peace nutritional support in India**

This project provided two nutritious meals a day to students and staff members at the Garden of Peace school, located on a 5.6-acre organic farm just outside of Kurumbapalayam village in Tamil Nadu. Garden of Peace provides a holistic educational program, including training in meditation and philosophies of nonviolence, to 174 nursery- and primary-age children.



# WALKS TO FEED THE HUNGRY

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 this year's Walks raised over \$107,000 for projects supported by BGR.

Individuals and families around the world are benefitting from the generosity and goodwill of walk participants. Women farmers in India, Kenya, and Malawi, school girls in Cambodia and Nicaragua, children in Haiti, Jamaica, and Vietnam, and people in many other countries received assistance with food, education, and technical support. These projects can lift families out of a deadening cycle of poverty and enable them to lift generations out of misery.

In this fiscal year, walks were attended by hundreds of walkers in Houston, Milford (Michigan), New York, Philadelphia, Portland (Maine), Portland (Oregon), San Diego, San Francisco, San Jose, Seattle, St. Louis, Willington (Connecticut), and Surrey (United Kingdom), while the Solidarity Walk in Nagpur, India, shared the word about BGR and the projects we support. The joy apparent on the faces of the attendees comes from the blessing of practicing the great virtue of generosity.

It is with immense gratitude that we acknowledge the contributions of the many who attended, donated, and volunteered their time and energy to the walks. May the merits of your offerings spread joy throughout the world!



PORTLAND, OR



MILFORD, MI



PHILADELPHIA, PA



PORTLAND, ME



SEATTLE, WA



NEW YORK, NY



ST. LOUIS, MO



HOUSTON, TX



NAGPUR, INDIA



SAN DIEGO, CA



SAN FRANCISCO, CA



SAN JOSE, CA



SURREY, U.K.



WILLINGTON, CT

## CONCERT TO FEED THE HUNGRY



On April 29, 2018, the seventh annual Concert to Feed the Hungry lifted our spirits once again with a beautiful array of sights and sounds from around the world. This year's concert celebrated BGR's tenth anniversary, with a pre-concert reception that had several of BGR's partner organizations in attendance. Hosting the concert was Saint Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, the oldest standing church in New York City, with a rich legacy of adventurous arts programming and a commitment to social justice causes. The wonderful Saint Mark's choir, led by music director Jeannine Otis, presented an intimate and soulful set of gospel and roots music. The audience was also treated to rousing



performances by award-winning vocalists Kavita Shah and Camila Meza, who brought their ensembles to perform a stunning repertoire of original songs blending jazz with folkloric music from around the world. Providing a beautiful contrast, a Candombe ensemble led by Brooklyn-based percussionist Juan Chiavessa showcased rhythms and songs native to Uruguay. Finally, journeying to Southeast Asia, where BGR has several active partner organizations, the audience was treated to a performance of sacred mask dances of Bhutan.



With the diverse and heartfelt performances given at this year's concert, as well as the engaged and supportive audience in attendance, we once again affirmed our deep aspiration to finally realize a cure for the disease of hunger and malnutrition. The concert and walk events produced by BGR are ways to celebrate the fruits of compassionate action, but also a reminder that the struggle continues. We at BGR express our sincere thanks to the many compassionate artists who have performed for us over the past seven concerts, and to the countless volunteers who share their talents and time to ensure the success of this concert.





# COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

Contribute to Buddhist Global Relief through **CFC # 74375**



## CFC Locations

- Carolinas CFC Zone
- Cascadia CFC Zone
- Desert Southwest CFC Zone
- Garden Empire CFC Zone
- Greater New York CFC Zone
- Greater Tennessee Valley CFC Zone
- Hawaii CFC Zone
- Midwestern CFC Zone
- Mountain States CFC Zone
- National Capital Area/Northern Virginia CFC Zone
- New England CFC Zone
- North Texas CFC Zone
- Northern California CFC Zone
- Ohio CFC Zone
- Oklahoma & North Texas Panhandle CFC Zone
- Overseas CFC Zone
- Pacific Northwest CFC Zone
- Peachbelt CFC Zone
- Southern California CFC Zone
- Sunshine CFC Zone
- Upstate New York CFC Zone



BGR has continued to expand our outreach and fundraising efforts through participation in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the only official workplace giving program for U.S. federal government employees. Participation in the CFC is open to nonprofit organizations that have undergone a stringent application process and have demonstrated a high level of fiscal transparency and accountability. We are honored to participate in this program 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 U.S. 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.



## ART CREATION FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

Serving children and families in need in Jacmel, Haiti, this foundation's 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."

## ASOCIACIÓN GRUPO DE TRABAJO REDES

This Peruvian organization helps women in low-paying jobs improve their skills, raises awareness of women's rights to decent pay and working conditions, and advocates for the removal of children from the domestic labor market.

## BANGLADESH BUDDHIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Ven. Jivanananda Mahathero founded the Society in 1977 with a focus on dispensing humanitarian services to orphans, widows, and other people in need.

## BODHICITTA FOUNDATION

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

## BUILDING BRIDGES INDIA

Building Bridges India serves impoverished widows of farmers who have committed suicide, providing vocational training, health care, and other services.

## BURMA HUMANITARIAN MISSION

Burma Humanitarian Mission supports health-care, human rights, educational, and advocacy projects serving disadvantaged communities in Myanmar.

## CCREAD-CAMEROON

CCREAD-Cameroon has worked since 2006 to support marginalized and disadvantaged women and girls through education, health, and community empowerment projects.

## CENCUDER CAMEROON

This organization seeks to help rural youths and women improve their lives through education and training in life and vocational skills.

## CENWOR, THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S RESEARCH

This nonprofit nongovernmental organization, helps Sri Lankan women realize their full potential and achieve equality in all spheres of life.

## ECOLOGY ACTION OF THE MID-PENINSULA

Ecology Action promotes a small-scale agricultural system, Grow Biointensive, which increases crop yields and conserves resources.

## HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL

Helen Keller International, one of the world's oldest nonprofits, 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 undertakes international collaborative projects in agriculture aimed at reducing poverty.

## JAMYANG FOUNDATION

The Jamyang Foundation supports innovative educational projects for indigenous girls and women in the Indian Himalayas and the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh.



### JOAN ROSE FOUNDATION

The Joan Rose Foundation works in Haiti to serve impoverished children and their families by providing food, education, clothing, medicine, love, and support.

### KEEP GROWING DETROIT

Keep Growing Detroit promotes food sovereignty in Detroit by supporting residents in growing the fruits and vegetables consumed in the city.

### LOTUS OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL

Lotus Outreach International is dedicated to improving 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 children in the region.

### NORTH COUNTRY MISSION OF HOPE

The North Country Mission of Hope fosters hope and empowers the people of Nicaragua through sustainable programs in community development, ecological sustainability, education, and health care.

### OXFAM AMERICA

A member of the Oxfam International confederation, Oxfam America works to create innovative solutions to poverty, hunger, and social injustice in more than 90 countries.

### OXFAM INDIA

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

### RACHANA

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

### RECIPROCITY FOUNDATION

The Reciprocity Foundation offers counseling, vocational training and college preparation, and other wellness services to vulnerable New Yorkers including homeless youth, survivors of domestic violence, and others.

### TREES THAT FEED FOUNDATION

The Trees That Feed Foundation fights hunger and malnutrition by planting fruit-bearing trees that feed people, create jobs, and benefit the environment in twelve countries across the globe.

### VIETNAM RED CROSS

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.

### 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.

### WHITE LOTUS TRUST

White Lotus Trust is an educational nonprofit working to improve access to education for girls and other marginalized children in India.



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

*For over ten years, Buddhist Global Relief has been deeply committed to providing relief to the poor and needy throughout the world. To that end, we continually strive to use our resources with utmost efficiency in order to provide as much assistance as possible to our partners for the many projects that directly benefit hundreds of individuals and families in need.*

*During the fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018), our tenth year of service, BGR maintained the steady growth in donation revenue seen since its inception. Our revenues totaled \$718,032 as compared to \$637,337 in fiscal year 2017, an increase of 13%. Our expenditures totaled \$682,243 of which \$594,864, or 87%, were allocated to direct programs. Our administrative ratio was 4%, and another 9% was devoted to fundraising and promotional efforts.*

*As we conclude another year of work, we offer you, our contributors, our deepest gratitude for your continued support!*



## Statement of Activities

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

### REVENUE

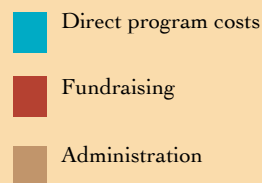
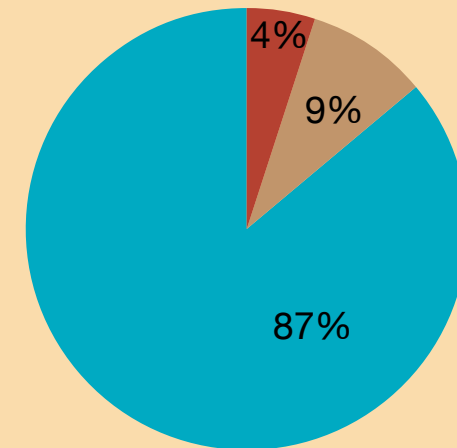
Individual & Business Contributions	\$ 585,470
Non-Profit Organization Contributions	21,534
Foundation Grants	109,504
Donated Goods & Services	1,369
Investment Income (Loss)	155
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 718,032</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Direct Program Costs	\$ 594,864
Administration	27,625
Fundraising	59,754
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>682,243</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>\$ 35,789</b>

Administration as a % of total revenue= 3.85%

## Expenses by Category



## Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2018

### ASSETS

Cash	
Checking	\$ 74,888
Savings	12,582
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>87,470</b>
Accounts Receivable	3,572
Other Current Assets	1,025
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 92,067</b>

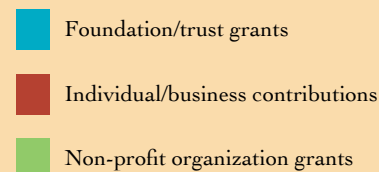
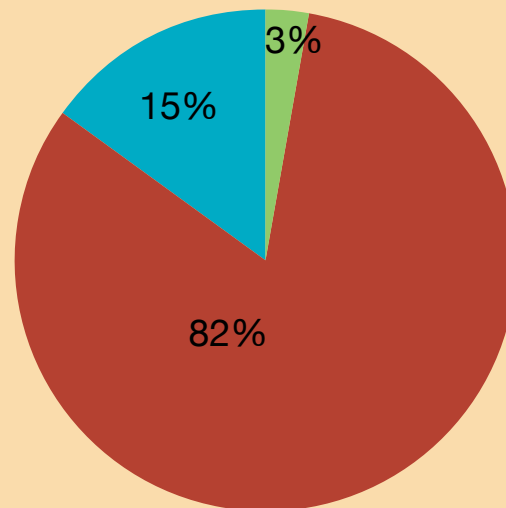
### LIABILITIES

Grants Payable	\$ 50,000
Accounts Payable	17,222
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 67,222</b>

### FUND BALANCES

Fund Balance Jul 1, 2017	(10,944)
Surplus	35,789
<b>Fund Balance Jun 30, 2018</b>	<b>24,845</b>
<b>Liabilities and Fund Balance</b>	<b>\$ 92,067</b>

## Revenue by Source



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Buddhist Global Relief would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their support and partnership during the 2018 fiscal year, July 2017 through June 2018. 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

Lynn & John Kelly  
 Ting Tsung & Wei Fong Chao Foundation  
 Joy L. Robinson  
 Anne D. & Ed Schmitt  
 Janice Sheppard

## \$50,000 or above

Patrick Okell  
 Siu Man & Shuk Yin Wong  
 Taihua Kathy Yen & Nelson Wu

## \$10,000 to \$29,999

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi  
 Robert Brown

Lydia K. & James Y. H. Chao  
 Allen Fu  
 Shoyo Taniguchi  
 Buddhist Peaceful Enlightenment, Inc.  
 Buddhist Council of Greater St. Louis

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

American Endowment Foundation  
 Amitabha Buddhist Society of USA  
 Tan Teo Charitable Foundation  
 The Unified Korean Buddhist Association  
 Maria Balsamo  
 James M. Forbes  
 Eleanor Heath  
 Annie Teng & Sokol Braha  
 Tom & Jody Chang  
 Norman & Lina Chang  
 Celia Pi-Yin Chen  
 George & Hanna Clapp  
 Andrew Charles Dwyer  
 Joseph Goldstein  
 Ruth Diane Gross  
 Thomas Huntington  
 Christopher Konczyk  
 Jeffrey P. Marcous  
 Khanh Nguyen

## \$2,500 to \$4,999

Buddhist Peaceful Enlightenment, Inc.  
 Buddhist Council of Greater St. Louis  
 Annie Teng & Sokol Braha  
 Tom & Jody Chang  
 Norman & Lina Chang  
 Celia Pi-Yin Chen  
 George & Hanna Clapp  
 Andrew Charles Dwyer  
 Joseph Goldstein  
 Ruth Diane Gross  
 Thomas Huntington  
 Christopher Konczyk  
 Jeffrey P. Marcous  
 Khanh Nguyen

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

Andrews Foundation  
 Bright Funds Foundation  
 Buddhist Association of the United States



China Buddhist Association  
 Community Foundation Santa Cruz County  
 Compassion Cultivation Foundation  
 Heart Of Compassion Zen  
 ImpactAssets  
 New Buddha Way  
 Sanghapala Foundation  
 Special Needs Trust FBO Nathan Dale Robnett  
 Trans World Buddhist Association  
 Ahmad Albahar  
 Joanne Barraclough  
 David Braughton  
 Thomas Brocher  
 Clair Brown  
 Po-Hui Chang  
 Fan Chau  
 Meichu Chen  
 Kathy Cheng  
 Jen Yao & Pei Lei Chung  
 Cathy Cole  
 William Davidson  
 John Dunning  
 Loan Duong  
 Robert Erck  
 Margaret Fisher & Jonathan Rosenthal  
 Dane Fredenburg  
 Ann Marie Pauline Fuller  
 Edward H. Haertel & Andrew M. Oman  
 Fang Hang  
 Ruthe Hay  
 Gary Jon Hill  
 Gael Ford Hoffman  
 Hillary Hsiang-Hui  
 Peggy Ingram  
 Manus J-Cheng



Eleanor Kaushik Katari  
 Abolghasem Khademolreza  
 Rachael Kilsby  
 Gregory Kramer  
 Stuart Krohn  
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 Jimmy Nguyen  
 Mindy Minh Nhieu  
 Krista O'Donnell  
 Andrew Rand & Sharon Yau  
 Rebecca L. Rhine &  
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 Michael Roehm  
 Sharon Salzberg  
 Paul Schlaud  
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 Phoebe Signer  
 Thomas Spies  
 Carla Thomas  
 Jules Tuyes  
 Julie Wagner  
 Hsien T. & Chia L. Wang  
 Xudong Wu  
 Fun Sun & Baw Chyr Yao  
 Yuhui & John  
 Zhou-McGovern  
 Tian Way

**\$500 to \$999**

Budding Flower Sangha  
 Chung Tai Zen Center of  
 Sunnyvale  
 IBM Contribution  
 Campaign Employee  
 Charitable  
 Lao Lane Xang Temple of  
 Connecticut  
 Mindful Heart  
 Buddha Sangha  
 Santi Stupa  
 The Stull Family Foundation  
 Darin Arita  
 Janine Bloch &  
 Thomas Dewit  
 Christine Bond  
 Catherine Brousseau  
 Anna Buschmann  
 Joshua Capitanio  
 Laura Chan  
 Michael Chang  
 Mazviita Chirimuuta  
 Cathy Cole  
 Larry H. & Barbara Diamond  
 Dana Docherty  
 Bonnie Duran  
 Dale Farris  
 Jason Fenn  
 Sean Paul Fernandez  
 Chee Sheng Fong  
 Julia Gies  
 Chris Gilbreth  
 Thomas E. Green  
 Janet Gyatso  
 Janet Heck  
 Gen Heng



Ray-Ren Huang  
 Gail Inaba  
 Mary Ann Jankord  
 Kanewela Jayasekera  
 Lois Jones  
 N. Jones  
 Gayle & Michael Klaybor  
 Doug C. & Lee A. Ko  
 Mary Ann Koch  
 Dulik Kohomange  
 Robert Kolodny  
 Budi Satria Kompoi  
 Rokuzan Kroenke  
 Shweta Kunwar  
 Fung Len Ong &  
 John L. Lee  
 Xiaoping Lin  
 David Loy  
 Savanna Luraschi  
 Martin Mantalvanos  
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 Patricia McWilliams  
 Kathleen Miller  
 Manu Miriyagalla  
 Franklin S. Morgan

Karen Mori  
 Diep Nguyen-Van Houtte  
 Shou-Ling Peng  
 Crystal Vananh Phi  
 Jefferson C. & Hsiuju Phi  
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 Robert Vu Truong  
 John Ungvarsky  
 Austin Wang  
 Trip Weil  
 William A Williams  
 Ernest Wong  
 Jufang Wong  
 Lisa & Robert Wong  
 Suresh Yadav  
 Man-Li Yeh  
 Lauren Zane

*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 many of you with a general statement of gratitude for your 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 you from the above list, we offer our sincere apologies.*



## HOW YOU CAN HELP

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 ONLINE

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.







### WALK WITH US

Organize 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 [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.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 online 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  
[www.buddhistglobalrelief.me](http://www.buddhistglobalrelief.me)



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**pp. 12-13:** Burma Humanitarian Mission  
(Myanmar)

**pp. 14-15:** Centre for Women's Research  
(CENWOR, Sri Lanka)

**p. 28:** Asociación Civil Sin Fines de Lucro  
WAWA SONQO (Peru)

**p. 29:** White Lotus Trust (India)

**p. 30:** Top: International Cooperation Center  
of Thai Nguyen University (Vietnam);  
bottom: What If? Foundation (Haiti)

**p. 31:** Left: Arts Creation Foundation  
for Children (Haiti);  
Right: CENCUDER (Cameroon)

A very special thank you for your tremendous dedication, hard work, and generosity in making this important work possible! Your efforts create ripples of blessings that allow Buddhist Global Relief to help hundreds of thousands of people in need. Together, we will continue to work to support individuals and families in need and end the cycle of poverty—one step at a time.



**buddhist global relief**

*“If beings knew, as I know, the result of giving and sharing, they would not eat without having given, nor would they allow the stain of meanness to obsess them and take root in their minds. Even if it were their last morsel, their last mouthful, they would not eat without having shared it, if there were someone to share it with.” —Itivuttaka 26*

**Buddhist Global Relief**

2020 Route 301 Carmel NY 10512 USA

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

