

# BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF



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ANNUAL REPORT



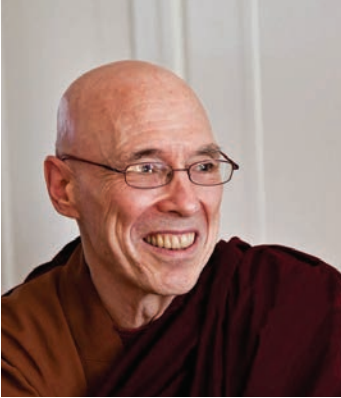
**buddhist global relief**



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## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi

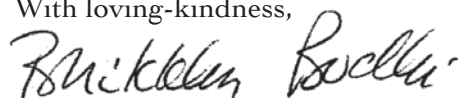
Although this annual report covers BGR's projects and activities during our fiscal year 2019, I am writing this message in August 2020, a time when the coronavirus has spread across the world, infecting at least 20 million people and racking up a global death count that already exceeds 700,000. While the virus is no respecter of nations or persons, those countries where people follow the call of social responsibility have curbed the number of infections and fatalities. Those that flout this call have seen the dreaded numbers rise ever higher.

A parallel situation applies to chronic hunger and malnutrition. While hunger is certainly not contagious, our common need for food reminds us that we each live in inseparable unity with others and, through our conduct, have a definite impact on their well-being. Both the virus and hunger reveal that we live in an interconnected world in which our own choices and actions have far-reaching consequences, even determining whether others live or die. From a moral point of view, it is unconscionable that, while some revel in lives of luxury, close to 900 million people live in perpetual food insecurity, with about 6 million dying each year from causes related to chronic hunger.

Eliminating global hunger is a formidable challenge, but we each can do our part to help others escape this terrible fate. Since its founding, in 2008, Buddhist Global Relief has been doing its part, lending a helping hand to people clear across the planet, from Mongolia to the Americas, pulling them back from the cliff of chronic hunger and malnutrition. This report highlights our projects of FY 2019, which have not only provided food relief but have instilled in their beneficiaries a sense of their own potential strength and inner worth.

For all that we have accomplished, as recorded in this report, we thank our dedicated Board members, capable staff, many volunteers, and especially our donors, whose compassion and generosity have made these achievements possible. May all of you who have contributed in any way to the work of BGR be blessed with the joy of knowing that your efforts have uplifted the lives of thousands, inspiring in them fresh hope and purpose!

With loving-kindness,



Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our donors for once again supporting Buddhist Global Relief during fiscal year 2019. BGR's work continues to be critical as global issues unrelentingly exacerbate world hunger. Amid crises around the world, our goal is and has always been to serve and uplift those most in need, regardless of faith, culture, or geographical location.

In our eleventh year of service, BGR's mission of helping the world's poor continues to resonate with a growing number of donors and supporters. During fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019), our revenues totaled \$1,291,559, as compared to \$718,032 in fiscal year 2018. This year's figure, representing an 80 percent increase over last year, includes a single large donation of \$600,000 that will fund projects over three years, at the amount of \$200,000 per year. Our expenditures totaled \$829,684, of which \$738,122, or 89 percent, were allocated to direct programs. Our administrative ratio was 4 percent, and another 7 percent was devoted to fundraising efforts.

Your generous support directly impacts the lives of those in need. When we feed the children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, many of whom walk several miles to receive their only meal for the day; offer scholarships to girls so they are not forced to drop out of school to work to support their families; and provide vocational training to single mothers, many of whom are the first to rise and the last to go to bed so they can take care of their children, we know that our efforts have indeed been worthwhile.

All of us at Buddhist Global Relief are honored to serve tens of thousands of women and children, a privilege that fills our lives with joy. Our strength and resilience in these difficult times lie in the kindness and generosity of people like you — our Dharma community of donors and supporters. We are committed to doing our best to respond to the needs of the world's most vulnerable people, but we cannot do this without your support. Please consider making a generous gift today to ensure those who need it most can receive a helping hand at this critical moment. Now more than ever, we are grateful to have you as partners in our work.

With gratitude,



Kim Behan



Kim Behan



## 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.

# WHERE WE SERVE



**Caribbean**  
Haiti

**Central America**  
Nicaragua

**South America**  
Brazil  
Peru



**North America**  
Detroit, MI  
Easton, PA

**Africa**  
Cameroon  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Kenya  
Senegal  
Sudan  
Tanzania  
Uganda



**Southeast Asia**  
Myanmar  
Cambodia  
Vietnam

**South Asia**  
Bangladesh  
India  
Sri Lanka



**Asia**  
Mongolia

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.



TRAINING IN  
SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE  
METHODS FOR WOMEN



# CAMBODIA



THE COMMON PROJECT REDUCES FOOD INSECURITY  
AND HUNGER BY FOCUSING ON TRAININGS FOR MOTHERS AND  
CAREGIVERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN.





In Cambodia's Preah Vihear province, 37 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, and food insecurity and child undernutrition are widespread. In the Choam Ksant district, 35 percent of children under 5 experience chronic malnutrition, and 6.7 percent are affected by acute malnutrition.

BGR's partner in this project, the U.S.-based Action Against Hunger, has created a responsive project to address the complex web of factors contributing to food insecurity and hunger in this district. Working in partnership with members of the local community, Action Against Hunger has developed the Community-Oriented Multisector Mechanism on Nutrition (COMMON) project. BGR's grant funded the project's food security and livelihoods component, supporting sustainable solutions to the major causes of undernutrition in the region.

Through this grant, mothers and caregivers of children under 5 received a series of trainings in agroecology and home gardening focusing on such topics as crop diversification, land preparation, crop rotation and intercropping techniques, water management, and pest and disease control. A second training series introduced a variety of non-GMO climate-resilient rice that resulted in increased crop yields and reduced time between harvests.

Mrs. Sarun Ean, a 33-year-old mother of four, received training in home cultivation as well as vegetable seeds for use in her home garden, where she now grows crops including two eggplant varieties, long bean, papaya, basil, and several other vegetables for daily cooking. Her garden's harvests feed her family with a variety of vegetables and also provide a small income of \$25 to \$30 a month, which she uses to purchase meat, fish, and eggs for her family.

Before she joined the COMMON project in 2017, Mrs. Tim Nat, 47, often relied on donations from NGOs to make ends meet. After participating in trainings in soil preparation, intercropping, and integrated pest management, she has greatly expanded her small farm's production and now earns \$300 to \$450 a month from the sale of her organic produce. She has taught farming techniques both to local and commune-level government officials and to several other families in her village. She expressed with pride that she no longer depends on donations but is now a self-sufficient farmer.

MEALS FOR  
SCHOOLCHILDREN  
IN TAMIL NADU



# INDIA



**STUDENTS AT THE GARDEN OF PEACE SCHOOL  
RECEIVE TWO NUTRITIOUS MEALS A DAY AS WELL AS UNIFORMS,  
TRANSPORTATION, AND BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS, MAKING  
EDUCATION MORE ACCESSIBLE FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.**





The Garden of Peace school, located on a 5.6-acre organic farm just outside of Kurumbupalayam village in Tamil Nadu, India, provides 174 schoolchildren with an education and two healthy meals each day. The holistic educational program includes not only the traditional primary school curriculum, but also training in meditation and philosophies of nonviolence. This project with trusted BGR partner Lotus Outreach provided nutritional support for all Garden of Peace students, more than half of whom are girls, as well as 15 staff members.

Many of the local population of Kurumbupalayam are bricklayers and smallholder farmers who often rely on their children's labor. Many children therefore work rather than go to school. The Garden of Peace makes schooling more accessible for low-income families by providing the children with two nutritious meals a day as well as school uniforms, transportation, and books and other materials. The students and their parents are also involved in farm activities, helping to grow a portion of the food served at the school. Further, the program offers outreach to parents, emphasizing the benefits of formal education.

Siblings Shivani and Gurukeshavan are in fifth and fourth grade at Garden of Peace. Both of their parents have left home, so the children live with their grandmother and receive their primary nutritional support at school. Shivani is an excellent student and consistently scores at the top of her class.

Vasanth and his sister Karthiga are the children of brick-makers who often work at night and in the early hours of the morning, leaving the children at home alone. Their father, Sathish, believed he could not afford to send his children to school. When he and his wife learned that children could study at Garden of Peace at no cost, they enrolled Vasanth in the school. They were so pleased with the education Vasanth received there that they enrolled Karthiga as well.



IMPROVING  
PRENATAL AND  
POSTPARTUM CARE



# KENYA



OUR PARTNER IMPROVED HEALTH-CARE SYSTEMS  
AND TRAINED HUNDREDS OF HEALTH WORKERS, BENEFITING  
MORE THAN 31,000 WOMEN AND NEARLY 145,000 CHILDREN.



More than a third of Kenya's population lives below the international poverty line. Stunting due to malnutrition affects more than a quarter of children and is a leading contributor to an infant mortality rate that is over 4 percent. In Kakamega County, in western Kenya, more than half of the population lives below the poverty line.

In this final year of a three-year project funded entirely by BGR, our partner Helen Keller International (HKI) worked with the Ministry of Health and Action Against Hunger to deliver proven programs to reach mothers, infants, and children in need of nutritional assistance at critical developmental stages. The project trained 858 health workers (532 women) in maternity care and provided prenatal care for 31,094 women.

The project also trained community leaders, volunteers, and health workers to provide breastfeeding and postpartum support, and nine mother-to-mother support groups were formed within this initiative. Nutrition education and services were provided to 228 adults (172 women) and 221 children. Additional outreach efforts provided vitamin A supplementation, immunization, and malnutrition screenings for 144,453 children under 5. At the project's end, the percentage of women in the county receiving at least four prenatal care visits had risen from 33.8 percent to 53.75 percent. The share of women who gave birth with the support of a skilled health practitioner increased by 8 percent.

Lynah Naskie Waliaula was experiencing abdominal pain during her pregnancy with her fourth child when she learned about HKI's programming in Kakamega County. At a mother-to-mother support group facilitated by a community health worker, Lynah was referred to a local health center, where she was examined and found to be healthy. After the birth of her son a few months later, she received breastfeeding support from the same group of mothers. Lynah continued to attend meetings, and in time she became a leader in the group, gladly sharing her learning about maternity and postpartum care with others in her community. "The group has helped me," she said. "The mothers are very open with each other about whatever issues they are having. It's a safe space to bring up subjects that women might feel uncomfortable discussing elsewhere."



FOOD AND  
SUPPORT  
FOR CHILDREN



# MONGOLIA



AT ASRAL CENTER, CHILDREN RECEIVE A DAILY MEAL AS WELL AS TUTORING AND THE SOCIAL SUPPORT THEY NEED TO STAY IN SCHOOL AND FEEL CONFIDENT ABOUT THEIR FUTURE.





The Asral NGO was established in 2001 by Tibetan Buddhist monk Ven. Panchen Ötrul Rinpoche to support families affected by poverty and hunger in the poorest sections of Ulanbaatar, Mongolia's capital city. Asral is Mongolian for "care."

A project with BGR partner Maitreya Charity provided nutritious lunch meals, tutoring in math and English, social work services, and health/hygiene instruction for 34 schoolchildren (19 girls), ages 6 to 17, at the Asral Center. For many of the children, this lunch was the only substantial meal of the day.

Namuunaa is an eighth grader who has moved among relatives' homes following the death of her father and disappearance of her mother. She earns her board by providing child care and doing housework, leaving her with little time for her studies. She comes to the Asral Center after school for food, friendship, and a quiet place to study. A good student who is interested in the social sciences, Namuunaa suffers from digestive issues and was in need of dental care. Often in the winter she would arrive at the Center without proper shoes. In addition to providing food and academic support, the Asral Center found a donor to pay for dental care for Namuunaa and provided her with suitable clothes for school.

Siblings Egshiglen, 11, and Enkhtur, 6, live with their widowed mother and their grandmother. The mother's speech disability prevents her from finding regular employment, but she cleans the children's school in exchange for books and other necessities for her children's education. The family's ger tent is heated with collected garbage because the family cannot afford to buy coal, and the children do not have adequate winter clothes.

Both eager students, Egshiglen enjoys her Mongolian language classes and Enkhtur likes his math classes. The children come to the Asral Center for meals, school supplies, and the social support they need to remain in school and to feel positive about their future.

VOCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR  
VULNERABLE  
DOMESTIC LABORERS



# PERU



**OUR PARTNER EDUCATED WOMEN ABOUT THEIR  
LABOR RIGHTS, PROVIDED VOCATIONAL TRAINING, AND OFFERED  
COUNSELING AND JOB-SEARCH ASSISTANCE.**





Across the globe, millions of women who work as domestic laborers fall into an unregulated “gray market” where jobs may require them to work long hours, for inadequate wages, often under exploitative conditions. Many are also vulnerable to physical abuse or sexual harassment or violence by their employers. In Peru, women who live in the *pueblos jóvenes* (shantytowns) surrounding Lima are often excluded from the mainstream job market. Many of these women work in gray-market domestic jobs like housecleaning, child care, and elder care.

With its project, “Conditional Capabilities: Providing Marginalized Women Access to Vocational Educational Training, Labor Rights, and Dignified Work,” BGR partner Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes (AGTR) is changing the lives of these women. Working from AGTR’s community center, La Casa de Panchita, and from a mobile training unit, specialists educated women about their labor rights, provided training in vocational and interpersonal skills, offered counseling and job-search assistance, and hosted a variety of workshops and educational opportunities.

Several of AGTR’s training participants spoke about the value of the community created by AGTR. “After taking part in AGTR’s and La Casa de Panchita’s workshops, I feel more comfortable with myself,” Verónica said. “I felt understood there, because other domestic workers also went through the same difficulties I had to face. I have learned to value my work experience and the knowledge I have acquired in recent years, to organize myself better in my work, and to know how to adapt to the customs of my new employers.”

Through her participation in AGTR’s trainings, Victoria found a new confidence in herself. “Here I learned that I have rights; before, I knew nothing about rights,” she said. “Also, I have learned to value domestic work, not to feel less than others, that one should not be ashamed for being a domestic worker. I had never thought about how many years I have been working and how much I have learned from those years working in domestic service.”

AGTR estimates that each of the 2,197 women who participated in trainings and other services shared what she learned with five peers, raising the total estimated number of beneficiaries to more than 10,000.



# PROJECTS IN BRIEF



## ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

*Improving Agricultural Diversification and Food Access in Cambodia (See feature article, p. 6)*

Provided training in agroecology, home gardening, and climate-resilient rice production to farmers in the Preah Vihear province in Cambodia.



## BANGLADESH BUDDHIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY

*Food Support for a School of Orphans in Bangladesh*

Provided twelve months of food support for 55 children from destitute families living at BBMS's Orphans' Home Complex in the rural Chittagong Hills region.



## BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY STUDIES AND SUPPORT

*Healthy Vegetarian Meals in São Paulo, Brazil*

Supported a communal kitchen promoting healthy diets among low-income residents. Ten people were trained in nutrition education and the preparation of healthy vegetarian and organic foods; they shared their knowledge with the wider community at schools, health clinics, and other local sites.



## ART CREATION FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN

*Meals for Hungry Schoolchildren in Haiti*

Provided 34 students with at least one nutritious meal per day, six days per week. For many of the students, these meals were their only opportunity to eat that day.



## BODHICITTA FOUNDATION

*A Girls' Home and Women's Social Service Center in India*

In the second year of a three-year project, BGR supported education and vocational training for 30 teenage girls at risk of having their education cut short and of being forced into early marriage due to poverty. The grant also supported Bodhicitta's food program for children in need.



## BURMA HUMANITARIAN MISSION

*Education of Medics' Children in Thailand/Myanmar*

Supported the education of 55 children of backpack medics who provide mobile medical care to isolated ethnic villages and internally displaced person camps in Myanmar. The school is located in Mae Sot, Thailand, removed from the violence in Myanmar. Also funded food for the staff's children in Mae Sot for the year.



## ASOCIACIÓN GRUPO DE TRABAJO REDES

*Support for Domestic Laborers in Peru (See feature article, p. 14)*

Educated female domestic workers about their legal rights and provided skills training to enable them to get better paying jobs, thereby directly helping them and their families and protecting them from exploitation and abuse by their employers.



### CENCUDER CAMEROON

#### *Feeding Program for Schoolchildren in Cameroon*

Provided nutritious hot meals for 95 undernourished children attending the local Ebase-Bajoh primary school, in the Kupe-Muanenguba division of southwest Cameroon. The feeding program has increased enrollment and lowered dropout rates, especially among girls.



### CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CCREAD-CAMEROON)

#### *Vocational Training for Single Mothers and Marginalized Women in Cameroon*

Provided vocational training for 348 women, including women with disabilities, widows, single mothers, and teenage mothers, in Mile 16 Bolifamba, an underserved community in Cameroon.



### CENWOR—THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S RESEARCH

#### *Livelihood Training for People with Disabilities in Sri Lanka*

Offered vocational training, entrepreneurship workshops, counseling, and financial support for 60 vulnerable women, including sex workers, women with disabilities, and female heads of households.



### COMMUNITY RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION (COREDA)

#### *Education of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Cameroon*

Provided food support for 60 orphans and other underprivileged children in the semi-urban slums of Tiko, in southwest Cameroon.



### EASTON AREA NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS

#### *Easton Urban Farm in Easton, PA*

Supported a community garden on which volunteers grow vegetables, fruits, and seedlings for distribution to low-income residents of Easton. The farm provides an estimated 3,000 pounds of nutritious, locally grown produce to food-insecure families each year.



### ECOLOGY ACTION

#### *Training Farmers in Climate-Resistant Agriculture Methods in Kenya*

Trained 600 women farmers in sustainable agriculture methods at the Grow Biointensive Center of Kenya.



### ECOLOGY ACTION

#### *A Grow Biointensive Agricultural Center in Malawi*

Expanded the Grow Biointensive Center of Kenya's sister organization in Malawi, training farmers in climate-resistant agriculture methods including composting, seed banking, soil and water conservation, and rainwater harvesting.



### HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL

#### *Improving Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in Kenya (See feature article, p. 10)*

This was the third year of a three-year project that addressed infant and childhood mortality by expanding health delivery and nutrition interventions to more than 250,000 mothers, infants, and children in Western Kenya.





**HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL**

*Improving Nutrition Among Children in Côte d'Ivoire*

This was the third year of a three-year project that improved nutrition for pregnant women, infants, and children in the Korhogo District of Côte d'Ivoire. The program offered training in maternal nutrition, breastfeeding, supplemental feeding, and food preparation.



**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION CENTER**

*Supporting Smallholder SRI Rice Producers in Vietnam*

Supported farmers in adopting System of Rice Intensification (SRI) methods of climate-resilient agriculture by creating opportunities for farmers to share their experiences and innovations with each other and to find solutions to their challenges.



**KEEP GROWING DETROIT**

*Creating a Food-Sovereign City in Detroit, MI*

Supported more than 24,000 Detroiters in 1,600 urban gardens and farms across the city through KGD's Garden Resource Program. Also connected 1,225 new low-income households to resources that expanded their access to healthy food.



**HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL**

*Expanding Household Food Production in Vietnam*

In the third year of a three-year project, BGR supported the expansion of the successful Enhanced Homestead Food Production program, providing agricultural inputs and hands-on agricultural training to 600 new households in Hoa Binh and Lai Chau provinces.



**JAMYANG FOUNDATION**

*School Lunches for Girls in Bangladesh*

Provided food support for 121 students at Visakha Girls' School, which serves disadvantaged girls from the remote village of Dhoshri and surrounding villages. The project reduced not only malnutrition but also dropout rates among these female students.



**LOTUS OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL**

*Rice Support in Cambodia*

Provided rice support to 105 female students receiving scholarships through Lotus Outreach's educational programs for girls and young women, as well as 390 kindergarten-age students. The project helps a population affected by food insecurity while also freeing up limited familial resources for the children's educations.



**JOAN ROSE FOUNDATION**

*Food Program for Vulnerable Children in Haiti*

Provided two nutritious meals, five days a week, to 93 children and 37 adults in Jacmel, Haiti. For many of these children, these meals were their primary source of nutrition during the week.



### LOTUS OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL

*Nutritional Support for Garden of Peace School in India (See feature article, p. 8)*

Provided nutritional support for students and staff at Garden of Peace School, located on an organic farm just outside Kurumbupalayam village in Tamil Nadu. BGR funded school uniforms, books and other materials, transportation, and nutritional support twice a day for all 174 students, more than half girls.



### LOTUS OUTREACH INTERNATIONAL

*Scholarship Program for Young Women in Cambodia*

Provided scholarships covering tuition, medical services, housing, textbooks, and school supplies for 16 young women studying at universities and vocational training centers through Lotus Outreach's CATALYST program.



### MAITREYA CHARITY

*Hot Lunches for Schoolchildren in Mongolia (See feature article, p. 12)*

Provided nutritious meals for 32 schoolchildren in Ulaanbaatar, as well as mentoring, educational supplies, disease prevention training, basic hygiene instruction, clothing, vitamins, social activities, and games.



### MOANOGHAR

*Permanent Dormitory for Boy Students in the Chittagong Hill Tracts in Bangladesh*

This was the third year of a three-year project funding the construction of a dormitory at Moanoghar's school for children affected by conflict or living in remote areas. The new dormitory—named *Shanti Bhavan* (House of Peace)—will house 120 boy students.



### NORTH COUNTRY MISSION OF HOPE

*Educational Sponsorship of Girls in Nicaragua*

Sponsored the education of 112 girls and young women, providing tuition and/or registration fees, schoolbooks, clothing, and basic medical care. Five of the students are attending university.



### OXFAM AMERICA

*Helping Farmers Affected by Conflict and Drought in Sudan*

Provided agricultural tools and training in improved farming techniques to 500 local farmers in the western part of South Darfur State. Many were displaced by violence and recently returned to rural areas to reestablish their livelihoods.



### OXFAM INDIA

*Supporting Smallholder Women Farmers in India*

The third year of a three-year project funded training in climate-resilient agricultural methods and in the production of nutritionally rich crop varieties for 75 women farmers, many Dalit (the former "untouchables"), in 25 villages in Lakhimpur Kheri, Uttar Pradesh.



### RACHANA

*Socioeconomic Well-Being for Vulnerable Communities in Cambodia*

Provided training for 1,230 impoverished family farmers in thirteen villages in Treang district of Takeo. The training was in climate-resilient rice and vegetable cultivation techniques, thereby furthering food security and better living conditions.





### RECIPROCITY FOUNDATION

*Meals for the Vulnerable in New York City*

Provided high-quality vegetarian meals along with workshops on nutrition, food shopping, and meal preparation to vulnerable New Yorkers, including survivors of domestic violence, homeless families, new immigrants, veterans, LGBTQ persons, and those facing long-term chronic illness or pain.



### VIETNAM RED CROSS

*Meals for Patients in Tam Binh Hospital in Vietnam*

Provided thousands of free meals to patients in need at Tam Binh hospital. In Vietnam, the price of a hospital stay does not include food. Already facing hospital costs, most patients and their families are hard-pressed to buy food, so necessary to recover from illness.



### WHAT IF? FOUNDATION

*Education for Children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti*

The third year of a three-year project sponsored staff training and school supplies for children at the Father Jeri School in Port-au-Prince, helping to prepare these children for a healthy, productive future.



### TREES THAT FEED FOUNDATION

*Meals for Primary School Students in Haiti and Jamaica*

Provided 36,000 breakfast meals to 900 children, ages 5 to 10, at five schools in Jamaica and five in Haiti. The meals are a healthy porridge primarily made from breadfruit, an environmentally sustainable crop grown by local farmers. The project included a 40-page coloring book that taught children about the benefits of planting trees.



### VIETNAM RED CROSS

*Scholarships for Children in Need in Vietnam*

Provided scholarships to 705 students in primary, middle, and high school in the Tam Binh and Cam Duong districts of Vietnam. The project covered annual enrollment fees, school uniforms, books, and educational materials for the school year.



### WHAT IF? FOUNDATION

*Meals for Hungry Children in Haiti*

Provided life-sustaining nutrition to children in the Ti Plas Kazo community of Port-au-Prince. About 1,000 meals were distributed each weekday. For many children, this was the only substantial meal of the day, and many children walked miles just to receive this meal.



### WAWA SONQO

*Improving Nutrition for Children and Families in Peru*

Trained families in the cultivation, preparation, processing, and preservation of fruits and vegetables to promote long-term food autonomy. Many children and young people in the Palomar sector of the Ch'illka community in the Andean foothills face malnutrition.

# COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN

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



## CFC Locations

Hawaii CFC  
Southern California CFC  
Northern California CFC  
Cascadia CFC Zone  
Chesapeake Bay Area CFC  
Desert Southwest CFC  
Eastern Pennsylvania/Southern New Jersey CFC  
Garden Empire CFC  
Greater New York CFC  
Heartland CFC  
Mountain States CFC  
Midwestern CFC  
Mississippi Delta/Gulf Coastal Plains CFC  
National Capital Area/Northern Virginia CFC  
New England CFC  
Northern Lights CFC  
North Texas CFC  
Ohio CFC  
Oklahoma & North Texas Panhandle CFC  
Overseas CFC  
Pacific Northwest CFC  
Peachbelt CFC  
Sunshine CFC  
Western Pennsylvania & West Virginia CFC



Once again this year, BGR participated in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), the 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 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 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.



# WALKS TO FEED THE HUNGRY

NEW YORK, NY



Each year since 2010, hundreds of people across the United States and around the world have come together in compassionate action to support Buddhist Global Relief through our Walk to Feed the Hungry fundraisers.

In 2018, we gathered in U.S. cities from San Diego, California, to Portland, Maine, and in countries including England, Cambodia, and India. We came with our Sanghas, with family members and neighbors, with old friends and new. We reached out to our local communities, inviting them to donate or to join us.

Together, participants in this year's Walks raised over \$100,000 for BGR projects to feed those who are hungry, to educate girls and young women, to support sustainable agriculture, and to empower vulnerable women.

We are grateful for the devoted efforts of our Walk coordinators; our team members, advisors, board, and staff; and all of the volunteers whose generosity and commitment made the Walks possible.

We thank all who walked with us, in body or in spirit, and all who donated to support BGR's work to end hunger. Together, we are making a difference.

BERKELEY, CA



PORTLAND, OR



SAN JOSE, CA



HOUSTON, TX







**WILLINGTON, CT**



**HAMPSHIRE, U.K.**



**SAN DIEGO, CA**



**SEATTLE, WA**



**ST. LOUIS, MO**



**MILFORD, MI**



# PARTNERSHIPS FOR HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## ACTION AGAINST HUNGER

For 40 years, across nearly 50 countries, the nonprofit Action Against Hunger has been a leader in the global fight against hunger.

## 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 providing 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 activities to the Dalit community in Nagpur, India.

## BRAZILIAN INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY STUDIES AND SUPPORT (IBEAC)

IBEAC is a nongovernmental organization operating since 2008 in five neighborhoods in Parelheiros, in the south of São Paulo, a peripheral area with extremely low socioeconomic status.

## BURMA HUMANITARIAN MISSION

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

## CENCUDER CAMEROON

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

## CENTRE FOR COMMUNITY REGENERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (CCREAD-CAMEROON)

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

## CENWOR—THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S RESEARCH

This nonprofit nongovernmental organization provides resources for Sri Lankan women in need to realize their full potential and achieve equality in all spheres of life.

## COMMUNITY RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION (COREDA)

This nonprofit has been actively providing support services for vulnerable communities in the Southwest and Northwest provinces of Cameroon since 2009.

## EASTON AREA NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS

Through its Easton Urban Farm, Easton Area Neighborhood Centers, Inc., provides produce to low-income residents of the city of Easton, Pennsylvania.

## ECOLOGY ACTION

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

## HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL

One of the world's oldest nonprofits, Helen Keller International 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 was established in 2013 to promote a “food sovereign” city, in which a major portion of the fruits and vegetables Detroiters consume are grown by residents within the city’s limits, and residents are empowered to make decisions about the health, wealth, and future of their families and community.

### 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.

### MAITREYA CHARITY

Maitreya Charity supports Asral NGO, a Mongolian non-profit established in 2001 under the auspices of Ven. Panchen Ötrul Rinpoche with the objective of keeping families together and preventing children from going onto the streets.

### 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 an autonomous 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.

### WAWA SONQO

Asociación Civil sin Fines de Lucro Wawa Sonqo was founded in 2006 in Cusco, Peru, with a mission of breaking the cycle of poverty that affects 24 percent of Cusco’s population.

### 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.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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, which directly benefit thousands of individuals and families in need.

During the fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019), our eleventh year of service, BGR maintained the steady growth in donation revenue seen since its inception. Our revenues totaled \$1,291,559 as compared to \$718,032 in fiscal year 2018, an increase of 80 percent, as 2019 revenue included a single large donation of \$600,000, which is to be allocated in portions of \$200,000 annually over a three-year period. Our expenditures totaled \$829,684, of which \$738,122, or 89 percent, were allocated to direct programs. Our administrative ratio was 4 percent, and another 7 percent was devoted to fundraising efforts.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support!



## Statement of Activities

July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

### REVENUE

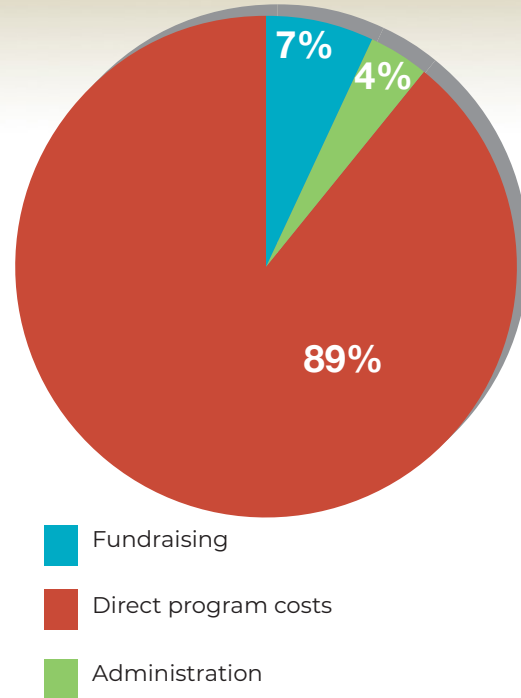
Individual & Business Contributions	\$ 522,175
Nonprofit Organization Contributions	18,288
Foundation Grants	749,894
Donated Goods & Services	1,452
Investment Income (Loss)	<u>(250)</u>
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 1,291,559</u>

### EXPENDITURES

Direct Program Costs	\$ 738,122
Administration	29,973
Fundraising	<u>61,589</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>829,684</u>
Surplus	<u>\$ 461,875</u>

Administration as a % of total revenue = 2%

## Expenses by Category



## Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2019

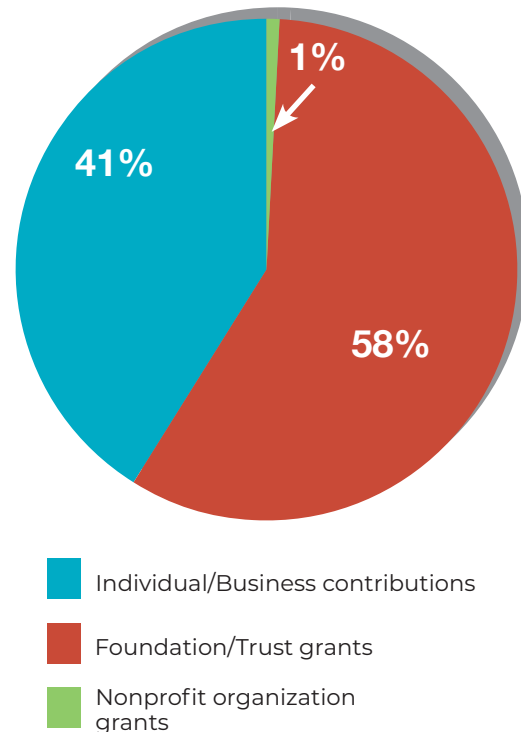
### ASSETS

Cash	
Checking	\$154,226
Savings	<u>12,740</u>
Total Cash	166,966
Accounts Receivable	194,175
Other Assets	<u>190,527</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 551,668</u>

### LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Liabilities	
Grants Payable	\$64,316
Accounts Payable	<u>632</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 64,948</u>
Fund Balances	
Fund Balance Jul 1, 2018	24,845
Surplus	<u>461,875</u>
Fund Balance Jun 30, 2019	<u>486,720</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 551,668</u>

## Revenue by Source\*



\* Revenues for fiscal year 2019 include a single large pledge of \$600,000 from a foundation. In a typical year over 80% of BGR's revenues are from individuals and businesses.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Buddhist Global Relief's work is dependent on the individuals and organizations who support us financially. Your generous donations provide direct food aid, support the education of children in need, empower women and girls, and provide training in sustainable agricultural methods to improve food security and relieve hunger worldwide.

We are honored to publicly thank the following individuals and organizations for their support and partnership during the 2019 fiscal year, July 2018 through June 2019. We wish that we could include the names of everyone who has contributed to our work this year; may the merits of your offerings spread joy throughout the world!

Each donor is important to us. If your name is not listed correctly, please accept our apologies and notify us by emailing us at [info@buddhistglobalrelief.org](mailto:info@buddhistglobalrelief.org).

## \$100,000 or above

Anonymous

## \$50,000 or above

Patrick Okell

## \$30,000 or above

Yin Shun Foundation

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

Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi

Henry Chang Memorial Fund

Peter Farnum & Christine Dean

Thomas E. Green

Tam-san Nguyen

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

### Organizations

Amitabha Buddhist Society of USA

Tan Teo Charitable Foundation

The Unified Korean Buddhist Association

### Individuals

Maria Balsamo

Robert Brown

Eleanor Heath

Lynn & John Kelly

Kerri Meelia

Joy L. Robinson

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

### Organizations

Buddhist Association of the US

Mid-America Buddhist Association

New Buddha Way

### Individuals

Ahmad Albahar

David Braughton

Celia Pi-Yin Chen

Meichu Chen

George Clapp

Ann Marie Pauline Fuller

Ruth Diane Gross

Fang Hang

Jonathan W. Jarvis

Lenore Madeleine

Kathleen Miller

Khanh Nguyen

Anne D. & Ed Schmitt

Christopher Sprinzyk

Gavin Towler

Gail Zivin



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

### Organizations

Andrews Foundation

Bodhi Tree Construction Inc

Buddhist Peaceful Enlightenment, Inc.

Compassion Cultivation Foundation

Hip Yue Enterprises, Inc.

IBM Employee Charitable Contribution Campaign

ImpactAssets

Insight Sangha

Maha Bodhi Society of India

Mindful Heart Buddha Sangha

Robert Erck Charitable Fund

Sanghapala Foundation, Abhayagiri Buddhist Monastery

Trans World Buddhist Association

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 Phoebe Signer  
 Yin Kit Sik  
 Chade-meng Tan  
 Steven Tanksley  
 Annie Teng & Sokol  
 Braha  
 Hsien T. & Chia L. Wang  
 Tian Way  
 Frances Wey (Ven. Ci Hu)  
 Fun Sun & Baw Chyr Yao  
 Man-Li Yeh  
 Yuhui Zhou & John  
 McGovern

**\$500-\$999**  
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 Buddha Path  
 Buffalo Mindfulness  
 Cambridge Insight  
 Meditation Center, Inc.  
 Edmund & Betsy Cabot  
 Charitable Foundation  
 Li-San & Anne Hwang  
 Foundation  
 Sati Yoga, LLC  
 Sravasti Abbey Corp.  
 Stull Family Foundation  
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*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.*



# 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 make a real difference in the lives of impoverished families in Asia, Africa, and the Americas. Together, we are changing the world.

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 on our website: [buddhistglobalrelief.org/donate](https://buddhistglobalrelief.org/donate).

## 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.

### HOST AN EVENT

Organize a Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry event, a day of mindfulness, a chant-in, a Vesak event, or host your own special event to raise funds and share information about the work of BGR. Email us at [info@buddhistglobalrelief.org](mailto:info@buddhistglobalrelief.org) for information, inspiration, and support.

### 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.

### AMAZON SMILE

Shop through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) and log in, entering "Buddhist Global Relief" as your charity of choice. With every purchase you make, .5 percent will be donated to BGR.

### MAKE A TRIBUTE GIFT

You can donate online via Network for Good to honor a loved one or to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Visit our website at [buddhistglobalrelief.org/donate](http://buddhistglobalrelief.org/donate) to learn more.

### 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 us at 1-888-852-7579.

### VOLUNTEER

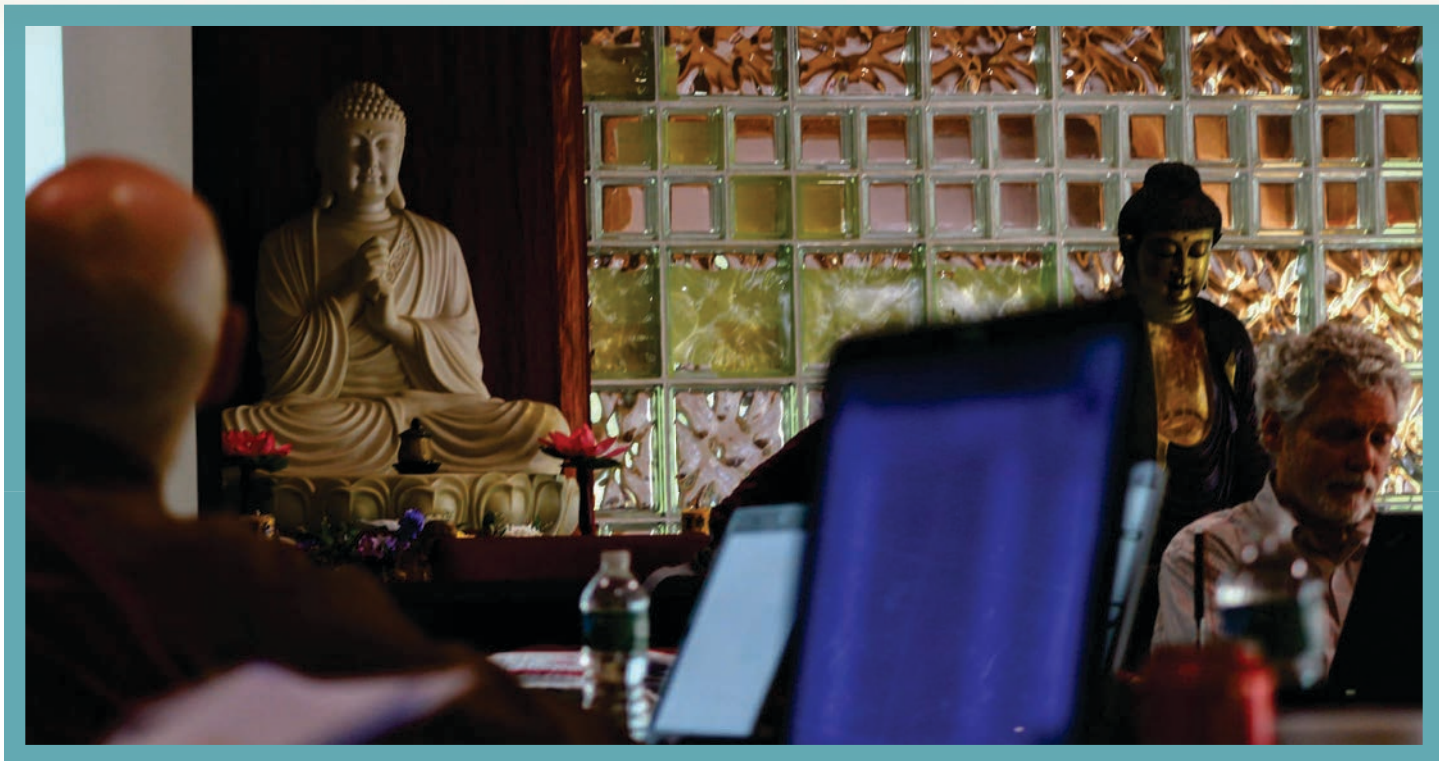
You can support the work of BGR by becoming a volunteer. BGR volunteers are located all over the world. Information on volunteer positions currently open is available on the BGR website.

### STAY CONNECTED

Join us on Facebook, see our photo albums on Flickr, watch us on YouTube!







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Cover photo:  
Helen Keller International,  
Improving Nutritional Outcomes  
Among Children (Côte d'Ivoire)

Inside Cover: Building Bridges,  
Income Generation for Women (India)

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Cooperation Center, Thai Nguyen  
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System of Rice Intensification  
(Vietnam)



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“GOOD IS GIVING, DEAR SIR!  
EVEN WHEN THERE IS LITTLE, GIVING IS GOOD.”

CONNECTED DISCOURSES OF THE BUDDHA  
CHAPTER 1, NO. 33: SADHU SUTTA

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