

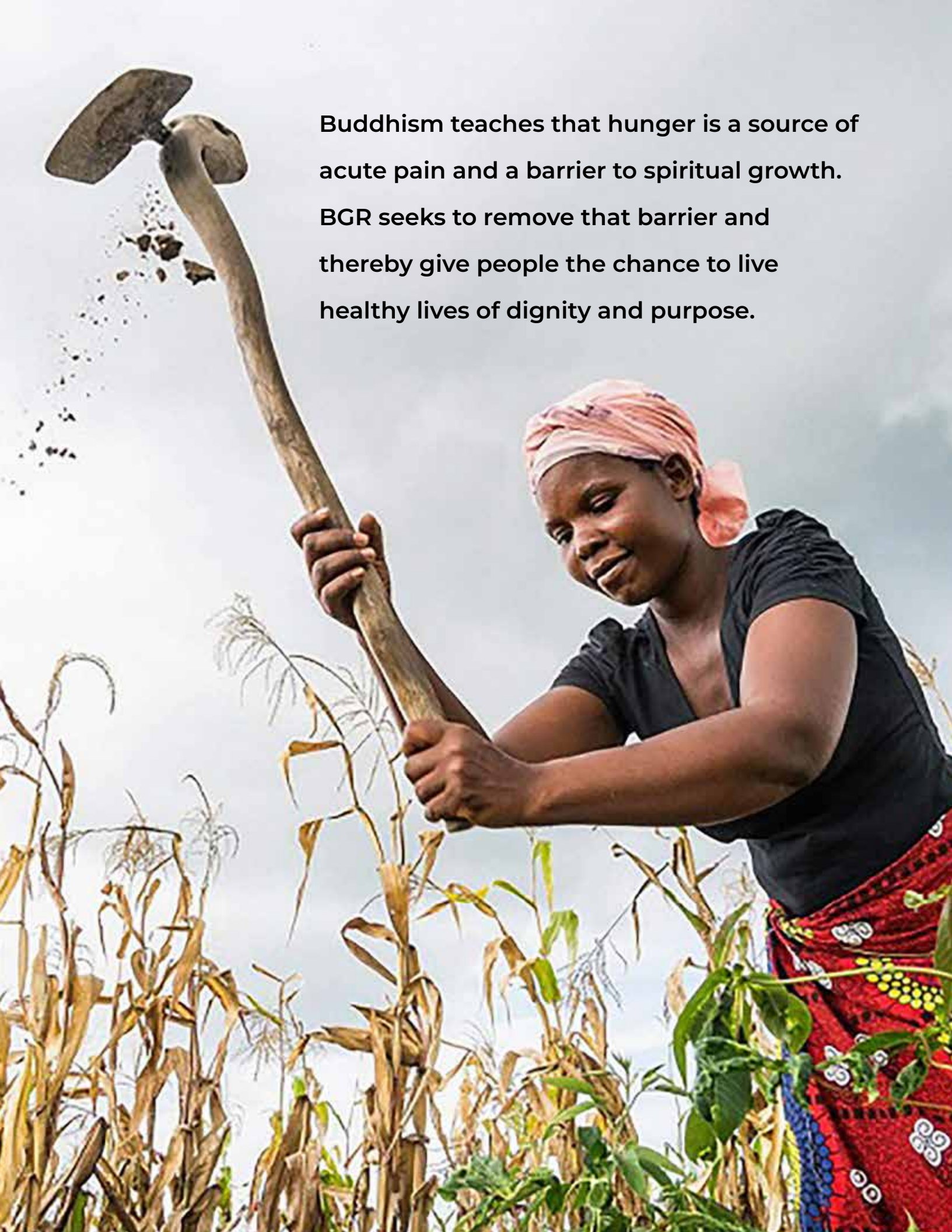


BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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.

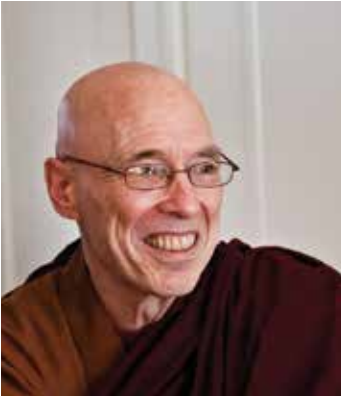


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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi

The Buddha says that the world is grounded on suffering, and when we cast our gaze out at the present-day world, the truth of that statement is undeniable. A genuine vortex of calamities is sweeping the planet: the destructive rage of climate change, a dangerous war in Ukraine, a shape-shifting pandemic, and glaring economic inequality. Each of these major crises converges on the availability of food. Increasing climate change means lower agricultural yields and higher food prices; the pandemic means disrupted supply chains; the war in Ukraine imperils a major global source of grain and cooking oil. And all these factors combined mean more people oppressed by hunger.

Since its founding, in 2008, Buddhist Global Relief has been offering a Buddhist response to the suffering entailed by chronic hunger and malnutrition. The wide range of BGR's projects, as featured in this report, testifies to our multi-pronged approach to this predicament. In Haiti, our partnership with the Art Creation Foundation for Children ensured that kids in Jacmel receive a daily meal; for many, their only chance to eat each day. In the West African nation of Cameroon, BGR's partnership with COREDA supported the education of 240 primary-school children, equipping them with a ladder up from poverty. In Cambodia, BGR helped to sponsor Lotus Outreach's CATALYST program, which enabled 30 girls from the poorest strata of Cambodian society to attend university. In Sri Lanka, BGR joined with Shraddha Charity Organization to provide pregnant women with nutritional aid during and after their pregnancies. In Peru, a partnership with Wawasonqo trained indigent Andean families in ways to cultivate a variety of nutrient-rich produce.

These are just a few of the 50 projects made possible through your help during our fiscal year 2020–2021—ways that you are helping to create a more compassionate and equitable world. We offer heartfelt thanks to all the people who have contributed to our mission. At the forefront are our Board members and outstanding staff, our dedicated volunteers, and our many generous donors. Please remember that it is your compassion and generosity that underlie our achievements. As always, we deeply thank you and look forward to your support long into the future. May all blessings be with you and your families.

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

As we reflect upon the work of Buddhist Global Relief during fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021), I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the supporters who have enabled BGR to serve thousands of people during a time of great need. In this first full year of the pandemic, as world hunger grew ever more severe, we contributed \$1,100,874 directly to our projects—92 percent of our total expenditures.


Through these challenges, our commitment to relieving the suffering of hunger and poverty around the globe has not wavered. The Dharma shows us the way. Because our Walk to Feed the Hungry fundraisers were suspended due to the pandemic, in 2020 we created a wonderful new series of online gatherings that featured Dharma teachings, introductions to our projects, and opportunities to connect with the global BGR community. In a beautiful example of our interdependence, Buddhist centers, Sanghas, meditation groups, and individuals joined together to raise funds to help those most in need around the world. We are grateful to all who participated.

In the summer of 2020, Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi and I participated in an online event celebrating the public launch of *Mitgefühl in Aktion* (MiA), BGR's European sister organization. *Mitgefühl in Aktion* is a German phrase that means "compassion in action," an apt name for our work together. Since then, MiA has co-funded several BGR projects (see p. 23 below).

Over Memorial Day weekend in 2021, BGR expanded our online offerings as we held our first online Dharma retreat. The focus of the retreat was the four "Divine Abodes": boundless loving-kindness, compassion, altruistic joy, and equanimity. Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi guided the retreat along with Ayyā Dhammadīpā and Rev. Jin-Chuan Shi.

It continues to be a joy for me to serve Buddhist Global Relief under the leadership and guidance of our founder, Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi, alongside the BGR Board, advisors, staff, team members, and project partners. And of course, we could not do this work without you, our community of donors, volunteers, and Dharma friends. We are deeply grateful for your support and hope you will continue to be a part of BGR's evolution as we manifest the Dharma through our service to the world's most vulnerable people.

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 food assistance 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



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.



CAMBODIA

**SCHOLARSHIPS FOR GIRLS AND
YOUNG WOMEN**





Two projects in Cambodia empower young women to pursue education.

Fewer than 2 percent of Cambodian women complete high school. Most engage in subsistence farming or small cottage industries to support their families. Since 2009, BGR has worked with Lotus Outreach International to provide education for girls and young women in Cambodia. Our first project together was the Girls Access to Education (GATE) program, which provided much-needed rice support for the girls' families, in addition to tuition, school supplies, and a bicycle for transportation.

In 2013, our two organizations started the Cambodian Tertiary Education and Leadership Youth Training (CATALYST) program, providing tuition, books, clothing, and a small stipend to help GATE graduates and other young women obtain vocational training or attend university.

Khaol Sreyphim has been a student of GATE/CATALYST since her eighth-grade year. As a sixth-grader, she had dropped out of school to support her family, working in rice farming and caring for her younger siblings. The GATE program provided her with support to enable her to return to school. She earned excellent grades and was accepted into university, where a CATALYST scholarship has provided funding for her studies. She said, "I chose to study agriculture because I want to have my own business to help lift my family from this poverty."

Khouy Sreyrov grew up in a large farming family that often experienced food insecurity. When



she was in the sixth grade, both of her parents passed away. She worked in the rice fields while continuing her education, but the costs of university seemed impossibly daunting until a CATALYST scholarship enabled her to enroll at the Royal University as a mathematics student. She said, "I want to be a teacher with virtues, ethics, and morality. I want to help children in my village cultivate knowledge, skills, and potential for themselves and their families and society."

CAMEROON

**SUPPORT FOR AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR
DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN**





Providing desks and other necessities for a school that has been a refuge for children fleeing the violence of a long civil war.

A multi-year partnership with Community Relief and Development Action (COREDA) has provided furnishings and necessary supplies for a school serving orphans and other disadvantaged children in Tiko, a city in southwest Cameroon that is a refuge for internally displaced people fleeing violence and instability related to the civil war that has been raging since 2017. The school gives the children the literacy, numeracy, and technical skills they need to equip them for well-paying jobs in a modernizing society.

In 2020, the project provided 120 school desks, supporting the educations of 240 primary-age children. Among these young COREDA students is Ngalle Deobella, an 8-year-old girl with congenital deformities in both legs. Her mother, a single parent, was unable to afford the cost of corrective surgery. After her mother's death, in 2019, Ngalle was brought to an orphanage in Tiko. "Thanks to COREDA, I am receiving a good education for free," she said. "Besides the education, my teachers love and comfort me. This gives me joy and hope. I promise to do my very best to study."

"'Never give up' means you should not stop doing the right thing," said 13-year-old Bih Naomi Tbui, a sixth-grader. "As a girl child, I will never give up on my dreams, education, and family." Naomi came to Tiko from northwest Cameroon, where her father lost his job and schools closed due to the ongoing civil war. The family lived in the bush for almost a year before Naomi moved to Tiko, where COREDA provided her with free schooling.



In 2020 Naomi received the fourth-highest score out of 3,600 students in her regional exams. COREDA is providing a scholarship for her to attend high school. "Not giving up will open the door that seems to be locked," she said. "Nothing is impossible; be brave and never give up and you will never regret it."

PERU

CULTIVATING NUTRIENT-RICH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES





High in the Andean foothills, a BGR project addresses child malnutrition.

Considered as a whole, Peru is a success story of modern poverty reduction. In the last decade, the national poverty rate and rates of chronic child malnutrition have both significantly declined. However, even as Peru has improved economically, many have been left behind. In many rural areas, 33 percent of indigenous children suffer from malnutrition, and levels of stunting due to extreme malnutrition have not decreased among rural children in the last decade, according to the World Food Programme.

BGR partner Wawasonqo has been working since 2006 to break the cycle of poverty that affects children and families in the rural Andean foothills near the city of Cusco, Peru. In these areas, families' cultivable land is small, and many children and families consume food of low quality, mostly noodles, rice, and potatoes. Wawasonqo's goal is to support families in creating new nutritional habits and customs to enable long-term food autonomy.



This year's project provided families with training and resources to cultivate a variety of produce to supply much-needed nutrients in the families' diets. A key component of the projects is the construction of simple greenhouses where families use seeds provided by our partner to grow fruits and vegetables rich in vitamins and minerals.

Crisologo and Eulalia Huaman are the parents of three young girls in the Huarcocondo district. A local leader, Crisologo approached Wawasonqo

to request that the greenhouse project be brought to his community. He worked with neighbors to spread the education and resources provided by the trainings throughout the community. Percy Rodriguez Cámara, executive director of Wawasonqo, was moved by the commitment and collaborative spirit of this small community. "Their effort and perseverance inspires us to continue with the work of helping those who need it most," he said.

HAITI

MEALS FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN





For many of the children who participate in this program, the meal they are given here provides their only opportunity to eat each day.

Haiti is the poorest country in the Caribbean/Latin American region, and the Covid pandemic has only worsened economic and political instability here, leaving ever-greater numbers of children at risk of malnutrition. The Art Creation Foundation for Children (ACFFC), a BGR partner in Haiti since 2015, provides art instruction, tutoring, medical care, daily food and water, and tuition support for children in need in Jacmel, a city on the southern coast.

Our 2021 project provided 50 students in need with a nutritious, filling meal each day, six days per week. For many children, the meal they receive at the ACFFC provides their only opportunity to eat each day. Without this program, many would spend their days either looking for food or working rather than attending school.



The project also offered after-school coursework in English and sewing, and served food to those who attended. One student told ACFFC staff he hadn't eaten all day, and was as excited to eat as he was to learn English.

The challenges these children face are heart-breaking. A staff member noticed that one young student was putting rice and beans in his pocket at mealtime. When asked about it, the student said that his mother had no food—and he was fearful that he would be expelled from the foundation if he was found “stealing food.” The staff

member reassured him, and gave him a container to fill with food to take home to his mother.

Our partner writes: “These are desperate times. A year ago, our students often had food at their dwellings. Now, because of the high cost of propane and outrageous costs of food, they have none. Now, more than ever, it is vitally important to support programs that allow the children and their families to take even tiny steps toward food independence which are not tied to the politics and economics of the country.”

SRI LANKA

NUTRITIONAL AID FOR PREGNANT WOMEN





BGR partners with a Buddhist nonprofit to feed expectant mothers and newborns.



The “Assisting Malnourished Pregnant Mothers Across Sri Lanka” initiative sponsored by BGR and Shraddha Charity Organization (SCO) provided expectant mothers with nutritional aid during the last six months of pregnancy and the first six months of the newborn’s life. Physicians from cooperating public health agencies gave advice on nutrition, met with pregnant women to monitor their health, and made home visits to help evaluate each family’s progress.

Monks at the Mahamevnawa Buddhist Monastery coordinated many aspects of the program, working with lay people to package rations for the families. The effort to combat maternal malnutrition builds on SCO’s history of helping at-risk families gain access to clean water, support talented but economically marginalized students, and provide compassionate aid to those in need. In Sri Lanka, the problem of maternal and child malnutrition has been severely worsened by Covid as unemployment has risen drastically even as the price of food has skyrocketed.

Many participants affirmed that the program provided essential nutritional aid and emotional comfort. “We live off a three-wheel-taxi driver’s salary,” one woman said. “Now, because everything is so expensive, it’s really not possible to say how valuable the goods we’ve received have been for us. Over these past months [the project has] helped us survive during this difficult time.”



Another parent said, “I have four children. Somehow I have to support them by righteous means. Truly, over the past year to have received food and such like this is a huge help. Buddhist Global Relief has donated food supplies to us. As they have done a huge service for me, may they receive more and more appreciation for their efforts.”

PROJECTS IN BRIEF



Action Against Hunger

Improving Food and Nutrition Security in Dodoma Region, Tanzania

Addressed the underlying causes of malnutrition among children in 35 villages in Mpwapwa District of the Dodoma Region by training 1,800 smallholder women farmers in climate-smart agriculture, post-harvest management, and food preservation, thereby improving food security and nutrition outcomes for their families.



Bodhicitta Foundation

A Girls' Home and Community Center in India

Provided housing and schooling for 30 young women, ages 14 to 23, who were at risk of having their educations cut short due to poverty. The girls come from some of the poorest regions in India, and many belong to the Dalit caste and other groups with high dropout rates.



Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes

Food and Educational Support for Girls in Lima, Peru

Provided health-care workshops, nutritious food, and uniforms and other school supplies to the daughters of domestic workers in San Juan de Miraflores, an impoverished community on the outskirts of Lima. Many of these girls are at risk of becoming child domestic laborers; this project helped to support them in continuing their educations.



Building Bridges India

Organic Farming Initiative for Widows in Punjab, India

Provided training in organic gardening methods, medicinal remedy preparation, and business skills to approximately 300 widows from landless or land-poor families, with a focus on small-plot and container gardening.



Bangladesh Buddhist Missionary Society

Food Support for Orphans in Bangladesh

Provided meals of rice, vegetables, milk, beans, and other nutritious foods at the Orphans Home Complex, located at Betagi in the rural Chittagong Hills region, providing hunger relief to 56 children for twelve months.



Building Bridges India

Vocational Training for Widows in Sangrur, India

Established vocational training programs to support and empower the widows of men who committed suicide because of poverty and indebtedness, leaving the debt to their widows. The programs provided coursework in basic sewing and embroidery, traditional *phulkari* embroidery, garment and home décor design, entrepreneurship, and business skills.



Burma Humanitarian Mission

Supporting the Children of Backpack Medics in Thailand (Myanmar border)

Supported the education of 54 children of “backpack medics,” who provide mobile medical care to isolated ethnic villages and internally displaced persons’ camps. Additionally, the project funded basic medic training for 14 women to become backpack medics.



Centre for Community Regeneration and Development

Empowering Widows and Single Mothers in Cameroon

Installed a solar-energy system to provide low-cost electricity for a vocational training center primarily serving impoverished widows, single mothers, and underemployed youths, and constructed a natural borehole to generate free, potable water for the women, youths, and children attending activities at the center.



CARE

Access to Technologies for Smallholder Farmers in Ethiopia

Improved food security and income among poor wheat and potato farmers. The project provided wheat mini-harvesters to produce a higher-quality yield with reduced labor; it also provided instruction and materials to build “diffused light stores” seed storage units to increase potato production.



Centro de Trabalho Indigenista (CTI)

Supporting Traditional Agricultural Practices Among Guarani Women in Brazil

Supplied training, tools, seeds, and seedlings for the cultivation of traditional crops to relieve hunger and recover environmentally degraded areas in 21 villages of the Ava Guarani people in western Paraná. The project also created an exchange for traditional knowledge and seeds, with the participation of Guarani elders.



CENCUDER Cameroon

Meals for Schoolchildren in Ebase Village in Cameroon

Provided nutritious hot lunches for 108 undernourished children attending the Ebase-Bajoh primary school. Project aims included increasing access to basic education in five villages in the Bajoh community; improving the nutrition and health of 108 schoolchildren; and reducing the dropout rate among girls.



CENWOR—the Centre for Women’s Research

Vocational Training for Young Women in Sri Lanka

Provided educational support for approximately 75 low-income female students who are enrolled in technical education programs at vocational training centers.



Easton Area Neighborhood Centers

Easton Urban Farm in Easton, PA

Supported the Easton Urban Farm, a 5/8-acre plot on which community volunteers grow vegetables, fruits, and seedlings for distribution to low-income residents of the city of Easton. The project also builds community through workshops and internships introducing young people to cultivation and harvesting methods.



Helen Keller International

Addressing Malnutrition and Increasing Access to Water in Korhogo, Côte d'Ivoire

Trained 100 health workers in topics related to infant and child nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, and health in centers serving approximately 20,000 people. The project also constructed a borehole and an irrigation system, providing potable water to 1,000 people.



GAIA

Vocational Training for Women in São Paulo, Brazil

Supported vocational training for 120 impoverished women, providing them with the theoretical and technical skills needed for employment as caregivers in institutions or private homes, or as seamstresses. The women also received instruction and support to attain proper work documents, access social services, and improve their families' nutrition.



Helen Keller International

Increased Access to Water and Nutrition in Northern and Central Senegal

Constructed boreholes and wells with solar or gravity-fed irrigation systems to provide clean water for drinking and agricultural irrigation for approximately 900 people in the surrounding villages. The project also provided farmers with seeds and other inputs to grow a variety of micronutrient-rich fruits and vegetables.



Grow Biointensive Agriculture Center of Kenya (G-BIACK)

Sustainable Livelihoods Support for Farmers in Kenya

Taught 500 new farmers, 430 of whom are women, environmentally sustainable agricultural methods to reclaim depleted soil while facilitating the cultivation of cash crops to improve their livelihoods.



Jamyang Foundation

School Lunches for Girls in Bangladesh

Provided daily healthy meals for 128 girls in pre-school through sixth grade at Visakha Girls' School, which serves disadvantaged girls from the remote village of Dhoshri and surrounding villages.



Joan Rose Foundation
Meals for Children in Jacmel, Haiti

Supported a food program providing two nutritious meals, five days a week, to approximately 115 children. For many of these children, these meals provide their only source of nutrition during the week. The food program allows the children to focus in school and tutoring sessions, improves their overall nutrition and well-being, and takes a financial burden and stress off their parents.



Lotus Outreach International
Nutritional Support for Garden of Peace School in India

Provided nutritional support for students and staff members at Garden of Peace school in Tamil Nadu. This project also provided students with school uniforms, books and other educational materials, and transportation assistance.



Keep Growing Detroit
Creating a Food-Sovereign City in Detroit, MI

Provided seeds, transplants, education, and resources to support residents in growing their own food gardens and securing access to fresh, low-cost vegetables. The project also distributed produce from Keep Growing Detroit's farm to food-insecure families in Detroit and funded community outreach events.



Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala
Education and Food Aid for Children in Arunachal Pradesh, India

Supported the food program at the residential Mahabodhi School in Jyotipur, Diyun. When they first arrive at this school for children in need, a majority of the students are suffering from the effects of malnutrition; this project helped to provide all 245 students with three healthy meals a day, seven days a week, as well as uniforms, health care, and school supplies.



LICADHO
Food and Hygiene Materials for Incarcerated Pregnant Women and Infants in Cambodia

Provided hygiene materials and food to pregnant women, new mothers, and infants in 18 Cambodian prisons. The project also monitored the rights and welfare of these incarcerated women and their children.



Mahabodhi Tawang Centre
Mahabodhi Home for Elders and Children in India

Supported the Centre's food program, which provides nutritious meals three times a day to 216 people, including 165 children, plus elderly people, monks, and organization staff.



Maitreya Charity

Asral Hot Meal Project: Improving Access to Education in Mongolia

Provided 55 schoolchildren, ranging in age from 6 to 17, with nutritious meals as well as mentorship, educational supplies, disease prevention training, basic hygiene instruction, clothing, vitamins, social activities, and games.



Oxfam America

Increasing Household Food Security in South Darfur, Sudan

Provided seeds and training in climate-resilient agricultural techniques for 450 food-insecure households in five vulnerable communities of South Darfur, Sudan, focusing on women-headed households.



Moanoghar

A Model Farm in Rangamati, Bangladesh

Supported the construction of a new hill-agriculture model farm to produce fruits, vegetables, and other food for 650 students at Moanoghar School. The farm, nursery, and bio-compost plant also serve as hands-on classrooms for the children as part of their agricultural-education curriculum.



Oxfam India

Supporting Smallholder Women Farmers in Uttar Pradesh, India

Increased income and nutrition security among smallholder women farmers, many of them Dalit (the former "untouchables"), through training in climate-resilient agricultural methods and in the production of nutritionally rich crop varieties. The project also strengthened the collective bargaining power of women farmers through the support of women farmers' groups.



North Country Mission of Hope

Educational Support for Female Students in Nicaragua

Sponsored the education of 122 girls, including 12 who are attending college. Each student in the program receives tuition and/or registration fees, schoolbooks, and the government-mandated school uniform, as well as shoes, socks, and the required school insignia.



Rachana

Socioeconomic Well-Being for Vulnerable Communities in Cambodia

Supported food security by training family farmers in climate-resilient rice cultivation techniques to increase resistance to drought conditions; teaching organic home vegetable gardening techniques; and providing hands-on agricultural and life-skills education for schoolchildren.

PROJECTS IN BRIEF



Trees That Feed

Meals for Primary School Students in Haiti

Provided breakfast meals to 900 children, ages 5 to 10, at ten schools in the rural areas around Trou du Nord, Haiti. The meals are a healthy porridge primarily made from breadfruit, an environmentally sustainable crop grown by local farmers.



Vietnam Red Cross

Scholarships for Children in Need in Vietnam

Provided scholarships for 705 students in primary, middle, and high school. This grant funded annual enrollment fees, school uniforms, books, and educational materials for the school year. These are children from the poorest families; without this aid, these students would not have the means to continue their studies.



Uganda Buddhist Centre

Uganda Peace School in Entebbe, Uganda

Provided a high-quality early childhood education program for local children in an underserved area of Uganda. In addition to the Uganda National Curriculum, the school provides mindfulness-based education and teaches Buddhist ethics, compassion, wisdom, African social values and cultures, hand-crafts, and generosity.



What If Foundation

Meals for Hungry Children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Provided meals to children in the Ti Plas Kazo community of Port-au-Prince. For many of these children, Na Rive's Lamanjay food program provides the only substantial meal of the day, and many children walk miles just to receive this meal. The project also supported lunches for students at a local school and a food pantry providing rice and beans to 60 needy families each week.



Vietnam Red Cross

Meals for Patients in Tam Binh Hospital in Vietnam

Provided food assistance to hospitalized patients in Vietnam, where the price of a hospital stay does not include food. Through the Tam Binh local chapter of the Red Cross, three vegetarian meals a day are served daily to 200 hospital patients. This long-term BGR project supports the nutritional needs of some of the most vulnerable people—those who are both poor and sick.

ACTIONS TO FEED THE HUNGRY



Since our founding, BGR's main fundraising activity has been our annual "Walk to Feed the Hungry." For more than a decade, supporters have walked together in communities across the U.S., with satellite walks in the U.K., Uganda, and India.

In the fall of 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from holding our walks—with the notable exception of Connecticut, where the danger of viral transmission was almost nonexistent, and a walk was led by Ven. Shim Bo Sunim of the White Lotus Haven Zen community.

In place of the other walks, in 2020 BGR launched a network of online events to mobilize Buddhists and friends of Buddhism everywhere, in the U.S. and abroad, to join us in taking compassionate action to combat chronic hunger and malnutrition. At these **Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry** events, Buddhist centers and temples across the U.S. hosted live-streamed Dharma gatherings featuring talks and meditations by beloved Buddhist teachers as well as testimonials about the wonderful projects that have been sponsored by BGR thanks to the generosity of our global community.

Our flagship gathering was the National Event, hosted by BGR with collaboration from Vajra Dakini Nunnery, in **Portland, Maine**. We heard Dharma teachings from Jack Kornfield, of Spirit Rock Meditation Center, in Woodacre, California; James Lynch, president of the Buddhist Council of New York; Ven. Bhikkhu Buddharakkhita, founder of the Uganda Buddhist Centre; Rev. Joan Hogetsu Hoeberichts, of Heart Circle Sangha in New Jersey; Ven. Khenmo Drolma, of Vajra Dakini Nunnery in Portland, Maine; and BGR founder Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi.

We were also honored to hear about how the BGR community's generosity has benefited people around the world, as described by representatives of BGR partner organizations including Lotus Outreach International, Helen Keller International, Building Bridges India, and Keep Growing Detroit. Rev. Heng Sure of the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery performed his song "The Story of Sunita," an adaptation of the poem by the monk Sunita found in the Theragatha. And Raimund Hopf, of BGR's European partner organization, Mitgefühl in Aktion, spoke about our shared mission of compassion in action in the Dharma.

Additional online events were launched in **Berkeley, California**, hosted by the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery, Berkeley Buddhist Temple, and Berkeley Zen Center, and coordinated by Ayyā Dhammadīpā, founder of Dassanāya Buddhist Community; **Houston, Texas**, hosted by the Myoken-Ji Nichiren Buddhist Temple and the Houston Zen Center; **Newport, Washington**, hosted by Sravasti Abbey; and **St. Louis, Missouri**, hosted by the Buddhist Council of Greater St. Louis, coordinated by Leonora Kham.

We are grateful to everyone who has helped to organize, sponsor, and present at these events. We also thank all of you who have joined us for these gatherings and have been moved to contribute to support the work of BGR! These Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry events continue to be a beautiful tribute to our shared commitment to relieving the suffering of hunger and poverty worldwide.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



For more than a decade, Buddhist Global Relief has been 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 direct benefit of individuals and families in need.

During the fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021), our thirteenth year of service, BGR maintained the steady growth in donation revenue since its inception. Our revenues totaled \$1,200,796. Our expenditures totaled \$1,191,742, of which \$1,100,874, or 92 percent, was allocated to direct programs.* Our administrative ratio was 2 percent, and another 6 percent was devoted to fundraising and promotional efforts.

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

*Note: We utilized part of cash carried forward from prior years to support projects in FY2021.

Statement of Activities

July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

REVENUE

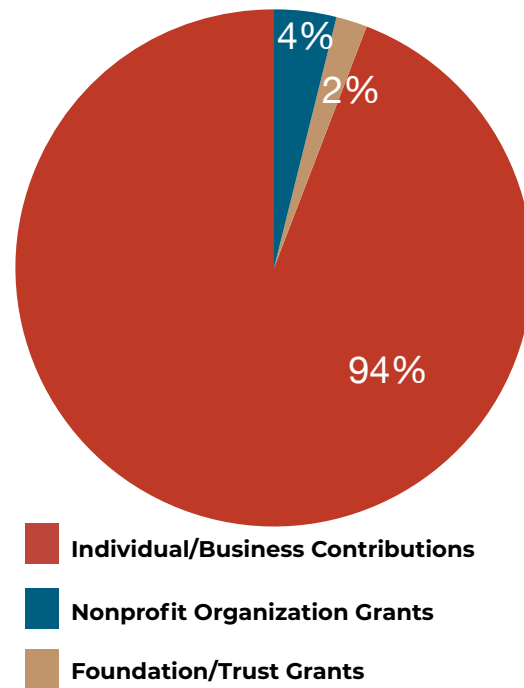
Individual & business contributions	\$ 1,127,623
Nonprofit organization contributions	25,000
Foundation grants	47,717
Investment income	456
Total revenue	<u>\$ 1,200,796</u>

EXPENDITURES

Direct program costs	\$ 1,100,874
Administration	19,559
Fundraising	71,309
Total expenditures	<u>1,191,742</u>
Change in net assets	<u>\$ 9,054</u>

Administration as a % of total revenue= 2%

Revenue by Source



Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2021

ASSETS

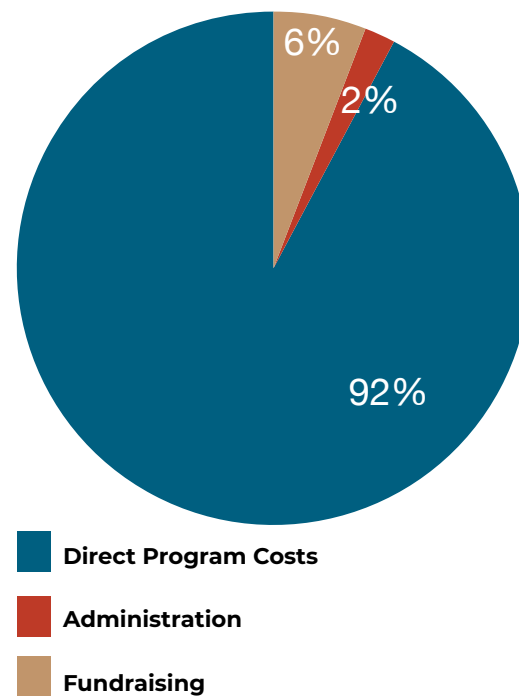
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 305,153
Accounts receivable	878
Unconditional promise to give	188,519
Other assets	642
Total assets	<u>\$ 495,192</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

Liabilities	
Grant payable	\$ 20,000
Other payable	24,618
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 44,618</u>

Fund balance	
Fund balance Jul 1, 2019	441,520
Change in net assets	9,054
Fund balance Jun 30, 2020	<u>450,574</u>
Liabilities & fund balance	<u>\$ 495,192</u>

Expenses by Category



A EUROPEAN SISTER ORGANIZATION FOR BGR



In 2019, a group of Buddhists in the German-speaking countries of Europe established Mitgefühl in Aktion, or “Compassion in Action,” as a sister organization to Buddhist Global Relief, with a shared aim of providing relief to communities around the world afflicted by hunger and malnutrition. In fiscal year 2021, MiA contributed to BGR projects with Bodhicitta Foundation, Burma Humanitarian Mission, CCREAD-Cameroon, Helen Keller International, Lotus Outreach International, and Maitreya Charity.

On December 6, 2020, MiA conducted an online fundraising event—its first—modeled on the BGR Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry events and featuring talks by BGR founder and chair Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi, executive director Kim Behan, and vice-chair David Braughton. The meeting was hosted by MiA’s founding chair, Raimund Hopf, who observed: “I was especially pleased to see that we have come together as a community of Buddhists from different traditions, lineages, and countries with a shared commitment to demonstrate a compassionate Buddhist response to suffering in today’s world.”

We are grateful for this collaborative partnership with our European Dharma friends.

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 food assistance, support the education of children in need, empower women and girls, and train smallholder farmers 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 2021 fiscal year, July 2020 through June 2021. We wish that we could include the names of everyone who has contributed to our work this year, but space does not permit this. 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.

\$225,000 or above

Nien Thach
Foundation

\$200,000 or above

Anonymous

**\$30,000 or above
Organizations**

Yin Shun Foundation

Individuals

Celia Pi-Yin Chen
Robert & Sandra
Hodge

**\$10,000 to \$29,999
Organizations**

Buddhist Association
of the United States
Cisco Systems
P Squared
Productions, LLC
The Unified Korean
Buddhist Association

Individuals

Jessie L. & Richard D.
Benjamin
Bhikkhu Bodhi
Kuo-Wei Chou
Phyllis Gee
Richard Lee
Scott Thompson
Jane Watkins

**\$5,000 to \$9,999
Organizations**

Buddhist Churches of
America

Individuals

Ahmad Albahar
Richard Bowles
Tom & Jody Chang
Hsiang Hui Chen
George & Donna Clapp
Eleanor Heath
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Joy L. Robinson
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Phoebe Signer
Chade-meng Tan
Choon Tan
Olivia Vaz

**\$2,500 to \$4,999
Organizations**

Agarika, LLC
Dharma Charitable
Gift Fund
L. K. Kingberry LTD
Marin Community
Foundation
Sanghapala
Foundation,
Abhayagiri Buddhist
Monastery
Wobb Family Fund

Individuals

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Meichu Chen
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William Davidson
Chad DeChant
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Gary Jon Hill
Lynn & John Kelly
Johnathon M. Lee
Al Lee-Boulton family
Jonah Lipton
Khanh Nguyen
Betsy Russell
Anne D. & Ed Schmitt
Dennis G. Shaw
Christopher Sprinzyk
Dayani Teo aka
Dayana
Gavin Towler
Siu Wong

**\$1,000 to \$2,499
Organizations**

4 Noble Truths
Andrews Foundation
Buddha's Light
International
Association Inc. NY

Compassion
Cultivation
Foundation
Dharma Friendship
Foundation
IBM Employee
Charitable
Contribution
Campaign
Insight Meditation
Community of
Charlotte
Maywood Meditation
Metropolitan Buddhist
Center, Inc
New Buddha Way
Robert Erck Charitable
Fund

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Jill Boone
Thomas Brocher
Richard F. Campolucci
Sabine Chai
Cynthia Chang &
Darren Yin
Chih-Kang Chang
Po-Hui Chang
Kelvin Chen
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Wen Yue Chia
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Fun Sun & Baw
Chyr Yao
Man-Li Yeh
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\$500 to \$999

Organizations

The Berkeley Zen
Center Inc.
Bright Funds
Foundation
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Foundation Santa
Cruz County
Cookie Jar Fund
The Heart of
Compassion Sangha
Kaiser Permanente
NW Community
Giving Campaign
Mid-America Buddhist
Association
South Carolina
Dharma Group
Sravasti Abbey Corp
The Stull Family
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Individuals

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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. 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 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 on our website: 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.

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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.

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You can donate online to honor a loved one or to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, or other special occasion. Visit our website at buddhistglobalrelief.org/donate to learn more.

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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.



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Leave a gift to Buddhist Global Relief in your will or trust to support our work to break the cycle of poverty for generations to come. For information about bequest and estate giving, please email us at pricep@buddhistglobalrelief.org.

CONTRIBUTE TO BGR THROUGH CFC #74375

U.S. federal government employees can donate to BGR through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). If you are a U.S. federal employee, please consider contributing through our CFC #74375, and spread the word to your colleagues, family, and friends at work.

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 for information, inspiration, and support.

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 at buddhistglobalrelief.org/volunteer.

STAY CONNECTED

Join us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram; see our photo albums on Flickr; watch us on YouTube; subscribe to our Helping Hands podcast on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or Google Podcasts!



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PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE
**2022 Buddhist Action to
Feed the Hungry**



CREATING A MORE COMPASSIONATE WORLD

buddhist global relief

**Oct. 29
2022**

On October 29, 2022, from 3 to 5 p.m. ET, Buddhist Global Relief founder and chair Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi will host an online Dharma gathering on **“Creating a More Compassionate World.”** This two-hour gathering will feature talks by prominent Buddhist teachers and presentations on BGR’s projects that relieve the suffering of chronic hunger and malnutrition for people around the world.

Speakers include **Joseph Goldstein**, co-founder and guiding teacher of the Insight Meditation Society; **Konjun Gaelyn Godwin**, abbot of the Houston Zen Center; **Bhante Buddharakkhita**, founder and abbot of the Uganda Buddhist Center; **Ven. Lekshe Tsomo**, founder of the Jamyang Foundation; and BGR founder **Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi**. The emcee will be **Ayyā Dhammadīpā**, a BGR Board member and founder of the Dassanāya Buddhist Community. A special feature will be the premier of a musical composition by composer **Daniel Blake** on the Nirvana of Mahapajapati Gotami, the first Buddhist nun. Please consider supporting BGR as a peer-to-peer fundraiser—as an individual or as a member of a Buddhist center, Sangha, or meditation group.

For more information and to register, please visit us online at buddhistglobalrelief.org/2022-supporters. We hope that you will join us!

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- p. 31: Center for Indigenous Work (CTI) in Brazil
- p. 32: Chuang Yen Monastery in New York

**If, by giving up a lesser happiness,
One could experience greater happiness,
A wise person would renounce the lesser
To behold the greater.**

The Dhammapada, verse 290



Buddhist Global Relief

2020 Route 301, Carmel, NY 10512 USA

www.buddhistglobalrelief.org