

2022
ANNUAL
REPORT



Buddhist Global Relief

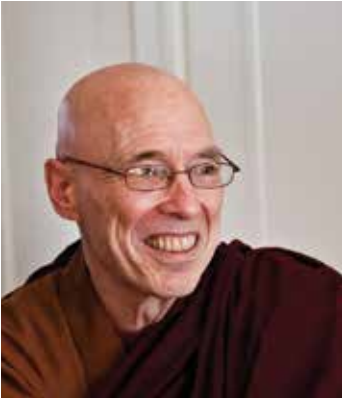
The Buddha taught that giving food is one of the most important and beneficial practices of generosity. He said that giving food to those in need is a way to accumulate merit, or positive karma, which will lead to happiness and well-being in this life and the next. He also said that giving food is a way to cultivate compassion and kindness, which are essential qualities for anyone who wants to live a happy and fulfilling life.





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Message from The Chair



Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi

The period covered by this report, July 2021 to June 2022, came at the tail end of the Covid pandemic, when illness and death still cast their shadows over the world. Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, our work continued, and our partners found creative ways to implement our projects and thereby help thousands of people escape poverty and chronic hunger. We also continued our partnership with Mitgefühl in Aktion, our European counterpart, which co-sponsored several BGR projects.

Though I'm the chair of BGR, I'm still astounded by the number and range of these projects, and I'm sure you will feel the same when you look at this report. The feature articles highlight just a few of these life-changing programs: a new partnership with the amazing pan-African organization CAMFED, giving poor girls a roadway to become models of success for their nations; a project in Brazil that helped the Indigenous Guarani people strengthen their traditional agricultural practices; a partnership in Haiti providing solid breakfasts to 1,500 schoolchildren in this poor island-nation. On pages 16–21, you'll find snapshots of our other wonderful projects, ranging from Mongolia to the streets of Detroit.

One of our projects ended on a note of disappointment. In mid-2021, we partnered with CARE to provide university scholarships to young women in Afghanistan, in the trust that young educated women could make major contributions to their country. Sadly, however, this dream was dashed when the Taliban came back to power and banned women from pursuing higher education. We can only hope this harsh policy will be ended and Afghan universities will again open their doors to women.

As always, you are the ones who enable BGR to thrive. The help we provide to others is made possible by the help you offer us. Your donations, your help, and your solidarity with our mission are the fuel that drives our efforts. For all this we thank you deeply from the bottom of our hearts. Let us pledge to work together long into the future, for the welfare and happiness of many. In the words of the Bodhisattva Samantabhadra, let us be "a source of treasure for those in poverty and need."

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



Kim Behan

When I first joined BGR at its founding, we were a tiny grassroots group that began by funding three small projects. In the years since, under the guidance of our founder and chair, Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi, BGR has grown beyond our wildest dreams. In the fiscal year 2022 (from July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022), our supporters donated more than \$1.9 million in response to the needs of tens of thousands of the world's most vulnerable people.

I am awed by this magnanimous support. In doing this work, we are able to see, so clearly, the ways in which the Dharma transforms not only our individual lives but also the world. Like a raindrop joining with others to become a river, a small contribution from a BGR supporter might merge with other donations to fund a scholarship for a young woman in Malawi, a gift of hope when her education was at risk of being cut short due to poverty. Or that moment of generosity might provide desperately needed food to a hungry child in Haiti—or Brazil or Mongolia. I feel honored to be able to witness, each day, this beautiful demonstration of the interconnection of all beings.

In FY2022, BGR gave nearly \$1.2 million to support 52 projects in 25 countries. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, we were also able to vastly expand our emergency giving. Over the year we provided over \$95,000 in emergency aid to support sixteen programs responding to such crises as the Covid pandemic in Sri Lanka, a major earthquake in Haiti, the plight of Rohingya people from Myanmar seeking safety in Bangladesh, and Ukrainian refugees fleeing the Russian invasion.

BGR's ability to serve tens of thousands of people in need over the past year was rooted in the kindness and generosity of people like you, our community of donors and supporters. I hope that reading this report brings as much joy to your life as it does to mine. Buddhist Global Relief is a unique humanitarian organization grounded in the teachings of the Buddha, and *you* are the driving force behind our accomplishments. Together, we are relieving the suffering of chronic hunger and poverty for people all around the world, and that is truly something to celebrate.

With loving-kindness,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Behan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K".

Kim Behan

Vision and Mission

VISION

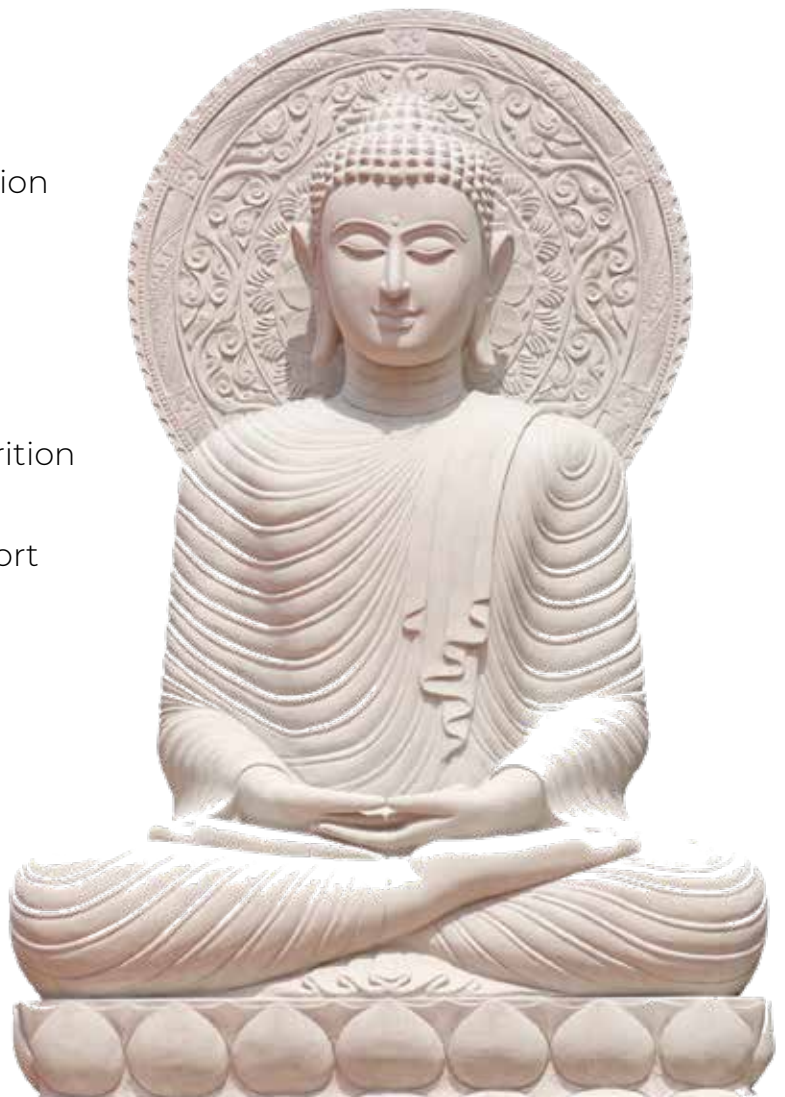
We are inspired by the vision of a world in which debilitating poverty has finally been banished; a world in which all can avail themselves of the basic material supports of a meaningful life—food, clothing, housing, and health care; a world in which everyone can achieve a satisfactory level of education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

MISSION

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

- providing 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.

MALAWI

**FOOD AND LEARNING
SUPPORT FOR GIRLS
AND YOUNG WOMEN**





The “Multiplier Effect”:
On average,
each alumna of the
program is helping
three young
girls go to school.



In 2021, BGR embarked on a partnership with CAMFED (the Campaign for Female Education), a pan-African organization combating poverty, inequality, and injustice by educating girls and supporting young women to become leaders in their communities and nation. CAMFED’s collective efforts have helped almost 5 million girls go to school in Ghana, Malawi, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe, and its CAMA alumnae network continues to empower these young women as they progress beyond their school years.

During the project year, a BGR–CAMFED program in Malawi supported the education of 2,351 marginalized children, including 1,659 girls, providing them with critical support to pursue their studies. In a country where the majority of people live in extreme poverty—62 percent of the population lives on less than \$1.25 per day—these children received critical supplies for their education, including food, remote learning resources, school fees, uniforms, sanitary wear, and Covid-protective equipment.

Letisha is a Standard 5 (equivalent to fifth grade) student in the Mwanza district of Malawi. When local CAMFED alumnae reached out to Letisha, her mother was struggling to support four children alone. Letisha did not have the necessary supplies for school, and she sometimes went to school hungry. Formerly a good student,

she had been struggling academically since her father’s departure. Through the BGR–CAMFED partnership, Letisha received a new school uniform, exercise books, pens, and food items. By year’s end, she was ranked third in her class.



Letisha



AFGHANISTAN

HIGHER EDUCATION FOR WOMEN
UNDER THE TALIBAN



During a year when girls' and women's rights were severely curtailed, BGR helped 38 young women pursue university studies.



Following the Taliban's return to power in Afghanistan in August 2021, Afghans have had to endure worsening economic conditions and rising poverty, an escalation of violence, and a return to a society defined by an oppressive theocracy—one that has particularly impacted girls and young women of school age.

In March 2022, the Taliban made it illegal for girls to attend middle school and high school. However, the Taliban did not ban women who were already enrolled from pursuing higher education or completing their studies. Thus, many women continued to attend classes, even as their lives become more and more circumscribed by limitations on their movements and activities.

To support these women, BGR partnered with CARE to contribute funding to the University Scholarship Initiative (USI), which since 2012 has been financially supporting Afghan women in their pursuit of higher education. During FY2022, funding from Buddhist Global Relief supported 38 of these courageous young women. Each received scholarships for transportation, textbooks, fees, and other costs of university education in their chosen fields, which included medicine, nursing, midwifery, and law. And they have succeeded.

their families and Afghan society but also stand as beacons of hope for girls and women in a country where women's rights continue to be curtailed.

Following the Taliban's December 2022 decision to ban women from universities, the USI program was suspended. We look forward to a future in which Afghan girls and women can participate fully in an educated Afghan society and in the world.



Working in their respective fields, USI graduates not only have contributed to the well-being of

BRAZIL

**FOOD SOVEREIGNTY THROUGH
TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE
FOR INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES**





A project improves food security while honoring the value of traditional Indigenous knowledge and spirituality.



The Guarani are Indigenous peoples of the Atlantic Forest region of South America who now live in villages scattered throughout southern Brazil. Centuries of colonization have resulted in the loss and/or degradation of much of their historic territory. The loss of agricultural land to colonization parallels a series of losses to the Guarani way of life, among them the weakening of traditional agricultural practices.

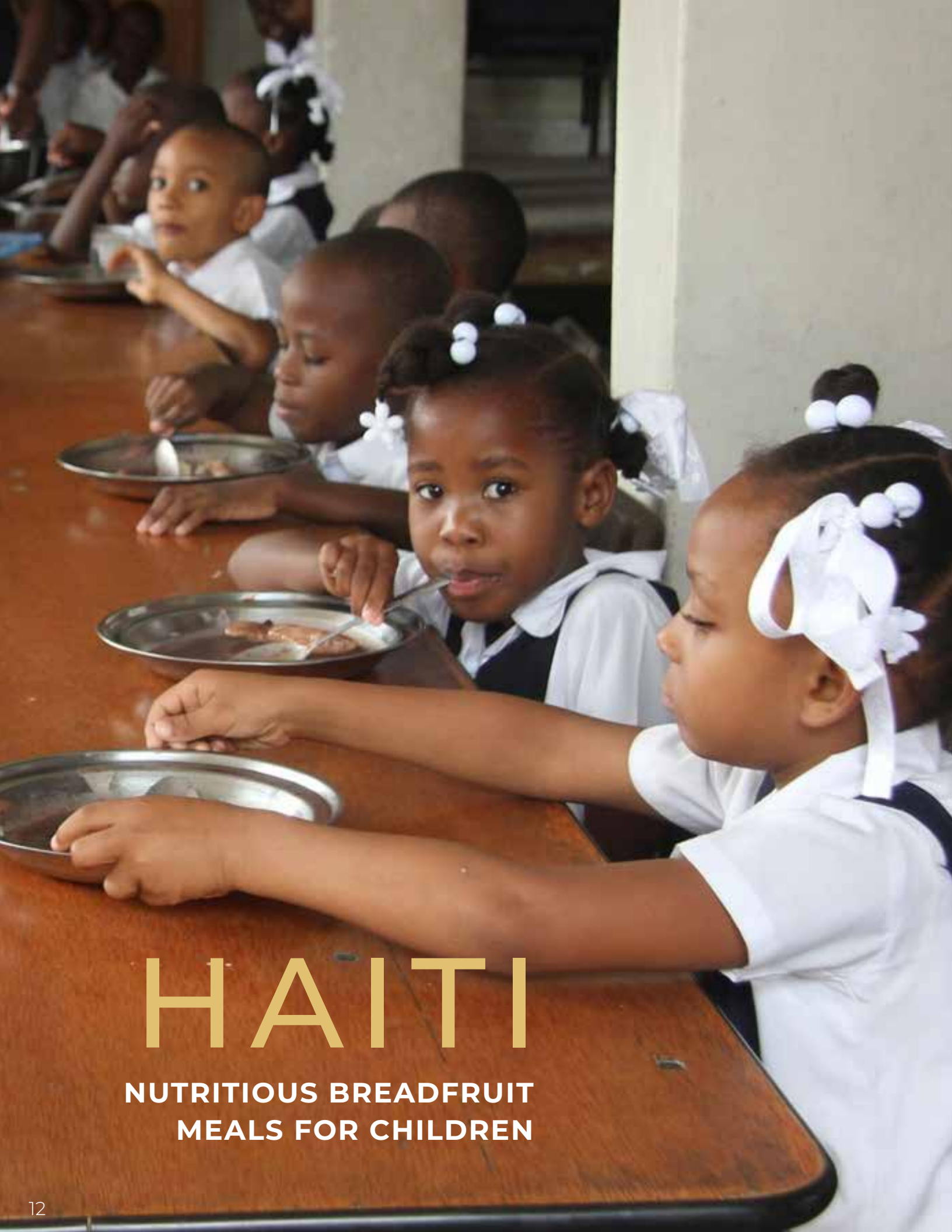
Today, many Guarani are working to restore parts of their ancestral lands through planting and reforestation projects, creating islands of biodiversity within the corporate monocultures that now surround them. A BGR project with the Center for Indigenous Work (*Centro de Trabalho Indigenista* or CTI) supported the efforts of Guarani communities to strengthen traditional agricultural practices, preserve biodiversity, and bolster food security.

The project facilitated a series of exchanges of knowledge and traditional seeds among Guarani biodiversity guardians—village elders as well as Indigenous youth—from various villages in the region. The project provided participants with seedlings, agricultural materials, and tools for the cultivation of crops.

Lourdes Gabriel cultivates several traditional species in her village garden. These include

corn, manioc, sweet potato, beans, and pumpkin. Recently, she also started breeding *jataí*, a species of native stingless bee whose honey was traditionally used in Guarani food and medicine. Equally important, she explained, the bees are crucial for the pollination of flowers and tree species. Thus the insects are valuable not only for her people but “for the whole of humanity, which is very difficult for the *jurua* [non-Indigenous] to understand.”





HAITI

**NUTRITIOUS BREADFRUIT
MEALS FOR CHILDREN**



Without this program, some of these children would be coming to school with only a cup of herbal tea in their stomachs for the day.



Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and has one of the world's highest levels of food insecurity. The Covid crisis only worsened poverty in a country already troubled by political instability, widespread violence, and repeated natural disasters including earthquakes, hurricanes, and floods. In 2022, 80 percent of the population experienced moderate to severe food insecurity. Crisis-level hunger affected 4.7 million Haitians, including 2.4 million children. Nearly 100,000 children under five suffered from acute malnutrition

A project with longtime BGR partner Trees That Feed Foundation (TTFF) addressed hunger and malnutrition issues, childhood education, economic opportunity, and climate resilience in Haiti. The core of the project was the provision of breakfast meals to 1,500 children in 20 schools and orphanages in the northeastern, central, and southwest departments of Haiti.

TTFF provided the schools with flour and nutritious biscuits made from breadfruit, an environmentally sustainable crop grown by local farmers. In addition to providing needed nutrition to children, the program supported farmers and businesspeople in the local economy by purchasing the breadfruit flour from local sources. The program also encouraged the planting of trees, providing not only additional breadfruit

for the communities but also helping to reverse the effects of Haiti's tremendous deforestation. The project also provided trilingual activity books (with text in Haitian Creole, French, and English) and school supplies to students whose schools participated in the breadfruit breakfast program.



EMERGENCY FUNDING

**BGR HAS PROVIDED TRUSTED PARTNERS WITH
EMERGENCY GRANTS TO PROVIDE HUNGER RELIEF TO
PEOPLE AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL
DISASTER, THE PANDEMIC, AND OTHER CRISES.**

Since our founding, the heart of BGR's work has been our annually approved projects to combat chronic hunger and malnutrition around the world. But for much of our history, BGR has also provided trusted partners with emergency grants to deliver hunger relief to people affected by violence, environmental disaster, pandemic, and other crises.

In our second decade of existence, BGR had the opportunity to expand our emergency \$relief support. As our organization has grown, attracting increased support from donors small and large, in FY2022 we were able to respond to several long-term crises. We provided critical aid to Sri Lankans affected by the Covid pandemic; to victims of a massive earthquake in Haiti; to Rohingya refugees from Myanmar taking shelter in Bangladesh; and to refugees from the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

Hunger in Sri Lanka

According to longtime BGR partner Oxfam International, in 2021 Covid resulted in 20 million more people experiencing extreme levels of hunger, bringing the total number of hungry people to 155 million. An emergency BGR grant in Sri Lanka supported our partner Karuna Trust's project to provide food to hundreds of families in need. BGR also arranged for the distribution of food parcels to needy families through the John Keells Group, one of the largest holding companies in Sri Lanka.

Disaster aid in Haiti

In Haiti, a 7.2-magnitude earthquake on August 14 took the lives of more than 2,000 people and left hundreds of thousands without shelter or access to safe drinking water. BGR partner CARE quickly mobilized to provide displaced families with tents and tarps for shelter, drinking water, hygiene kits, and handwashing stations. The project also provided tools such as wheelbarrows and sledgehammers to support communities in the efforts of rebuilding the homes and other structures that were lost.



An emergency donation from BGR supported these and related efforts.

The Rohingya crisis

In 2017, the Myanmar government and military launched a harsh crackdown against the Rohingya, a Muslim minority in Rakhine State, forcing more than 700,000 Rohingya to flee across the border into Bangladesh. An emergency donation from BGR to the Clear View Project provided food assistance to Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh. In June, BGR made an emergency donation to Better Burma, another trusted partner, to provide food relief to those being persecuted by the military junta, both laypeople and monastics.

War in Ukraine

In March 2022, BGR made emergency grants to five organizations working on the ground in Ukraine and surrounding countries to help those who are most endangered by the crisis there. Action Against Hunger, UNHCR (the U.N. Refugee Agency), CARE, the U.N. World Food Programme, and the International Rescue Committee worked in Moldova, Poland, and other areas to provide life-saving support to civilians forced to flee their homes amid growing violence.

Each of these partners committed to providing BGR with reporting sufficient for us to be accountable to our donors and to provide our supporters with appropriate information about the efforts these funds are supporting.

We are deeply thankful to each and every person who has supported BGR's work, and we are grateful for each and every donation. Each supporter and each donation directly contributes to our efforts to reduce suffering. Recalling once again the Buddha's statement that "hunger is the worst illness," BGR's leadership, staff, and volunteers remain grateful for these opportunities to help those in need.



Karuna Trust

Other Projects in Brief



Action Against Hunger
Improving Food and Nutrition Security in Dodoma Region, Tanzania

Trained 70 smallholder women farmers in climate-smart agriculture, post-harvest management, and food preservation. Each of these model farmers in turn trained 25 other women farmers, for a total of 1,820 direct participants.



Bodhicitta Foundation
A Girls' Home and Community Center in Nagpur, India

Provided housing and schooling for 30 young women, ages 14 to 23, at risk of having their educations cut short due to poverty. The young women received room and board, vocational training, educational scholarships, English-language training, workshops, and books and school supplies.



Art Creation Foundation for Children
After School Feeding Program in Jacmel, Haiti

Provided 50 students with at least one nutritious, filling meal per day, six days per week. Without this program, many of the children would have spent their days looking for food or working rather than attending school.



Building Bridges International
Organic Farming Initiative for Widows in Punjab, India

Trained approximately 275 widows from landless or land-poor families in organic gardening methods, medicinal remedy preparation, and business skills, with a focus on small-plot and container gardening.



Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes
Food and Educational Support for Girls in Lima, Peru

Provided health-care workshops, nutritious food, and school supplies to the children of domestic workers in San Juan de Miraflores, an impoverished community on the outskirts of Lima.



Building Bridges International
Vocational Training for Widows in Sangrur, India

Supported vocational training programs providing coursework in sewing and embroidery, garment and home décor design, and business and entrepreneurship skills to 125 women in need, most the widows of men who committed suicide because of poverty and indebtedness.



Bangladesh Buddhist Missionary Society
Food Support for Orphans in Bangladesh

Funded a feeding program at the Orphans Home Complex, located at Betagi in the rural Chittagong Hills region, providing hunger relief to 58 children for 12 months.



Burma Humanitarian Mission

Food and Education for 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.



CARE

Access to Technologies for Smallholder Farmers in Ethiopia

Built seed storage units and provided harvesting services to improve crop yields and general health for 1,500 poor farming households.



Centre for Community Regeneration and Development (CCREAD-Cameroon)

Empowering Widows and Single Mothers Through Vocational Training in Cameroon

Trained impoverished widows, single mothers, and underemployed youth in vocational skills including tailoring and clothing design, cosmetology, weaving, and agricultural processing.



Centre for Community Development and Environmental Restoration (CENCUDER)

Meals for Schoolchildren in Cameroon

Provided nutritious hot lunches for 108 undernourished children attending the local primary school. Since its introduction in 2015, the feeding program has increased enrollment and lowered dropout rates, especially among village girls.



CENWOR, the Centre for Women’s Research

Technical Education for Women From Low-Income Families In Sri Lanka

Supported approximately 155 low-income female students enrolled in technical education programs at vocational training centers.



Community Relief and Development Action (COREDA)

Infrastructure for a School for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Cameroon

Constructed a security fence and toilets at a school providing a quality education for 225 orphans and underprivileged children; the project also provided a source of safe drinking water for the school and neighboring community.



Easton Area Neighborhood Centers

Easton Urban Farm in Easton, Pennsylvania

Provided nutritious, locally grown produce to food-insecure families; a food pantry offered personal hygiene items, diapers, and paper goods.



Ecology Action

Grow Biointensive Agriculture Training in Malawi

Trained 2,600 farmers, including 1,400 women, in climate-resilient agriculture methods such as deep soil preparation, composting, carbon-farming, and using and saving open-pollinated seeds.



Group for Assistance of the Elderly, Children, and Adolescents (GAIA)
Vocational Training for Women in Brazil

Supported training for 120 women in sewing or elder care, and provided resources and assistance to help women get proper work documents, access social services, and improve their families' nutrition.



Jamyang Foundation
Expanding Education for Marma Girls in Bangladesh

Funded the building and furnishing of three new classrooms to enable girls from extremely poor families to continue their education up to Grade 8 at Visakha Girls' School.



Grow Biointensive Agriculture Center of Kenya (G-BIACK)
Women's Empowerment Program in Kenya

Trained 500 farmers, including 450 women, in environmentally sustainable agricultural methods to improve their families' food security and livelihoods.



Joan Rose Foundation
Meals for Children in Jacmel, Haiti

Supported a food program that provided two nutritious meals, five days a week, 51 weeks a year, to approximately 100 children and 10 adults. For many of these children, these meals were their only source of reliable nutrition during the week, staving off malnutrition.



Helen Keller International
Malnutrition Interventions in Côte d'Ivoire

Supported health worker training in infant and child nutrition, hygiene, sanitation, and health in centers serving approximately 60,000 people. The project also constructed a borehole and irrigation system, providing potable water to 1,000 people.



Karuna Trust
Graphic Design Training for Underserved Women in Sri Lanka

Trained women from impoverished families in graphic design skills, empowering them to start their own businesses or find secure jobs in the publishing industry.



Helen Keller International
Increased Access to Water and Improved Nutritional Status in Senegal

Constructed boreholes and wells with solar or gravity-fed irrigation systems to provide clean water for drinking and agricultural irrigation to help combat illness and malnutrition, improving the health and well-being of 2,400 people in rural communities.



Keep Growing Detroit
Long-Term Strategy for Food Production in Detroit, Michigan

Supplied Detroit-grown transplants, compost, and seed garlic to community gardens. Funded workshops, trainings, and other educational resources for individuals seeking to improve their families' nutrition by growing healthy produce in home and community gardens.



LICADHO, The Cambodian League for the Promotion and Defense of Human Rights

Early Years Behind Bars Prison Nutrition Program in Cambodia

Provided nutritious food and material support to mothers, children, and pregnant women detained in prisons, as well as regular consultations and treatments for detainees in eleven prisons.



Lotus Outreach International

CATALYST Scholarship Program for Young Women in Cambodia

Supported qualified high school graduates from some of the poorest families in rural Cambodia as they pursued university education, covering tuition, school supplies, professional development workshops and mentoring, books, and course fees.



Lotus Outreach International

Garden of Peace School Feeding Program in India

Provided two nutritious daily meals and a healthy snack for all students at this school serving children from rural poor families in Tamil Nadu.



Lotus Outreach International

Rice Support for Students in Cambodia

Provided rice to female students and their families in rural Cambodia, ensuring reliable nourishment for people persistently affected by food insecurity while also freeing up limited familial resources for the education of these girls and young women.



Mahabodhi International Meditation Centre

Boys Hostel Project in India

Supported the construction of a boys dormitory for 80 children from economically and socially disadvantaged families in Ladakh.



Mahabodhi Maitri Mandala, Diyun

Education and Healthy Food for Needy Children in 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.



Mahabodhi Tawang Centre

Food Aid for Elders and Children in India

Provided three nutritious meals a day to 157 children, plus elderly people, monks, and organization staff.



Maitreya Charity

Hot Meals Program for Children in Mongolia

Provided nutritious lunch meals as well as warm winter outerwear, tutoring, school supplies, dental care, and health/hygiene instruction for 58 schoolchildren affected by poverty and hunger in the poorest sections of Ulanbaatar.



Moanoghar
*Pandemic
 Crisis
 Response
 for Schoolchildren
 in Bangladesh*

Provided training and supplies supporting families' vegetable gardening as well as rice support for families in immediate need. The project also established a fruit-tree nursery and provided local workshops on agro-processing and other topics.



Oxfam India
*Prosperity
 Through Resilient
 Agriculture in
 Uttar Pradesh,
 India*

Increased income and nutrition security among smallholder women farmers through training in climate-resilient agricultural methods and in the production of nutritionally rich crop varieties.



**New Eden Charity
 Foundation**
*Educational
 Support for
 IDP Children in
 Myanmar*

Provided needed school supplies for 800 children living in internally displaced persons' camps, more than half of whom are girls.



Rachana
*Socioeconomic
 Well-Being
 for Vulnerable
 Communities in
 Cambodia*

Provided training and resources to support 260 family farmers' use of climate-resilient rice cultivation techniques to increase resistance to drought conditions and 130 families' use of organic home-vegetable-gardening techniques.



**North Country
 Mission of Hope**
*Educational
 Support for
 Female Students
 in Nicaragua*

Sponsored the educations of 122 girls and young women, including 8 who were attending college. Each student received school books and the government-mandated school uniform and insignia, along with shoes, socks, underwear, bras, and feminine hygiene kits.



Ruben Centre
*Leveraging
 Agriculture for
 Improving
 Nutrition
 in Kenya*

Provided training and supplies to 200 people to plant and cultivate organic gardens, giving them a reliable source of food, nurturing community-scale economic growth, and improving health by increasing access to fresh produce.



Oxfam America
*Livelihood
 and
 Climate-Smart
 Agriculture in
 Uganda*

Trained 200 smallholder women farmers in crop management, agronomic climate-smart practices, and tree planting for ecosystem restoration.



Sahuarita Food Bank
*Women's Food
 Entrepreneurship
 Program in
 Pima County,
 Arizona*

Created a pilot project to help low-income women start food businesses, analyzing the market and providing training in key business skills such as planning, budgeting, and marketing.



Shraddha Charity Organization
Assisting Malnourished Pregnant Women in Sri Lanka

Provided pregnant women from underprivileged families across Sri Lanka with monthly food support and vitamin and mineral supplements to improve their nutrition during pregnancy and nursing.



Uganda Buddhist Centre
Hunger Relief for Orphans in Uganda

Supported a feeding program to care for some of the many children who have been orphaned due to parental HIV/AIDS or other illnesses, accidents, abandonment, or conflict-related violence.



Uganda Buddhist Centre
Peace School in Bulega, Uganda

Provided a high-quality early childhood education program for local children in an underserved area of Uganda.



Vietnam Red Cross
Meals for Patients in Tam Binh Hospital in Vietnam

Supported food assistance for hospitalized patients in Vietnam, where the price of a hospital stay does not include food. This long-term BGR project supports the nutritional needs of some of the most vulnerable people—those who are both poor and sick.



Vietnam Red Cross
Scholarships for Children in Need in Vietnam

Provided scholarships for 705 students in primary, middle, and high school. These are children from the poorest families; without this aid, these students would not have the means to continue their studies.



Wawa Sonqo
Training in Organic Fruit and Vegetable Cultivation in Peru

Provided nutritional education, training, and resources for the cultivation, preparation, processing, and preservation of fruits and vegetables to food-insecure families in the Piskak'uchu Indigenous community.



What If Foundation
Food Assistance for Families in Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Supported the Lamanjay Food program, which serves up to 800 meals each day to families in need; additionally, the program provides lunches for 350 to 400 students and staff members of the Father Jeri School.

BGR's European Partner



Buddhist Global Relief's European partner organization, Mitgefühl in Aktion e.V. (MiA) [*Compassion in Action, in English*], is an independent Buddhist relief organization founded in 2019, following an initiative of the Suttanta Community together with BGR founder Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi.

Working in partnership with BGR, MiA supports projects that are designed to “help people help themselves,” with a strong focus on hunger relief, girls’ and women’s education, sustainability, and emergency aid in crisis areas. MiA is entirely self-supported and volunteer-run, so that every donation directly supports work on the ground. MiA is a member of the German Buddhist Union and is recognized as a nonprofit aid organization based in Hamburg, Germany.

Each year, representatives from MiA join the BGR Board of Directors at our annual Projects Meeting, during which the following year’s projects are selected. As MiA has grown, so have its contributions to BGR’s projects. In the 2022 fiscal year, MiA joined BGR in funding seven projects:

- Housing and Schooling for Young Women in India, with the Bodhicitta Foundation
- Food and Education for the Children of Backpack Medics in Thailand (Myanmar border), with Burma Humanitarian Mission
- Afghanistan University Scholarship Initiative, with CARE
- Empowering Widows and Single Mothers Through Vocational Training in Cameroon, with the Centre for Community Regeneration and Development (CCREAD-Cameroon)
- Rice Support for Students in Cambodia, with Lotus Outreach International
- Asral Hot Meals Program for Children in Mongolia, with Maitreya Charity
- Improving Access to Education in Bangladesh, with Moanoghar

The BGR leadership has been gratified to witness the growth of MiA as a living example of *dāna*, the first of the *pāramīs*. “It is a great honor and joy for us to be a small light of understanding and compassion, making this world a brighter and better place,” said MiA’s founder and chair, Raimund Hopf.

To learn more about MiA and their wonderful work in service of the Dharma, please visit their English-language website at www.mia.eu.com/english.

Partnerships

For Humanitarian Action

ACTION AGAINST HUNGER For over 40 years, across 55 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 dispensing humanitarian services to orphans, widows, and other people in need.

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

BUILDING BRIDGES INDIA (BBI) Through educational and vocational training programs, BBI supports financial well-being, empowerment, and community for the widows of men who committed suicide because of poverty and indebtedness.

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

CARE Founded in 1945, CARE is a global humanitarian organization whose work in hunger relief, health, education, climate, equality, and disaster response serves nearly 90 million people worldwide.

CENTER FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION (CENCUDER) Focusing on vulnerable youths and women, CENCUDER provides education and training in life and vocational skills while supporting gender equality, protecting the Earth's biodiversity, and making cities livable.

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.

CENTRO DE TRABALHO INDIGENISTA (CTI) Founded in 1979, CTI supports the rights and well-being of Indigenous peoples in Brazil through environmentally sustainable, culturally responsive programs.

CENWOR, THE CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S RESEARCH This nonprofit nongovernmental organization helps Sri Lankan women realize their full potential and achieve equality in all spheres of life.

COMMUNITY RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION (COREDA) Since 2009, COREDA has provided support services for vulnerable populations including abandoned children and orphans, widows, and members of marginalized Indigenous communities.

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.

GROUP FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE ELDERLY, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS (GAIA) In the low-income neighborhood of Campo Grande in São Paulo, Brazil, GAIA provides formal and informal education and social work services for underserved women and families.

GROW BIOINTENSIVE AGRICULTURE CENTRE OF KENYA (G-BIACK) Working in Central, Eastern, and Nairobi provinces in Kenya, G-BIACK promotes sustainable development techniques among marginalized small-scale farmers.

HELEN KELLER INTERNATIONAL Helen Keller International, one of the world's oldest nonprofits, works in countries throughout the world to prevent blindness and reduce malnutrition.

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.

KARUNA TRUST A charity inspired by Buddhist values, Karuna works alongside the most excluded people in South Asia, seeking to overcome discrimination through locally led education, gender equality, and sustainable livelihood projects.

KEEP GROWING DETROIT Keep Growing Detroit promotes food sovereignty in Detroit, Michigan, by supporting residents in growing the fruits and vegetables consumed in the city.

PARTNERSHIPS

LICADHO, THE CAMBODIAN LEAGUE FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS Since 1992, LICADHO has worked to protect civil, political, economic, and social rights in Cambodia and to promote respect for them by the Cambodian government and institutions.

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.

MAHABODHI INTERNATIONAL MEDITATION CENTER Founded in 1986 by Ven. Bhikkhu Sanghasena, the MIMC community provides comprehensive care to all segments of society: children, the elderly, special needs individuals, monks and nuns, and the sick, as well as those seeking spiritual development.

MAHABODHI MAITRI MANDALA, DIYUN The Society provides education, vocational training, health services, and agricultural support to the poor tribal people of northeast India under the spiritual guidance of Most Venerable Acharya Buddharakkhita.

MAHABODHI TAWANG CENTRE Located in the Himalayan region of Tawang, in Arunachal Pradesh, the Centre provides housing, food, quality education, and health care to local children and elderly people.

MAITREYA CHARITY Maitreya Charity supports Asral NGO, a Mongolian nonprofit 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.

NEW EDEN CHARITY FOUNDATION This Myanmar-based foundation serves the needs of the most vulnerable communities in Myanmar, focusing on children, poor families, and rural communities.

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

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

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

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

RUBEN CENTRE Serving in Nairobi's Mukuru community since 1986, the Ruben Centre is a faith-based charitable trust providing quality education, health, and financial and social services to children and families in the area.

SAHUARITA FOOD BANK In Southern Pima County, Arizona, the Sahuarita Food Bank and Community Resource Center strives to meet the nutritional needs of the hungry through the distribution of healthy food as well as through education and other human services.

SHRADDHA CHARITY ORGANIZATION (SCO) Inspired by the teachings of the Buddha, SCO provides clean water, education, and aid for sick people, victims of emergencies and natural disasters, and other people in need in Sri Lanka.

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.

UGANDA BUDDHIST CENTRE (UBC) UBC was founded in 2005 by the Most Ven. Bhante Buddharakkhita to introduce and preserve the Buddha's teachings within the context of African culture, and to exemplify Buddhist practice through service to the public.

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 nearly a quarter 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.

Annual Support



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 2022 fiscal year, July 2021 through June 2022. 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: info@buddhistglobalrelief.org.

Annual Support

\$400,000 + Organizations

Anonymous

\$225,000 - \$399,999 Organizations

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\$30,000 - \$224,999 Organizations

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\$1,000 - \$2,499 Organizations

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Sangha

Buddha's Light
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\$500 - \$999

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4 Noble Truths
Berkeley Chapter JACL

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Compassionate
Wisdom (Ann Arbor)
Clear View Project
Every Kid Gets A Bike
Gorgeous Lady
Enterprise CO., LTD
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of NY Inc.
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Although we wish we could 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.

Financial Statements

Since our founding, in 2008, 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 2022 (July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022), our fourteenth year of service, BGR maintained the steady growth in donation revenue seen since its inception. Our revenues totaled \$1,922,193. Our expenditure totaled \$1,356,632, of which \$1,194,079, or 88 percent, was allocated to direct programs. Our administrative ratio was 4 percent, and another 8 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.



Statement of Activities

July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

REVENUE

Individual & business contributions	\$ 979,880
Nonprofit organization contributions	942,126
Investment income	187
Total revenue	<u>\$ 1,922,193</u>

EXPENDITURES

Direct program costs	\$ 1,194,079
Administration	60,349
Fundraising	102,204
Total expenditures	<u>1,356,632</u>
Change in net assets	<u>\$ 565,561</u>

Administration as % of total expense and total revenue are 4% and 3%, respectively.

Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2022

ASSETS

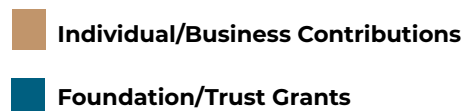
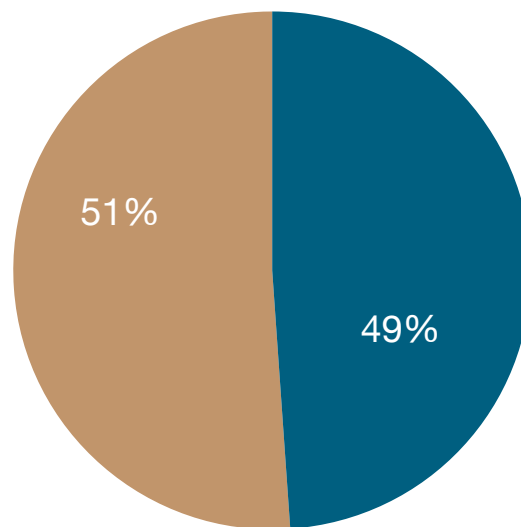
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 1,062,706
Accounts receivable	2,220
Other assets	2,239
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,067,165</u>

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE

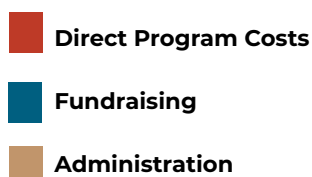
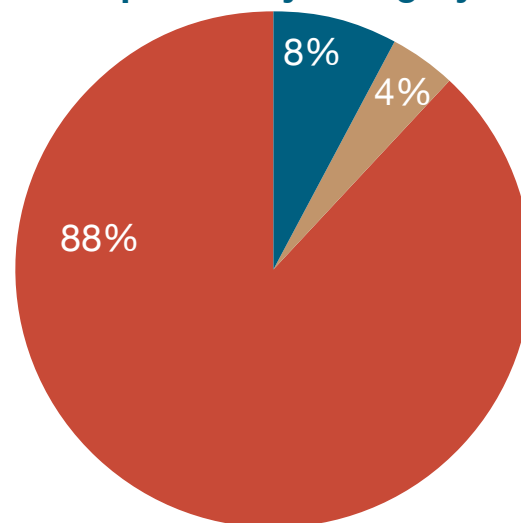
Liabilities	
Grant payable	\$ 49,188
Other payable	1,842
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 51,030</u>

Fund balance	
Fund balance Jul 1, 2021	\$ 450,574
Change in net assets	565,561
Fund balance Jun 30, 2022	<u>1,016,135</u>
Liabilities & fund balance	<u>\$ 1,067,165</u>

Revenue by Source



Expenses by Category



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. 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.

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.

BEQUEST AND ESTATE PLAN GIVING

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.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

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.

CONTRIBUTE TO BGR THROUGH COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN #74375

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.

MAKE A TRIBUTE GIFT

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.

STAY CONNECTED

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

Buddhist Action 2021



On October 2 and October 30, 2021, members of the worldwide Buddhist Global Relief community joined founder Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi and the BGR staff for two “Buddhist Action to Feed the Hungry” online gatherings.

Since the earliest days of BGR, our main fundraiser has been our annual Walks to Feed the Hungry. Supporters in ten cities in the U.S. and in the U.K., Uganda, and India joined us for these beautiful events. When safety precautions related to the Covid pandemic in 2020 prevented us from holding all but one of our Walks, we hosted instead a series of online gatherings. These gatherings have proved to be a wonderful opportunity for American Buddhists and friends of Buddhism everywhere to come together in the Dharma and mobilize to take compassionate action to combat chronic hunger and malnutrition.

Our Pacific/Mountain gathering, held on October 2, featured talks by Ven. Thubten Chodron, abbess of Sravasti Abbey; Abbot Hozan Senauke from the Berkeley Zen Center; Rev. Jin Chuan from the Berkeley Buddhist Monastery; Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara from the Berkeley Buddhist Temple; Ayya Dhammadīpā, founder of the Dassanāya Buddhist Community; and Ven. Lekshe Tsomo from Sakya Dharma International Association of Buddhist Women and the Jamyang Foundation.

Our Eastern/Central gathering, held on October 30, featured talks by Roshi Joan Hoeberichts, of Heart Circle Sangha; Ven. Khenmo Drolma, of Vajra Dakini Nunnery; Ven. Myokei Shonin, of Myoken-Ji Temple, Nichiren Buddhist Sangha; Rev. Greg Snyder, of Union Theological Seminary; and Rev. Doyeon Park, of the Manhattan Won Buddhist Center, also representing the Buddhist Council of New York. Ven. Lekshe Tsomo joined us again to give a presentation on her project at the Visakha Girls’ School in Bangladesh.

Additionally, once again, one in-person Walk to Feed the Hungry was held, in Collinsville, Connecticut, led by Ven. Shim Bo Sunim.

We are grateful to the many supporters who spread the word and created fundraisers for BGR; to the teachers and speakers who inspired us with their words; to the sanghas and Buddhist organizations that joined us as Participating Sanghas; and to all who joined us for these gatherings and were moved to contribute to support the work of BGR. The 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.

Leadership

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p. 10-11: Centro de Trabalho
Indigenista (Brazil)

p. 12-13: Trees That Feed
Foundation (Haiti)

p. 15: Better Burma
(Myanmar); Karuna Trust
(Sri Lanka)

p. 22: Bodhicitta
Foundation (India)

p. 25: Local Red Cross
(Vietnam); New Eden
Charity Foundation
(Myanmar); Building
Bridges (India)

p. 28 Helen Keller
International (Vietnam)

p. 30: Arts Creation
Foundation for Children
(Haiti); Keep Growing
Detroit (USA)

Note: Leadership reflects the individuals' roles as of the date of publication of this report

Please join us for the
2023 Buddhist Action
to Feed the Hungry
Fundraising Season



On October 28, 2023, Buddhist Global Relief founder and chair Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi will host an online Dharma gathering, "Creating a World That Works for Everyone." Featuring talks from Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi and other Dharma teachers, this gathering is a celebration that brings the worldwide BGR community together in support of the people in need around the world who are served by our projects.

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, please visit us online at buddhistglobalrelief.org, or email us at info@buddhistglobalrelief.org.

We hope that you will join us!



**“Refrain from all wrongdoing,
To cultivate the good,
To purify one’s own mind,
This is the teaching of all the Buddhas.”**

Dhammapada 183

BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF

2020 ROUTE 301
CARMEL, NY 10512 USA
1-888-852-7579