



encouraging development
... inspiring hope

www.hada.org.au

**Health And
Development Aid Abroad
— Australia Fund Inc.**

ABN 43 739 862 351

HADA'S VISION

**To see medical, educational,
agricultural and sanitation
programs established in
countries as needed.**

All projects listed in *Inspire* are tax deductible. All monies for these projects and personnel involved in them are sent in their entirety except for bank charges. HADA does not use these funds for administration.

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CAMBODIA

Valéria F Peres

TRANSFORMING Communities

It is just nine months since we restarted the Bridge of Hope program, having moved from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap.

We celebrated our six-month anniversary by taking 50 children with our Khmer staff for a day outing to Angkor Wat — one of Cambodia's major historic sites. The children enjoyed sightseeing, playing games, dancing and having fun together.

We now would like to change our name to Communities of Hope, as our goal for working with children at risk is to reach not just them, but their families and the whole community. (At this point, however, the government still knows us as Bridge of Hope).



There are lots of children and families in this city who collect rubbish and who struggle with problems like alcohol addiction, drugs, gambling etc. There are several karaoke bars, where many girls end up in prostitution. Prior to our program, there was no other organisation helping street children to get the basic skills to go to government schools.

For some especially needy boys and girls we give a sponsorship of rice if they are committed to coming to study daily, and if they apply themselves. Our community workers visit the family and review the situation. The sponsorship is helpful because the child still feels that he or she

is contributing to the family income, while they are also away from the dangers of the street. The whole program helps children to be in a safe and motivated environment.

In January we observed that many children were complaining at about 3:00 p.m. that they had not eaten all day. So, we started to give a nutritious meal every day, very simple, but with lots of vegetables and meat.

After two months we had a 10-day visit from a doctor from France who did a very good job in checking the children's health. By this time an improvement in their weight and height could be noticed. Of the 61 children she checked though, she found that two thirds had never seen a doctor before. Also, 86% of the children had malnutrition and 9.8% suffered from severe malnutrition.

Also, 82% of the children had tooth decay — especially those under eight years old. Most of them were

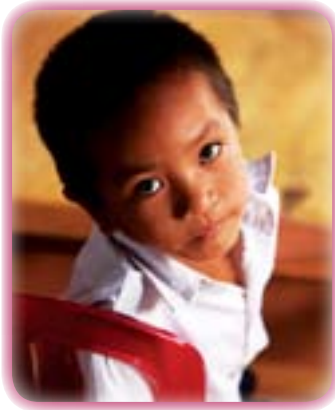
in a severe state with teeth missing and 11.5% needed urgent treatment.

In April we were able to send the children to a good NGO hospital for health checks and dental treatment.

We are blessed with a new Khmer staff member that has experience in teaching children, and is also trained in basic counseling. She is now teaching for one half of the day and meeting children individually for the other. Now we have better cooperation between the staff who meet the parents, and the staff who meet with the children. Our new staff member also has lots of contacts with the hospitals, which makes it easy to refer the children without having to wait for long periods of time.

If you want to sponsor a child financially, please write to us: wecc.boh@gmail.com

Please read Eng's story on page 4.



MONGOLIA

Mobile Libraries: A WINDOW TO THE WORLD

Charis Storms

Imagine opening your eyes every morning to a round – not square – ceiling, made of felt, not plaster; with 'spokes' of orange or blue above you, all converging on a wooden wheel half open to the sky in summer, closed against the cold in winter. This 'window,' when open, shows the famous bright blue Mongolian sky.

If you regularly wake to that view, there is a good chance you are a nomadic herder living in the Mongolian ger (traditional round felt tent), moving at least two to four times annually.

There are advantages to the nomadic herder's lifestyle – fresh air, breath-taking views, and constant challenges to one's thriftiness and physical endurance. However, there are also difficulties – lack of medical



A herder selecting a book to take and read

services, unending physical labour, and harsh conditions that kill off entire herds and leave families destitute.

In addition, access to educational

services is limited. Many herders send their children to board in village schools. Other opportunities for continued learning are almost impossible to find.

This is especially true of the remote western province of Uvs, 1400 km from the country's capital, Ulaanbaatar, and known for having some of the coldest average temperatures in Mongolia. There are 18 villages spread across its 69,600 square kilometres. Seventy percent of the population of 77,400 dwell outside of the province centre in the villages and isolated countryside regions.

Another window

Mongolia has an 80-90% literacy rate, but reading material for nomadic herders outside of the village centres is all but unattainable for transportation and financial reasons. This year, our Mongolia NGO, Good Neighbour Society (GNS), started a Mobile Library to assist in 'opening a window to the world' for herders in Uvs province. Each month we take 25 books from a variety of genres, to four countryside district officials who then distribute the books via horseback or motorcycle, and collect them again before we return to switch out the next set of books. We will start in a second village next month.



Mobile library books fit on horses

Our project aims to create

self-sustainable, countryside **mobile libraries**
to open **windows of learning**
by means of a **systematic book rotation**
available to herders **living in the countryside**
for whom the local village libraries are **logistically inaccessible**.

Our plan

1. Set up a mobile library book rotation system for herders with local officials using GNS mobile library books, volunteer labour, and petrol money funds in order to give herders and officials a taste of how reading can positively affect herders.
2. Create a village mobile library committee including the village librarian, countryside district officials, and herder representatives.
3. Assist the committee in writing a local plan for a sustainable mobile library.
4. Assist the committee in beginning to implement their plan.
5. The committee continues the project on their own, using village library resources and their own funding ideas, with GNS workers visiting at four-month intervals.



Sisters checking out a new book from the countryside district official

We hope this new 'window to the world' will allow nomadic herders to continue growing personally and professionally as they follow their herds.

CAMBODIA

Eng's Story – of Hope

My name is Eng and I am 12 years old and the youngest in my family. My father used to fish, but because he could not catch fish we moved to Siem Reap as we heard that we could make some money collecting rubbish.

My family lives in a rented room. I used to go with them to collect rubbish and when I did, I would earn some money to give to my mother, as I needed to support my family. I would also keep money for myself for going out with friends and gambling. I wasted my time out on the streets because I felt free. I was also very lazy, even in washing myself and I did not like to study.



Near my house there is an organisation called 'Communities of Hope' [formerly Bridge of Hope]. My mum saw her nephew go to study at that school so she wanted me to go to study too. At first, I didn't want to go, but my father forced me to go, and after that I agreed.

In this school they gave me a uniform, food, school materials, some clothes and I can also get sponsorship for my family so they do not need me to go out to work. The school also took me to the dentist when I had a toothache.

At the beginning I was very lazy in studying. I was still going to collect rubbish very early in the morning with my parents, so I could not study very well, and I would sleep in the class. At that time I did not want

to study, and my parents would scold and blame me, but my teacher always encouraged me and never blamed or scolded me.

At that time, I still did not understand the lessons but I was put in a new class where I could get more attention and learn more slowly.

After studying here for a while I have changed a lot. I stopped going out with my old friends, because in the school I have lots of friends who play with me. Now I care much more about my hygiene. And I also obey my parents better than before and help them. I also like the teacher who has encouraged me to study hard so I can get a good job in the future.

Now I realise that studying is very important for me. I love to come to study in this school so much because there are a lot of people who love me and encourage me. In the future, I have a dream that I could study until 12th grade if possible, and I want to study French after I finish high school. I want to be a tuk-tuk driver in the future because I can meet foreigners and talk to them.

Tuk-tuk: a three-wheeled motorised vehicle used as a taxi



Current HADA Projects

All projects listed here are approved for tax deductibility



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Africa

Medical Training

Manager: Dr Judith Goh

- Training African doctors in treating women with genital tract fistula.

Cambodia

Siem Reap.

Manager: Valéria F Peres

- Bridge of Hope: Working with families and communities to prevent children at risk becoming street children (or sold/ending up in prostitution).

Phnom Penh.

Manager: Martin Aerne

- Vocational Training Program: Tailoring Workshop, Metal Workshop and I.T. Support / Customer Service.

China

Kham Health Associates, Sichuan Province.

Managers: Keith and Barbara Richardson

- Disaster Relief: help in the form of food, blankets, shoes and shelter.
- Yak loans and shelters.

Bridgewater Care, Guiyang.

Manager: Karen Kirkland

- Offering hospital and community-based training to local rehab specialists, rehab workers and caregivers in physiotherapy rehabilitation for adult neurological and orthopedic disabilities, geriatrics, and post burn care.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Heal Africa, Goma

- Equipping a new hospital.

India

Maxton Strong Orphanage School, Banbassa.

Manager: Rick Shipway

- School buildings for orphans and local children.

Vocational and Career Development, Orissa.

Manager: Bill Watson

- Construction of Shepherd International School for very poor children.
- Construction of Jeevan Jyoti Ashram home for orphaned children.

Ivory Coast

Literacy Project.

Manager: Alfred Kouassi

- Literacy for adults.

Kazakhstan

HADA, Astana.

Manager: David Pichotta

- Alcoholism: Education, literature, and support groups for alcoholics and their families in order to break the cycle of this devastating problem.
- Open Doors Community Centre: a place to gain employable skills and life skills for young adults, couples and parents.
- Valueology teaching: assisting schools by providing teaching materials, and teaching values to teenagers and students.

Mongolia

Good Neighbor Society, Ulaanbaatar.

Manager: Mark Jennings

- Feeding poor children; Animal Replacement Project; Food Distribution; Kindergarten Project; Educational Projects; Micro Loans.
- Purchase of building for Community Centre programs.

Good Neighbor Society, Uvs – Mobile Library.

Manager: Charis Storms

- Providing learning opportunities for nomadic herders.

Nepal

Community Awakening and Transformation Society (CATS), Rapti Zone.

Manager: Dr Julie Lincoln

- Community development; microenterprise; environmental health; TB/leprosy patient hostel/treatment centre; youth awareness program and scholarships for poor children.

Zambia

Oasis Care Project, Ndola.

Manager: Margaret Parry.

- Oasis Care Project - market garden for orphanage.

**Please make your cheque payable to
HADA Relief Fund.**

**Do not include the name of the
person or project on the cheque.**



**Health and Development Aid Abroad –
Australia Fund Inc.
PO Box 733
Ashmore Qld 4214
ABN 43 739 862 351**

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HADA General Fund \$

Tax Deductible gift. Make your cheque payable to **HADA Relief Fund**

Make a Tax Deductible gift of \$ for general project distribution

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(person or project)

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If paying by credit card, please complete all sections.

Credit card transactions will show as **Strata Pay** on your statement.

***We reserve the right to use designated gifts for another project if the
one identified is sufficiently funded or closed.***