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prom the Executive Director G

2016 has been a great year for Lotus Outreach. We are proud to present this annual report and share the excellent outcomes across all of our education, training, clean water and child protection programs.

A great body of evidence shows that education, especially for girls, supports sustainable economic and social development, as well as balancing gender discrimination in the societies the girls come from.

Millenium Development Goal 2 was focused on enrollment and retention at the level of primary education. This focus improved primary level enrollment and retention across developing countries, but had little impact on the quality of education. Children are pushed up through the grades without learning much. In India and Cambodia, where Lotus Outreach works, some 65% of children are not reaching beyond 7th or 8th grade.

This is reason for grave concern in a region geared towards the exploitation of children. The area is rife with labor trafficking and has a rampant sex industry. While there has been some progress in these societies in recent years, backward social and cultural norms, a weak judiciary, and lack of rule of law continue to give women and girls low value.

It is a continuing source of satisfaction for me to work towards Lotus Outreach's long-term commitment to the education and training of young women and girls, and to help ensure young people have the skills to support themselves and their families, freeing them from cycles of poverty and exploitation.

For 10 years now, Lotus Outreach has supported scholarship programs as one of the best strategies to cure social ills and support sustainable, economic development amongst low-income communities. However, supporting a child's education is more complicated than a simple cash transfer.

Our scholarship programs provide school buses and bicycles through the Blossom Bus and Lotus Pedals programs, as well as Community Based Education Committees (CBEC's) made up of teachers and village leaders who monitor the progress of each child and intervene to ensure poverty and other obstacles don't interfere with their education.

By the end of 2016, Lotus Outreach had supported 1,600 secondary scholars through our Girls Access to Education programs (GATE). We are delighted and take great pride in the outcomes of our GATEways program, designed to provide career orientation, further education and training at tertiary level for our scholars graduating out of high school The program has now put 105 graduates through four-year university degrees and referred 200 young people to tertiary courses and colleges!

Our graduates have become teachers and nurses, and work in tourism, banking and IT! They are able to earn good money, supporting the education of their siblings and helping parents at home toward economic well-being beyond the reach of poverty!

Following the great success of GATEways, we decided to create our own tertiary scholarship program In 2016 we unveiled our very own Cambodian Tertiary Education & Leadership Youth Training (CATALYST) program! We provided 28 university scholarships in our first year and plan to increase the number to 35 in 2017 with additional yearly increases as we move forward.

Poverty is multidimensional. Lack of clean water and sanitary practices has a negative impact on social gains and has been another area we've been able to make an impact, providing 13 pump Wells to 1,316 Cambodians still suffering the effects of the 2015 drought, one of the worst in living memory. Between 2008 and 2016 end we provided a total of 68 village pump wells, along with education on sanitation and hygiene, to some 9,000 poor Cambodians across the country.

While education is the most effective cure for poverty and exploitation, it is a sad truth that women and girls, including a large number of children, are trafficked for labor and/or sexual exploitation and suffer sexual abuse. Since 2005, Lotus Outreach has supported counseling and reintegration programs that have provided a secure environment for care and recovery to upwards of 900 survivors of trafficking, sexual abuse and domestic violence.

Lotus Outreach Programs like these not only serve victims of violence and abuse, they also ensure that governments and judiciaries pay attention to the plight of children, women and girls in these regions regarding terms of justice and the rule of law and social processes meant to protect them.

It is a pleasure to present this annual report, detailing progress across a great number of social programs working in concert to maximise long-term benefits in some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities in the world.

Glenn Fawcett Lotus Outreach. Executive Director of Field Operations





Our programs



Girls Access to Education



Catalyst



Blosssom Bus



Lotus Petals



Rice 4 Education



Buddha Smiles



Garden of Peace Nutrition Support



EQU+ (Education Quality Addition Program)



Consoling through Counseling (CTC) & Reintegration Project



Getting Well Program



1 Education, training and human resource development programs

"A quality education has the power to transform societies in a single generation, provide children with the protection they need from the hazards of poverty, labor exploitation and disease and give them knowledge, skills and confidence to reach their full potential!"

- Audrey Hepburn

"The content of a book holds the power of education and it is with this power that we can shape our future and change lives."

- Malala Yousazzai



Girls Access to Education (GATE)

In 2016 Lotus Outreach supported Girls Access to Education programs. GATE in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap provided 206 high school girls from the poorest families with scholarships that include classroom study material, uniform, bicycle, and 50 kgs of rice per month. 23 girls were provided full residential support and medical coverage.

In 2016, the GATE program also engaged local teachers, principals, and members of women's groups and committees to make 510 home visits to monitor scholars, ensure regular attendance and monthly academic performance, as well as affirm the families' commitment to keeping their girls in school.

Over the year advocacy programs raised awareness, reinforcing the importance of educating girls in the minds of 2500 parents and community members.

Girls in the GATE program were also provided vocational guidance from Lotus Outreach Cambodia's CATALYST program officers. LOCAM partnered with Career Advising Service (CAS) from the RUPP to provide employment counseling career orientation for 16 students at GATE PP, and to assist them in identifying tertiary courses suitable to their abilities. Scholars were trained on how to identify options and complete applications for university education and vocational training opportunities.

In 2016 GATE programs supported:

- 206 High School girl's scholarships including 23 in full residential support
- 2500 community members and leaders impacted through awareness training on the importance of educating girls
- 510 home visits made by local stakeholders to counsel parents, keep girls in school and ensure regular attendance



CATALYST

Cambodian Tertiary Edu Leadership Youth Trainir



cation And 19



were profoundly aware that our GATE scholars, some supported by us since grade 4, were approaching the end of their secondary education. Lotus Outreach then designed the GATEways tertiary scholarship program to provide university scholarships, orientation and referrals to further education and training institutes.

A wonderful four-year partnership with local NGO Cambodian Women's Crisis centre created opportunities for 108 of our GATE graduates to complete their tertiary studies and become professionals. Apart from the deep impact of the program on human resource development in Cambodia, it was an amazing fundraising feat that all Lotus Outreach past and present can be deeply proud of! Knowing we could do it and in order to build LO Cambodia as a local NGO we designed CATALYST and gave it to LOCAM for in-house implementation.

The CATALYST program provides training and mentoring to transform inhibited Cambodian village girls who speak poor English and lack urbane sophistication, into confident young tertiary-level graduates with good English and an improved capacity to succeed at job interviews. CATALYST also prepares our high school graduates to take entrance exams for esteemed colleges and skill training courses.

CATALYST proudly supported 28 University scholars over the course of the past year. 14 scholars were referred to further training and college awards, including 6 coveted two-year IT training awards. Four Lotus Scholars completed their two-year IT training by the end of 2016 and all found employment with well paid jobs in the IT industry!

In 2016 CATALYST provided:

- 28 University scholarships and referred
 14 scholars to further training and college
 awards = 42
- 6 IT scholarships ~ 6 scholars referred to PNC Training in 2016
- Referred: 5 to Sala Bai, 2 to PNC, 1 Bayon



CATAL rom a GATE scholarship into pastry chef training! From GATE to CATALYST. Referral to skills training "Since starting school and until I received the scholarship from Lotus Outreach much later, I used to walk 3.5 kilometres through thick jungle to get to school." I walked to school until I was in grade 7. I received a bicycle from the program in 8th grade along with a new school uniform, shoes, and the study materials I needed for school!" Now here I am at Bayon pastry! I cannot believe I am here! This is like a dream. I am so happy, so appreciative. Thank you so much Lotus Outreach. I am not hopeless anymore. I will work hard and I will become a success and earn a good salary. I will help my family...I just cannot believe I am here."



aspect of the CATALYST program

blossom bus

Blossom Bus provides daily transportation via school bus to and from high school and college to adolescent minority girls from the poorest families in rural Mewat, Haryana in northern India. Without safe transit, unsafe distances and gender biases would not allow these girls to attend secondary school or college. Riders are becoming first generation graduates in their families and communities.

Blossom bus has made it possible for these mostly minority Meo girls to reach dizzying heights and achieve what was previously unthinkable for them. They have become role models in their communities, providing an inspiring, pathbreaking example for the next generation of girls in their communities.

Data from the Aharwan School, where we have 205 Girls arriving on Blossom Bus, shows that even while many schools in the area are losing students, the school we send Blossom Bus girls to has increased in number of girls from 180 in 2008 to 340 in 2016. The Headmaster told us with pride, "45 out of the 54 girls in grade 10 have passed the exams in the 2015-16 school year from this school against 40% pass percentage in the state.

In 2016 Blossom Bus:

- Transported 275 scholars to High School
- 40 scholars attending college - twice the amount of the previous year
- All scholars passed their exams for the 2015-16 school year including 16 scholars in year 12



lotus petals

65 out of 100 Cambodian girls don't reach high school in part due to long distances from their village or rural home to school, not possible in all weather on foot. Most of us living in modern societies cannot imagine being so poor we are forced to allow our children to walk long distances to school, rain or shine, safe or not. A simple bicycle makes a world of difference to the children we provide them to and helps ensure they are able to attend school and more regularly.

Sun now attends a lower secondary school about three kilometres from home. It takes her about thirty minutes to get there across hill, dale and rice field.

In 2016 we provided:



Sun Tae

"I would not be able to attend school without this bicycle, school uniform, and all the other assistance I receive from Lotus Outreach.

"Other children pay for tuition and are doing better than me. I have asked my older brother to support my tuition but we cannot afford it right now. I am able to keep myself around 14th of 50 in my class at the moment. My favorite subject is Khmer literature and I want to become a primary school teacher."



rice for education

Rice for Education (R4E) has been providing rice support to the most vulnerable families of children in Lotus Outreach programs in Phnom Penh. Siem Reap and Banteay Meanchey since the 2006-2007 academic year.

In 2016, R4E provided families of scholarship girls most vulnerable to dropping out from school a total of 39,485 KG of rice. Rice support increases attendance by reducing the financial burden for families so that they can keep their girl children in school.

39,485 kg of rice provided

In 2016 Rice for Edication provided

- 107 High School scholarships for girls mos vulnerable to dropping out of school
- 39,485 kgs of rice to increase attendance and buoy family economics to keep the children in school

garden of peace

Nutrition for Education Program

The Garden of Peace school-based nutrition program feeds morning porridge and a hearty lunch of rice, dal and vegetables to 160 school children from the poorest of poor village families. Garden of Peace provides a free Holistic education influenced by great educator philosopher, J. Krishnamurti, and leaders like Mahatma Gandhi.

With the help of our local partners, Garden of Peace School, Lotus Outreach provided 160 primary and high school children from poorest of poor village families morning porridge and a hearty lunch of rice, dal and vegetables including some 3000kgs of rice!



Buddha smiles

Buddha Smiles serves highly disadvantaged children of poor, illiterate parents in Tamil Nadu. These children attend inferior schools, have no extra money for tuition, and are unable to keep up with their lessons. Buddha Smiles offers support through after school tutoring and education that integrates storytelling and play-based learning.

The program operates in 15 teaching centers: 10 in lowland and 5 based in hilly tribal areas. Many of the centers are running inside the formal government schools the children attend daily. Close relationships have been developed with principals and teaching staff to ensure children keep up with their formal curriculum. Folk stories are used to convey moral and ethical messages, while traditional dance, music and games ensure the children learn and play in a balanced way. The classes also provide after school care in a safe environment for children of working parents that come home late.



EQU+ (Education Quality Addition Program)

We developed the Education Quality Addition (EQU+) program in view of high rates of illiteracy and lack of education among adults at Mewat. Many parents with children in government schools are incapable of ensuring their children keep up with their studies.

The program has been designed with input from National Institute of Education and Planning NUEPA and District Institute of Education and Training (DIET) Gurgaon. District level government trainers helped us develop an evening class curriculum.

Five of our very own Blossom Bus graduates were hired and trained to deliver the curriculum at after school classes in their own villages five days a week. These young women leaders have broken many barriers and glass ceilings on their journey. They are the first generation learners to complete year 12, some of them even going on to attend college! What better role models could we possibly find for educating youth in these villages?

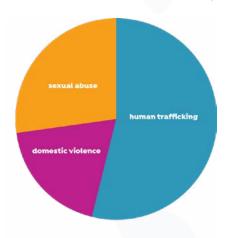


2 Lotus Outreach Health, Hygeine & Water Security Programs

CTC Consoling Through Counseling & reintegration program:

CTC provides shelter-based care for victims of trafficking, sexual abuse and domestic violence. Victims referred to the shelter receive full residential care, psychological counseling by a professional psychologist, and skills training and assistance for eventual reintegration back to what will hopefully be a fairly normal life with the added skills to support themselves financially.

Lotus Outreach has now helped change the lives of some 900 victims since we began supporting this program. Aside from supporting victims, many of which are children, over the past several years the program has assisted in ensuring a steep rise in the numbers of Perpetrators who are arrested and convicted. Lotus Outreach also funds the training of local NGOs to ensure conformance with best practices in Child Protection.



In 2016 CTC provided:

- 46 new clients received counseling, legal and referral services, in addition to 12 continuing on from the previous year, for a total of 58 clients
- 281 sessions of individual counseling to 55 clients, at a total of 183 hours

Cases by category:

Human Trafficking: 66%

Sexual Abuse: 22%

Domestic Violence: 12%

100%

38 trafficking cases – 23 of them children
13 sexual abuse cases - 12 of them children
7 domestic violence cases







Women in traditional social contexts are especially informed when it comes to household and children's health issues. In this case, all the 15 women

family representatives were present and eager to interact with us. The pump well had only just been completed a few days prior to our arrival and the

We asked head of the committee, Sam Sayorn, a 23-year-old mother of one daughter (three years old), to tell us what is was like before the well was

"Before having the well, we didn't have water nearby and had to travel a long way to get it. Besides, the water is dirty, not clean, and it made us unwell.

> We often contracted diarrhea and had difficulty in urinating. On top of that the water also smelled bad.

> > Now that we have the well, the water is clean. It is closer to home, so it's easy and we

> > > We also save a lot of time and which previously impacted on our ability to work for income as we don't have to travel far any more"

> > > > In 2016:



13 new pump wells installed



2 Field Report

In 2016 Lotus Outreach provided:

206 high school scholarships provided to at-risk Cambodian youth members of poor communities get awareness raising **2500** on importance of girls' education home visits made by local stakeholders to counsel parents, keep **510** girls in school and ensure regular attendance scholars provided tertiary awards including 28 x 4 year University 42 scholarships and referred 14 scholars to jurther training and college awards in 6 to 2 year IT specialist training LO scholars graduated from a premier IT training Institute 315 girls provided transport - 275 scholars to high school and 40 to College 776 bicycles for access to education for poor Cambodian girls

If you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a nation. - African Proverb

1,316	persons across <mark>285</mark> households receive essential and life giving water from 13 new pump wells					
58	shelter-based survivors of trafficking, rape and domestic violence receive counseling, livelihood skills, social assistance and financial aid. 35 cases are children. 23 trafficking and 12 sexual abuse cases					
39,485	kgs of rice was provided to the most vulnerable families to keep girls in school					
485	children were provided tuition and after school care at Buddha smiles Village based, after School centres					
160	primary school children from poorest of poor village families received morning porridge and a hearty lunch of rice, dal and vegetables, including some 3000kgs of rice!					
150	children provided remedial classes taught by 5 Blossom Bus					

year 12 graduates employed by us at Newat, Haryana

our local partners

Recognizing our local partners:

Our unique approach to tackling poverty and its consequences involves working with local grassroots organizations that possess the deepest understanding of their communities' needs and challenges. Lotus Outreach is working to empower our local partners by providing critical, on-the-ground support in the areas of funding program design, performance management, technical support, training, and data collection and analysis, while giving them enough autonomy to ensure the local ownership and cultural relevance of each project.



KHEMARA

Khemara was the first Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) for women established in Cambodia. Khemara delivers Non Formal Education to sex workers and to impoverished youth who are at risk of entering the commercial sex industry.



PASSERELLES NUMERIQUES

Passerelles Numériques, a collaboration between Enfants du Mekong and Accenture, seeks to train disadvantaged youth to be skilled technicians in the rapidly growing field of information technology.



CAMBODIAN ORGANIZATION FOR CHILDREN & DEVELOPMENT

COCD is a local NGO registered with the Royal Cambodian Government's Ministry of Interior. COCD's mission is to improve the social welfare of vulnerable children, their families, and communities through the implementation of integrated development and empowerment projects.



KAMPUCHEAN ACTION FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION (KAPE)

Founded in 1999, KAPE is a grassroots NGO that seeks to improve both the quality of, and access to, basic education for children living in Cambodia. KAPE seeks to assist the Cambodian government in realizing recently proposed educational reforms that focus on increasing access to education for vulnerable groups.



WHITE LOTUS TRUST

White Lotus Trust is Lotus Outreach's sister organization in India. It works with socio-economically weaker sections of society with special emphasis on women and children—irrespective of caste, creed, culture and religion—toward the sustainable socio-economic development of individuals, the family and the community through various interventions to raise the standard and quality of their lives.



CAMBODIAN WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER (CWCC)

CWCC is a local NGO registered with the Royal Cambodian Government's Ministry of Interior. Its mission is to eliminate all forms of violence against women and to work toward creating a society founded on equality, peace and development that will achieve happiness for all.



SANTI SENA

Santi Sena is a Buddhist monks' organization founded by Venerable Nhem Kim Teng and other founders in 1994. "Santi Sena" is from the Pali language, meaning a group of persons that works for peace, livelihood improvement, social justice and environmental protection.

SPIRIT IN LIFE MOVEMENT

Founded by Indian University Professor and deeply engaged social worker Dr. Manivannan, Spirit in Life is a humble grassroots initiative that aims to build a peaceful, nonviolent and just world. Spirit in Life Movement, a registered Public Charitable and Educational Trust in India.



our supporters

Recognizing Lotus Outreach's donors and development partners:

\$50,000 - \$250,000+

eHeavin-Weinman Family Trust

Buddhist Global Relief

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Ourteam

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sinancial report

For the year ended December 31, 2016

Revenue and Support	Unrestricted US\$	Temporarily Restricted US\$	Total 2016 US\$	Total 2015 US\$
	035	035	035	035
Contributions	182,345	231,764	414,109	600,470
In-kind donations	4,200	_	4,200	4,100
Other income	1,472	-	1,472	218
Investment income	172	-	172	(37)
Net assets release from restrictions	247,146	(247,146)	-	_
Total Revenue and Support	435,335	(15,382)	419,953	604,751
Expenses				
Program Services	279,990	-	279,990	555,947
Supporting Services				
Fundraising	45,432		45,432	31,743
General and administrative	17,207	· —	17,207	27,559
Total Supporting Services	62,639	_	62,639	59,302
Total Expenses	342,629	_	342,629	615,249
Change in Net Assets	92,706	(15,382)	77.324	(10,498)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	154,518	45,946	200,464	210,962
Net Assets at End of Year	247,224	30,564	277,788	200,464



Revenue by Source:

Individuals: 66.1%

Grants: 29.2%

Corporate:

Other: 1.4%

100%

3.3%



Total Expenses:

Programs: 81.7%

Fundraising: 13.3%

General & Admin: 5.0%

100%



