



Helping Hands Cambodia

2025 Anual Report

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1. About us

Globalteer is an award-winning UK charity that works to empower communities to affect long term change.

We run our own initiatives in Peru and Cambodia and support partner projects throughout Latin America and Southeast Asia.

We focus on education, community development, animal welfare and conservation.



Our Mission is:

At Helping Hands, our goal is to help rural Cambodians end the cycle of poverty through accessibility to education. Therefore, by creating a locally staffed program, we provide free on-going education and ensure that the children can attend state schools. This type of two-fold approach promotes not only their academic success but also prepares them for the adult world.

We do this by building programs for key focus areas:

- Education
- Child Safety
- Sport
- Health Care and Nutrition
- Social Care
- Scholarships
- Literacy
- Women Empowerment

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Our Philosophy: A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out

Helping Hands Cambodia is a grassroots community project located in the heart of Prasat Char, one of the most economically challenged rural regions in Siem Reap. Since our founding in 2005, we have operated on the belief that poverty is a cycle that can only be broken through a holistic approach. We don't just provide lessons; we provide the fuel for learning.



Our Core Pillars:

- Education: Free, high-quality schooling for children aged 4 to 20, plus university scholarships.
- Nutrition: A daily nutritious breakfast to help fight malnutrition and improve focus.
- Health & Social Care: Hygiene workshops, dental care, and direct support for families in need.
- Sustainability: Training local staff and empowering parents to lead the community forward.

Two Decades of Dedication

2025 was a landmark year for Helping Hands. We celebrated 20 years of work in Prasat Char. What began as a request from 99 local families to clear a piece of land has grown into a beacon of hope for over 360 students each year.

This year marked a significant shift toward higher education and vocational training. As our students grow, so does our mission. We are no longer just teaching children to read; we are supporting future nurses, IT specialists, public administrators, and teachers.



2. Summary 2025 - 2026

From Students to Changemakers: Closing the Circle

The true measure of our success lies in the lives of our graduates. This year marked a powerful shift, as the cycle of poverty began to be replaced by one of professional achievement. Alumni like Borai, now an IT assistant, and Leap, a dedicated nurse commuting to Siem Reap, are living proof that a Helping Hands education leads to stable, meaningful careers. Perhaps most movingly, we welcomed back Kong, a former student, as our school's Social Worker. Her personal journey allows her to serve as a vital bridge between the school and local families, addressing challenges such as chronic absenteeism and economic hardship with a level of empathy only a former student can offer. Alongside her, our university scholars—Ponna, Nita, Sreyneang, and Vannak—are excelling in fields such as Public Administration and English Teaching, preparing to help lead Cambodia into a brighter future.

A Holistic Approach to Learning

Education at Helping Hands has always been about more than just textbooks; it is about the well-being of the whole child. In Cambodia, where approximately 22% of children under five suffer from stunting due to chronic malnutrition, providing a meal is not just a kindness—it is a medical and educational necessity.

Throughout 2025, we maintained a strong focus on health and nutrition, serving over 20,400 nutritious breakfasts. Many of these meals were enriched with micronutrient-dense produce grown in our school garden, helping ensure that students receive the essential vitamins needed for healthy cognitive development.





Empowering the Whole Child

The impact is clear: stable nutrition leads to consistent attendance. While rural Cambodia often faces high dropout rates as children are forced to work for food, our students remained highly engaged because their most basic needs were met first.

We complemented this support with a significant upgrade to our school library, introducing new reading materials and workbooks that have sparked a noticeable increase in student confidence.

Through initiatives such as reading circles and public speaking exercises, students are developing from passive learners into active, curious thinkers. In addition, by providing specialized training in child psychology to our staff, we have created inclusive classroom environments where every child feels safe to learn and grow.

Bridging the Distance: Empowering Attendance through Mobility

For many children in Siem Reap province, the greatest barrier to education is the journey itself. With some of our students living several kilometres away, the long daily trek to the classroom can become an insurmountable obstacle, especially during the challenging rainy season. In response, 2025 academic year marked a renewed and powerful commitment to our Bicycle Distribution Program.

We are deeply grateful to the Ponheary Ly Foundation for their incredible generosity in donating 70 brand-new bicycles to our students. This support has been transformative, turning what was once a grueling two-hour walk into a safe, manageable ride. For these children, a bicycle is far more than just a means of transport; it is a pathway to school retention and a vital safeguard against the exhaustion that so often leads to dropout.

Creative Expression and Vitality: The Heart of the Arts

We believe that a well-rounded education must engage the spirit as much as the mind. This year, our school was filled with the energy of Zumba classes, where students developed physical coordination and released stress through movement and dance. These moments of joy play a vital role in building emotional resilience. Our creative sessions also flourished, with students spending hours crafting intricate handmade bracelets and preparing for the holiday season.

A highlight of the year was the Christmas ornament workshop led by our dedicated supporter, Darron Gurney. Under his guidance, students transformed recycled materials into beautiful decorations, which will soon be displayed at his shop, “Repeat Secondhand Fashion.”

In addition, a hauntingly beautiful performance by Music Sharing ICEP from Japan introduced students to string instruments, sparking a deep interest in the arts and demonstrating that music can be a universal language of hope.

Community, Volunteers, and the Path to 2026

The vibrant life at Helping Hands is fueled by the diverse group of volunteers and interns who join us each year. Their presence brings fresh perspectives to our English classes and provides vital support to our hygiene and water access programs. Throughout 2025, we placed a strong emphasis on teaching students that personal care—from handwashing to dental hygiene—is the first step toward a healthy and productive life.

A true highlight of the year was the successful execution of the 2025 “Temple Run” on February 15th. The event sparked immense enthusiasm among the children, who participated with incredible energy and joy. This milestone was made possible thanks to the dedicated collaboration of many volunteers, including Gary and Mary Walker, whose support was instrumental in organizing the day and inspiring the students.

The race became a source of pride for the children, fostering a lasting sense of teamwork and accomplishment. As the year progressed, that same energy carried into the classroom, with students increasingly motivated to engage with their teachers and continue their journey toward a brighter future.



3. Data and Challenges



Ages

The kids from the program are children aged between 6 and 16.



The Stunting Barrier

In Cambodia, approximately 22% of children under five suffer from stunting (chronic malnutrition)



Girls

We promote gender equality through dedicated workshops, with girls making up 54% of our students and boys 46%.



The Distance Factor

While primary school enrollment is high, only 56% of children in rural Cambodia complete lower secondary education. Siem Reap remains one of the provinces with the highest levels of educational inequality, largely due to rural isolation.

Joyful learning for better retention

In 2025, we prioritised the joy of learning through activities such as Zumba, handmade Christmas ornaments, music sessions, and other creative initiatives.



Health & WASH

Only 18% of rural households in Cambodia have access to safely managed water.

4.Key Achievements



360 students

reached in Prasat Char Village



+20,400

Nutritious Breakfasts Served



52 New enrollements

with participants showing strong development in
inferential reading comprehension skills



2000 children

benefited from regular sports sessions



7 Scholarships

While Ponna and Nita continue their studies, Taev
and Sarath are beginning their first year, joined by
three additional students who have secured
scholarships at public universities.



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Specialised workshops delivered
(Health, Environment, Arts, Hygiene,
Music)

Beyond the Classroom: Empowerment Through Sport

At Helping Hands, sport is more than just physical activity; it is a tool for building discipline, resilience, and community pride. Throughout 2025 our students engaged in a rigorous journey of preparation, starting with high-energy Zumba sessions that have become a staple of our school culture. These dance-based workouts do more than keep our students active—they foster a sense of collective joy and energy that prepares them for the bigger challenges ahead.

Our 2025 Sports Festival

The defining moment of our athletic calendar was the Annual Sports Festival held in mid-March 2025. This event served as a historic milestone for Helping Hands, showcasing the discipline, physical stamina, and school spirit our students developed throughout the year. More than just a competition, the festival was a vibrant celebration of achievement that brought the entire community together, proving that hard work and dedication lead to extraordinary results.

Beyond this major event, our students engage in a variety of complementary activities designed to provide a productive and diverse learning experience. From energetic Zumba classes and football matches to creative initiatives like the "Recycling Race," relay races, and sprint competitions, our curriculum introduces children to new games while instilling fundamental sportsmanship values. Frequently throughout the year, we bring two or more communities together to share these activities, reinforcing our belief in sports as a powerful tool for education. These gatherings are essential for teaching the importance of teamwork and building positive relationships that extend far beyond the playing field.

Healthy Competition and Community Bridges

As 2025 came to a close, our students were busy preparing to welcome peers from various outreach schools to our new field. This preparation for healthy competition has played an important role in teaching sportsmanship and fostering social integration. By inviting other communities to participate in our upcoming festival, we are positioning Helping Hands and the village of Prasat Char as leaders in regional youth empowerment—demonstrating how sport can build stronger connections between communities.



5. Forward-thinking - 2026

As we close our landmark 20th anniversary year, we enter 2026 with a sharpened strategic focus. The foundations laid in 2025 have paved the way for three key pillars of growth, designed to evolve Helping Hands from a village school into a regional beacon of holistic empowerment.

I. Scaling Health and Essential Nutrition

We are committed to expanding our impact in health and clean water to reduce preventable illness and improve childhood development. Our strategy integrates clean water infrastructure with high-impact medical interventions across seven remote rural communities in Cambodia.

- Prasat Char Continuity: Recognizing that nutrition is the fuel for education, we will continue delivering daily nutritious breakfasts and clean water to all students in Prasat Char.
- Expanded Medical Care: Building on our history of delivering vitamins and deworming treatments, we are scaling our preventive care, including clinical screenings, to reach 2,000 children in the Doun Kaev commune.

II. Digital & Creative Literacy

To ensure our students are prepared for Cambodia's evolving job market, we are expanding our vocational and creative offerings. Building on the success of our sustainable entrepreneurship workshops, we aim to introduce computer training, creative arts programs, and vocational readiness initiatives.

III. Regional Sports Hub & Eliminating Barriers

In 2026, sport and technology will converge to provide a "hand up" for every child in the region.

- Launching the Central Sports Hub: With our new community sports field complete, March 2026 marks its official Grand Opening. This will become a regional center for health and teamwork, hosting tournaments for students across the province.
- The Programme Bus: Our newly acquired bus begins its regular routes in 2026. This vital asset ensures that geography is no longer a barrier, allowing children from the most remote areas to safely access our classes and sports facilities.



6. Long-Term impact

The impact of Helping Hands is not measured in months, but in decades. In a nation where an entire generation of educated people was once lost, basic education remains the ultimate revolutionary act. After 20 years of presence in Prasat Char, we are seeing the true long-term impact of your support:

- **Economic Independence:** Our graduates are no longer trapped in subsistence farming or high-risk migration. They are thriving as IT assistants, professional nurses, entrepreneurs, and skilled hospitality workers in Siem Reap and beyond.
- **The Power of Role Models:** The return of alumni like Kong (Social Worker) and Dara (Teacher Trainee) represents the ultimate success of our mission. They have transitioned from being "beneficiaries" to becoming the "leaders" who guide the next generation. This creates a sustainable, self-perpetuating cycle of growth within the village.
- **Community Agency:** Through our infrastructure projects—from building bridges to the new community sports field—the people of Prasat Char have moved from receiving aid to taking active ownership of their own development.

Your Legacy

When you support Helping Hands, you are not just funding a school—you are investing in a future where more than 2,000 people in this region receive vital support in education, health, and nutrition. Your contributions provide the workshops and resources families need to achieve financial stability, self-sufficiency, and the freedom to dream. Together, we are creating a deeper and more lasting impact. Your support is the foundation of every success story within our community.

Growth & Sustainability

As we look forward, we are actively seeking new grants to:

- Expand our educational sports programs to reach more communities.
- Increase the total hours of classroom instruction to deepen learning outcomes.
- Provide a higher number of university scholarships, ensuring our brightest minds can reach their full potential.

A young girl with dark hair and a blue shirt is smiling. The image has a teal overlay.

7. Our supporters

This vital work would not be possible without the unwavering generosity and commitment of our donors, volunteers, educators, and community partners. Together, we believe in the transformative power of education and sport to break the cycle of poverty. Your support ensures that high-quality learning opportunities and safe spaces reach children who live far from traditional resources.

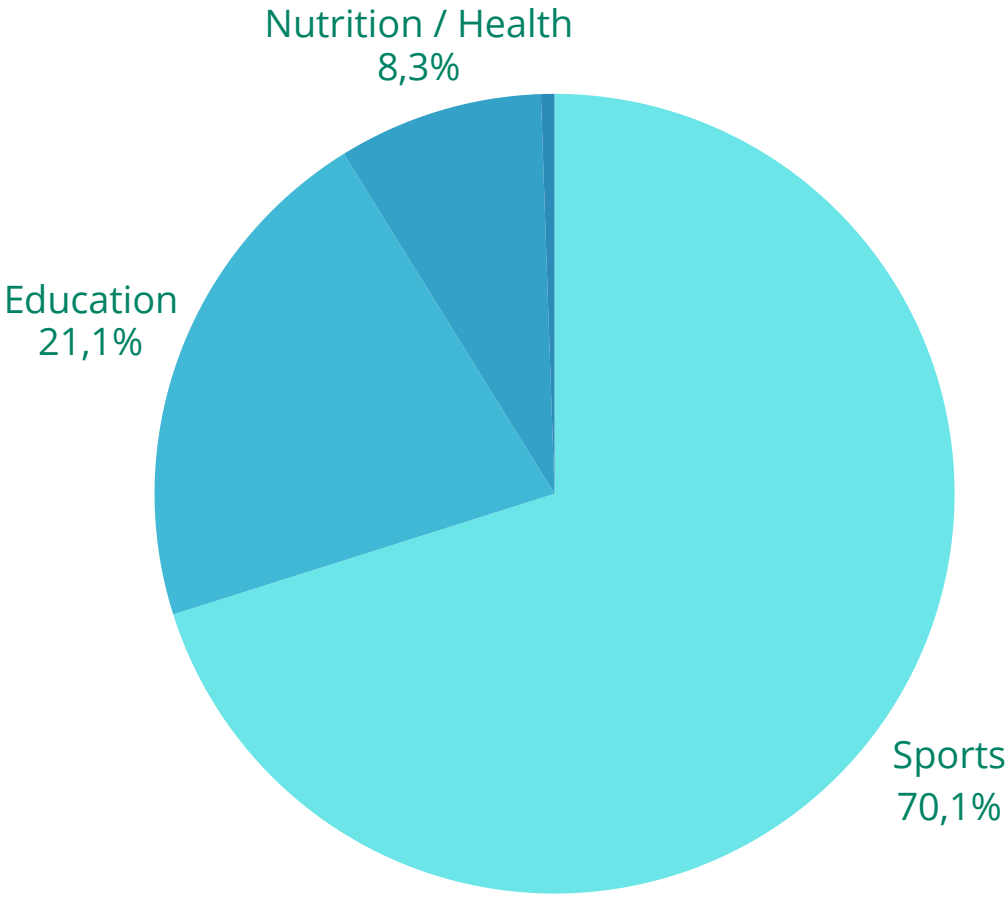
We extend our heartfelt thanks to The SOL Foundation and Kids Play International. Through their strategic partnership, we have been able to sustain our mission of bringing health, happiness, and leadership opportunities into the lives of children. Their support—alongside that of our wider donor community—has also been instrumental in the construction of playgrounds that have transformed our partner schools, creating environments where children can learn, play, and thrive.

Our local families and community leaders play an equally essential role. By welcoming our programmes and encouraging participation—often despite demanding agricultural routines and challenging living conditions—they demonstrate that the community itself is the true engine of this work.

To our individual donors and volunteers: you are the backbone of Helping Hands. Whether through monthly contributions or dedicated hours on the ground, your support translates into meaningful, lasting change. The teams at Globalteer, Helping Hands, and the Sports Programme are deeply grateful for your continued commitment. Most importantly, our students in Siem Reap feel the impact of your support every day—a gratitude reflected in their bright smiles and renewed hope for the future.

8. Finances 2025

Expenditure 2025	Amount in USDs
Sports	98753
Education	29646
Nutrition / Health	11669
Administration and General Expenses	768



Total expenditure in 2025	USD140,836
Income in 2025	USD\$142,714
Funds carried over from 2024	USD\$11,900
Funds carried over to 2026	USD\$13,778

The following accounts are based on the calendar year: 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

The in-country financial accounts have been submitted with a Cambodia registered accountant in accordance with Cambodian law.

[Full Audited accounts can be seen here](#)



9. How to get involved



Donate

Financial contributions are essential to sustaining the Helping Hands programs, maintaining our new community field, and providing high-quality equipment. Your donations directly support local staff salaries, the maintenance of the "Hope on Wheels" bus, and our expansion into underserved areas like the Reul commune. Every contribution helps us reach more children, ensuring they have a safe place to play, learn, and grow.

[Donate](#)

[Donate with US Tax relief](#)



Volunteer

Volunteers play a vital role in strengthening our impact. From assisting coaches during sports sessions to supporting leadership workshops and community tournaments, volunteers bring invaluable energy and skills to our team. Your participation enriches the students' experience and fosters a powerful cultural exchange that inspires our young students to dream bigger and reach their full potential.

[Volunteer](#)

The success and long-term sustainability of our programme depend on the collective commitment of individuals and partners who believe that every child deserves access to play, safety, and opportunity. Together, we are building pathways toward a more equitable future for children growing up in the rural heart of Cambodia.

The Helping Hands Cambodia is an initiative run by Globalteer, a UK charity registered with the Charity Commission for England & Wales, (No. 1119706).

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Spread the word

Raising awareness is a powerful form of support. By sharing our mission and stories with your network, you help amplify our message and strengthen our advocacy for child rights and gender equality. Increased visibility encourages a more inclusive attitude toward youth development in rural Cambodia, helping us connect with a global community that believes in our cause.



Fundraise

Fundraising initiatives help sustain and expand educational and athletic opportunities for children facing significant economic challenges. Whether it is a local fun run, a school tournament, or a digital campaign, your efforts provide the resources needed to build safe spaces and playgrounds. For ideas or support to organize your own fundraising activity, please contact us at: projectdevelopment@globalteer.org