

Decades of war and genocide under the Pol Pot regime have decimated Cambodia's infrastructure and the country now ranks as one of the poorest in the world. The large numbers of orphaned children in Cambodia are a direct result of this poverty as are the thousands of children growing up with no health care, educational possibilities, adequate food, or potable water. The Sharing Foundation is one of the few American organizations focusing on the needs of these children. Formed in 1998 by pediatrician Dr. Nancy W. Hendrie, together with dedicated volunteers, the Sharing Foundation now serves 1,500 children every day through its various programs.



The Roteang Orphanage, built in 2000, is a cornerstone project of The Sharing Foundation and it has motivated the Foundation's commitment to the surrounding village. Dr. Hendrie comments, "While several of our programs have developed in other communities, by focusing much of our energy in Roteang we are able to evaluate the outcome of each project better and follow spending more closely, keeping overhead near 10%. More importantly, we are able to form productive relationships with community members. This is a significant benefit to our approach: by hiring Cambodians to implement programs and offering strong oversight and mentoring, the number of trained Cambodians ready to serve and lead their communities into the future is increasing."

The Sharing Foundation's annual budget is just under \$300,000, with most of the funding coming from individual donors. Additional support is received from a few family foundations, corporations, the sale of crafts and small fundraising events.

## Mission Statement

The Sharing Foundation's mission is to help meet the physical, emotional, educational and medical needs of orphaned and seriously-disadvantaged children in Cambodia. Our goal is to help prevent some of the problems of poverty by developing, in consultation with Cambodian community leaders, programs to improve the health and welfare of these children and their families.

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For additional information about The Sharing Foundation's programs, please visit our website:  
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All donations are tax deductible



## The Sharing Foundation

Helping to Care for Cambodia's Children



## Programs

Since its founding in 1998, the focus of The Sharing Foundation has widened from offering medical care to Cambodian orphans and other needy children to include educational, vocational, safe water and other community development programs. The Foundation has grown by working directly with community leaders to determine what they need and creating programs to address those needs. In-Country Director Chan Kim Leng, also known as Elephant, oversees the work of eight Project Leaders, and manages another eight programs personally. TSF Founder Nancy W. Hendrie MD travels to Cambodia every third month to follow up on every project herself. Other Board members come periodically, and needed volunteers often lend help.

### Roteang Orphanage

The Roteang Orphanage represents a new standard for hygiene, medical services, nutrition and compassionate care for children in Cambodia. Orphans are admitted without regard for clinical status, such as HIV, syphilis, or cerebral palsy. The orphanage is home to 60 infants and children, nearly half of whom, due to serious disabilities, will remain in the care of the Foundation indefinitely. The ratio of nannies to children is 1:2; children with special needs have their own nanny. A pre-school program was established onsite in 2004 and a new preschool/multi-purpose building opened in 2005. In addition, a number of children with complex medical problems have been taken to Bangkok or the United States for treatment by the Foundation.

### The English Language Program

Roteang's young people recognize that learning English will help them to move from their parents' lives of poverty to jobs such as tourism or word processing. The Foundation sponsors English classes, attended by over 500 children, after regular school hours, at the Roteang Village School, five days a week, year-round. Taught by college graduate Cambodians who travel from Phnom Penh by moped, the children are so excited to learn English that many have also formed study groups that meet early on weekend mornings.



### Roteang Village School

The Sharing Foundation provides general support for more than 700 children who attend the Roteang Village public school by donating supplies, and uniforms for needy students, where even the \$4.50 cost of a uniform can prohibit a child from attending school. The Foundation also built a new playground, as well as new classrooms and a library in 2004. The library, with over 400 colorful books, is a first for Cambodia's public schools.

### High School and College Sponsorship

In 2004 the Foundation created a high school sponsorship program through which donors make it possible for over 40 needy students to attend high school and receive quality small group instruction. In 2005, the first ten students ever from Roteang Village were sponsored for colleges in Phnom Penh by the Foundation. Previously sponsored in high school, these students were able to pass the required National High School Graduation exams. The Foundation has also provided a "dorm" in the city, a safe place to live close to their classes, as well as furnishings, board, books and uniforms. Dr. Hendrie comments: "All of our College Sponsorship students are remarkable in their determination, capabilities and ability to handle the weight of the great hopes put upon them. We count on sponsorships continuing for all four years of university, and are intent on giving the next group of high school students who pass the entrance exam the same opportunity." The Australian Center for Education in Phnom Penh recently awarded ten out of their twenty scholarships for their highly-regarded English augmentation program to the Foundation's college students.

### HIV initiatives and Owens Family House

Cambodia has the highest incidence of HIV outside of sub-Saharan Africa. Children with HIV at Roteang Orphanage have been among the first children in Cambodia to receive antiretroviral medications. These children could not survive without these medications, which are administered twice a day under direct observation.

The Sharing Foundation also has funded the rehabilitation and ongoing costs of The Owens Family House in Phnom Penh so that HIV-infected, pregnant women can receive antiretroviral drugs during labor and their infants receive the drugs just after delivery. Together with training about making formula with clean water, this program reduces HIV transmission rate from mother to newborn from 25% to about 2%.

### Vocational Training

The Sewing Program provides training for women so they can get supervisory jobs in the garment industry or work in the Foundation's local shop, providing good income for their families. The women produce school uniforms, which are donated to needy children throughout Cambodia, as well as silk handbags that are sold at non-profit venues in the United States. A new sewing school building was built in 2005 to house the expanding program. The Foundation has also trained teenage boys in Moto Repair, and recently started a Computer School where students can learn word processing skills.

### The Farm Project

The poorest families of Roteang Village are served by the Farm Project. The Foundation leases ten acres and provides seeds, tools, and irrigation equipment to indigent farmers who then grow their own vegetables. The surplus is sold, providing families with home improvement credits that can be exchanged for roofs, toilets, and water collection tanks. The Foundation also built and funds a Khmer literacy school ["Head Start"] at the farmland for the nearly 150 children of these illiterate farmers.

### Clean, Safe Water

Water supplies in the Phnom Penh region are frequently contaminated with arsenic, parasites, and bacteria. To supply pure drinking water, The Sharing Foundation has donated numerous filtered rain water collection systems in Roteang Village and at multiple schools in the area along the Mekong River.