

auscam  
freedom  
project

**2022 -  
2023**

**Annual  
Report**



## **Our mission**

'Ending trafficking and exploitation before it begins by protecting girls, especially those at high risk.'

## **Our focus**

'To build resilience in, equip and empower girls and young women so they are protected from, and prevent Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE)'

# FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) impacted 160,000 children in Cambodia according to a UNICEF survey in 2022. These results are mirrored by what we learnt from surveying more than 400 children and parents earlier this year. Shockingly, we found that over 38% of girls had come across child sexual abuse materials, with live streaming being the most common media. I have a daughter and I can't bear to think of the trauma and damage that OCSE can cause. Cambodian parents are struggling to protect their children - less than 3% of parents we surveyed had talked to their children about phone safety settings and 0% of parents had ensured their children applied parental controls on their apps. Likewise 0% of parents knew how to report OCSE to local authorities. When I hear about a young girl who has been tricked into sharing sexually explicit photos or videos, who is petrified, traumatised and ready to do anything to stop those images being shared, to do anything to avoid the shame, then my heart breaks and I get angry. Those aren't healthy emotions, there is a better way - join AusCam in creating hope in a safer future.

We look into the abyss, pull out girls who are victims of exploitation and engage with those who are at risk - but that rehabilitation is only the dark start to a wonderful, redemptive story. We also build up the resilience and protection that is within girls and young women, walking with them to counsel, support their needs, keep them in school, get them to university, place them in jobs and develop their life and leadership skills. We don't stop there - we equip and inspire them to be the leaders, everyday heroes and Change Agents who are actively multiplying the awareness and the changed behaviour that protects and prevents the tragedy of OCSE. Please read on, and through real stories, learn about the impact, the safety and the hope we bring to Cambodia through your generous support. You will read about the journey from victim to survivor, on to resilient young woman and then hero - we invite you to join us on this journey.

Yours,  
Nigel Goddard, Executive Director.



# FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Dear Supporters,

It is with pleasure and pride that I address you in this annual report of the AusCam Freedom Project Ltd, an unwavering force in the fight to end trafficking before it begins, powered by support from across the seas in Australia, the United States, Europe and more.

2022-2023 was a year of achievements, despite the ongoing challenges of fundraising in the wake of the global pandemic. These challenges have tested us, but they have also highlighted the importance of our work. The determination of our team, the resilience of survivors, and the unwavering support from our global partners have shone through.

Our dedicated teams in Cambodia have yielded significant results, supported by your generous donations, to equip and protect many young women, to build their resilience, and to identify risks of exploitation, creating a ripple effect of change within their communities. We said our grateful goodbyes to outgoing executive director Jessie Teerman, and we recognise her years of service to AusCam in various capacities. We were also fortunate to welcome Nigel Goddard to the helm. Nigel brings to the leadership of AusCam a wealth of experience, ideas and passion from his many years working in the not-for-profit sector in Cambodia and elsewhere.

The AusCam Freedom Project remains committed to tackling the root causes of trafficking in Cambodia. Our holistic approach is aimed at preventing harm and transforming lives for the better. Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in our commitment to creating a world where every girl is treated with the dignity and respect she deserves. We envision a future where these young women who faced risks of exploitation and trafficking, instead become beacons of hope and advocates for change in their communities.

None of this would have been possible without your trust, generosity, and faith in our cause. Your financial contributions, advocacy efforts, and unwavering belief in the power of change have made a profound impact on countless lives. We invite you to join us in this mission, to stand with us as we continue, and to be part of the positive change we are driving forward. Thank you for your continued support, trust, and dedication. Together, we can and will make a difference.

I stepped down from the Board at end May 2023 for family reasons, and remain an enthusiastic supporter of AusCam Freedom Project and its wonderful staff and volunteer team.

Outgoing Chair of the Board,  
Kate Waterford



# HER JOURNEY FROM VICTIM TO SURVIVOR

Thida (not her real name) is a 14-year-old girl, in a traditional, conservative Cambodian family. Her parents watch over her and her curfew is before dinner... but, like almost all Cambodian parents, they don't know how to use parental controls on online devices and discussions about personal issues can be challenging.

Thida met a boy online. He was from Phnom Penh. He called her on video everyday and brought her online phone cards. Thida loved the attention and thought she was in love - do you remember how that first love turned your life upside down?

Then he asked her to send him naked photos in secret, just for him. Next, it was naked videos...and as things escalated, she became scared. She tried to break up with him, and then the threats started. "Send more or I will share the photos with your family and friends". From this point, it became worse as he began placing time limits on her - 15 minutes to post a new naked photo or he would post her photos publicly.

Thida became increasingly scared and in desperation she called our hotline. Our counselor was there, firstly to calm and reassure her, then to support her on the road to recovery. Through our protection partnership with Meta, we were able to have all sexualised images removed from social media and the perpetrator was removed and banned from all social media sites. We ensured Thida had access to legal advice and our social workers supported her to talk to her parents. We were there every step of the way to work through and beyond the trauma.

This is the journey from victim to survivor

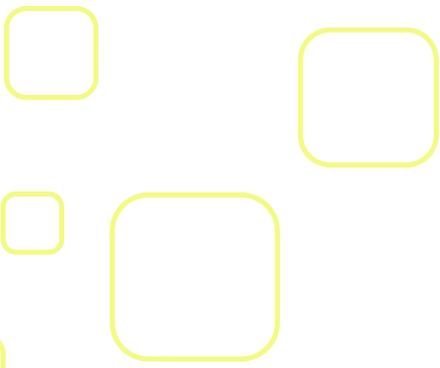




# HER JOURNEY TOWARDS RESILIENCE

Sokkha, (not her real name) was living with her grandmother, in poverty, in Phnom Penh. We were supporting her with an education scholarship to ensure she could remain in school. Then, sadly her grandmother passed away. We were able to support Sokkha by attending her grandmothers funeral, provided counselling for her grief, helped her to relocate to her cousin's home, and provided emergency support for the family. Today, Sokkha is thriving as she adjusts to her new family and commits to her studies with hope for the future.

We are currently supporting many more young women with education (school & university) scholarships and job placements, who also attend our girls clubs and life skills training. In hundreds of lives, we are actively building the resilience that prevents trafficking and exploitation.



# HER JOURNEY - EVERYDAY HEROES MULTIPLYING CHANGE

Seila (not her real name) shows us where the journey becomes full of hope and truly empowering. She is 17, a high school student, and has been a part of a girls club we facilitate. Earlier this year, she joined our training on running campaigns. Following this training, Seila formed a group, “GSO”, Girls for Safety Online. The group identified their priority messages and strategies, they created a Facebook page and an online campaign. Three months later, they have held live events at their school, have posted 2-3 times a week on Facebook, created posters, quizzes, several videos and have a reach and engagement that connects to about 5000, mostly their peers who so desperately need to know about online safety. They have presented their model to a group of about 90 girls who are university scholarship recipients, 100 youth in another trafficking prevention NGO, and they are actively recruiting others to join AusCam’s Sisterhood of Change Agents.

Seila talks of her growth, her vision of new leadership experiences and how more girls need to learn how to stay safe online. She is a Change Agent, a leader, an everyday hero - and every time she shares that message of hope, safety and citizenship she is also building that script into her own identity, and becoming an inspiration for others too.



# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



This year, we have directly supported

# 1,125

girls and young women

Our social workers supported

# 72

girls through a journey of rehabilitation, taking them from crisis to wholeness, step by step.



# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



# 183

girls were supported to stay in school and graduate into university or safe and meaningful work.

# 98

calls to our hotline

# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



# 873

girls benefited from our empowerment programs - girls clubs, life skills workshops and service-learning.

We trained

# 4

other NGOs to multiply the protection

# OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



# 136

girls graduated grade 12.  
98% completion rate.  
(national average is 65%)

# 60

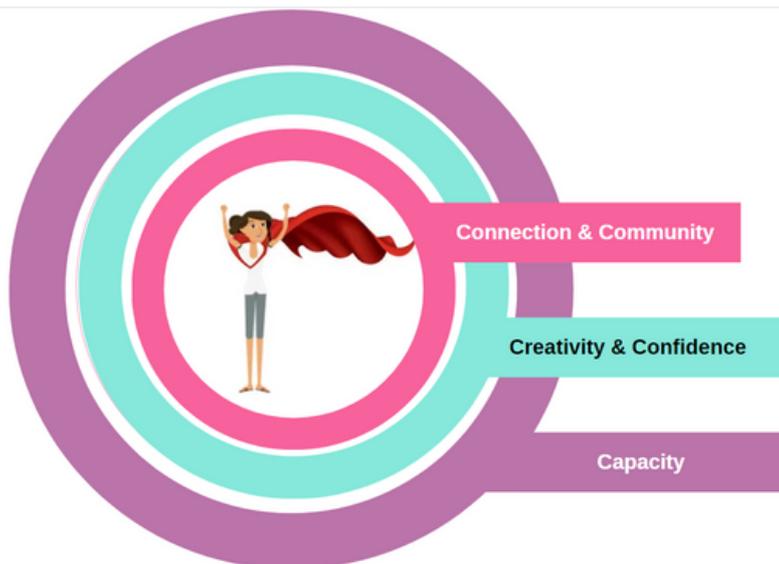
young women are  
attending university

# HOW WE WORK

We come alongside girls who are victims of, or at risk of, trafficking or exploitation and walk with them until they are stable and safe. This is our first impact.

Those girls and young women are supported on a journey - we equip them to become everyday heroes and Agents of Change - in the process they grow in identity, leadership and life skills. The science is clear that this creates the resilience that lasts a lifetime. This is our second impact

As they reach out to their peers through campaigns, citizenship research and being peer mentors, they then reach thousands more of their peers - teenagers who can speak to the heart and to the hopes of other teenagers, to make real change. This is our third impact that ripples across Cambodia.



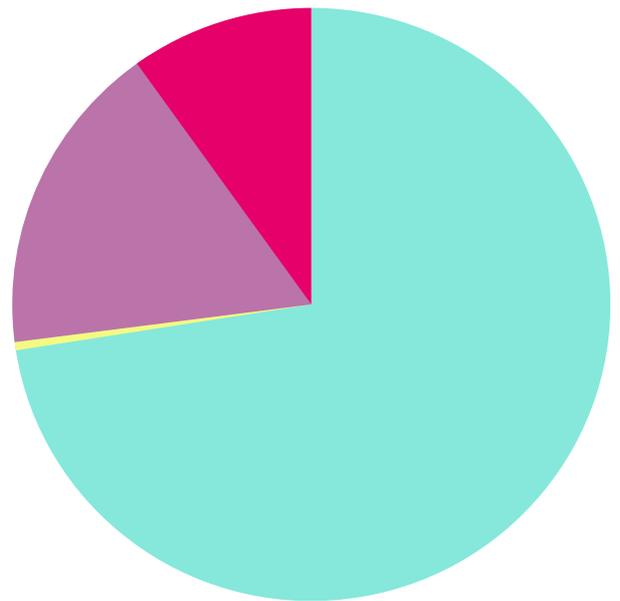
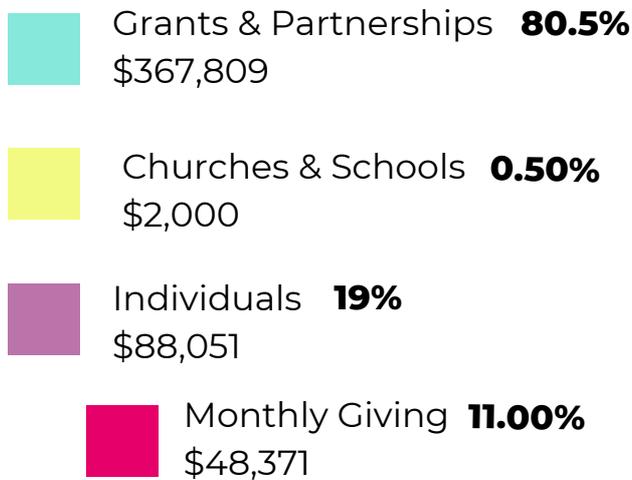
This triple impact takes a girl from being a victim to being a survivor, who becomes resilient and takes on a positive identity as a hero, within a Sisterhood of Change Agents, all of which keeps Cambodia safe and protected. Our role within her journey is to be there, to walk alongside, build capacity, help her to connect to a hopeful, positive community and to grow in her confidence and creativity as she reaches out and beyond her own trauma, to be a protector of others

# OUR FINANCES

## Total Income

**\$457,860**

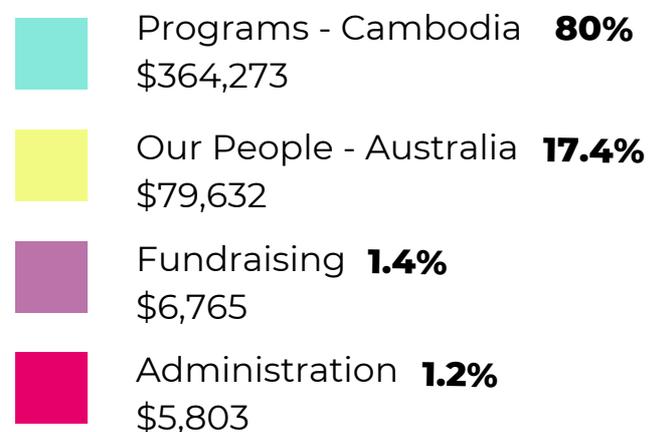
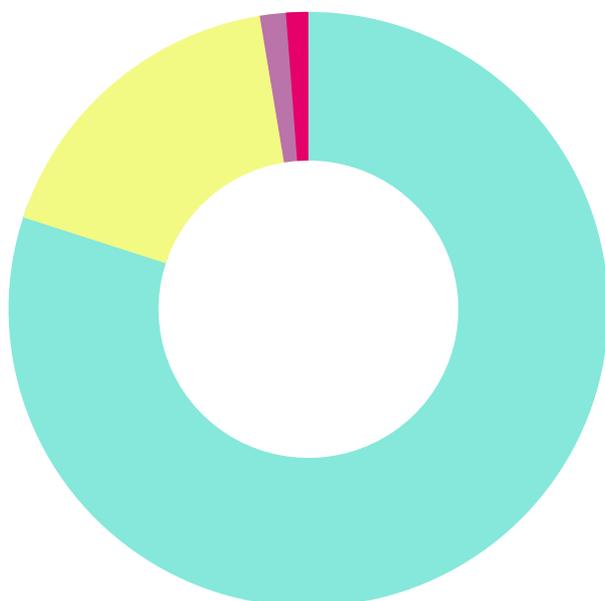
(\$AUD)



## Total Expenses

**\$456,473**

(\$AUD)



# OUR TEAM

## Board of directors



**Kate Waterford**  
Chair



**Sarah Walsh**  
Secretary



**Lisa Gill**  
Treasurer



**Julie Dowse**  
Founder/Director



**Barbara Ryan**  
Director



**Robert Hartley**  
Director



**Katerina Karanikolopoulos**  
Director



**Jessie Bailey**  
Administrative Coordinator



**Ian Weber**  
Communications  
Coordinator



**Nigel Goddard**  
Executive Director



**Navy Sous**  
Operations and  
Finance Director



**Sokleap Ngorn**  
Program Director



**Sarom Um**  
Protection Manager



**Sokun Pin**  
Careers Development  
Manager



**Sreykich Mean**  
Empowerment  
Manager



**Chantha Ny**  
Social Worker



**Sreyhuon Sung**  
Social Worker



**SeangEng Pov**  
Social Worker



**Silaangkeasil Chheng**  
GLOW Club  
Lead Mentor



**Kanitha Dang**  
Global G.L.O.W. Project  
Coordinator



**Thavin Lin**  
Healthy GLOW  
Lead Mentor



**Chanika Yat**  
Communication Intern



**Sohetra Soeun**  
Operation and  
Finance Assistant



**Linna Chhin**  
Office Assistant Intern



**Chantheavy Kim**  
Housekeeper

# From our Founder

Dear friends,

As I sit and reflect on the year that has been I am immensely proud of the impact of AusCam's work with young women and girls in Cambodia. Although we have had some challenges along the way with some significant staffing changes and the global economic downturn affecting our funding, we also have much to celebrate!

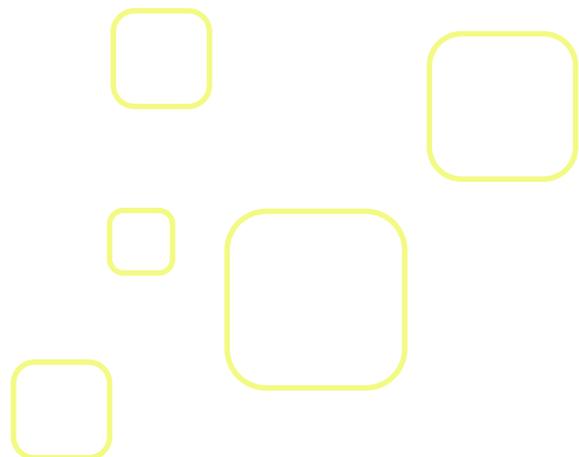
More girls than ever have come through our doors and were supported with education scholarships, life skills and empowerment programs, counseling and mentoring, family support and crisis intervention through our 24 hour hotline. We mobilised our Sisterhood of Change Agents who have been actively campaigning, advocating and reaching thousands of young women and girls with messages of safety and protection. I have known many of these young women since they first received education scholarships as shy 14 year old teenagers and here we are a few years later and they have transformed into incredible and powerful voices for change within their own country. They all have stories of hope, freedom, resilience and leadership. They are everyday heroes and I couldn't be any prouder.

All of this would not be possible without our dedicated and passionate team in the field, the Board of Directors who I have had the pleasure of serving with, our volunteers who give so much of themselves in pursuit of freedom and protection for the girls and young women, and of course nothing is possible without you, our global network of partners and supporters. We are incredibly grateful.

We look forward to the year ahead with much excitement, energy and determination as we continue the fight to **End Trafficking Before It Begins!**

Thank you for being on this journey with us.

Warmly,  
Julie Dowse  
Founder





**OUR  
GLOBAL  
PARTNERS**



# Thank You



With your help, we can support **1,200 more young women** as active change agents to measurably prevent exploitation for **200,000** girls and young women.

*Their futures matter!*



**Join us today!**

SCAN TO GIVE



[auscam.org/donate](https://auscam.org/donate)



# Ending trafficking before it begins

Annual Report designed by Chanika Yat  
Communications and Facilitation Assistant

[www.auscamfreedomproject.org](http://www.auscamfreedomproject.org)