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### Letter from the Founders

"YOU'VE GONE INTO MY FUTURE TO PREPARE THE WAY, AND IN KINDNESS YOU FOLLOW BEHIND ME TO SPARE ME FROM THE HARM OF MY PAST. WITH YOUR HAND OF LOVE UPON MY LIFE YOU IMPART A BLESSING TO ME."

#### PSALM 139:5 THE PASSION TRANSLATION. A PROMISE FOR THE CHILDREN.

As we reflect back on 2022, so much gratitude fills our hearts.

Foremost we are grateful for God's faithfulness. He often leaves us in complete awe and wonder as His plans for the ministry are far greater than ours. We took a BIG step of faith in January when we planned five field trips to the mission field. The previous two years left us longing to spend time with the SSM kids and our wonderful mission partners, who graciously invite us into ministry. We walked through the unknown of several children being reunified with family members; this took tremendous faith and surrender. Today we see God at work in those situations. Our commitment remains to engage with and support the children wherever circumstances may take them. Please celebrate God's faithfulness with us.

We are humbly grateful for the Champions of Saving Susan Ministry, and that is YOU! Because of your generous giving, guidance from our Board and pastoral mentors, selfless volunteers, and our incredible staff, we are deeply impacting the lives of so many children - children who have no hope for adoption but whose futures are now hopeful.

During our recent Parent Partner Christmas gathering, stories were shared from each Parent Partner about the child they care for. The genuine words spoken by each Parent Partner expressed Christ-like love. As we reflected on the words, we were overwhelmed by our wonderful Parent Partners. We are truly humbled that the God of all creation would use Saving Susan Ministry to express such love for those who have been abandoned by parents. Our Parent Partners would all agree that they are immeasurably blessed as a result of loving and impacting a child who is not biologically theirs. I am confident this pleases our Jesus. "By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35 ESV

With Gratitude,

lay and racy

Co-Founders, Jay and Tracy Arntzen

We are elevating the care of orphaned and abandoned children through connecting them with loving families - One Child, One Step at a time.



## 57 children

impacted by our Parent Partner Program





Total impacted to date



37 children

gifted opportunity through our English Program



124 children

given the gift of music through our Music Academies



## 18 students

pursuing a brighter future in our Next Steps Scholarship Program



## 6 children

added to Parent Partner families this year



## The Beber Family Parent Partner Spotlight

Carly Beber began Parent Partnering with Saving Susan Ministry in 2018 and has been a champion of the ministry ever since. In 2022 she interned at partner home Manos de Compasión, where she served directly with our children in Guatemala for three months. Hear more from Carly on the impact she has seen and participated in while serving in our ministry across three countries!

I was the first one in my family to feel led to Parent Partnering: the only problem was, I was 14. I had been to Cambodia with Saving Susan the year before, and this year there were only a few kids left at Bileg Solid Rock who needed Parent Partners. I remember connecting with Sovannary in a special "big sister" way. While I was in Cambodia, Sovannary and I played baseball, soccer, and ate together. He knew no English, and the only Khmer word I knew was "mow," which means "come". So I would tell him to come and we would play together. Sovannary was very quiet but was also very funny. I remember talking with Sopheak about Sovannary; she shared the story of his abusive father, and about his mother who had passed away when he was young.

I knew that the Lord put the same love in my heart for Sovannary that I have for my biological brother, Brooks. I remember texting my parents, while I was still in Cambodia, and asking if we could Parent Partner him, and was so excited that they said "yes." I am thankful for their faith to step out and pour into a child they had never met and didn't know anything about, yet they stepped out and said "yes" to loving him.

Some of our coolest calls were the calls we had this year while I was in Guatemala, Sovannary was in Cambodia, and the rest of our family was in Georgia. Some of the most meaningful encouragement I received was from Sovannary. He would tell me how he was proud of me, and how he was praying for me while I was working at the children's home there. This meant the world, coming from him. He was looking outside of his situation, seeing me, and was proud of me for serving at a home like his. Now I have an even deeper appreciation for what goes on in his children's home at Bileg. After living at a children's home in Guatemala, I know that there is so much more to learn about Sovannary's life.

"It is evident that God is the unifier; among different languages and cultures, God is the one that helps bring us together." -**Sue Beber, Carly's Mother** 

-Carly Beber

Saving Susan Ministry Intern



Hur Program English Learning

English learning is a key way that we open doors for the children we serve. Of primary importance, conversing in English allows the children to connect more deeply with their Parent Partners, building family connections that last. English also gives a brighter future for these children through learning a language that is so important in their countries. In fact, two of our partnered children in Guatemala are working in call centers, earning a living for themselves, because of the skill they learned in our English Program!

In 2022, we launched our English Program, using Rosetta Stone, at our newest partner Manos de Compasión. Twelve children enrolled in the course and started on their paths to a brighter future, joining dozens of students learning in our Program.

### Music Academies

Our ministry was blessed to open a Music Academy at Manos de Compasión this year. The 50+ children at the home are receiving weekly lessons in ukulele, keyboard, guitar, and more. Carly Beber, our ministry intern, set up a dedicated music room, where the children can be removed from the daily bustle and enjoy the beauty of music.

We look forward to expanding the Music Academy in Cambodia through a full-time music director in 2023! Stay tuned for news and exciting updates.

"MY HEART, O GOD, IS STEADFAST, MY HEART IS STEADFAST; I WILL SING AND MAKE MUSIC." PSALMS 57:7













"We love having teams from Saving Susan because they love the Lord and are ready to share that love not only to the kids, but also to the house parents and other staff. Often it feels like family coming for a visit. And really it is - brothers and sisters coming to encourage and connect with other brothers and sisters. It greatly benefits us and hopefully benefits the people on the teams as well."

ave PARTNER CHILDREN'S HOME DIRECTOR



"I am thankful and delighted at the friendships that formed there and continue to grow! The love and dedication they have for these children is heartwarming. I recommend going if you wish to see firsthand the impact Saving Susan Ministry has on these children."

GUATEMALA FIELD TRIP TEAM MEMBER

"I never intended to be a 'Parent Partner,' but I knew after my trip to Cambodia in 2019 that God was telling me that I was going to be involved with Saving Susan Ministry. When I went to Guatemala this Fall, I met who would become my fourth daughter. When we met, I immediately knew something was different, that God was introducing me to a daughter that I had not yet known. It's truly a God thing through and through. I am so grateful and expectant of what God is doing."

> Wis GUATEMALA FIELD TRIP TEAM MEMBER



"I am always so excited to see the teams, and when I meet them I feel like I am part of a family of God. I am thankful that teams share God's word and visit my country. I love to spend time with them, and they also share with me the love of God."

- FOV NEXT STEPS PROGRAM MEDICAL STUDENT IN CAMBODIA

#### Join the impact in 2023:

Guatemala: April 22-28 Guatemala: June 11-17 \* Guatemala: September 23-29 Cambodia: October 17-26

Contact **emily@savingsusanministry.org** for more information or to apply



SOUN MESA ALUM - I. T.







SOPHEAK ALUM - TEACHING

SREY LEAK

TEACHING



SREY POV

MANAGEMENT

ΜΛΙΜΛΙ



TEACHING



MIRIAM NURSING



SONA DOCTOR



SAVAON TEACHING



HUGO ARCHITECTURE





BERTA ARCHITECTURE

BUNTHEANG

BIBLE COLLEGE

SOKKUN

TEACHING

SREY NEAR





MENGSUE VETERINARY







LUCH

FI FCTRICIAN



## Scholarship Program

#### "THE POINT IS THIS: WHOEVER SOWS SPARINGLY WILL ALSO REAP SPARINGLY, AND WHOEVER SOWS BOUNTIFULLY WILL ALSO REAP BOUNTIFULLY." **2 CORINTHIANS 9:6**

The origins of these young people are marked by abandonment and poverty. Statistically, the odds are against them. Less than 3% of orphaned children graduate with a degree from college. The effects of orphan abandonment run deep and many never have the opportunity to rise above and recognize who God created them to be.

Yet, just as the Father chose to adopt us into His family, our partner children's home staff and Parent Partner families have chosen these kids and shown them the love of a family. They are sowing abundantly into the lives of these children, giving generously of their time, finances, wisdom, prayers, and so much more.

We are committed to sow abundantly into the lives of these students in our Next Steps Program, both opening doors of opportunity to create brighter futures and walking with them as they continue to struggle with their past. We are grateful for our discipleship leaders in Cambodia and Guatemala, who are professionally equipped to counsel, lead, and disciple these students as they advance on their path towards a career.

All of this takes a village! Thank you to everyone who has shaped and influenced these young men and women, whether as a Parent Partner, children's home staff member, pastor, donor, or in any other way.



"The students have grown more confident, independent, and have developed life skills. They have learned not only to think for themselves but also how to use their abilities to help other people in Cambodia."

NEXT STEPS DISCIPLESHIP MENTOR IN CAMBODIA



"We agree with what is expressed in 3 John 1:4: 'There is no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.' God has answered many of our pravers for them and working with them has greatly enriched our lives."

alguero

NEXT STEPS DISCIPLESHIP MENTOR IN GUATEMALA

Soun Mega Next Steps Spotlight

Soun Mesa is a young man whom we are very proud of. He finished his classes this Fall and is waiting for a certificate from the Cambodia University of Specialties, where he will graduate with a degree in Information Technology.

Soun Mesa's maturity and heart for service shone during his college years. During the week, he lived and served at a church in Prey Veng Province, three hours from the city. He taught English, mentored children, and served selflessly, including filling in as a church leader when the pastor of the church stepped down. Despite limited internet service, Soun Mesa persevered in studying and drove back to Phnom Penh to take classes on weekends. He plans to continue for another 18 months in service to the church after graduation.

Said Soun Mesa: "At first when I came to Prey Veng, I felt discouraged about it because the place is far from the city; I also had problems with the Internet and had to go far to buy our food...but thanks to God that He called me to serve Him there. The people and children of the village, they are friendly and they love me, although we have not met each other before. I also get a lot of encouragement around me from my brothers and sisters in Christ - from Pastor Sokion, Pastor Sihok, and especially Papa Castro and Mama Joy; also from Papa Steve and Mama Sondra and the Saving Susan team. I want to thank God for providing the things I need; even though sometimes I haven't asked Him yet, He knows everything I need. Like the sunset He knows my name."



"My wife and I have supported Soun Mesa now for almost 6 years. His passion for serving others and his strong Faith in God always amazes us. Here is a young man that we felt called to serve and we are constantly finding that he is serving us and teaches us how to have more Faith, Trust, and a Servant's Heart. It reminds me of the verse in Isaiah that ends with the words, 'and a little child shall lead them.' Although Soun Mesa is no longer a little child, I can truly say that he continues to help lead me in my faith journey."

tere Malandro

PARENT PARTNER TO SOUN MESA

Soun Mesa serving in Prey Veng Province NABBASS

NIKE

# Financial Blessings

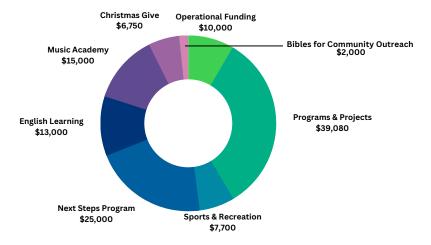
#### **TENNIS & PICKLEBALL**

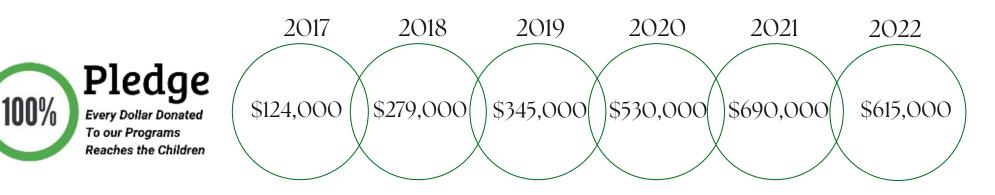


## GREEN TIE

JANA Saa waxii immaat an tha ahii

See your impact on the children from the 2022 Green Tie Gala:





how/h ECFA & CAFO

2022 was an exciting year for us as we continue to grow and partner with organizations that strengthen and equip our ministry.

In April, our ministry was accredited by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. The accreditation process was affirming to our organization in every area. Saving Susan Ministry is blessed with a team that has servant hearts for our donors, includes a healthy and vibrant Board of Directors, and follows best practices in every area. ECFA is a seal of confidence to our donors, prospective donors, and other supporters. We hold ourselves accountable not just to ECFA but to the high standard of Luke 12:48b: "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand more."

In August, we were accepted into the Christian Alliance for Orphans (CAFO), which unites more than 200 respected organizations and over 850 churches. CAFO exists to "labor together in shared initiatives that inspire and equip Christians for effective orphan care." We count it a blessing to be a part of an organization dedicated since 2007 to advocacy and best practices for Christian organizations working in this arena.

In September, two of our team attended the annual CAFO Summit, held this year in our own backyard - at Johnson Ferry Baptist Church!







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**JAY & TRACY ARNTZEN CO-FOUNDERS. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS** 



**ADAM REILEY OPERATIONS DIRECTOR. ASSOCIATE BOARD CHAIR** 



**ALLYSON OVERSTREET PARTNER RELATIONS** DIRECTOR



NANCY DOW FINANCIAL COORDINATOR. **CPA, BOARD SECRETARY** 



SOKION AND KATIE KI **CAMBODIA NEXT STEPS DISCIPLESHIP MENTORS** 



**EMILY WESTBROOK** MINISTRY COORDINATOR. ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBER



**TARA HAMBRICK** MINISTRY ASSISTANT



WESLYE AND KEREN SALGUERO **GUATEMALA NEXT STEPS DISCIPLESHIP MENTORS** 

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JEREMIAH AIKEN

ADILENE MORILLON JARED ARNTZEN



Pur Values

Christ-Centered 1 Peter 4:11

Prayer-Based

Isaiah 30:21

Discipleship-Driven Matthew 28:19

Humility in Service

Philippians 2:3

Collaborative Relationships

Romans 12:4

Good Stewardship Luke 12:48b







#### THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS FOR AN INCREDIBLE 2022!



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