



SHINE  
CAMBODIA

# ANNUAL REPORT

**MAY 2021 - APRIL 2022**





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## Mission

*We provide education programs to children and young people in Cambodia, inspiring them to bring about change for themselves, their families and communities.*

## Vision

*A world where all children and young people have access to education and wellbeing services that empowers them and their communities to lead healthy, happy lives and work to break the poverty cycle.*

# Values



## Wellbeing

We believe it is a human right to live a healthy and comfortable life. Shine strives to consider all dimensions of a child's wellbeing and provide services to support and enrich the child, seeking to assist in developing a healthy life.

## Education

We believe everyone has the right to access high quality education. We strive to break the barriers to learning as we understand the importance of education in ending the poverty cycle.



## Community collaboration

We are committed to listening to the needs of the communities we work within and keep them at the heart of everything we do. We collaborate with the Shine Cambodia community to share knowledge, resources, and build on existing community efforts..

## Empowerment & Independence

We believe that everyone has a right to decide their future. We ensure to be culturally sensitive, listen to people, seek advice and ensure our programs and services promote independence.



## Sustainability

We strive to provide stable, long-term outcomes for the Shine Cambodia community. We will always be accountable, transparent, and ethical in the way we do business.



# The year in review

2021

## COVID-19

For much of the year 2021, schools and education programs across Cambodia were closed due to Covid-19.

- As Shine Cambodia supports families living in poverty, online classes were not an option
- We do not have the facilities to teach online, and the community does not have access to technology to receive online learning.



## Community support

- During school closures, Shine Cambodia staff kept in regular contact with the local community.
- Staff coordinated weekly distributions of schoolwork keeping students engaged with their learning.
- Shine Cambodia staff also distributed emergency food packages and set up a hotline for families in need of urgent emergency food parcels.

# The year in review

## 2022

- January 2022, all schools in Cambodia were finally open again. This was great news all round for the community, students and our staff.
- Due to 21 months of intermittent classroom learning, staff at Shine Cambodia were concerned about what the potential learning loss amongst the students would be.
- Numerous reports had been published about the shocking levels of learning loss in Cambodian students due to Covid-19 school closures.

### REDUCING LEARNING LOSS

- At the start of January 2022, some students were showing differing levels of learning loss
- However, due to comprehensive action plans put in place by our teachers, which included teaching smaller groups of students and 1-2-1 learning, students quickly caught up with their studies.



### RETAINING ENROLLMENT LEVELS

- We were also concerned that due to the major disruptions in education that many students would not return to school.
- Luckily this was not the case with almost all students returning to education when schools reopened.



***We are proud to share that all our students passed their end of semester exams in April.***

***This is a testament to the quality of teaching by our staff and the enthusiasm and commitment for learning by students.***

# Our team

## AUSTRALIA

### Monique MacRitchie

Chair of the Board



Linked in



### Sarah Day

Board member



Linked in



### Meg Argiryou

Board member



Linked in



### Gavin Choong

Secretary



Linked in



### Ry Lumsden

Treasurer



Linked in



### Alex McDonald

Board member



Linked in





# Our team

## CAMBODIA



### **SARITH** Head teacher and Program Director



Sarith joined Shine Cambodia in 2019 and is an integral part of our success to date, he is a fantastic asset to us having built a strong rapport with students and the local community. A capable leader and a great teacher trainer Sarith is respected by all staff and has elevated the teaching standards at Shine Cambodia. In turn students are more engaged with learning, students' grades have increased and we have more students than ever finishing primary school and progressing into secondary school.

### **SAMANTHA MCLAUGHLAN**

#### Project manager



Originally from Scotland, Samantha joined the Shine Cambodia team in 2017 and has been instrumental in growing and developing Shine Cambodia. As Project Manager Samantha leads operations in Cambodia, supports Sarith with staff and works closely with the Board and volunteers with fundraising and operations in Australia. Samantha is excited about Shine Cambodia's future and the opportunities opening up for the young people of Otres.



Linked in

## TEACHING STAFF

In such a challenging year, we are grateful for the dedication and commitment of our team at Shine Cambodia. Their passion and resilience ensured that we were able to deliver essential education and emergency food packages to families and children in Otres despite Covid-19 restrictions and tighter budgets.

We believe in employing local Khmer staff. All our teaching staff are Cambodian, passionate about making a positive change to their community.

We are grateful for the dedication and commitment of our team here in Otres. Their passion and resilience ensure that we were able to deliver our programs effectively.

We believe in employing local Khmer staff. All our teaching staff are Cambodians passionate about making a positive change to their community.



## NARITH

### Community outreach officer and teacher

Narith teaches in the mornings and carries out community outreach activities in the afternoon. He has been instrumental to Shine for helping build stronger relationships with the state school and the Pagoda committee. Narith understands the issues the community experiences and has strong relationships with the community.

## THORN

### Mathematics and Khmer teacher

As our longest standing teacher at Shine, Thorn has shown dedication and commitment. He is enthusiastic about teaching students living in hardship in the hope that education will be a pathway out of poverty for young people.

## VIDA

### English teacher

As lead English teacher Vida is a great team member. She is very creative in lesson planning and her students love the activities she comes up with to make learning fun.

## MOLIKA

### Teacher and cooks student lunches

In the morning Molika buys, prepares and cooks lunches for students and staff and in the afternoon teaches students. She has strong bonds with her students and wanted to work for Shine to share her knowledge to the next Khmer generation.



# Covid-19 & Cambodia

## IMPACT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

- Covid-19 cases surged in 2021 and the local economy quickly deteriorated
- Tourism, manufacturing, and construction industries were most impacted
- There are no government unemployment assistance programs in Cambodia.
- The inability to earn an income left already vulnerable families unable to meet their basic needs.
- Food insecurity became a big problem for lots of disadvantaged families
- Making it through the pandemic was incredibly difficult for many families and many communities fell back into poverty



*Thanks to the support of our donors, during the pandemic Shine was able to continue to provide essential services such as home learning and a food distribution program to the Otres community.*





# Community outreach

The Cambodian national poverty line is

*Extreme poverty is living on an income of less than USD \$1.90/day*  
- The Asian Development Bank

**\$2.70**

Per person, per day

This year we witnessed increased levels of poverty and a lot more homelessness in Otres

Many families sleep in makeshift tarp tents with no amenities such as running water or electricity.

Many children who are too young to attend school are left to look after themselves whilst parents work in low paid, unskilled jobs.

Shine Cambodia has a medical fund for families requiring urgent medical support.

## Our outreach team

Shine Cambodia works closely with the local community, listening to, and understanding, daily challenges and struggles.

The Shine Cambodia brand is well recognised and respected in the Otres community.

- Help design and deliver a range of innovative community outreach and engagement activities around Otres,
- Conduct annual social surveys with the community, carry out absence checks on students.
- Develop and sustain positive relationships with a range of people including community members, community leaders, businesses, local groups and partners,
- Understands the issues and problems facing the local community
- Liaises with the Pagoda and Head Monk.

# The year in numbers

Due to covid impacting in school hours, our year in numbers looks a little different this year.

- **Provided 35 nutritious school lunches daily**
- **Educated 100 students**

## Impact to date



Since our launch in April 2016 Shine Cambodia has made a considerable impact on the Otres community.

Over 680 students have received a quality education.

Students have enjoyed over 14,500 nutritious lunches.

Free drinking water is available all day to all students at Shine.

371 families have been supported through provision of food packages, medical and dental services.

# Financials

Income	
Donations Received	79,049
Fundraising Income	11,640
Interest Income	3
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>90,692</b>

Cost of Sales – Expenses Cambodia	
Administrative expenses (Cambodia)	56
Classroom supplies (Cambodia)	231
Computer Expenses (Cambodia)	570
Depreciation (Cambodia)	188
Food & Drinks (Cambodia)	1,583
Light, Power, Heating (Cambodia)	47
Medical expenses (Cambodia)	210
Mobile and Telephone (Cambodia)	156
Motor Vehicle Expenses (Cambodia)	91
Repairs and Maintenance (Cambodia)	165
Travel Expenses (Cambodia)	109
Visas (Cambodia)	686
Wages - Samantha (Cambodia)	13,717
Wages - Teachers (Cambodia)	13,346
Water (Cambodia)	42
<b>Total Cost of Sales</b>	<b>31,197</b>

Admin expenses

Community programs

Education programs

Fundraising expenses

Bank fees, currency gains and losses

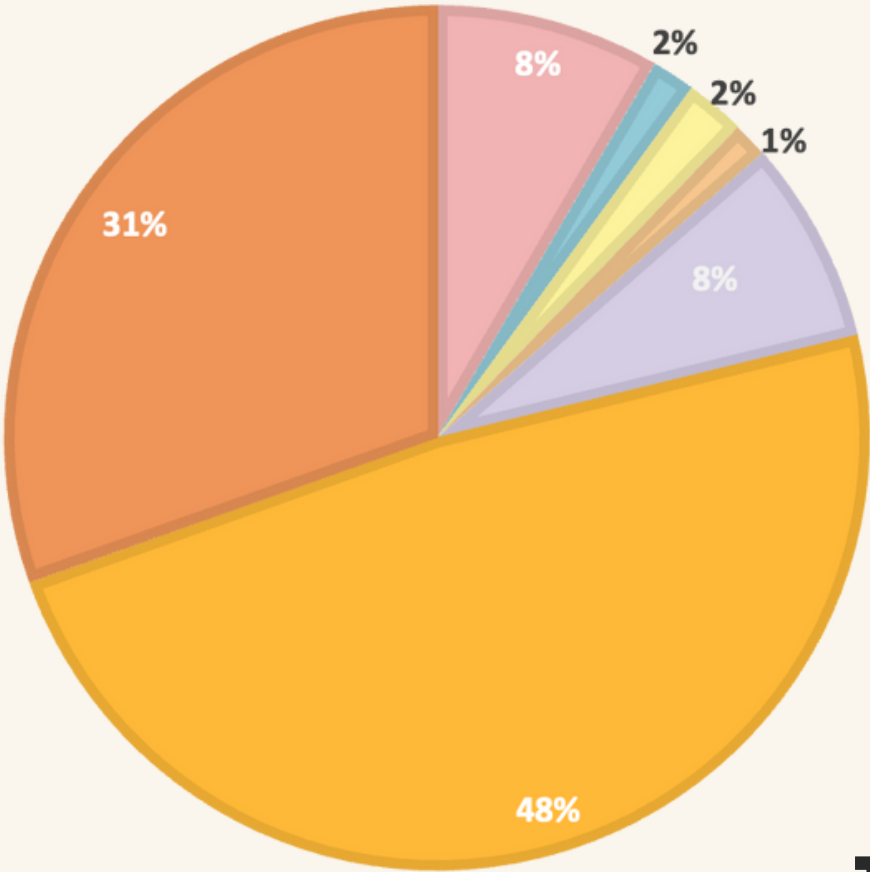


# Financials

Operating Expenses – Australia	
Advertising and Promotion	167
Bank Fees and Charges	289
Contractors	1,292
Foreign Currency Gains and Losses	1,152
Fundraising Expenses	6,636
Insurance	2,966
Licences, Registrations & Subscriptions	1,609
Postage	131
Travel, Accommodation & Conference - International	(84)
Wages & Salaries	43,000
Website Expenses	548
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>57,706</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>1,789</b>

Admin expenses
Community programs
Education programs
Fundraising expenses
Bank fees, currency gains and losses

- Admin expenses
- Bank fees, currency gains and losses
- Community programs
- Education programs
- Fundraising expenses
- Salaries (Australia)
- Salaries (Cambodia)



# Student testimonials



**"I AM SO HAPPY TO BE BACK AT SCHOOL AND TO STUDY AT SHINE. I MISSED MY TEACHERS AND FRIENDS WHEN SCHOOL WAS CLOSED AND NOW CAN ENJOY MY LIFE MORE"**  
**- GRADE 4 STUDENT**



**"THANK YOU FOR HELPING WITH MY EDUCATION, I LOVE LEARNING AT SCHOOL AND WANT TO BE AN ENGINEER WHEN I GROW UP. I KNOW MY PARENTS NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO STUDY AND I WANT TO STUDY HARD AND HELP TO SUPPORT MY FAMILY WHEN I AM OLDER"**  
**- GRADE 6 STUDENT**



**"SHINE MAKES ME SMILE"**  
**- GRADE 1 STUDENT**

## From the community

“Thank you Shine for providing food for our family. When schools were closed, we struggled with income and feeding our family of 8 people. Our 4 children would get lunch every day at Shine, and we did not have enough money to feed everyone. You gave us many food packages that allowed us to keep our family from hunger”

“I was very happy when schools opened, and my children could go back to Shine. I want them to learn English to increase their chances of getting a good job”

“This year has been so difficult. We sell snacks and drinks in a small shop but had very few customers. Shine helped us with food to feed our family when we needed it. Thank you”





# Message from the Chair of the Board

This year was one of significant changes requiring flexibility and adaptability in our service provision.

In Cambodia, due to the pandemic, the team experienced multiple school closures throughout 2020 and 2021 and were still unsure if 2022 would continue with this trend. Fortunately, schools reopened in January 2022 and remain open to date.

We were delighted that all our Cambodian staff remained fully committed to Shine Cambodia and were ready to step back into their roles with energy and focus.

This year also saw a number of changes to the organisation's leadership.

In November 2021 our Founder, Suzanne Wright, resigned from her official duties to take on an ambassadorial role. She remains engaged with the organisation and is committed to our continued success. The team continues to fulfil what she set out to do since founding Shine Cambodia all those years ago. While Suzanne continues to support Shine Cambodia, we want to thank her for all that she has done and continues to do for the school and the Otres community.

Suzanne quotes, "Shine has been my life and soul for years. I dreamt of a day when it would grow strong enough legs to stand without me. A successful charity is bigger than one person. The Shine team cares passionately and has the capacity to continue its success."

We thank Christine Thornton, our CEO for her strategic direction, vision and leadership.

The start of 2022 we welcomed new Board members, Meg Argyriou, Sarah Day, Gavin Choong and Monique MacRitchie.

Susan Steele resigned as Chair in March 2022 appointing Monique MacRitchie as Chair, and long-standing board member Daniel Hamilton resigned in April 2022 to pursue studies overseas.

We thank Susan and Daniel for their hard work, ideas and contribution to Shine Cambodia.

We are an organisation supported by volunteers in Australia. Alex McDonald and Mia Jones provided marketing and communications support and we are ever grateful to Lakshay Gupta for providing accounting and financial support to the organisation.

Operationally, Shine Cambodia continues to grow from strength to strength and the commitment of staff and the families of Otres remains steadfast.

We continue to build relationships with government and the private sector to strengthen our funding streams and seek partnership arrangements with like-minded organisations in order to develop our offerings and facilities. The Board and our staff of course, are deeply grateful to the continued support of our regular donors and those who gave so generously.

**Monique MacRitchie**

# Fundraising

*Shine Cambodia relies on private donors for all our funding. We have around 40 supporters who make a recurring donation monthly which ensures we can continue to provide our essential programs. We are extremely grateful to each of these wonderful individuals for their continued and valuable support and contributions.*



In April 2022 we launched the 25-for 25 campaign whereby participants agreed to read for at least 25 minutes for 25 days. 25-for-25 helped raise a further **\$5,785 AUD**. Again, thank you to all 19 participants and their donors for their support.



We launched our first Cross The Line movement campaign in October 2021 raising an incredible **\$55,955 AUD**. This has been our most successful fundraising event to date! Thank you to all 143 participants and their generous donors.

# THANK YOU

We want to thank the Pagoda Committee for their extended support to Shine Cambodia since our launch.

Thank you to Otres Primary State School for collaboration and the use of classroom space.

Without this Shine Cambodia would struggle to operate and we look forward to continuing partnering with them in the future.

A massive thanks to all our supporters worldwide who have helped us with fundraising, shared our content online and provided school supplies and materials.

We really appreciate all your help and without your support we wouldn't have been able to run our programs.



For more information  
Website [www.shinecambodia.org](http://www.shinecambodia.org)  
Email [contact@shinecambodia.org](mailto:contact@shinecambodia.org)