



Spring 2022 Newsletter

*News from Trailblazer Foundation—
Your Donations at Work....*



Our Field Director, Ratanak Sor, meeting with the students who received school uniforms

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Developing Ripples of Sustainability through Community Water Projects

A Note From Trailblazer's Executive Director

Hello Trailblazers,

Every time Trailblazer receives your gifts I smile. Your contributions go to work right away to provide clean drinking water, access to water for personal and irrigation uses, better food security, and aid that increases economic and education opportunities.

Every donation, no matter the amount, adds up and truly matters. Behind every life being changed, is someone who cares. You are that special someone who cares, who is generous and giving, and who is making a real difference. Here is a list of Trailblazer's accomplishments in 2021 that you helped make a reality:

- ◇ 552 families have clean water to drink resulting in better health*
- ◇ 216 families have water to irrigate their gardens to better feed their families.*
- ◇ 163 families have a safe, sanitary, dignified place to toilet.*
- ◇ 893 farmers attended one of 84 agriculture courses that teach them better techniques to be more successful in their home gardens and feed their families.*
- ◇ 4 new chicken farms were established to provide a larger scale operation for raising chickens for income generation.*
- ◇ 10 new Village Funds [VF] were established that offer new economic opportunities to those villages. 88 VF received refresher training, and 29 villages were introduced to the VF idea.*
- ◇ 406 students have government approved uniforms and can stay in school so they will have a greater chance to advance themselves.*
- ◇ One new school was built in Kok Dong.*
- ◇ A clean water filtration/hand washing station was built at Kok Dong school.*
- ◇ built a new library at Beng Primary School.*

If you have not yet considered making recurring donations, we hope you will consider becoming a longtime advocate. You can make an even greater impact by setting up a monthly or quarterly donation at an amount that is good for your budget. As an example: \$10 per month for 8 months will buy a water filter! That is like giving up 1 or 2 cups of coffee at Starbucks every month. Is that something you are willing to do? You can set up recurring giving through your bank with Bill Pay - as one way to make it simple for yourself! You may ask, "why should I give monthly?" With consistent giving it makes implementing our projects easier because we know the funding will be there without delay to support the work getting done. We know there will be funds we can count on to provide us with financial forecasting.

Thank you for all you have done, and continue to do, to help our poor rural Cambodian partners move out of poverty and into more sustainable livelihoods.

With deepest gratitude,



Chris Coats

Co-Founder and Executive Director



Health Program

Goals for 2022

Below is a list of what Trailblazer plans to accomplish in the coming year, which is based on your continued support:

- Install 500 bio-sand water filters
- Drill 150 wells
- Build 100 latrines
- Conduct 60 agriculture trainings
- Establish a new Farmer Community Group
- Distribute 100 bicycles
- Deliver 500 school uniforms
- Conduct 55 Village Fund follow-up courses
- Conduct 10 Village Fund refresher courses
- Establish 10 new Village Funds

**Give a GIFT in
HONOR or MEMORY
of someone special.**

We are proud to report our teams recently completed the delivery of 50 biosand water filters and the construction of 11 latrines with two grants from Rotary Club Zurich-Flughafen. We are honored to receive another contract from our long term partner Abercrombie & Kent Philanthropy. This contract is for 26 well/water filter sets. Additionally, water filters, wells and latrines are being installed each month, which have been provided by numerous companies and individual donors, like you. And we sincerely thank you.



Please visit our website for more information about our Health Programs:

<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/health-program>

Health Program (continued)

List of the Many Needs Posted on the Wall



Our well drilling team stays hard at work to meet our well installation goals, and those of our donors. In 2022, our goal is to complete the drilling of 121 wells in three of the four districts where we are working. These goals were determined at last fall's government integrated workshop, at which Trailblazer made agreements to install filters, wells and latrines, and to complete other project activities at locations based on the requests of villages and government officials. Below is a photo of one such integrated workshop Trailblazer was invited to attend. You can see the lists of needs posted on the walls.



**Sustainable
MONTHLY Giving**

Please visit our website for more information about our Food Security Program:

<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/health-program>

Food Security Program

Looking to Establish Another Farmers Community Group

Our new Agriculture Specialist, Ms. Nem Monypheap was hired and started working in February. She has been introduced to the district officials and village chiefs that she will report to at the village and government levels. She has begun conducting agriculture training courses. We hope to take the next steps in establishing another Farmer Community Group in the coming year. We are happy that our program activities have moved forward smoothly despite the staff changes and the impact of Covid.



Trailblazer's Cambodian staff conducts agriculture trainings with 10 to 15 participants for each training course teaching them better techniques.

Your \$50 donation supports the training of a farmer, which ultimately benefits the farmer's entire family and community.

Please visit our website for more information about our Education Program:
<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/food-security-program>

Education Program

Bikes Have Been Delivered!

Schools are open and we are proud to report that 113 bicycles were delivered to students at Srah Primary School on January 18, 2022. There were a lot of happy students.



^
Your \$55 donation will provide
a student a bicycle.
<
Your \$15 donation will provide
a student uniform.

Please visit our website for more information about our Food Security Program:
<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/education-program>

Economic Development Program

Going to Market

Chicken Farm III and IV are going smoothly. They received their supply of chicks, which are growing nicely and should be ready for market in the near future. Now, Chicken Farm V is in the beginning stages!



\$3,000 Establishes a Chicken Farm

It is clear that these projects enhance and increase the number of economic opportunities available to member farmers allowing them to earn a higher rate of income, and moving them from a high rate of poverty into more sustainable livelihoods.

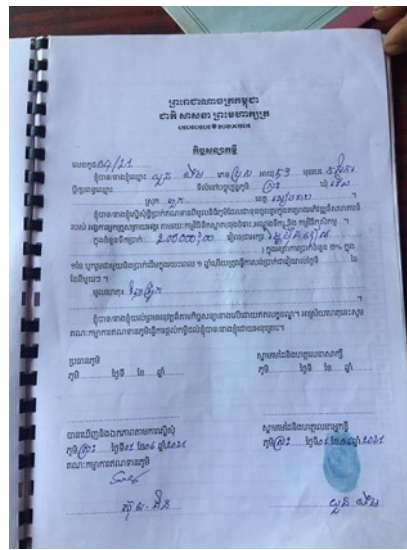
Please visit our website for more information about our Education Program:
<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/economic-development-prog>

Economic Development Program (continued)

Investing Into Their Community

Another aspect of our Economic Development Program is to help communities grow and better support their own development. We do this by helping establish Village Funds, a village level microloan system that provides the capital for village members to borrow and start a small business, pay for medical care, buy livestock, buy seeds for a home garden, put a new roof on their home, purchase a motorbike or bicycle so they can have better access to work and school – the list is endless. How it works is, for each product we deliver we require the recipients to “put some skin in the game.” Specifically, we ask them to pay a small fee, as an investment into the development of their family, into their Village Fund. As the capital grows members can take out a loan, at 2% simple interest, and have six months to one year to pay it back.

**Make an Impact
TODAY**



Please visit our website for ways you can support Trailblazer Foundation:
<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/economic-development-prog>

Support for our Programs

Extremely Grateful!

You may not have been aware that Trailblazer is an exclusive partner with GlobalGiving. GlobalGiving is running a five-day crowdfunding campaign April 4-8, 2022 called [Little by Little](#). Because we are a partner we are eligible to participate in this campaign. Donations (up to \$50) received during the duration of the campaign will be matched at 50%. Matching funds will not run out! Donations over \$50 will receive the maximum \$25 match. If a donor starts a new monthly donation during the Little by Little campaign, donations up to \$50 will receive a 50%, and donations up to \$200 will receive a one-time 100% match, as long as they stay recurring for four total months. Take note though, donations made outside of the campaign will not be matched, so be sure to donate on a day during the week of April 4-8, 2022!

Our December campaign to raise funds in order to purchase a new truck was very successful, and we wish to thank everyone who dug deep into their pockets to help us reach our goal. Here is the new Ford Ranger truck that we were able to purchase with your generous contributions! The staff are extremely grateful to have a dependable vehicle they count on not to break down, and one nice enough to take visitors out to our work areas and beneficiaries of Trailblazer products in the villages.

DONATE NOW



To Donate

By Mail: PO Box 271767, Fort Collins, CO 80527

Online: <https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/donate>

Please visit our website for ways you can support Trailblazer Foundation:

<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/other-giving-options>

Additional News

Volunteers and Visitors are Welcome Again!

It's been awhile, over two years due to Covid, since we have been able to allow visitors and volunteers to our work site. We are happy to report that visitors and volunteers are once again welcome to participate in our program activities at our Siem Reap work site. In keeping with maintaining health concerns, visitors and volunteers will be required to wear a mask at all times, have their temperature taken daily upon entry, and hand sanitizer is there for their use. If you are interested in helping our teams, please let us know. You can visit our website <https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/volunteers-2> to sign up and find out more information.



Previous VOLUNTEERS working on bio-sand water filter material



A donor VISITING students whose lives have benefited from his giving.

You may wonder: How can I help?

Here are a lot of Ideas!

- ⇒ Become a weekly, monthly or quarterly donor to sustain the difference you are making.
- ⇒ Check with your employer about a matching gift program and double your impact. We have a growing number of donors who are taking advantage of these wonderful programs.
- ⇒ Like us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) to encourage your followers to like and follow us. Share your stories and posts describing your relationship with Trailblazer and why you support us. Check out our new connection with [Yelp](#).
- ⇒ Become a funder by conducting a DIY Peer-to-Peer campaign.

Please visit our website for ways you can support Trailblazer Foundation:
<https://thetrailblazerfoundation.org/monthly-giving>



Agriculture Specialist met with officials for agricultural training as agreement.

Agriculture Specialist met with village chiefs to prepare trainee list.



WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT

Contributions Go to Work Right Away

Below is a list of how your gift(s) can change the life of a poor rural family:

- \$15 buys a school uniform
- \$50 supports a rural farmer's agriculture training course
- \$55 buys a bicycle to keep a student in school
- \$80 buys a biosand water filter for up to 3 families
- \$175 buys a latrine for a family
- \$320 buys a well for up to 3 families
- \$_____ to help out as much as possible where needed most

If you are seeking alternative ways to give and receive great tax benefits, you can:

- donate from your Donor Advised Fund.
- donate old stock (with a low basis) that has appreciated in the market and avoid capital gains tax.
- if you are 70 ½ or older you can avoid extra income by making a gift from your IRA.
- eliminate an old or unneeded life insurance policy by gifting the cash balance.

As always we are sincerely grateful for your attention and generosity.

Our work is only made possible because of people like you!!



Trailblazer Foundation

PO Box 271767
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527