


New Horizons



“ I can see that sparkle in their eyes ”





*Children who grow up in foster families develop age-appropriate skills, they know how to share, and they can pass on their family's love to others. When I'm talking to these foster children, **I can see that sparkle in their eyes and it is just so clear that they are happy.***

Family placement worker
Thailand

Care for Children has changed the world in terms of modern childcare practice. I think we have here a model which enables future generations to be family centred rather than institutional centred.

Lord Laming
House of Lords



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This Annual Report combines *Care for Children's* project activity for both 2021 and 2022, together with financial reports from 2020 and 2021. Going forward our Annual Reports, always printed at the end of the calendar year, will report on the project activity of the year just gone, together with financial information from the latest available audited accounts from the previous year.

1 Executive Director's message



Despite 2021 presenting numerous COVID-related challenges, which spilled over into 2022, one of the greatest developments has been the decentralisation of our project management with our Training Manager joining experienced staff from China to form an Asia Regional Team. This team of experts will provide vital support to both existing and new projects across the world.

One of the key project developments over the past two years has been the launch of the Cambodia project. After many emails and online calls, as soon as Cambodia opened up to international travel in January 2022, we travelled to Phnom Penh to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Cambodian government. By February the Taylor family had relocated to Phnom Penh from London to lead the project. The Ministry responsible for child welfare services gave us office space in their building, in September we held a two-day joint workshop with the Cambodian government in the south of the country, and by the Autumn *Care for Children* was registered as an international NGO. On top of this, the first children have already been identified for family placement! It's been a whirlwind for all involved, but we are delighted with the positive progress towards placing orphans and vulnerable children into families in Cambodia as we head into 2023.

We also had some very exciting news out of Thailand in 2021 and 2022 where the Royal Thai government has launched a new policy to ensure all children under six living in residential care are placed into families. This is a landmark shift in their child welfare system, and is precisely the impact

our sustainable project strategy is designed to have. Furthermore, during 2022 we were delighted to establish a partnership with 'The MarCom Pro', a PR agency in Bangkok, to help us develop and launch a national family placement media campaign in partnership with the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security. We now know that the outcome of our work in Thailand to see orphans and vulnerable children placed into local, loving families will long outlive our presence in the country!

In line with *Care for Children's* new vision to see 'a world of children in families' we have been able to witness the documentary '*Children of Shanghai*' receive global attention, with 25 screenings across five countries. It's remarkable to think that the precious stories of changed lives we documented in Shanghai are now giving hope and encouragement to children and families around the world.

Care for Children is seeing increasing demand for help from countries around the world. With up to eight million children still living in residential care, the need is great, but we have proved our model and we're ready to scale! We are building online courses and training programs to supplement our proven model and the amazing work of our training teams. I'm delighted to report that 2021 and 2022 have seen *Care for Children's* digital training product called '*My Family*' achieve key milestones towards its production. '*My Family*' will shape a significant part of our strategy going forward. We expect it will open up new opportunities for *Care for Children's* work, including Singapore where we met with the Ministry of Social and

Family Development in late 2022. As ever, all of this work, time and effort is concentrated on the singular focus to ensure every child has the opportunity to live in a loving family. On behalf of the team at *Care for Children* I greatly appreciate your support and encouragement of our work to serve disadvantaged children.

Best wishes,

Dr Robert Glover OBE
Founder & Executive Director



*Children need more than just food and someone to look after them, actually **they need to feel loved in a family environment.** Every child needs to have parents to really love and care for them. Only in this way they can grow up reaching their full potential.*

G.E.M. (Deng Ziqi)
Singer-songwriter



2 Vision, mission & model

Vision

To see 'A world of **children in families!**'

Mission

To serve governments of nations to pioneer a positive alternative to institutional care by placing children into local, loving families in the community (fostering and adoption).

Model

The core focus of *Care for Children's* work is to re-train institutional childcare staff to become family placement workers in the local community to place children into local families, and subsequently free up space and resources for the local authorities to offer a wider range of childcare services and preventative measures.

I am proud to be an ambassador of Care for Children and partner with them to see their vision reached.

Bear Grylls
Care for Children Ambassador



Theory of Change

Care for Children enables transition from institutional care to family care

Staff retrained and children placed in families

Preventative services grow

Outcomes

Institutions become community hubs

Children's services transformed & money saved



Methodology



1. Strategic

Work in partnership with national government authorities for systemic change



2. Developmental

Support grassroots implementation with local government to deliver real-time results.



3. Sustainable

Develop country-specific training programmes to ensure long-term success.

Stakeholders

1. Governments

Care for Children recognises a government's responsibility to protect its citizens. All of *Care for Children's* country projects are established and managed with an MOU at Ministry level, and implemented with local government.

2. Children

Care for Children focusses on seeing children in care moved into families as a positive alternative to institutions. All of *Care for Children's* work from government relations, to training, to fundraising, is shaped by reaching this goal.

3. Families

Care for Children recognises families as the real 'heroes' of family placement work, meaning their support is critical to the success of good, long-term placements. Prospective and experienced families are frequently involved in *Care for Children's* training activities, together with family care workers.

4. Family placement staff

Care for Children's professional approach is based on retraining institutional care staff to become family placement workers who are able to manage the transition of children from residential care into local families, with a particular focus on permanence. This is a specialist field of work within the alternative care spectrum, but the greater, indirect impact (i.e. theory of change) can lead to improved child welfare services and preventative measures for all children.

3 Track record



*I feel that Care for Children gives us **100x return on our giving** in terms of impact because of their model to work through and with governments as they have worked for over 20 years to ensure families for all children.*

Brad Davies
US Board Member



From 1998, *Care for Children* supported the Chinese government to transition from an institutional care system to a family care model for orphans and vulnerable children. The government took on the responsibility for implementing family care, while *Care for Children* provided consultation and training, empowering government staff to ensure the quality and sustainability of the project.

Care for Children also provided technical support and seed-funding in the way of government matched family allowances (50%) to build models of best practice and design, and deliver a national family care training programme. This empowered the government to enact legislative support for family care in 2015, and by 2018 the Chinese bureau of statistics revealed that over one million vulnerable children were living in families instead of institutions.

Following invitations from a number of governments across Asia, *Care for Children* has also gone on to develop successful programmes with the governments of Thailand and Vietnam.



4 2021 & 2022 proj

China

Since the downsizing exercise of 2020, the China team is now a much smaller office, and has been incorporated into the new Asia Regional Team to support the expansion of *Care for Children's* work into new countries across Asia, including Vietnam, Cambodia and Singapore. Nonetheless, the team organized several training events in China and continued to develop training materials and disseminate updates in childcare policy and practice to social welfare institutions, organizations and government agencies across the country.

The team also continued to maintain key relationships with the five national centres of excellence in family placement in Yinchuan (North), Chengdu (Central), Kunming (South West), Xining (Central), and Datong (North East).

The Department focusses on capacity building of staff, whether it is staff working at Shelters for Children and Families or the Child Welfare Homes we have across Thailand. Thanks to Care for Children for providing training, and imparting knowledge and skills in terms of quality work practices for the practitioners and officials.

Supatcha Suthipol
Director General of the
Department of Children and Youth
National Conference on Alternative Care: All Children Belong in Safe and Nurturing Families, November 2021



ject achievements

Thailand

With the COVID pandemic still ever present, 2021 gave *Care for Children's* Thai team lots of opportunities to learn new skills and become more flexible. Due to restrictions the team was unable to travel around Thailand to train staff from all 77 government Shelters for Children and Families. Instead it was decided to conduct the training online via Zoom, finding ways to persevere through power cuts, weak internet connections and other teething problems! The team missed the deeper connections that face-to-face training affords but were so grateful that hundreds of shelter staff across the country were still able to learn how to run a family care programme. Between September and November 2021, we were delighted to learn that **thirteen shelters were able to place 83 children into 76 foster families!**

The phrase, *'All children in Thailand belong in safe and nurturing families'*, not only became the banner to mark the occasion of World Children's Day 2021 and the anniversary of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, but also the focus for 2022. Partnering with four Child Welfare Homes, sixteen shelters and two like-minded NGOs, this year saw the return of in-person training via 29 workshops to take an even deeper dive into creating mechanisms to ensure that children are afforded every opportunity to grow up and thrive in loving families.

Vietnam

With Vietnam only coming out of lockdown in April 2022, COVID severely impacted project progress and momentum. Despite this, the team managed to conduct a number of training and coaching sessions, both online and face-to-face when restrictions allowed, to staff at the two pilot social protection centres, government officials, and also child protection officers working within the community.

Having already delivered the full training programme to the family placement teams from the two pilot sites, coaching during 2021 and 2022 focused on the assessment of children for foster care and the assessment of foster carers, as they prepared to move the first children into families.

We are also pleased to report that the government has now confirmed that they will not approve new proposals that involve any form of institutional care for children, and are committed to pursuing family-based alternatives, with institutional care as a last resort!

The Vietnam team also used lockdown as a great opportunity for learning, developing and honing their expertise in family care, as well as conducting an evaluation of the pilot project to inform the project going forward.



Cambodia

Overcoming the challenges of COVID

Unsurprisingly, the COVID-19 pandemic impacted *Care for Children's* work in Cambodia with heightened restrictions, including a near full scale lockdown in Phnom Penh in April-May 2021, employees required to work from home if able to do so for most of the year, high restrictions on public gatherings, and high restrictions on foreign nationals coming into the country.

Despite this, during 2021, *Care for Children* was able to establish a permanent presence in Phnom Penh, working closely with the government to register as an international NGO, setting up an office, and agreeing a working partnership to formally launch the project in person the following year. The recruitment of a Project Administrator, to mitigate the challenges arising from not being able to send a Country Manager due to COVID, allowed *Care for Children* to pursue key tasks such as registration and arranging the initial translation of the training materials into Khmer.

New horizons as restrictions lifted

In January 2022, after COVID restrictions were finally lifted, *Care for Children* was able to send a delegation to Phnom Penh to sign a three-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY), signalling the official start of the pilot project and partnership with the Cambodian government. Soon after, Tim Taylor, together with his family, relocated to Phnom Penh to head up the project, and was given permission to work from within the government office, closely collaborating with MoSVY to identify pilot Residential Care Institutions (RCIs) to partner with and to agree on a detailed work plan.

In September 2022 *Care for Children* organised a conference with all national and sub-national levels of government in order to ensure complete 'buy in' from an early stage, which included identification of the two pilot RCIs. Following the conference, *Care for Children* was offered office space within the Phnom Penh RCI and also in the sub-national office in Siem Reap, where the other RCI is located. With the training materials translated and contextualised and the needs assessments carried out at both RCIs, the team is looking forward to initiating the training programme with the two RCIs in early 2023, and seeing the first children placed into families!

I have seen first-hand the great work Care for Children has achieved in China. I am delighted that a British organisation is able to support our Cambodian friends.

Tina Redshaw
Former British Ambassador to Cambodia



Thank you Care for Children for your support, which is very much in line with our desire to see all Cambodian children in families.

His Excellency Vong Soth
Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation



Even at this early stage, we have made so many remarkable connections. For example, as the Institution director in Phnom Penh is an adopter herself, she understands that children need families and is becoming a strong advocate for family-based care in Cambodia.

Tim Taylor
Cambodia Project Manager / Group Head of Training



5 Significant events and developments



"A powerful film"

The Telegraph

"Touching film"

The Mail

"Uplifting"

THE TIMES

"Emotional"

TVguide

Since the UK premiere of Children of Shanghai on Sky TV in 2021, the documentary has successfully raised the profile of Care for Children's work and grown the charity's supporter base across the world. Tens of thousands of people have now watched the film in over ten countries through private screenings, TV networks, and online streaming platforms.

Soon after the lifting of global travel restrictions, Care for Children's team was invited to screen the documentary across the west coast of the US in November 2021, and then across seven US states in November 2022, attracting audiences from governmental, academic and faith-based institutions, as well as those from the business

sector. In 2022, we were delighted that UBS, one of our key supporters over the last few years, also organised screenings of the documentary in London, Hong Kong and Singapore.

Children of Shanghai has become an extremely effective tool to introduce Care for Children's vision, track record, and methodology in great detail and depth. Both the organisers and the audiences have found the screening of the film to be one of the most engaging and compelling ways to raise awareness of the charity's work.



Care for Children is an innovative charity determined to find strategic, systemic and sustainable family-based solutions for the millions of orphans and vulnerable children living in institutions around the world. It's the kind of charity UBS Optimus Foundation is proud to be associated with, and we're excited to support their vision to see 'a world of children in families'.

Tom Hall
Managing Director, Global Head of Social Impact
& Philanthropy Services at UBS



Children of Shanghai feature story

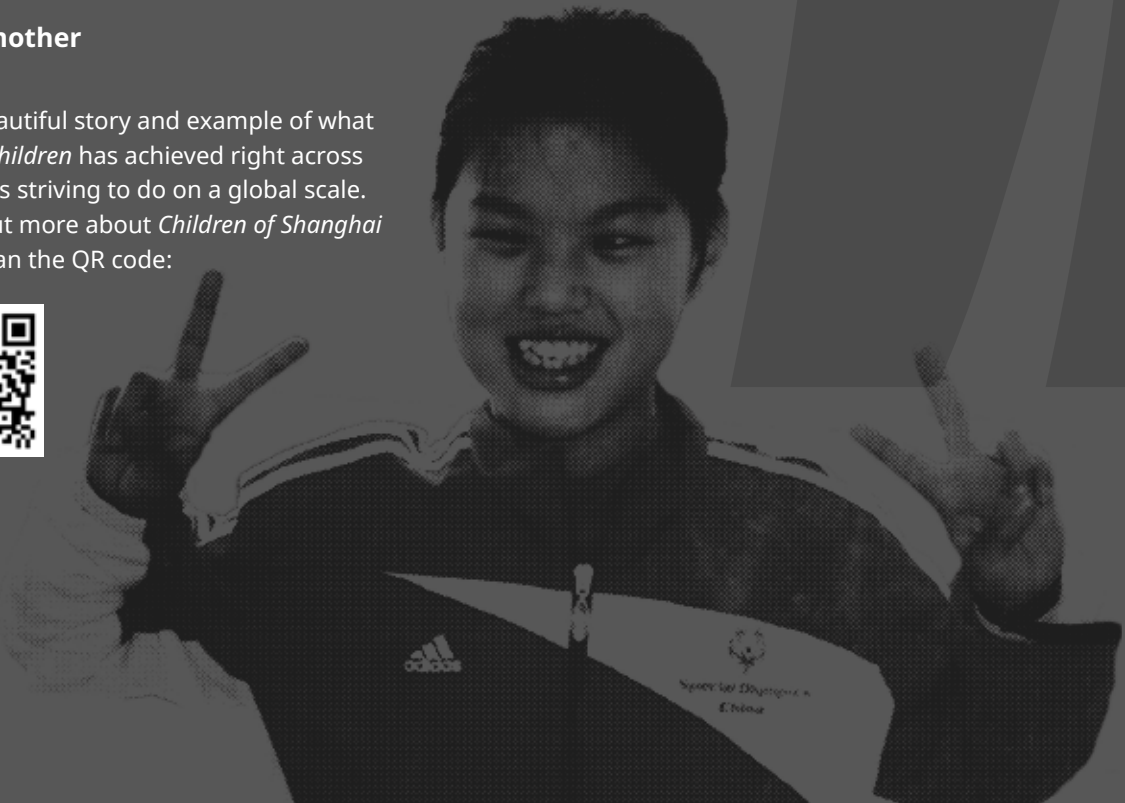
Xu Guoqi is a confident young woman, working as a successful events organiser in the bustling Chinese city of Shanghai. She's also an athlete, having represented her country at the Special Olympics, winning a gold medal in the women's 50m breaststroke, a bronze medal in the 4x50m freestyle, and a silver medal in the 100m breaststroke, among many others.

What makes this all the more remarkable is that when she was very young she had severe learning disabilities and could not speak or walk properly. Featured in *Care for Children's* documentary *Children of Shanghai*, she was also one of the very first children to be moved out of an orphanage and placed into a foster family, as part of the first family placement project *Care for Children* set up in 1998.

*She was five when we fostered her, but she was like a one-year-old baby. **At first, she was scared** about coming into a new family but we tried really hard to **build a connection with her**. I was busy with work, so her father did almost everything. He changed her nappies and fed her.*

Foster mother

This is beautiful story and example of what *Care for Children* has achieved right across Asia and is striving to do on a global scale. To find out more about *Children of Shanghai* simply scan the QR code:



6 Reflections from the field

Vietnam

Chau reflects on the Global Conference on Children and Youth, which she attended in September 2022, where she presented a paper titled 'Return to family-based care: A reflection on the development of foster care in Vietnam':

*Joining the conference in the UK was **a great opportunity for me to connect with other like-minded professionals around the world**, and, at the same time, share about my work with foster care in Vietnam. The trip also enabled me to **gain new insights about contemporary childcare policy and practice**, which I will share with all our projects.*

Chau Nguyen
Training Officer



Thomas reflects on his visit to Vietnam in May 2022 - the first project visit to Vietnam since the start of the COVID pandemic:

*I was struck by **how warmly we were welcomed back to Vietnam.** The two years of COVID had been tough on the country, and Social Protection Centres (orphanages) had opened up again for visitors only two months prior to our visit. **The government was keen to give a clear message of cooperation,** even volunteering to participate in an independent report we are currently undertaking as we near the end of the pilot project stage. It was exciting to see how keen the government is to learn, together with us, on **how best to further progress family placement developments for orphans and vulnerable children in Vietnam.***

Thomas Abbott
Head of Strategy,
Information & Development



Thailand

We recently caught up with one of the family placement workers that *Care for Children* has trained in Southeast Thailand. She told us about a very special foster family that she visited.

"Mrs Mon is a retired teacher and is currently fostering two young brothers, Tong who is 10 and Ti who is 9. As their case worker I can see such a change in the boys since they have been with their foster family. They used to be children who couldn't speak up for themselves, were scared of strangers and never dared to question anyone or let anyone know their needs. But the love and care the boys have received from Mrs Mon is evident, and they are now confident, speak well, and take responsibility with their schoolwork."

"Talking to Mrs Mon about her future and raising the children, she told me: 'If the boys' birth family are not able to take them back, I'm here for them and happy to be their long-term family. My goal is to give them every opportunity while they are part of my family.'

"When I visit her, she loves to pull out her phone and show me photos of the boys and the activities they have been doing. She also recounts the mischief they have been up to, but she tells it with a laugh and a smile. I'm drawn to this dear woman and her love for these boys."

We love that last sentence: 'I'm drawn to this dear woman and her love for these boys'. It's true, love in action is attractive, and often a blessing to be around! We wish Mrs Mon all the very best as she gives up her home and her time to care for vulnerable children in her community.

One day I hope we will have people like Mrs Mon all over Thailand. The attention and love she has for these two brothers has truly transformed their lives.

Poy Wongka
Training Manager



Because children had to **switch to online learning**, their foster parents had to **learn new skills so that they could keep track of children's homework** and how they were doing in class. Now that they are more used to **using technology to communicate**, the foster parents can send us **reports and pictures** of the children and **keep us up-to-date with how they are doing**.

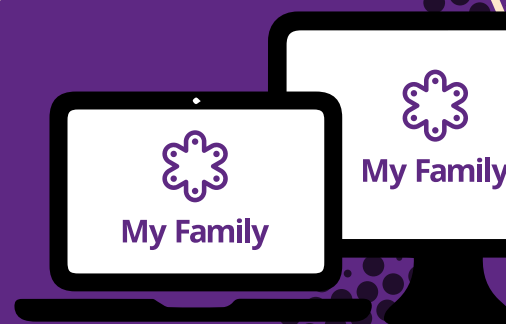
Family placement worker
Thailand



7 New horizons

Online Training
Accessible Everywhere

One-To-One
Practitioner Tools



*Care for
Children*
has proved
its model
and is
ready to
scale!



My Family

Care for Children

Family Placement Training Programme

MS

There are millions of children still living in residential care around the world. Most of the world's countries are still overly reliant on institutional care for orphans and vulnerable children. At *Care for Children* we are facing increasing appeals for support from countries around the globe.

During 2020 and 2021 *Care for Children* was able to take huge strides towards developing 'My Family',

our new digital and online training tool to enhance and supplement the amazing work of our team towards our vision to see 'a world of children in families'.

It has taken *Care for Children* 20 years to work in four countries. With *My Family*, we want to flip those numbers around, and develop the capacity and tools that will enable us to work in 20 countries in just four years!



Customisable
Training Programmes

Multilingual &
Multinational

Interactive & Instant
Feedback

My Family will empower *Care for Children* to maintain the highest professional standards in child welfare reform, but with increased ability to be more:

• **Adaptable**

My Family is an international tool that is adaptable into any culture and language.

• **Agile**

My Family will enable more cost effective and time efficient strategies to work anywhere in the world.

• **Accessible**

My Family is designed to be accessible on multiple devices at anytime, anywhere.

Care for Children will use *My Family* to adopt a hybrid training approach, encouraging in-person training wherever possible, together with an extensive library of online tools at the trainer's disposal.

8 Governance, fundraising & finances

Our founder's clear vision and aims inspire the Trustees to facilitate the charity's continuing work and its expansion of such work. It's a privilege to be a trustee of such a successful and well run and regulated charity.

Michael Bonehill
UK Board Member

Governance

In accordance to the laws and regulations of each of the countries in which *Care for Children* is registered as a charity, the organisation is fully compliant with the necessary governance and accountability guidelines.

Project support

Care for Children is a registered charity in England and Wales, the US, Hong Kong, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia in order to diversify fundraising opportunities. The Finance and Fundraising offices work together to raise and manage the funds that support our project work.

Project offices

The project offices and training teams are based in: Beijing, China; Chiang Mai, Thailand; Hanoi, Vietnam; and Phnom Penh, Cambodia. These offices work in direct relationship with *Care for Children's* government partners and are responsible for launching, managing and evaluating all aspects of *Care for Children's* project work.

Our three boards of trustees (directors) exist in the UK, Hong Kong and the US, and are responsible for helping to clarify our vision and monitor legal and financial compliance and controls. Dr. Robert Glover OBE, *Care for Children's* Founder & Executive Director, is a member of each board of trustees.

UK Board



Jon Scott
ITM



Sue Johns
Charity Director



David Devenish
Civil Service



Michael Bonehill
Edwards Duthie Solicitors



Mark Stolkin
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Edward Amies
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CEO Virtuous



Warren Allan
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Amy Celico
Principal at Albright
Stonebridge Group



John Holzmann
Manager,
Holzmann Family Enterprises



*Robert Glover has gained our **support from all over China** and built a **very good relationship** with the **Ministry of Civil Affairs in China.***

Yan Mingfu
Former Deputy Minister of Civil Affairs in China



Fundraising Finance

Care for Children actively fundraises in the UK and Europe, the US and Asia. Our fundraising sources include:

- Trusts and foundations.
- Corporate partnerships.
- Churches.
- Individuals.
- Events.

If you require any further information regarding fundraising, please contact your relevant project support office directly or email Care for Children at: info@careforchildren.com

Care for Children files its consolidated accounts with the UK Charity Commission and Companies House.

The financial year end is 31 December. The GBP expenditure shown on the opposite page is extracted from the full consolidated accounts for 2020 and 2021. These accounts have been audited by MA Partners Audit LLP in Norwich, UK. The full consolidated accounts can be found at: www.charity-commission.gov.uk. For further financial information, contact Care for Children's Group Finance Manager Nick Nundy at: nick@careforchildren.com

FAMILY CHAMPIONS

Care for Children's *global family of supporters*

www.careforchildren.com/familychampions



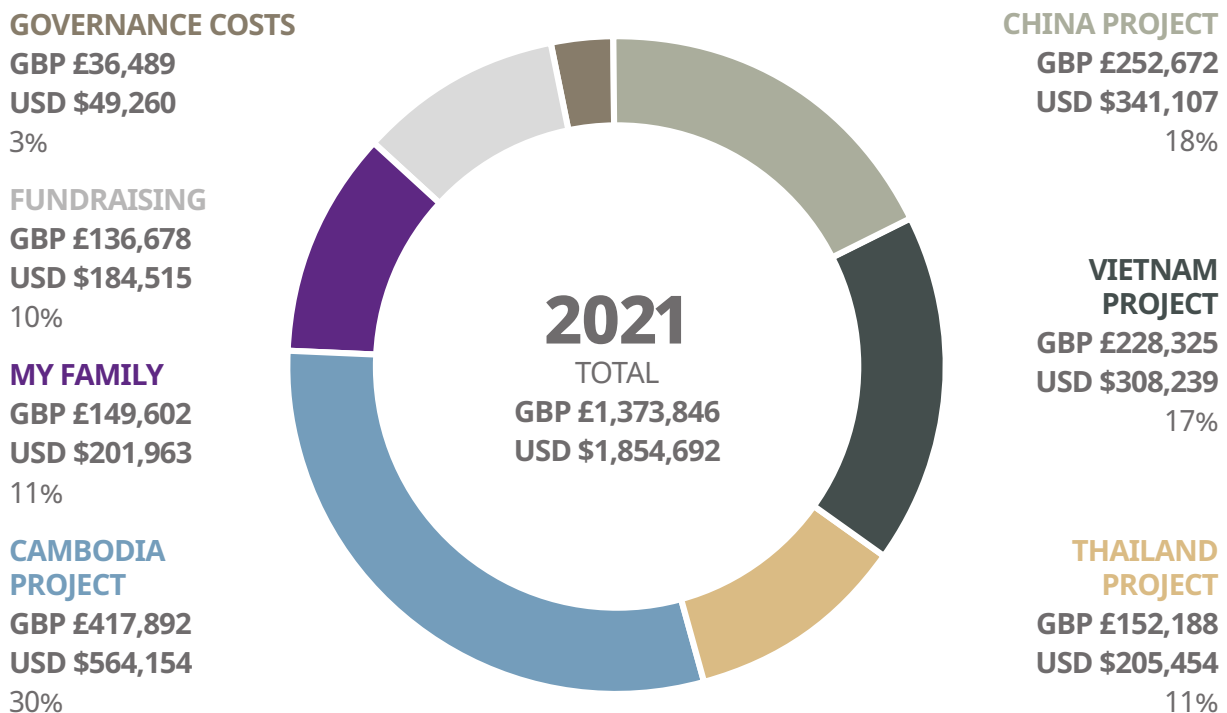
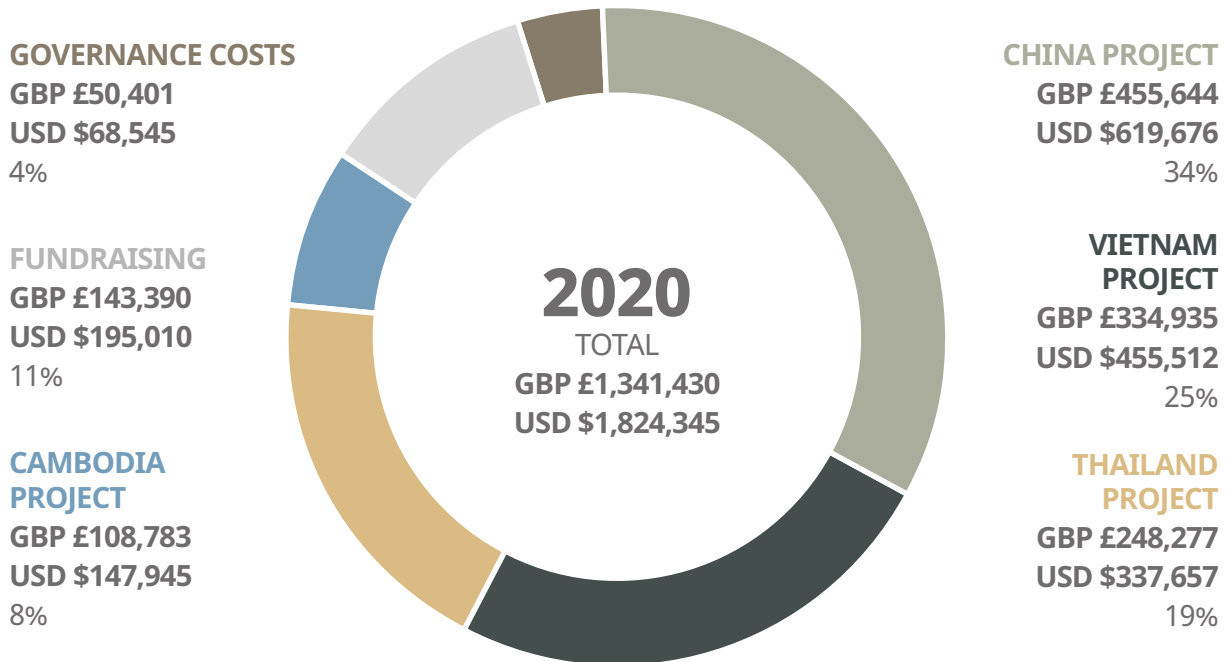
Care for Children's Family Champions programme is growing year on year. This regular giving is so significant because it allows us to make ambitious long-term plans for projects and gives us the confidence that we will be able to sustain the work we initiate. **Sign up here to become a Family Champion today!**

"It's great to be a small part of something much bigger. What a brilliant thing for the money to go towards. As foster carers ourselves we can see in some way what a difference it will make to the lives of the children involved, as well as the people who will be privileged to be family to them!"

Tom & Christina Still
Family Champions



2020 & 2021 expenditure



9 Contact

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Would you like to receive regular updates direct from the field, as well as information about events in the UK, USA and Hong Kong? Sign up at www.careforchildren.com/signup or scan the QR code.

 www.careforchildren.com

 info@careforchildren.com

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 [@careforchildren](https://www.instagram.com/careforchildren)



Care for Children's work is so important to me because I believe that **every child deserves to belong in a family** and have a place to call home. As a Family Champion, I know that my regular giving supports Care for Children in **sustaining and growing** their work.

Deirdre Medler
Family Champion



Join our community of Family Champions today!

FAMILY
CHAMPIONS 

Care for Children's *global family of supporters*

[www.careforchildren.com/
familychampions](http://www.careforchildren.com/familychampions)

