



2023 IMPACT REPORT



LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS

Dear Friends and SSM Champions,

As we approach a remarkable milestone – the 10th year of Saving Susan Ministry – our hearts overflow. This beautiful community is united by a shared mission: serving those who grow up outside the design of traditional families. By the Lord's grace, these precious kids experience love, a daily walk with Jesus, and a depth of spiritual richness beyond our Western cultural norms.

Your outpouring of generosity has been awe-inspiring. It empowers us to make a tangible difference in children's lives in Cambodia and Guatemala. Watching God provide the resources at just the right time has been truly miraculous.

By your unwavering support of our Baskin-Bowler Fund, our Next Steps Students have been afforded extraordinary opportunities. These have come with both trials and triumphs. These young adults are not only worthy but inspirational, and we are blessed to play a role in their resilience and holistic growth.

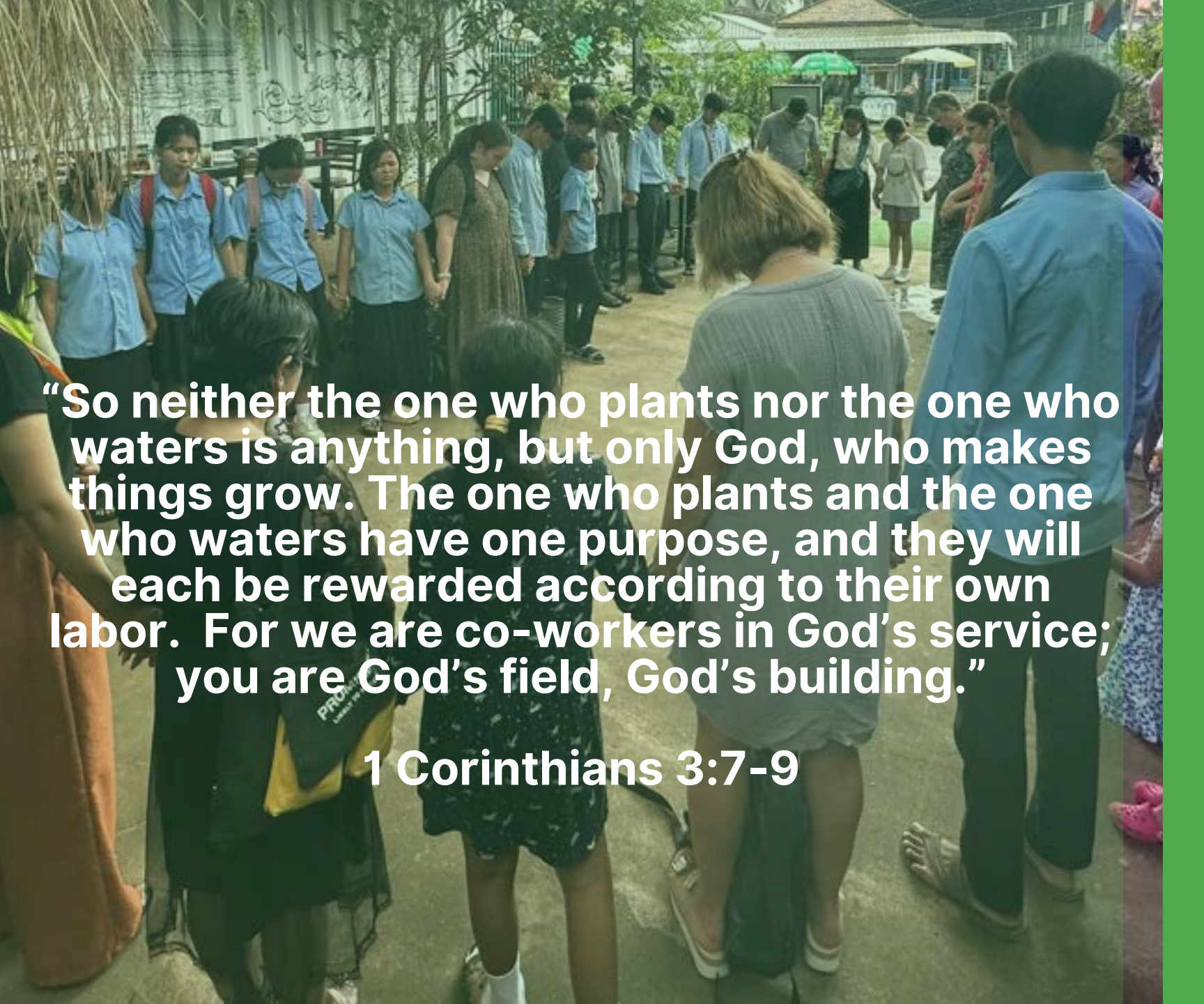
As we reflect on the past and look ahead, the humble prayer of King David in 2 Samuel 7:18 deeply resonates within us: *"Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family that you have brought me this far?"* We humbly thank God for His grace and mercy throughout the past decade.

At this time, we offer our praise to God: *"How great you are, O Sovereign Lord! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears."* (2 Samuel 7:22)

Together, we will continue to nurture hope in the hearts of the orphaned and vulnerable children we serve. The path ahead is filled with opportunity and challenges - we are ready to tackle it head-on.

Our deepest thank you,

Jay and Tracy Aertzen



“So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor. For we are co-workers in God’s service; you are God’s field, God’s building.”

1 Corinthians 3:7-9

MEET OUR TEAM



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



EMILY WESTBROOK
MINISTRY COORDINATOR,
ASSOCIATE BOARD MEMBER



SHARON JEFFREYS
MINISTRY COORDINATOR

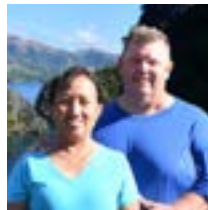
MEET OUR GLOBAL TEAM



PASTOR SIHOK
CAMBODIA MINISTRY
PARTNER



DR. FELIPE AND JOY CASTRO
CAMBODIA CHILDREN'S
HOME DIRECTORS



STEVE AND NOIT HYDE
CAMBODIA CHILDREN'S
HOME DIRECTORS



SOKION AND KATIE KI
CAMBODIA NEXT STEPS
DISCIPLESHIP LEADERS



DAVE AND DEBORAH REICHARD
GUATEMALA CHILDREN'S
HOME DIRECTORS



WESLYE & KEREN SALGUERO
GUATEMALA NEXT STEPS
DISCIPLESHIP LEADERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD



STU GORDON



DR. JACK KELLY



CHRIS GATTI



ANDREW
GUERRIER



KARLE
STINEHOUR



RITA BAILEY

ASSOCIATE BOARD



JEREMIAH
AIKEN



MATT GEERS



JESSICA
FISHER



BEN BIESECKER



ADILENE
MORILLON



JARED
ARNTZEN

CHURCH PARTNERS



BY THE NUMBERS

11

Children added to Parent Partner Families



87

Children given the gift of music through Music Academies



24

Children gifted opportunity through our English Program



22

Students pursuing a brighter future in our Next Steps Scholarship Program



77

Children impacted by loving Parent Partner families





MUSIC ACADEMY

“Let them praise his name with dancing and make music to him...” Psalm 149:3

Through your generosity, Oliver, our full-time Music Director in Cambodia, dedicated half his time to Imparting Smiles and half to Bileg Solid Rock, teaching kids a variety of instruments. In October, during our team’s visit, both homes united for an unprecedented worship experience in Poipet.

This groundbreaking initiative has significantly blessed our children through using music as a powerful means of expression, worship, and healing.



We look forward to his return in 2024!

EXPERIENCE THE STORY HERE!



ENGLISH LEARNING

English Learning fosters educational growth, forges invaluable connections between our children and their Parent Partners, and provides future opportunities.

For our three outstanding Next Steps medical students, Sona, Pov, and Miriam, English Learning has been an indispensable asset. For students like them, proficiency in English unlocks new worlds of possibilities.



HOW PICKLEBALL IS CHANGING LIVES

Pickleball Pro and three-time GA State Champion, Mark Price, discovered Saving Susan Ministry through "Tennis & Pickle for Susan." Passion for the sport and love for kids prompted him and fellow pickleball ambassador David Drake to join our April Guatemala team to teach the kids pickleball. Little did Mark know, God was orchestrating a relationship between his family and a young girl named Dulce. Scan the QR code to hear Mark's story in his own words.

Hear Mark's Story:



Thank you, champions and pickleball-lovers, for your support and for giving generously to make this all possible! The significance reaches far beyond pickleball.





Taking our kids to experience Guatemala, serving the children and learning more about God was priceless. So thankful for the impact Saving Susan is having in Guatemala and in our family!

Hannah Geers



I had the privilege of meeting the little girl we have been parent partnering with for the last three years in the fall. It was truly life-changing to experience the impact that SSM has had on our nine-year old girl and her siblings. I went into the trip thinking that I would be able to bless her and her siblings but she was actually a bigger blessing to me. **Tara Nieves**



We knew God was doing big things through Saving Susan in Cambodia but it was great to see Him working in the lives of young Cambodians firsthand. God was providing hope and opportunity where there was none.

Christopher Bunyasaranand



I saw, or should I say, felt the incredible relationship between parent partners on the trip and the children they sponsor. I was tearing up watching as some met for the first time in person. Our team was amazing and made the trip enjoyable. **Rita Bailey**



Will you join a team in 2024?

Cambodia: April 15-26

Guatemala: June 23-30

*Dates subject to change



NEXT STEPS COMMUNITY

The transformative impact of our Next Steps Program unfolds as students transition from their children's home into adulthood. To date, 19 students have pursued diverse career paths, with four having already graduated. The key to their success lies in the supportive community we cultivate around them, enabling them to positively influence their nation for Christ.

In 2023, we witnessed remarkable growth within the Next Steps community. From discipleship to service to everyday life, these students surround each other with encouragement, love, and support. They are building a community, strengthened by the bond of Christ, with relationships meant to last a lifetime.

"I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." John 13:34-35

OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH:



PARENT PARTNER RELATIONSHIP



SSM STAFF SUPPORT



DISCIPLESHIP PASTOR MENTORING



NEXT STEPS STUDENT



MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP CALLS



DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE STUDIES & ACTIVITIES



SPONSOR SUPPORT



TEAM TRIP ENCOURAGEMENT

NEXT STEPS SPOTLIGHT: SONA

Meet Sona, a trailblazing Medical Student in our Next Steps Program in Cambodia. Sona is now entering his 7th year of medical school at International University in Phnom Penh. Having recently achieved his Bachelor of Medicine degree, the next two years will intensively concentrate on practice and thesis completion, culminating in the awarding of his Doctorate Degree in Medicine.

During a year of service to his children's home following high school, Sona "fell in love with the medical field" and discerned God's calling to a life of "serving and participating in God's mission of healing." Sona was initially concerned about the cost of Medical School, but God provided at every step. Dr. Wesley Wetherington, a retired physician and business owner, and his wife Marty, were called to sponsor Sona's education. Alongside Sona's dedicated Parent Partners, David and Tricia Delk, they have provided unwavering support through his most academically challenging times.

Sona will be a doctor in just two short years, the culmination of many dreams and prayers. Sona envisions a life of service after graduation: "I aim to embody compassion, empathy, and sacrifice to God's mission of caring for others. . . . I'll go back to Bileg or any place that God gives me and serve there." At Saving Susan Ministry, our vision is to cultivate Christian leaders who can impact their countries for Christ, and witnessing Sona fulfill this vision is truly a blessing!



At the Green Tie Gala, we proudly welcomed Next Steps Discipleship Leaders Weslye and Keren Salguero, who shared heartfelt stories of how God is transforming the lives of the students they serve. The Salguero family actively nurtures and disciples these young individuals on their journey through young adulthood. Here is an excerpt from Keren's speech:

How would our lives have been different if we had felt and believed that no one ever cared for us? That no one loved us, that no one believed in us? That we had to face the world alone? Many orphaned children feel this way, and because of that, they struggle in life and cannot succeed. They feel hopeless. And as they grow, and slowly mature, they cannot move forward and appreciate life, they have pain, they need healing.

Saving Susan is answering God's call to love and care for these orphans. They are committed to walking with them as they grow and navigate their lives. One of our students went through an emotionally dark time in his life, during this time his Parent Partner made it a point to text him every day and make sure he was ok, until he was. The staff at Saving Susan would continually check up on him and made sure he had resources available to help him through this time.

Saving Susan is changing lives through opening opportunities in vocation. We always remind our students that in spite of what they've gone through, God has blessed them with this great opportunity, to go to college or receive training for a technical career through the scholarship program.

Saving Susan is bringing these children to Christ. By requiring church attendance, discipleship studies, and making sure they have godly mentors and influences in their lives, Saving Susan is making sure that they not only grow in their studies but also in their walk with God.

Have you ever dreamt of changing the world?
How about changing someone's world?
Would you be willing to be that person who will believe and love one of these children?



**“WE HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY
TODAY, WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER
ONE CHILD, ONE STEP AT A TIME.”**

10 YEARS OF GROWTH



2013

Jay meets Vichika,
a.k.a. "Susan"



2014

Parent Partnering
begins with Vichika
and Mesa



2015

Ministry founded as a
Non-profit 501(c)(3)



2016

Expansion to
Guatemala!



2017

Next Steps Program
launches with 3 students



2018

English & Music Programs
begin in both countries



2019

New Partnership in
Cambodia!



2020

Next Step Fellowship
Zoom calls begin



2021

New Partnership in
Guatemala!



2022

In-country Team Trips
return with 4 trips!



2023

Music Academy
reaches new heights in
Cambodia

HERE WE GROW!

Announcing a New Children's Home Partnership in Guatemala

Casa Bernabé, nestled in the picturesque hills on the outskirts of Guatemala City, was established in 1982 and has provided residential family care of orphaned children since 1998. Sixty of the approximately 100 children are long-term children who would fit our Parent Partner Program.

Aligning with Casa Bernabé reveals shared values, vision, and compassion. Their loving commitment, programs, and values align seamlessly with ours. Both organizations share a commitment to excellence, with a "One Child, One Step" focus that will allow us to maximize our investment in each child.

Teaming up with Casa Bernabé allows us to further our impact, serve children in need, and shape the future generation in Guatemala for Jesus Christ.



WILL YOU JOIN US?



Learn more about
Parent Partnering



Become a
Monthly Donor



Experience
Team Trips

THANK YOU FOR WALKING WITH US ONE CHILD, ONE STEP.

Hear our
Founding Story



info@savingsusanministry.org
www.savingsusanministry.org



SavingSusanOCOS



@saving_susan