



Annual Report 2022 - 2023



Who we are

One Thousand Villages has been working in the Mekong region for more than 20 years.

Our main goal is to ensure the safety of children, protecting them from abuse and exploitation. How do we achieve this?

There's no question about it, tackling poverty and inequality is super important. We work closely with individuals, families, and whole communities. Together, we're able to create a variety of helpful resources, activities, and programs. All these are created with a single purpose – to create a brighter, safer future for our children.

Results lower the risk of children and young people falling victim to trafficking and other types of exploitation. It's not only about survival, but also about delivering healthier and more prosperous opportunities for them. Outcomes open up improved livelihood opportunities, boost education and awareness, strengthen women, and champion kid's rights.

Where We Work

One Thousand Villages works in Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Lao PDR. We have our offices in the beautiful cities of Pattaya in Thailand and Melbourne in Australia.

How We Work

Our objective is to combat the sexual exploitation and trafficking of children in the Mekong region.

We recognize that poverty and exploitation are interconnected, and thus our approach seeks to identify and remove the underlying causes of poverty and exploitation. To this end, we collaborate with local schools, community leaders, and other organisations to create meaningful opportunities and resources for those who are at risk. We also work to educate the public on the dangers of sexual exploitation and trafficking of children, and to provide parents and guardians with the resources and information they need to protect their children.

Our goal is to see a future where children are free from the horrors of sexual exploitation and trafficking in the Mekong Region.



Board Chairman

As this year comes to a close, I just want to pause and say a massive thank you to all our supporters. Without you on our side, our dreams would have stayed as just that - dreams. We couldn't have accomplished all that we have without your unwavering support. We're so grateful for every bit of it!

This past year has been an incredible journey, filled with ups and downs. Even with the obstacles we've faced, our team hasn't slowed down. In fact, we're more determined than ever to keep kids safe from exploitation.

Fundraising has certainly been challenging, but Justin, our amazing founder, has been doing everything in his power to produce results. Yes, our funding isn't quite where we'd like it to be, but we're wholeheartedly committed to making the most out of what we have.

This year saw an unprecedented surge in demand for our programs. Our primary focus has always been to partner with schools and communities situated in areas where poverty and trafficking pose significant issues. We've spent lots of time and effort offering help especially to people with kids, who don't have a steady stream of income or resources.

I'm truly amazed by the outcomes we're seeing:

- Young people are effectively growing their knowledge and confidence
- Parents are initiating fresh income-generating activities
- Families are becoming more open, discussing the hazards and risks of city employment
- Whole communities are commencing projects to boost hygiene and housing conditions

One Thousand Villages has a clear focus: We're aiming to expand our team's size and capabilities to handle the growing need and complexity of challenges. This is no doubt a challenge, but I'm sure we're up to the task.

A big thank you to our founder, Justin Whitecross. His inspiring leadership and hard work play such a vital role in our everyday success. We've accomplished great things this year, and it's largely due to Justin's commitment. He indeed makes every day count!

What we're really passionate about is making a real difference to those who need it most. Sure, the scale and quality of the changes we can make matter a lot. And for that, we're relying on the continued support from wonderful people like you!

Thanks so much!



Nopphorn Promchan

Founder CEO

I am forever grateful for the opportunity to continue to do this work. Knowing that our efforts are making a difference in people's lives gives me the motivation to keep going. Our supporters are so generous and kind, thank you is never enough.

I have learned so much again this year. I am now more aware of the challenges in front of us, but I take heart knowing that what we are able to do is truly worthwhile. From providing people with the resources needed to succeed, to giving them a platform to make their voices heard, I am honored to be a part of this movement. I am proud of the progress we have made and the impact that we have had. I am confident that with the support of our supporters, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of many.

Our partnerships with villages, schools, and community leaders have been flourishing and our programs have been well-received in every location.

Every village, school and activity is unique and offers an opportunity to build strong relationships and learn new things. We strive to create an environment of mutual respect, understanding and appreciation for each other. We listen to each other, share our experiences and knowledge, and learn from one another. We are open to new ideas and embrace challenges as they come.

The importance of being mindful of the unique needs and characteristics of each setting cannot be overstated. This means taking the time to understand the culture, context, and history of each setting and the people involved in it. Only then can we design an approach that truly meets the needs of the people in that particular environment.

It's truly inspirational to see how children, parents, and entire communities have come together with us to make a difference. We recognize that everyone has something valuable to contribute, whether it be knowledge, experience, or simply a willingness to lend a hand. By working together, we can accomplish more than we ever could on our own.

No, we don't just build homes, bathrooms, and farms. Sure, we absolutely agree that addressing physical needs is super important, we are 100% on board with that. But our work involves much more. There are so many intangible elements of our work - such as creating a sense of connection and belonging, fostering strong relationships, sharing faith, and nurturing an environment of respect and understanding.

Our team is truly outstanding - they have been with us for years and have been so reliable and passionate about our plans, partnerships, and tackling the problems we face. They have put in so much dedication and hard work, and it is clear that none of our successes would have been possible without them. I cannot thank them enough for the effort and commitment they have put in and for helping us to reach our goals. There is no doubt that the success of our organisation is due, in large part, to the outstanding work of this team.

When days get tough, it's good to remember that I am not in this battle alone. Whenever there is a need, I can always count on my family and friends to step in and help. They help me remember that life is unpredictable, filled with highs and lows, and that some days will naturally be more challenging than others. Most of all, I really must say, it's the constant love and never-ending encouragement from my amazing wife that keep me on the right path.

A big thank you to all our board members. Your enthusiasm for our mission and vision continually inspire everyone involved. Truth be told, without each one of you, our journey would not have been as fruitful.

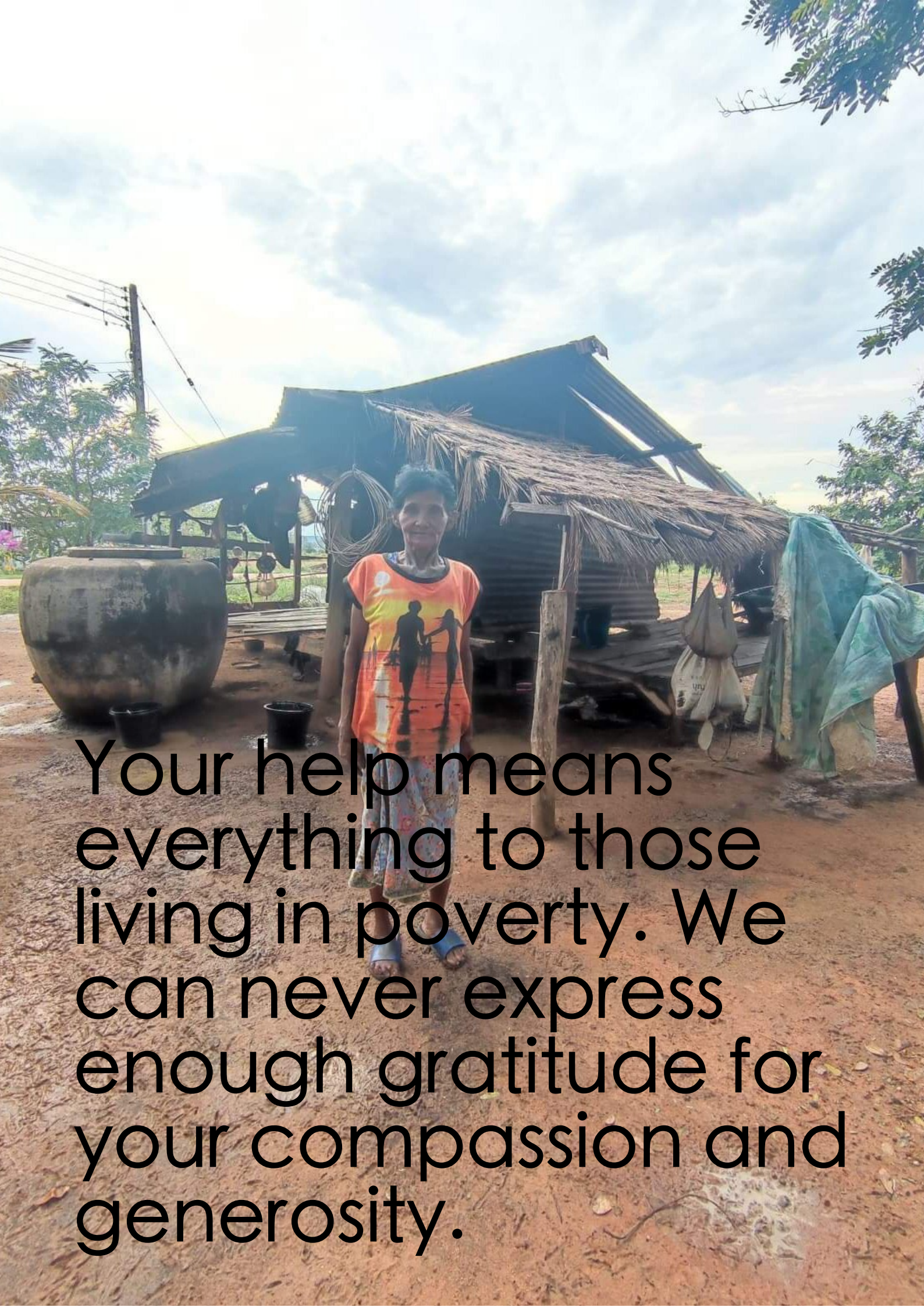
It's just so rewarding to see the joy on people's faces when they receive food or get involved in projects, workshops, and the like. Big shout-out to our village leaders - their contribution is truly significant and absolutely appreciated.

A massive thank you to all our supporters. You have been on this amazing journey with us, sharing in the belief that, yes, we can make the impossible possible. We are truly grateful!



Justin Whitecross
Founder and CEO





Your help means everything to those living in poverty. We can never express enough gratitude for your compassion and generosity.

Finances

We truly appreciate every single partner and donor who supports us. We are humbled by the stories of transformation and hope that we have heard from those we have worked with. We owe a huge 'Thank You' to all those who share our vision and heart for the world, and who have enabled us to continue to work to bring about meaningful change.

We have certainly faced numerous challenges in financing our operations. Despite our best efforts, our strategies to improve funding did not achieve the expected outcomes. Consequently, our ability to initiate as many activities and projects as planned was impeded.

We recognise the significance of building partnerships and enhancing our financial resources. Our leader, Justin Whitecross, is committed to building new connections and preserving current ones. Additionally, the expansion of our board forms a crucial part of our strategy.

Creating our yearly budget and handling daily operations while staying on budget is no small feat. Our CEO and the entire team are doing an amazing job — it's worth noting!

This finance report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors and are presented in the Australian currency. One Thousand Villages is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. The financial statements were authorised by the directors on 11 August 2023.

Our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to our supporters for the faith they have placed in us.





Programs

Despite facing numerous obstacles, our team has been able to accomplish substantial progress, for which we are deeply grateful. Even with scarce resources, they were able to achieve impressive results. This aptly demonstrates the strength that lies in teamwork and tenacity.

Our partnerships with village schools, families, and local leaders continue to grow. Investing in these is a very big priority for us and we are very thankful for our leaders in every community and their work not only aiding the poor but also confronting and challenging the structures and institutions that enable it to continue.

Everywhere we work puts us face to face with issues that underpin why children are trafficked and lured to marriages and commercial sexual exploitation. By working with local leaders, village schools, and families, we are able to create a safe and secure environment for children and young people to grow and develop. Our commitment and resources to our partnerships are helping to reduce vulnerability and create a brighter future for generations to come. We are immensely proud of the work we are able to do and the impact we have had on the lives of so many.

Program Highlights

Over the past year, we have put in a great deal of effort to develop new workshops for young people to teach them skills that will help them find employment and become active members of their communities.

A significant number of the girls in our programs do not have meaningful relationships with both their parents. We frequently hear from local village leaders and schools who seek our support for youth that are susceptible to trafficking and exploitation. The harsh realities of poverty in their homes is an uphill battle for them. Many girls go through periods of anxiety, and they need support to improve their self-esteem and learn how to handle tough situations. Our team collaborates closely with their families, teachers, and other people in their lives.

We have provided much-needed repairs and construction to homes, allowing families to live in safe and secure dwellings. We have improved sanitation in schools and villages, helping to reduce the spread of contagious diseases and improve the quality of life for those living in these areas.

We have distributed emergency relief to those in need, providing them with food, clothing, and other essential items. Despite our best efforts, there is still so much work that needs to be done.

It can be easy to become disheartened when faced with such complex and multifaceted issues, especially those that require a long-term commitment to solve. We need people who share our values and passion to create meaningful and lasting change, and who understand the importance of what we are doing. Without the appropriate resources, our efforts can be in vain.

Funding is essential to reach our goals and much more needs to be done to secure the necessary funds. We must first raise awareness of our mission and its importance, then actively seek out and secure financial contributions from individuals, corporations, and other sources.

It takes dedication and perseverance to make a difference and fight for a cause, and we must maintain our enthusiasm and optimism in the face of these daunting tasks. With the right people and resources, we can make a real impact and create the change we want to see.

We are thankful for the contributions from our partners and supporters, without whom our programs would not be possible.

What a big year for One Thousand Villages!



Krit Pinakase
Program Development Director



Financial Report

This report is provided by the Board of Directors and Accountant Jonathan Sawyer.

Donations	119,209.44
Projects	75,666.81
Operating	31,832.29
Net Surplus/Deficit	11,710.34

Balance Sheet

Assets	45,932.38
Liabilities	19,901.71
Total Equity	26,030.67

How our work is funded

100% Private Donations

A pie chart consisting of a single solid blue circle, representing 100% of the funding from private donations.

Where do expenses go

82.5% Programs

17.5% Operating

A pie chart with two segments. The larger segment, representing 82.5%, is blue and labeled '82.5% Programs'. The smaller segment, representing 17.5%, is also blue and labeled '17.5% Operating'.

Governance

One Thousand Villages is a company limited by guarantee established for the purpose of preventing exploitation and abuse of the most vulnerable in Thailand and across the Mekong region. One Thousand Villages is a registered charity in Australia and Thailand.

The role of directors is to collectively ensure the delivery of the organisation's objectives, to set strategic direction, and to uphold its values. Directors should collectively be responsible and accountable for ensuring and monitoring that the organisation is performing well, is solvent, and is complying with all its legal, financial and ethical obligations. The role of the board includes:

- Determine strategic direction of organisation
- Appointment/dismissal of CEO
- Monitor organisational performance
- Manage risk
- Liaise and engage with Stakeholders
- Demonstrate the value of One Thousand Villages and monitor the culture of the organisation

Directors

The names of each person who has been a director of the Company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report are:

- Justin Whitecross
- Rattana Whitecross
- Apinan Samanya
- Nopphorn Prom Chan

Ranida Wanngern is the company secretary.

Information about our governance including board meetings, risk management, and roles and responsibilities is available on request and online www.onethousandvillages.org

The directors of One Thousand Villages present this report including the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2023.

During the financial year, One Thousand Villages conducted its activities in accordance with agreements sponsors and partners. One Thousand Villages will continue to deliver its programs and services over the next twelve months. There are no matters or circumstances which have arisen since the end of the financial year which have or may affect our operations in future years.

Myanmar

Myanmar remains trapped in conflict. The military has been implementing a harsh crackdown all over the country on people who don't support their rule. It's important to know that we share strong connections with many villages, organisations, churches, and groups within Myanmar.

We are on the ground in Kayah State, providing food and assistance to children and families who have been displaced. We are collaborating closely with our partners to provide as much love and aid as possible, but the level of support we can provide depends largely on funding. We are working really hard to ensure people have basic necessities like food, mosquito nets, and clothing. We will continue doing this all year round and however long it's needed.

It's heartbreaking to see the level of destruction the war has caused. Our goal is to gather maximum support - not only financially, but also by increasing awareness about the events unfolding in Myanmar. By doing this, we can ensure that those who are in greatest need receive the help they need.

Absolutely, we may be a small team with limited resources, but don't let that fool you. We are very aware of the impact we are making. Our work goes far beyond what's visible and without a doubt, we understand just how vital it is.

We want to take a moment to recognize and appreciate the amazing work of our leaders in Myanmar and volunteers serving diligently in Yangon, Kayah state, and other states all over the country. Truly brave individuals with incredibly big hearts!





New home, new life

Kamphaeng Phet Province in
upper central Thailand

Suparat is now in a position to create a better future for herself and her family. With a safe place to live and the resources to make a difference, she can now continue to pursue her dreams and work towards her goals.

Her story is an inspiration to others and a reminder that with a little help and determination, people can make a difference and create positive change.

Suparat is an example of how much can be achieved when given the opportunity, and her story will continue to inspire others to strive for a better future!





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