



THE RCRT FOUNDATION 2015 ANNUAL LETTER

As 2016 is well on its way it is a good time to reflect on our recent achievements, define where we are, and outline where we are going.

The RCRT Foundation – Mission and Vision

The RCRT Foundation (“RCRT”) was created in 2014 with the mission to select impactful and inspirational projects and to offer them to donors who value transparency and believe in our hands-on, asset-management-like approach. Our focus is to support children’s health and education by raising and allocating funds to carefully selected partner charities around the world. We only work with registered foundations and charities which are operationally lean and financially transparent – principles we adhere to ourselves.

All of RCRT’s costs are covered by the trustees so that 100% of donations are applied to the selected projects and the ultimate beneficiaries. Beyond the funding, we work closely with the sponsor charities to help guide the projects toward successful outcomes, and we routinely collect information and track performance to evaluate the progress of each initiative and compare these with our original expectations.

Projects

In 2015, RCRT has focused on two projects:

- **The Smile Project and the Flying Education Project with Kids Home** in Thailand, which provide a safe environment to over 200 children, with dedicated staff and facilities for education, physical activities and counselling sessions; and
- The **Wine To Water** project, providing clean water access to approximately 5,000 people in rural Cambodia. The project provides wells, sanitation training, latrines, and filtration systems to tackle local health issues for children and their families, most importantly the high prevalence of diarrhoea (the leading cause of child mortality under 5 years of age).



Kids Home – Baan Dek

For several years the RCRT Foundation has supported The Kids Home Foundation, now called '**Baan Dek**'. (*Note: this project dates back to 2011, thanks to the previous work of one of RCRT's trustees*). Since 2003, Kids Home has been working to support disadvantaged children in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Kids Home's strategy is to employ unique knowledge of each child to create a specific service package tailor made for each young person in the program. The emphasis is not just on the number of children supported, but on maximizing the quality and impact of the work done with them.

What has been achieved?

Since 2014, RCRT has solely sponsored the Smile Project, an after-school program targeting very poor children in Chiang Mai. The program's objective is to provide a set of services, support and protection to these kids so that they can improve their performance at school, avoid dropping out and be assisted in the case they face difficult situations at home. The Smile Project plays a key role in terms of both providing direct support to numerous children and identifying cases that require supplemental support through other Kids Home programs.

Thanks to RCRT's support, Kids Home has been able to implement a wide range of activities and services that have made a significant difference in each child's life. Over the 2 year period, the impact on the children improved both quantitatively and qualitatively. Daily attendance significantly increased, the project has been expanded in terms of number of locations, and local transport is now arranged where needed to grow participation levels.

At the end of 2015 the Smile Project benefitted more than 210 children, with the following services/activities:

1. After school-tutoring;
2. Sports, play and arts;
3. Individual support (critical health- or family-related cases which required a more hands-on approach, and has benefitted around 90 children);
4. The Smile Holidays (daily recreational and tutoring activities during the school holidays); and
5. The Social Sharing Group, a space for kids' families to meet with Kids Home social advisors, share problems and identify together possible solutions.

For more details on the Smile Project, please read the full project report on our website (www.rcrt.org.uk).

What are we doing next?

The RCRT Foundation and Kids Home are now focused on jointly implementing the Flying Education Project, which will provide critical education services to children and develop innovative methodologies that could be scaled up to a 'new' target population: children living on construction sites. **With the support of the RCRT, approximately 300 children will benefit from these life-changing support services.**



Wine To Water

The RCRT Foundation was proud to introduce Wine To Water ('WtW') at our 2015 Gala at London's Mondrian Hotel. Since inception, Wine to Water has been providing access to clean water in a sustainable way across the world. Children are particularly exposed to water contamination risks, and Cambodia has one of the highest infant mortality rates in Southeast Asia, where lack of water access is among the main cause of mortality for children under five years of age. Wine To Water has a long-established presence in the region through their local partner Kone Kmeng. WtW's action is focused on building wells and latrines for larger family groups, distributing ceramic water filters and providing extensive training on safe water usage via local community leaders and support groups. The benefits of clean water access is not limited to reduced sickness (and mortality), especially in children, but leads to a dramatic improvement in general living conditions, enabling agriculture and farming advances, increasing work times and food productivity, among other benefits.

Alberto Garrone, RCRT's Managing Trustee, has visited the region in December 2015 and has witnessed the radical positive transformation experienced by the families which have already been part of the program.

What will RCRT's project with Wine To Water aim to achieve?

The WtW Cambodia project will be focused on the following targets during 2016:

- Build a target of 96 wells
- Build a target of 120 latrines
- Distribute a target of 600 ceramic water filters
- Plus the training of the beneficiaries of any of the above

In addition, the RCRT is funding the purchase of a portable rig air compressor which will allow digging of deeper wells, including the added ability to penetrate rock and stone formations, thus increasing well counts and water availability. All of this will have an enormous impact on the beneficiaries' lives not only in terms of immediate health and hygiene improvement, but also in terms of longer term life quality enhancement. Nearby access to clean water can for example increase the attendance of children in school as well as allow mothers to spend more time at home looking after their families. **Thanks to our supporters' generosity (and the funds raised at our event), it will be possible to provide safe water access to ca. 5,000 beneficiaries across three villages in the Svey Reing province of Cambodia.**

Looking back: Dr Q's Neurosurgical Mission in Mexico (2014)

Looking back at recently supported projects, it is worth mentioning that, thanks to our donors' generosity at our 2013 Gala at the Mexican Embassy in London, the RCRT Foundation played an important part in the financing of Dr Q's 2014 neurosurgical mission trip to Guadalajara, Mexico.

What has been achieved?

During the 2014 mission trip, Dr Q performed five life-saving neurosurgeries (including two paediatric ones). He held several teaching seminars with other neurosurgeons at the Hospital Civil de Guadalajara, and children in the paediatric wing benefited from the arts and crafts prepared by our teams. In addition, desperately needed medical supplies and a monetary contribution were donated to the hospital.

One of the paediatric cases was a 9-year-old child with a history of sudden headaches and loss of consciousness. Tests revealed an arteriovenous malformation where blood vessels may rupture and cause irreversible brain damage or death. Following the successful surgery the child is now successfully recovering with the support of his incredible mother always by his side, and ongoing checks indicate no ongoing



neurological issues. The second paediatric surgery was on a 2-year-old boy whose skull had been previously removed due to excessive swelling from a head injury. A replacement skull was personally customized for this particular patient, was transported from the United States, and led to a successful surgery.

By supporting this mission, we contributed in a substantial way to save the lives of otherwise hopeless children. For more details on the mission, please read the full mission report on our website (www.rcrt.org.uk).

Over 2015, the RCRT Foundation has been in regular contact with Dr Q to find ways to continuously support his work, including through his own charitable foundation, **Mission:Brain**, which now funds his annual missions around the world.

2015 Organisation Developments

2015 has been a pivotal year for RCRT as an organisation as we have set the operational basis to work as efficiently and productively as possible.

Among the highlights:

- We have successfully launched our website, providing key information about the Foundation and its projects, as well as a platform to collect contributions. Please take the time to visit www.rcrt.org.uk;
- We have created the RCRT Ambassadors Committee, where our Ambassadors work alongside the Trustees to promote the values and initiatives of RCRT, and provide advice on how RCRT operates and its strategic decisions.

The RCRT appointed ambassadors are Messrs Gabriele Cipparrone, Ugo Giordano, Andrea Guerzoni and Fabrice Nottin, who have taken on their role enthusiastically and have already contributed valuably thanks to their diverse experiences and talents.

From an internal point of view, the two official roles, the Managing Trustee (Alberto Garrone) and Chairman (Lorenzo Guidi), have been confirmed for an additional year. The Managing Trustee is overseeing RCRT's activities, while the Chairman has an administrative role, including representing the RCRT vis-à-vis the Charity Commission.

2015 Fundraising initiatives and results

2015 has seen positive growth in terms of funds raised and deployed. This has been possible thanks to the success of our Gala at the Mondrian Hotel where we have raised ca. \$80k (net of costs). Thanks to additional spontaneous donations over the course of the year, corporate matching proceeds and the annual contributions by its Trustees, RCRT has raised in excess of \$166k in 2015.

After all costs (event-related and other operational costs), RCRT has netted a total disposable amount of ca. \$118k for the year. The below table illustrates RCRT's sources and uses for 2015.



Sources and Uses - 2015 Pro Forma

Sources	\$ ³	Uses	\$ ³
Fund raising activities	124,236	Wine to Water Project	80,000
Other income ¹	27,447	Kids Home Project ³	12,491
Gift Aid	14,688	Fund raising costs ²	44,437
		Various admin costs	3,612
		Cash reserves	25,833
Total	166,371	Total	166,371

(1) Including Trustees donations, corporate matching programs, etc.

(2) Related to the 2015 Gala Event (venue, F&D, auction lots, etc.)

(3) Using the GBP/USD & EUR/USD rates as of 31.12.15

Important note: as a reminder, all of the running/admin costs are covered by the Trustees annual donations, so that all money raised (net of organisational costs, as in the case of the Gala event) can be deployed to our new and ongoing projects.

The RCRT Foundation 2016 Outlook

The main goal for the year will be to select a new, impactful and inspirational project to support while vigilantly monitoring the successful execution of the ongoing initiatives. At the same time, we are keen to dedicate more time to the debate around a question we consider strategic: how to develop a solid methodology to measure the impact of charitable projects?

Finally, we are looking forward to building on last year experience and organise a successful fundraising event in the last quarter of 2016. Watch this space for more information!

We always welcome ideas in all areas (e.g. fund raising opportunities, interesting projects, etc.), so please feel free to contact us directly on our dedicated email address: ideas@rcrt.org.uk.

The RCRT Foundation thanks all its friends, partners, donors and Ambassadors for the valuable support, without which the results described in this report, would not have been possible.

The RCRT Foundation Trustees

Ben Barnett, Patrick Chautard, Alberto Garrone, Lorenzo Guidi and Fabio Osta