

# Gilead's Hope

## 2020 Year End Report

### ! Corinthians 2:9

**“Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.”**

Greetings from rural Kampot, Cambodia. 2020 was my 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of service in Cambodia. Health care has come a long way since then, but the needs are still great. I've used this verse often and it comes to mind frequently while I practice medicine here. I pray God give me wisdom in all things, but especially in the practice of medicine, as these patients put their total trust in my ability to diagnose and heal them. I pray that God use me as a vessel of His lovingkindness in the process. What a joy it is when the patients hear they can get an operation, chemotherapy, or other medication to cure their disease, when only days before, they had resigned themselves to suffering and death due to the prohibitive cost. I wish you were here to experience their gratitude, and that of their families when they are cured. It feels like “heaven on earth” and I sense God's purpose being fulfilled in my life.

Take for instance a young man named **Dorn Bona** who returned to see me in the clinic only one month after his open-heart surgery for mitral valve replacement due to rheumatic heart disease. He was so excited to tell me how the valve replacement saved his life. He now has normal energy and could work and even exercise. I remember him on our initial visit being extremely short of breath while sitting. The heart center told him to go home on medications (and to a certain death) if he didn't have the \$3,500 for surgery. Bona asked me to thank you all for saving his life by providing the necessary funds. This story repeats itself often. What a motivation to keep going. May Bona come to know Christ, and a saving faith in Him through this operation.



**Yoet Kiem**, 33 y/o female with ventral septal defect of the heart with aortic regurgitation. Shortness of breath for many months and now unable to work. There is a “hole” between her two large heart chambers and a damaged heart valve, both needing repair: \$4,500

**Dorn Bona** (standing to the right) and his brother bringing me a large sack of coconuts as a thank you gift after his open- heart surgery and mitral valve replacement one month prior. I say, payment in full!

## ***Breakdown of Major Expenses for 2020***

Keo Sokha	38 M	Anti-rejection medication after previous kidney transplant	\$7,030
Meas Saroeun	48 F	Open-heart surgery and mitral valve replacement	\$3,500
Mom Putheary.	55 F	Lung cancer: chemotherapy, then palliative care.	\$2,677
Pich Mom	41 M	Paraplegia: chronic wound care, wheelchair, rehab	\$2,209
Vorn Sreyvin	20 F	Aplastic Anemia: immunosuppressive medications	\$1,847
Chheun Trat	26 M	Chronic kidney disease: immunosuppressive medications	\$1,836
Korn Krith	38 F	Kidney Disease: lupus nephritis	\$1,736
Non Lay	71 F	Thalassemia, hemolytic anemia	\$1,695
Dorn Bona	26 M	Open-heart surgery and mitral valve replacement	\$1,500
Toek Bouny	30 F	Scleroderma: immunosuppressive medications	\$1,200
Sok Tieng	26 F	Heart failure	\$1,055
Klod Sreykeathhida.	27 F	Kidney disease: lupus nephritis	\$1,054
Mom Vuth	67 F	Gall bladder disease: cholecystectomy	\$690
Srey Ratha	33 M.	CMV colitis	\$680
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			\$28,709
			+
77 other poor patients diagnosed and treated: (X-ray, CT scan, MRI, lab, endoscopy, specialist referral, medications, inpatient hospital stay, transportation, and meals)			\$12,848
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Total 2020 Expenses for 91 patients			\$41,557

Our current balance at Mercy Medical Center ([www.mercymedcambodia.org](http://www.mercymedcambodia.org)) in Cambodia is \$5,966.

I continue to teach up to 30 senior medical students and resident physicians in family/general medicine at the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital ([www.skmh.org](http://www.skmh.org)). Our outpatient clinics, emergency room, and inpatient wards are frequently full, so I'm moving around all day. There are a myriad of diseases, mostly routine, but at times, a tropical illness such as dengue fever, typhoid fever, leptospirosis, or scrub typhus appear. We spotted a cobra on the hospital grounds, and several Malayan Pit Viper bite victims came to our emergency room during the recent dry, rice harvest season. All the patients recovered. It seems like I'm constantly finding something interesting to teach the young doctors. They are eager to learn and it motivates me. I see improvement in critical medical thinking with each successive class. By the time the residents finish our 3-year postgraduate residency program, they have established a habit of practicing current evidence-based medicine ... that which has proven to be effective and not harmful. Often, this is not the case outside our hospital.

I am privileged to be your caring hands and your encouraging voice to the suffering poor in southern Cambodia. Your contributions allow me to order the life-saving diagnostic testing, effective medications, as well as cardiac and other surgeries they cannot otherwise afford. I don't feel it is a hardship for me to be here. I am fortunate that as a physician, I can return to the US for several months each year to update my knowledge and earn enough money for self-support. I personally cover any Gilead's Hope administrative costs and our accounting firm of Matthews and Johnson CPA's graciously provides their services free of charge. 100% of your donation goes directly to patient care. Thank you for entrusting me with your valuable funds. I do not take this responsibility lightly.

We are a 501c3 organization. Your 2021 tax-deductible donations can be made online at the Gilead's Hope website: [www.gileadshope.org](http://www.gileadshope.org) or checks made out to **"Gilead's Hope"** and mailed to:

**Matthews & Johnson, CPA's**  
**1902 E. Common Street, Suite 400**  
**New Braunfels, TX. 78130**

**Phone: (830) 625-7759**  
**Email: [paula@matthewsjohnsoncpas.com](mailto:paula@matthewsjohnsoncpas.com)**



Cobra outside my home.

Thank you again for your previous contributions. I pray that God keep all of you safe and healthy in 2021. I pray God give me His wisdom in all things, especially practicing and teaching medicine and strategically dispersing your valuable donations. I pray for the ability to articulate the Good News of Christ to all patients and staff in the Khmer (Cambodian) language. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have questions or comments.

Yours on Mission,

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15 y/o female named **Nget Sao** has lupus nephritis (kidney disease) and needs strong immunosuppressive medications. \$1,500

(Please see photos on the following page.)

# Patients Needing Diagnosis and Treatment in 2021



(Far left) **Hab Khondy**, 26 y/o female with severe mitral stenosis needing open-heart surgery with valve replacement. \$3,500

(Middle) **Morg Bunthoern**, age 36 with severe aortic valve regurgitation. Needs open-heart valve replacement. \$3,500

(Left). **Khon Thida**, 21 year old female with lupus nephritis (kidney disease) requiring immunosuppressive medications. \$1,500

(Middle) **Vy Sarom**, 25 y/o female with severe lupus nephritis requiring immunosuppressive medications. \$1,500

(Far right) **Thorn Vannet**, 19 year old male developed severe low back pain radiating down to his right foot after lifting heavy materials at work. Could not work for 6 months. Had a lumbar radiculopathy (bulging disc) that required neurosurgery recently. Fully recovered: \$900



(Left) **Nang Sil** is a 29 year-old male with a retroperitoneal sarcoma-- a large cancerous tumor in his abdomen. He underwent several rounds of chemotherapy then ran out of money. Plan for chemo and radiation, then attempt surgical resection. \$2,500