



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

GREEN UMBRELLA



www.greenumbrella-kh.org

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Looking back, late 2021 was the turning point of the human civilization in the battle against the pandemic, Covid-19. The vaccine is the real game changer, allowing the tide to turn and a slow resumption to normality towards the end of the year. This happens slowly across the globe where vaccines are rolled out as we speak. 2021 was really challenging and accomplished a lot in this challenging environment.

Amongst the achievements were the pivoting of the strategy to focus on the Early Childhood Education Program (ECE) where staff and board members have been working tirelessly for this, notably Julia Alden and her team. The education for the students has continued despite the lockdowns with the aid of technology, and the dedication of teachers where there have been constant interruptions.

We have also managed to build the Pot Sar Health Center, conducted many rice runs in Cambodia, India and Nepal to alleviate the sufferings of many who faced starvation. These funds have been raised separately outside the core GU budget which also faced financial pressures to run the school and the youth program due to the falling donations which is not unique to GU alone. In this aspect I am proud we did accomplish an awful lot under punitive environment. The real valour lies in facing the challenges during unprecedented bad times. To contribute selflessly, and to work against the human nature of self-preservation and adopting the attitude “we are in this together”.

As such there is a need to thank our donors for not abandoning GU in times of darkness when for the living memory of many worldwide, have not faced such darkness before. Hence, I sincerely hope the support will continue and we will work on this together, to improve the lives of many unfortunate souls and to change their lives for the better.

We will look back a decade from now and smile knowing that we did our best during the pandemic, we did not abandon anyone, and nobody could take our achievements away from us. We will be standing proud.

For humanity. Thank you.

Kenneth Zhan
Chairperson of board of Green Umbrella



I. WELCOME MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL REPORT 2021

2022 has seen a great start for Green Umbrella and I'm delighted to share a few of the positives. We have 128 kids, aged 4-6 years, enrolled in our Early Childhood Education Program (ECE). We are working with 76 students in our Youth Program (YP), including our KKS Alumni, to ensure that, despite Covid setbacks, they obtain a good education and are well cared for. These are our two key areas of focus for this coming year, and we are honored to have you a part of it.

2021 was a challenging year for us all. Despite this, GU set up three specific projects to address areas of need within our community. These programs are;

a). Food Aid to Poor Families affected by Covid -19. GU distributed food kits to total of 590 families in various rural locations.

b) Expansion of the examination and treatment services at Pot Sar Health Center in response to the rising number of people in the community; to assist in the resolution of public health concerns, and to utilize the center as a location to vaccinate children and adults against Covid-19

c) As part of the Khel Chey Library Project, a new library was built in a nearby village to enable students to study and attain study materials, especially after the negative impact of Covid-19.



Ven. Sokrath Hour
Founder and Executive Director of Green Umbrella

Cambodia's Royal Government has conducted a very successful vaccination campaign that has reached over 89 percent of the country's population. As a result, we were able to reopen the school and its operations once GU staff & students were fully vaccinated.

We want to express our gratitude to all of the donors who continued to support Green Umbrella throughout the challenges of Covid-19. We appreciate your ongoing support in 2022 so that we may carry on with our work for children, youth, and our whole community.

Yours sincerely,

Sokrath Hour

<https://greenumbrella-kh.org/donate-now/>

Vision:

Cambodian children and youth will have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to reach their full potential and to actively participate in the development of a prosperous community and society.

Mission:

- Prepare early learners (ages 4-6) for their future education by providing a quality, holistic Early Childhood Education (ECE) that includes a strong health and nutrition component.
- Provide a model for educational programs that reflects the values of Green Umbrella.
- Offer training and educational youth programs (YP) that build the knowledge, skills, values and leadership needed to strengthen and promote the right of Cambodia youth.
- Building community awareness and capacity for growth and development by involving parents, stakeholders and the broader community in GU's educational programs.

Value:

Our values, which underlie our beliefs, behaviors and actions are based on the Buddhist values:

- Sacca (Honest, Responsible, and Independent)
- Khanti (Patient, Resilient, Communicative)
- Kattannu (Grateful, Caring, Collaborative, Respectful and Creative)



Green Umbrella has two main projects: *Karuna Kumar School* provides education to poor children from kindergarten through primary school. *GU Youth Program* provides local youth with leadership skills and training through hands-on activities and practical application of these needed skills.

To help our wider community, Green Umbrella coordinates another four projects; Food Program, Pot Sar Health Center, Khel Chey Library and Cambodian Children Nutrition Aid.



Karuna Kumar School (KKS)

provides education to 116 students from kindergarten through primary school.



Youth Program

13 youth joined classes on Maths and Physics
13 youth joined the study club on Maths and English



Food program

590 needy families, including KKS students affected by Covid -19, received food kits support.



Pot Sar Health Center

a new building with 40 beds was built which benefits 2,820 families, including our students' families.



Khel Chey Library

providing access to a studying environment, quality reading and learning materials.



Cambodian Children Nutrition Aid (CCNA)

decreasing malnutrition rate for 200 kids aged under 3 years old by 3-4%.

KARUNA KUMAR SCHOOL**16 students attended KKS during 2021**

- Fourteen students completed grade 6 and transitioned to grade 7 at a state school in January 2022, in addition to 26 KKS Alumni students in grades 8 and 9.
- Twenty students completed Kindergarten 2 and moved to grade 1 at state schools.
- Twenty students completed Kindergarten 1 and moved to Kindergarten 2 at Green Umbrella.
- Thirty six students completed grade 5 and moved up to grade 6 at Green Umbrella.

Schooling during covid-19

From mid-March through to late October, KKS school lessons were taught online, due Covid-19 restrictions. Take-home lessons were suspended as it was deemed too risky to let students come to school. Instead, teachers worked hard to set up an online learning schedule for all our students. However, online learning at home was not possible for 23 of our 116 students as their families could not afford to buy smartphones that support the necessary applications and software, or their families didn't have access to wifi. Our teachers arranged for these students to study with classmates who have access to the technology required for online learning.

Online Learning – Students Supporting Students

Mab and Pheaktra are classmates, however, neither of their families can afford to buy smartphones or tablets for learning purposes. Our teachers arranged for them to study with another classmate, Sovanreach, who lives close to them, and whose family owns a smartphone.



Students Mab, Pheaktra and Sovanreach learning together online

Schooling Reopening

With the roll-out of vaccinations in Cambodia, vaccinated students were delighted to be able to return to school with strict measures from 1st November, after 8 months of online learning due to the pandemic. It has been a challenge to teach and learn online for almost a year. Being back to school helps students improve their performance through the open exchange of ideas and face-to-face interaction.

YOUTH PROGRAM

GU Youth Program goals are to encourage engagement and participation, to develop confidence and character and to inspire young people to care and contribute to society. Green Umbrella offers training courses to GU youth, KKS alumni along with youth from the local state schools. In 2021, affected by the covid-19 pandemic, GU could not arrange training for the local state school youth, but did provide extra classes for GU youths – who are studying in grades 7 and 8.

Additional Study Classes for GU youth

Our grade 8 students came back to Green Umbrella as the public schools remained closed until the end of September. They formed study clubs to improve their English language, Mathematics, and Physics. 26 of these students worked in pairs to tackle math problems and prepare new English vocabulary for sharing with classmates. Leakhena who led the Maths and English club every Monday and Tuesday – was excited to see her classmates and do some research together. She said that the study club works well and her classmates can solve the problems assigned.



GU paid for extra classes in Maths and Physics for 13 students. They study online with a part-time teacher from Monday to Friday. Once vaccinated, they all came to school to connect with teachers and classmates even though the school was not yet officially opened. They came to borrow school supplies such as laptops and iPads for online learning.

Training Teachers on Early Childhood Education Philosophy and Beliefs

Throughout 2021, 5 teachers participated in the training on ECE philosophy and beliefs. The training is to support our teachers to be experts in all aspects of Early Childhood Education. GU would like them to be able to share their expertise and knowledge with parents and the local community, and eventually with other ECE teachers in Cambodia. This professional training will be ongoing in 2022.

Transition of Kindergarten Students to State Schools

As part of GU new strategy, we will focus on ECE so that we have a wider reach in providing many young kids a great start to their education. It is proven that much development in social, mental and physical skills occurs between the ages of 4 and 6 years of age. Literacy rates during primary school and beyond are much higher when children attend school at this young age.

GU provides two years of schooling for students to attend K1 and K2. Thereafter, they will transition to a local state school. In January 2022, 20 GU K2 students 'graduated' to move on to grade 1. Our 20 K1 students moved up to K2 at Green Umbrella.

Selected Students to join the ECE Program

At the end of 2021, Green Umbrella enrolled 108 new young children, aged 4-6 years, from the local community to join our extended Early Childhood Education program in 2022. The young students attend either morning (7.00am - 11.00am) or afternoon (1.00pm to 4.00pm) class, Monday to Friday. To improve the nutrition of our students, Green Umbrella provides free nutritious food to all in attendance.

Preparation for Youth Program

Green Umbrella will provide extra classes to students in order to increase the percentage of young people graduating from lower secondary and upper secondary schools. GU will employ three part-time teachers along with support volunteers, to provide tuition in Maths, Physics and Khmer.

GU also plans to develop the English language and technology skills for youth so that they have appropriate knowledge and skills in the context of digital education, specifically robotics and wireless communication. There will also be ICT courses and social media skills provided to 76 youths.

During 2022 further youth programs will be developed to address life skills such as self-confidence, self-care, communication, financial management, leadership, entrepreneur skills and community involvement.

Throughout all the Youth Programs, GU will promote the rights of young people, and encourage them to express their opinions, views and aspirations.



Food kits for needy families

FOOD PROGRAM PROJECT

In Cambodia, the pandemic worsened the vulnerability of specific groups of workers including women, children, indigenous people, and migrant workers due to unemployment and lack of work for those in lower levels jobs. Most Cambodian families are large, with 3 or 4 generations living in the same household, often a single room dwelling. The household relies on two or three young people in the family to earn income to support all family members. Typically, these young workers have only primary school education and don't have the skills to make a decent wage. These young earners traditionally have worked in the garment sector, or they go to work in Thailand in construction or as farm laborers, remitting their wages over to their families back home. Many of these young workers have returned home to Cambodia since the first outbreak of Covid-19 and the closure of the border with Thailand in 2020. Many of them cannot go back to work as the borders remain closed, and they cannot find work locally in this country.

Due to economic struggles caused by Covid-19, Green Umbrella set up a Food Program to provide Food Kits to the poorest and most vulnerable families such as; older people who do not have family support, people who lost their jobs and do not have any income, immigrant workers from Thailand, poor families with large household members, and famers and rural workers. The food program started in April, running until the end of 2021 as the economic impact of Covid-19 remains with us in Cambodia.

Food Support to Poorest Families in Rural Cambodia

Further afield from Green Umbrella, we distributed 360 Food Kits to needy families who were badly hit by the pandemic, leaving many of them without food. In Kampong Cham 200 kits were delivered and 160 kits in the Kampong Chhnang province. In Kampong Cham, Green Umbrella worked with the local authorities and monks from local temples to visit and to deliver 200 Food Kits in the five communes. GU supplied Food Kits to families for fourth months, starting in April 2021. Each family received dried rice, dried fish, canned fish, soy sauce and condiments. This Food Kit support has helped many families who live in very old and unstable shacks with very few amenities or possessions. It melts our hearts to see their smiles and warm gratitude.

In Kampong Chhnang, a total of 3,200 kilograms of rice, 160 kilograms of dried fish, 165 kilograms of salt, 165 kilograms of sugar, 870 canned fish, 302 bottles of soy sauce and various condiments were distributed to 160 poor families in response to the request from the local authority.



Food Kits to KKS Student Families

In June 2021, the increasing cases of Covid let to the government increasing quarantine sites across the country. During that time, 46 of our 117 student families didn't have enough food to eat. One family tested positive with the virus and five families were placed in quarantine for 14 days. Some of our student families were also facing unemployment as one or both parents had to stop working in the city and move back to countryside, due to the strict lockdown and curfew measures.

These families had no income but still had to pay for electricity, water, house rental and any bank loans. In response to this hardship, Green Umbrella provided monthly Food Kits to these student families from August to December 2021.



230 KKS students families received Food Kit from Green Umbrella



Converting the monks' dorm to become a community library

KHEL CHEY LIBRARY PROJECT

The new library is located in Wat Kelchey, Osvey Commune, Kampong Seim District, Kampong Cham Province. The project was implemented in partnership with the Nhiek Chhim Buddhist Primary School, with participation from teachers/school principals, local education authority and people within the community. The Nhiek Chhim Buddhist school has offered education to 1,240 Buddhist monks and pagoda boys who are usually from very poor families living in rural remote areas.

The project aims to support and contribute to improving Cambodia's education quality, enhancing the learning of children and youth groups by increasing access to quality reading and learning materials, and providing appropriate studying facilities. The project also seeks to limit the COVID-19 impact and disruption to children's education, social-emotional, and mental development. Attempting to prevent the students from poor learning outcomes, the project has incorporated nutrition information to promote a healthy diet among adolescents, parents and caregivers.

POT SAR HEALTH CENTER PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to enhance the effectiveness of the medical team's treatment service to patients, especially for mothers giving birth (pre and post-natal care), babies and young children and the elderly. The new facility has separate maternity wards, prenatal and postpartum care, and pediatric and eldercare sections. GU also fund new modern equipment to facilitate each of these areas. This project also plays an important role in helping to fulfill one of the key elements of the Early Childhood Education Program of Green Umbrella. All children will receive good health care and treatment from the health center. Their parents will reduce the time and expense of seeking health care and treatment from private clinics which are far away from their communities and more expensive than public health services. The Pot Sar Health Center covers 11 villages and almost 2,820 families.



A Current Health Center

The facility was small and poorly equipped, with only 8 beds. It struggled to cater for the average of 10 births a month along with addressing the medical needs of so many families in the Pot Sar commune. Seeing these struggles, Green Umbrella helped coordinate a new building for the needs of many families.



A New Health Center Building

The new building contains 40 patient beds, with modern equipment which includes birth delivery rooms, routine surgery rooms, maternity wards and private rooms for special care.

CAMBODIAN CHILDREN NUTRITION AID PROJECT

CCNA has three main goals:

1. Help toddlers to grow and develop into healthy young children
2. Increase the knowledge of caregivers, changing their behavior and habits when of taking care of children
3. Decrease the rate of child malnutrition

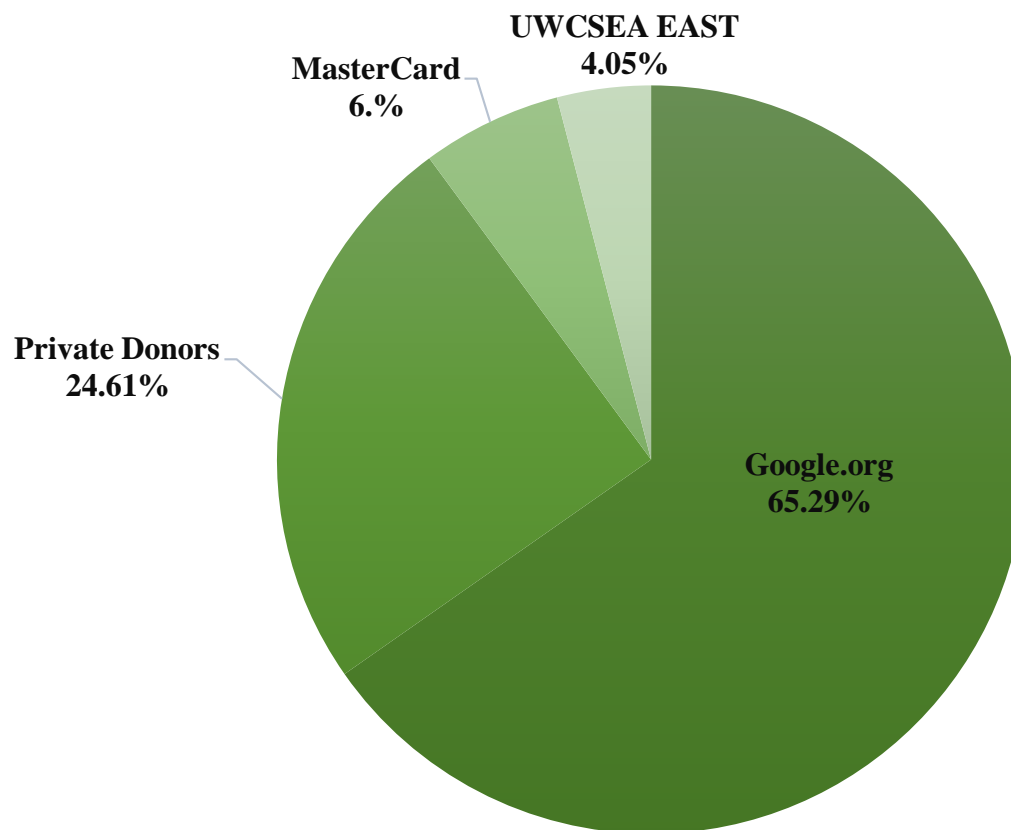
To achieve these goals, Cambodian Children Nutrition Aid recruited 20 volunteers to work with 200 kids under the age of 3 years. These were selected from 423 local kids , based on body weight, height and completed questionnaires. CCNA provided training to volunteers and village leaders to assist with the program. They made visits to household showing caregivers how to measure body weight and body height, along with providing training on food types and quantities for young kids.

Unfortunately, with the high risk of covid-19 outbreak within the community, the project was temporarily suspended in June 2021. It will resume in March 2022.



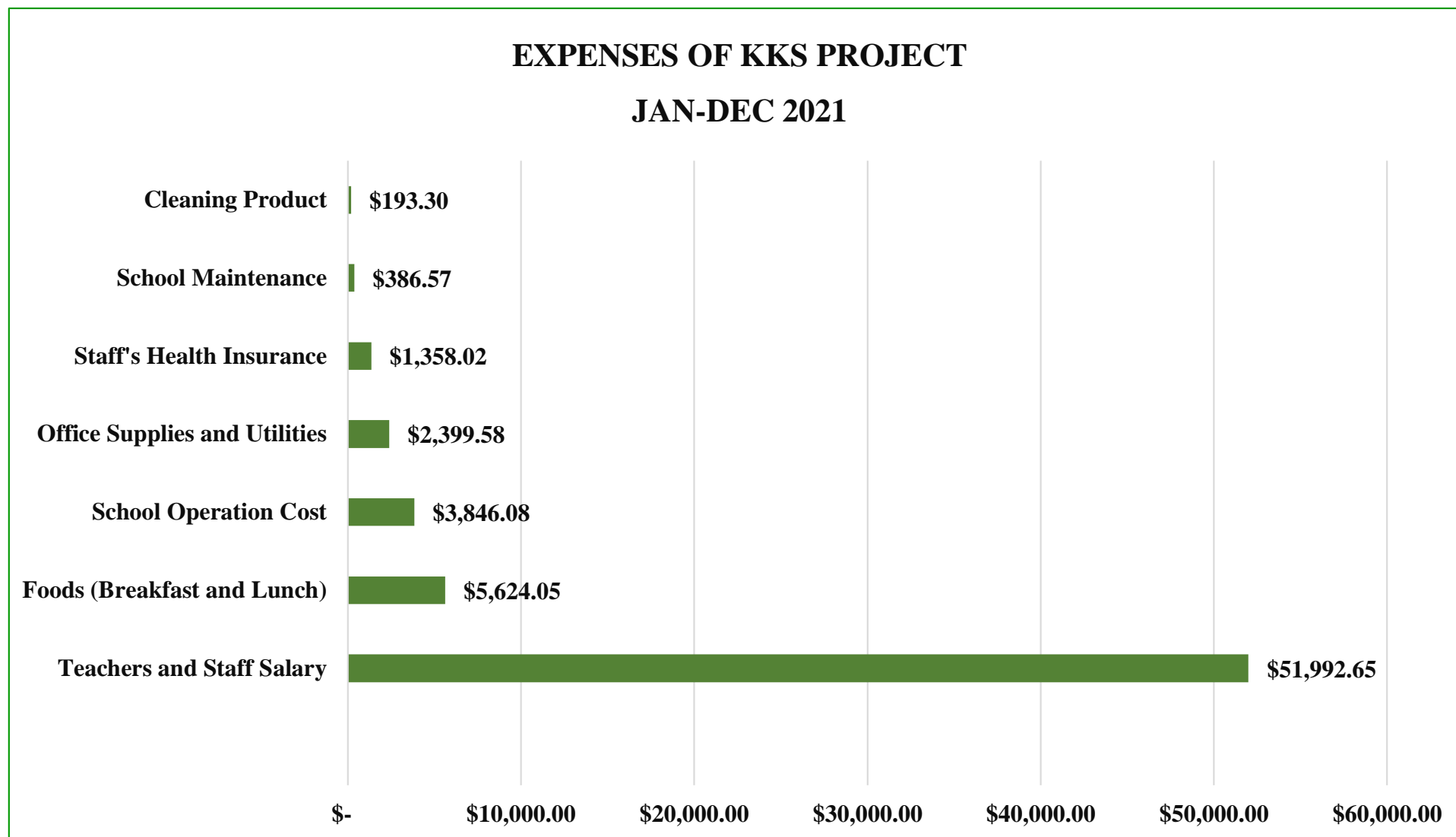
CCNA staff working with families in the community to address malnutrition of young kids

**INCOME BY DONORS OF KKS PROJECT
JAN-DEC 2021**

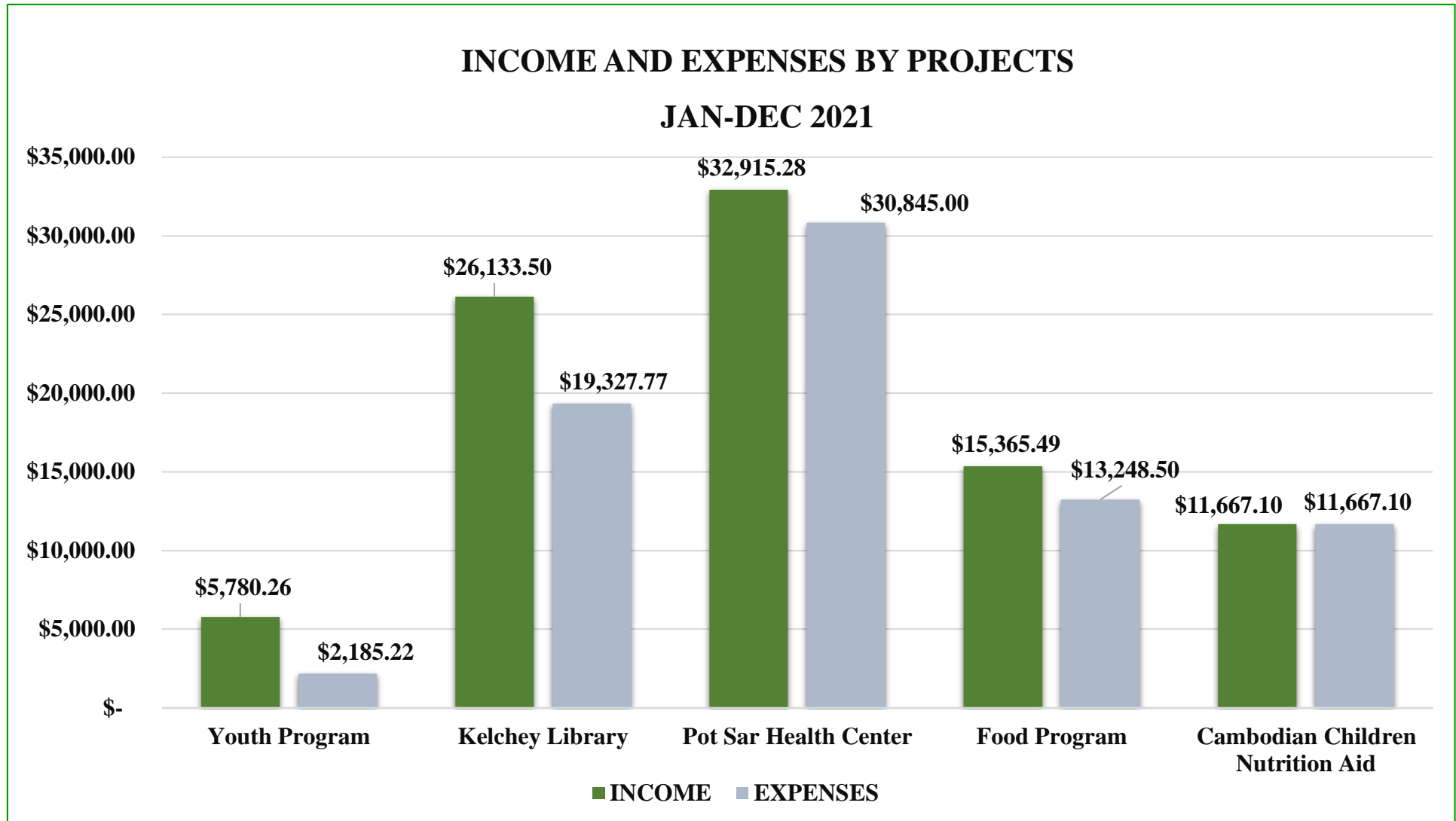


INCOME BUDGET: 76,200 USD

Cash value of in-kind donations from local donors = 4,514 USD



EXPENSES BUDGET: 65,800 USD



INCOME BUDGET: 91,862 USD

EXPENSES BUDGET: 77,274 USD



Funds support

UWCSEA has been a long term partner and donor, supporting our programs since 2011.



Funds support

MasterCard provides funds to support Green Umbrella programs.



Training and Funds support

Global Health Alliance provides training on small and medium enterprise to youth and fund small projects.



Training & Funds support

Asanga International Aid is the main donor of CCNA project, supporting research, technological, fundraising, and need assessment.



Funds support

Taoyuan American School provided funds to support the Food program helping KKS student's families.



Virtual English Class & Funds support

Google continues to be the main corporate supporter of Green Umbrella, especially for KKS education programs. During 2021, Google employees volunteered via providing online English classes to GU students. .



New building health center

Rhone trustee helped fund the new Pot Sar Health Center, a new school building, a new water tank and clean water.



School corporation

GU corporates with ISPP on English Club, Science lesson & Football for our students on a weekly basis.



Online training

Indochina Starfish Foundation supports GU students in physical education. During the covid-19 restrictions, they provided online training and support to our football team.



Virtual English Class

Volunteering in virtual English class for Green Umbrella primary school students.



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