



# EXECUTIVE BRIEFING

October 2024

**Global Connection International was organized 24 years ago** for the expressed purpose of **“Taking Light to Dark and Difficult Places”** around the world. With an incredible amount of time, talent and financial resources provided by our GCI Ministry Partners over nearly a quarter of a century; the Lord has allowed us to join Him in cutting-edge, cross-cultural humanitarian initiatives, encouraging and training local church leadership, and even sharing the Gospel message with foreign heads of state and their military. The fight against Human Trafficking inadvertently became a major part of our overseas ministry early on; and about 6 years ago GCI undertook a cutting-edge Human Trafficking Awareness & Prevention Campaign here at home, as our own country rose to the top of the world-wide list for the purchase of commercial sex.

**As we continue “Connecting People Who Care with the World’s Greatest Needs,” our focus this past quarter turned back to The Kingdom of Cambodia** and our trustworthy, indigenous ministry partners, Robledo and Samoeun Intal. Special relationships developed over nearly a quarter of a century has turned this corner of Southeast Asia into a “flagship ministry” of opportunity and blessings for GCI in a wide variety of ways over the years, including:



- The provision of hundreds of tons of rice to starving rural villages during mass flooding of the country on several occasions.
- The initiation of interaction and fellowship between a group of 41, disconnected, local pastors who eventually grew into the Evangelical Fellowship of Cambodia. Today EFC leads the way for evangelism and church growth in the country.
- Building one of the first safe houses for women rescued from human traffickers.
- Supplying significant resources for two orphanages and care for the elderly.
- Initiating the start-up of a heart surgery center & training facility in an abandoned hospital shortly after the Khmer Rouge were defeated by the North Vietnamese.
- Partnering with the Association of Christian Schools International in planning, funding, and facilitating the very first “Christian Educator’s Conference” in Cambodia, with 245 administrators and staff in attendance, representing 33 different schools.
- Helped provide personal hygiene items, water purifiers and oscillating fans for cell blocks in local prisons; along with establishing regular Christian worship services, instruments and sound equipment for praise teams, and ongoing Bible Study materials for the inmates

- Maintained a good working relationship with heads of state including Prime Minister Hun Sen, King Norodom Sihanouk, and various military Brass over the past two decades. As numerous military Generals who oversee the nation’s prison systems have come to know the Lord, there has been a marked change in their attitudes towards the inmates and strategies for running their respective institutions.
- The provision of generators and water purification units to various divisions of the Cambodian Army which, in turn opened doors to share the Gospel message with hundreds of soldiers and provide them personal copies of the Word of God.
- **The distribution of produce seedlings and fertilizer for 168 overlooked and underserved families in 6 different, rural, villages this month.** This initiative was just completed, including purchase, distribution, agricultural coaching and oversight for a total cost of **\$7,865.00.**



## Other areas of GCI’s current ministry include:

- **Cambodia –**
  1. **School back packs and supplies** for special needs children in six, rural villages - \$650. The new school year starts in November.
  2. **Plans for construction of a new Community Center/School/Church facility in Phum Kraol in 2025.** Funds have been committed for the land, and construction costs are estimated at **\$66,220.00.**
- **Tanzania –**
  1. Share regular coaching and encouragement to Alex & Rehema Samwel as they provide Get HOPE Global business training and microloans to impoverished women on a remote fishing island in Lake Victoria.
  2. Providing marriage, parenting, and family-life training to the extremely dysfunctional culture on Kome Island.
  3. Creating relationships on Kome Island by way of a regular feeding program for the early childhood population.



➤ **ARISE COLLECTIVE THEATRE -**

Sharing the Gospel message of Christ's love and redemption by way of our growing relationship with **ARISE Collective Theatre** based out of Grand Rapids, Michigan. This group of several,



cross-generational families is currently on a national tour with a Broadway quality, 2½ hour musical entitled **PILGRIM**, based on the literary classic, **Pilgrim's Progress**. Their stated goal is to share the message of the Gospel through the arts unto “salvation for the unbeliever and transformation for the Believer.” Regular audience response after every single performance is nothing short of amazing!

GCI's next focus is to bring **PILGRIM** to Central Nebraska for a two-week tour in the fall of 2025.

**As we engage in these diverse initiatives, both overseas and here at home; you can partner with us by:**

1. Helping bring **PILGRIM** to our area as an evangelistic outreach to the entire community during the fall of 2025. We guarantee that you will be blessed and encouraged beyond measure by spending time with this incredible group of Young Adults; and this is a great opportunity to try and bring area churches together for the expressed purpose of seeing unbelievers come to Christ by way of a very unique presentation. Watch for details!
2. Helping with the \$7,865.00 costs of the seed & fertilizer distribution to 168 impoverished families we have just completed in Cambodia.

You can mail a check to: **GCI, PO Box 194, Holdrege, NE 68949**

Thanks so much!

For Things That Matter Most,

Jim Weber  
President