Deliver high quality paediatric healthcare to our community in partnership with the Cambodian Government.

Become a centre of excellence for education and research within Cambodia.

Develop strong and sustainable teamwork at a hospital, community and national level.

Become a sustainable and replicable model of healthcare in Cambodia.

Angkor Hospital for Children’s (AHC) five year Strategic Plan (2016 - 2020) was developed to ensure our vision, mission and values are reflected in all unit operating plans and daily activities and highlights our commitment to being a centre of excellence for paediatric treatment, education and prevention in Cambodia.
It is with sincere gratitude that I welcome you to the 2017 edition of Angkor Hospital for Children’s Annual Report. This celebrates AHC’s major achievements throughout the year, none of which would have been possible without your help. Together, we provided nearly 164,000 treatments, continued the important work of education and professional development and introduced some wonderful new programmes to further improve healthcare and save more lives. A highlight was the initiation of the Saving Babies’ Lives programme, striving to reduce newborn deaths in Preah Vihear province by one-third. We have identified high impact interventions from AHC’s highly successful neonatal programme and are replicating these across government health facilities. This programme comes under the banner of our new Global Child Health Department, established to further the knowledge and understanding of illnesses and diseases impacting child health globally. I am excited about the opportunities for this new department, which will be a driving force in establishing AHC as a strong voice in the future of health policy.

As we enter our 20th year of operations, AHC continues to provide quality healthcare, education and prevention. Together, we are working towards our vision, that all Cambodian children will have access to quality, compassionate medical care, wherever they live and whatever their ability to pay. As we enter our 20th year of operations, AHC continues to provide quality healthcare, education and prevention. Together, we are working towards our vision, that all Cambodian children will have access to quality, compassionate medical care, wherever they live and whatever their ability to pay. I am very happy that in 2017 we introduced our Treatment Education and Prevention (TEP) truck, which will continue to grow our community and school outreach programme, providing more health options for children in rural communities. The TEP truck’s primary purpose will be dental and eye screenings and minor treatments. These early interventions will make way for better health overall and fewer debilitating diseases that can lead to disability and death.

At a structural level, our surgical facilities received much-needed and extensive renovations, improving health and safety for all and ensuring better care for our patients. The renovations in AHC’s surgical services is to a level comparable with other ASEAN countries. Each year we take another step towards fulfilling our mission to improve healthcare for all Cambodian children. I would like to thank our wonderful team — the dedicated staff who continually strive for excellence, the volunteers who share their knowledge and our supporters from around the world who continue to trust in what we are doing. Without you it would not be possible.

Sincerely,

Ngoun Chanpheaktra, MD, DCH, DTMH
Hospital Director,
Member of Executive Committee
AHC’s focus as a training hospital for the next generation of paediatricians strengthened in 2017 with new programmes and relationships established. AHC further secured its place as a broader and increasingly important healthcare organisation for the entire nation. Our ongoing commitment to the education of our own staff as well as other health professionals, medical students and the wider community continues to set AHC apart. A number of developments in 2017 have cemented our position as a leader in paediatric healthcare in Cambodia and should see AHC develop a strong voice in the future of healthcare and play a key role in contributing to healthcare procedure and policy, nationally and internationally.

In 2017 we established an AHC Advisory Board, chaired by myself, and consisting of four key prominent Cambodian members with links to strategic stakeholders. The aim of the Advisory Board is to network and tap into advisory expertise to help AHC implement successful strategies to fulfil its mission, grow its presence in Cambodia and ultimately ensure its long-term sustainability.

We also made changes to our residency programme in 2017 and have established a strategic relationship with the University of Health Sciences (UHS) in Phnom Penh. Under this arrangement, AHC is one of three training hospitals UHS will send its residents to. This ensures more medical residents have the critical hands-on training that demonstrates the compassionate, holistic care AHC is recognised for.

The quality and compassionate care we provide to patients continues to be at the heart of our work, and the setting and achieving of Key Performance Indicators across all departments truly demonstrates how serious AHC is about delivering outstanding care and achieving the highest health outcomes. AHC’s success is testament to the ongoing dedication and commitment of our staff and the continued support we have from all corners of the globe.

I extend my deepest gratitude to everyone at AHC for their amazing commitment and dedication and on behalf of everyone at AHC to all who have contributed to fulfilling AHC’s mission to improve healthcare for all Cambodian children. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Robert Gazzi
Board Chairman
AHC measures impact through the monitoring of Key Performance Indicators across all departments to ensure we are delivering high quality care and improving health outcomes.

Reduce waiting times to below 240 minutes
Timely, efficient and quality care is central to AHC’s objectives as a healthcare organisation. A consistent and manageable reduction in waiting times in 2017 was achieved through streamlining our Outpatient Department care and services.

Hand hygiene levels above 75%
Our Hand Hygiene Heroes led their respective departments to success in 2017, maintaining an average 83% compliance to hand hygiene standards. Staff-led initiatives like this empower teams to improve the quality of their services and care.

Patient satisfaction levels at 70%
Knowing that children feel safe, supported and happy while in our care was a key priority in 2017. The Young Person’s Advisory Group, a group of children under 16 years old from our community, took a lead in collecting patient feedback and helped with the design of the new playground.

Reduce healthcare associated infections to less than 5 per 1,000 bed days
At the start of 2017 AHC set an organisational wide target of maintaining a rate of healthcare associated infections below 5 per 1,000 bed days. All units successfully achieved this with an average rate of 4.1 resulting in improved quality of care.

Publication of work in scientific journals
AHC aims to utilise our insight and experience as a leading child health organisation in a low-resource setting to influence the larger global child health conversation. In 2017 AHC contributed eight publications to premier journals on a range of subjects, including beliefs and practices during pregnancy and crisis team management.

AHC treats children from every province in Cambodia, making us a truly far-reaching healthcare organisation.
Outpatient Department

After registration at AHC the first part of call for most patients is the Outpatient Department (OPD). The busy OPD doctors and nurses see patients for all family medicine and primary healthcare needs unless it is a medical emergency or they need to see a specialist. The OPD team assesses each patient, who is then admitted or discharged depending on the severity of each case. In 2017 the OPD streamlined waiting time and triage processes, ensuring that patients get to see a doctor or nurse more quickly and making the unit more efficient. The new system has significantly reduced waiting times for patients and ensures they get appropriate treatment much faster.

The most common ailments seen by the OPD staff in 2017 included respiratory infections, neurological problems, chronic haematology, cardiology and chronic renal disease. Dog, cat and monkey bites were also common and patients were administered with a free rabies and/or tetanus vaccination. AHC is the only hospital in Cambodia providing these vaccines free of charge. The OPD sees a large number of patients who have travelled long distances, including as far as Phnom Penh, for consultations about autism, cerebral palsy and other chronic disabilities and conditions. They travel to AHC because of its reputation for providing good service, clear communication and compassionate care.

Health education sessions on topics such as nutrition, hygiene and protection against insect-borne diseases are provided to families and caregivers awaiting treatment at the OPD, helping to build basic health literacy.

Inpatient Department

Children needing around-the-clock care from all areas of the hospital are admitted to the Inpatient Department (IPD). The IPD treats children with serious illnesses or who require care for extended periods. This can include pre or post-operative care, chemotherapy treatment, treatment for haemophilia, severe diarrhoea and malnutrition. The team also cares for patients who have been discharged from the Emergency Room or Intensive Care Unit.

Common diagnoses in 2017 included acute respiratory tract infections, pneumonia, bronchiolitis, gastroenteritis, sepsis and dengue fever. Malnutrition is still a serious problem in Cambodia and the IPD nurses hold daily discussions for caregivers about healthcare, with a focus on nutrition. The IPD team also provides regular training and education to caregivers on a range of health issues including how to manage diarrhoea, how to feed babies, providing appropriate food for babies, managing disease and hygiene practices.

The busy department operates at maximum capacity but despite this challenge the highly skilled IPD team continues to provide quality service and compassionate care to patients as well as support and education to caregivers. The team received ongoing educational support to upgrade their skills, thanks to AHC’s commitment to Continuing Medical Education and Continuing Nursing Education Training, resulting in the provision of quality patient care and optimised patient outcomes.

Emergency Room and Intensive Care

The most seriously ill and critically injured children are admitted immediately to the Emergency Room/Intensive Care Unit (ER/ICU) where AHC’s highly skilled team administers life-saving treatment. AHC’s ER/ICU is unique in Cambodia in the level of quality, compassionate paediatric care that is provided, free of charge. 2017 saw a 10% increase in patients in need of paediatric intensive care at AHC, demonstrating the increasing demand for AHC’s advanced critical care skills.

The ER/ICU is open to receive patients 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The most common emergencies seen are severe respiratory problems, life-threatening infections such as meningitis, serious malnutrition, and trauma from traffic or other accidents. In the cooler months the ER/ICU team sees an increase in the number of burn patients as families use open fires to keep warm, whilst in the wetter months there is a surge in the number of dengue-related cases. Whilst the average stay has decreased for patients in the ICU, due to the advances in care of critical patients, the overall number of patients treated in the ICU is on the increase.

All ER/ICU staff members are trained in Advanced Paediatric Life Support and the administration of central line procedures. Doctors and nurses take part in continual professional development to ensure they are able to provide the critical and intensive care needed in this high-pressure environment. Last year the mortality rate was less than one percent due to access to more advanced equipment and resources, enabling the team to treat serious conditions more effectively. The team’s expertise is renowned in Cambodia and, as the only provider in Advanced Paediatric Life Support training in the country, the department provides training and education to healthcare professionals from all over Cambodia.

Surgical Unit

AHC’s surgical team, consisting of three surgeons, a resident and 22 surgical nurses, performed 1,415 major surgeries and more than 9,000 minor surgeries at AHC in 2017, saving lives and preventing chronic disability. Their skills ensure that children at AHC have access to safe surgical and anaesthesia care – something still out of reach financially for most Cambodian families. AHC recognises that surgery plays an integral role in preventing unnecessary deaths and the treatment of acute and chronic illness. The most common surgeries in 2017 were for orthopaedic fractures and abnormalities. Other surgeries included those for contusions, burns, appendicitis as well as dog and snake bites.

Extensive renovations took place in the Surgical Unit in 2017, creating a safer environment for patients, families and staff. Renovations included a dedicated waiting and recovery room, a larger minor operating room, a renovated operating theatre, more space on the surgical ward, two new isolation rooms and a large sterilisation room. The significant upgrade brings the quality of surgical services at AHC up to standard and comparable to other ASEAN countries.
The Neonatal Unit administers care to premature and sick babies in the first 28 days of their life. In a country with high newborn mortality rates, AHC’s Neonatal Unit has excelled at saving lives and turning around in-hospital survival rates. Since the inception of the Neonatal Unit, AHC’s neonatal mortality rate has declined by 80%. Many premature, low birth weight or neonates admitted to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit are excelled at saving lives and turning around in-hospital newborn mortality rates. AHC’s Neonatal Unit has babies warm. In a country with good hygiene practices and nutrition.

Dental Unit

The incidence of dental cavities in Cambodia is reported to be among the most severe in the world amongst younger age groups. It is common for AHC’s dental team to see children who have 10 to 15 cavities and many left untreated so long that patients require extractions. The reasons for this include a lack of education in oral hygiene, poor nutrition, high consumption of sugary foods and the prohibitive cost of affordable paediatric dental care, especially in rural areas. Outreach and education are a primary focus for the Dental Unit, and they work closely with AHC’s community outreach team to ensure dental health education reaches those outside of the hospital. The team educates children, teachers and caregivers on the necessity of brushing teeth and of early treatment to prevent serious problems. The dental team is pleased to see fewer patients with abscesses, reduced from about six a day to a few cases a day. These free sessions have been provided to nine schools in Siem Reap; and in 2017 the team began planning for the introduction of a new community dental and health education truck, which will expand this service to include education and dental treatment in 15 schools.

The Satellite Clinic

Approximately 35 kilometres outside Siem Reap town, AHC’s Satellite Clinic operates under an innovative health-care partnership with the government-run Sotnikum Referral Hospital. Situated within the grounds of the Referral Hospital, it has grown from a small, rural health clinic to a busy paediatric centre offering outpatient and inpatient services, a special care baby unit and emergency room. This exciting partnership with the Referral Hospital ensures that rural Cambodians have access to quality healthcare through the Satellite Clinic’s specialist paediatric and neonatal services.

In 2017 the clinic found a high number of newborns needing treatment for hypothermia. As a result, the Satellite Clinic’s nurses are working with local healthcare providers to educate them on the importance of keeping newborn babies warm.

Collaboration with the government Referral Hospital and government Health Centres continued to grow throughout 2017 with increased skill, cost and resource sharing, demonstrating both partners’ commitment to strengthening the cooperation and improving overall health outcomes. The government provided the Satellite Clinic with a number of support services including, laboratory services, x-rays, pharmacy services, medicines for OPD and IUD patients, and electricity costs. In 2017 the Satellite Clinic began plans to collaborate with public health providers on AHC’s health systems strengthening project. The Satellite Clinic’s Nursing Department will work closely with rural health centres to provide coaching to their staff. The focus will be on nursing care, infection control, antibiotic use and newborn care; and they aim to work with eight health centres per year over three years.
YPAG

[ YOUNG PERSON'S ADVISORY GROUP ]

Giving Young People a Voice

It is important to AHC that young people have a voice in their healthcare provision – this helps to ensure that interventions are appropriate, well understood and less stressful for patients. All of this contributes to a more positive experience for young patients and better overall health outcomes.

The Young Person’s Advisory Group (YPAG) aims to look at the hospital, its processes, and research from the perspective of young people and provide their input and feedback. The group provides inputs regarding research that is conducted and how healthcare is provided at AHC. YPAG’s activities are many and varied; they have carried out inspections of the hospital, taken part in cultural trips to spread information about AHC and performed educational and entertaining plays for the patients at the hospital.

Twice a year they conduct patient satisfaction surveys and present the results to the Executive Committee. After presenting the results of one patient satisfaction survey in 2017 where the patients interviewed requested better play equipment and opportunities for children, the hospital’s small playground was renovated to provide a much more enticing and fun play area for patients and their siblings, improving patient experience.

AHC recognises the creativity and innovation of children and welcomes their ideas. It is also important that AHC is child-friendly and provides an environment that reduces anxiety in patients, leading to better health outcomes. There are benefits for YPAG members as well. Membership in the group encourages and teaches them to articulate their ideas and to listen to the needs of others while improving their confidence and giving them leadership skills. All these attributes will benefit them and their society in the future.

In 2017 the microbiology laboratory upgraded its facilities and acquired new equipment, increasing its molecular capabilities. Cambodia’s only MALDI-TOF instrument was installed, enabling more rapid identification of pathogens. As a result patients receive the correct treatment much faster. The laboratory’s ongoing TuNDRA (Tracking of Neglected Bacterial Diseases and Resistance Patterns in Asia) project, introduced routine, real-time molecular testing of two respiratory viruses.

The main laboratory is responsible for blood samples, collecting and processing blood for donation, haematology testing and clinical biochemistry. The laboratory’s blood donor service continued to grow in 2017 with between 80 and 100 blood donations a month as awareness grows among Cambodians about the importance of donating blood. Donors come from all walks of life including university students, hotel staff and tourists.

Laboratory staff attended training and conferences in Phnom Penh and Bangkok in 2017, learning about new equipment, technology and tropical medicine.

HIV/Homecare

Financial and sociocultural barriers continue to be a significant challenge for many Cambodians in need of health services. Families with children who have chronic illnesses are particularly vulnerable in this struggle. The HIV/Homecare Unit (HHU) provides comprehensive, in-home medical and social care to children living with HIV and other chronic conditions and who have difficulty travelling to AHC. Medical treatment, emotional counselling, health education and social support are all part of the services this busy team provides. This critical service is unique in paediatric care in Cambodia and helps ensure patients living with chronic illness are supported to access medical care and to push past limitations to reach their full potential.

In 2017 nearly half of this unit’s patients are HIV positive while the remainder have neurological or physical impairments, serious illnesses or disabilities. Education continues to be a primary focus in order to combat prevalent stigma and the team provides information to patients and caregivers in homes to ensure understanding of and adherence to treatment plans. Their innovative Paediatric Peer Education programme empowers children living with HIV to share their experiences with each other in a supportive environment and the group actively works within the community to combat discrimination and reduce stigma associated with HIV.

To widen the reach of this successful programme, the team provided technical assistance on paediatric HIV care to government hospitals and NGOs to strengthen the national capacity to provide appropriate HIV care to children. The team benefitted from training from the National Centre for HIV AIDS Dermatology and STIs (NCHADS) during 2017, enhancing their ability to provide quality services to children affected by HIV.
Eye Clinic

Two-thirds of AHC’s Eye Clinic patients are treated for eye infections, which can cause blindness if not treated promptly. Infections are caused through injuries while playing and everyday activities. The other one-third of patients are treated for congenital eye conditions such as cataracts, strabismus (crossed eyes), congenital glaucoma and other eye abnormalities, including cancer. Most forms of blindness are preventable with early detection and quality treatment. In Cambodia, many caregivers do not understand the implications of eye problems. They may not know where to seek treatment, may be fearful of the expense or they may source treatment from untrained practitioners, causing further damage. AHC’s Eye Clinic provides comprehensive paediatric eye care including vision screenings, and surgeries; and is the only place in Cambodia conducting cataract surgery on babies born with congenital cataracts.

2017 saw increased collaboration between the Eye Clinic and AHC’s Oncology Unit, with 25 children with eye cancer treated across the year. The Eye Clinic is fast becoming recognised as a national leader in paediatric eye cancer care and the number of patients is expected to double in 2018 with referrals coming from across Cambodia. The team is using more advanced methods enabling them to save both the life and the sight of patients. Education about eye cancer remains a core focus for the eye specialists to ensure early detection rather than late treatment. AHC’s Eye Clinic actively promotes early detection at conferences, through social media and in primary schools in collaboration with the outreach team.
Physiotherapy

The work of the four physiotherapists at AHC is integrated with departments across the hospital to ensure each patient receives the holistic treatment they need, providing comprehensive rehabilitation services to patients with congenital diseases, traumatic injuries or illness. This inter-departmental attention and ‘whole-child’ treatment is unique in Cambodia.

The physiotherapy team provides pre and post-operative care to help patients optimise mobility and function. The team works closely with families to improve understanding of their children’s condition and empower caregivers to continue physiotherapy exercises at home, giving children the best chance of recovery. The most common ailments treated by the team include traumatic injuries from traffic and other accidents, respiratory dysfunction, talipes, haemophilia, rheumatoid arthritis and neurological problems such as cerebral palsy and developmental delay.

One of the biggest challenges for AHC’s physiotherapists is the lack of training facilities for paediatric physiotherapy in Cambodia. To counter this obstacle, AHC regularly partners in Phnom Penh to develop an online Case Management System (CMS), which is expected to be completed in mid-2018.

Social Work Unit

The Social Work Unit at AHC plays a critical role across all departments, protecting children vulnerable to abuse and abandonment, and helping patients and families cope with the psychological stress of hospitalisation. The busy team - the first of its kind in Cambodia - implements child protection measures and provides much needed counselling support to patients and caregivers alongside financial and material assistance as part of AHC’s holistic approach to caring for the whole child, not just the illness they present with.

In 2017 the Social Work Unit strengthened AHC’s child protection services enhancing working procedures, policies, and familiarity of the law and services offered locally. As part of this initiative, AHC’s social workers began collaborating more closely with government departments and NGOs to build common resources and share knowledge and skills to ultimately protect more children for the long term after they leave the hospital and return to their communities.

Pharmacy

Cambodia’s pharmaceutical industry is under-regulated and many pharmacies, particularly in rural areas, don’t have licensed pharmacists. Drugs that usually require prescriptions are readily available to anyone and often administered by people who do not understand their properties or the correct use, compromising effectiveness. Many medications are also of a poor quality. This dangerous combination means many people receive the wrong type of medication at the wrong dosage.

AHC’s in-house pharmacy ensures patients and their caregivers have access to a qualified pharmacist who can administer free, high quality medications 24 hours a day, seven days a week for inpatients, ER and ICU patients. Educating parents and caregivers is an integral part of the role of AHC’s pharmacy staff. Caregivers, who sometimes are non-literate and unable to read written instructions, receive the appropriate medicines and clear instructions on how to use them. They must also demonstrate an understanding of the treatment plan before the pharmacist will release the medications to them.

As part of AHC’s oncology programme, the pharmacists work with international experts to develop guidelines for chemotherapy drug preparation and are independently responsible for mixing all chemotherapy drugs onsite, which is a very specialised form of pharmacy. In 2017 the Pharmacy Department won an award for meeting its Medical Quality Assurance targets, recording all pre-dispensing errors, interpreting the prescription and preparing the drugs, and reporting monthly.

Diagnostic Imagery

Quality radiology is integral to determining accurate diagnoses and appropriate treatment plans for patients. Many Cambodian children still do not have access to affordable radiology services performed by qualified radiologists. AHC’s radiology department, established in 2002, comprises three diagnostic rooms furnished with an x-ray machine, ultrasound machine and an echocardiography machine for heart ultrasounds. The two doctors and four nurses in AHC’s diagnostic imagery department have specialist radiology training and provide free vital diagnostic services to thousands of children each year. In 2017 the department conducted nearly 9,000 x-rays and more than 4,300 ultrasounds, ensuring medical staff were able to provide the best treatment and achieve optimal results for the patients. The wide variety of tests that the radiology department performs all help ensure medical staff are able to diagnose problems faster and provide the most appropriate treatment, improving outcomes and patient care.
Education at AHC is varied and holistic with a focus on interactive programmes, addressing existing health priorities and future healthcare developments. All the while, personal development, communication skills and professionalism are actively fostered.

Nursing education continued to grow in 2017, with some notable achievements, including:

- A complete overhaul of the Certificate of Paediatric Nursing programme and exam question-setting training for senior faculty.
- AHC originally introduced the nursing process, which is now standard across Cambodia, and this year trained numerous nurses and midwives in Kampot.
- Nursing student placements at AHC focus on the nursing process and 441 final year government nursing students undertook placements. This number will exceed 800 in 2018.
- The educational Key Performance Indicators, which all focus on the nursing student programme, were surpassed this year.

Thirteen residents graduated from AHC’s residency programme, which this year included work-based assessments and portfolio evidence of continuing professional development. AHC established a strategic relationship with the University of Health Sciences (UHS) in Phnom Penh. Under this arrangement, AHC is one of three training hospitals that UHS will send its residents to.

Education and medical departments collaborated to produce AHC’s first national conference. Centred on neonatal care, there were approximately 250 delegates from paediatrics, obstetrics, nursing and midwifery, making it Cambodia’s first national multidisciplinary conference.

Certified courses in infection control and newborn life support were offered to nurses and midwives during the event.

The department oversaw more than 120,000 attendances at a variety of education programmes in 2017. This included:

- 107 medical interns, physiotherapy students and social work students.
- 2,711 continuing education sessions comprising 19,834 attendances by AHC clinical staff.
- over 100,000 attendances at AHC caregiver training sessions.

Numerous workshops and courses on diverse topics were offered throughout the year, including:

- A multidisciplinary two-day child-protection workshop, delivered in Khmer for the first time. The aim is to hold the workshop bi-annually, eventually offering it externally, showcasing AHC’s leadership in this field.
- Widespread ECG-reading training and set up of an ECG reporting system.

The Education Department seeks opportunities for overseas training where relevant expertise is not available in-country. Two oncology doctors presented posters at the prestigious American Society of Haematology conference, with one awarded a highly competitive scholarship, and the paediatric nephrology doctor completed a clinical observership at Hasbro Children’s Hospital in the United States.
Surgical Upgrade

According to a World Bank study, basic surgical procedures are one of the most cost-effective of all health interventions in developing countries. However, the majority of Cambodian children still do not have access to safe, affordable surgical and anaesthetic care when they need it. This lack of even the most basic surgical services such as bone setting can lead to preventable deaths or chronic disabilities that can affect a child’s ability to learn, go to school, and ultimately achieve productive employment.

Much-needed and extensive renovations to AHC’s Surgical Unit in 2017 have lifted the quality of surgical services at AHC. The infrastructure upgrade and re-organisation of surgical facilities has optimised service delivery and created better synergy with other hospital departments. The upgrade includes a larger minor operations room allowing space for anaesthesia consultations and recovery, a dedicated recovery room, two new surgical consultation rooms, more space on the surgical ward, two new isolation rooms and a large sterilisation room. The upgraded sterilisation facilities have reduced the risk of infection and created a safer, more pleasant environment for staff and patients.

AHC recognises the integral role surgery plays in preventing deaths and treating acute and chronic illness. AHC’s surgical unit is one of the only facilities outside of Phnom Penh providing paediatric and neonatal surgery. The upgraded facilities will result in more life-saving procedures, better health outcomes and a better quality of life for Cambodia’s children.

Visitor Centre

Information and education are at the core of AHC’s upgraded Visitor Centre. This modern facility takes visitors on a 20-year journey of the hospital from its origins to the present day and outlines plans for the next 20 years.

Information is presented through interactive video displays, photo exhibits and more. These provide visitors with insight into how the hospital began, the challenges to accessing quality paediatric healthcare in Cambodia and the kind of treatments and programmes AHC offers. The Visitor Centre stocks a mix of high quality products for sale, including AHC-branded merchandise and unique handmade items. Half the proceeds go directly to AHC programming and the other half goes to the artisans who create the products. Young people also enjoy exploring AHC’s Visitor Centre where they can dress up in doctors and nurses uniforms.

Saving Babies’ Lives

In the six years since AHC introduced a neonatal programme the number of babies dying in the hospital and AHC’s Satellite Clinic has reduced by 80%. In examining what factors and practices led to this achievement, AHC discovered that the most successful interventions in saving a newborn’s life were simple, low cost solutions such as: a dedicated area for neonatal care, good infection control practice, basic equipment and teaching healthcare staff the essentials in newborn care. The World Health Organisation estimates that up to two-thirds of neonatal deaths could be prevented if proper care is given during and immediately after birth.

AHC recognised that if the best practice and expertise developed here was shared with other low resource settings, improved quality of care could save thousands of neonates. As such, AHC has begun implementation of the Saving Babies’ Lives programme aiming to reduce the number of newborns dying in Preah Vihear Province by one-third over the course of five years. Preah Vihear Province is an isolated border province in Cambodia’s north, where the mortality rate of newborns is estimated to be higher than that in urban areas. AHC will work in partnership with hundreds of communities, 28 government-run health centres and the provincial hospital to improve the quality of neonatal healthcare through training and other low cost interventions. Throughout the programme, information will be collected and shared to build high quality evidence, working in alignment with the Cambodian government, to push the boundaries of available neonatal care and provide a model that can be replicated in other low resource settings across Cambodia.

Extensive renovations to AHC’s surgical unit ensure the standard of AHC’s surgical services is comparable to other ASEAN nations. Many thanks to Fred Hessler and Kathie Mundy for funding the upgrade.
Skilled volunteers continue to provide valuable training opportunities to AHC staff and access to information and procedures often difficult to attain in Cambodia. In 2017 AHC welcomed 135 volunteers from 22 countries, and their varied expertise has helped staff advance their skills and raise the standards of care at AHC.

Those volunteers included Professor Richard Henker, who visited AHC three times in 2017 for a total of nearly six weeks. Professor Henker, a researcher, educator and practitioner in nurse anaesthesia from the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, first volunteered at AHC in 2006 and has returned more than 25 times. Professor Henker says he has probably learnt more from the AHC team than he has taught them. His role as a clinical instructor and lecturer has evolved and today he facilitates and provides support while AHC’s team does most of the clinical, didactic, and simulation teaching.

On some visits he brings university students. He says it is a highly sought-after rotation where AHC’s nurse anaesthetists teach the American students about providing quality care with minimal technology and resources. “The reason I bring students is they get to see what it’s like to provide high quality care in a setting where resources are used more efficiently,” Professor Henker says. “I am impressed with the fact that they don’t use things that cost so much and that they can provide high quality care. “At AHC, everything is based on sustainability and efficiency. In the United States, our care is not sustainable and that’s an important point to reinforce in Cambodia – sustainability.”

He praised the level of professionalism and resourcefulness at AHC and says developed countries could learn a lot from AHC. In fact, Professor Henker says the United States is introducing some of the procedures AHC has used for many years. These include greater use of regional anaesthesia, which is more cost-effective and means children wake up with no pain and no opiates are required. Ketamine has been used at AHC for many years for pain relief and is often viewed as a cheap drug used only in developing countries unable to afford commercial brands. But hospitals in the United States are increasingly utilising it as a safe and effective analgesic, preferable to opiates.

Professor Henker says providing outstanding health services is not about the technology but about the care provided and AHC’s nurses and doctors provide a high level of compassionate care with a priority on sustainability and efficiency.

Thank you to all volunteers from all corners of the globe who gave their time and expertise to AHC and hospital staff in 2017.
PREVENTION
AHC HEALING THE COMMUNITY

Children in Cambodia’s rural areas are at three times greater risk of death before their 5th birthday according to the 2014 Cambodia Demographic and Health Survey. High numbers of Cambodian children suffer from preventable illnesses such as respiratory infections, diarrhoea and infectious diseases rarely seen in developed nations. A lack of health services and health education outside of Cambodia’s cities means children in rural areas are at higher risk of serious illness.

AHC’s Community Health Action and Engagement Department (CHAED) works with community leaders and Village Health Support Groups (VHSGs) to improve the quality of health services provided in communities and to promote disease prevention and good health practices.

CHAED’s other main programme is the Capacity Building and Health Education Project (CBHEP), which is delivered in villages, schools, health centres and to other organisations.

AHC Aims to Empower as many people as possible with basic health, hygiene and nutrition education to help prevent serious illness and save children’s lives. Much of this is done through the VHSGs and through direct education to community members. High rates of illiteracy within communities challenge AHC’s team to find innovative ways of presenting health education. The community outreach service uses theatre performances, song, dance and cinema screenings to provide health education. Nearly 34,000 participants attended 61 sessions in 2017. A variety of other innovative and practical training sessions include cooking demonstrations emphasising good nutrition, presentations on basic hygiene and how to prevent illnesses such as tuberculosis, dengue fever, malaria and acute respiratory infections. Whilst in the villages, AHC staff take the opportunity to conduct malnutrition screenings and first aid trainings.

AHC operates a number of outreach programmes to schools, providing education to teachers and healthcare services and education to students. This ensures children are receiving early intervention in healthcare, while also learning the importance of health services and gaining an understanding of prevention. Nearly 6,000 students received dental education and fluoride mouth rinse at 40 school sessions in 2017 and more than 1,500 students were screened for eye problems. Those with minor issues were treated on site while those with more complicated issues were referred to AHC. Oral healthcare included fluoride mouth rinses and provision of toothbrushes and toothpaste. First Aid training, hygiene and nutrition education also took place at schools around Siem Reap. This programme will be expanded in 2018 with the introduction of the Treatment, Education and Prevention (TEP) truck, which has been equipped to deliver quality on-site optometry and dental care.

Monthly meetings are held with VHSGs, Women’s Affairs groups and Health Centre Management Committee groups at three health centres to provide support and assess their needs. These assessments identify education needs and provide guidance on the training activities required for health centre workers and village stakeholders. As well as training and support, small-scale repairs of equipment and infrastructure are also provided.

AHC is well recognised for its quality and compassionate care and high levels of professionalism. As such, government and private organisations, including police units, hotels and businesses, contract AHC to provide specialised training in health education and first aid for their employees. These activities raise awareness of healthcare issues and build the capacity of stakeholders in our community, whilst generating funds that we invest in AHC’s programmes.
AHC’s Treatment, Education and Prevention (TEP) truck is an exciting addition to the hospital’s outreach programme, providing much-needed services to rural communities outside of Siem Reap city. Many rural families do not have the time or financial resources to bring their children to AHC and, as a result, minor health complaints may grow into more serious problems. The TEP truck, the only mobile paediatric dental and eye clinic of its kind in Cambodia, will travel to rural towns and villages, where health needs are greatest.

The TEP truck began its life as a fire truck, and after six months of extensive renovations during 2017, has been transformed and equipped to deliver on-site quality optometry and dental care. It has been outfitted with a consultation and treatment room, housing a dental chair, essential dental equipment, a waiting area and filtered running water. Awnings provide shade for children having their eyes screened and for use at small-scale health promotion events centred around the truck.

The TEP truck’s arrival is a novel experience in villages where it will support AHC’s community school programme. The goal is to educate, engage and empower school-aged children in rural Cambodia to develop lifelong healthy behaviours. AHC recognises that healthier children stay in school longer, attend more regularly, learn more and become healthier and more productive adults. The primary focus of the TEP truck will be to deliver dental care and eye care, screenings and treatments. It will include two dental team members, two eye nurses and two members of AHC’s community team for health promotion activities. Dental services will include preventative fluoride mouth rinsing, oral screening and health checks as well as minor dental procedures including sealant, fillings and extractions. Eye care services will include general eye check-ups and vision screening. Any children with complications requiring additional treatment will be referred to AHC for further care.

The truck will be used at promotional events and will distribute health promotion materials such as posters and pamphlets to reinforce key health messages. The TEP truck will be used for outreach work five days a week during school semesters and will visit a minimum of two schools each week. In 2018 the truck will visit 104 schools and is expected to impact more than 27,000 students and nearly 700 teachers over three years.
INFLUENCING GLOBAL CHILD HEALTH

High quality compassionate care, excellent training, and a robust research agenda have established AHC as Cambodia’s leading pediatric healthcare organisation. The vast amount of data and extensive knowledge generated at the hospital places AHC in a prime position to share information to help strengthen Cambodia’s healthcare systems and influence international child health policy.

The Global Child Health Department (GCHD) was established in 2017 to further AHC’s commitment to improve knowledge and understanding of illness and disease impacting child health locally and internationally. The new department, which works in collaboration with strategic partners, has 10 staff members.

One of GCHD’s main achievements in 2017 was to set up and establish the Saving Babies’ Lives programme. This programme aims to utilise knowledge from AHC’s Neonatal Unit to reduce the number of newborns dying in Preah Vihear province, in Cambodia’s north, by one-third.

Comprehensive training and education will be provided to health workers and the community in the region.

The GCHD also established the Biometrics of Neonates, Infants and Children (BioNIC) study in partnership with Global Good and started a data management system for AHC, including data collection and visualisation across the hospital.

AHC carefully reviews and evaluates processes, and shares and replicates best practice and lessons learned from our impactful programmes. This enables AHC to make a wider impact on child health locally and globally.

The new department is an exciting opportunity for AHC to develop a strong voice in the future of healthcare, while sharing valuable knowledge to expand healthcare provision and improve health outcomes for children.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

The primary partner for AHC’s Global Child Health agenda is the Cambodia Oxford Medical Research Unit (COMRU), a collaboration between AHC and the Mahidol Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit (MORU) that has been ongoing since 2006. These partners provide technical assistance onsite and remotely, allowing AHC to contribute to global knowledge and literature on important child health issues and harness the collective potential to save lives.

Strategic Partners

- Cambodia Oxford Medical Research Unit (COMRU)
- Institute for Glycomics, Griffith University, AUS
- Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, UK
- Ethox Centre, Nuffield Department of Population Health, University of Oxford, UK
- University of Pittsburgh, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Publication of robust research findings ensures AHC’s experience and insight is shared on a global scale.

Beliefs and practices during pregnancy, postpartum and in the first days of an infant’s life in rural Cambodia. BMC Pregnancy Childbirth. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28975443


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More than 250 participants from 10 countries joined Team AHC for the GET ACTIVE WEEKEND in December. They raised over $200,000, inclusive of Manulife’s generous donation of $80,000. For the first time AHC conducted a staff fundraiser in the lead-up to the event – the AHC Staff Get Active Challenge proved successful far beyond expectations and raised over $30,000!

In April the HONG KONG FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE hosted their third annual fundraising dinner at Oolaa Restaurant, Hong Kong, raising an impressive $125,000.

The 18TH ANNUAL FRIENDS OF FRIENDS NEW YORK banquet was held in New Jersey in October, organised by the wonderfully supportive Khmer-American community raising $20,000 for AHC.

AHC board member, Lindsay Cooper, alongside Thompson Reuters, hosted a golf event and charity dinner at SINGAPORE’S SENTOSA GOLF CLUB PAVILION in November, with 90 guests raising over $100,000.

In April the HONG KONG FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE hosted their third annual fundraising dinner at Oolaa Restaurant, Hong Kong, raising an impressive $125,000.

Cyclists taking part in the BANTEAY MEANCHEY CYCLING EVENT in July and CYCLING FOR ENVIRONMENT AND CHILDREN’S HEALTH in Siem Reap in August pedalled for a much appreciated $24,000 donation to AHC.

During BON PHKA PRAK ceremonies held at Wat Preah Promrath, Wat Kon Mo and Wat Reach Bo pagodas, the supportive local Khmer community very generously raised $69,500.

All funds are quoted in US dollars.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

AHC’s Executive Committee ensures all areas of the organisation have an equal voice while making operational decisions for the hospital.

Dr Claudia Turner has been the Chief Executive Officer of AHC since 2015. Claudia is a UK-trained consultant paediatrician and clinician-scientist with the University of Oxford. Prior to arrival at AHC Claudia ran a medical service in a refugee camp in North West Thailand. Her clinical, research and administrative experience enables her to provide strong strategic leadership to AHC.

Mr Tep Navy became Chief Operating Officer in 2012 after working his way from general nursing staff to Vice-Director of Nursing. Navy’s experience as an AHC nurse combined with his deep understanding of the Cambodian legal system and hospital administration ensures AHC makes well-reasoned decisions in line with Cambodia’s legal framework.

Dr Ngoun Chanpheaktra, Hospital Director, has been at AHC since the hospital opened its doors in 1999. Dr Pheaktra has worked as the Chief of the Emergency and Intensive Care Unit, Chief of Medicine and Deputy Hospital Director. This hands-on medical and administrative experience makes him a vital asset to the Executive Committee.

Mr Gregor McKellar began working at AHC as Chief Financial Officer in 2015, responsible for oversight financial management. Prior to this Gregor worked for six years in the UK with Deloitte across the corporate and non-profit sectors. Gregor is a qualified Chartered Account and is undertaking a Masters in Social Innovation.

BOARD MEMBERS

AHC is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. The 10 member board is responsible for determining strategy and policy, as well as overseeing the organisation’s activities.

The Board of Directors oversees three specialised committees:

- Medical Education, Ethics & Oversight Committee
- Audit & Operational Risk Committee
- Remuneration Committee

Learn more about AHC’s Board of Directors online: www.angkorhospital.org/about-us/board-of-directors
AHC produces annual financial statements in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and these are audited by Baker Tilly Hong Kong. Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2017 are available online: www.angkorhospital.org/about-us/hospital-publications

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

**SOURCES OF FUNDS**

General Paediatric Care 39%
Specialised Paediatric Care 27%
 Foundations 64%
Government 9%
Individuals 27%
Income Generation 1%
Prevention 4%
Education 8%
Holistic Support Programmes 3%
Capital 6%
Core Mission Support & Partnerships 12%
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Core Mission Support & Partnerships 12%
Income Generation 1%
Prevention 4%
Education 8%
Holistic Support Programmes 3%
FRIENDS AND FAMILY

The incredible generosity shown by all of our supporters enables AHC to keep its doors open and ensure thousands of children have access to free medical services.

This year, thanks to your support, we enter our 20th year providing high quality, compassionate paediatric medical care. This remarkable achievement has been made possible through two decades of support from highly skilled volunteers, committed donors and the unwavering dedication of our staff. We are sincerely grateful and look to you for your continued support in securing the future of AHC for the children of Cambodia over the next 20 years.

Every contribution helps us to save lives and for that we are sincerely thankful.

A very special thank you to the Royal Government of Cambodia – not only do we value the opportunity to work closely with the RGC, but we also acknowledge all of the generous financial and in-kind contributions it continues to make to AHC.

Ministry of Health (MoH)
Central Medical Stores (Cambodia)
National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology and STDs (NCHADS Cambodia)
National Paediatric Hospital Cambodia (NPH)
Siem Reap Provincial Health Department
Siem Reap Provincial Hospital

LIFETIME CONTRIBUTORS

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Alistair & Rose Thompson
Biltema Foundation
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Firtree Asia Foundation
Fondazione Mission Bambini Onlus
Friends Without A Border, Japan
Friends Without a Border, New York
KHANA
Manan Trust
Masumi Kamachi
Michael & Jo Ann Avery
Monash Children’s Hospital International
Planet Wheeler Foundation
Paragon Charitable Foundation
Seva Foundation
T&J Meyer Family Foundation
The Weldon UK Charitable Trust
Tondo Foundation
University Research Co (URC)
Cambodia/USAID

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Direct Relief International & Abbott Laboratories
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Angkor Kinders
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Annie Vijaya
Anthony Belisle
Arisia Partners (Asia) Pte Ltd
Asian Square Restaurant and Lounge
Bawah Island
Ben Harris
Ben Taylor-Robinson
Benjamin Hall
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Bob Nassau & Nancy Storrow
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Boltons Trust
Borei Angkor Resort & Spa
C D Overley
Cambodia Beverage Company Ltd
Cambodia Cycling
Canadia Bank Pte
Catholic Book Publishing Corp
Chamber of Commerce, Siem Reap
Chandara Khun
Georgina Fyffe and Roger van Baal
Global Good Fund
Heart to Heart Foundation
Integra Petrochemicals Pte Ltd
Janus Henderson Global Investors
John Canan
Kat Lin & Chourn Bapaha
Kids International Development Society
Leon Judah Blackmore Foundation
Linda C. Chandler
Richard Politz & Marianne Carter
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Sokimex Group Investment Co Ltd
Sue Davy
Teo Yang Soon
Tudor Foundation
World Childhood Foundation
Zau Foundation

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Although we could not list every AHC supporter here, we thank you. We appreciate every single donation, no matter how big or small.

We wish to say a special thank you to all the local and foreign blood donors who took time from their work or holiday to help us build our blood supplies.

Also a big thank you to all of our donors who generously supported AHC anonymously.
As a nonprofit organisation we are entirely grateful for all those who have supported AHC. We have made every effort to be accurate in this listing. Should you find any omissions or errors, please do not hesitate to contact the Development Department:
+855 (0)63 963 409 ext. 7035
ahc@angkorhospital.org