

## What we do

The primary purpose of BGR is to combat hunger. For over a billion people around the world, hunger is a real, terrible, and ever-present fate that hounds their every step. According to the World Food Program, each year ten million people, many of them children, die of hunger and hunger-related diseases. BGR feeds the hungry. We offer grants to local organizations working in poor communities around the world to provide food relief and meet the need for clean water, education, and supporting infrastructure. Our programs are designed to help those crippled by chronic food shortages to develop stable, long-term strategies of improved food security. We aim to ensure that the world's poorest people are provided with adequate nutrition, and provided with it long into the future. Our hope is that, when their nutritional needs are met, they will be able to live lives rich in meaning and achieve their fullest potential for goodness. We also bring Buddhist perspectives to bear on many dimensions of global poverty through teaching and publishing materials from our Buddhist tradition that are responsive to the unique challenges of the 21st century.

BGR is an all-volunteer organization with minimal overhead that allows a large percent of donations to go directly to program costs. (Please go to our website for more financial information.)

## Our vision

We are inspired by the vision of a world in which debilitating poverty has finally been banished; a world in which all can avail themselves of the basic material supports of a meaningful life—food, clothing, housing, and health care; a world in which everyone can achieve a satisfactory level of education and freely pursue that which gives their life value and purpose; a world in which all people dwell in peace and harmony with one another and with the natural environment.

## Turn your compassion into action

You can make a difference. Regardless of your abilities or means, BGR offers you the chance to put your compassion into practice:

- Develop a fundraising event for BGR with your local Dharma center
- Help raise funds from friends and family
- Volunteer in a local group concerned with hunger
- Make a financial contribution (including legacy bequests, honorary and memorial donations).

### Leadership

**Board of Directors:** Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi, *Chairperson*  
W. David Braughton, *Vice-Chairperson*;  
Marcie Barth, *Secretary*; Thomas Spies, *Treasurer*;  
Jane Berry (*recording secretary*); George Clapp;  
Charles Elliott; Tom Moritz; Patricia Price; Sylvie Sun

**Executive Director:** Kim Behan

**Council of Advisers:** Ven. Thich Tri Hoang;  
Ven. Heng Sure; Ven. Buddharakkhita;  
Rev. Joan Hoerberichts; Gil Fronsdal;  
Andrew Harvey; Prof. David Loy; Michael Roehm;  
Sharon Salzberg; Prof. Jan Willis

For more information, visit our website at:  
[www.buddhistglobalrelief.org](http://www.buddhistglobalrelief.org)

or write to us at:  
Buddhist Global Relief  
PO Box 1611, Sparta, NJ 07871 USA

1.888.852.7579



buddhist global relief

A non-profit corporation: BGR is a 501(c)(3) organization. Gifts are deductible to the full extent allowable under IRS regulations.

08-31-10



buddhist global relief



**Providing relief to people worldwide afflicted by poverty, chronic hunger, and societal neglect.**

## Who we are

Buddhist Global Relief (BGR) is an inter-denominational community of Buddhists and friends of Buddhism who seek to give concrete expression to the Buddha's great compassion as an ongoing project in the contemporary world.

BGR addresses the plight of people worldwide afflicted by poverty, chronic hunger, and societal neglect. It aspires to directly participate in the Buddha's mission of liberating beings from suffering by addressing the most immediate causes of their distress. Inspired by a sense of humane responsibility and commitment to social justice, its members seek to improve the lives of the men, women, and children that they serve, enabling them to lead fruitful lives of dignity, hope, and meaning.

## Our mission

The mission of BGR is to provide relief to the poor and needy throughout the world regardless of nationality, ethnicity, gender, or religion. Bearing in mind the Buddha's statements that "hunger is the worst kind of illness" and "the gift of food is the gift of life," BGR especially focuses on providing food aid to those afflicted by hunger and lack of food security. Since education is one of the major remedies for persistent poverty and malnutrition, BGR seeks to combine food aid with support for education in a way that enables poor children, especially girls, to attend school.

*"If people knew as I know the results of giving and sharing, they would not eat without having given ... Even if they were down to their last bit of food, they would not eat without having shared it, if those to receive it were present."*

- Itivuttaka 26

## Our projects

Since its inception in mid-2008, BGR has launched numerous projects in Asia, Africa, and the U.S. BGR's project partners include international agencies like Save the Children, the Red Cross, and Helen Keller International; the Sri Lankan Sarvodaya movement; and smaller organizations like Lotus Outreach and the Khuphuka Project. Some of the most prominent include:

### Niger & Mali

Critical micronutrient distribution to children and pregnant women

### Sri Lanka

A community livelihood project for poor village families

### Myanmar

Emergency relief to families affected by Cyclone Nargis

### Cambodia

Critical rice support to at-risk and exploited girl students

### India

Giving poor children in Mewat their first chance to attend school

### Vietnam

Meals for hospital patients too poor to afford both medicine and food

### South Africa

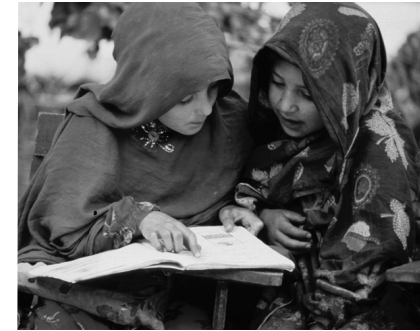
Emergency food parcels to a rural community devastated by AIDS

### Afghanistan & Pakistan

Building of schools and education for children in remote rural villages

### U.S.A.

Helping to feed thousands of hungry people in MD & PA through community gardens



Intent to learn, two girls study at an Afghan refugee camp in Pakistan.

In Zinder, Niger, a volunteer explains a child monitoring chart to a young mother.



Enthusiastic young DC area volunteers plant a row of black-berry bushes for the agency that they support.



On the cover (top to bottom): A beneficiary of the girl's scholarship program studies in her hut in Cambodia.

Smiling students from Mewat, India are able to leave hard labor in the brick kilns.

A monk in Myanmar helps to distribute food to families affected by Cyclone Nargis.