



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

**EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME
MONGOLIA**

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

ESTABLISHED

2001

LOCATION

Ulaanbaatar City (Chingeltei, Bayangol, Sukhbaatar, Khan-Uul, Bayanzurkh, and Songinokhairkhan District)

BACKGROUND

Established as an offshoot of CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme, the Education Scholarship Programme provides young people living in abject poverty with the opportunity to pursue tertiary education through the provision of education scholarships to cover the costs of their education. The Programme also encourages the well-rounded development of our students by facilitating a range of community service activities and life skills trainings and workshops, enabling our young people to develop self-awareness, confidence and necessary knowledge and skills to become independent and self-sufficient individuals making a positive contribution to their community

BENEFICIARIES

High school graduates wishing to further their education and students enrolled in University, College, or Vocational Training centres who are in need of financial assistance to continue their studies

LOCAL PARTNERS

Family, Child and Youth Development Agency, Government implementing agency, Family, Child and Youth Development Authority of Ulaanbaatar, Motivation Club, Mobicom Corporation, Zorig Foundation, Unlock Podcast, "Nairamdal" International Children's Camp

CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is entirely responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF Social Workers conduct regular meetings with each student to obtain updates on their academic progress and communicate directly with the Universities. The progress of the children is also monitored at monthly distribution days through conversations with our team. Each student's transcript including their achievements and grades are sent to CNCF's Director of Operations. Monthly reports are provided to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is made available to all stakeholders

OUR YEAR

All children and young people have the right to a quality education and equal opportunities in life, which many students living in poverty-stricken backgrounds are often deprived of. CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme provides a pathway to a sustainable future for these young people by enabling them to remain in school and pursue tertiary education. The Programme enables the students to gain knowledge, have access to life skills trainings and personal development programmes. These opportunities help to prepare and support their future in the employment market and enable them to lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty and create lasting change to the lives of their families and future generations yet to come.

In 2023, CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) in Mongolia continued to provide financial support to children and young people, enabling the students to continue their education at High School, College, University, and tertiary Educational Institutes.

Since inception,

 **662 STUDENTS** have been supported by the Education Scholarship Programme in Mongolia to continue their schooling and pursue tertiary education.

In 2023,

46 STUDENTS were supported by CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme in Mongolia

37 STUDENTS were from CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme

04 STUDENTS were from the wider community

02 STUDENTS was from CNCF's Blue Skies Ger Village

03 STUDENTS were former students of CNCF's Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Education Programme



OUR YEAR

Age Group

11
Students

15 - 17 years old

35
Students

18 - 22 years old

Demographic Data

05 STUDENTS
have lost both of their
parents and are living with their
grandparents or siblings

27 STUDENTS
come from
single-income households

Percentages Of The Students' Tuition Fees Funded Through The ESP

06 STUDENTS
Up to 30% (Partial Scholarships)

30 STUDENTS
31-60% (Partial Scholarships)

01 STUDENT
51-80% (Partial Scholarships)

09 STUDENTS
100% (Full Scholarships)





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OUR YEAR

Education Level

36 STUDENTS
attended University

09 STUDENTS
attended College and Vocational Training Centres

01 YOUNG PERSON
was enrolled in Lyceum High School

Education Outcomes

33
Students

achieved
Excellent Performance

13
Students

achieved
Good Performance

At the end of the 2022-2023 academic year,

04 STUDENTS
graduated from College

07 STUDENTS
graduated from University

OUR YEAR

Psychological Support



05 STUDENTS attended psychological group sessions facilitated by a CNCF Psychologist



10 STUDENTS attended individual sessions facilitated by a CNCF Psychologist

Additional Support



46 STUDENTS received counselling and advice from our ESP staff regarding their educational performance, career orientation and effective learning methods



22 STUDENTS attended activities in CNCF's Healthcare Programme, including "Reproductive Health Training" and "Eye Health Training"

83 STUDENTS

are members of CNCF's Noble Club, a community service group made up of young people enrolled in CNCF's Programmes with an aim to give back to the community and contribute to the development of Mongolia

Life Skill Trainings & Workshops

05 TRAININGS AND SHARING SESSIONS

were conducted for **46 Students**

Staff Training

14 TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

were organised for ESP staff. **09 Staff** attended





Programme Description

Education plays a fundamental role in the growth and development of every child and is a leading factor in enabling children to break their generational cycle of poverty. Very often, the educational costs of tuition fees, transportation, uniforms, learning materials, and informal fees set by schools or communes at the local level remain barriers to learning for many children from impoverished backgrounds. Many children are unable to attend school to complete their education and are at risk of disengagement and, as a result, abuse and exploitation in all its forms. CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme (ESP) in Mongolia protects and provides vulnerable children and young people with the financial support to continue and further their education.

The Education Scholarship Programme was established in 2001 in Mongolia as a branch of CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme (CSP), providing young people living in abject poverty who wish to further their education in college, university, or vocational training but lack the financial resources to do so. The ESP offers young people the opportunity to pursue tertiary education through education scholarships covering the costs of their education.

To support children in CSP who wish to continue their studies beyond the age of eighteen, we contact their sponsors to ask for continued support in covering the child's tuition fees. If the sponsor is unable to do so, the student can apply to our scholarship fund by meeting with our sponsorship team, outlining their motivations for continuing their education and providing a record of their school grades and reports. The children's living conditions and family income are also considered to assess their eligibility for this Programme. Students are required to submit a short essay outlining their choice of subject, future aspirations, and their commitment to receiving a scholarship.

The Mongolian education system differs from the Western education system. The academic year begins in September and ends around June of the



following year, spanning two years. For instance, 2023-2024:

- Primary school runs from 1st grade to 5th grade.
- Middle school spans 6th grade to 9th grade.
- High school covers 10th grade to 12th grade. High school is for students who successfully completed middle school.
- Vocational training centres and colleges run from the 1st year to the 3rd year. Students receive certificates upon graduation after completing middle school.
- Universities operate from the 1st year to the 4th year (6th year for medical students). Students receive bachelor's diplomas after completing high school, college, vocational training centres.



Scholarship Disbursement

Full or partial scholarships for the upcoming academic year are awarded to eligible children. All students must reapply for funding each year, and our team evaluates their academic progress and commitment. Although not strictly limited to children already under one of our Foundation's Programmes, we do not advertise or promote the scholarship fund externally. Therefore, most applicants are or have been under the Foundation's care. In 2023, we continued to raise awareness of the ESP Programme within the local Mongolian community to foster partnerships.

Community Service Activities

CNCF promotes the well-rounded development of our students by facilitating various community service activities. These opportunities enable young people to gain real-world experience and practice essential skills such as leadership, problem-solving, and time management, while applying their learning to practical scenarios and supporting their community.

Noble Club

Established in May 2018, the club has 83 members actively engaged in CNCF activities, including 46 children from the Education Scholarship Programme.

Noble Club members actively participate in the community by supporting regular engagement with the elderly, assisting in community activities, and helping disadvantaged youth. The Noble Club provides a platform for like-minded young people to connect, build lasting friendships, develop leadership skills, and contribute positively to Mongolia's community development.

Life Skills Training & Workshops

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Events and Activities

Throughout the year, ESP students participate in social events and educational activities aimed at cultivating communication skills and enriching their experiences.

Staff Training

Delivering consistent, high-quality care to our children and young people remains our top priority. To achieve this, we ensure our staff receive adequate training to provide the best possible support to our beneficiaries.

OUR STORIES

From Homelessness to Hope: Nandin's* Journey with CNCF

Nandin is currently in her second year at “Ikh Zasag” University, Mongolia’s top private university, where she is pursuing a degree in Law. The university is renowned for its rigorous admissions criteria and high job placement rates post-graduation.

However, Nandin’s journey to success was not smooth. When she first joined CNCF’s Child Sponsorship Programme in 2013 at the age of 9, she and her family were struggling. They were homeless with no stable income, relying on selling vegetables and small items like books to get by. Nandin and her sisters often spent nights sleeping on the streets.

Recognising her plight, a CNCF social worker intervened, bringing her to CNCF’s Blue Skies Ger Village and enrolling her in the Child Sponsorship Programme. Through the Programme, Nandin received not only financial support but also access to various services, including enrolment in CNCF’s taekwondo club where she discovered her passion for the sport. Her dedication and hard work paid off, and she achieved international success in taekwondo, earning a gold medal in a competition in Korea.

Over the years, Nandin discovered her talents and aspirations, aspiring to become a diplomat. CNCF’s Education Scholarship Programme further supported her dreams by covering her tuition fees and providing opportunities for personal development, enhancing her confidence and readiness for the future workforce.

Today, Nandin lives happily with her mother, sisters, and nephews in her own ger, a traditional Mongolian home. Her journey stands as a testament to the transformative impact of CNCF’s long-term and multi-faceted support and the unwavering support of her education sponsor, paving the way for a promising future ahead.

*Name and identity changed to protect privacy





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OUR STORIES

A Heartfelt Thank You

"I am delighted to share my testimonial about how my life completely changed thanks to the help and support of CNCF. I joined CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme in 2007 when I was just 7 years old. My father died in an accident when I was only 4 years old and my mother, who was left with 2 young children, was heartbroken and did not know what to do. My mother was paid very little working as a tailor at a textile company at the time, and she could not provide proper clothing and food for us due to the very low income. Our living conditions was very difficult, it is hard to look back at this time.

Since joining the Programme, I've greatly benefited from CNCF's activities. Monthly sponsorship provided me with educational supplies and clothes, motivating me to succeed in my studies. After graduating from high school, I successfully applied for a scholarship through CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme, allowing me to study pharmacy at a private medical university. Now in my fourth year, I look forward to graduating in two more years and entering the workforce.

During my childhood, I frequently visited CNCF's office, where I received invaluable guidance from my CNCF social worker and other staff members. CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme relieved me of the financial burden of my studies and provided me with the opportunities to build confidence that I once only dreamed of.

I am deeply grateful to the CNCF team and all sponsors, you have truly become my family and transformed not only my life but also that of my entire family.."

-An Education Scholarship Programme Beneficiary

OUR STORIES

Transforming Dreams: Sumiya's* Journey with CNCF

"In 2018, my daughter Sumiya joined CNCF's Child Sponsorship Programme at the age of 13. At that time, our family of seven lived in a ger (a traditional Mongolian home) and my husband worked in construction during the summer. Managing our household on just my husband's income was extremely challenging.

October 1st, 2018, became an unforgettable and joyous day for us. Thanks to CNCF sponsorship, my daughter began receiving support that has been immeasurable in love and care from both CNCF and kind sponsors. Now, Sumiya is a third-year student at Technology College. Before CNCF came into our lives, we often had to take out loans to pay tuition fees, which caused us increasing stress. Thanks to CNCF's Education Scholarship Programme, Sumiya continues to study successfully and work towards a brighter future without any financial worries.

Support from CNCF has lightened the burden in our lives and restored Sumiya's dreams. We are deeply grateful for everything. Thank you so much."

-Mother of an Education Scholarship Programme Beneficiary



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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of the Education Scholarship Programme in Mongolia in 2023 was:

Sponsorship Distribution Amount: **\$20,888.23 USD**

CNCF Programme Operation: **\$652.09 USD**

Heartfelt thanks to each and every one of the donors who enabled CNCF to keep this programme operating and also to the many kind individuals with their additional support which enables us to keep our costs down.

Our audits can be found [here](#).











EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME IN MONGOLIA EXPENDITURES IN 2023

Expenditure	Amount (USD)
Scholarship Distribution Amount	20,888.23
CNCF Programme Operation	652.09
TOTAL COST	21,540.32



For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Mongolia, please contact:

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