

Organization Profile

2022



Introduction



According to the 2019 World report on vision by the World Health Organization, there are at least 2.2 billion people globally who have a vision impairment. 1 billion people have a visual impairment that could have been prevented or is currently untreated. In The Lancet Global Health Commission on Global Eye Health, it is estimated that blindness will triple in the next four decades, with the highest prevalence and cases of visual impairments coming from South and East Asia. The commission warns there will be a substantial increase in the number of children and young adults with eye conditions in regions lacking essential health care and educational resources.

Bethel, which launched in 2003, is a nonprofit that specializes in early intervention care, schooling, and vocational training for disadvantaged blind or visually impaired children. Bethel's mission is to empower children who are blind or visually impaired and their caregivers by:

- Providing high-quality care, education, life skills and livelihood opportunities to children who are blind or visually impaired through foster care and school projects.
- Providing education and support to institutions, communities and families of children who are blind or visually impaired.
- Partnering with organizations, institutions and corporations who share our vision in order to achieve a greater impact.

Message from the founders



By definition, capacity-building is a measurable improvement in an organization's ability to fulfill its mission through a blend of sound management, strong governance, and dedication to assessing and achieving results. This is one of the things we are proudest of. Bethel China's team has shown so much growth and grit throughout the years, we couldn't have asked for a more dedicated team to champion the cause of children who are visually impaired.

Last year, Bethel's operations opened our 6th center for Blind and Visually Impaired children. Our team is not just interested in solving global problems that look good in a year-end report, we truly care about each child who comes under our care. Even with the pandemic, the team managed to open two new centers to reach children who would otherwise go without critical early developmental resources.

Going forward, this is what I want to export to other countries. The know-how that our Bethel China team possesses is a treasure. We plan to share this treasure in other countries and have exciting projects coming up. We hope you will join this adventure with us. It is so worth it!

-Guillaume and Delphine Gauvain

THE BETHEL FOUNDATION

Focus Areas

A Three Phase Cycle

Bethel's three phase cycle seeks to **First** detect eye issues that can be prevented through medical intervention inside rural orphanages and schools. The **Second** phase supports children who are already blind through Bethel's Love is Blind Project, which provides caretaking, specialized education, medical care, orientation and mobility, and early life-skills training. Phase **Three** exports 18 years of specialized developed curriculum through trainings and partnerships, with the goal of preventing blindness, spreading positive awareness, and supporting families, caregivers and institutions in need.



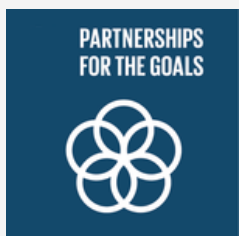
1. Child Healthcare

Bethel's Love is Blind Project and Project Outreach place an emphasis on both preventative child health care and medical interventions for Blind and Visually Impaired disadvantaged children. Bethel has facilitated more than 5,000 medical services ranging from eye-screenings, dental care, to life-saving surgery.



2. Specialized Education

Since 2004, Bethel has developed and implemented its own specialized, early-development curriculum for Blind and Visually Impaired children. Bethel's School currently provides education for 125 children (many of whom are orphans). The curriculum has been implemented for more than 18 years and is the foundation for national training.



3. Transformational Development

Through partnerships with organizations, institutions and corporations, Bethel has been able to create sustainable networks that provide critical, free resources to disadvantaged Blind and VI communities. These partnerships support the prevention and management of childhood blindness and eye diseases while also shaping the narrative of Blindness and Visual Impairments through positive, thought-provoking public awareness campaigns.

Projects

Love is Blind

Bethel's six Chinese centers fall under our Love is Blind project umbrella. The centers currently provide care, specialized education, vocational training and medical services to 130 blind or visually impaired children (the majority of whom are orphans). The children's medical care includes annual health checks, optometry visits, dental care and surgery when needed. The Bethel School has pioneered a multidimensional curriculum that provides each child with their own Individualized Education Plan (IEP), which serves as a foundation for their critical early development. The school provides classes in English and Chinese Braille, conversational English and Chinese, Mathematics, science, computer technology, mobility skills, daily life skills, etc.



Beijing (2002)
Supporting 21 Children
12 Bethel Staff



Zhengzhou (2011)
Supporting 28 Children
6 Bethel Staff



Jiaozuo (2016)
Supporting 10 Children
4 Bethel Staff



Nanjing (2016)
Supporting 8 Children
3 Bethel Staff



Jingdezhen (2019)
Supporting 10 Children
2 Bethel Staff



Shangrao (2021)
Supporting 53 Children
6 Bethel Staff

Outreach

The project, now in its 12th year, uses research and data accumulated through the Love is Blind project to produce academic and medical materials that are exported to communities and networks in critical need of blind and visually impaired resources for high-risk children. To date, the project has conducted over 5,000 eye screenings, trained more than 200 institutions, established local community groups in rural provinces, and distributed thousands of copies of Bethel's original curriculum (including Bethel's manual, DVD series, and educational game).



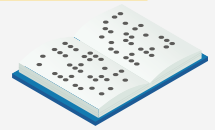
Beijing Headquarters



Medical Intervention



Trainings, Community Building



Blind/ VI Resources

Measuring Progress



In 2021...

- Bethel's Love is Blind project provides direct care for 130 children who are blind or have severe visual impairments (a majority of whom are orphans).
- Bethel conducted 7 trainings with 3,635 attendees. Topics covered:
 - Introduction to Scientific and Technological VI Educational Devices
 - Creating a Healthy Psychological Environment for Parents
 - The Importance of Learning Braille Well
- Bethel distributed 629 audio, tactile, and early intervention books to disadvantaged families and organizations in need of Braille and VI materials.
- Bethel published 260 pieces of content across domestic media platforms, accumulating 450,000 views.
- Bethel partnered with Lego to support the prevention and management of childhood blindness and eye diseases while also shaping the narrative of Blindness and Visual Impairments through positive, thought-provoking public awareness campaigns.

In 2022

1 Love is Blind will:

In partnership with a local Social Welfare Institute, Bethel will open its sixth satellite center in the Shandong Province (tentatively). The added site will add much needed support to the VI and orphan community throughout the providence.

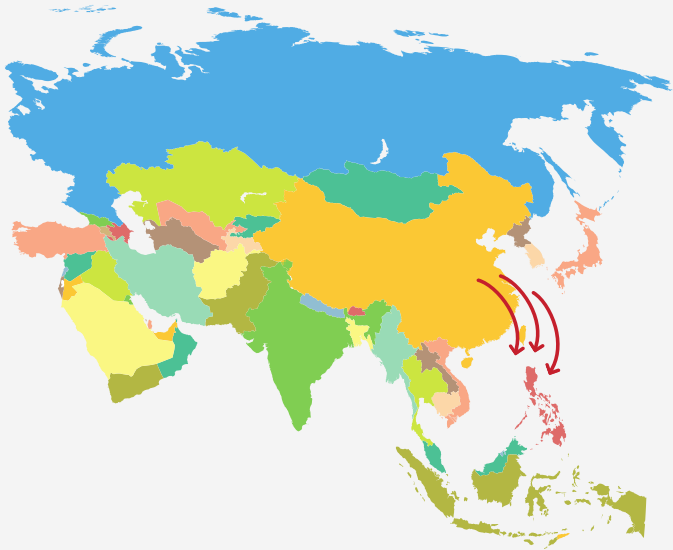
2 Outreach will:

Conduct 6 trainings, reaching over 2,000 people. Core classes teach the necessities of early VI intervention, help establish community support systems, and provide resources for mental health.

3 Third Project:

Through research, developed partnerships, and acquired medical needs, Bethel will be preparing to launch Bethel's first major international initiative, which will take place in Q1 of 2023.

Expansion



In 2022, the Bethel team will be preparing for Bethel's first international initiative, which will launch in Q1 of 2023.

According to the World Blind Union, the Philippines has more than 500,000 blind and visually impaired (the majority poor and uneducated). In 1990, there were only 300 blind students nationwide enrolled in school. The Philippine Journal of Ophthalmology estimates that nearly 60% of all children's blindness and severe visual impairments could have been prevented. On top of the lack of eye care resources in rural communities, there is a significant lack of reliable reporting and data, as The Lancet finds the Philippines as having one of the lowest research outputs per person.

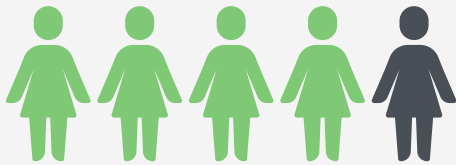
With preexisting networks and partners, Bethel has identified the island of Cebu, (the Philippines' 9th largest island) as Bethel's first international satellite project. The 1,725 sq mi island has more than 4.4 million people and is the second most populated province in the Philippines.

Bethel Cebu's goals include:

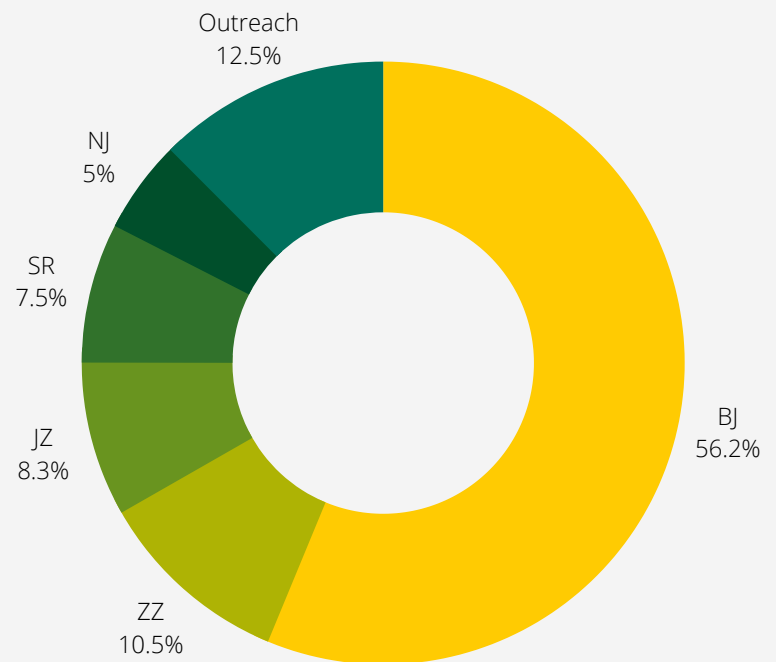
1. Identify visually impaired children throughout Cebu and provide medical eye care to improve sight and reduce blindness.
2. Record and track vital data that can be utilized by governments and world health organizations.
3. Equip caregivers to care for and educate VI children to reach full potential.
4. Raise awareness of blindness in the Philippines and provide resources for parents with visually impaired children, expecting parents, caregivers and the general public.
5. Support medical needs of high-risk children, distribute educational and training materials

2021 Numbers

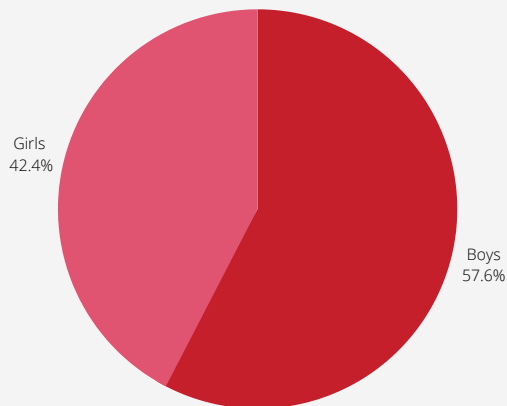
4:1 Children to Staff Ratio



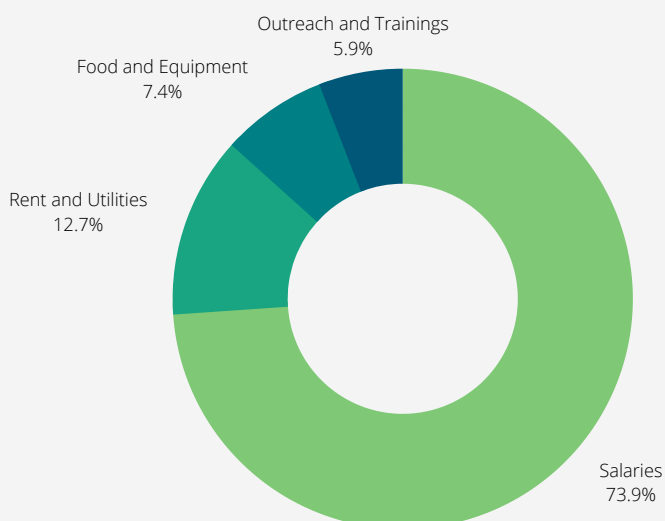
Budget Per Project



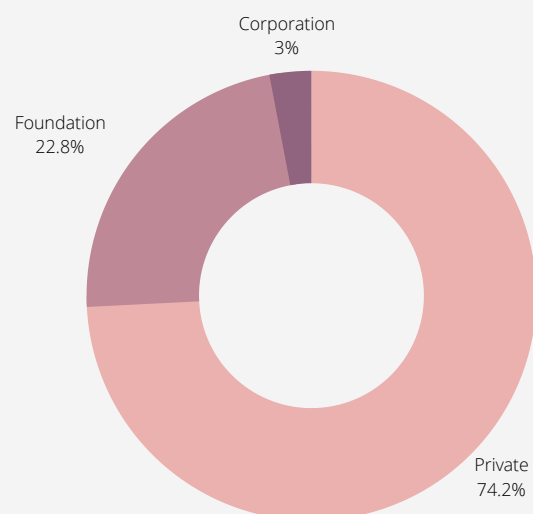
Child Gender Ratio



2021 Budget: \$400,000



Donor Ratio



Needs



Support

Children always come first. In Bethel's past, when there was a shortage of funds, the children superseded everything and have always been supported. Bethel relies on donations. To support Bethel's projects, donations go a long way, whether it is through Bethel's child sponsorship program, grants, or corporate donations, any support given is a blessing.

Partner

The influence on the lives of children with blindness is largely due to the active partners who share our vision. From public relations campaigns, to medical support, or assistive technology, Bethel looks to align with partners with the same strategic goals and warmly accepts all inquiries from those looking to better the lives of these children.

Advocate

Volunteering, adopting, and professional training are all ways in which you could support Bethel's mission. The opportunities that are available can have a real world impact on the lives of children and be forever rewarding.

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