



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is HOPE *worldwide* announcing?

Twenty-five years ago, after Cambodian healthcare had been decimated by the Khmer Rouge, HOPE *worldwide* came together with compassionate, visionary leaders and their organizations to establish Sihanouk Hospital Center of HOPE in Phnom Penh to deliver high-quality, affordable healthcare and to teach and train Cambodian doctors and nurses to serve the people of Cambodia, especially those impoverished and in need.

Today, after training 5,000 medical professionals, providing 1.5 million free patient consultations, and opening three medical centers to help fund the hospital, we have met our initial goals, made the hospital and medical centers sustainable, and now are transitioning our work to more pressing needs in Cambodia and around the world.

We have been discussing a transition for several years, and now we are pleased to transfer ownership of our medical centers to Endeavor for SEA Health Inc., established by one of the founding members of the hospital, and to begin working with the Sihanouk Hospital board to eventually transfer management of the hospital to an outstanding management team that shares our commitment to quality healthcare. The medical centers will continue to provide financial support to the hospital, and we are committed to helping facilitate a smooth transition.

HOPE *worldwide* seeks to optimize our resources, providing a range of medical services, including care for the critical needs of children and expectant mothers. We will continue to provide financial and strategic support to Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital in Kampot.

2. What's going to happen to the hospital?

Sihanouk Hospital Center for HOPE will continue to deliver the same high-quality healthcare to the people in Phnom Penh and surrounding areas, particularly those impoverished and in need. HOPE *worldwide* will continue to provide transitional support and work with the Sihanouk Hospital Board to eventually transfer management to an outstanding management team that shares our commitment to quality healthcare.

We believe this is the best decision for HOPE *worldwide* and the people of Cambodia, and are confident the new management will continue our mission and commitment. Everything should feel the same for patients and staff.

3. How will the change affect employees of the hospital and HOPE *worldwide* medical centers?

We know employees may feel a little sad or nostalgic, but they should also feel reassured that their day-to-day workplace environment and responsibilities should remain the same. We hope they will take comfort in the fact that we believe this is the best decision for HOPE *worldwide* and the people of Cambodia. We are confident the new organization will continue our mission and commitment.

4. When do all of these changes take effect?

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5. Is HOPE *worldwide* withdrawing from Cambodia?

No. HOPE *worldwide* will continue to provide support to the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital in Kampot, which provides a range of medical services, including care for the critical needs of children and expectant mothers in rural Southern Cambodia.

Located where there are some of the highest child mortality rates in all of Asia, and with thousands of children dying every year from treatable diseases, Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital specializes in maternity, prenatal and pediatric care on a sliding-scale basis, and houses the only neonatal ICU in Southern Cambodia.

Named after co-founder and global philanthropist Dr. Winfried Kill and his family to honor their daughter Sonja who lost her life at 21 years of age, Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital has treated more than 93,000 patients, delivered 5,200 babies and is a sought-after healthcare provider for complicated pregnancies and delivery of babies in a safe environment.

Two HOPE *worldwide* employees skilled in strategy, development and administration are excited to be moving to Kampot to serve with other dedicated staff at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital.

6. Why have you decided to take this step now?

We have been discussing a transition for several years, and today, after training 5,000 medical professionals, providing 1.5 million free patient consultations, and opening three medical centers to help fund the hospital, we have met our initial goals, made the hospital and medical centers in Phnom Penh sustainable, and now are transitioning our work to more pressing needs in Cambodia and around the world.

Our well-respected hospital and medical centers in Phnom Penh now employ a nearly 100% Cambodian workforce – including all senior management – and the hospital is dedicated to continued research and training of Cambodian medical professionals.

In addition, Cambodia itself has changed since we began this work, with dramatic improvement in life expectancy, infant mortality and poverty rates, and Phnom Penh now has 24 hospitals and medical centers. When we arrived the healthcare delivery system was critically depleted following years of war and the reign of the Khmer Rouge.

We believe this transition is the best decision for HOPE *worldwide* and the people of Cambodia, and we are confident the hospital will continue our mission and commitment for years to come.

7. The hospital in Phnom Penh has long been a hallmark of HOPE *worldwide's* work. What does this mean for your organization and what's next for HOPE *worldwide*?

HOPE *worldwide* is honored to have played a role in the success of these efforts, a shining example of what can be done when generous donors, volunteers, and compassionate, visionary leaders and their organizations come together and open their hearts to respond to disasters, strengthen communities and inspire greater hope in the world.

In addition to Cambodia, HOPE *worldwide* serves in more than 60 countries to deliver sustainable, high-impact, community-based services to some of the world's most impoverished people. To meet escalating needs, HOPE *worldwide* is increasing its focus on equipping and mobilizing volunteers for community service, disaster preparedness training and response, and expanding our global member network.

8. Is this decision related in any way to the COVID-19 pandemic?

No. This transition has been under consideration for some time, well before the onset of the pandemic. Considering the dramatic improvement in life expectancy, infant mortality and poverty rates in Cambodia, and the fact that our medical facilities are flourishing, we have met our initial goals and determined that now is the best time for HOPE *worldwide* to transition our role and refocus our priorities and resources in a way that will best meet pressing needs in Cambodia and around the world.

9. Can I still support Cambodian healthcare?

Yes, you can still support the work that is being done at the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, which provides a range of medical services, including care for the critical needs of children and expectant mothers. Please visit our website to donate: hopeww.org/donate.