



CHILDREN OF
CENTRAL
ASIA
FOUNDATION

2012 ANNUAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**“In the year since I wrote
my last letter we have
started several new
programs and made many
new friends”**

MESSAGE

FROM THE CHAIR

Good People –

Since I wrote to you at the end of last year, demand for services of orphaned and vulnerable children has continued to rise. Today, there are 210 million orphans around the world. Many of these end up in orphanages. Most orphanages are overcrowded and in poor condition. However, they are the only “parents” for many children who would otherwise have no safe place to live.

In response to this unfortunate trend, the COCA Foundation's Board of Directors approved the renovation of existing orphanages in Central Asia. Thus, we are initiating our first Operation Renovation campaign to raise much-needed building funds.

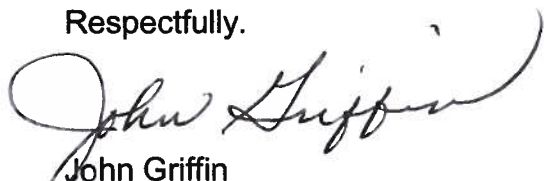
We will need your support to make the renovations possible. In the coming months, I will be in touch with you to let you know how our plans are progressing. COCA will contract with local builders and suppliers to receive services at a discounted rate.

Housing is a fundamental need, and safe housing is critical to our children as they seek to rebuild shattered lives. Please consider donating toward the renovations to the orphanages so we can reach out to more children in crisis.

This year will be a busy one for the COCA Foundation and we invite you to join with us as we work to improve the lives of millions around the globe.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,



John Griffin
Managing Director

Who We Are

The Children of Central Asia Foundation is dedicated to improving the lives of children at risk.

Our Vision is to facilitate a strong, global effort that provides leadership, education, and support to children at risk.

Our Purpose is to ensure that the world's most vulnerable - especially children at risk - improve their lives and livelihoods in attaining full human dignity.

Our Mission is to fund, develop, pilot, and replicate local initiatives to serve the starving, homeless, poor, oppressed, street, abandoned, orphaned, special needs, suffering, war-zoned, underprivileged, and high-risk children around the world by providing special programs, residences, and education in otherwise destitute situations.





What We Do

The people that we serve are:

- Children who are overcoming stressors in their lives, such as poverty, homelessness, discrimination, abusive situations, addictions, unstable homes, oppression, and abandonment. Orphaned, street and other high risk children are the primary marketing focus of COCA programs in fostering positive changes through goal setting, self-discipline, skill development, and friendship.
- Families are also our focus when local adults are able to help children work on solutions for their family stresses, and provide an objective but caring sounding board.
- Care about kids and their community. The typical adult-child relationship demands a commitment that must be sold to the potential adult coach.

As a critical social support system for children, COCA will impact how many other local services will be called in to respond to humanitarian efforts in the community. The base line for the COCA Foundation is children at risk from ages 1 -17.

Starting in 2013, the COCA Foundation will kick off Operation Renovation, where we will

help renovate the Dushanbe, Tajikistan orphanage. After years of neglect, the Dushanbe, Tajikistan orphanage has fallen into such disrepair that the children must endure the extreme cold and heat with little protection from the elements. Unfortunately, Tajikistan, like other Central Asian countries, lacks the will, capability, and capacity to help and protect the orphanage, so it is up to us to step in and assist those who are unable to help themselves.



Our immediate goal is to fix the 8 broken windows in the orphanage. This will provide an immediate and critical amount of insulation for the children and staff. After which, we will begin targeting the critical life support systems such as heat, clean water, and lighting.

The COCA Foundation has already begun planning and funding for the windows project, but we will need your support and generous donations in order to begin working on the additional phases.



**“Tajikistan orphanage
has fallen into such
disrepair that the
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Cultural Learning Program (CULP)

These are the faces of Children of Central Asia. They are in need of a better life and you have it within your power to help provide them with the tools to reach their full potential and lead an independent life. Through our Capital Achievement through Sponsorship campaign (CATS), the Children of Central Asia Foundation (COCA) can reach its full potential as the most effective nonprofit international humanitarian organization. Together the COCA Foundation and you can raise enough capital to support the development of children across Central Asia in the best possible way. Your donations make it possible for the COCA Foundation to supply many of the basic needs that most of us take for granted every day.



At the COCA Foundation, we are dedicated to improving lives and livelihoods of children at risk. The COCA Foundation provides food, clothing, health care, equipment, supplies, training, and education to the poor, with special focus given to orphans and high risk children from Kazakhstan to Tajikistan to the Kyrgyz Republic. It further provides assistance to other charitable organizations, orphanages, hospitals, rehabilitation centers for disabled children, homeless shelters and schools through charitable and educational programs.

The COCA foundation also provides support to families in the form of counseling and programs to improve parenting skills. The debilitating effect of poverty can interfere with parents' ability to care for their families properly. Programs that support parents can

help to strengthen the entire family unit which in turn can help to ensure that children can remain with their own families. The primary marketing focus of the COCA Foundation programs for all recipients lie in fostering positive changes through goal setting, self-discipline, skill development, and friendship.

2013 Cultural Learning Program (CULP)

The COCA Foundation had a great 2012. Between the successful CULP program, the donation to the Almaty children's art gallery, and the 2012 Holiday trip, we have truly grown as an organization, but now we shift our focus to 2013. In addition to outreach programs, such as CULP, we will start focusing on the life threatening conditions faced in Central Asia, such as shelter and Nutrition.

Last year, the COCA Foundation ran its first Cultural Exchange Program (CULP), where several lucky orphans had a chance to the beauty and majesty of the United States. Visiting iconic locations such as New York City, Niagara Falls, and San Francisco, we provided a once in a lifetime opportunity for these children. This year, we will provide the same opportunity to another group of children.

COCA Foundation Series on Nutrition

As we learn more about the conditions in Central Asia, we tend to forget how important awareness is. Several of the COCA Foundation volunteers and staff have begun researching and observing nutrition in Central Asia. As we begin to publish our studies and research, we want to share that with our greater community of supporters to help build awareness and to start working together to see how we can help improve nutrition in Central Asia.

\$25,000 Donated to Children's Art Studio

In 2006, the COCA Foundation began working with the "Kok-Aishyk" children's art studio in Almaty Kazakhstan which has a unique art program for children. In 2012, the COCA Foundation donated \$25,000 to the art studio to not only improve its children's art program, but to actually host an art exhibition of the children's artwork at the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C.

The art studio was established in 1987 and is located in the Museum of Arts in Almaty, Kazakhstan. For over 20 years, children have gone there to learn about art and creativity and learn how to express their own creativity.

The exhibition was open to the public and consisted of over a hundred of pieces of artwork from the children in the program.

CHILDREN OF CENTRAL ASIA FOUNDATION

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Years Ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Revenues		
Contributions	\$ 113,699	\$ 65,000
Total Revenues	113,699	65,000
Expenses		
Program services		
Research		4,073
Education		6,567
Donations and grants	34,354	
Travel, conferences, and meetings	33,278	43,502
Storage	7,955	
Supplies	3,495	
Professional services	495	8,567
Other	3,450	
Total program services	<u>83,027</u>	<u>62,709</u>
Supporting services		
General and administrative		
Office	5,591	
Professional services	5,330	
Information technology	2,465	192
License/registration		240
Travel	1,003	
Total General and administrative	<u>14,389</u>	<u>432</u>
Fundraising and special events	2,161	
Total supporting services	<u>16,550</u>	<u>432</u>
Total expenses	99,577	63,141
Change in net assets	<u>14,122</u>	<u>1,859</u>
Net assets, January 1	1,859	-
Net assets, December 31	<u><u>\$ 15,981</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,859</u></u>

Our Board of Directors

The Children of Central Asia Foundation is led and managed by a Board of Directors. The Board is intentionally diverse. The panel is composed of the following individuals (subject to change at the 2013 Board meeting):

- Dr. Turegeldy Sharmanovich Sharmanov, Director
- Dr. Mukhambet Zhumanzaruly Kopeyev, Director
- Dr. John Griffin, Founder and Managing Director

Dr. Turegeldy Sharmanovich Sharmanov

Dr. Turegeldy Sharmanovich Sharmanov was Minister of Healthcare of the Kazakh Soviet Republic from 1971. Dr. Sharmanov has been elected to the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan three times.



On behalf of the Republic of Kazakhstan (RK), Dr. Sharmanov initiated and led an international conference on medical-sanitarian aid held at Alma-Ata, Kazakhstan in 1978. The Conference had official representatives from 146 countries under the sponsorship of the World Healthcare Organization (WHO) and UN International Children's Foundation (UNICEF). The Conference adopted the historic Alma-Ata Declaration which to this day is one of the fundamental documents of the world healthcare and is commonly known as the Magna Carta of Health of the twentieth century.

Earlier in his career Dr. Sharmanov served as chief doctor, research department manager, rector, and pharmacology director. Dr. Sharmanov has dedicated much of his life to public service, including the following:

- Founder and hear of the Kazakh Academy of Nutrition;
- Academician of the National Academy of sciences of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Russian Academy of medical sciences;
- Laureate of State Premium of the Republic of Kazakhstan and independent premium "Tarlan";
- Honored worker of Republic of Kazakhstan'
- Member of WHO experts' committee on nutrition; and
- Winner of the United Nation's Leon Bernard Prize.

It is the tremendous sense of faith and charity that drives Dr. Sharmanov to call for public awareness of nutritional issues and promote healthy lifestyles.

Dr. Mukhambet Ahumanazaruly Kopeyev

Dr. Mukhambet Zhumanazaryly Kopeyev's current post as the Deputy Chair of the Senate of the Republic of Kazakhstan Parliament represents his commitment and imprint for peace and prosperity of the Kazakhstani people. His work as an distinguished politician of the Republic of Kazakhstan culminated in two decades of government experience, including holding multiple positions in the Komsomol, Soviet, and economic office. Dr. Kopeyev has also served under the 1st President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Dr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, in key administrative and policy-making posts.



Throughout a very successful career, he worked as an accomplished lawmaker, effective lawyer, mining engineer and foreman, recipient of multiple government awards (three orders, five medals) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) Commemorative Token (2007). Dr. Kopeyev is an internationally known and recognized authority and pioneer in the development of audit activity and accounting in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Dr. John Griffin



Dr. John Griffin brings more than 30 years of professional experience and skills in international business, development and foreign policy. Before joining the U.S. Agency for International Development, Dr. Griffin worked with Special Olympics, United Nations, San Diego Shelter Program for the Homeless, U.S. Department of Agriculture and World Bank.

Dr. Griffin's skills and experience are in the areas of energy, food security, agribusiness, rural development, economic growth, enterprise development, maternal childcare, health, nutrition, HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness, vocational

training, and gender and women's issues.

Dr. Griffin work in Central Asia for seven years. In the mid-2000s he embarked on a study to better understand the plight of needy and vulnerable children population of the region. Using demographic and health surveys, government statistics, interviews with government officials, representatives of the international community, NGOs, combined with field visits/observations to health and education facilities, factories, agricultural enterprises, and small workshops, and survey information collected on street children and children in bazaars, Dr. Griffin's findings cried out a need to help all children at risk. Moreover, the findings resulted in the formation of the Children of Central Asia Foundation, Inc.

Today, the need has not lessened; it is greater than ever. Civil wars and depressed regional economics have created thousands of helpless orphans and abandoned children and destroyed educational opportunities, even for children who remain with their families.

Dr. Griffin is devoting his time, compassion, love, knowledge, and funds to help the needy children of Central Asia and around the world in their struggle to attain full human dignity.



Meet a Volunteer

Bill Ferguson is the Volunteer Organizational Advisor for COCA. Bill is currently the Commander of the American Legion - George Washington - Post 1 of Washington, DC and President of Verutum Group, LLC, a governmental services company based in McLean, Virginia. Verutum Group provides logistical support and critical mission sustainment throughout the world. Before Bill founded Verutum Group he was a policy advisor for the National Association County Veteran Service Officers (NACVSO), serving as congressional liaison for NACVSO and arranging high level meetings for the organizational leadership. During his tenure he was able to play a role in securing \$5 million in FY 11 for Veterans Outreach.

Bill served in the U.S. Army Infantry in Iraq, receiving several medals, including a Global War on Terrorism Medal, an Army Commendation Medal, and two National Defense Service Ribbons. Since leaving the army he has spent many volunteer hours working with various veterans' organizations. He spent several months working behind the scenes to help get the Post 9/11 GI Bill passed in 2008. Because of this bill 600,000 veterans from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan attend college using their GI Bill benefits.

Last summer Bill organized COCA's Cultural Learning Program (CULP). He joined the group for the east coast portion of the whirlwind tour of the United States. Bill is pictured at the right with one of the orphans on the trip.



Bill's account of the Cultural Learning Program (CULP) 2012 U. S. trip:

What working with the COCA Foundation means to me.

The Children of Central Asia Foundation held a cultural exchange program in the summer of 2012. The three week event included two children from the Orphanage number 1 Almaty, Kazakhstan. The children were brought to the United States as a reward for high academic achievement. The program is water centered since Central Asia is a landlocked country and the children had never seen the ocean.

The children finally arrived in Washington, DC where we set up a Duck Boat Tour, a tour of the National Mall, and the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. The children had their first meal at McDonalds. It was amazing to see the appreciativeness of each one of the children as they slowly sipped milk shakes while eating their Big Mac's.

One of the children was very forward while the other child was more reserved. I made it a point to go out of my way to make the more reserved child feel welcome. There was an interpreter and the orphanage director traveling with the children on their global journey. We ate dinner at a sponsors home one night and at a local family restaurant another night. Despite the language differences we laughed and talked and laughed some more.

The pace of the program was very quick. The children were obviously jet-lagged but we had deadlines to meet and 1,400 more miles to travel so we pressed on. The following morning we proceeded around the capital beltway thru Maryland to Highway 81 and onwards to Pennsylvania. Once we arrived in Pennsylvania the children were ready to eat. The quiet child said he would like to eat "Kentucky". I asked if he meant Kentucky Fried Chicken and we plugged that information into our GPS. In less than half an hour the children were eating KFC. I asked how he had learned of KFC the child responded with "television". This struck me as very funny and I still chuckle when I think about it. To this day it is a good memory.

After a 9 hour drive from Washington, DC we finally arrived in Niagara Falls New York. It was almost dinner time and we treated ourselves to the Outback Steak House. That night we saw the laser light show at the falls. The next morning we had a wonderful all American IHop breakfast and headed to the falls. We boarded a boat called "Maiden of the Mist" and went to the base of the falls.

We took the children to Wal-Mart to purchase snacks and also picked up a soccer ball for the kids. They were simply ecstatic that they could take their pick of which soccer ball they wanted. This made me feel really good and I started to realize what I had taken for granted as a child. This was a personal epiphany. I knew these kids had nothing, but that didn't sink in until this moment. It was a defining moment for me personally because it reminded me of all the advantages I had in life and what decisions I would make if I were in these kids shoes. I hear the slogan all the time saying "pay it forward" well this is a great way to pay it forward. I don't know who said it but what you do for yourself dies with you and what you do for others' lives forever.

During the 7 hour car ride to New Jersey it was quiet. Once we arrived to our hotel we finally slept for a

very long time in a nice room. I received a camera ticket moving violation in Newark, but it was all worth it the next morning when the kids saw the Manhattan Skyline.

The day was very hot and we went to Battery Center Park. We drank plenty of water and ate hot dogs. The kids were really excited when they saw the Statue of Liberty and the Freedom Tower. The temperature was well over 100 degrees but it was worth it. We bought a tour bus ticket and went all over finally ending up eating dinner in Times Square.

Later on that evening we rode back to our hotel in New Jersey. We rested that night and woke up the next morning refreshed for our travels down the East Coast back to Washington but not before taking a swim in the hotel pool. The children were so appreciative of our trip, they did not complain about the long car ride or what they ate or anything. It was sheer gratitude that I felt. I spent five days with these children from Central Asia and learned more about myself than ever before. I encourage you to pay it forward and volunteer or contribute to the Children of Central Asia Foundation.

Bill Ferguson



Team Bill, George, Marat, and Michael on tour

ANSWERING THE CALL.

I want to express our sincere gratitude to our donors for their continued financial support.

Additionally, I wish to acknowledge the support that the Board of Directors has shown me and thank them for their continued commitment.

**Volunteers don't get
paid, not because
they're worthless, but
because they're
priceless.**

~Sherry Anderson



I would also like to thank COCA's volunteer team for their hard work and perseverance during a challenging year. Become a volunteer, grow with us!

Moreover, I would like to thank our bankers, attorneys, auditors, consultants and other service providers.

We know that non-profits continue to have budgetary challenges. The decrease or loss of foundation and government funding and the slow economy continue to make funding difficult. These tough economic times cause us to appreciate our supporter more than ever. Individual donors continue to make a real difference.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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