



SONJA KILL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

The Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is a non profit hospital and training center that improves the health of families and their communities by delivering high-quality, patient-centered care, regarding of their ability to pay.



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Sonja Kill

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

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A message from Dr. Cornelia Haener, Executive of Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Members of Our Community,
As we approach the end of 2024, I want to take a moment to reflect on the remarkable journey we have traveled together this year. Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital has always been more than just a place of healing—it is a beacon of hope for those in need, and this year has been no exception. Celebrating Our Achievements
In 2024, we achieved significant milestones that have strengthened our ability to serve our patients and community:

- **Improved Access to Care:** Reducing wait times and making healthcare more accessible to underserved populations.

- **Empowering Communities:** Outreach maternal and child health, better access for pediatric surgery, antenatal ultrasounds to find risk pregnancies.
- **Advancing Technology:** Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we introduced advanced medical equipment such as: Gastrointestinal unit with gastroscopes and colonoscopes, laparoscopy unit to improve diagnostic accuracy and patient outcomes.
- **Nurturing Our Staff:** We provided specialized training for our doctors and nurses, equipping them with skills to meet the evolving needs of our patients.

Each of these achievements is a testament to the dedication of our team, the resilience of our patients, and the unwavering support of our partners.

Looking ahead to 2025

As we prepare for the challenges and opportunities of the year ahead, we remain focused on our core mission: delivering compassionate, high-quality care to all, regardless of their ability to pay.

With much gratitude,
Dr. Cornelia Haener, CEO

“The joy of brightening other lives, bearing each other’s burdens, easing other’s loads, and supplanting empty hearts and lives with generous gifts becomes for us the magic of Christmas.” – W.C. Jones



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Empowering the Next Generation: 3-Year Curriculum Certification for Young Doctors

Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is proud to announce the successful launch of our 3-Year Curriculum Certification with one year Emergency and 2 years Internal Medicine, designed to equip young doctors with the skills, knowledge, and experience to provide high-quality healthcare. This program reflects our commitment to building a sustainable healthcare system by investing in the development of future medical leaders in Cambodia.

The 3-Year Curriculum Certification is an intensive program focused on enhancing both clinical and practical skills for young doctors. Combining hands-on experience, theoretical education, and mentorship, the program ensures participants receive comprehensive training to meet Cambodia's evolving healthcare needs. "This program is designed to empower young doctors with the skills and confidence they need to excel in their careers while improving healthcare for our communities," shared Dr. Cornelia Haener Executive of Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital.



Group photo with Dr. Winfred Kill, Sonja Kill Foundation

Dr. Sar Phandavoan, Program Participant:

"This program has been life-changing for me. I've learned so much not just about treating patients, but also about understanding their lives and building trust. The mentorship has been invaluable, and I feel confident in my ability to serve my community."

The 3-Year Curriculum Certification is more than a training program—it is an investment in Cambodia's future. These young doctors represent a new generation of healthcare providers who will bring knowledge, compassion, and commitment to their patients for years to come.

"We are building not just doctors, but leaders in healthcare who will drive positive change in Cambodia," said Dr. Kendrick Kahler, Senior Medical Advisor and mentor in the program.

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Dr. Kendrick Kahler Nelson: Family Medicine Consultation and Impressions



Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is delighted to welcome Dr. Kendrick Kahler, a Family Medicine specialist, who has supported our training program since April 2012. Dr. Kendrick's expertise, compassionate approach, and global perspective have been a tremendous asset to our patients and team. His time with us has reinforced the importance of holistic family care in strengthening community health.

During his time consulting at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, Dr. Kahler shared his thoughts on the hospital's commitment to patient care and the role of family medicine:

"I have been deeply moved by the dedication of the team at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital. From the doctors and nurses to the support staff, everyone works tirelessly to deliver compassionate, high-quality care to their patients. The hospital's emphasis on affordability and accessibility ensures that no one is left behind, which is truly inspiring."

He highlights the importance of family medicine as the backbone of healthcare delivery:

"Family medicine provides comprehensive care that focuses on the whole person rather than just isolated conditions. At Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, I have seen how critical this approach is in addressing both acute and chronic health challenges within the community."

"Dr. Kahler is kind, patient, and always listens carefully to our concerns. He made sure I understood my treatment plan and answered all my questions."

"Working alongside Dr. Kendrick was an incredible learning experience. His knowledge and passion for family medicine are inspiring, and he has been a great mentor to our team."

Dr. Kendrick's consultations have further strengthened our Family Medicine services, and we look forward to continued collaboration with him. His presence has reaffirmed our mission to provide comprehensive care to individuals and families, ensuring healthier communities for generations to come.

"Family medicine is about building trust, understanding patients in the context of their families, and supporting their health journey. I am honored to contribute to the meaningful work happening here at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital," Dr. Kendrick added.

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Advancing Healthcare: Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital Opens Gastroenterology Unit

Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is proud to announce the launch of our new Gastroenterology Unit in 2024. This addition represents a significant step forward in providing specialized care for digestive health and addressing the growing need for early detection and treatment of gastrointestinal conditions in our community.

Digestive health plays a critical role in overall well-being, yet many individuals in Cambodia face limited access to care for gastrointestinal issues. With the opening of our Gastroenterology Unit,

we aim to bridge this gap by offering expert diagnosis, treatment, and preventive care for conditions such as:

- Acid reflux and ulcers
- Irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)
- Liver and pancreatic disorders
- Colorectal cancer and polyps

“The launch of this unit is a major milestone in our mission to bring advanced, affordable healthcare to those in need,” shared Dr. Cornelia Haener, Executive of Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital.



Colonoscopy is a vital procedure for the early detection and prevention of colorectal cancer, which remains one of the leading causes of cancer-related deaths worldwide. Our state-of-the-art colonoscopy services will enable us to:

- Detect and remove precancerous polyps.
- Diagnose inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) and other gastrointestinal conditions.
- Provide timely intervention for patients at risk of colorectal cancer.

By offering this essential service, Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is helping to address a critical need in Cambodia’s healthcare system.

Our Gastroenterology Unit is led by highly trained specialists equipped with the latest knowledge and techniques in digestive health. Supported by advanced medical technology, our team is dedicated to delivering compassionate, patient-centered care.

True to our mission, we are committed to ensuring that these services remain accessible to all, regardless of financial means. Special financial assistance programs are available for patients in need, reflecting our dedication to equitable healthcare.

The addition of gastroscopy and colonoscopy investigations is just one part of our ongoing efforts to expand specialized care at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital. We remain committed to meeting the evolving healthcare needs of our community and improving lives through compassionate, high-quality care.

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Global Expertise, Local Impact

Training Young Staff Through International Volunteers



Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is honored to host dedicated volunteers from around the world who bring their skills, knowledge, and passion to train and mentor our young staff. This exchange of expertise is strengthening the future of healthcare in Cambodia by empowering our medical professionals with up-to-date techniques and

global best practices.

Healthcare is constantly evolving, and ensuring that our young doctors, nurses, and support staff receive world-class training is essential. Through partnerships with medical professionals, educators, and specialists from across the globe, Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital has established a platform for continuous learning and skill development.

“Training young healthcare professionals is not just about teaching skills, but about empowering them to become leaders who will bring lasting change to their communities,” Dr. Vik from Norway

Dr. Chy Porroth Young Doctor:

“The training sessions have improved my clinical skills and given me confidence to manage complex cases. I am grateful for the knowledge and guidance shared by the volunteers.”

Nurse Monineat:

“I learned new techniques in patient care and communication that have already helped me care for my patients better. It’s inspiring to see professionals from far away.”



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Volunteer Impression

At Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, the spirit of care extends beyond our walls and is deeply enriched by the contributions of our incredible volunteers. Each of them brings unique skills, passion, and compassion, leaving an impact not only on our patients but also on our community. Here, we share some of the heartfelt impressions from those who have chosen to give their time to serve alongside us.

A Life-Changing Experience”

“Volunteering at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. From the moment I arrived, I felt welcomed by the team and inspired by their dedication to providing quality healthcare for all. Assisting in patient care, observing surgeries, and working with the community outreach programs has opened my eyes to the difference compassion and teamwork can make in people’s lives.”

“I came to Sonja Kill hoping to help others, but I never expected how much I would learn in the process. The hospital’s focus on holistic care and community involvement has broadened my understanding of healthcare in resource-limited settings. I’ve grown not only professionally but personally, as I’ve had the privilege to work with a team so committed to making a positive impact.” Dr. Peter Rice, Internal Medicine

“What struck me most was the sense of family among the staff, patients, and volunteers. No matter how busy the day gets, everyone is treated with respect and dignity. I’ve had the chance to comfort patients, share stories, and even teach some children English during downtime. It’s these little moments that make volunteering here so special.”

This year, volunteers contributed over 5,000 hours to our hospital, assisting in departments ranging from pediatrics to administration. Their efforts have supported our mission of delivering affordable, high-quality care to those in need.

If you’re inspired by these stories, we invite you to become part of the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital family. Whether you’re a healthcare professional, student, or simply someone with a heart for service, there’s a place for you here.

Our volunteers remind us every day that healing is more than medicine—it’s about connection, compassion, and shared humanity. We are deeply grateful for their contributions and look forward to welcoming more individuals to join this incredible journey of care and service.



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PATIENT SUCCESS STORIES

NEW HOPE FOR A POOR FAMILY

Nhean Vannak is a cheerful and curious little boy from a small village in Cambodia. His parents noticed something unusual when he was around 1 year old. His right eye often appeared watery, even when he wasn't crying. Over time, it became more persistent, and his parents grew increasingly worried. The condition made it difficult for him to see clearly at times. His parents noticed that he would rub his eye frequently, as if irritated. Local remedies and visits to a small clinic in their village provided no lasting relief. His parents feared that their son might face long-term vision problems. With limited resources, they didn't know where to turn.

When Vannak's family heard about Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital and its mission to provide free medical care to children in need, they were filled with hope. They traveled to the hospital, where Vannak was evaluated by a team of experienced surgeons from Germany. The doctors diagnosed him with congenital nasolacrimal duct obstruction, a condition where the tear duct is blocked, causing excessive watering of the eye.



“Every human life is precious, and everyone deserves access to care and compassion, regardless of their circumstances.”

The doctors explained that while many children outgrow this condition, Vannak's symptoms had persisted for over a year, and surgery would be necessary to open the blocked tear duct and restore normal function.

At Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, Vannak underwent a minimally invasive procedure called nasolacrimal duct probing to clear the obstruction. The surgery, which was performed under general anesthesia, was completed successfully and at no cost to the family, thanks to the hospital's commitment to helping underserved communities.

Just days after the surgery, Vannak's parents noticed a remarkable difference. His eye no longer watered constantly, and he seemed more comfortable and en-

At his follow-up visit, the doctors confirmed that the procedure had been a success.

Vannak's parents were overjoyed and deeply grateful to the medical team at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital. “We cannot thank the doctors and staff enough,” his mother shared. “They have given our son a future where he can see clearly and live without discomfort.”

Vannak's journey is a powerful reminder of the importance of accessible healthcare. Thanks to the care he received at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, he can now enjoy his childhood to the fullest. His story is one of hope, resilience, and the transformative impact of compassion and medical expertise.

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PATIENT STORIES

"Choose the most trustworthy and safe place, rather than letting regrets last a lifetime."



This the experience of a mother: Pregnant for the third time after miscarriage in the second pregnancy. She and her husband were hoping for a healthy baby this time but the doctor in another hospital told them that the baby was stillborn. During induction to deliver this baby, she developed abdominal pain and dizziness. Therefore, the team decided

to refer the patient to the Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital. She was in shock due to bleeding when she arrived. Our doctors examined her quickly and started correcting the shock situation. The patient was brought to the operating room very quickly while blood products were transfused. The team found out that she had a uterine rupture. If there was even 10 minutes delay, the life of the mother might have been lost too. Fortunately, we were able to find the cause and rescue her in time. The uterine rupture was repaired. We were able to give her sufficient blood products due to our well-stocked blood bank.

After the successful operation, the patient said with tears of joy to our doctors, "I would like to thank the doctors for their willingness to save my life. I feel so sorry that I did not choose Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital as my delivery place for my baby until I lost my baby and almost my life. Pregnancy is two lives in one. Therefore, I would like to encourage all pregnant women to choose a place that is the most reliable and safe, rather than regretting the high cost and regret later."

Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is your first choice.
We provide you with quality, safety and reliability.

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Celebrating the Spirit of Christmas at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital

As the year draws to a close, the halls of Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital are once again filled with the warmth and joy of the Christmas season. This festive time is a special opportunity to come together as a community, celebrate hope and healing, and reflect on the blessings we've shared throughout the year.

This Christmas, the hospital lobby was lit up with beautiful decorations and a Christmas, brining a sense of joy and cheer to everyone who walked through our doors. The true spirit of the season comes alive through acts of giving. Thanks to generous donors, we are able to distribute care packages to patients and their families, ensuring that everyone feels remembered and loved.

“Christmas at Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital is always a reminder of the resilience and hope that define our patients and staff. It’s inspiring to see everyone come together to celebrate, regardless of the challenges they face.”

As we celebrate this Christmas, we also look forward to the New Year with hope and determination. Our mission to provide quality healthcare and touch lives remains unwavering, and we’re excited to continue serving our community in meaningful ways.

This Christmas, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our donors, partners, and community members who have supported us throughout the year. Your kindness and generosity make it possible for us to bring healing and hope to those in need.

Wishing You and your family a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!



SKMH ACTIVITIES January to November 2024

- **8,096** New patients were served January through November 2024.
- **136,726** Patients were served since opening in 2012, **72 %** of these were women and children meeting the core mission
- **454,801** Consultations since opening in 2012, **74%** of these were for women and children meeting our core mission
- **39,017** Patient Consultations were made January through November 2024
- **846** babies delivered January through November 2024
- **83** children served in NICU from January to November 2024
- **469** surgeries performed by the surgical team till November 2024
- **803** units of blood donated till November 2024
- **267** people are currently employed at SKMH

Opportunities to support SKMH

\$100 will sponsor

- A simple birth delivery free of charge.

\$250 will sponsor

- Prenatal consultation with ultrasound for ten women free of charge
- A Caesarian section free of charge

\$500 will sponsor

- One emergency abdominal surgery free-of-charge

\$6,000 will sponsor

- One year of training for a young doctor



“Kindness is the greatest healing balm, and when extended to those in need, it not only uplifts lives but transforms communities. Supporting a non-profit hospital is not just an act of charity; it is an investment in hope, health, and humanity.”