



SPOON
foundation

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

SPOON Foundation is the first and only organization worldwide dedicated to transforming nutrition and feeding for children in orphanages and foster care, and those with disabilities.



Bangalore, India

A WORLD WHERE ALL CHILDREN ARE VALUED AND NOURISHED

2014 was a year of unprecedented global expansion for SPOON. While deepening our work in India, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, China and Vietnam, we entered Russia and Mongolia for the first time, soaring over geographic boundaries to reach more children, many times against the odds. SPOON grew a lot this year. And so did many deserving children, thanks to your support and partnership.

With each road traveled, we've met children deprived of their basic human rights and needs, all because they were born into bodies affected by disability and/or to parents unable to care for them. We have witnessed communities and well-intentioned caregivers do harm during feedings, simply because of a lack of basic knowledge. In response, we have educated and equipped these caregivers with the tools they need to provide safe, nourishing care. We have watched anemia rates plummet, growth charts take off, and mealtimes become opportunities to feed children's development.

Our financials reflect a unique investment in 2014 towards building SPOON's administration and fundraising capacity, positioning us to launch and expand more life-saving programs in the years ahead. The following pages are evidence of the thoughtful, powerful difference we are making *together*.

With hope and gratitude,



Cindy Kaplan,
Co-Founder and Executive Director



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2014





Teaching caregivers how to test for anemia in Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, China

ADVANCING NUTRITION

Around the world we have seen children in orphanages suffering from malnutrition at rates far higher than their peers living with families, compromising their growth, health and brain development. This malnutrition is often easy to prevent and treat, yet most orphanages lack the knowledge and resources to do so. SPOON has created a practical, evidence-based solution to this problem: the NSS: Nutrition Screening System™. The NSS provides a standardized way to measure, track, and promote growth and essential nutrition for children in low-resource settings. It can be easily implemented in low-resource settings to measure and track children's growth and nutritional status, flagging those who are high risk and triaging them with appropriate care. In 2014, we field-tested this tool in a variety of settings, with life-changing results for many children. ● ● ●

PLACES & PARTNERS:

Tajikistan

Partners: Vibrant Village, Handicap International, HealthProm
Sites: Dushanbe and northern region

India

Partner: Holt International
Sites: Pune and Bangalore

China

Partner: Holt International
Sites: Nanning and Changchun

Vietnam

Partner: Holt International
Sites: Hanoi, Dong Nai, Ben Tre, Khanh Hoa, and Binh Duong

SPOTLIGHT ON INDIA



Pune, India

When we began our work in India in 2013 with our partner Holt International, our initial assessments at two orphanages turned up surprisingly dire results: at one site, 30% of the children were anemic; at the second, 45% of the children were anemic.

For children like the ones we met in India— already vulnerable due to their institutionalized status— anemia can complicate underlying health conditions, compromising their ability to learn, grow and ward off infection. Anemia also robs children of their energy and the vitality they need to engage with their environment and to form essential relationships with caregivers and potential adoptive or foster families.

In 2014, we equipped our India partners with SPOON's NSS and trained them on nutrition basics, such as pairing vitamin C with iron supplements and delaying the introduction of cow and buffalo milk for infants (which can lead to iron bleeds). **Within six months of introducing SPOON's NSS in orphanages and care centers for foster families, the incidence of anemia dropped to less than 10% at one site and 0% at the second.** Not only did local staff become experts in administering these programs at their orphanages, they have begun spreading these tools and their impact to other orphanages and community care centers.



ADVANCING FEEDING PRACTICES

We have come to realize that how children are fed is as, if not more, important as what they are fed. This is especially true for young children and those with disabilities who rely on their caregivers to feed them, and the importance is amplified in group settings (i.e., orphanages). We have repeatedly observed mealtimes that are void of the caregiver-child interaction that is so critical to healthy growth and development. Even more concerning are the harrowing feeding practices we have witnessed across countries and institutions (i.e., rapid feeding and feeding children with disabilities lying down), causing preventable health complications and premature death. In 2014,

we created a one-of-a-kind solution for assessing and optimizing feeding practices, SPOON's SAFE: Short Assessment of Feeding Environments™.

SPOON's SAFE provides a quick snapshot of a child's positioning, bottle-feeding, spoon-feeding, cup drinking, and self-feeding, and coaches caregivers on practical adjustments they can make to promote safe, nurturing feeding. The global health community and partners on the ground have embraced it as the first-ever tool of its kind.



Demonstrating using an adaptive cup in Almaty, Kazakhstan

PLACES & PARTNERS:

India

Partner: Holt International
Sites: Pune and Bangalore

Kazakhstan

Partners: Kazakhstan Ministry of Health
Sites: Almaty Oblast

Mongolia

Partners: World Vision International
Sites: Ulaanbaatar

Russia

Partners: Firefly and Carlson Family Foundation
Sites: Moscow

Tajikistan

Partners: Vibrant Village, Handicap International, HealthProm
Sites: Dushanbe and northern region

Vietnam

Partner: Holt International
Sites: Hanoi, Dong Nai, and Binh Duong

SPOTLIGHT ON RUSSIA



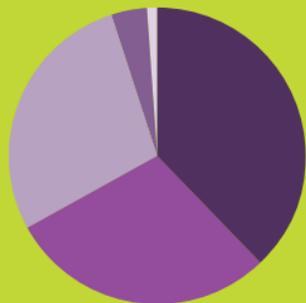
Tanya and Slava leading a feeding training

In the past several years, there has been exciting movement globally to end institutionalization of children. Yet, under-nourished and unhealthy children may not be removed from orphanages and selected for adoption or reunification with local families. In Russia, many parents who do bring these children home are ill-equipped to manage their care. In the past 10 years, Russian families have returned over 9,000 children to baby homes. To break the cycle of institutionalization, it is critical to address malnutrition for children in orphanages and to train parents caring for post-institutionalized children on their unique needs and risks, including nutritional deficits and feeding challenges.

Very fortunately for SPOON and for the nearly 700,000 children in Russia's baby homes, support from the Carlson Family Foundation made it possible to launch a program in Russia this year. Given current sensitivities in US-Russia relations, this program was executed through our exceptional RU-based colleagues, Drs. Svyatoslav Dovbnya (Slava) and Tatiana Morozova (Tanya). Tanya and Slava traveled to the U.S. to be trained by our team on the SAFE, and then incorporated the tool into a comprehensive pilot training for caregivers and directors in baby homes in the Moscow metro region in December. The training participants were very enthusiastic and are eager for further trainings and tools. We were pleased by the effectiveness of using the train-the-trainer methodology to scale to additional sites in Russia and beyond. Plans are now underway to expand this training to reach greater numbers of deserving children throughout the country.

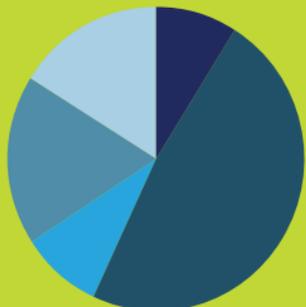


2014 represented a year of infrastructure building and growth for SPOON, allowing us to invest more heavily in our programs for years to come.



SOURCES OF REVENUE:

- Individual Contributions
- Foundation Grants
- Contracts Earned Income
- In Kind Contributions
- Other Income



EXPENSE ALLOCATION:

- Total Programs
- International Programs
- Domestic Programs
- Program Development
- G&A*
- Fundraising*

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	225,157
Accounts & Grants Receivable	204,524
Prepaid Expenses & Insurance	6,355
Furniture and Equipment	9,439

Net Total Assets 445,476

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities:

Total Liabilities	14,204
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Net Assets:

Total Unrestricted Net Assets	239,563
Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	191,708

Total Net Assets 431,271

Total Liabilities and Net Assets 445,476

Notes: SPOON undergoes an annual audit conducted by an independent firm. Figures above are based upon the report of McDonald Jacobs.

*In 2014, SPOON's Board of Trustees and staff made a strategic decision to invest in infrastructure and fundraising in order to create a sustainable foundation for program growth in years to come. As a result, G&A and Fundraising expenses for 2014 are proportionately higher than in prior years and to what we aspire to moving forward.

Revenue:

Individual Contributions	316,648
Foundation Grants	237,087
Contracts Earned Income	228,787
In Kind Contributions	31,066
Corporate Contributions	18,293
Other Income	1,288
Investment Income	201
Unrealized Gain/Loss Investments	(3,553)

Total Revenue 829,816

Expenses:

Total Programs	409,737
Domestic Programs	55,554
International Programs	298,681
Program Development	55,502
G&A	119,129
Fundraising	98,370

Total Expenses 627,236

Change in Net Assets 202,580

OUR TEAM

STAFF

Cindy R. Kaplan, MS | *Co-founder and Executive Director*

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Kerry Norton, MPH | *Program Officer*

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Brita Johnson | *Special Advisor (through March 2014)*

Monica Czapl, MPH | *Director of Programs (through April 2014)*

Kate Ward, MPH | *Training Specialist (through October 2014)*

Raushan Amanzhanova | *Director of SPOON Foundation Central Asia*

Assel Mussagaliyeva | *Monitoring & Evaluation Coordinator, SPOON Foundation Central Asia*

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