

about us

HAGAR'S story

When Pierre Tami came to Cambodia in the early 1990s, he was so deeply moved by the plight of destitute and abused women that he decided to act, and Hagar was born.

Hagar's first shelter opened in Phnom Penh in 1994. Not long after, Hagar started its first social enterprise providing employment for the women in the shelter.

our goal

Our focus hasn't wavered since our earliest days. We support the recovery, empowerment and reintegration to community of women and children who have been victims of human rights abuse; particularly human trafficking and gender-based violence.

how we do it

At Hagar, social programs meet social business. Recovery shelters, education, vocational training and enterprise are all critical in restoring women and children to wholeness. Every year, hundreds of women and children recover, gain education and become financially independent through Hagar.

Our experience has taught us that these things enable women and children to be strong and thriving individuals who spark transformation in their communities.

“Our purpose is singular; we restore broken lives. We welcome the toughest of human conditions. We stay focused on the individual and we do whatever it takes for as long as it takes to restore life in all its fullness.”

Talmage Payne, Hagar International CEO



Sorphea - INDEPENDENT & HOPEFUL

Every Saturday, Sorphea goes to the Hagar's Women's Shelter and teaches women to weave. It was only a few years ago that she was, just like these women, terrified, broken and fleeing violence and abuse.

But now Sorphea is strong.

“When I arrived at Hagar, I felt like I had a new life,” she said.

Today Sorphea works at a local daycare centre and on weekends washes clothes to make extra money. She smiles broadly when she thinks about her life with her children—they are safe, independent and living in community again.

Sorphea visits Hagar's shelter once a week to pass on her experiences and wisdom to the many other women in her shoes. And as she does this, she transforms her community and makes Hagar's dream come true.

HAGAR'S approach





recovery to wholeness

Hagar is committed to the whole person. Our holistic programs respond to the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs of each woman and child.

- Women's Shelter
- Recovery Shelters for children
- Aftercare Centre for Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Girls.
- Judicial/Legal Support
- Medical Care
- Counseling and Psychosocial Services

Economic Empowerment—THROUGH EDUCATION & ENTERPRISE

Education and sustainable employment help break cycles of poverty and inequity that can lead to gender-based violence and human trafficking.

Education:

- Community Learning Centre: "catch-up" school for children.
- Early childhood and basic education for women
- Life skills and Career Pathways/Vocational Training
- University scholarships
- Economic Independence and financial sustainability.

HAGAR'S SOCIAL ENTERPRISES provide employment opportunities and valuable skills for many women who would otherwise have limited opportunities.

resilience for reintegration

Hagar believes the best place for women and children to live healthy lives is in community. Hagar fosters resilience in each beneficiary that leads to reintegration with dignity.

- Psycho-social care: counseling, creative personal development and group therapy
- Community Based Care for Children
- Transition homes for women and children
- Reintegration support and follow up for up to two years.

Hagar is an international organization committed to the recovery and empowerment of women and children who are victims of human rights abuse; particularly human trafficking, sexual exploitation and domestic violence. For more information visit:

www.hagarusa.org