

The Worm Project

Combating World Hunger Through Parasite Removal

Newsletter

Fall 2026

**You're Invited to our Free Benefit Banquet
6:00 pm Saturday, October 17, 2026**



Keynote Speaker:

Ana Cespedes,
CEO, Vitamin Angels

**THE MEAL IS FREE but
donations will be accepted.**

For reservations, contact us with your
name and number of people:

E-mail: Info@wormproject.org
Mobile: 215-272-5305

**RESERVATIONS
REQUIRED –
no later than October 11**

Ana Cespedes

Chief Executive Officer, Vitamin Angels



ana Céspedes is a globally recognized leader with nearly three decades of experience in the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors. She has held executive leadership roles in some of the world's most influential organizations, shaping policies and programs that have transformed access to healthcare worldwide. Ana holds a Doctorate in Pharmacy along with many other advanced degrees and certifications. Among many awards, she received

the Gold Medal of Castilla-La Mancha and, in 2024, her hometown of Barrax, Spain, honored her legacy in health education by naming a public square in her name. She is dedicated to advancing Vitamin Angels' mission of improving maternal and child nutrition worldwide. In 2025 Vitamin Angels helped improve the health of 74 million women and children in over 65 countries including providing deworming medicine to over 34 million children. (The Worm Project donated deworming medicine to Vitamin Angels to treat almost 13 million children in 2025.)



How a Simple Intervention Helped Dara Thrive

Photo Credit © Vitamin Angels – Scott Rotzoll KH24

Editor's Note: The Worm Project donates millions of Albendazole Tablets (deworming medicine) to Vitamin Angels each year. With our partnership spanning over 20 years, The Worm Project appreciates Vitamin Angels' focus on those most vulnerable, children under age 5 in poor communities, that are underserved by existing systems.

Dara is a healthy and happy boy who enjoys eating sour soup and fried pork and enthusiastically declares his love for eggs. He loves playing with his Transformers toys and going on family trips to Angkor Wat to explore the temples and the forests. His positive attitude and joyful spirit reflect a bright future ahead.

But Dara's life began in uncertainty. After his birth parents abandoned him, Sophor and her husband adopted him when he was just four months old. In Khmer, Dara's name means "star", a fitting symbol of Sophor's belief in his potential to shine brightly in the world.

Now a family of five, Sophor works as a caregiver while Dad drives a taxi. When Dara first joined the family, Sophor noticed signs of poor health in Dara: a distended belly, skinny legs, and pale skin – visible signs of malnutrition and the kind of hidden infections that remain common among children in Cambodia. Although progress has been made, 22% of children under five in Cambodia remain stunted, a condition often linked to chronic infections, poor diets, and intestinal parasites that rob the body of essential nutrients.

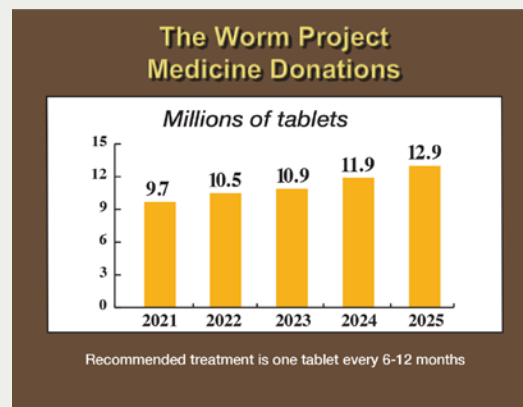
With support from The Worm Project and Vitamin Angels, Dara received albendazole, a deworming treatment recommended by the World Health Organization for parasitic infections. These treatments helped strengthen

his body and gave him the boost he needed to grow. Sophor soon noticed a remarkable improvement, and Dara began eating more and growing stronger.

Today, Dara shines as a testament to love, care, and the lifesaving power of simple, proven, and cost-effective health interventions. In Cambodia, where parasitic infections are widespread, deworming programs like the ones supported by The Worm Project and Vitamin Angels continue to help improve the health of children who need it most.

Your Donations Are Making a Difference in the World

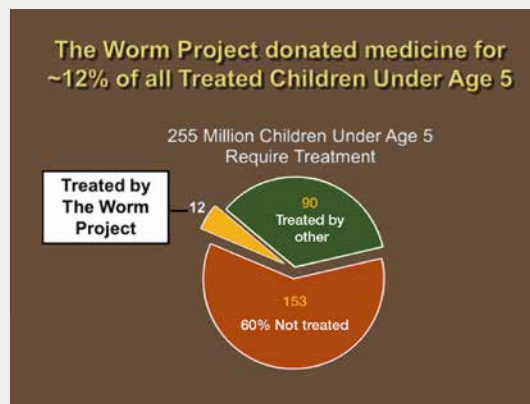
The Worm Project is dedicated to eradicating parasitic worms that live in hundreds of millions of children and are a major cause of malnutrition in many of the poorest countries of the world. Deworming is the most cost-effective way to impact the health of children in the poorest countries. We



desire to be God's hands and feet, helping nourish the minds, bodies and souls of His children all over the world.

The Worm Project

continues to grow the number of deworming tablets donated to treat children under age 5 reaching 12.9 million in 2025.



Each deworming tablet costs 2.4 cents and one tablet treats one child.

Of the 102 million children under age 5 treated in

2024 according to the World Health Organization, The Worm Project donated enough medicine to treat almost 2 million children. The Worm Project focuses medicine donations on children under age 5 since they are the most vulnerable and less likely to get treatment. Sadly, many children requiring treatment are still not getting it.

A Healthier Start for Children in Cambodia

Photo Credit © Vitamin Angels – Scott Rotzoll KH24

Every morning before sunrise, Panhabotr begins preparing breakfast for her three children. By 5 a.m., the family is already awake, starting another busy day. Her youngest heads to preschool while her older children leave for school, and Panhabotr goes to work washing dishes at a local restaurant.

Like many parents in Cambodia, Panhabotr works hard to give her children opportunities she never had. Although Cambodia has made remarkable progress in reducing poverty over the past two decades, many families still face barriers to good health. Children are especially vulnerable to intestinal worms, which thrive in areas where access to safe water, sanitation, and hygiene remains limited. These infections can contribute to poor nutrition, anemia, and reduced growth and development, making it harder for children to learn, play, and reach their full potential. Continued investment remains essential to protect children from reinfection.



For Panhabotr, keeping her children healthy is a daily priority. She shops for fresh food after work, prepares meals for the family, and encourages her children to help one another with homework and household chores. Her youngest son loves sports, especially basketball, while her 9-year-old daughter enjoys pretending to be a teacher.

When health services reached her community, Panhabotr's youngest son received deworming treatment through Vitamin Angels. She remembers noticing a positive difference in his health afterward and felt reassured knowing he had received care that could help him grow and thrive.

Simple interventions like deworming can have a meaningful impact. The World Health Organization estimates that over 260 million preschool-aged children and 654 million school-age children worldwide are at risk of soil-transmitted



helminth infections, with children in many parts of Asia remaining especially vulnerable. In Cambodia, periodic deworming is part of the country's child health strategy to help protect children during their critical early years.

These moments are made possible through partnership. Thanks to the support of The Worm Project, Vitamin Angels is able to provide deworming treatment, helping families like Panhabotr's access services that can improve children's health and well-being.

Today, Panhabotr looks toward the future with optimism. Her children are learning, growing, and dreaming big. For her, something as simple as access to deworming treatment represents more than medicine—it is one more step toward giving her children the healthy start they deserve.



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The Worm Project: What we do:

The Worm Project buys medicine to treat children infected with parasitic worms in the poorest countries of the world.

- Over 800 million children (roughly 1/4 of the world's children) are at risk of being infected with parasitic worms
 - Parasitic worms cause physical and cognitive impairment in children due to malnutrition
- The Worm Project purchased and donated deworming medicine to treat almost 13 million children in 2025.
- Each deworming tablet costs less than 3 cents and treats one child for parasitic worms
 - One tablet kills virtually all the worms living in children
 - Medicine is extremely effective and safe
- All-volunteer Christian organization is extremely cost effective
 - Expenses are extremely low
 - Donations are tax deductible

*"... Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
(Matthew 25:40 NIV)*



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Charitable donations can be made by check or on our website at wormproject.org. Just click on the **donate** button. Please consider making a tax exempt donation from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

Checks should be made payable to: **The Worm Project** and sent to:

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THROUGH PARASITE REMOVAL