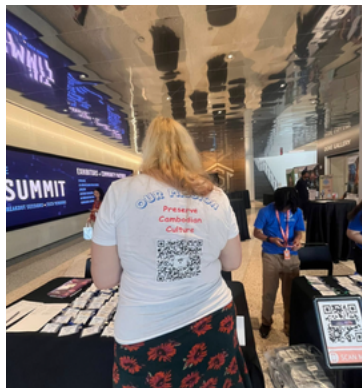




# IMPACT REPORT

20  
25

Cambodian Legacy Project  
FROM VISION TO IMPACT IN ONE YEAR



# MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERSHIP

**Kim and Kaovny**



This year marked the beginning of Cambodian Legacy Project's journey from vision to action. What started as a grassroots effort has grown into a ***trusted community organization serving youth, families, and elders across Charlotte.***

This work is deeply personal to us. As children of immigrants, we experienced limited access to resources, language barriers, and little representation of Cambodian identity. That experience drives everything we build. ***We do not want another family to go through what we did.***

We are committed to continuous learning to ensure we are ***equipped to serve our community with the knowledge, care, and resources they deserve.*** As we move into 2026, CLP is positioned to expand its programs, deepen its impact, and continue building pathways for cultural preservation, community wellness, and youth leadership.

We are not just preserving culture. ***We are creating space*** for people to see themselves, feel proud of who they are, and belong.

# Our Team

Meet the team dedicated to sharing and preserving Cambodia's rich cultural heritage for future generations!



**Kaovny Jonas**  
CEO | Co-Founder



**Kim Lam**  
COO | Co-Founder



**Aneelia Ma**  
Board Member



**Be Lam**  
Board Member



**Jo Hayes**  
Board Member



**Lea Thach, RN**  
Wellness Director



# Our Vision

We envision a ***unified and empowered Asian community*** where all cultures are visible, valued, and heard.

We are committed to ***uplifting not only Cambodian voices, but also underrepresented communities*** such as Montagnard, Lao, and Hmong, creating space for collaboration, cultural preservation, and collective advancement.

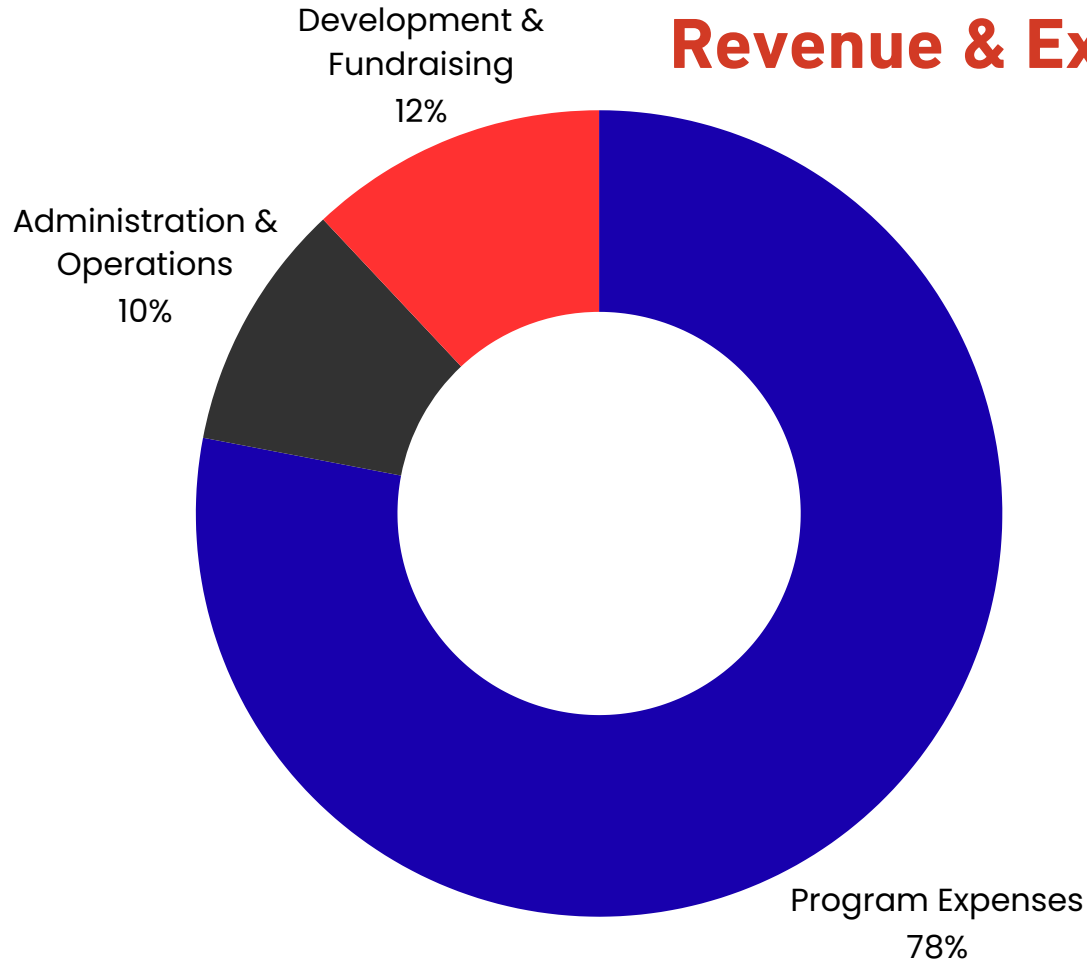


# Our Mission

The Cambodian Legacy Project ***preserves and celebrates Cambodian heritage*** while empowering Asian Americans to thrive across generations.

Through education, community, and the arts, ***we foster pride, belonging, and cultural awareness***. We ***create opportunities*** for intergenerational learning that bridge generational gaps and strengthen family and community connections.

# Revenue & Expenses



**\$27,149**

## Total Revenue

Foundation & Institutional Grants

91.2% | \$24,764

Individual & Community Donations

8.8% | \$2,385

## Expenses

Program Expenses

78% | \$21,176

Administration & Operations

10% | \$2715

Development & Fundraising

12% | \$3258

## Commitment to Stewardship

We prioritize thoughtful and strategic use of all resources to ensure long-term impact, program quality, and sustainable growth.

# Our Program Model: Four Strategic Pillars

To address community needs in a comprehensive and sustainable way, Cambodian Legacy Project operates through four strategic pillars.

These pillars guide our programming, partnerships, and long-term impact, ensuring that our work is intentional, culturally responsive, and designed for growth.

Each pillar is interconnected, strengthening cultural identity, improving well-being, and creating pathways for leadership and opportunity across generations.



## CULTURAL PRESERVATION & LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

Strengthening Khmer language access and cultural knowledge across generations.



## CULTURAL ARTS & CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Using dance, arts, and performance to preserve tradition while embracing modern identity.



## COMMUNITY HEALTH, WELLNESS & ACCESS

Improving access to culturally relevant health resources and preventive care.



## YOUTH LEADERSHIP & CIVIC INCLUSION

Developing the next generation of leaders through education, engagement, and opportunity.

# Our Work in Action

In 2025, Cambodian Legacy Project activated its mission through focused programming and community engagement across all four pillars. Each initiative was designed to build connection, increase access, and strengthen cultural identity within the community.



## CULTURAL PRESERVATION & LANGUAGE REVITALIZATION

These outcomes reflect a growing language pipeline that supports both skill development and leadership, ensuring that students not only learn the language, but also contribute to sustaining it within the community.

- 33 students enrolled in Khmer Language & Culture Classes
- 2 students advanced into teaching roles as Basic Language instructors through our Youth Leadership Program
- 6 students progressed into intermediate (moderate) level language instruction
- Remaining students continued building foundational skills while also participating in conversational language classes





## CULTURAL ARTS & CREATIVE EXPRESSION

These outcomes reflect a growing language pipeline that supports both skill development and leadership, ensuring that students not only learn the language, but also contribute to sustaining it within the community.

- Traditional Cambodian Dance program grew from 8 to 15 students
- Youth engaged in cultural preservation through consistent training and performance
- Featured a solo Sino-Khmer fusion ballet performance, blending traditional and contemporary expression



# Our Work in Action Cont.

# COMMUNITY HEALTH, WELLNESS & ACCESS



- 29 community members received free flu vaccinations
- 50+ blood pressure screenings conducted
- Early efforts focused on increasing access to preventive care



**Our Work in Action Cont.**

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP & CIVIC INCLUSION



- Youth participated in teaching and cultural programming
- Opportunities created for leadership, performance, and community engagement
- Youth actively contributed to cultural representation in public spaces



**Our Work in Action Cont.**

# TESTIMONIES

## of Our Organization



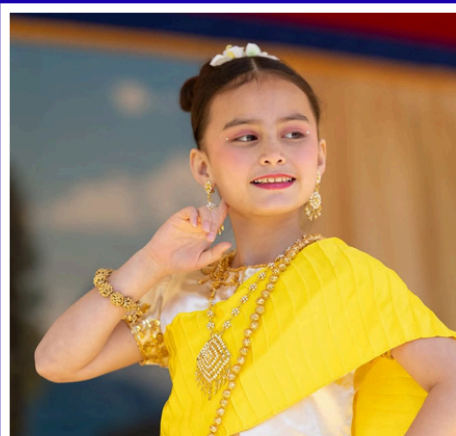
**H'Yin S.**

I really appreciate learning about Cambodian culture and realizing how deeply it connects with my own Montagnard culture.



**Sreymom C.**

The Cambodian Legacy Project made me feel like I wasn't alone in this new world "America". The support they given me made me feel I was at home, "Cambodia".



**Lucy N.**

I love dancing. Learning traditional Khmer dancing and mixing it up with modern ballet is so fun!



# Highlights of the Year

Cambodian Legacy Project expanded its impact beyond the classroom by showing up in community spaces and increasing cultural visibility across Charlotte.

Through public events, performances, and partnerships, we created opportunities for connection, representation, and cultural awareness—ensuring that Cambodian culture is seen, shared, and celebrated in everyday spaces.



Participated in Charlotte's Welcoming Week, contributing to citywide efforts that celebrate diversity and inclusion

Hosted our first Friendsgiving event, bringing together individuals and families from different backgrounds to share culture and build community

Performed at local festivals, increasing visibility and awareness of Cambodian heritage

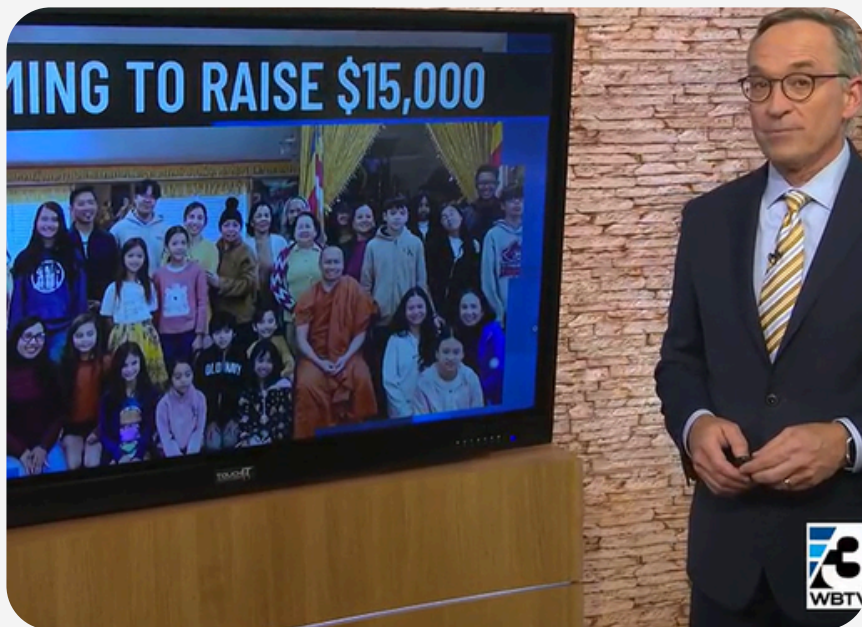
Introduced a Sino-Khmer fusion ballet performance, showcasing cultural innovation and youth expression



# MEDIA RECOGNITION

In November 2025, Cambodian Legacy Project was featured on WBTV in an interview with Jamie Boll.

This milestone amplified our mission and brought greater awareness to the importance of cultural preservation and representation within the community.



These moments reflect our commitment to making culture visible, accessible, and valued—while building stronger connections across communities.



Cambodian Legacy Project enters 2026 with a strong foundation, growing community trust, and increased momentum.

Building on the work established in 2025, CLP is positioned to expand its programs, deepen its impact, and invest in long-term sustainability.

# Looking Ahead



# Building Toward a Cultural Hub

CLP continues to work toward its long-term vision of establishing a dedicated cultural hub—a space where Asian communities can come together to learn, connect, and grow.

This future space will serve as a center for language, arts, education, and wellness, providing access to resources and creating a strong sense of belonging across generations.

We are building the kind of space we wish existed when we were growing up.

# Our Focus for 2026



**Expand Khmer Language & Culture programming to serve more students and increase language proficiency levels.**

**Launch English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for elders through ProLiteracy funding, increasing access to essential communication and resources.**

**Grow Traditional Dance and Cultural Arts programming, increasing participation and performance opportunities.**

**Launch Cambodian Creative Arts and Cambodian Social Dance programs, supported by the Arts & Science Council, expanding access to culturally rooted arts programming.**

**Expand Community Health & Wellness initiatives, including workshops, screenings, and culturally relevant resource access**

**Strengthen Youth Leadership pathways, creating more opportunities for youth to lead, teach, and engage.**

# JOIN US IN BUILDING THE FUTURE

As we continue to grow, we invite partners, funders, and community members to be part of this work.

Together, we are preserving culture, strengthening community, and creating opportunities for future generations.



## CONTACT

Cambodian Legacy Project  
Charlotte, NC

T: 980-406-6340

T: 980-444-1939

[www.clproject.org](http://www.clproject.org)

[info@clproject.org](mailto:info@clproject.org)