

# The UT Philanthropy Lab Annual Report 2014

## 2014 Selected Charities

The 2014 iteration of the Philanthropy Lab, *Philanthropy: The Power of Giving*, taught by Pamela Paxton, ended successfully with the class check presentation ceremony on May 1<sup>st</sup>. After narrowing their choices throughout the semester, engaging in fi-

nal debates, and voting, the class selected five charities to receive the \$100,000 in course funds.

Representatives from several charities attended the ceremony, while others sent video responses.

Half of the course's \$100,000 gift was provided by a grant from the Once Upon a Time Foundation. The other \$50,000 was raised through individual donations.

May 2014

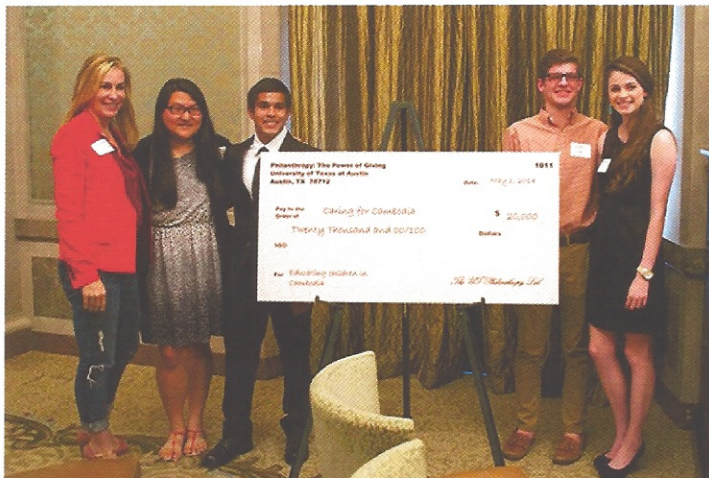
**Charity: Water** – \$30,000 to build two wells in Ethiopia.

**KIPP Austin** – \$20,000 to further free public charter schools for underserved children.

**Caring for Cambodia** – \$20,000 to build schools to educate children in Cambodia.

**Common Hope** – \$20,000 for secondary school education in Guatemala.

**Sustainable Harvest** – \$10,000 to promote sustainable land use in Agua Fria, Honduras.



*Jamie Amelio, founder and CEO of Caring for Cambodia accepts a check from the organization's student advocates Janet Yim, Prakbar Garg, Caleb Cade, and Catherine Frost.*

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**“From now on, I will make sure that my donations will truly benefit a cause by paying close attention to financial information and evaluation of programs.”**

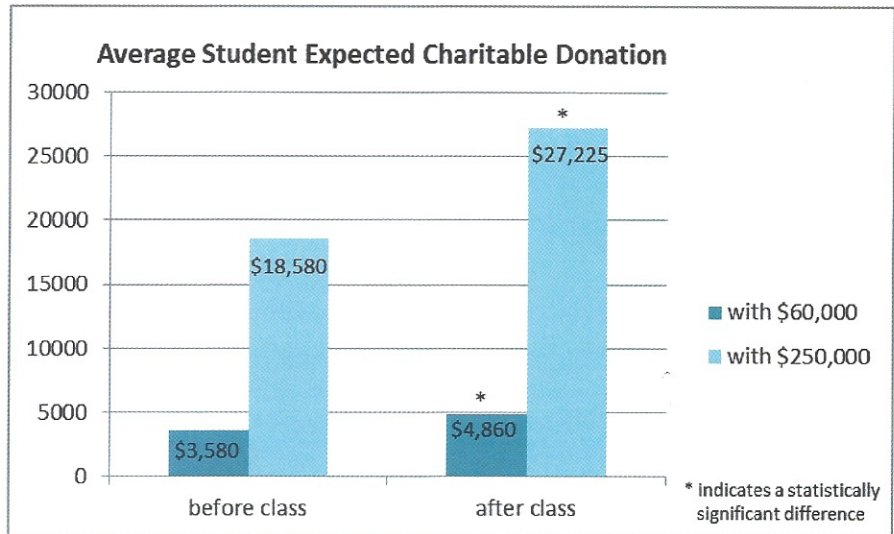
**-Caleb Cade, student  
Philanthropy: The Power of Giving**

**Evaluating Philanthropy: The Power of Giving**

To assess the influence of the course on students, we compared their answers to questions about philanthropy before and after the class. The figure below presents students expected charitable donations at different levels of income, based on the question “Imagine that it is four years after

graduation from college and your salary is \$60,000 / \$250,000 a year. How much money, if any, would you give to charities or nonprofits that year?” It illustrates a significant increase in the amount of money student intend to donate in the future. Students in the

class were mainly freshmen and sophomores with majors ranging from engineering to business to Arabic.



In addition to the research papers, debates, and voting related to the class gift decision, students learned about the scope and diversity of the nonprofit sector, as well

as individual patterns of giving and volunteering. Students further learned to read and assess nonprofit financial reports and were trained in basic evaluation techniques to

determine whether a charity is effective in its programming.