

**Jace & Bekah Allen**  
**Phnom Penh, Cambodia**



We are the Allen family currently living in Phnom Penh, Cambodia since mid-2015. Jace is a volunteer at the Living Well Counselling Centre, where he has previously served as Outreach Coordinator, Interim Director, and currently provides pastoral and clinical mental health counseling to local Cambodians as well as cross-cultural missionaries from every continent but Antarctica! Bekah is a volunteer with Prison Fellowship Cambodia, where she has both served on the board as their international representative and has served alongside a small team of teachers in the Prey Sar Women's Prison to lead bible studies and teach discipleship to an (also) international group of female prisoners. Their group has grown over the years and a church building is currently being built inside the prison for them to come together and worship regularly. Since arriving in 2015, we have added

three kids to our family. Our son Judah is 4, and our twin girls Margot and Vera will both turn 2 this month!

**Stories of HOPE**

One story of hope from Bekah's work with PFC has been watching the organization grow stronger in its local leadership. One important goal of any ministry is to see local people take ownership and responsibility for moving the ministry or organization forward. As Bekah has provided support for the new Cambodian director of PFC, they now have transitioned to an all-Khmer board and are overseeing projects across the country, including the completion of a church building at the women's prison in Phnom Penh. This gives us hope that the organization will outlive our time in Cambodia and will be a positive example for other foreign-led ministries as they, too, seek to empower local leadership and the local church.

Another story of hope comes from an unexpected turn in Jace's counseling ministry. In March 2020, our family evacuated to Texas due to COVID-19 lockdowns in Cambodia and around the world. During that time, Jace was able to continue seeing his clients in Cambodia and was also able to volunteer at a Christian counseling center in San Antonio. This enabled him to continue and eventually complete his graduate program and offered new opportunities to minister to a population he had no idea he would be able to. Specifically, through his work in San Antonio, he was able to encourage and support a teenage boy who later was baptized at his church. This gave us hope that our "mission" is not about a specific place, but about our ability to be prepared to minister in any time or place.