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for Cambodian Children
A community-based care organisation

QUARTERLY
REPORT
April – June

2023



One of the babies who comes to get his milk formula under PMTCT program. He is sleeping on his father arm.

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ABBREVIATIONS

HfCCF:	Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation
CCWC:	Commune Committee for Women and Children
MoSVY:	Ministry of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
DoSVY:	Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation
MoEYS:	Ministry of Education Youth and Sport
MoU:	Memorandum of Understanding
BEST:	Battambang Education Support Team
PoE:	Provincial Department of Education
CAC:	Cambodian Advisory Committee
DoLVT:	Battambang Department of Labor Vocational Training
Dol:	Battambang Department of Immigration
DoT:	Battambang Department of Taxation
WCCC:	Women and Children Consultative Committee
PMTCT:	Prevention Mother to Child Transmission



MESSAGE FROM IN-COUNTRY DIRECTOR

I recently advised you about the new reporting requirements to the Cambodian Government. I am pleased to report that HOPE has completed and submitted all of the new Cambodian Government requirements for FNGO's (Foreign Non-Government Origination). We are yet to hear back from these government departments. I feel sure that HOPE will fully comply. A big thank you to Sothoeurn and Mrs. Bunna who were able to use their existing relationships within governmental departments in Phnom Penh to assist HOPE with these new reports.

Sothoeurn and I made three visits to Phnom Penh in as many weeks to complete the documents. All official documents and reports must now be submitted in Khmer.

School, at all levels, has again resumed after the annual Cambodian school break. Our numbers attending our community Preschool, English and IT classes have remained high.

HOPE runs solely on generous donations, we could not operate without them.

A recent fundraising effort by our deputy chair Mrs. Jenny McAuley and then a donation from Flume raised enough money so that HOPE could replace all of the computers in our community IT class room.

These new computers have the capacity for us to now teach a wide range of new and exciting programs.

On the 1st April our staff signed a new one year contract. We keep all contracts to a one year period.

Under instructions from the Department of Labour we recently asked for staff nominations to be HOPEs Labour representative. Three staff nominated for the unpaid volunteer position. Savry, our accountant, gained the most votes and will hold this position for a one year period, in line with staff contracts.

Our newly started community sewing classes are going extremely well. I am personally very pleased to see the sewing room up and running again. The ladies who were selected all have family issues and learning a trade could just be their pathway to independence. How good will that be?

Soccer competitions run by SALT will resume in the coming weeks. While we are not winners of any games our teams are improving and the boys still love to come each Sunday. 30 boys are playing in HOPEs under 13 and under 16 age groups.

Hope now has the land title for the rear land! Seems like a life time ago this process was started. Hope being a registered and approved FNGO receives a discount on the land tax for this title. Hope is now fully registered with the Cambodian Taxation Department, including holding a FNGO discount certificate. From here on in our tax registration certificate has to be included in all MoU and other applications or official government reports.

Before you ask about the front land titles, this is still a work in progress.

On the 26th May I returned home to Bribie Island. Sothoeurn is doing so well as the Director, like all leaders he has a different leadership style specially to mine. I can do more for Sothoeurn, as an adviser, and for our Community Centre by assisting remotely. To be honest I was finding it hard to sit on my hands and keep my mouth closed!

Sothoeurn is Khmer and has all of the capabilities to lead his Cambodian team well.

The difference in understanding both languages have at times been difficult, but not impossible. There are cultural differences between us and we have to respect and accept the Khmer culture if we are to allow our important community programs and wonderful staff to reach their full potential.

Our Community Centre is in the very best of hands.

Peter.

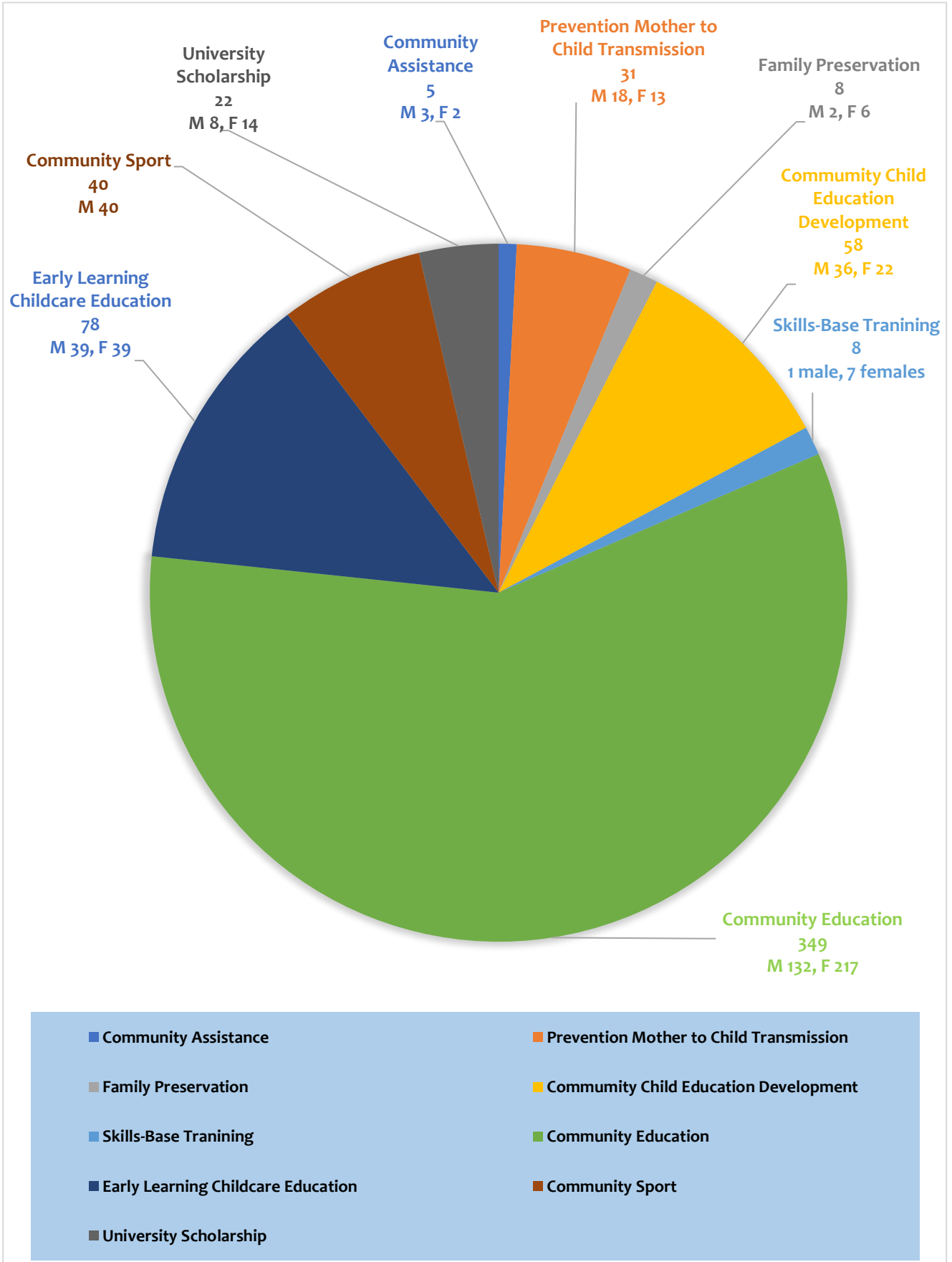
HOPE practice all Cambodian Laws covering Child Protection and Child Safety.



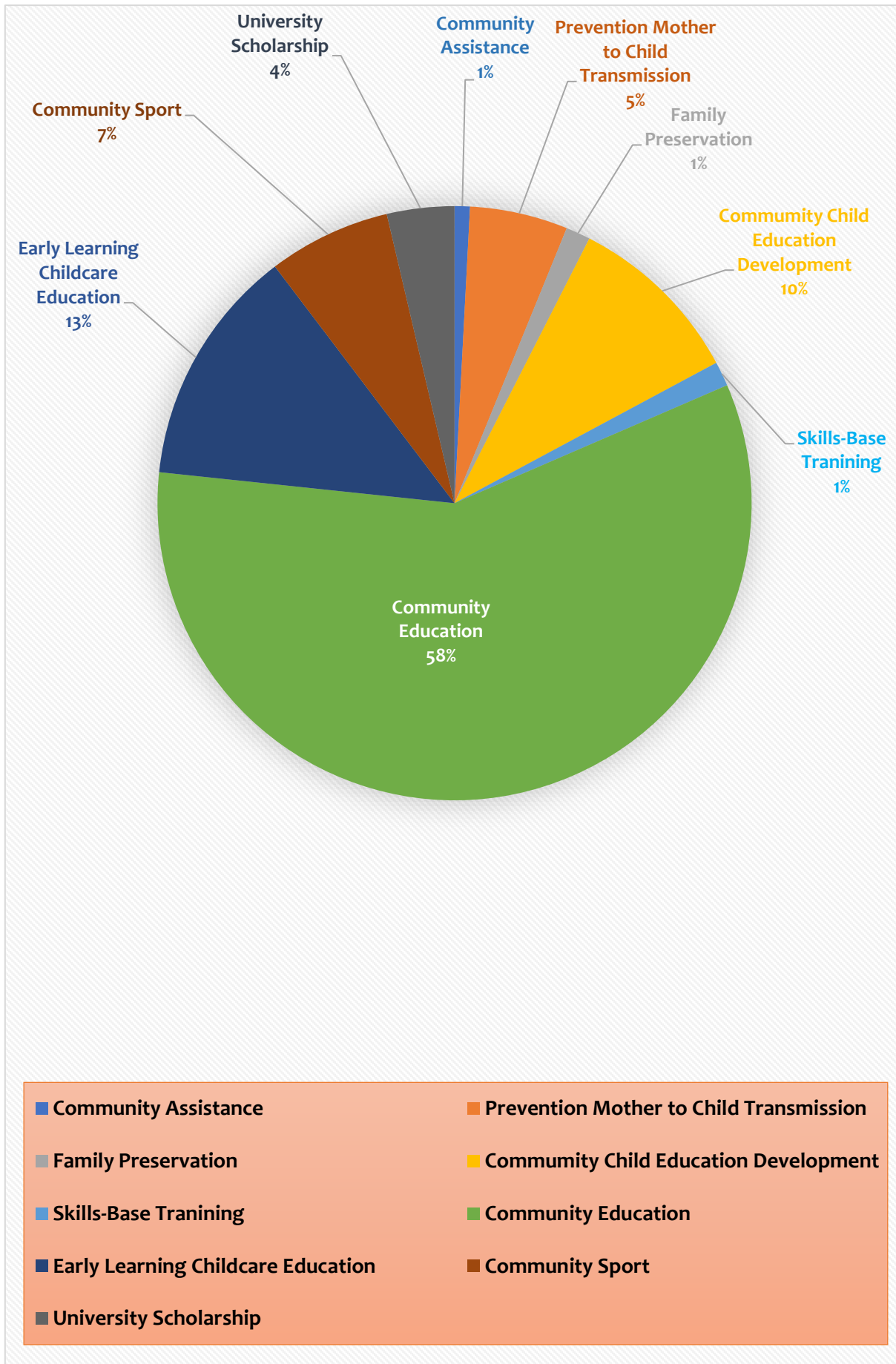
Currently we have 33 staff working at HOPE Community Centre.

PIE CHART

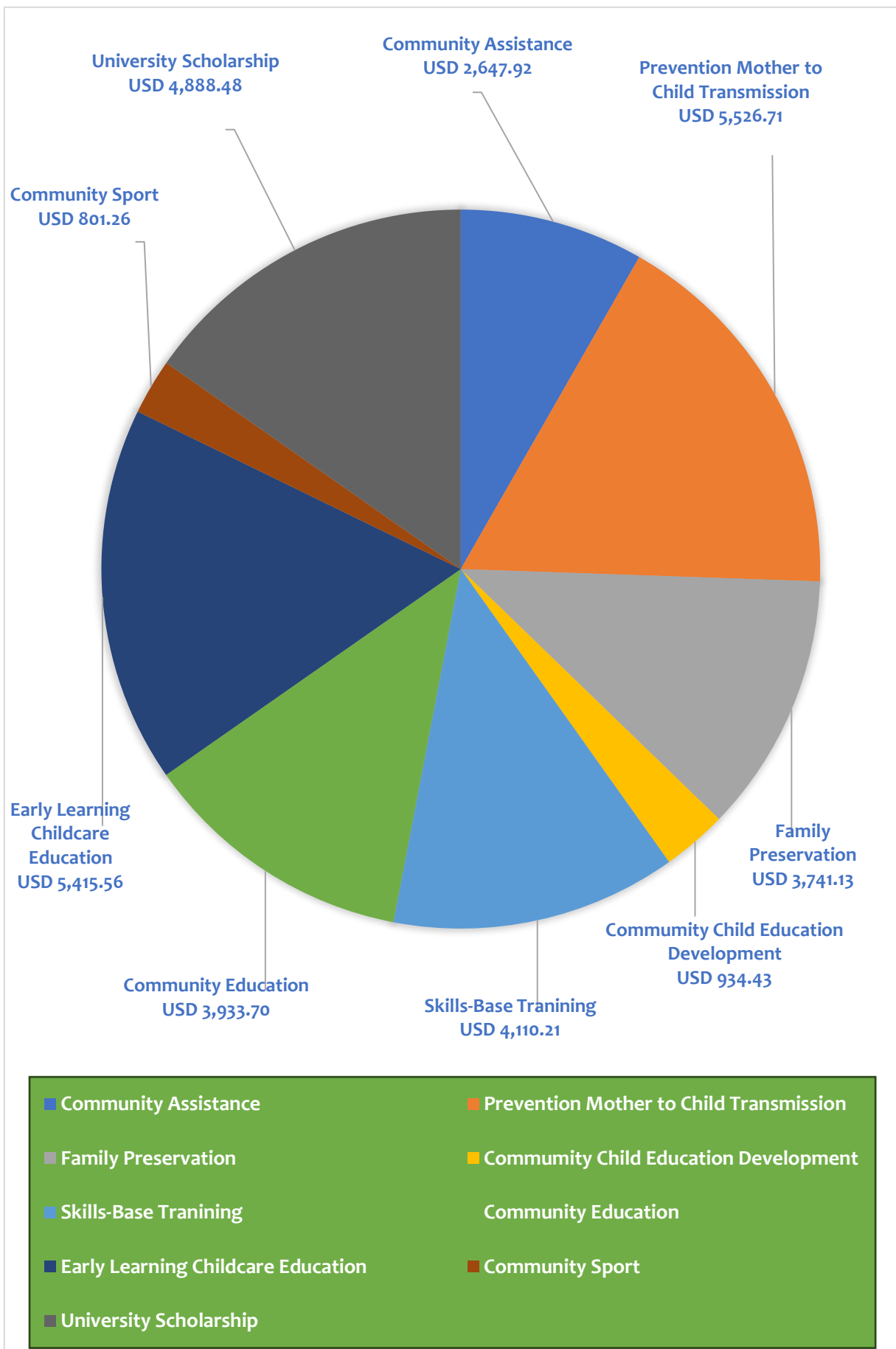
Number of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs



Percentage of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs



Total Quarterly Expense on HOPE Community Programs



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

This quarter, we have had four families under the Community Assistance Program. This program plays a very important role of assisting at-risk families in the community.

- HfCCF supported the bathroom for one family that has three family members living together; one mother (a disabled lady) and two young daughters. The daughters joined the HOPE Community Education program. HfCCF supports one bicycle for them which allows them to come to study at our Community Centre regularly.
- HOPE has worked together with our NGO partner, Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY) and Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) to make house repairs for two families so that they have a safe shelter during the rainy season and so on.
- HOPE has supported one sack of rice to one family because the father recently passed away.

HOPE always maintains a good partnership with the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), the Department of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY), and the local authorities.





FAMILY PRESERVATION

Currently there are eight families under the Family Preservation program. Five teenagers are studying at public high schools in Battambang. One boy is studying at our NGO partner, Phar Ponleu Selpak in Battambang and the other boy is studying at a public primary school. HOPE supports them for personal hygiene supplies, a sack of rice and pocket money each month. HOPE supports another little boy with four cans of milk formula. The social worker works with the Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY), Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), the Commune Chief (CC), and Women and Children Consultative Committee (WCCC) to follow up with the family every month to talk about the children’s progress and living conditions in our community.



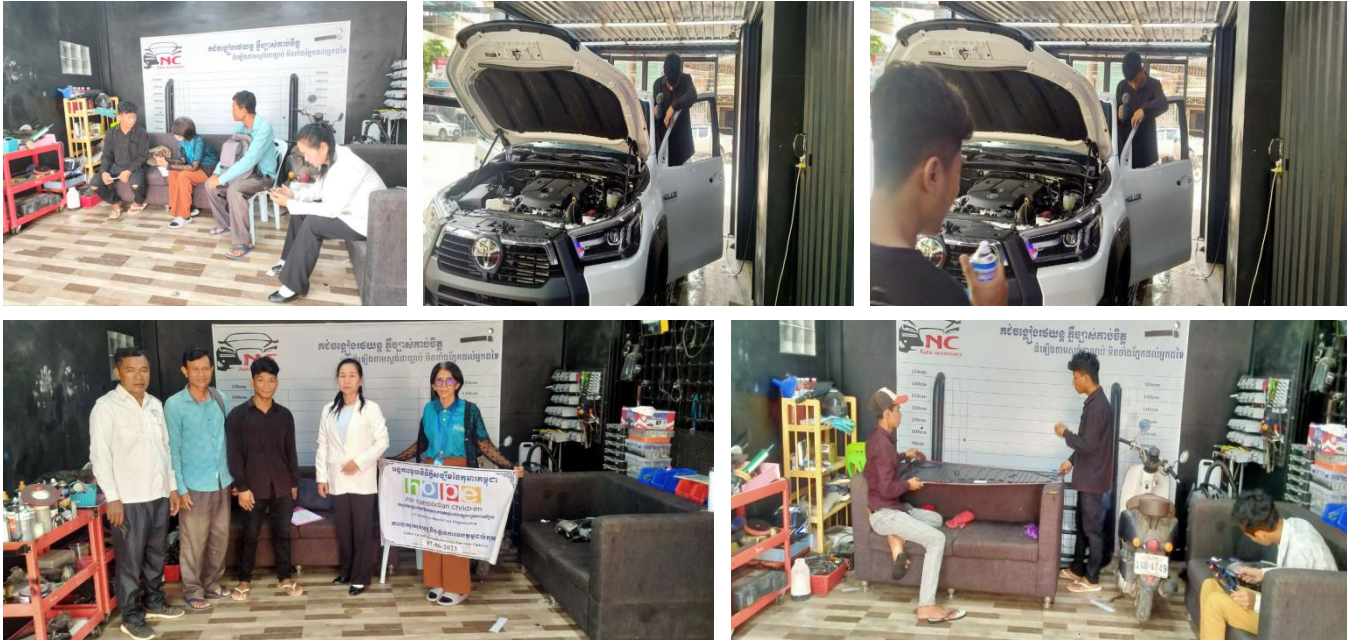


SKILLS-BASED TRAINING

Currently we have two teenagers and six adult students under the Skills-Based Training program.

- **Vehicle Detailing**

One young adult has improved his skills and is gaining a lot of experience during his studies. He earns a small salary which allows him to buy some of his personal items and to save a small amount of money in his bank account. He is living with the business owner who provides him accommodation and food.



- **Beauty Salon**

Two teenage girls are learning skills related to Beauty Salon and are now on internship at a Beauty Clinic in Poi Pet. Both teenagers are doing very well and this opportunity gives them a chance to learn many new skills, such as the application of laser serum for the face, face massages, eyelash extensions, and fingernail art. During this reporting period one the teenagers successfully completed her course and has left the program.



- **Phone Repair**

One student's case in the phone repair program was closed in May. Now he is on an internship with the Social Welfare Department of Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation. He works from 7:30am to 12:00pm and 2:00pm to 6:00pm. He assists the social workers with follow up cases and home visits, study the living conditions and the state of well-being for each of the students to the children in Community Child Education Development program.



- **Sewing Class**

Currently there are six female adults attending this Sewing program. They all study very hard and pay a lot of attention to the teacher. The students have learned 6 new styles of clothes and are now able to make their own pants and some other clothes.





PREVENTION MOTHER TO CHILD TRANSMISSION

Currently we have 31 babies under this program. During this quarter, HOPE delivered 356 cans of milk formula to the babies under our program and some families who are living far away from HOPE Community Centre received a travel allowance cost from HOPE. Each month the moms and dads bring their baby to HOPE Community Centre to take the milk formula and received some education by HOPE Nurse, Mr KHEN, and the Senior Nurse from Department of Health about mainstream health awareness, infection prevention, childcare, hygiene and sanitation, bottling, use of health centre services when the child has minor health problems, vaccinating their children and contraception.

We maintain very a good relationship with the Battambang Department of Health and give thanks to the senior nurse that spends time with us to help the babies in our community.



COMMUNITY CHILD EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

Currently, there are 58 children under this program. They are attending at the primary school level. The social worker works with the Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY) and the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) to follow up on the children every month about how their school is going and to solve any issues that the children might have at school or home. HOPE's Social worker, DoSVY and CCWC consult with the families about living conditions. We try to convince the parent to send their children to school regularly and to monitor the children at home when they return from school. Soon HOPE wants to see that these families have a better income and that the children are attending school regularly.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Community Education is known as a program which has enhanced poor children who don't have a chance to learn English and Computer skills, get equal opportunity to study those skills like others. Presently, we have 349 students, 217 girls and 132 boys attending classes. Among those students, there are 38 students studying computer skills and they are very happy with the setup of 20 new desktop computers which makes the study of the Photoshop and Video Editor programs so much easier to run. During the last three months, we decorated the English classroom to improve the appearance.

The English and Computer classes will have final exams at the end of June. Our teachers are now busy enrolling new students for the new term. Before attending this program, the students must complete a placement test to help us determine which class is suitable for them. The assessments will be done by doing home-visit in the early part of July.



EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE EDUCATION

Our four classes have run as normal since the new academic year started in January 2023. The number of students has not changed since our previous quarterly report: there are 78 students, 39 boys and 39 girls who come to our classes regularly.

Currently, our teachers are very busy decorating their classrooms because we will implement the evaluation for each class by the director from the Education Department in order to see if each class passes the standards set by the department. Teaching kids is not just about learning the lessons we present on the board; it is also important to have a stimulating environment in the classroom as it helps our students grow.

Once a month, our teachers are encouraged to prepare a test for students because we want to see the improvement of each student and we want to develop a specific plan to help the students who are below the average. Besides the monthly test, we also have prepared a Standard Test for each level which helps us to realize that our educational system is quite good. There are 50 students (female 24) who did the standard test. Among them, there were 18 students who received A, 17 students who received B and 15 students who received C.



UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

Since this program has started, we have had five groups under this program.

GROUP 2

The 11 students in this group are in their 2nd semester of Year 4.

Two female students and one male student are studying at the university in Phnom Penh. The two female students are studying to become social workers. Both of them are now on an internship. One female student is interning with Meta Organisation in Phnom Penh. During the internship, she got a part-time job. The other female student is on an internship with Holt Organisation in Battambang. Holt Organisation has decided to accept her as a full-time employee. Congratulations to both of them!! They will do their final exam for their degree at the beginning of July.

One male student is on an internship in Israel. He is doing well there. He is working at the grape farm. He will return to Cambodia in August 2023.

The other nine students are studying in Battambang. They are doing very well at school. They completed their mid-term exams two weeks ago and are now doing their thesis writing. Some of them are employed and some are still looking for a job. Good luck for the thesis writing.





GROUP 3

The three students in this group are presently studying semester 1, year 4.

They just finished their final exams for year 3, semester 2.

Two students got grade B for their final exam of year 3, semester 2. This is a good result for them. They both are employed now and work very hard to earn their income.

Another student is waiting for her result. She works as an administrative assistant in Phailin province. This causes a little bit of difficulty with her studies because she needs to travel back to Battambang province to study during the weekend.



GROUP 4

There are only two students in this group who have finished their first year. They are now in year 2, semester 1.

A young man who studies Khmer literature at the National University of Battambang is preparing for the final exam for this term and is studying hard. He often goes to school late on Saturday mornings because he is travelling from where he lives. He has made a commitment to try and be on time in the future in order to finish his term.

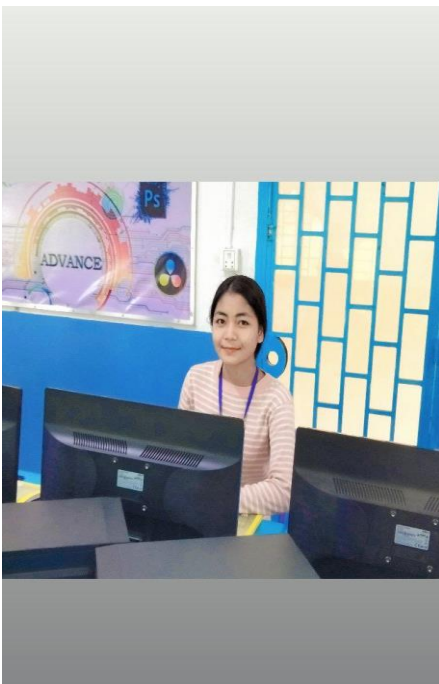
The young lady in this group is seeking a full-time job after she finishes volunteering as an administrations assistant. She is now organizing for her final exam. She attends classes regularly and works very hard as well. She lives with her grandmother and aunt and they look after her very well. She has no job now but is hoping to get a full-time job soon.



GROUP 5

There are 6 students in Group 5 who are studying year 1, semester 1. All of them are in the National University of Battambang except for one.

They are doing very well at school. Most of them now have a job. Some of them are working at part-time jobs and some are working at full-time jobs. One of these students is volunteering at Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation (HfCCF).



COMMUNITY SPORT

The rainy season makes it difficult to coach players on the field behind our community centre, so all players must train on the 1st and 2nd fields. Brother Sothoeurn comes to help us with the U-13 group and is pushing them to learn some techniques on how to control balls. Our announcement for new players has closed and now we have 40 students who are enrolled with us so we have divided them into two groups of U13 and U16. There are 18 students in U13 and 23 students in U16.



Each quarter we are going to bring you an information about two our departments working in our Battambang Community Centre.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

The Administration and Finance offices play an important role to assist all 33 staff for Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation (HfCCF).

ADMINISTRATION

Every month, the administrator is working hard to assist all staff with stationery and hygiene supply requests to make sure that they can be delivered to our community on time and to make sure that HOPE is running smooth. The administrator also works closely each month with HOPE’s suppliers of milk formula, the book store, the hardware store, the rice store, the gasoline station and motorbike mechanics.

The administrator also works close with Battambang Department of Labor Vocational Training (DoLVT) to make sure that HOPE is following the Cambodia law on employment and with the Battambang Department of Immigration (DoI) updating to the Immigration the number of foreign employees who are working or volunteering at HOPE Community Centre.

Every six-months, HOPE take in one of our University Scholarship students as a volunteer. The administration office is part of this period of volunteer and now we have one volunteer teenage girl working at the administration office. The administrator teaches her how to create new administration form, complete staff leave reports, thumb print records, the process of request and clear documents to the accountant, stock control and how to maintain good relationships with all the suppliers. She gains a lot of experience and feels confident with her tasks. After this volunteer position ends, she will have the skills to become a good employee and earn a good salary.



FINANCE

The accountant also plays a very important role to keep HOPE Community Centre running smoothly. She needs to make sure that all requested money is spend in the right way according to the budget plan. The accountant works closely with the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) every month to be sure that all staff are paid for their insurance claims and is a key liaison between HOPE Community Centre and the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) if our staff has any questions or concerns. The accountant also works closely with Battambang Department of Taxation to be sure that the tax on salaries is paid regularly and on time and any other related tax that HOPE Community Centre needs to fulfil as required by the law.

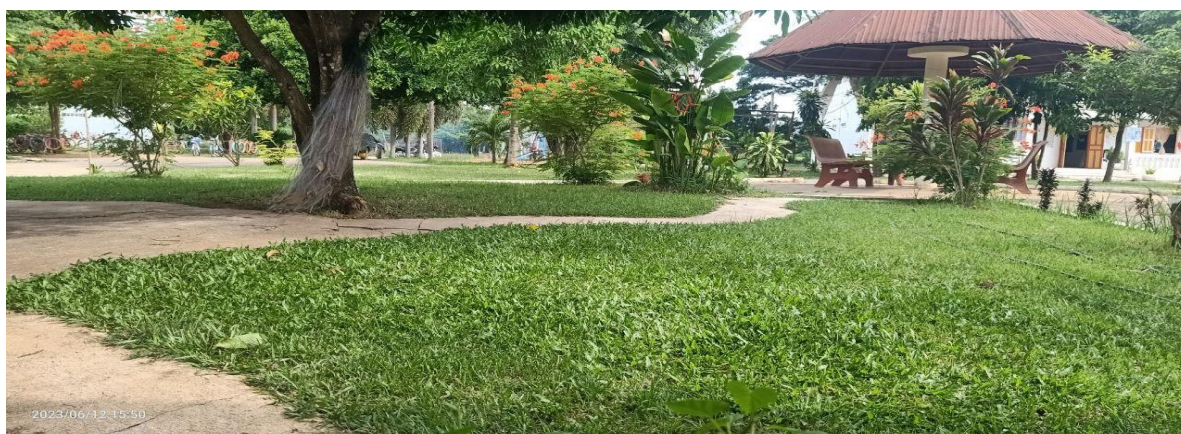


MAINTENANCE, GROUND TEAM AND SECURITY

Safety and a good environment are the first priority of the maintenance, ground and security team.

HOPE's security team works very hard to keep over 300 community students, staff and visitors safe every day. In the morning, the security team monitors all of the Early Learning Childcare and Education students to wash their hand regularly before entering HOPE Community Centre. During the afternoon, the security monitors the bicycle tags to make sure that the bikes are safe.

The grounds team cuts the grass and trims the tree branches to keep HOPE Community Centre looking clean and beautiful. They keep HOPE Community Centre a safe and healthy environment to work in.



HOPE MEETINGS AND PARTNERSHIP RELATIONSHIPS

- ✚ Every second Tuesday we hold our Executive Meetings. This group is made up of the In-Country Director, HfCCF Director, Senior Social Worker, Facilitator of Education, Security and Maintenance Team Leader and our Accountant.
- ✚ Staff meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month.
- ✚ Team meetings are held weekly.
- ✚ HOPE representatives always attend the monthly meeting at both the Norea and the Rathanak Communes.
- ✚ HOPE's nurse attends Provincial Technical Work Group Health (Pro-TWGH) monthly meeting, COVID-19 presentations, and lectures. These usually take place at the Provincial Hospital.
- ✚ Social Welfare is invited and attends the CCWC and DoSVY meetings.
- ✚ As required, HOPE also attends meetings at City Hall or at the Governor's Office.
- ✚ Education Department staff joined a workshop with the Education Department of Battambang.
- ✚ Education Department staff joined a workshop with Cambodian Children's Trust (CCT) on Freedom of Expression and Digital Framework.



- On 5th June 2023, education facilitator joined a meeting on Civil Society Alliance Forum conducted by government agency at President Hotel which the main purpose of that meeting was about the benefit of being a member of Civil Society Alliance.



- On 9th June, 2023, education facilitator joined a meeting with Battambang Education Supporting Team (BEST) in purpose of strengthen collaboration among NGO partners and BEST members will get to know about overview of Strategic Communication and its benefit as well as identify issues of each NGO faced.



IN CONCLUSION

This report was prepared by our Communication and Sponsorship Coordinator, OUM Pichponloeu, from the submissions of members of the Executive Team to give our Board Members, Ambassadors and Friends of HOPE an overview of our Cambodian activities during the last quarter. Our team members would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Stay safe and have a wonderful day.

**In Country Director
Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation**



Peter Butler



**Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation Inc.
An Australian - Cambodian Partnership.**