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for Cambodian Children
A community-based care organisation

QUARTERLY REPORT

July – September

2023



*New House Building Project.
September 2023*

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM IN-COUNTRY DIRECTOR	1
CAMBODIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)	3
PIE CHART	4
Number of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs	4
Percentage of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs	5
Total Quarterly Expense on HOPE Community Programs	6
AIMS	7
VISION	7
MISSION	7
COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE	8
FAMILY PRESERVATION	9
SKILLS-BASED TRAINING	10
PREVENTION MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION	12
COMMUNITY CHILD EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT	13
COMMUNITY EDUCATION	14
EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE EDUCATION	15
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP	16
COMMUNITY SPORT	18
ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE	19
HOPE MEETINGS AND PARTNERSHIP RELATIONSHIPS	20
IN CONCLUSION	21



ABBREVIATIONS

HfCCF:	Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation
CCWC:	Commune Committee for Women and Children
MoFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation
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 can say with some certainty that the last three months have been the smoothest few months in a very long time.

We are now at a point at our Community Centre where everything has finally slipped back into place and working like clockwork.

All of our programs are on track and all are producing positive results.

Our new three-year MoU with MoFA has been signed and we have submitted our new MoU application to MoSVY, well before the required close off date. You will recall in a recent report I announced that in 2021 we did not meet the new reporting requirements with the Department of Accounting and Auditing Regulation (AAG) and we submitted our report late, by one day. This resulted in us being set a fine in excess of \$4,100. The short version of this is we have just come to an agreement to pay \$300, a huge reduction from the initial amount.

Here are some current program numbers for you.

Prevention Mother to Child Transmission: 32 babies.

Early Learning Childcare and Education: 78, boys 39, girls 39.

Community English Students: 319, boys 112, girls 209.

Community IT Students: 61, boys 13, girls 48.

University Students: 22, males 8, females 14.

Skills Based Training: 6 ladies.

Community Sports: 45 boys aged between 11 and 16 years.

Community House Build: 1 this quarter.

We have a total of 33 staff working at our Community Centre, except for me the other 32 are all Cambodian nationals. Having fewer numbers of foreigners working at FNGO's is part of a new government push here.

Last week we were fortunate to have Mr. John Kinsella (Snr) visit us-John's first visit in some time. John brought with him Mr. Charlie Tannous and Mr. Joe Tannous. These two plumbing brothers were the winners of one of auction bids at last year's Kinsella Family Dinner. John took them on an in-depth lengthy tour of our Community Centre and they also visited the site where we are building our latest new community assistance home. John said he was impressed with how green and clean the Centre looked. He was also very happy with the soccer fields on our rear land. His highlights were the preschool kids, our IT room, the caregiver's kitchen, our English classes, soccer fields and of course all of our staff. His words "Peter and Sothoeurn, you can see that the staff are happy and you can feel it in the air". "This is a very good thing", John said.

The Tannous Brothers had not visited HOPE before and judging by their reactions they were extremely impressed. John is still very connected to our programs here in Battambang. HOPE to see you again soon, John.

Last Sunday, the 10th September, we held our first Cambodian Advisory Committee (CAC) meeting for this year. Getting these high-powered dignitaries all together on the same day is the hard part. For this reason, I presented to the committee that we reduce the current number of planned meetings from quarterly to twice per year.

The vote was unanimous, in favour. Yesterday's meeting was a huge success and the members were very impressed with each of our department's presentations to them. This time we took them on a tour showing them our newly reopened sewing classroom, our IT computer classroom, with all of the new computers, and lastly to one of our decorated preschool classrooms. This tour was well received.

The members thanked us for sending them copies of our quarterly reports and they made mention of how well these informative reports read.

We look forward to Grahame's arrival next week.

In closing, I have to again make mention to Jenny and to Flume for our new computers. Amazing.

Peter.



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CAMBODIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)

The Cambodian Advisory Committee is comprised of a group of prominent Cambodian citizens of Battambang who volunteer their time to work with HOPE to advise the Foundation on the effectiveness of its existing programs and on other assistance needed by vulnerable Cambodian Children and their families to become healthy and self-sufficient.

Chairman




Mr. Puth Try
Position: Sangke District Advisory Committee

Member



Mrs. Som Chenda
Position: Ministry of Interior's Advisor

Member



Mrs. Kea Thavy
Position: Deputy Director of Battambang Provincial Department of Women's Affairs

Member




Mr. Yos Yoeurng
Position: Sangkat Rathanak Chief

Member



Mr. Chea Sambath
Position: Thmor Koul District Governor

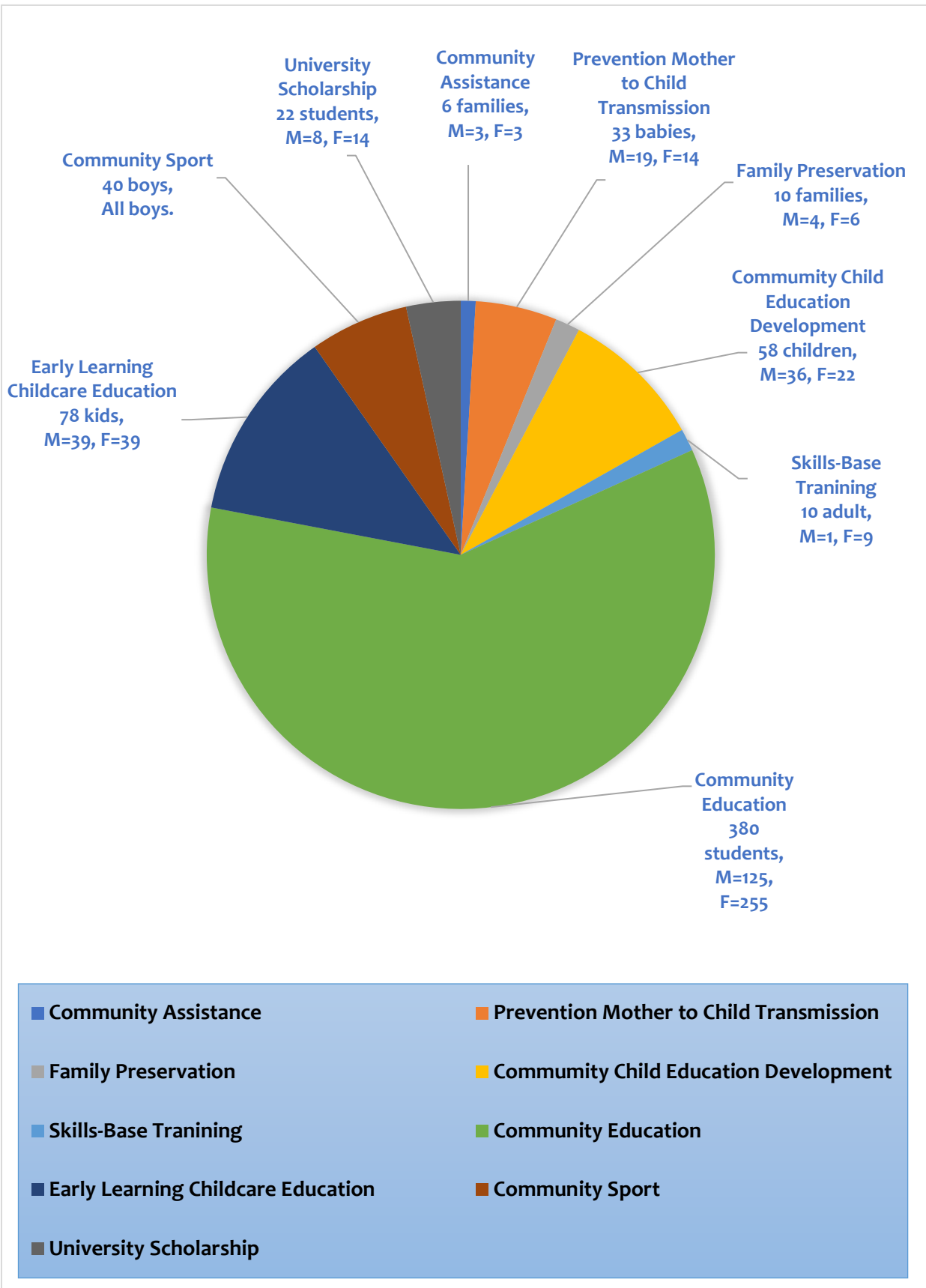


MEDICAL CONSULTANT

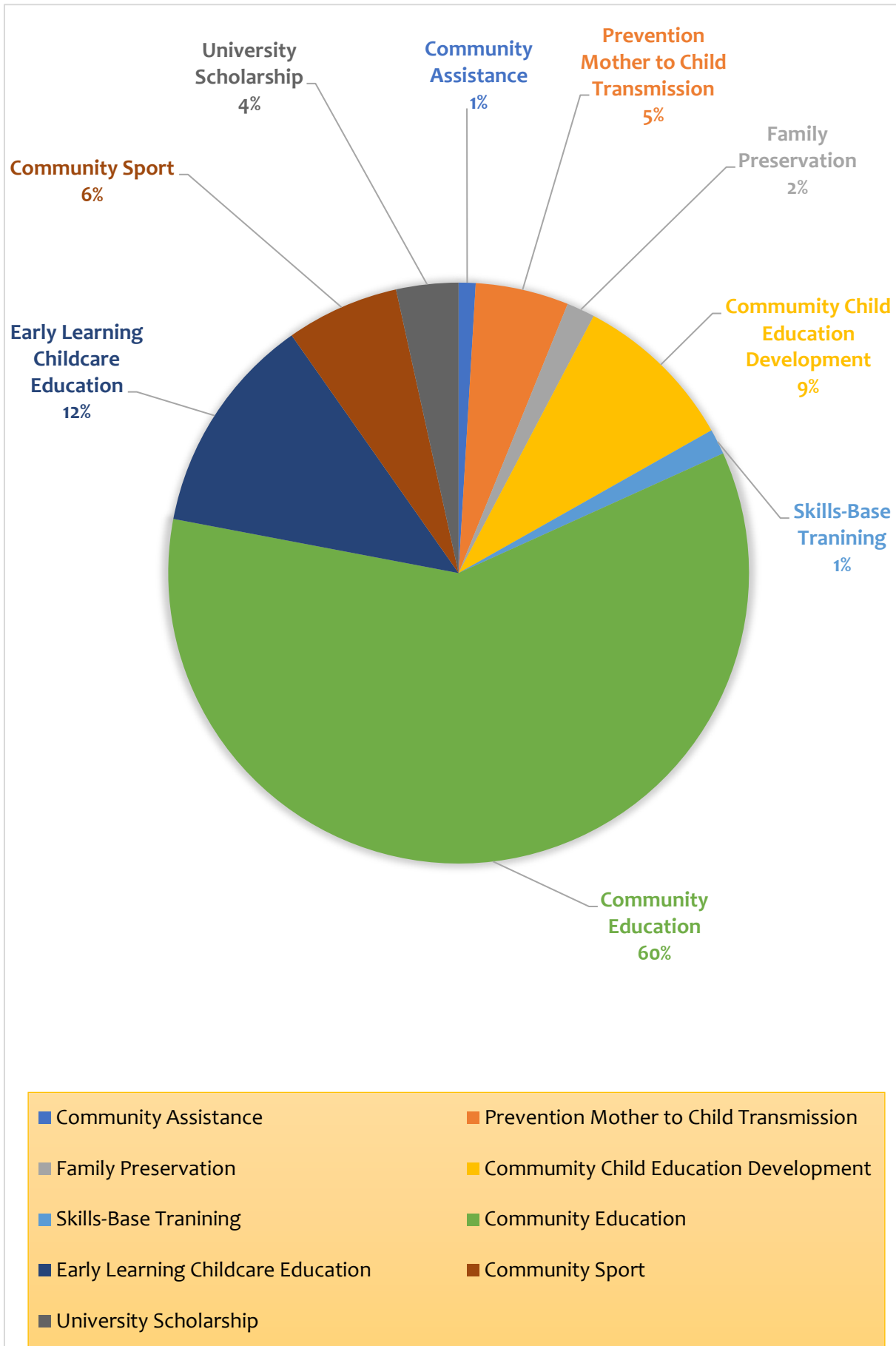
Dr Sou Sanith is a prominent Doctor in Battambang Provincial Hospital who advises HOPE and acts as a consultant on the Foundation's Joint Prevention Mother to Child Transmission program.

PIE CHART

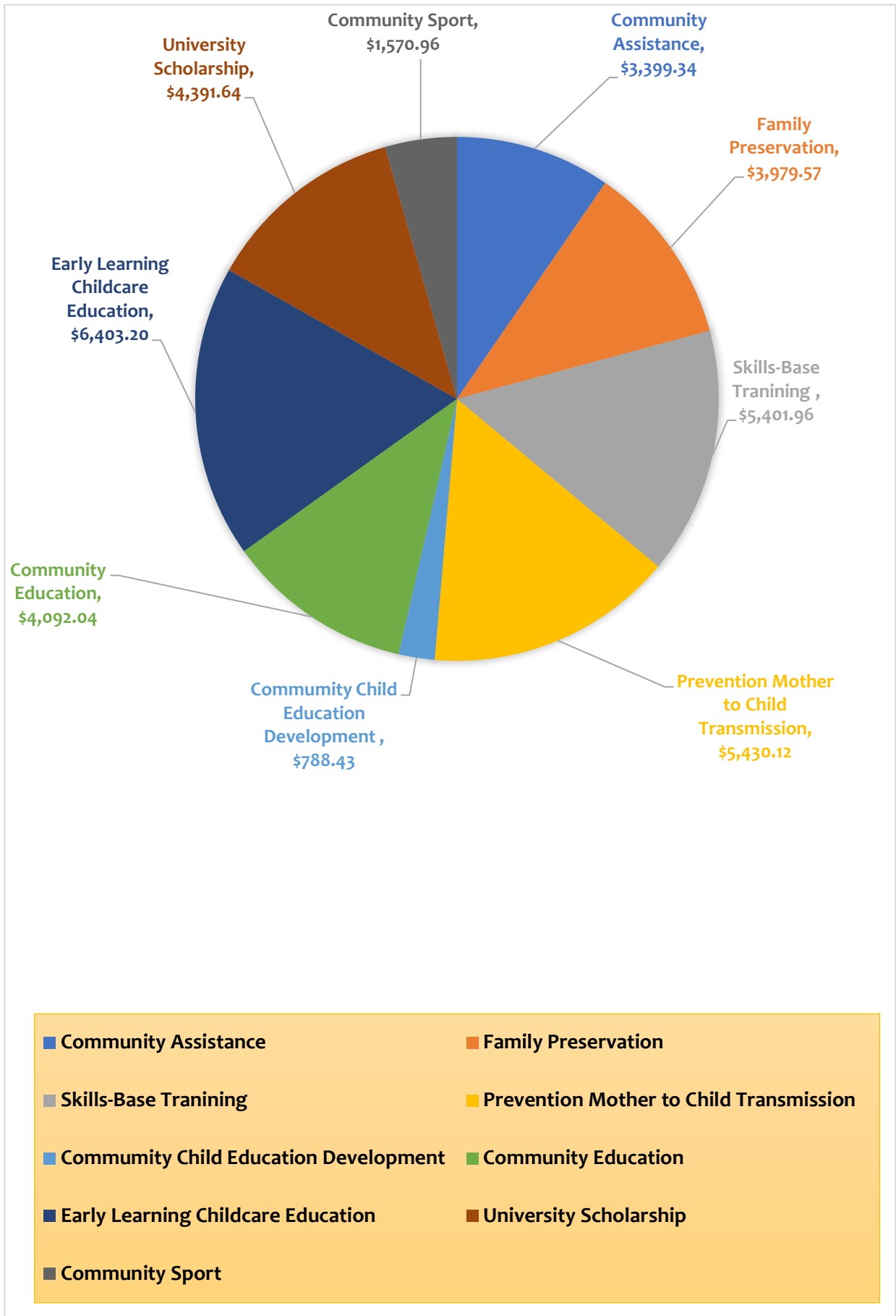
Number of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs



Percentage of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs



Total Quarterly Expense on HOPE Community Programs



AIMS

- Building relationships and trust with the community
- Involving community members in the development of programs at HfCCF
- Supporting women and their families to become economically sustainable
- Creating opportunities for community members to learn and practice new skills

VISION

The Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation envisages a society

- Where all children can reach their full potential
- Where all the children have meaningful futures
- Where all children play a worthwhile role within their family, Battambang Province and Cambodia, and
- Which respects and nurtures their Cambodian culture

MISSION

The Foundation is to work in partnership with the local Cambodian Community, other NGOs and relevant authorities to make a difference to the lives of children in need, their families and the community.



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COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Currently, we have six cases under this program.

- HOPE worked with the local authorities and Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) to support one bicycle for one teenage girl who lives with her disabled grandfather. She is studying grade 12 at the high school.
- HOPE supports food to another four families, requested by Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY).
- HOPE built a new house for one vulnerable family who is under Community Child Education and Development Program (CCED) requested by the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) and Commune Chief (CC).

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

In this quarter, there are ten families under this program. Five teenagers who are studying at public schools in the community and one boy who is studying at our NGO partner Phare Ponleu Selpak and is doing very well at school and studying hard. They all stay safe and happy with their families in their community. The social worker follows up and supports them for personal hygiene supplies, a sack of rice and pocket money each month.

There are three new cases in this quarter. The social worker works together with the Battambang Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY), and the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) to do family assessments. HOPE supports them for foods and milk formula for one baby and HOPE also purchased one motorcycle funded by David McAuley and Jenny McAuley to one teenage girl for transportation because she lives far away from high school.



SKILLS-BASED TRAINING

At HOPE we are committed to giving every teenager the opportunity to become independent. This program is specifically designed to allow all teenagers, no matter their academic skill, access to job opportunities of their choosing.

Currently we have nine adult students under the Skills-Based Training program.

- **Vehicle Detailing**

One young adult has gained a lot of experience and skills in this trade. He had a small increase in his salary from the business owner. He receives three meal per day and accommodation. He became an independent young adult. He has saved some money in his bank account and supports some living costs for his grandmother at home too. He will complete his training course in December this year.



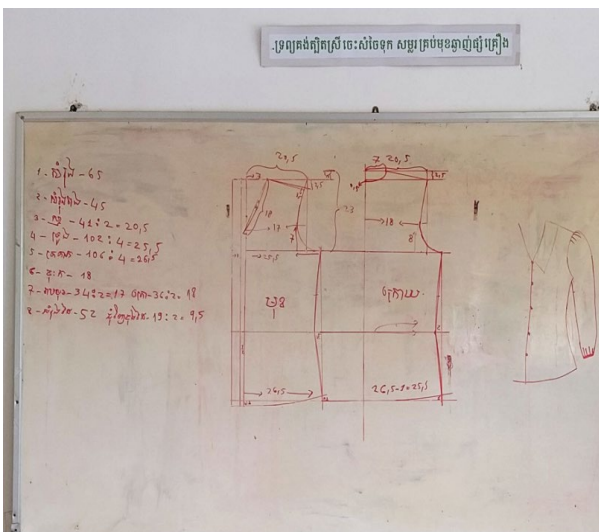
- **Beauty Salon**

One teenage girl who is on internship at a Beauty Clinic in Poi Pet has gained a lot of experiences such as the application of laser serum for the face, face massages, eyelash extensions, and fingernail art. She too has had an increase in her salary from the clinic owner because of her improvement of her skill. She became independent now and she will complete her internship in December this year.



- Sewing Class

There are seven women from our community under this program. This class term started from February to September, 2023. During this term, the students made 18 styles of clothes. They study very hard and pay a lot of attention to the teacher in class. This program is the pathway for them to independence.



PREVENTION MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

In this quarter, we had 33 babies under this program. HOPE provided 377 cans of milk formula and some travel allowance to the families who live far away from HOPE Community Centre.

In September, HOPE hosted a training course to all moms and dads presented by the Senior Nurse from the Battambang Department of Health about how to cook nutritious food for the baby when they come to HOPE to collect the milk formula for their babies. The parents observed and practice cooking the food. The moms and dads do very well and they can cook these foods at home for their babies.

We maintain a very good relationship with the Battambang Department of Health are very grateful to the senior nurses who spend time with us managing the babies health.



COMMUNITY CHILD EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

In this quarter, there were 58 children under this program. They are studying the primary school level. There are 24 kids at the grade 1 level, 19 kids at the grade 2 level, and 15 kids at the grade 3 level. HOPE supports them with school materials and a uniform. The social worker follows up and consults with the families about the living conditions and convinces the parents to send the kids to school regularly.

HOPE supports three families to start the enterprise start up. One family grills chicken and fish and sells soft drinks for her business, another lady completed the sewing course at HOPE Community Centre and started her own sewing business at home. HOPE supported her with a sewing machine so she can start her business at home. HOPE supported the other lady with some money to start her business of collecting recycle materials for resale.

We maintain a good relationship with Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY), and with Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC).

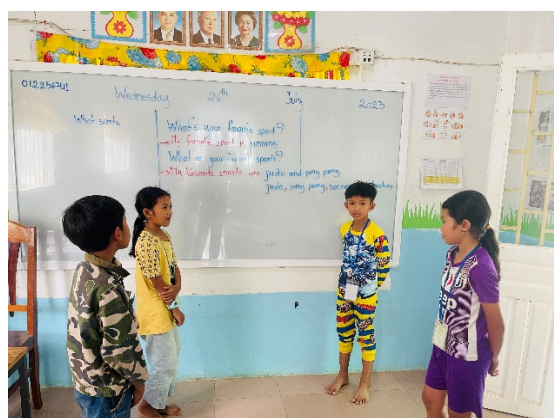


COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We have awarded certificates of completion and certificates of merit to the students who have successfully completed their courses and demonstrated outstanding performance. We congratulated the students for their hard work and dedication and encouraged them to continue pursuing their academic goals.

We opened a new library for the students to use. The library has a collection of books and other resources that cover various subjects and interests. The library also has computers and internet access that the students can use for their research and assignments. The library is open from Monday to Friday from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Our education staff are available to assist the students with their queries and requests.

The midterm exams will be held at the end of September and it will cover the topics that have been taught in the first half of the semester and will assess the students' knowledge and skills. We have provided the students with study guides and practice tests to help them prepare for the exams. We hope that these academic activities will benefit the students and help them achieve their potential. We also welcome feedback and suggestions from the students and their parents on how to improve the quality of education and services our community centre provides.



EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE EDUCATION

Learning at pre-school is a fun and exciting experience for children. It is a place where children can explore, play, and learn new things with their friends and teachers. It also helps children develop their social, emotional, cognitive, and physical skills. Besides improving teaching skills our teachers also focus on the environment inside and outside the classes as it is an important factor that affects the learning and development of young children. We provide a safe, stimulating, and supportive environment that fosters children's curiosity, creativity, and confidence. Now our students have better health, cognitive, and social-emotional outcomes than before they attend our program.



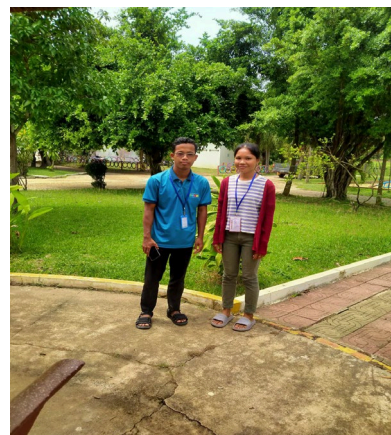
UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

Studying at the university level is an important decision that can have many benefits for personal and professional development. University education can help in gaining valuable skills that are essential for career and working life, such as communication, organizing, time management, team work, leadership, problem-solving and so on.

Since the University Scholarship Program was created, we have five groups of students. The first group graduated with their bachelor degree in 2022 while other four groups are still being supported by us.

Beside studying at the University, all of the students are also encouraged to find part-time or full-time jobs based on the schedule that they study at the university. Based on our recent survey, among the 27 students, 67% are being employed in the government and private sector while 15% are volunteering and 18% are looking for a suitable job. It seems that most of the students are able to balance their studies and work well. However, there is still a significant proportion of students who are looking for a suitable job. This suggests that there may become challenges or barriers that prevent them from finding employment opportunities that match their qualifications and interests.

Therefore, we will provide more support and guidance for these students, such as career counselling, job fairs, networking events, and internship programs. By doing so, we can help the students achieve their full potential and prepare them for their future careers.





COMMUNITY SPORT

Currently, we have 40 male players under this program playing football. Our program provides opportunities for people of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds to participate in sport and physical activity. Community sport programs can have various benefits for individuals and communities, such as improving health, social inclusion, personal development, and community cohesion. Recently, we conducted a football tournament at our community centre on the rear land. All of our community students were encouraged to join that event and they were all so happy with that.



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

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

During this quarter, the administrator and the accountant worked with HOPE suppliers to assist all 33 staff at HOPE Community Centre with money, stationary, hygiene and anything else that staff needs to support our community families.

The administrator works with the Battambang Department of Labor to make the Employment Book for three new staff and assist Mr THY Sothoeurn, HfCCF Director, to prepare document checklists for applying for visa for the In-Country-Director and document checklists to renew our MoU between HOPE and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFA) and Ministry of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY).

HOPE conducted many internal and external meetings and training sessions. Battambang Education Support Team (BEST) requested to HOPE Community Centre to use HOPE building for their meetings two times. They appreciated this and admired how clean, comfortable and welcoming our HOPE Community Centre is.

In the last quarter, we informed you that one of our University Student volunteers at the administration office and learned some tasks from the accountant. Now I would like to inform you that she had completed her volunteer experience and is leaving the administration office. She did very well during her volunteer term and has gained a lot of experiences.

On 15th September, the accountant attended the meeting about NGO Laws, Taxation and Accounting and Auditing Regulations prepared by Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC). It was good for all NGOs to get more information about what the NGO has to do and what reports have to be submitted to the government. We don't want to get a penalty from the government. We have to know all information updates from them.



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.
- ✦ 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.
- ✦ Education facilitator joined a meeting with Battambang Education Supporting Team (BEST) for the purpose of strengthening 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.



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



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