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for Cambodian Children  
A community-based care organisation



# QUARTERLY REPORT | 2 0 2 4

April - June

Organisation's Name:

Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation  
A Community-Based Care Organisation

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# ABBREVIATIONS

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



## MESSAGE FROM AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE

I made my first visit to HOPE in Battambang in 2008.

Tim Berry one of HOPE's founders was instrumental in getting me to cross the Thai border into Cambodia and on to Battambang.

Back then HOPE was a registered residential child care centre housing over 100 kids ranging in ages from two years old through to teenagers.

In other words an Orphanage.

It did not mean that all of the kids at HOPE were orphans.

Quite the opposite.

Parents would leave their kids at orphanages so they could go to Thailand to work knowing that their children would be safe, being well looked after and getting an education. A wonderful idea but in practice fraught with long and short dangers for the kids/children and their parents.

I soon became an advocate strongly campaigning against orphanages of any form and that kids were better off living within a family – preferably their own family.

The Cambodian Government eventually introduced laws governing orphanages and their responsibility to integrate all kids back into their community. HOPE embraced this direction.

One of my proudest times at HOPE was during the years of reintegration.

It was not easy, in fact it was bloody hard, and took everyone's strength. We had down times followed by up times.

But a time did arrive when the last kids moved out from us and back home.

This was not the end but the beginning of yet another difficult journey that directly affected our social welfare team and our teachers.

When kids are taken in by an orphanage there is a legally binding contract between the government bodies and that orphanage that made the orphanage legally responsible to each and every child until they become an adult, which is 18 years old in Cambodia.

Even after they are reintegrated.

With HOPE, these kids and teenagers became part of its Outreach Program. HOPE's social workers not only supplied emotional support but essentials like hygiene items, school uniforms, clothing and where required a bush bike so they could get to school.

HOPE's teachers followed up each and every child by visiting their government school talking to their teachers and the school director.

Outreach was exhausting, time consuming and expensive.



But at HOPE we were determined to ensure the safety and wellbeing of not only the kids and teenagers but by offering a variety of support to their families. Most importantly was to see them getting an income.

With the Orphanage long gone, HOPE had reinvented it self to become a fully functional Community Centre.

HOPE runs a well-respected preschool for the vulnerable, poor and disadvantaged kids aged three to six.

Afternoon there are over 300 teenagers from the local communities who attend our English and IT classes.

HOPE also has a University Support program for teenagers with good academic skills but whose families lack the finances to attend university.

HOPE holds a MoU with the Cambodian Department of Education, meaning we are approved and meet their criteria.

Hope's Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission Program, in conjunction with the Home Based Care Team of the Battambang Provincial Hospital, where HOPE supplies baby formula, equipment and tuition in its safe use to HIV+ mothers who are unable to safely breastfeed their babies. To date over 280 babies have been through this two-year program and all babies have finished the program HIV free. This program is a direct result of Australia's Board members pushing to reduce the spread of HIV in Cambodia. This program is now acknowledged by the Cambodian Health Department.

HOPE also works with the government, local authorities and other NGO partners offering a wide range of social welfare support.

We support families in need, build houses, renovate homes, and support families through business startup programs.

Teenagers are encouraged to learn a trade through our skills-based training program.

All of this work could not have been achieved or continues to happen without HOPE's dedicated staff. Our staff retention rate is high.

At HOPE it is more like a Family.

Staff choose to stay on at HOPE even though they could earn a better salary elsewhere. proving that being happy and appreciated at work is key.

The Australian Board and its associates are the ones that work tirelessly to raise the funding to keep HOPE alive.

Anyone working in a charity will know the huge challenges to raise money. It is a hard battle.

Without HOPE's regular ongoing relationships with the JFK Dinner, HIRO Bike ride, A Noble Cause or our University Sponsors then I am sure that some HOPE's great programs would not exist.

Over a decade has passed for me and it is now time for me to step back and allow others to take over.

Turning 70, I have chosen to refocus my life to be able to spend precious time with loving family, my amazing friends and travel.

Of course, HOPE is in my blood, always will be, so there will be regular trips back to Battambang.

HOPE has promoted Mr. Thy Sothoeurn as its new Director.

Sothoeurn has been employed at HOPE for 14 number years. First starting as a part time teacher, working his way up to being the manager of education at HOPE.

Over the years he has taken an important position on the HOPE Executive Committee and been an active member within the Battambang Education Committee. He has Completed his Master of English at the Build Bright University, started up, and is still very active in, HOPE's community Soccer program and is married with two wonderful children. On top of all of this, Sothoeurn is well liked by his staff and the relevant government bodies in Phnom Penh

It was HOPE's wish that one day the Community Centre in Battambang would be totally run by Cambodians. I am so pleased to witness this actually happen.

Unable to completely leave HOPE, I will stay on as an Advisor to both Sothoeurn and the Chair of the Australian Board.

Starting from this next report, Sothoeurn will be writing to you about the quarterly operations of HOPE.

Be safe, stay healthy and always remember what a simple smile can do.

Never stop dreaming and always know that there is a brighter tomorrow if only you take the time to really look for it.

Kind regards

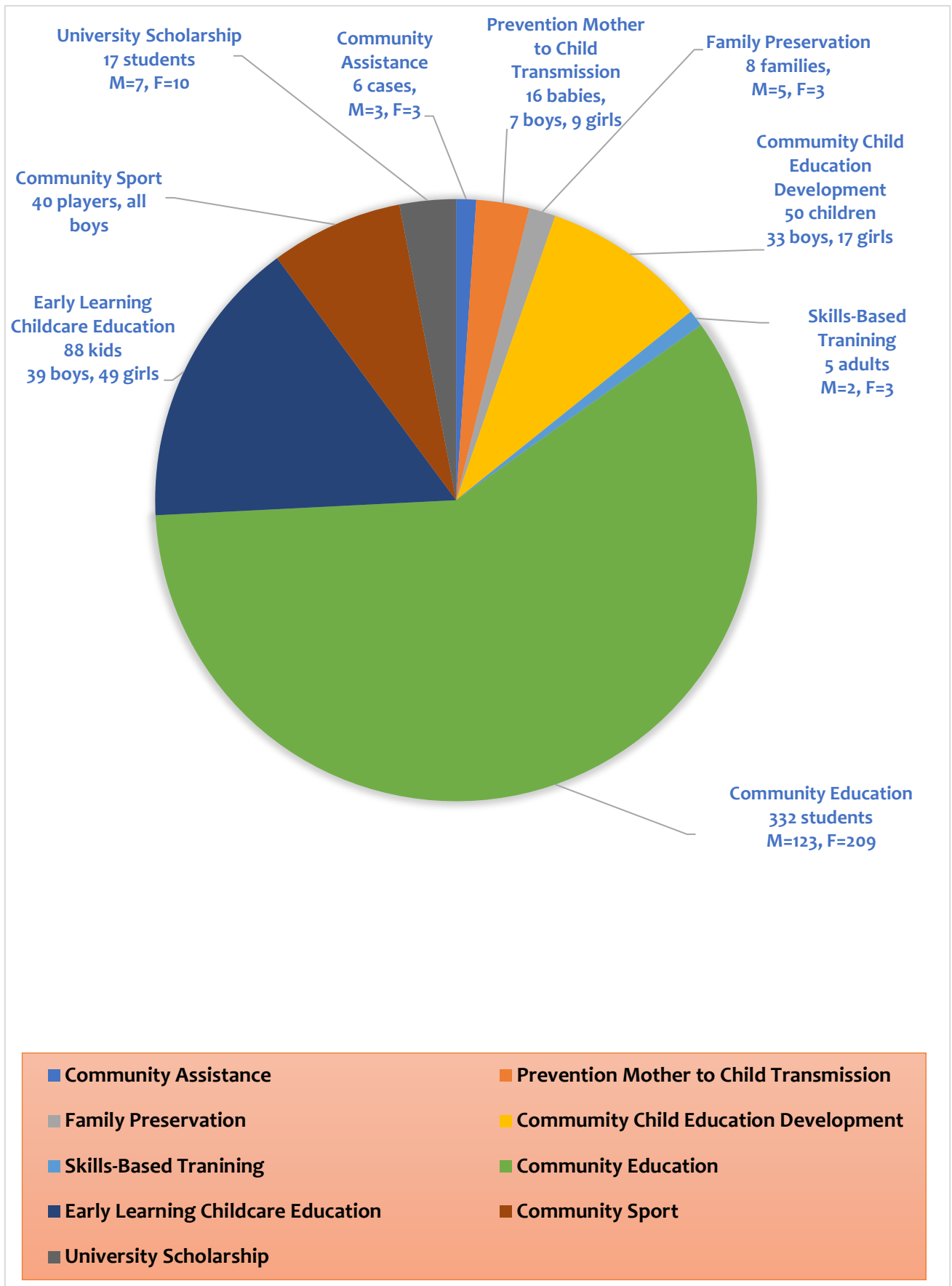
Peter.



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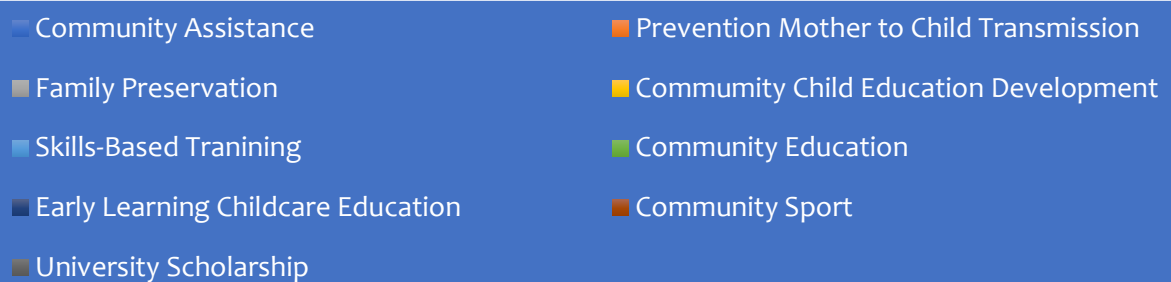
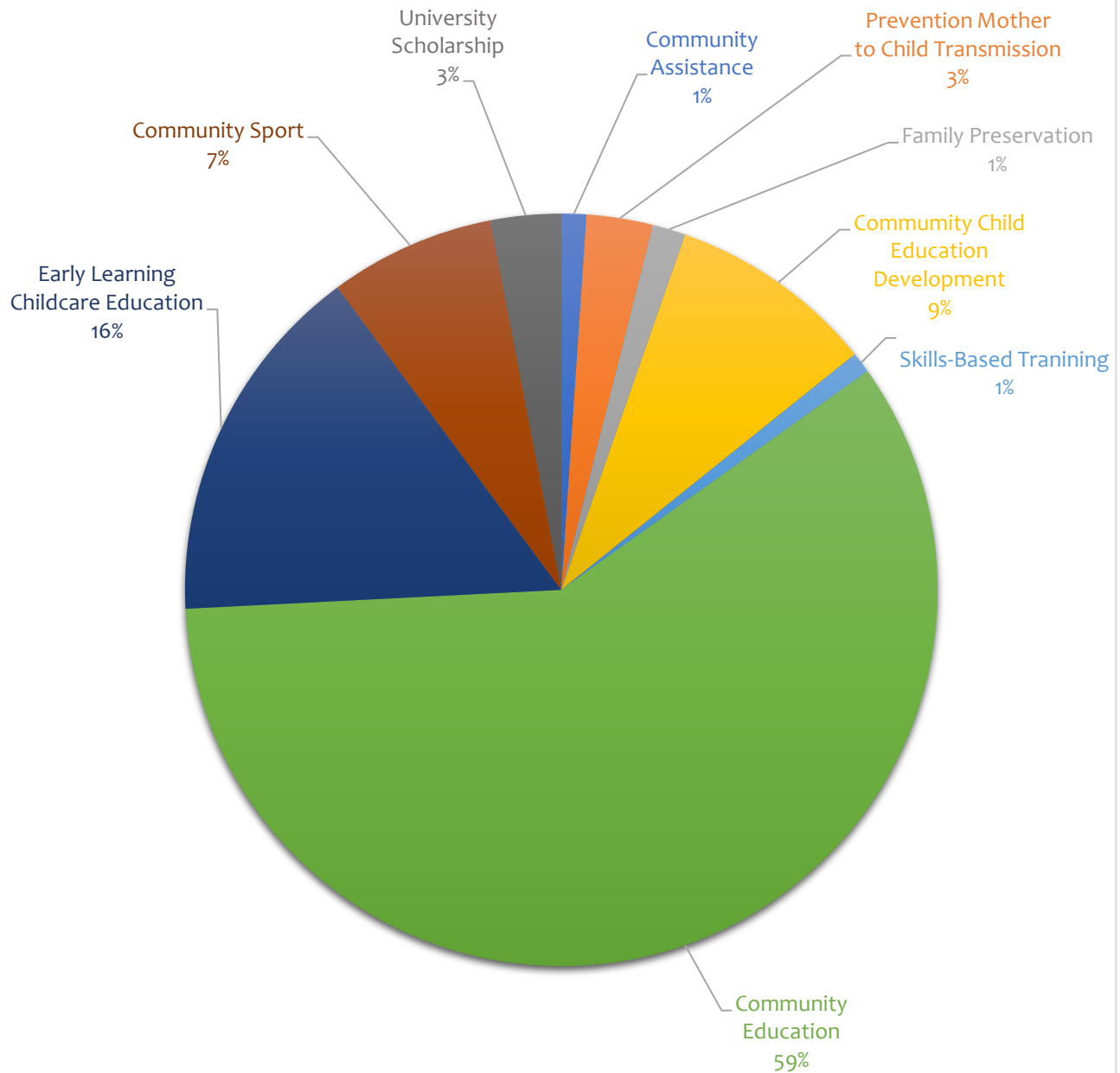
# PIE CHART

## Number of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs

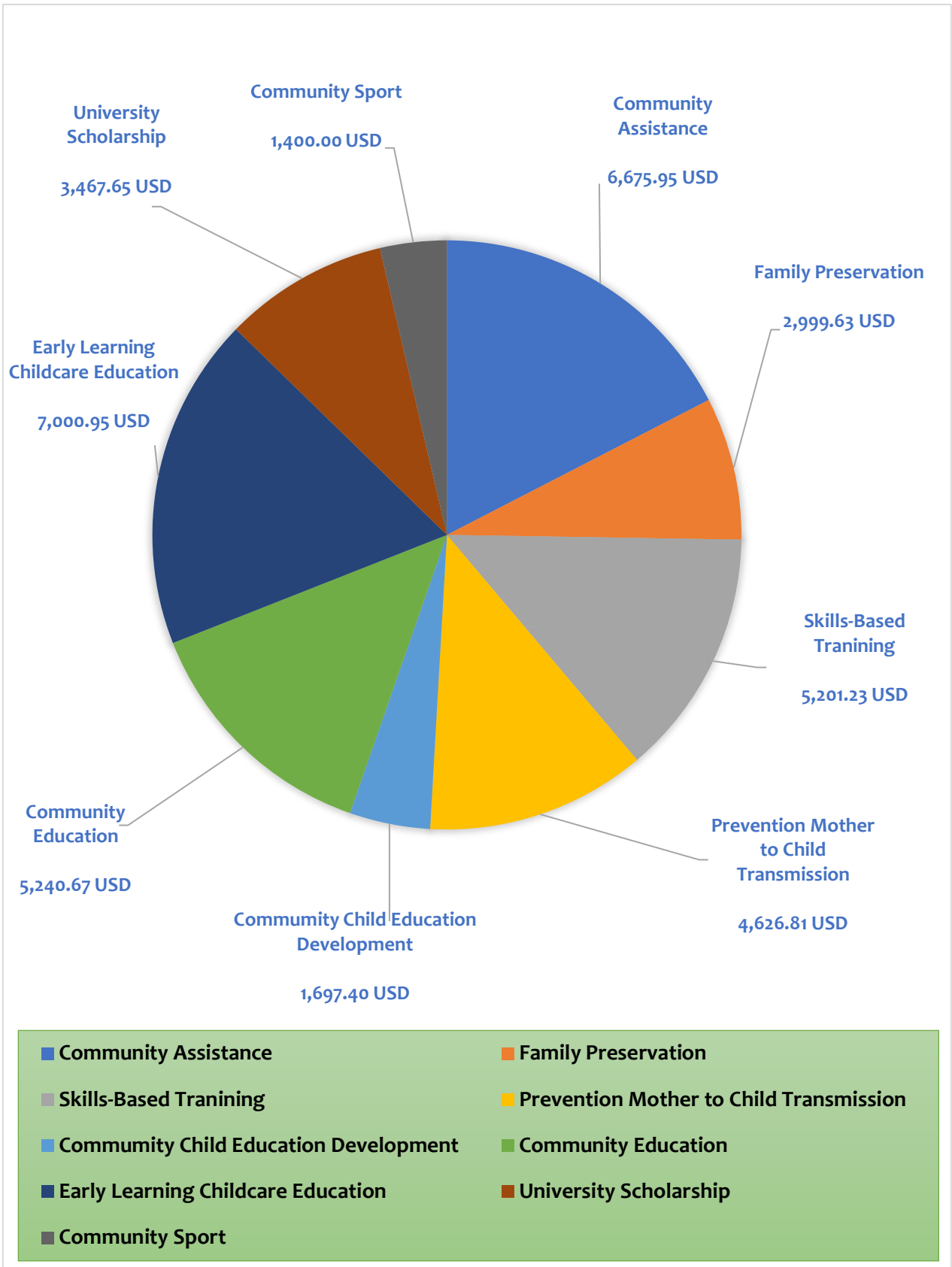




## Percentage of Children attending HOPE's Community Programs



## Total Quarterly Expense on HOPE Community Programs



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## COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Currently, there are six families under this program.

In this quarter, HOPE built one house for the vulnerable family who is living at Ek Phnom District to be a safe shelter for their three children. This house was built by a local community contractor and took approximately ten days to complete. This house is built with wood and tin wall and also has a tin roof.

HOPE repaired another house in Sangkae District at the request of Mr. Put Try. HOPE supplied the tin and water jars for this project.

HOPE also supplied rice to the poor families in four different districts: Sompov Lun District, Rathank Mondol District, Ek Phnom District and Sangkae District.

HOPE donated some money to the Red Cross in Battambang through the Battambang Provincial office and to the family whose house had burned down which was requested by the Battambang Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY). HOPE also donated some money to fix the learning room at Sangket Rathanak requested by Mr YOS Yoeurng, Sangkat Rathanak leader.

HOPE always works closely with the Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC), and the local authorities to follow up on cases in their community.



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HOPE donated some money to the Red Cross in Battambang

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HOPE donated some money to fix the learning room at Sangket Rathanak



HOPE supplied rice to the poor families in four different districts





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HOPE repaired a house in Sangkae District

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HOPE built a house in Sangkae District

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## FAMILY PRESERVATION

This quarter, there were eight families under this program. The families are poor disabled families, vulnerable and HIV families. They all live in different places in our community. The Social workers work closely with our partners, authorities; Battambang Department of Social Affairs Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY), Commune Committee for Women and Children (CCWC) and Commune leaders to consult and follow up on any issues relating to the family. Some of the issues that are discussed include: children not attending school; living conditions; health; safety; hygiene; and relationship issues in their community. Some examples of issues that are discussed include discrimination and public services that they can use in their community. HOPE donates some rice, hygiene supplies and some money to each family.

Thank you to CCWC and the local authorities that always support us in their partnership with HOPE.









## SKILLS-BASED TRAINING

This quarter, there were five adults under this program. This program gives the adults a great opportunity to become independent and earn a daily income to improve their living condition.

- **Beauty Salon**

Last quarter, we updated you about two teenage girls and one woman who attend this course with our NGO partner, Caritas Cambodia. One teenage girl is now on a one-month internship with a Beauty Salon partnership with Caritas Cambodia at Bunteay Meanchey Province. After the internship, the owner of the Salon recognized that she is hard working and kind so he negotiated with her to become a full-time employee. She will get free accommodation, food and one hundred dollars for the first three months. After three months, her salary will increase.

For the other two women, HOPE supports them with some materials so that they can practice more during their semester. Soon they will complete their course.









- **Cooking Class**

One teenage girl attended this course with our NGO partner, Caritas Cambodia. She completed the course and now works as a cook at a restaurant owned by her relative in Poipet city, Buntheay Mean Chey Province.



- **Hair Cutting Class**

There is one teenage boy under this program. HOPE supports this teenage boy with food and this case will close in July. He attends class regularly and is doing well at school.



### ■ Sewing Class

Seven women from our community who attended HOPE's Community Sewing Class have completed the course. Three women completed a seven-month course and another four women completed 14 months of this course. Three women are working at home by buying cloths from Poipet city to sew at home. The other four women are also working with their skills at home. They earn an income every day from completing their sewing projects. Some women are also working at other jobs to earn a bit more income for their living conditions.

HOPE supplied a sewing machine to each student who has completed the course which allows them to start their own business at home immediately.

The social worker did the family assessments for the new families that will join our program and the new class will start early July, 2024.





## PREVENTION MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION

This quarter, there were 19 babies under this program. The number of cases has dropped down for this quarter which is a good sign that people who are living in Battambang are understanding and are knowledgeable about the disadvantages of HIV. This is what the government wants. As usual, the moms and dads are coming to HOPE Community Centre each month to collect the milk formula for their baby. When they come to HOPE, they are educated by HOPE's nurse and the senior nurse from Battambang Department of Health about their health, birth control, hygiene practices, how to make nutritious food for the baby and especially checking on their baby's health.

The social worker and HOPE's nurse will go on home visits to follow up on cases in the community to make sure that they are following the regulations and keeping clean at all times. During the visit, the moms and dads can consult about any issues that they have with our nurse, Mr Khen, or they can discuss about any related social issues they have with the CCWC or the authority of their concerns.

HOPE always maintains a good relationship with Battambang Department of Health and works closely with the local authorities. Thank you so much for your support.









## COMMUNITY CHILD EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

There are 50 children under this program this quarter.

The social workers go for home visits each month to follow up on any issues at school or home or in their community. The children are attending school regularly and doing very well at school. The social workers also call on the parents to follow up on the 23 children at school and they call on the teachers at school to follow up on the 37 children to be sure they are all doing well.

HOPE supplies five bicycles to the poorer families which allows the parents to take the children to school regularly. In addition, there are 16 families who received clothes, suitcases, drinking glasses and plates from a generous sponsor through one of the social workers. Thank you so much for your kindness.









## COMMUNITY EDUCATION

We are pleased to share the remarkable progress and dedication demonstrated by our Community Education Program during the second quarter of 2024. Our strategic initiatives have focused on refining our curriculum, supporting educators, preparing students for academic milestones, and strengthening partnerships with parents.

- **Curriculum Enhancement:** We conducted a comprehensive review of our curriculum, resulting in the development and implementation of a new framework. This ensures our program remains relevant and effective in preparing students for their academic journey and beyond.
- **Teacher Excellence:** Our educators continue to excel, providing engaging and effective instruction. Their dedication and professionalism significantly contribute to the overall success of our program and the academic growth of our students. We recently provided capacity-building training to two volunteers, focusing on Teaching Methodology and basic administration. The sessions aimed to enhance their skills and confidence. Volunteers learned effective teaching techniques and administrative tasks. Ongoing support and monitoring will ensure sustained impact.
- **Student Preparation:** As we approach the end of the quarter, students are diligently preparing for final exams scheduled for late June. Targeted revision sessions and personalized support aim to maximize their potential.
- **Parent Collaboration:** Collaboration with parents remains a cornerstone of our approach. We maintain open lines of communication, seeking their invaluable insights and support. Together, we cultivate a nurturing environment where students thrive academically and personally.
- **Enrolment Surge:** In mid-June, our community education program experienced a surge in enrolment for the upcoming English and Computer classes. This underscores the community's confidence in our ability to deliver valuable educational opportunities.

Besides providing quality non-formal education, our community education program also includes a sub-program called 'Supplementary Study Support.' This initiative aims to assist students who attend our Community Centre and come from economically disadvantaged families. Specifically, it offers financial support for students to attend the extra classes with science subjects such as chemistry, mathematics, physics and biology. By doing so, our program contributes to enhancing educational opportunities and bridging gaps for these students.









## EARLY LEARNING CHILDCARE EDUCATION

Quarter 2 of 2024 has been a period of significant progress and achievements for the Early Learning Childcare and Education Program. We have focused on several key areas aimed at enhancing educational standards, fostering a healthy environment, and strengthening community partnerships.

We began by implementing standardized testing procedures to assess academic progress and identify areas for improvement. Monthly assessments were conducted to track individual student development, allowing us to adjust teaching strategies effectively. Additionally, a successful technical meeting was organized, focusing on curriculum updates, teaching methodologies, and professional development opportunities for our educators.

Classroom environments were enhanced through creative and educational decorations that stimulate learning and creativity. Thematic displays were utilized to engage students and create an inspiring atmosphere for learning.

Emphasizing the importance of nutrition, we reviewed and improved the quality of meals served to students. Through balanced meal plans and nutritional education initiatives, we promoted healthy eating habits among our students.

Our vegetable garden was revitalized as an interactive learning space. Children were actively involved in planting, nurturing, and harvesting vegetables, providing hands-on experiences in agriculture and sustainability.

We strengthened our partnership with the District Office of Education (DOE), collaborating on monitoring and evaluating classroom practices to ensure compliance with educational standards and regulations.

In conclusion, Quarter 2 of 2024 has been marked by significant achievements in educational excellence, community engagement, and the promotion of a healthy learning environment at Early Learning Childcare and Education Program. We look forward to building upon these accomplishments and fostering continued growth and success in the upcoming quarters.









# UNIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

We are pleased to present the quarterly report for our university scholarship program. This report highlights the progress and achievements of our students across various groups as they continue their academic and professional journeys. Our commitment remains steadfast in supporting these talented individuals toward academic excellence and career readiness.

## Group II

- Student: Diligently preparing for the state exam scheduled in August.
- Professional Role: Concurrently working as a stock officer at a local agricultural company in Phnom Penh.
- Living Arrangement: Residing with classmates in a rental house, effectively managing studies and professional responsibilities.

## Group III

- Students: Two students focused on excelling in their State Exam this month.
- Achievements: One achieved a GPA of C, and the other a GPA of B in the last term of their 4th year, reflecting dedication.
- Job Prospects: One student completed the first round of interviews at Mitsu Cambodia Co., Ltd., eagerly awaiting the second round. Another actively job hunting with a strict budget.
- Teaching Commitment: Despite a busy schedule teaching English at a local school and assisting families, another student remains committed to educational goals, awaiting the state exam in August.

## Group IV

- Students: Two students dedicated to preparing for their primary school teacher examination.
- Preparation: Diligently studying in their 3rd year of the 2nd semester.

## Group V

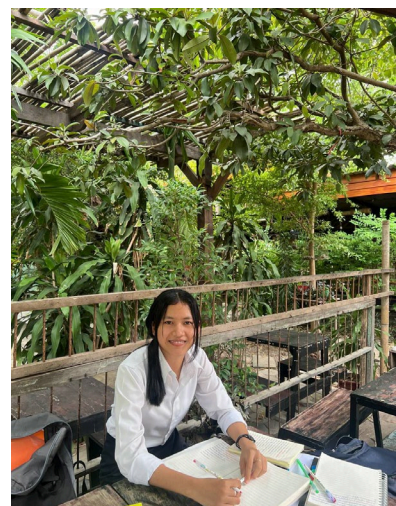
- Students: All members have begun a new term in their 2nd year of the 2nd semester.
- Employment Focus: Two students actively seeking employment opportunities, improving English and computer skills. Despite recent health challenges, another student continues to work diligently while transitioning to a new course at their workplace.

## Group VI

- Students: Preparing for Final exams this week, allocating significant time for review and preparation.
- Community Engagement: One student volunteer as an admin assistant and gaining practical experience in community education.
- Nursing Studies: Another student remains enthusiastic despite a demanding academic schedule.
- Credit Officer Role: One student embraces opportunity to improve English skills in their new role.

In summary, all groups within the university scholarship program are making commendable progress toward their academic and professional goals. Their dedication and resilience are evident, and we look forward to continued success. Additionally, during this quarter, we organized a comprehensive life skills program and employability training for our students. This training aimed to equip them with essential skills beyond academics, enhancing their readiness for the workforce. Topics covered included communication skills, time management, teamwork, and job search

strategies. We believe that these skills will empower our students as they transition into their careers.









## COMMUNITY SPORT

We are delighted to present the quarterly report for April to June 2024 of our Community Sport Program. This report outlines the significant developments and achievements made by our participants as we continue to enhance their sporting experiences and promote community engagements. Our efforts have focused on improving facilities, expanding participation opportunities, and fostering competitive spirit among our dedicated coaches.

To ensure a safe playing environment, we have undertaken repairs on the soccer field, enhancing the infrastructure for our students' enjoyment and safety. Additionally, we have expanded our program schedule from one day to three days a week, allowing for increased participation and more opportunities for skill development and team bonding.

In a collaborative effort to promote sportsmanship and competition, we have joined a league organized by another NGO. As of the primary results, our team has achieved an impressive third rank in the league standings. We eagerly anticipate the final results in the upcoming report to assess our overall performance.

Through this report, we aim to highlight the progress and achievements of our Community Sport Program, showcasing the dedication and enthusiasm of our participants as they strive for excellence in sports and contribute positively to our community.









## ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT

The University Program, for some tasks in the administration such as; making invitation letters, letters in-out, numbering of the letters and keeping documents in file. She also was trained how to do reports, take stock control and contract with the suppliers. She also learned how to create an email address, use Telegram and how to do research on the Internet.

The administrator assisted HfCCF's Director with the preparation of the documents to the Battambang Tax Department for the property tax. The Admin also prepared documents for staff movement with the Battambang Department of Labour Vocational Training requesting to update the new vision of the Cambodian Employment Card for 24 staff to the current Ministry of Labour Vocational Training's new system.





## HOPE MEETINGS AND PARTNERSHIP RELATIONSHIPS

- ✚ Every second Tuesday we hold our Executive Meetings. This group is made up of the Australian Representative, 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 mid-May, our education facilitator participated in the Learning Forum, where research studies focused on enhancing the implementation of nutritional standards in health education policies within primary schools. These standards play a crucial role in influencing children's learning outcomes. Additionally, it sought collaboration with partners, authorities, and stakeholders to address food insecurity challenges in schools, particularly for vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

On behalf of Battambang Education Supporting Team (BEST), our education facilitator was invited to join the 2nd Education Champion - Leaders Meeting held on May 21, 2024, in Phnom Penh by NGO Education Partnership (NEP). The meeting brought together 72 members from education-focused civil society organizations (CSOs) representing 13 cities and provinces. Key topics included CSO mapping results, a policy brief on Gender and Inclusion, updates from Thematic Working Groups, and presentations on learning, monitoring, and the School Health Project. The focus was on addressing the implementation gap in education.





## IN CONCLUSION

This report was prepared by our Communication and Sponsorship Coordinator, OUM Pichponloe, 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.

**Australian Representative  
Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation**



**Peter Butler**



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