



Awareness Cambodia Inc. Newsletter ISSUE 3 2016

Thank you – a message from our CEO

Most of you will know that Sunshine House is where many vulnerable and abandoned kids are given renewed hope for a better life; a place where they begin their journey into adulthood equipped with the education and life skills they need to succeed. It really is a second chance for kids who have lost everything and for whom the future would be bleak.

Sunshine House was built in 2000 and the waste water system installed at the time (plus minor modifications along the way) is simply coming to the end of its life.

We have 4 main areas to address; rain water/ potable drinking water, bore water, septic/ sewerage and finally dealing with black and grey water safely. The leach drains built at each accommodation block is not effective due to the heavy soils on the site creating a strong potential for storm water and underground water contamination. This will be a major revamp of the Sunshine House 'village' water systems. We believe this major overhaul will set us up for a trouble free future.

With that in mind, at the end of the last financial year, the Awareness Cambodia team put out a call to raise \$70,000 towards a much-needed upgrade to the waste water system.

"I wanted to be the first to let you know that through your extreme generosity that target has nearly been reached."

Initial land surveying is already under way. In fact, Chumrarn, one of the first children to join our Sunshine House family and make his way through our child development programs to graduate as a civil engineer in 2014, is already relishing being heavily involved in the process. And I must say he is especially proud to be working on this project, having experienced first-hand the difference our education focus makes to young lives (and also being well aware that the plumbing was due for an upgrade!).

On behalf of Kim and myself, all the staff at Awareness Cambodia and the kids in our care, may I say a big heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this possible!

I really can't thank you enough; your generosity both humbles and inspires me every day.

Awareness Cambodia Inc (ABN 69 234 355 895)

Email: cambodia@awarecam.org.au **Address:** Unit 2/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia 6053

Mail: PO Box 3040, Bassendean DC, Western Australia 6942 **Telephone:** +61 9370 1457 **Fax:** +61 8 9370 4657



1/3 of the work was undertaken with volunteer Australian electricians, plumber and engineers recently.

Be a part of our latest project: \$3200 to fix the Infirmary roof.

Sunshine House's infirmary roof and ceiling needs replacing urgently. The roof has seen better days and water was making its way into the building. Unfortunately heavy monsoon rains, caused the infirmary ceiling to collapse due to water damage. The infirmary is where the children receive medical assistance and it's a really important facility for those with HIV. We need to raise \$3200 so we can replace the roof before the years end.

If you can help, please call the office on +61 08 9370 1457 to donate using a credit card or to our website and donate via Pay Pal <http://awarecam.org.au/donate/> (please note during the transaction that your donation is for the infirmary roof).

Update: Since this article was written the Infirmary roof and ceiling have undergone immediate repairs. The photos are of the roof and ceiling progress. We had no funds set aside but had to move forward due to further water damage. Please help us fund the re roofing and ceiling!



A Case for Change: two days of distributing life-changing education tools



The day started at 6am – excited and a little sleepy, our team departed from Phnom Penh in a 4WD convoy. The vehicles were filled with backpacks brimming with school supplies and hygiene care packages as we started our 2 hour journey south. After a quick stop at a bakery to grab a much-needed coffee and snack, we travelled to five rural primary schools in the province of Kompong Speu.

We choose schools that were close to our Operation Nightingale (medical stream) clinics. Dr Chenda had noted just how poor these schools were: some had sand for their floors; others only had no toilets or running water. It was devastating to see such poverty, but encouraging knowing these children were being educated and A Case

for Change was playing its part in making that possible.

As the day drew to a close, we still had over 100 backpacks left in our kitty, so our team travelled to a very poor village that had suffered a devastating fire the week before. The villagers had lost everything. For these vulnerable children, this gift was priceless.

Over 1500 backpacks were distributed to needy children this year. That's 1500 children who were helped on their path to education and a better life.

To show you just how amazing the day was, we produced a three-minute video (thank you to video producer Scott Parry). Head to www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Y-fou_bXM4&feature=youtu.be to watch our exploits.



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A Case for Change has given out nearly 10 000 backpacks with school supplies since its inception! A milestone we've reached with the generous support of Australian businesses, schools and groups.

We are also delighted to announce that this year we had the first Cambodian business and private school in Kopmpong Speu take part in the program by donating the funds for 300 backpacks. We are so thrilled to work alongside Cambodians who have done well in business and together give a gift of hope through the power of education!

Awareness Cambodia has always placed an emphasis on the importance of education. We believe it enables children to break the cycle of generational poverty and inequity which is seen throughout Cambodia. Just \$15 can purchase education supplies for a child and help empower them to realise their dreams.

Our special thanks to 2016 A Case for Change donors:

Branches Church (USA)
Crown Money Management (Australia)
Holy Rosary School (Australia)
Kennerlys (Australia)
Newtown School (Cambodia)
Nokor Group (Cambodia)
Outback Splash (Australia)
Sixoh youth group (Australia)
Shoreline Church (USA)
The Lake Joondalup Baptist College (Australia)
Wesley College (Australia)



And many private individuals – your donation lays a path to a better future.

If you would like your school, youth group or business to be a part of the 2017 distribution, please contact us at cambodia@awarecam.org.au or phone the office on +61 8 9370 1457.

how to become a **HOPEGIVER**

Give hope

Hopegiver is our monthly partnership program which allows donors to contribute to the long-term change facilitated by our projects.

The program is based on direct debit, making it a convenient and efficient way to support our programs and help us to budget. Donations are tax-deductable and you can cancel any time you like.

By becoming monthly partner you will receive:

- Regular news updates
- An end of financial year statement for tax time
- An overview of what your donation has supported.

If you believe in the injustice of poverty and want to make a difference, become a Hope Giver. Simply fill in the donation form and select Hope Giver and send it in to our office.



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Awareness Cambodia
Rebuilding the Children of Cambodia

Please return by post/email

DONATION FORM

Name.....

Business Name

Street.....

Suburb.....Postcode.....State.....

One-off Donation: \$1000 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ other \$ _____

Monthly Donation: \$250 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$60 ☐ \$40 ☐ other \$ _____

I would like to become a Monthly Partnership Program (Hope giver) Sponsor \$ _____

I would like to become a Child Sponsor: \$55 per month (general, health and education) ☐

I would like to become a Child Scholarship Donor \$ _____

I would like to support Awareness Cambodia's - education programs :
(ESL) \$ _____ A Case 4 Change \$ _____

I would like to support Awareness Cambodia's medical stream:
Operation Nightingale \$ _____

Donation for the most urgent: \$ _____

Payment Options Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ AMEX ☐

Card Number

Cardholder:.....Signature:.....Expiry Date:.....

Please pay by return Fax/Post/Email

☐ Cheque (Please make payable to 'Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund')

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT



Project Partner with Global Development Group
Tax deductible receipts for gifts over \$2 with a preference for projects J515 & J675 are issued by the Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund (ABN 15 815 273 527). If projects are overfunded, funds may be applied to other approved project activities. Awareness Cambodia Inc. (ABN 69 234 355 895) partners on these projects with Global Development Group, an Australian DFAT-approved NGO.

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