



Awareness Cambodia Inc. Edition 4 Newsletter 2018

WHAT MAKES AWARENESS CAMBODIA'S CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SO UNIQUE.



Every child's journey is unique. And so is Awareness Cambodia's approach.

Our Child Development programs take a holistic approach to rescuing and empowering children in need. Shelter, care and support are underpinned by the belief that education has the power to change young lives – and society as a whole – for the better. That's why we have an emphasis on encouraging and supporting each child to get the best education they can so they can follow their dreams and take their places in Cambodian society.

The three stages of our Child Development program – Sunshine House, House of Progress and Graduation House – echoes the education journey of a child. Sunshine House is where our youngest and primary school-aged children are provided with shelter, care, support and, most importantly, access to

education. Not only a safe haven for abandoned and impoverished children, Sunshine House is part of the local community, ensuring the children in our care never lose touch with their Khmer heritage.

As the children continue their education, they move to the House of Progress program. Providing accommodation and a family atmosphere for our young adults, House of Progress is focused on providing continued upper high school education, life-skills training and preparation for future employment or university studies. During their time with House of Progress, each teenager is encouraged to pursue their passions and plan for their future – be it to take up a job after completing high school or enter into further studies.



The young adults who wish to continue their studies past high school join our Graduation House project. Graduation House is where our university and vocational training students live while undertaking further education in Phnom Penh. Here our young adults enjoy aspects of independent living, while knowing that there is support on offer.

At every stage of the journey from childhood to adulthood, Awareness Cambodia celebrates what makes each child unique and tailors a program specifically to help that child create the brightest future possible. No two children are the same, and no two journeys with Awareness Cambodia are the same. It is respect and support for the individual that sets us apart. Our success is reflected in that of the children that have been a part of our family. And we wouldn't have it any other way.



Sponsorship makes you a hero to a child

Who amongst us doesn't want to be someone's hero? Awareness Cambodia would love to give you the opportunity to partner with us so that you can be a Sunshine House Sponsor Hero.







It can be quite overwhelming when a child finds out they've been sponsored – the joy they feel is indescribable. Just knowing that someone across the globe cares means more than you can imagine. Sponsoring a child in need will profoundly change the future for your child and will change your own life as well. As a sponsor, you do so much more than just meet basic needs. You give our Sunshine House children the chance to feel like part of a family. They receive special care they would never otherwise receive, they attend private school and learn skills that empower them to live a meaningful life. By becoming a sponsor, you can help a child realise their dreams.

Your sponsor child

As a sponsor, you'll get detailed updates each year on how your sponsor child is progressing – how they are doing with their studies, activities they have been involved in, their interests and their health and wellbeing. Our staff put a lot of care into creating these individual updates so that you maintain a personal connection to your sponsor child. The children love hearing from their sponsors and you can send letters, cards and stickers to them. Or you can send yourself...

Visit your sponsor child in Cambodia



Many of our sponsors have met their sponsored child when they have visited Cambodia. Other sponsors have had the chance to meet their sponsor child after joining one of our yearly volunteer teams. Meeting your sponsor child in person is an amazing way to deepen your connection and have a tangible impact on your child's life at Sunshine House. Of course we have a strong Child

Protection Policy and you will have to apply through our Australian office.

You can join one of our Awareness Cambodia teams or you can be part of a specially organised sponsor visit – the choice is yours!



Moni has her heart set on a brilliant career

We would like to introduce you to one of our amazing girls, Duon Chan Moni, who is affectionately known as 'Moni' at Sunshine House.

Sadly 4-year-old Moni's mother passed away from HIV/AIDS and her father was too ill with HIV/AIDS to give her the level of care she needed. So, in 2004, when Moni came to live at Sunshine House she received the nutrition, education, and emotional support that she needed. That positive foundation has allowed Moni to develop into an extremely bright, well-adjusted young woman.



Now 18 years old, Moni is completing Year 11 and her grades are outstanding – in a recent English test she scored straight 'A's, as well as achieving top marks in mathematics. She has an extremely bright future ahead of her and has expressed a desire to study at one of Phnom Penh's universities where she can complete a Master Degree in Business, Accounting and Economics. With her passion for teaching, Moni is sharing the gift of education by tutoring the younger children at Sunshine House.

As important as a great education is, it's not all study! Moni loves making clothes and frequently heads to the sewing room at Sunshine House.









Moni also has a great respect for her Cambodian culture and you will often see her performing in a traditional Khmer dance at Sunshine House events. So just like her peers who didn't face the challenges she did as a child, Moni is enjoying her teenage years today and has big plans for tomorrow.

From an uncertain future as an abandoned 4-year-old to a confident young woman with dreams for a bright future, Moni is living proof of the incredible difference that can be made to a young life.

Contact us to find out how YOU can become an Awareness Cambodia sponsor and help us provide a young child with amazing opportunities to experience the very best and brightest future possible. YOU can help a young boy or girl just like Moni realise their dreams!



From the Sunshine House family to a family of their own – meet Somphos and Sokhua

Sponsored by Awareness Cambodia since 2000, Somphos and Sokhua were residents and students of the Sunshine House and Graduation House projects. Today they are university graduates, married and the proud parents of an adorable toddler named Galvin.

Somphos came to Sunshine House at age 10 after her father passed away. With both his parents deceased, Sokhua joined the Sunshine House family as a 7-year-old.



Somphos and Sokhua transitioned through our Child Development programs – Sunshine House to House of Progress to Graduation House – and in 2010 took up university studies. Somphos studied Economics and Sokhua studied Architecture. After graduating with their qualifications, they married in October 2015...



Now living independently in Phnom Penh, the young family's future looks bright. Both Sokhua and Somphos are grateful to Awareness Cambodia for the care, support and sponsorship that helped them realise their dreams – good jobs and a loving family. We couldn't be more proud of what they have achieved and hopeful for what lies ahead for their young family.







How to donate

Creating brighter futures – with your generous support

Choose an option that suits you:



Call:

+ 61 8 9370 1457 and one of our staff will assist you in making a credit card donation.



Direct credit:

Account Name: Awareness Cambodia Overseas Aid Fund

Branch No. (BSB) 016-363 Account: 1074-66951

Bank: ANZ

There are a number of ways that you can make a difference to the lives of children in our care. Please visit our website to see how you can partner with us in 2018 to "rebuild the children of Cambodia".

www.awarecam.org.au