

Awareness Cambodia Newsletter | Edition 2 | 2021

Mengsroy has his finger on the pulse!

Put Mengsroy had always dreamed of becoming a doctor. For a gifted young boy with an aptitude for science and a desire to help others, entering the medical profession was a fitting ambition.

But that ambition was tempered by his circumstances.



Growing up in the rural Kampong Thom province with 3 siblings (1 sister and 2 brothers) and just 1 parent, Mengsroy's path to becoming a doctor was not an easy one.

Determined not to let her son's talents be wasted, Mengsroy's mother struggled to find the money to support his studies. He had graduated from high school and had spent a couple of years at the University of Health and Sciences in Phnom Penh.

And while he was excelling in his studies, his mother's ability to continue paying the university fees and costs associated with Mengsroy studying in the capital were waning.

It was 2017 and there was a risk that the aspiring doctor would not be able to fulfil his dream. That's when Mengsroy heard about Awareness Cambodia's medical scholarship program.

The scholarship selection panel agreed that it would be a travesty if Mengsroy didn't get to complete his studies – he showed such dedication and promise. He was accepted into the program and moved to Graduation House.

With his university fees paid and his living costs covered, Mengsroy no longer had to worry about his mother being able to financially support his studies. Now in his 7th year of medicine, Mengsroy is diligently studying online (due to COVID-19), putting his skills into practice working at the hospital and preparing to take his specialist exams.

email cambodia@awarecam.org.au address Unit 2/48 May Street, Bayswater, Western Australia mail PO Box 3040, Bassendean DC, Western Australia telephone +61 8 9370 1457 fax +61 8 9370 4657 www.awarecam.org.au Having completed his paediatrics internship this year, Mengsroy will start his final studies (just 3 subjects to go!) later this year and is on track to graduate in 2022.



Post-graduation, Mengsroy's plans are simple – he just wants to be a good specialist doctor working at the hospital helping people. He is also keen to be able to help his family back in the province – whose faith in his dream never wavered. Awareness Cambodia's hasn't either; we've been delighted to support this impressive young man in achieving his dream of becoming a doctor!





Raindrops keep falling

COVID-19 might have curtailed lots of things – like travel, gatherings, going to school and work – but is hasn't stopped the weather! Cambodia's torrential rain knows no bounds and water has continued to lash, and damage, the roof at Graduation House. So our "roof appeal" is on again in May and June. We are hoping to raise \$35,000 which will mean we can complete the roof repairs and finish off all the maintenance tasks to plug the water issues and make GH watertight.

Sadly, the COVID restrictions have meant that our regular band of intrepid volunteers have not been able to travel to Cambodia to help with the repairs, but it hasn't stopped them from lending their support anyway! You can follow their lead and help fund the roof repairs by making an end of financial year donation.

All donations over \$2 in Australia are taxdeductible and all monies raised for the roof appeal go directly to financing the project.

Get in early and kickstart our EOFY "Roof Appeal" fundraiser.



Do you live in Perth? Join us for our Movie Night Fundraiser!

- Friday 7th May 2021
- · 6:45pm
- Ace Cinemas, Midland

Gary Hewett (Our CEO and Founder) and his wife Kim, really look forward to seeing you. Come and say hello and let's raise funds for Awareness Cambodia. (Please note that we are not selling tickets at the door).

To purchase a ticket online, please visit: https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/awarenesscambodia-movie-night-fundraiser-tickets-148307857795

We're looking for fundraising champions

If the prospect of receiving yet another scented candle, book or bottle of wine for your birthday is making you wonder if your family & friends could acknowledge your special day in a way that was just a bit more special – we've got an idea for you!

Why not set up your own fundraising page to support the work of Awareness Cambodia?

We can help you to set up a personal fundraising page online. It only takes a few minutes to customise your page and share with your friends & family via email or Facebook. You will be able to add the details you want, set a goal and track donations as they come in.

Your favourite people get to acknowledge your special occasion by providing a gift that keeps on giving – supporting our work creating better futures for Cambodia's poor and vulnerable.

Supporting our cause like this is also a way to pay special tribute to a loved one.

By setting up a memorial fundraising page, family & friends can support our work by donating in remembrance of someone who has passed. Many find they gain strength, comfort and hope from knowing that their loved one's memory and values live on through their tribute.

For more information, please get in touch.

Your support means the world to us and to the children we rescue, educate and care for.



If you share Awareness Cambodia's belief that real change can be sustained by investing in people, not just in programs, then partner with us to invest in young Cambodian lives. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible in Australia.

If you would like to donate online, please visit https://awarecam-gdg-j515.raisely.com

Alternatively, please complete the enclosed donation form and return it to us by post or email:

Awareness Cambodia PO Box 3040 Bassendean Western Australia 6942

Telephone: (08) 9370 1457 Email: cambodia@awarecam.org.au



Tax deductible receipts for gifts over \$2 with a preference for project J515 or 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 69 234 355 995) partners on these projects with Gibbal Development Group (ABN 57 102 400 993), an Australian DFAT approved NGO.

