

DONORS

CWCC is not able to run this important program without committed funds from the following donors:

Lotus Outreach and George Kraus Stiftung

CWCC wishes to express its deepest appreciation to our donor, who believed in our mission and helped launch this pioneering organization through their generous support.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I.	PROJECT REVIEW	3
II.	PROJECT PROGRESS	4
	1. Financial support and follow up visit	5
	2. Scholarship students' parents meeting	9
III.	NETWORK AND COOPERATION	10
IV.	RAISING AWARENESS	10
V.	CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES	11
VI.	LESSONS LEARNED	11
VII.	PLANNING	11
VIII.	GOVERNANCE	12
IX.	STAFF	12
X.	APPENDIX (CASE STUDIES)	13

PROGRESSIVE REPORT

April - September 2007

I – PROJECT REVIEW

1- History of the Organization

The Cambodian Women's Crisis Center (CWCC) is a local, non-governmental, non-profit and non-political organization. It was founded in Phnom Penh in March 1997, by a group of women who acknowledged that violence against women and children was a serious problem and that appropriate services were lacking. The provincial offices were opened in Banteay Meanchey province in 1999 and in Siem Reap province in 2001.

2- Mission of the Organization

CWCC's mission is to eliminate all forms of violence against women for the sake of equality, peace, development and happiness. We also assist women and children to be free from violence, and to help them to be able to make self-decisions and to help themselves through providing assistance services to victims of gender-based abuse and their children, included monitoring and investigating cases, confidential shelter, psychological counselling, medical assistance, legal consultations, education, reintegration and advocacy.

CWCC provides services to women and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual abuse (rape), sexual trafficking and at risk girl in community.

3- Goals of the Organization

- To empower women to make their own decisions and take control of their lives by providing service options to them and their children who are survivors of physical, sexual and/or psychological violence, including battering, rape, incest, sexual exploitation and sexual harassment;
- To monitor, investigate and report on all forms of VAW occurring in the family or perpetrated or condoned by the state;
- To raise awareness about issues related to VAW in Cambodia;
- To encourage government bodies to hold perpetrators accountable and to undertake all appropriate measures to eliminate all forms of VAW;
- To promote gender equality, respect for women's rights and recognition that violence against women is a violation of women's most fundamental human rights, including the right to life.

4- Program Objectives

- 1- To establish the Local Education Working Groups (LEWGs) as the backbone of the Scholarship Program. LEWGs ensure sustainability and local ownership of the program by involving girls, teachers, community leaders and local authorities in the system for providing material and monitoring scholarship recipients,
- 2- To supply financial support and scholarship material to poor girls in two target districts in Siem Reap province over a three-year period based on their vulnerability to VAW,
- 3- To provide moral support to the scholarship recipients and other assistance such as arranging extra classes outside school for improving their academic performance; and
- 4- To implement an advocacy program to encourage the education of girls and educate the public on the dangers of trafficking.

II - PROJECT PROGRESS

Activities and Achievements:

Planning

The following planning was undertaken to meet the objectives of the project:

- (i) Provide financial support to students in primary and secondary school in the 4 categories
- (ii) Encourage girls and their parents who have received the scholarship package, to keep studying by using material and financial support
- (iii) Follow up students who have received the scholarship package about their health problem and other accidents.
- (iv) Prepare list of the names of scholarship for new school year
- (v) Prepare monthly reports and prepare documents of the scholarship program
- (vi) The semester meeting with students' parents and students (75 girls from Soth Ni Kum district and other 75 girls from Chi Kreng district) in order to obtain information about the issues that the girls and their parents are facing; to remind them of the conditions of the scholarship program

1. Financial supports and follow up visits

During the report period monthly financial support was provided to all scholarship students in the two districts. The support provided to students is devised according to students' needs; which are categorised into four groups as follows:

Students type		Number of students	Total number of students
Students at primary school		80	80
Students at secondary school	Category 1: (for girl who live near school less than 1 km): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform - Stationeries package - Monthly financial support - Money for extra class - Some money for treatment 	14	70
	Category 2: (for girl which her house is 2-4 km from school) can get: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform - Stationeries package - Monthly financial support - Money for extra class - Some money for treatment - Bicycle 	23	
	Category 3: (for girl which her house is 5-7 km from school) can get: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform - Stationeries package - Monthly financial support - Money for extra class - Some money for treatment - Bicycle - Lunch 	4	
	Category 4: (for girl which her house is over 8 km from school) can get: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uniform - Stationeries package - Monthly financial support - Money for extra class - Some money for treatment - Bicycle - House rental near school - Food 	29	
Total students in the two districts			150

The following table shows the visits and monthly stipend payments made by the scholarship staffs to scholarship recipients:

Date (2007)	Number of Students	District	Purpose
20 -21 April 2007		Chi Kreng	Informed and visited family of one student who had died.
30 April 2007	151	Soth Ni Kum and Chi Kreng	Visited and provided students' monthly stipend - and provided additional support to family of the student who had passed away (see details below)
1 – 2 May	151	Soth Ni Kum and Chi Kreng	Visited and provided students' monthly stipends.
3 May	12	Soth Ni Kum	Visited 12 students with donor to monitor students' progress.
4 May	4	Chi Kreng	Visited 4 students with donor to monitor their progress.
23 May	1	Pourk	Visited and provided student's monthly stipend.
5 – 6 June	75	Chi Kreng	Visited and provided students' monthly stipends and provide support to 3 sick students.
7 June	75	Soth Ni Kum	Visited and provided students' monthly stipends.
12 June		Chi Kreng	Visited communities in Chi Kreng to recruit new girl (to replace the girl who had passed away)
26 - 28 June		South Ni Kum and Chi Kreng	Visited and get students' monthly report, budget reimbursement for LEWGs and provide support to 4 sick students.
3 -5 July	150	South Ni Kum and Chi Kreng	Visited and provided students' monthly stipend and performance measurements of 150 students
22 August	1	Chi Kreng	Visited a student who was sick
13 September		South Ni Kum and Chi Kreng	Visited students who was getting better after sickness, and provide support to 2 sick students

Ms. Lach Ban is a student in grade 5 at Prah Theat village, Khvav commune, Chy Kreng district, Siem Reap province. She is an orphan, lives with a sister and old age grandparents. Grandmother's name Chan Yoeun and grandfather's name Khiev Lach, both of them are farmers. Ms. Lach Ban started sick on 12th – 13th of April 2007 which her body become swell up but she looked normally, she still had enough energy to walk, do housework not looked like a patient. But on 13th of April 2007 at night, she become seriously sick, she coughed with blood and urine constipated. Her grandfather was very nervous but he could not find doctor until 14th morning, because it was during Khmer New Year, doctor visited his hometown. She died on 14th of April 2007 at 9.10am. LEWGs and scholarship staffs were on holiday during Khmer New Year, so they knew this information after she died.

During April 2007, program supervisor discussed with provincial coordinator in choosing a student to replace. They decided to provide the scholarship to a girl from the same family who is elder sister of the girl which passed away. She is in grade 6 at Prah Theat village, Khvav commune, Chy Kreng district, Siem Reap province.

**Statistic for scholarship
At Sout Nikum and Chy Kreng district
New school year 2007-2008**

Grade		Total students at beginning of 2007		Number of students failed				Number of students drop-out				Number of students pass from primary to secondary school in new school year			
Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Total students		Total students		Percentage		Total students		Percentage		Total students		Percentage	
		Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng	Sout Nikum	Chy Kreng
1	1														
2	2														
3	3														
4	4	1	2	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %				
5	5	14	15	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %				
6	6	16	12	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %				
7	7	9	11	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %	9	11	12%	14.67 %
8	8	30	30	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %				
9	9	5	5	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %				
Total students = 150		75	75	0	0	0 %	0 %	0	0	0 %	0 %	9	11	12%	14.67 %

2. Scholarship students' parents meeting

Two months after the orientation workshop and the scholarship packages had been distributed to the students; the program staff organized meetings with all the scholarship girls' parents.

On 8th of May 2007, from 8: 30 am until 11:30 am, the program supervisor and staff held a meeting with the recipients and their parents at Soth Ni Kum district in Sam Rong Secondary School, Khum SamRong.

On 9th of May 2007, the program supervisor and staff held a meeting for the recipients and their parents at Chi Kreng district in Pong Ror secondary School.

A total of 150 students and 150 students' parents attended the meetings.

The objective of the meeting was to find out about any problems encountered by the girls and their parents after receiving the scholarships.

The girls reported the following issues:

- Grandmother and grandfather were getting sick so the student has to look after them.
- Mother and father go to work in Thailand so the girl is left behind.
- Mother and father work in Siem Reap province, and leave children at home to look after the youngest siblings.
- Violent father forced his daughter to work to make money to buy alcohol for him
- When students' bicycles are damaged, it is difficult to travel to school.
- Financial support of 10,000 riels per month is not enough for them because food and living costs are getting more expensive.
- There is a lack of petroleum for kerosene lamp to read and study at night.
- The scholarship girls are worried that they could not get scholarship for their final year [grade 12].

Some of the solutions the program staffs have implemented as a result of the meeting include:

- LEWGs and scholarship staff continue to visit the students to encourage them to go to health care centre. Inform them of health care centres near their house so that they can go to when they get sick. Informed them that CWCC will cover the medical costs for the scholarship girl according to the real expense.
- We advised the girl to try to balance studying with taking care of her grand parents. We also explained to her grandparents the value of an education for their granddaughter
- Meet monthly with the girls who have been abandoned by her parents who work in Thailand and in the other districts of Siem Reap. We advised them to understand the importance of their daughter's study that they should provide the opportunity for their daughter to go to school.
- The program and staff will work with LEWGs, DCGs and authorities in the village to intervene in cases that the LEWGs and DCGs are not able to solve.
- In relation to the damaged bicycle, CWCC and LEWGs will look for shops in villages near the girl houses, so they can take their bicycles to the shop and scholarship staff will pay to for the repairs.

- CWCC will try to looking for funds for all scholarship girls until they finish grade 12, but this will depend on donors.

III - NETWORKING AND COOPERATION

On 5 May 2007 at 1:30pm, the donor representative met the Governor of the district and DCGs and LEWGs to discuss the progress of their activity. They also reported to the donor about the task activities for the year from April 2006 to March 2007. During the meeting the governor of the district expressed his support and desire to help children who dropped out of school in particular those that have dropped out after 2 or 3 years. He expressed his concern that these girls are growing older without any skills for their future. The donor was very happy to hear this was a concern. Also, the donor gave deep thanks to the CWCC and the cooperation of the teamwork with the authorities in helping girls to get an education in the public school. At the end of the meetings the donor mentioned that even though the fund seems small, he will try to find the method to help this program to operate smoothly.

On 27th of September 2007, Program supervisor participated in a workshop to discuss the year's results of the education at the pedagogical school. The workshop was organized by provincial office of education youth and sport in Siem Reap province. The Deputy Governor of Siem Reap province also participated in the workshop with other 153 participants from all levels of the education office staff, local and international NGOs. The Scholarship supervisor also presented about CWCC's activities, especially the goal, objectives, and activities of scholarship program in Siem Reap that provided scholarships to 150 girls in 2 districts – Chy Kreng and Sout Nikum.

IV - RAISING AWARENESS

On 15th of June 2007, the provincial coordinator, scholarship supervisor and advocacy staff organized a campaign on the "Importance of Girl's Access to Education" at the Pong Ror secondary school, in Pong Ror Kroam commune, Chy Kreng district, Siem Reap province. The purpose of the campaign was to encourage people in communities to understand the importance of girl's access to education because it improves the educational level of society and works to eliminate the undereducation of girls in the community. The district governor, district chief of education office, district chief of woman affairs office, district inspector, LEWGs, DCGs, commune councillor, chief of village, polices, teachers, villagers, scholarship students' parents, and scholarship girls all attended and participated in the campaign. In total 534 people participated.

On 8th of September 2007, the scholarship supervisor and staff organized a National Literacy Day at Kumru primary school, Sout Nikum district, Siem Reap province. The purpose of the ceremony was to raise awareness about the value of education and to reduce uneducated children in Cambodia. The ceremony was presided over by the Siem Reap Provincial Governor, chief of provincial office of woman affairs, chief of education provincial office, chief of Sout Nikum district governor and the provincial coordinator of CWCC. The ceremony was attended by local authorities, LEWGs, DCGs, teachers, monks, villagers and students, a total of 566 people. In the program, we provided gifts to 16 scholarship students who had performed well from the both districts, and 15 gifts to other students who participated and answered questions correctly. As result, we had found that before the ceremony 64% of all participants understood the purpose of the ceremony but after the

ceremony 92% of them could understand the purpose of the ceremony and the need for education for girls.

On 15th and 20th of September 2007, the scholarship supervisor and staff organized two Enrolment Campaigns in the Chy Kreng and Sout Nikum district with 367 participants, which included LEWGs, teachers and students. The purpose of the campaign was to remind people in communities about sending their children to school, to encourage villagers to understand the value of education and aware to an educated society. The campaign got good cooperation from all level of local authorities with enthusiastic participate from all participants and all of them can understood and send their children to go to school.

V - CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES

The following are some of the challenges we faced during this reporting period:

- The scholarship supervisor resigned at the end of June 2007
- The long distances make it hard to travel with unpaved streets and can be dangerous for staff.
- Students continually get sick because of the lack of vitamins
- Primary students financial support of 10,000 riels per month is not enough
- Communication between DCGs and LEWGs is difficult because of the far distances where there is not telephone coverage.

Solutions identified:

- New scholarship supervisor started work in September
- Be careful when travelling, safely first, use helmet while driving.
- More promotion of important of education for girl to communities, parents and girls.
- Girls' parents have to inform the LEWGs or CWCC's staff about girls' health and treatment on time.
- Send the request to the World Food Program for 80 primary students in the two districts.

VI – LESSONS LEARNED

The following is some of our increased understanding and lessons learned:

- How to communicate with the authorities and local community.
- The real situation of the girls in the community, the remote areas and villagers have low education and there is not any other organization to help and to realize about their difficulties
- Understand the needs of girls' parents and students who wish to receive support from outside such NGOs and donors
- Realize how to facilitate working in a team in the areas
- Realize how to communicate with the authorities in the districts, get to know more people and make contacts
- Encourage poor family to see the benefits of education for their girls.

VII – PLANNING

The following planning will be undertaken:

- Organize orientation workshop for parents and students at Sout Nikum and Chy Kreng district.
- Provide scholarship package to scholarship students in the two districts for new school year (rice and oil for primary students which supported by WFP)
- Meet with LEWGs and DCGs to choose new students and some more LEWG and expand commune in the two districts.
- Organize meeting to choose new scholarship students in target area and students' drop out statistics.
- Expand to two new districts: Angkor Thom and Banteay Srey.
- Meet with LEWG for setting up and choose participants for the youth club
- Meet with youth clubs and make plans for the youth club camp.

VIII – GOVERNANCE

The business affairs and policies of CWCC are managed by the Board of Directors, which also defines the mandate of the executive director. The executive director is the full-time coordinator of the organization, and reports to the board on a regular basis regarding CWCC's activities and progress.

CWCC works as a team, and holds monthly meeting that are attended by all staff members. To ensure a democratic process in decision making, and to foster leadership, meetings are presided over by a rotating chairperson, with each staff members having the opportunity to chair meetings. Disciplinary proceedings, including termination of CWCC staff, are instituted by the Executive Director. All disciplinary proceedings follow the internal regulations of the organization as determined by the staff of CWCC and set out in the "Internal Rules and Regulations". A record of any disciplinary proceeding is provided to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may review disciplinary action relating to suspension or termination, and reserves the right to make the final decision.

Internal disputes not amenable to informal resolution are managed and resolved through the CWCC grievance procedures developed and adopted by the staff. The matter is referred to the Management Committee, the Executive Director and the Board of Directors. CWCC has revised its Internal Rules and Regulations. CWCC's structure and governing of assets have been amended and approved by the Board of Directors.

IX – STAFF

The Girls' Access to Education Program of CWCC in Siem Reap has 2 full-time staff (one female staff and one male staff). Hiring, contracts and discharge of staff are managed by the CWCC headquarters in Phnom Penh. Staff members are:

1. **Ms. Kim Sotheavy**, Scholarship Program Supervisor, 16 years experience with NGOs in community development. (finish in June)
2. **Ms. Soun Kim Soung**, Scholarship Program Supervisor, 16 years experience with NGOs in community development. (start work in September)

3. **Mr. Men Kim Sour**, Scholarship Program Staff, Bachelor Degree of Management, Build Bright University, Phnom Penh.

X. APPENDIX: (CASE STUDIES)

Better life for scholarship student

Ms. V. Th, 13 years old, is a student at Domrey Koun primary school in Por Pel commune, Sout Ni Kum district, Siem Reap province. Her mother died when she was 3 years old and her father married with a new wife. Her father lives with his new wife, never taking care with her at all. She has 2 brothers and 1 sister, her eldest brother is married and works as a worker in Siem Reap, her sister is a worker in Thailand, and her youngest brother is a construction's worker and they never support her at all.

She lives in a very poor condition with an old age grandmother in-law, who is mother of her eldest brother's wife. Her grandmother works for other farmers in harvesting, picking vegetables, for their daily food that she can get around 4000 riel (1.00 US\$) per day. During the vacations she also helps her grandmother with the work and gets 5000 riel (around 1.25 US\$) per day.

Her grandmother loves her as a real daughter, she always advices and encourages her to study hard to look for a good job in the future. She aims to study until she graduates from high school. But sometimes she also feel hopeless because the grandmother is very old and sometime getting sick, can not go to work, so they are in a very low condition, although they have a very strong commitment but it also depends on their money that can feed her or not.

Now she and her grand mother are very happy, she received a scholarship from the donors: Lotus Outreach and George Kraus Stiftung and CWCC. She and her grand mother would like to show their strong commitment by implementing and following all conditions of CWCC. It is suggested to the donors to continue supporting her until she finishes high school.

Commitment of scholarship student

Ms. S. N, 15 years old, is a student in grade 5 of Kouk Thlok Leu primary school in Kouk Thlok commune, Chi Kreng district, Siem Reap province. Her father died and her mother married again and was then abandoned. She lives with her grandmother whose husband died in Pol Pot regime and her grandmother was also abandoned by her 7 children.

Before her grandmother worked for other farmers harvesting and picking vegetables to get money to feed both of them and so the girl could go to go to school, but now the grandmother is constantly sick and can not work like before. As a result, Ms S N and her grandmother live in very poor conditions and are very worried about their future lives. On weekend or holiday, the girl works for other farmers harvesting or picking vegetables so that she can get 3000 - 3500 riel (which around 0.80US\$ - 0.90US\$) per day for food and study materials.

In the morning, before going to school she always does housework then she goes to school which is 2 km from her house. After school, she goes back home, cooks and does homework with the kerosene lamp before she goes to bed. Sometime she feel hopeless, but her grandmother always advices her to study hard, her grandmother said “although we are in a very poor condition but we have to struggle for our life”. She also want to get warm feeling from her parents like other girls, so her grandmother always encourage her all the time and gives her love and affection, but she is very worried about how to feed herself, and worries about her future. Because she doesn't have money, and especially because her grandmother is constantly sick, who can help her? She wants to continue studying until she graduates from high school, but it depends on her living standards in the immediate future.

Now she and her grandmother are very happy, when she received scholarship from donors Lotus Outreach and George Kraus Stiftung and CWCC. She has hopes that the donors to continue supporting her until she finishes high school, by providing her with the materials and money. Her grandmother intends to encourage her to go school regularly, respect the internal regulations and not keep her at home for housework.



**Participants in the campaign on
“Important of Girl’s Access to Education”**



**Honorary Guests provided rewards to
participants who answer correctly.**