



Cambodian Women's Crisis Center

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

"Helping women to help themselves"





OUR STORY

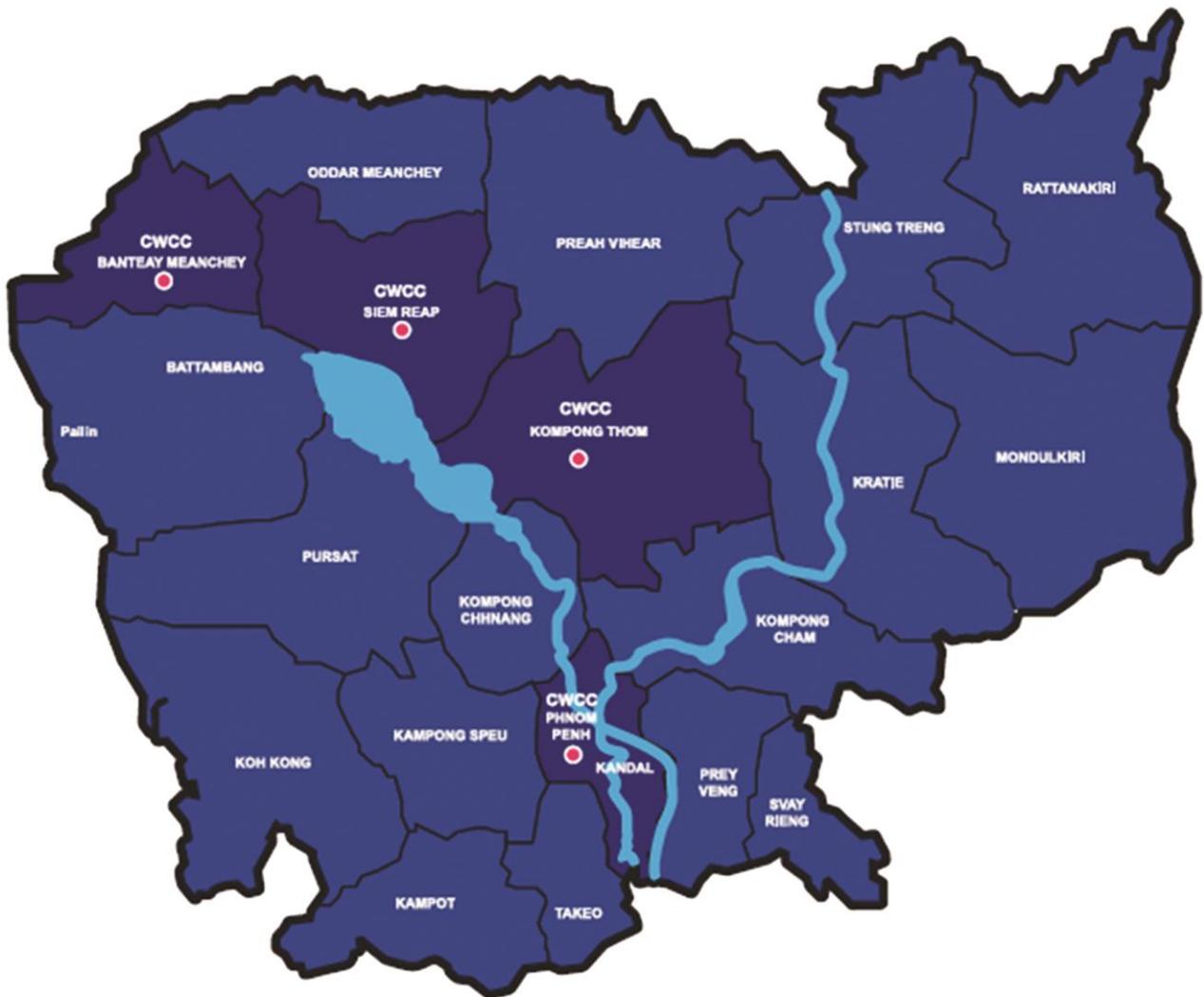
Cambodia Women’s Crisis Center was founded and registered with the Ministry of Interior in 1997 with a simple goal: to help women help themselves. Three women launched CWCC as a local response to a local problem after having witnessed the suffering of women and children from the consequences of the war and various forms of violence against women. With the generous support from Terre des Hommes Germany and the Netherlands, the three women opened one small shelter in Phnom Penh, placing leaflets in local police stations, not imagining that their 25-place refuge would be filled within the next few days.

During the last 23 years, CWCC secured a reputation for providing both emergency and ongoing help for women and children and is recognized by the Cambodian government, civil society, and international agencies as a leading women’s organization advocating for the human rights of women and children, gender justice, and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.

OUR APPROACH



OUR TARGET AREAS



OUR VISION

Women and girls living in peace, security, and dignity while enjoying their universal human rights.

OUR MISSION

To empower women and girls to claim their universal human rights to personal security and to equal participation in community, civil economic, social and cultural life.

OUR OVERALL GOAL

To empower vulnerable women and girls through protection, prevention, and advocacy in order to promote a peaceful, gender-equitable, and compassionate society.

OUR CORE VALUES

Dignity: All persons, regardless of their social status, gender, disability or other differences, living with dignity.

Justice: All human beings enjoying equal access to policies and practices that seek equitable distribution of power, resources, and opportunities.

Accountability: Resources and responsibilities for decision-making being used in ways that are transparent and answerable to donors, constituents, and communities.

OUR STRATEGIC PROGRAM





PREVENTION

To prevent violence against women through engaging with the community, local authorities, and law enforcement in establishing a safe, involved, and supportive community.

Community Organizing Project: In 2020, the project has worked directly with 300 women's support group members and 170 gender-based violence working members (57 female) to promote awareness among community members on women's human rights and gender-based violence. The project reached around 5,000 community members of which 65% were women. Among those who received the awareness-raising, people with disability accounted for five percent.

Anger Management for Men: The project has worked directly with 140 male peer educators in providing anger counseling to 207 men who were identified as potentially violent. The awareness-raising also targeted 532 community members (412 females) in Siem Reap, one of CWCC's target provinces. The project also has worked with ten parent interest groups with 235 members, and the groups provided awareness to other community members on skillful parenting to 183 participants (169 females). Along with the parent interest groups, six child support groups have been established with 148 members (85 female), and they have shared what they learned from the project's capacity building with their peers.

Girls' Access to Education: The project has worked in target provinces of Siem Reap, Phnom Penh, and Kampong Thom to provide scholarship package to vulnerable girls including those in poverty, victims of violence, and at risk of dropping out of school. In 2020, the project has supported a scholarship package to 262 girls from secondary up to upper secondary school (100 in Siem Reap, 62 in Phnom Penh, and 100 in Kampong Thom).

Women's Economic Empowerment: The women's economic empowerment program aims to empower women and girls in the target areas for improved living conditions with strong social networks so that they can overcome financial constraints and become less vulnerable to all forms of violence. The project has worked with 37 saving groups in 2020, of which 25 were in Siem Reap and 12 in Kampong Thom with 1,087 members (875 female). Besides, the project has supported 33 group businesses and 55 individual businesses owned by women to provide an opportunity for women to develop skills and earn income to support themselves and their families.

Migration and Human Trafficking Prevention: This project was implemented in the target areas of Banteay Meanchey, Kampong Thom, and Phnom Penh to promote the knowledge of safe migration and protection of human rights including for migrant workers (including women and children), and the risk of labor exploitations and human trafficking. Twenty-two self-help groups have been established through this project. The groups consist of 880 members (704 female) who are parents of the migrant workers, former migrant workers, and local people. These groups work together as a network in addressing issues of unsafe migration and trafficking. Furthermore, the scholarship recipients of CWCC also played the role of peer educators. In 2020, the project spread the knowledge of safe migration and human trafficking prevention to 3,300 people (89% female) in the target communities.

FROM A FOLLOWER TO A LEADER

Seak Hom is a WEST Social Ambassador. She lives in Kok Kdouch village, Banteay Neang Commune, Monkul Borey District, Banteay Srey Province. She is 47 years old.

Seak Hom dropped out of school in 5th grade to assist her family in farming, and in 1997, she got married. She has a family of five with two sons and one daughter. This family lived happily without violence or argument. Her family's



main income is farming and her husband owns a rice mill machine for other villagers to rent. Seak Hom also stays home doing housework and sewing to generate extra income.

Seak Hom could not participate in the community ceremonies, meetings, or forums organized by commune authorities or NGOs. Not many people in the community knew her, although her husband was quite well-known for his possession of the rice miller machine.

In 2018, the village chief invited Seak Hom for an interview for a Social Ambassador position. She was so doubtful and unsure of the responsibility. However, she accepted it due to two main reasons. First, she did not want to lose the opportunity to learn and interact with her community members, and secondly, she felt that this job would benefit her community.

Still, she was nervous about this position. She was a housewife and did not have any experience in communications with the public. She doubted her level of education and

relationship-building skills with the community. But thanks to many training and capacity-building opportunities in Phnom Penh, Seak Hom became empowered to educate and raise awareness of gender-based violence in her community and family.

Nowadays, Seak Hom is confident in herself and her ability which she had never dreamed of. She said, "This project empowers me in many ways including with my emotions, the ability to express my emotions, and confidence. I am grateful for the options to travel to a new place where the meetings take place." Seak Hom takes care of two teams in two different villages, Kok Kdouch and Angdong Kert in Banteay Neang commune, Monkol Borey District, Banteay Srey Province.

Seak Hom expressed her great gratitude to CWCC and the VOICE Program supported by Oxfam Cambodia for selecting her community as one of the project targets. This project played a significant role to empower her and assist her to solve the violent cases in her village. She hopes that CWCC would continue to support her community in future projects.



PROTECTION

To protect survivors by facilitating access to legal services, physical, and psychological healing leading to economic and social reintegration.

Promoting Community Networks to Protect Women and Children from All Forms of Violence: Collaboration with PDoWAs in Kampong Speu and Siem Reap, the project facilitated training to gender-based violence (GBV) working groups at the district level on gender-based violence, disability inclusion, referral guidelines, and how to conduct basic counseling. As a result, the GBV working groups have dealt with 492 cases, of which 477 domestic violence cases, 11 sexual abuse cases, and four human trafficking cases. The GBV working groups facilitated the cases to receive appropriate services. With this intervention, survivors of violence, women and children, received assistance to their needs.

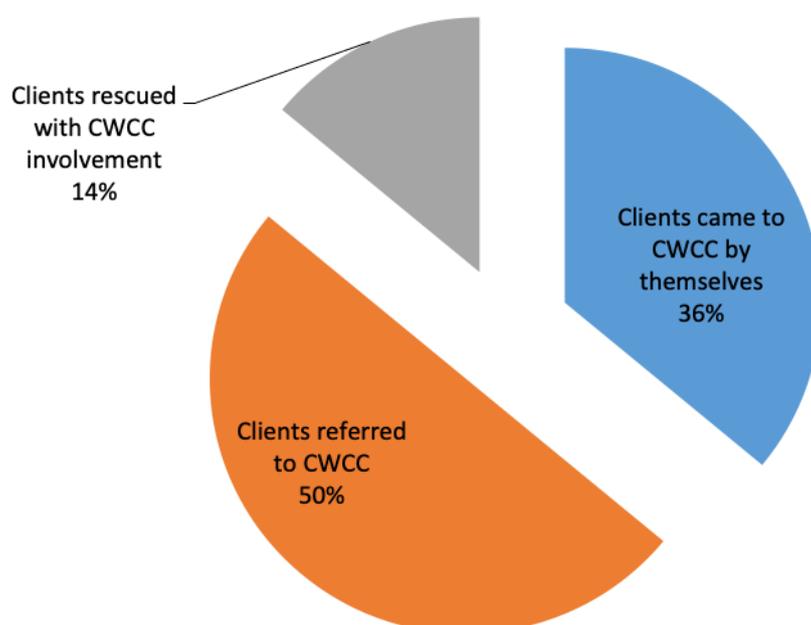
Legal Support:

Gender Based Violence (GBV) Cases Admitted to CWCC, 2020

Case	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total
Domestic Violence	115	58	107	90	370
Sexual Abuse	32	7	45	22	106
Human Trafficking	4	3	0	1	8
Total	151	68	152	113	484

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap, KPT=Kampong Thom

Case referral pathway in 2020



Cases/Complaints Filed to the Court, 2020

Case	Under 18					Above 18					Grand Total
	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total	
Domestic Violence	0	0	0	0	0	76	1	74	40	191	191
Sexual Abuse	26	0	29	13	68	3	0	2	5	10	78
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	26	0	29	13	68	79	1	76	45	201	269

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap, KPT=Kampong Thom

Cases that went to Trial at Court, 2020

Case	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total
Domestic Violence	20	1	24	7	52
Sexual Abuse	36	0	25	7	68
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0
Total	56	1	49	14	120

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap, KPT=Kampong Thom

Cases with Imprisoned Perpetrators, 2020

Case	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total
Domestic Violence	7	0	2	4	13
Sexual Abuse	36	0	25	7	68
Human Trafficking	0	0	0	0	0
Total	43	0	27	11	81

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap, KPT=Kampong Thom

Safe Shelter:

Number of Clients Residing in CWCC's Safe Shelters, 2020

Survivors	Under 18				Above 18				Grand Total
	PNP	BMC	SRP	Total	PNP	BMC	SRP	Total	
Domestic Violence	0	4	5	9	4	4	11	19	28
Sexual Abuse	21	13	14	48	4	0	0	4	52
Human Trafficking	0	6	0	6	1	2	0	3	9
Total	21	23	19	63	9	6	11	26	89

Relatives	Under 18				Above 18				Grand Total
	PNP	BMC	SRP	Total	PNP	BMC	SRP	Total	
Domestic Violence	5	6	3	14	0	0	7	7	21
Sexual Abuse	8	1	0	9	9	2	0	11	20
Human Trafficking	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	13	8	3	24	9	2	7	18	42
Grand Total	34	31	22	87	18	8	18	44	131

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap

Reintegration:

Number of Survivors Reintegrated, 2020

Case	Survivors					Relatives					Grand Total
	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total	PNP	BMC	SRP	KPT	Total	
Domestic Violence	2	6	16	9	33	0	4	19	9	32	65
Sexual Abuse	15	12	16	6	49	0	0	10	8	18	67
Human Trafficking	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	18	20	32	15	85	0	4	29	17	50	135

Note: PNP=Phnom Penh, BMC=Banteay Meanchey, SRP=Siem Reap, KPT=Kampong Thom

STRIVING FOR JUSTICE



Pol is a 21-year-old lady from a poor family in Samrong Torng District, Kampong Spue Province. She has five siblings, and she is the second youngest. Her parents are old, but they still work as farmers.

Pol has been suffering from an intellectual disability since birth. She could not attend school because she could not manage the workload or herself. Her village did not have a center for people with disability, and she did not have access to an institution that supports education for children with disabilities. According to her parents, Pol used to enjoy going for a walk alone. Concerned about her safety, her parents tried to persuade her to stay home instead, but she often ignored their advice. When asked not to go for a walk, she would get angry and destroy things in the house.

Unfortunately, she was sexually abused when she left the house for a walk in 2018. She was referred by the Disabled People Organization (DPO) to police for legal support, and shortly after, she was referred to Cambodian Women's Crisis Center (CWCC).

She came to the CWCC safe shelter in 2019 when she received legal and psychological support from CWCC. Right after coming to the shelter, she did not talk to anyone and had limited interaction with other women in the shelter. She ate alone and did not get involved in any of the activities. Even during the counseling sessions, she didn't talk to the counseling staff.

The turning point was when the counseling staff started to utilize art therapy methods to consult with Pol and asked her to draw pictures that would describe her story. She did so and started to share her story and feelings with the counselor. Since then, she has been receiving regular counseling and close follow-ups. Through the shelter staffs' good care and hospitality, Pol became more emotionally stable and started to demonstrate positivity. She started to converse and interact with other people in the shelter and even voluntarily helped the shelter caretaker with cleaning and cooking. During her time at the shelter, Pol also attended a variety of skill training classes to learn how to make coffee, food, cookies, and souvenirs. The vocational skill trainer said,

"Pol is a clever girl. She can do everything that other trainees do, and she sometimes makes the best products. For example, she made the most outstanding bag within the class."

Around the end of Pol's year-long stay at the CWCC safe shelter, her court case also came to an end. Throughout eighteen months, the CWCC lawyer provided Pol with legal counseling, legal representation, and she accompanied Pol in every hearings and trials. Although communicating with Pol was often challenging due to her intellectual disability, the lawyer was able to grasp all the necessary details regarding the unfortunate incident and gather appropriate resources.

The lawyer recalls that Pol did not understand what justice meant. Soon after the sexual assault, the perpetrator proposed to Pol's family for an informal wedding to avoid his legal penalty. Pol and her family nearly agreed to his proposal until their perspectives were broadened through CWCC's legal counseling. Instead, Pol and her family decided to take the legal route to hold the perpetrator accountable.

At last, he was convicted and sentenced to six years of imprisonment and was ordered by the court to compensate Pol with 10 million Riel (2,500 USD).

Working with the Department of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation (DoSVY) and the Department of Women's Affairs (DoWA), CWCC facilitated community reintegration for Pol in late 2019. She also received a business support grant from CWCC for a sewing job.

Since then, Pol has been regularly followed-up by the CWCC Reintegration Officer. The officer checks on Pol's psychological improvement regularly and continues to provide emotional support.

During one home visit, Pol's father told the CWCC team that he is:

"so happy that Pol's mental health immensely improved. It is unbelievable that she became mentally stable to cook and help with chores at home. She never goes anywhere without informing the family members and she understands everything, all thanks to the comprehensive services provided by CWCC. I am really thankful to the CWCC staff and the donor who supported our family"

With the skills that Pol learned at the shelter, Pol makes cute bags and clothes for her family members and neighbors, which brings a small daily income for her.

Pol said: ***I want to work in a garment factory for regular income. I want to help my parents financially.***



ADVOCACY

To advocate directly and through alliances for legislative and policy reforms that promote gender mainstreaming, uphold the human rights of women, and establish deterrence through rigorous enforcement of the laws.

Government Corporation:

14th Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative Against Trafficking (COMMIT) Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) – 14th COMMIT SOM

In Cambodia, the COMMIT task force is led by the Ministry of Women’s Affairs (MoWA). CWCC was officially assigned by MoWA to be one of the members of International Cooperation for Counter Trafficking including COMMIT.

- 1) **Meeting to prepare for the 14th COMMIT SOM**
 On December 9, CWCC’s Executive Director attended a zoom meeting chaired by the Ministry of Woman’s Affairs to prepare for the 14th COMMIT SOM. The meeting directly discussed which burning issues be raised in the SOM meeting and also made a rehearsal on the presentation of Government and Civil Society Organizations. Members of the meeting commented on these presentations and also the statement drafted by the government.

- 2) **14th COMMIT SOM**
 The COMMIT SOM was held from 15-16 December 2020 through a video conference, and the CSOs were allowed to attend only on the 16th. The meeting was chaired by Vietnam with participation from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand. The theme of the COMMIT SOM was “Comprehensive Approach to Combat Human Trafficking.” In Cambodia, the meeting was convened at MoWA with a total of 37 participants (13 women) of which eight participants were from the CSOs and Ratnak International made a presentation on behalf of the CSOs. Each country shared updated information about their activities to combat

trafficking, pinpointed the best practices, challenges, and next plans. Participants also discussed how to further strengthen the collaboration among the six countries in Great Mekong Sub Region (GMS). As a result of the meeting, all six countries agreed upon the New Normal Approach with effective innovation. The followings are action plans to be implemented by each country:

- i. Draft amendment of the MoU on the cooperation to Combat Human Trafficking in Great Mekong Sub-Region (COMMIT MoU) that was made on 29 October 2004. The draft shall be submitted for approval in the COMMIT Ministerial Meeting (IMM) to be held in 2021 and chaired by Thailand.
- ii. Draft Transnational Referral Mechanism with common standards for all survivors of trafficking in GMS and also to assign focal point in each country of COMMIT members to share information related to human trafficking. This work will be coordinated/facilitated by UNDP.
- iii. Continue implementing SPA-IV for 2020-2022 and prepare to develop SPA V by taking into account all updated trends related to human trafficking. CSOs and youth are encouraged to participate in the process of SPA V development.
- iv. UNDP will replace and continue to be the COMMIT Secretariat after UN-ACT completes its mission by the end of 2020.

Advocacy Campaign:

Pre-International Women's Day: on 7 February 2020, the project has organized Pre-International Women's Day at Sunway Hotel, Phnom Penh with a total of 29 participants who are Women Ambassadors and from self-help groups to gather views around the preparation of International Women's Day. The idea was to select a key message that addresses the current problems and the needs of local women. Ms. Nuon Bopha from the Women's Affairs Department declared strong support to CWCC in their mission of strengthening and empowering women survivors of domestic and sexual violence, women with disabilities, and female migrant workers. After that, Ms. Thak Socheat, Program Manager of CWCC, presented the organization's achievements to date. Ms. Phil Sokear represented women with disabilities to describe problems that her community members go through including discrimination and negative assumptions on disabled people. She mentioned that services for them are not enough. Hem Rina, a Social Ambassador, gave a note about changes in the life of many women. Many of them feel free to talk and seek assistance from local authorities. In that meeting, Kim Vet, from O'Chrov commune office, demonstrated her appreciation to CWCC and local authorities for collaborative efforts. She showed how she feels confident in herself and able to communicate with other institutions as the result. She wished that the project continues for another couple of years in her commune. After that, three small groups were assigned to select one topic for the event. The selected theme was: **Promote public service delivery without discrimination.**

International Women Day, March 8: On 4 March 2020, the CWCC collaborated with the O'Chrov district administration to organize the International Women's Day event with the theme of "Promote public service delivery without discrimination" at O'Chrov District Hall, Banteay Meanchey Province. Some of the attendees were: HE Khoueng Vannak, Deputy Governor of Banteay Meanchey Province, Mrs. Meng Kim Houy, Director of the Department of Women's Affairs, Mrs. Chan Rathana Representative of provincial department of Social Affairs Veteran, and Youth Rehabilitation. The event was also joined by Mrs. Deputy District Governor, District Council Member, Chairman/Deputy Director of District Offices, Local

Authorities of Commune Councils, Armed Forces, representatives of civil society organizations, teachers, students, and the citizens adding to around 600 in total. The purpose of this event was to join hands with the government to promote women's rights and dignity, to stop violence against women, and especially to advocate relevant authorities to provide public services to disabled women and girls without discrimination. After this event, we noticed that the local authorities were impacted by the event as the project target group reported better attention and services provided to the community. The project target group felt that they were prioritized by the local authorities when they went to get certain services and did not require unofficial pays. And recently during the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the project beneficiaries have been assessed by the commune to find out about the poverty level to receive cash aid from the government. Public services were provided equally without discrimination in alliance with the official amount and timeframe.

Radio Talk Show: To influence service providers as well as policy implementers, CWCC has launched the FM102 Radio to organize a radio show named "Women's Voice for Change" under the slogan of "No Women Left Behind." During each session, the radio show consisted of two speakers and they were put on air through FM102 and Facebook Live. Key persons from relevant ministries and provincial departments including Women's Affairs and Social Affairs joined as guest speakers. Some speakers from civil society organizations and women target groups were also invited to speak. The radio talk show went on live on monthly basis.



ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To ensure CWCC's Protection, Prevention and Advocacy programs perform at the highest level by promoting effective organizational management systems and human resource capacity building.

Board Director: The Board Directors of the CWCC includes five well-known leaders of prominent Cambodian human rights groups: (1) Mrs. Kien Sereyphal: the chairperson, founder, and former president of the Cambodia Women's Development Agency (CWDA) and currently an Independent Consultant, (2) Attorney Sok Sam Oeun: Executive Director of the Cambodian Defenders Project which is the prominent legal aid organization in Cambodia, (3) Mrs. Ros Sopheap: Executive Director of Gender and Development in Cambodia (GAD-C), which is one of the leading organizations working to promote gender equality in Cambodia, (4) Mr. Chea Phyden: Executive Director of the Vulnerable Children Assistance Organization (VCAO) which works to protect the rights of the child and promote child participation, and (5) Ms. Pen Monorum: who is currently the Deputy Country Director/Operation of PSI Cambodia.

Organization Staff: In 2020 CWCC had a total number of 60 staff members (65% female). There are 9 staff members in the head office (5 female), 16 in the Phnom Penh office (11 female), 17 in the Siem Reap office (6 female), 10 in the Banteay Meanchey office (6 female), and 8 members in the Kampong Thom office (5 female).

Capacity Building: CWCC staff have received numerous training in 2020 for staff improvement and to enhance their work abilities:

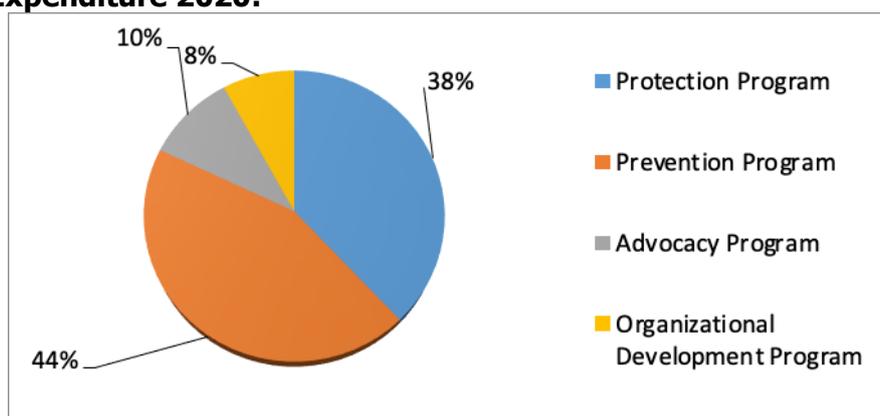
- Training on "Psychological first aid and prevention of GBV" in November 2020.
- Training on "Professional phone counseling skill to respond to violence against women and trafficking in person" by Spotlight Initiative in July 2020.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Financial Budget 2020:

Donors	Income	Percentage
Lotus Outreach	115,348	16.30%
Georg Kraus foundation	10,907	1.54%
AOP	67,920	9.60%
Terre Des Hommes-Germany (TDH-G)	23,091	3.26%
ACCESS	120,092	16.97%
OXF-Voice	59,638	8.43%
FWC	6,980	0.99%
EU-Migra Action	12,068	1.70%
FCA	102,746	14.52%
ILO	25,500	3.60%
SOLIDAR	78,187	11.05%
ATIKHA	16,785	2.37%
J-A-Clark	50,599	7.15%
ISSARA	13,490	1.91%
Earth Tree/MNN/Research	4,478	0.63%
Grand Total	707,828	100.00%

Financial Expenditure 2020:



CONTACT US

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Special Thanks to CWCC's Donors

