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IN THIS NEWSLETTER

Life and Hope Association

Bringing HOPE into LIFE through Compassionate care and EDUCATION

2023 was very fighting year even though the Covid-19 was gone and the world was turning to be normal but everything was still much heard especially related to funds supported daily operation of NGOs including Life and Hope Association. Ukraine war plus Israel's was made more difficult to raise funds because many funds went to support the victims at the war arrears. This crisis effected to not only Ukraine, Israel, and war partners but to all over the world because the world are connected with each other. Due to the current problem, many NGOs run out of funds and decided to close the doors or stop the programs. LHA is one among those also facing many problems related to slow down the funds and got stuck some activities due to lacking funds support. It was an uninvited once we must accept and then try to adapt with proper way to live the life. Unless, we were suffered and heard to move but we keep standing and fighting for serving our disadvantages people with generous and helpful support from generous people around the world. Especially our existing value and generous donors and finally, we could made some greater changes that should be cheer up and proud together delightedly and meaningfully. We would like to share our success to you all too.

LHA's Programs

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Sustainable Community Projects (SCP)

Mr. Lorm Lon, Project Coordinator



The Sustainable Communities Project started in 2008 with the aim to help the most disadvantaged in the community help themselves to improve their lives. We do this through a series of community based, social program.

Many social problems plague our society. Families already stressed by poverty, can feel a sense of hopelessness and frequently fall victim to alcohol abuse, drug addiction, domestic violence and gambling. Helping people to overcome these problems and offer a helping hand to financial independence has been the pillar of our Sustainable Communities Project.

We have learnt over the year that continually providing people with charity does not help them to help themselves. Rather people become dependent on hand outs and have no motivation to become self-sufficient. Our strategy is to work with families to help them earn an income by encouraging them to start a small business and providing them a low interest, micro loans. In extreme cases we give food support and safe housing to families in desperate need. In turn, the families commit to

try to become more self-sufficient, address their social issues (with our support) and send their children to school regularly.

Even though 2023 was still hard to raise funds but through the amazing effort and warm heart of donors at Rice for Cambodia-RFC, Australia led by Lawrie Leeman and Robyn Leeman with several great people we was able to keep 19 families with food security and 45 kids in well education through monthly food parcels, studied materials and student's uniforms supports regularly based on our annual plan. Another 2 families getting better in 2023. We will list out and then list in two other for 2024 support to fill the gap 19 families per year.

Children Development Village (CDV)

In 2023, One CDV boy, Bros Narin decided to drop out high school in order to attend vocational training on electricity skill and he is working as an electrician now. 3 boys kept studying in high school. A girl, Mesa decided to attend vocational training on housekeeping and she is working now. Chhing Sanet is in yearII at university in Phnom Penh Capital now. Sreyleak is about to complete their bachelor degrees in Khmer Literature Major. Reasmey and Kunthear are in English Literature Major at Preah Sihanuk Raja Buddhist University of Battambang (SBUBB).

Arn Reaksa is in Year III in Khmer Literature. The last one, Penh Nha who was in PAGE completed her high school with "C" remarked and she took entrance exam to study Khmer Literature at The Royal Phnom Penh



University-RPPU.

Program Advancing Girls' Education (PAGE)

Mrs. Kao Pek, Project Coordinator



2023, after the last group finished high school, we did recruited 14 new female students into PAGE to fill gat 15 students per year because the lacking funds, we could not recruit more than these. One student, Penh Nha took exam to finished school and the result shown that she passed the exam with “C” remarked. This remark is one among three top students in Cambodia meant that she is clever student. The current students have been studying at Angkor High School, a public school in Siem Reap City because we have not enough funds to move from public school to private school due to the fund limited. In the afternoon, they attend extra classes plus English and Computer classes at Wat Damnak Learning Center. 11 students graduated their bachelor’s degrees in 2023 and they all are working in different firms and fields. The total graduation students are 53 students and 30 students are in Universities in different locations and majors. All graduated students are working and getting better changes in lives and most of those who are in Universities are working too in order to ensure their living and education are well done.

Social Engagement Actions

All students in PAGE, they do not get only general education from public and private school but they also have the opportunity to join any camping such camping on “16 days Camping Against Violence on Women and Girls” and join social events such as the event on “City Cleaning”, “Rubbish Collection”, national writing event on “Angkor Writing”, and religious celebrations such as Kathinadana (yellow robe offering) Celebration, Kanben and Pchumben Celebration, and others. These actions are social and religious engagement program that they are the part of society should be aware and adapt themselves to live in the proper way for their future.



Field Visit and Learn



To make sure they are healthy and enjoyed their living and education to improve their lives in the future, we also brought them to visit some places such visit temples in Angkor Areas, Kulen Mountain, Angkor World life Aquarium, Angkor Botanical Garden, New Angkor International Airport, and 9999 Mahaleap Artificial Park. These actions are to let them aware about how the living life is as human being in this world so that it can be great input for them to set the future goals for their lives.

Guests Visit

After the general situation getting better, there were some friends from the outside of Cambodia came to visit LHA including PAGE such from Australia, Italy, Canada, German, Singapore, and USA to learn about what we

have done and what we are doing to serve our people here to improve the quality of life including making some donation to support our work based on their willingness and generosity.



Park Hyatt Siem Reap & LHA Sewing Training School (STS)

Mrs. Chhea Saro, Project Coordinator

The LHA Sewing School started in 2006 and is sponsored by the Park Hyatt Hotel in Siem Reap. STS continues to provide vocational training to young, disadvantaged Cambodian women from rural communities.

After graduation the 16th Promotion, we took mostly the whole year of 2023 to recruit another group of women and girls to intake the 17th Promotion through going to make direct announcement and presentation to local authorities and people in the communities around Siem Reap Province. Other projects, we were very fighting to raise funds to support the operation activities of the projects but our sewing school we faced top challenges with recruitment the students but not funding. Because of this reason, we kept making announcement again and again and the last, we got support from Ms. Leang Kun, The Training Officer she was not good at training but also designing information leaflet including giving some good ideas to take action on recruitment and then we did again in December 2023. As the result, we received 12 applications to attend our training but finally, 8 women and girls decided to join. Park Hyatt is very willing and committed to support for further training course. Fortunately, at the end of 2023, we could recruit 8 women and girls to start the 17th Promotion, so we are on the process of training now. We plan to upgrade the teacher capacity to make sure that we provide the right and good skills for all who attended so that they can use them to improve the lives for the rest of lives.



Seal of Love Charitable Foundation and Buddhism in Society Project

Ven. Voeturn Va, Project Coordinator



Due to Covid-19, our donors could provide new scholarship to new monk but he generously continue to support the exiting scholarship monks to complete their bachelor and master education and 2 scholarship monks graduated and received their bachelor's degrees in 2023 at Build Bright University-BBU were Ven. Hun Rany and Ven. Seum Seou. Ven. Bron Kosal doing thesis to complete his bachelor and Ven. Lach Chantha doing his report to complete his master at University of South-East Asia-USEA. 2 other will take one more year. Some activities that scholarship monks paid back to the communities keep active such spiritual and moral education to students at Provincial Teacher Training College, participate with other group to planting trees in schools or public areas, or offering studied supplies and materials and emergency food delivery to poor families. On the other hand, Some Scholarship monks turn back to their hometowns to help teaching novice monks on Buddhist philosophy or Dharma and some help teaching Pali Language in Buddhist Primary School. Three former scholarship monks became English Teachers, Yim Savann, high school teacher, Chhorm Sochheat, junior high teacher, Sok Rem became an English Teacher at Australia Center for Education-ACE Team Soseyha became a Computer teacher at Kravann Primary School, another at private school, and one more became a police officer, Khim Khoeurng.

Peace House Building



In 2023, we received generous donation from Jonathan and Lee Wie, the couple who worked as teachers at a private school in Hong Kong for a peace house building for a poor families living in Thlat Village, Khachas Commune, Sothnikum District, Siem Reap Province. Actually, we built 2 houses in 2023 another house was for former cook of Wat Damnak who removed to new area named Run Ta Ek,so total, 2 houses were built.

Emergency Food Support

Since 2020, we have worked very close with Mr. Andreas G Flober, the Buddhist German man and his wife Beatrice Tischhauser offered food parcels to more 2000 families in Siem Reap and Kampong Thom Provinces and in 2023, we kept offering our support to more and more families in various communities of Siem Reap Province at least 36 families per months under generous funds from Bhothisastra University and Andreas's friends from many parts of the world, so totally 360 families for ten times a year.



Partnership Actions

Beside the actions in the projects, we have worked as network with many NGOs in both Siem Reap and Phnom Penh especially worked as a partner with Government in all levels, so we always moved on for meeting, workshops, and conferences based on NGO Law, Tax and Accounting laws, Women and Girls Affairs, Development Planning, and also capacity building trainings to build connection as friendly partnership and network to join hand in hand to improve our society. So, we always participated based on our fields and sectors such as Mrs. Kao Pek always join Sangkat Meetings and Women and Girls Council Meeting including joining workshops that related to this field and Mrs. Lida joint training on Tax, Accounting, Auditing, and any training related to this sector to sure that we understand the global and regional trends especially the Government policies and plans so that we can help to fulfill the gap with the Government to deal with the real problems in the communities based on our target areas.



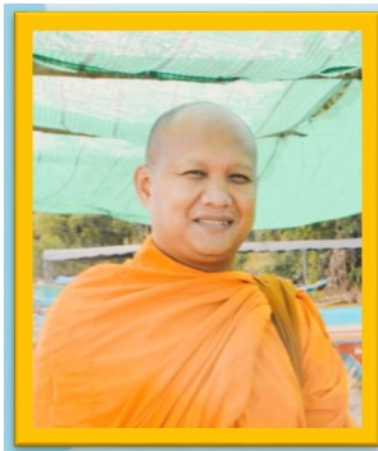
Conclusion

Although, 2023 was a struggling year with global crisis unless, many poor families, women, children, and girls who were under LHA support helpful funded from all generous and warmhearted people both within and outside Cambodia, especially our respected and valuable donors they can live with healthy food condition and received good education through hard-working, compassionate love and care. They have enough food, well access to good education, finished high school, move forward to University, graduation bachelor and master's degrees, getting employments, and make greater changes for their lives and families. Truly, the funds from donors have been used in the right way to support people to improve their lives and make something great happened. We are strongly and heartedly committed to continuing our work and more focus to serving our communities and we extremely trust all amazing and value donors that you will keep strongly standing with us to achieve this mission with huge pride. You have done very great and amazing job of dropping very single drop of donation, even though it is less but small can produce huge changes.

On behalf of LHA, we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness to you all as the friends, volunteers, partners, and donors who have always given us such amazing and generous funds and supports to ensure our work to be able to continue to serving those who are the most in needed to improve their lives. We wish you all the bests and be more profitable in business.

With peace and love,

Venerable Lorm Loeurm



*Bringing hope
into life through
loving care and
education*



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we gladly welcome any questions or comments you may have about LHA. Please feel free to contact us at any point.

Life + Hope = Change

Life + Hope + Education = Greater Change

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