

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

for 2011-2012



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Note from the Director

It is such a joy to see the success of our student sponsorship program. In this update we want you to meet our university graduates. We are so happy that these young people, who were among the poorest in their villages, worked so hard to stay in school all the way through college. Now they have good jobs and are improving life in Cambodia. Our student clubs helped them see how they could make a difference. Thanks to your faithful support, our students are fulfilling their potential and are contributing their skills to help Cambodia overcome poverty and solve social problems.

With heart-felt thanks,
Bhavia

Friendship with Cambodia sponsored 97 students this school year

37 are attending University
60 are in Secondary School
(grades 7 – 12)

72 are girls and 25 are boys
7 are orphans
24 have one deceased parent

13 are indigenous minorities
4 are physically challenged
10 dropped out - most often to marry

Student Clubs

Our sponsored secondary students meet with each other in their province four times a year. Friendship with Cambodia staff lead discussions about community problems, such as destruction of the tidal fishing areas, illegal fishing equipment, and land concessions (when public officials sell community forests to corporations). Our staff give the students study tips and encourage them to stay in school. The students teach each other how to use computers. This March, the students in Kompong Chhnang performed a skit about domestic violence at the International Women's Day celebration. In other provinces, students are involved in efforts to protect the community forests.



The university students in Phnom Penh meet twice a month. They take turns making presentations. This year topics have included: Understanding marriage and family; Youth in cities vs. rural areas; Community problems; Taxation on land and houses; Why the government gives economic land concessions; Employment and income; What is a small enterprise; Careers and study; Law and work; and Development of society.

