

# STUDENT SPONSORSHIP UPDATE

for 2012-2013



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## Note from the Director

Please find enclosed a photo of the student you are sponsoring. Thank you for giving a promising student a future beyond poverty. Our program continues to be a great success. Seventeen out of eighteen of our spring 2012 high school graduates started university in the fall of 2012.

With heart-felt thanks,  
Bhavia

## Since 2004, Friendship with Cambodia has Sponsored 127 Rural Students Living in Poverty Where are they now?

34 are currently in secondary school (grades 8 – 12)

44 are now in university

14 students graduated from university and 13 have jobs in their field of study; one woman chose to get married and start a family before going to work

2 university students are now paying their own way

1 university student got a full scholarship from the World Bank

3 university students dropped out to get married

2 university students quit school to start working

8 students completed 12<sup>th</sup> grade and most are working the family farm

6 students completed 11<sup>th</sup> grade – 3 got married, 1 went to vocational training, and 2 help on the family farm

13 dropped out between 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades – 2 got married and 11 work the family farm

## Bot Didn't Give Up

When Bot, one of our sponsored students, was in 12<sup>th</sup> grade he was very excited about graduating and going to university. All he had to do was pass the 12<sup>th</sup> grade exam. Unfortunately, he had a serious accident.

Rural "bus" transportation in Cambodia often consists of a motorcycle pulling a flatbed trailer that people sit on. The trailer that Bot was riding on turned over crushing his foot and leg. He had to have his lower leg amputated.



Bot was still in the hospital when the 12<sup>th</sup> grade exam was given. Determined to go to university, he got permission from his doctor to leave the hospital in a wheel chair to take the three-day exam. Joyfully, he passed.

Unfortunately, Bot wasn't able to start university because he was in a lot of pain and needed more surgery. He stayed home for a year, while his leg healed. Friendship with Cambodia sponsored him to take computer and English classes. Bot taught beginning English to younger children as a volunteer. Last fall he started university. His goal is to work in rural development, helping poor communities.

## Visiting your student in Cambodia

Would you like to meet your student in Cambodia and learn about her/his life, culture and country?

Some of our sponsors have met their students while on tour with Friendship with Cambodia. The tour group meets the university students in Phnom Penh and spends an afternoon with them.

A few sponsors of secondary school students have traveled into rural Cambodia with our Program Staff to visit their students in their homes. These trips are an adventure, over rough roads and down narrow paths between rice fields.

Our next Responsible Travel Trip to Cambodia is December 30, 2013. Please join us for this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

