



# FAMILY CARE CAMBODIA

2022  
First Quarter  
Activity Report

Welcome to our first quarterly update for 2022. We've had a solid 3 months of learning fun in all of our education programs, without interruption or closure. Our students are thriving!

## Siem Reap Project Update



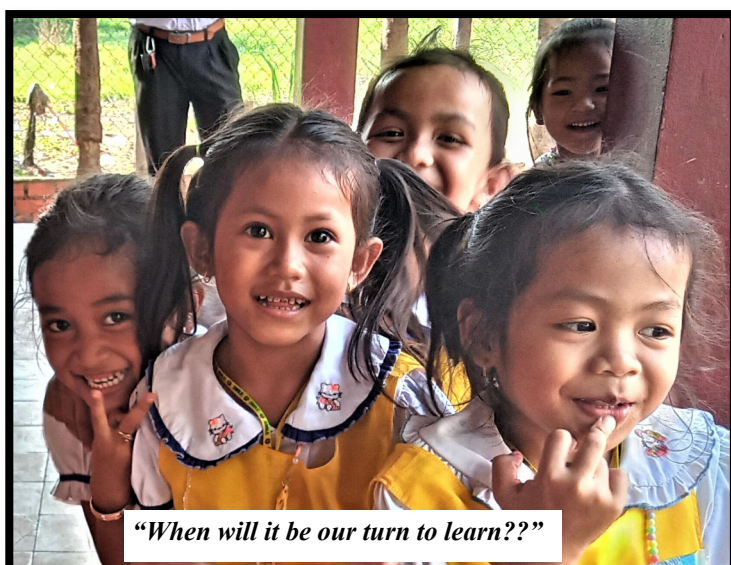
*Alex and our top English students at Phum Tnal School*



*Best computer student at Sandan School*

Daily English and Computer classes are in full swing at both Phum Tnal and Sandan Schools. 380 students from 3rd to 6th grade are now enrolled. The students are placed according to their ability and proficiency, rather than their age or grade level. Our teachers assessed each class at the end of the quarter and special honor was given to the top students in both schools.

We renewed our partnership with the JICA "Think Think" team. They use our IT lab to provide the students with a software lesson designed to stimulate critical thinking and problem solving. The 15 minute "Think think" sessions are added 3 times per week for each of our computer classes. We often find groups of 1st and 2nd grade students peering into the windows, eagerly awaiting their turn to join the special English and IT classes. It's a joy to teach children who are so hungry to learn!



*"When will it be our turn to learn??"*



*Mr. Thouen oversees a "Think-think" session*



## Comfort and Care for the Elderly



We held 3 different events for the neglected elderly in the villages around our Ruby School, Kampong Speu. We purchased 2.5 tons of rice, plus cases of oil, soy sauce, canned fish, soap, toothbrushes and sarongs, to make care packages. We shared an encouraging message of God's love each time, followed by games & prizes. We danced the traditional circle dance around chairs. Folks laughed til they cried each time the music stopped and people dived for a chair. Everyone learned the verse, "*As thy days, so shall thy strength be*". We then took a survey to see who had the most days and gave cash prizes. Our oldest guest was 84! Folks asked for & received prayer for health issues. Some shared how desperate & alone they were, as they have no one to look after them. Many gave spontaneous hugs to say, "Thank you so much for caring." Later we brought supplies to the homes of those who were too weak to attend.





## Scholarship Student Ranks #1 in Class!



Chamnan first came to our village when his parents died. He moved in with his widowed aunt, who put him straight to work; hard labor in the fields and looking after his younger cousins in his spare time. It was a really tough time for him. We awarded him a scholarship at Ruby School, where he's faithfully attended for the past several years. We just heard that he ranked Number One in his 11th grade class at the district High School. That's a **huge** achievement and honor! We are so proud of him and so thankful to all who've sponsored our scholarship students!

## Reflections on Twenty Years in Cambodia

This March we celebrated the 20th anniversary of our arrival in Cambodia. We remember first arriving in 2002 from Thailand, with 6 of our 8 children; thinking we would give it a year to see if this was where God wanted us, and if we could thrive and be a blessing. It didn't take long for us to realize that we were in the right place at the right time. And though there have been big challenges and lots of unexpected twists and turns, we have to say it's been a great adventure with multiplied blessings!

We have always been impressed by the resilience of our Cambodian brothers and sisters. We've rarely met anyone whose family was not devastated in some way by the Khmer Rouge era. And yet with hope and determination, they've conquered huge obstacles, worked hard to improve themselves and provide a better life for their children. It's been an honor and a joy to work alongside parents, teachers, social workers, college students, local officials, rural pastors, and children from every level of society. In all of our programs with youth at risk; be it orphans, the mentally challenged, abused and exploited girls, or children in remote and rural areas, we are always impressed with their eager desire to learn. Being able to nurture these young ones, imparting to them the love that God has imparted to us, has been such a blessing!



*Family Care Cambodia is a non-profit, volunteer organization. The activities you have just read about were made possible through donations from businesses and concerned individuals. If you would like to help sponsor our projects or volunteer, visit our website, [www.familycarecambodia.org](http://www.familycarecambodia.org)*

*We look forward to hearing from you!*

*Alex and Ann Soldner*