

GROWING CAMBODIA – ACTIVITIES REPORT 2018

This is the fifth Annual Report for Growing Cambodia Inc. and thank you for taking the time to read it.

The purpose of our registered Australian charity is for the relief of poverty and assisting those who are disadvantaged in rural Cambodian communities by encouraging a better and more sustainable quality of life through education and the enhancement of their health and well-being.

The principal activities of Growing Cambodia did not change during the last year. We continued to support the provision of English lessons in four rural villages.

Three of these villages are located near Siem Reap.

At Kok Beng, 160 students learn English at the local pagoda and Primary School. This is the first year that classes have been held at the Primary School and we thank the school for the use of one of their rooms and support in providing a better learning environment.

There are 155 students attending the school at Beng Village while a further 295 students study at Oroluos – these classes are held in buildings in the villages.

Growing Cambodia continued to fund English classes at Koy Meng Primary School – a government school in the Banteay Meanchey Province - where 132 students are learning. There has been a recent request to teach English at the secondary school which we will need to consider. All these classes would not have been possible without the local managers and teachers at the schools helping Growing Cambodia deliver the lessons. Many thanks to :

Mr Sopheak Phay
Ms Vattey Ouch
Mr Sovann Kay
Mr So
Mr Sorya
Mr Theary
Ms Ratha
Ms Srey Nit
Mr Sophal
Ms Sem Reaksa
Ms Samphoas
Mr Chanthorn
Ms Rany Chhoeurng
Ms Saifong
Mr Hut Vuthy
Mr Khen Neang

We are fortunate that we have a very dedicated and hard-working team devoting themselves to teaching fellow Cambodians. Growing Cambodia pays the monthly salaries to our three school managers – Mr Sopheak , Mr Sovann and Mr So - our local accountant Ms Vattey Ouch and the twelve teachers . The wages paid to our managers and teachers are then spent locally which further supports local business and the local economy.

The “Fill the Bag” campaign, launched to enable poorer students attend or stay at government schools, continued on very successfully this year with 43 students being provided with scholarships.

There was some support for students at University with scholarships but this is one area we would like to expand on in 2019.

Again there were no administration costs meaning every dollar raised was spent on our activities in Cambodia.

Once again a special thanks to Jane Bown who looks after our Facebook page – her updates are so important in getting our information out to both existing and new supporters.

Thank you to the volunteers who gave up their valuable time to assist at one or more of the four schools in Cambodia as well as other volunteers involved both in Australia and Cambodia with the making and distribution of Days for Girls Kits to the girls in the villages.

Last but not least thank you to the Committee for your efforts. I would like to single out our tireless Secretary Nola Kemp and Treasurer Lois Green for all their hard work throughout the year. Also a special thanks also to Glenda Salter for her much appreciated assistance with fundraising events.