



# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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# Introduction from Scott Neeson

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Summarising CCF's achievements and challenges has grown ever more difficult with each passing year, as our work has broadened and deepened, reaching ever more students and people in our community. We now work with over 2,200 children, ranging from enthused 9 year olds catching up on their missed school years, seriously sick infants being nursed back to health, revitalized kindergarten kids and – a source of immense pride - 30 of our very first CCF children studying in university. They have all overcome huge obstacles to be in education today.

But what made 2015 a milestone year was that after 11 years of growth and rapid change, CCF capped the numbers of children studying with us for the first time. This is a positive thing. The happiest reason, and something almost impossible to imagine when we began our work here, is that within our target areas in the Steung Meanchey district of Phnom Penh, nearly every child is in school. At the same time, our original students are becoming adults, and that has meant that we have had to embark on the exciting challenge of supporting of them into university or fulfilling new careers.

An equally important factor in our decision to cap numbers was the fact that our model of community involvement has matured. We have pursued a model where essential services such as access to fresh water and medical treatment are provided without fostering dependence or a sense of welfare. Everyone has a role to play. For example, the teens are charged with implementing community programs such as the Food Program, while our much loved grandmothers are now high in the social order, teaching our youth about values, traditions and family structures. If parents commit to the values of consistent education and keeping a home free from abuse, they will receive a new home in one of our World Housing communities. With over 400 families living in these communities at the end of 2015, these are very visible proof that a better life is within reach.

The measurable results of this unique community-wide model have been staggering. Daily absentee rates are 3%, half of most Western countries, and annual retention rates, once around 65%, are now 96%. More children are now living safely with their families than at any other time in CCF's 11 year history.

This maturing of our model allows us to refocus our energies on improving what we already do well, by making sure that the education and services we offer are as effective and efficient as possible for this moment in time and the future.

This change in emphasis does leave us with a challenge when it comes to funding. There is a natural attraction to donating to a new service or facility. With CCF's growth phase essentially over, our funding needs shift to less tangible but equally crucial goals such as improved quality of education and the long term sustainability of Cambodian Children's Fund. That means we need our most loyal funders' financial support more than ever.

I appreciate that all of you have a large number of charities vying for your donation, locally and internationally. My ask is simply that you research and consider CCF's accomplishments, our achievements and recognition, and financial management. Read this report as a starting point, and we hope you will see just how huge an impact your support makes on lives and how hard we work to deliver the best possible return on investment.

Scott Neeson, Founder and Executive Director

# 2015-THE BIG NUMBERS



**2,257**  
students were  
enrolled in  
CCF programs

**180** safe, clean homes  
were built for hard working  
families, bringing our total  
of World Housing  
Homes to 400



**71%** of students  
passed final exams  
compared to a  
national average of  
56%

**52** new students  
began university to  
reach a total of 125,  
while 152 found jobs  
through our  
careers services



**3,142** families  
received  
direct assistance  
from CCF



**3%** of students were  
reported absent in our  
schools, compared to 55%  
in 2004



**914** safe births were  
achieved through our  
Maternal Care Program



**852** students were enrolled  
into our Leadership Program,  
helping the community by feeding  
433 malnourished children and  
supporting 85 grannies



**39,768** medical  
treatments and  
consultations were  
administered through  
our free medical centre



# NEW INITIATIVES

## WORKING WITH FAMILIES

CCF has always worked hard to keep families together, but in 2015 we took new strides forward in finding children family environments to grow up in. **A pilot foster program** was launched where children were placed in homes with carefully selected new foster parents, with more placements to come in 2016. We also opened up our first transitional home for young women who have lived with CCF in the past but are now ready to live more independently.

In 2015, His Excellency Vong Soth, Minister for Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation (MoSVY) met with Scott Neeson to discuss the importance of robust guidelines for NGOs dealing with vulnerable children. Mr Soth “expressed his endless support to the organization for carrying out its duty so far on the development of the whole society, especially on helping to further promote the construction of houses for poor families in the community.”

## NEW FACILITIES

The foundations of our work were strengthened with the development of a **range of much-needed new facilities** aimed at improving the lives of CCF's children through enhanced education and a healthier and happier community. New buildings unveiled in 2015 included a new community relations centre, a new boys' centre, two playgrounds and a new school in Toul Ampil. These will have a powerful impact on hundreds of young lives for many years to come, and we are very grateful to the donors who made it possible.





## ***BUILDING THE FUTURE***

Central to our vision for the future is the Neeson Cripps Academy (NCA), funded by Velcro Companies. Cambodia's future economic growth will depend on improvements in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. The NCA will provide impoverished Cambodian

children with high quality education opportunities through enhanced learning spaces, access to the latest technologies, advanced teacher training and designated study spaces, all within an environment conducive to critical thinking. All CCF students will transition to study at the NCA. Purposely built in a deprived area near the former landfill, the state of the art building will be a symbol of how much has changed in Steung Meanchey in the last 11 years - a beacon of hope and a very visible symbol of the power of education. The official groundbreaking ceremony took place in August and the NCA will open to students in early 2017.

## ***BRINGING THE WHITE HOUSE TO STEUNG MEANCHEY***

One of our proudest moments in 2015 was the opening of the 'White House', a place where our youngest CCF boys can grow into confident young leaders and reach their full potential. As well as providing English classes, the White House encourages older CCF students to mentor the young boys and teach them important life skills.

CCF student Heng told his story in front of the CCF family at the opening ceremony. "I was born in a poor family. I know this is the same as everyone at CCF and that's why we are all here. Before CCF, I went to school but I didn't have any time to study. I had to work. CCF has changed everything for me. I now have access to education and the opportunity to be a role model for the younger students."



# RECOGNITION in 2015

CCF's continuous efforts to achieve outstanding, life changing results for our students, while running an organization with the transparency and good financial governance which reassure funders that their money is being spent wisely, was reflected throughout 2015 by recognition from external bodies.

In 2015, CCF received the highest rating of 4 out of 4 stars for the sixth consecutive year from the independent charity watchdog **Charity Navigator**, which ranks CCF as an "exceptional" organisation that "exceeds industry standards and outperforms most charities in its cause". Cambodian Children's Fund scored 99.25 out of 100 for our overall performance, while gaining a perfect score of 100 for accountability and transparency. This puts us amongst the most effective organisations in the world.

Charity Navigator says: "We rate charities by evaluating two broad areas of performance; their Financial Health and their Accountability & Transparency. Our ratings show givers how efficiently we believe a charity will use their support today, how well it has sustained its programs and services over time and their level of commitment to being accountable and transparent."



★★★★★  
**CHARITY NAVIGATOR**  
Four Star Charity

*The world's largest and most respected charity watchdog, Charity Navigator, has given CCF it's highest 4-star rating for 6 consecutive years.*

100

Accountability  
& Transparency

99.25

Overall  
Score

98.85

Financial  
Score

2015 - A New High For CCF



**GreatNonprofits'** rating system is based on reviews from real people with direct experience of the work a non-profit organization does, including volunteers, donors and supporters. Any non-profit that gets 10 or more 4- or 5-star reviews and maintains an overall average of 3.5 stars receives a GreatNonprofits "Top-Rated" award. In 2015, CCF was very proud to receive this award for the second year running.

**GREATNONPROFITS**



**2015  
TOP-RATED  
NONPROFIT**



**150+ Reviews**

**Top rated charity 2014 & 2015, including being rated #1 in philanthropy and #2 in international charities.**

*"This is truly a hands-on organisation where no resources are wasted, and each child is treated as an individual who deserves to be given every opportunity possible to effectively take charge of his or her life."*

**Susan Pasley** – donor, sponsor and volunteer

*"It was the palpable organisation-wide dedication to the core mission of creating brighter futures for the children of Cambodia – above and beyond standard job tasks, obligations and day-to-days – that struck me as the secret ingredient to the success of a special group of people."*

**Joel** – former volunteer.

# CAMBODIAN CHILDREN'S FUND - How we work



CCF was born in 2004 on the day founder Scott Neeson first stepped foot onto the notorious garbage dump of Steung Meanchey. As the one time dumpsite for chemical companies, hospitals and industry, the Steung Meanchey district of Phnom Penh was one of the largest landfills in Southeast Asia, and one of the most environmentally toxic and dangerous environments in the world. While they scavenged, children and their families were under constant threat of violence, sexual abuse, trafficking, and disease.

CCF's ambitious goal since then has been to lift the community of the former Steung Meanchey landfill out of poverty and into a new era of hope and possibility through the provision of education, a goal we are already well on the way to achieving. Our approach is based on a fundamental belief that education can provide children with pathways out of poverty, and that by developing the leadership potential of our students, leaders will emerge that will create generational change and a better future for Cambodia.

## **CCF has developed a robust poverty reduction and community development model based on three key principles:**

1. Access to quality education for those who have fallen outside the public school system is critical for breaking the generational cycle of poverty.
2. Removing the barriers to education that keep children out of school - such as the loss of earnings from child labor, urgent food needs, lack of clean water, healthcare needs, and entrenched gender inequality issues - is crucial to ensuring children have a brighter future.
3. If children are to prosper their families must be supported, which means helping create a community environment around the children which is safe, caring, and supportive, whilst reinstalling pride, integrity and respect into community members.

This has led to the creation of six interconnected programs - Education, Career & Life Skills, Leadership, Community Outreach, Healthcare, and Childcare – through these CCF works with families to build plans for educating their children, developing job skills for parents and older children, escaping debt, and generating a healthy home life. We work at the grassroots level to tackle the complex issues of poverty. CCF's program model has been successful in transforming the lives of more than 2,200 children - 60% of whom are female – and impacts more than 3,000 families living in the communities we serve. Annually, around 10,000 community members access CCF services through multiple points of contact.

Huge challenges remain, some old and some new. The newest and most depressing development is a dramatic increase in drug abuse – principally “crystal meth” - which has started to once again fragment families and the communities we have spent a long time rebuilding, just as in many troubled places across the world. This has led to domestic violence issues and leaves our students once again vulnerable to neglect or being pulled out of school to work. This puts additional strain on the working conditions of our staff and the home lives of our beneficiaries. In coming years we will be working hard to help addicts who can be helped and tackle those who would do harm to our children and communities.

The suffering of these children ends with this generation. Such an undertaking requires a number of interdependent community services, from clean water and nutrition through to learning local values and traditions, and a burning desire to become independent. CCF's vow is to continue to support all of these until the horrors of the past are truly over.



## Cambodia in 2015

Although Cambodia's economy is now growing, it remains a country where poverty is profound and the traumas of the past have left deep scars. In a population of 14 million, nearly half are under the age of 20. One in five lives below the poverty line, while another two out of five are considered 'near poor', living on less than \$2.30 a day.

Only one in two Cambodians has access to safe drinking water. Less than one in four has access to a toilet – which has significant impact on the health and survival rate of children. 35 of 1,000 children die before reaching the age of five: of those children that do reach the age of five, a third are stunted due to a lack of nutrition and access to clean water.

# EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

CCF's goal has always been to work alongside and in collaboration with Cambodia's public school education system, each supporting the other. The Cambodian school day only lasts for half a day, which means our students have a half day to supplement their public school education through additional learning in CCF schools. Our education programs provide a well-rounded and internationally focused curriculum designed to equip students with skills that will help them become tomorrow's leaders. We work with public schools to guarantee that all CCF students are enrolled, and support the public schools to improve the quality of their education, while ensuring that families can afford to attend.

Over 2,000 CCF students learn Khmer, English, mathematics, computer literacy, social studies, arts and home economics. The ambition is to provide dynamic academic content, accelerated learning opportunities and newfound promise and prospects for each and every student. Every child learns differently, and we carefully track academic results and behavior records in both our schools and the public schools, so we can ensure every one of our students is on the right track and getting any necessary support.

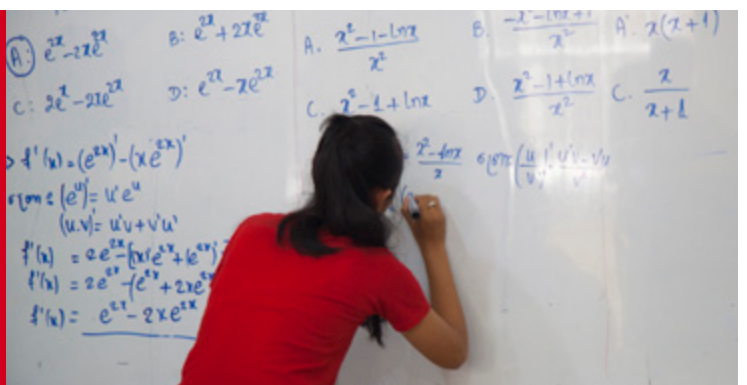
**10** CCF teachers given awards for outstanding teaching practices



**2,257** students were enrolled in CCF programs



**71%** of students passed final exams compared to a national average of 56% (with 91% of students going on to university from high school)



**3%** of students were reported absent in our schools, compared to 55% in 2006



**8** partnerships forged with leading local and international schools



**2,176** volumes donated to our libraries, with a further 1,005 purchased



Our satellite schools are a crucial part of our education strategy, providing access to education in slum areas of Steung Meanchey where previously it was totally inaccessible. In 2015 we opened a brand new satellite school, in Toul Ampil. Like its predecessor, it will act as a catalyst for change, creating an entry point into the public school system for communities where previously there was no contact with the state school system. The Satellite Schools also double as community centres, providing services such as food and fresh water to community children and families. These schools, surrounded by ramshackle housing and often squalid conditions, provide a haven for students to learn, play and grow.

Starting at pre-school, CCF provides students aged three to six years old with a safe place to learn before beginning formal education. Students who have missed years of school are given the chance to catch up with our Operation Rescue program, a custom curriculum that combines two years of schooling into one.

For older children unlikely to finish high school and proceed to higher studies, the vocational training program is vital. In our vocational program, students channel themselves into their area of interest so that the career they choose suits their personality and abilities. The skills they learn will set them up to become self-sufficient and independent. We work with local partners to offer training and help find apprenticeships and full time jobs upon completion of studies.



**52** new students began university to reach a total of 125, while 152 found jobs through our careers services

Our results in 2015 demonstrated just what these students can achieve, given the right support and the right programs to support them and their families. Our students scored the highest final exam results in our history, with 71% passing– significantly higher than the national average of 56%.

Of the first wave of children who started with CCF in 2004-2006, 125 were in university in 2015 – a result we are extremely proud of, and once would have seemed unimaginable to children who had resigned themselves to a life of scavenging or, at best, working in factories. 152 other students have found exciting careers through our apprenticeship, careers and internship programs.

The future looks even brighter. In 2015 the ground was broken for our latest initiative, the NCA. This will provide impoverished Cambodian children with high quality education STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education opportunities. By offering access to the latest technologies, advanced teacher training and designated study spaces, we believe the NCA will help to create a new generation of CCF students who are better equipped to transform their communities and country than ever before.



## Nita – science superstar

Nita has always been a CCF star but she leapt to national attention when she was one of 30 outstanding grade six students selected from across the country to participate in Cambodia's first national science exam.

"I really like science because it is always growing. I read science books to prepare for the competition," said Nita. As with other CCF students, Nita sees education as her only path towards a brighter future. "My family members don't know how to read, so they work in a bad place. They tell me to study so I can get a better job," said Nita.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH in 2015

**307,000** tonnes  
of free rice given to  
impoverished families



**192** actions  
against crimes  
in co-operation  
with police



We know that if children are to fully prosper, their roots and relationships need nurturing too. That's why so many of our programs focus on families and extended communities, from poor, ill adults to the old and vulnerable, and people stuck in a cycle of substance abuse. Without helping them, we know our efforts to help children are likely doomed to fail.

Despite economic growth in recent years, Cambodia remains one of the poorest countries in Asia and long-term economic development remains a challenge, obstructed by social dysfunction, limited access to education, and poor employment prospects. The communities in Steung Meanchey where CCF works are among the most deprived and dysfunctional in the country, and making a real impact with the families who live there has always required a complex but integrated model which fully understands local realities.



Many families arrive in Steung Meanchey from the rural provinces looking for work, usually burdened with crippling debt most commonly caused by family illness. These transient families have very little connection with each other and as a result there is little of the sense of community that underpins Cambodian life. This creates conditions for abuse, violence, alcoholism, drug abuse and neglect. Many of the families supported by CCF suffer the effects of malnutrition and disease brought on by living in such squalor, without access to basic hygiene, potable water and proper housing.

We are tackling these conditions one by one and making huge, measurable progress in our fight for a happier and healthier community. Our first goal is to provide stability to families who have never been fortunate enough to know this feeling. Once this has been established, other improvements to life will follow. If children are kept in dangerous situations, then they'll be unable to excel in school or as young leaders.

The impact of our community outreach programs spreads to all the work we do, from education to healthcare. We created the community centre to serve as a hub to provide reliable care within and for Phnom Penh's Steung Meanchey community. People living around the former dump site can now access our community outreach services, which provide for all basic needs ranging from food and fresh water to family assistance, counseling and advocacy. It's also used as a safe place for local families to come together and is the beating heart of the new, more united community we are building in spite of the challenges.

**1,740** attended  
reproductive health  
training



**85** grannies in  
granny program



**180** World Houses  
built and provided  
to deserving families





**558** families  
joined community  
education

**3,142** families received  
some kind of CCF  
assistance



**288** tents, **300** bikes,  
**780** mosquito nets,  
**96** pairs of boots given  
through community program



**“The word home makes us  
feel very warm”**

Srey Rath and her five siblings had a very rough start to life. Their mother passed away several years ago, leaving these children hopeless and scared. With no father in the picture and relatives unable to support them, their options were limited.

Now, with support from CCF, the young family are all attending school, university, or participating in internships, and have recently moved into one of our World Housing communities.

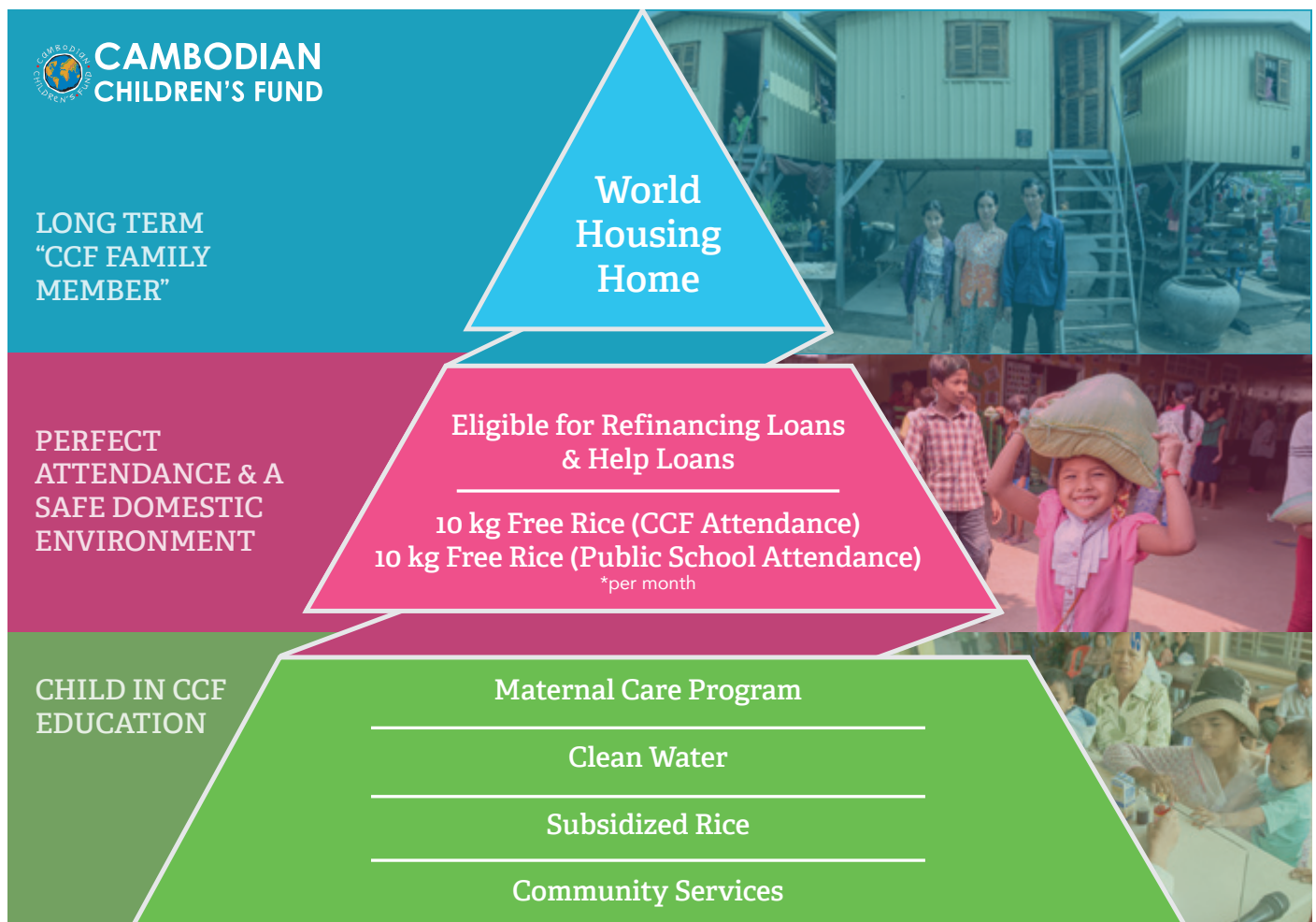
“I feel very happy to be living here together,” said Srey Rath, the oldest sibling. “This home is a place that protects us from the sun, the rain and the wind. The word home makes us feel very warm.”

# World Housing – a success story

One of the cornerstones of our community work is our partnership with World Housing, which in 2015 alone built 180 new quality homes with all the essentials, complete with a downstairs kitchen and additional features like solar panels and access to mains water. For every six houses there are communal washing blocks with running water for showers and toilets, a first for many families. In another milestone, 2015 saw World Housing build its first housing in the Cambodian provinces, encouraging families to remain in a safe environment rather than travel to a hazardous one like Steung Meanchey.

The success of the World Housing model is due in large part to the way CCF has been able to apply what we have learnt working at the community level in Cambodia for over a decade. CCF provides extensive support to families in the Steung Meanchey area and beyond. Rice, clean water and medical care for families of CCF students form the first tier of this support, ensuring that families are not negatively impacted when their children attend school. Receiving a World Housing home is the top-tier of that support, a recognition of families that put their children first. The houses act as a major incentive: families that encourage their children's education, provide a safe home life and encourage good behaviour are the first to be offered a home.

As a result of this highly successful partnership, hundreds of people who seemed doomed to a life on the poverty line renting shacks in Steung Meanchey now have a place to call their own. These are not just houses, they are homes within a community, and they have brought families back together with a new pride and determination to build a better future for themselves and their children.





## ***The Granny Program***

Grannies are the backbone of the Steung Meanchey community and a valuable link helping our youth understand the traditions, social structure and family values of the prior generations. With so much life experience, these women are the holders of wisdom and much knowledge. Yet many of these grannies were too old or weak to work, and had no one to care for them... until we created our Granny Program.

Kids in the Junior Leadership program take care of more than 85 Steung Meanchey grannies each week, providing them with food, water, companionship and access to healthcare. In exchange, the junior leaders gain companionship, passed-on wisdom and a sense of self-worth.

There were many amazing moments for the Granny Program in 2015. Grannies joined our leadership camps for the first time, passing on their wisdom and understanding of Khmer traditions – so nearly lost during the Khmer Rouge period. But one of the most remarkable moments was a birthday...

Not many of us remember our very first birthday, but it's fair to say you can't forget it when you are 104 like Soy On, and have never had a celebration before. In 2015, we threw a big party: in attendance were her granny friends, neighbours, local kids and many others. A large chocolate cake was served and a rather unusual but much loved gift was given – her first ever toilet.



# LEADERSHIP PROGRAM in 2015

Although each individual child is the nucleus of all we do, the ultimate change we seek is broader: each child must have the ability and willingness to bring the same change to their own community. That's why a core part of our work is preparing a generation of confident young people who can make a difference, unlocking the leadership potential of some of Steung Meanchey's most vulnerable preteen and teen youth. We call it the Leadership Program.

Through this program we are shaping the future leaders of Cambodia with valuable experiences and training to become engaged and informed citizens who are active within their community. These young CCF leaders and their community counterparts are more than 800 strong, providing food, education, clothes, recreation and hygiene care to more than 10,000 people in Steung Meanchey and neighboring provinces.

The programs include mentoring and training, a variety of community outreach activities, local and international exchanges, and bonding and learning activities such as leadership camps. These activities and training sessions ensure that our young leaders receive a wide variety of experiences and that they have the knowledge and awareness to become active leaders. Our young leaders help design and run the leadership activities, and they have been internationally praised for their work.

24 TOMS shoes trips  
organised with **30,916**  
pairs of shoes and **550**  
balls distributed



**159** students  
successfully graduated  
from Community  
Leadership Training



**374** students  
signed up to  
lead the food  
program



Sina photographed (right)

To give an example of how the program works, each year around ten of our students are sponsored to attend Tony Robbin's extraordinary Global Youth Leadership Summit in California. They come back to CCF inspired to create change and pass on what they learned to their classmates. That's where our Annual Youth Leadership Event comes in...

AYLE is an inspiring three-day event held in Phnom Penh filled with motivational speeches and leadership activities. What makes it so powerful is that AYLE is organised by the students who attended the overseas leadership event - they pass on their new found passion for encouraging positive thinking, teamwork and self-expression among our CCF students right here in Cambodia.

Because we're dedicated to providing cohesive care, all leadership activities are integrated with our other programs "on the ground". Older members teach younger students, feed malnourished community children, visit the homes of those in need and care for the elderly. They are transformed from beneficiaries into benefactors, allowing them to move into wider Cambodian society filled with self respect, compassion and true leadership skills.

## Case study – Sina

The very best of CCF's students sometimes get the opportunity to participate in leadership activities abroad, and have returned to share their experiences with their fellow students and the wider community.

"Leadership is very important to inspire the next generation. We need to have more young leaders in our society, so they can urge the youth to improve," said Sina, an 18-year-old CCF student who had worked in the old rubbish dump. She undertook a trip to the U.S. in 2014 under the youth leadership program, and has spent much of 2015 taking part in activities sharing the information she learned back home in Cambodia. "If we want to see society improving we need to improve leadership skills too and not only improve education alone."

**55** students  
volunteered  
in Granny  
Program



**937** students  
took part in  
leadership  
camps

# HEALTHCARE in 2015



In Cambodia even a minor health problem can spell disaster for a poor family. Already struggling to make ends meet, a trip to the doctor or a stay in hospital can plunge a family into debt for a lifetime. The only loans they can access come attached with impossibly high interest rates, guaranteeing financial problems long after a sickness is cured. Living near a former rubbish dump and scavenging for recyclables means the people we serve often have health problems.

That is why at CCF we aim to improve the health and well-being of not just the children in our care, but the whole community. The centrepiece of our healthcare programs is a free medical clinic located at the heart of the community. By teaming up with a range of partners, from village health committees to government agencies, we improve maternal, newborn, child and adult health. We focus particularly on preventing infectious diseases and improving nutrition.

Nutritious food is hard to come by for Cambodia's poorest families. Meagre incomes earned scavenging for recyclables or working in construction aren't enough to provide three meals a day, and persistent inflation in food prices adds to the problem. As a result, what few meals these children do have often consist of unhealthy food. Such diets result in devastating malnutrition for Steung Meanchey's kids, and hinder their physical and mental development. In Cambodia, it is reported that 45% of children still suffer from stunting, but in our communities we believe this number to be much higher.

**39,768**  
treatments and  
consultations  
provided



**1,640**  
hospital  
referrals  
made



**3,258**  
dental  
procedures  
carried out

**1,740**  
attended  
reproductive  
health training



**100%** of  
malnourished  
children  
survived and  
grew stronger

**914<sup>th</sup>**  
baby born  
safely through  
our Maternal  
Care Program



Our Critical Nutrition Program provides personalised nutritious diets to help speed the recovery process of the moderately to severely malnourished kids in this program. These personalised diets consist of highly nutritious soup and porridge, bread, milk and multivitamins. Heights and weights are regularly monitored to track progress. For the worst cases, we ensure the child is taken to a hospital for care. Our staff and families in the community receive training on basic care and prevention of malnutrition. As a result, 100% of the malnourished children survived and became stronger in 2015.

Indeed, 2015 was a remarkable year for all our healthcare programs. Not only did our skilled doctors and nurses provide 39,768 treatments and consultations, but they had better resources than ever before thanks to new cardio ultrasound, abdominal ultrasound and ECG equipment. The families of Steung Meanchey can finally seek treatment for problems feeling reassured they'll get good treatment and won't be plunged into truly crippling debt.

**720 families**  
received family  
planning advice

**305** children received  
dental treatment



**1,660** minor  
surgeries performed



**907** community members  
received healthcare training



**329** children received  
eye tests and care



# THE CHILD PROTECTION UNIT in 2015



The Child Protection Unit (CPU) is a joint initiative between CCF and the Cambodian National Police to bring child abusers to justice and protect those who cannot protect themselves. Established in 2013, the CPU comprises police and investigators and after-care specialists with a focus on tackling the issue of serious child abuse in Cambodia.

Crimes against children including homicide, sexual assault, child

trafficking and all forms of abuse require a specialised and coordinated response from investigative and support agencies. The CPU is a unique undertaking, partnering experienced Western police investigators with Cambodian police to investigate the most horrific cases of child abuse that are often beyond the resources of local police departments.

Since 2013, the CPU has introduced new forensic techniques and provided equipment to gather and collect better evidence to assist the prosecution case and likelihood of prosecution. The ability to provide immediate medical assistance, medivacs and continued treatment using partner hospitals has saved lives and is imperative to the CPU's work.

## **A NEW APPROACH TO CHILD PROTECTION**

Our track record of innovation continued with Cambodia's first large scale training of female police officers in how to investigate child abuse and interview child victims with sensitivity. This was led by the CPU, conducted in partnership with the Cambodian National Police and UK police officers. This training



will not only protect children who have already been through horrific trauma from further distress through intrusive police methods, but also result in the apprehension of more criminals and a reduction in crimes against children.

# PARTNERSHIP AT CCF

Successful partnership was the secret behind many of CCF's biggest successes in 2015. Underpinning everything we do is our strong working relationships with the Cambodian Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs, Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training, Ministry of Interior, and the Council for the Development of Cambodia, with a recent collaboration with members of the Ministry of Arts and Culture.

CCF has partnered with 84 local companies and institutions to secure job placements for more than 150 students. The education team works with 33 primary schools, 25 secondary schools, 9 high schools and 17 universities. We partner with 9 national and international academic institutions for student and staff development, including the International School of Phnom Penh, Northbridge International School Cambodia, and the Australian Centre for Education. International partnerships include United World College based in Singapore, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Play Around The World based in Canada, and the Australian College of Physical Education.

CCF works with Pour un Sourire d'Enfant (PSE) to deliver vocational training and the Anthony Robbins Foundation for international youth leadership training. The healthcare team work with 14 local hospitals and medical clinics and the Community Relations team cooperate with locally operating NGOs such as PSE and Friends International. World Housing from Canada is our community housing partner and the CPU works with Legal Aid and the Reproductive Health Association of Cambodia.

## Credit Suisse join the food program

CCF's Food Program is a nightly event organised by our inspiring junior leaders to help feed undernourished kids living in the community. In 2015, volunteers from Credit Suisse came along to help out, and to see our junior leaders in action.

CCF was able to open three satellite schools in 2011 thanks to the generous support of Credit Suisse, and they have remained a crucial partner organisation ever since, currently supporting the CCF Leadership Training Program. As well as funding support, Credit Suisse have sent out skilled staff to volunteer in key roles at CCF for 3-month periods, had CCF interns embedded in their teams in Singapore, and sent in-kind donations including hundreds of computers.



# CCF IN THE MEDIA

*In 2015, Cambodian Children's Fund and founder, Scott Neeson continued to be written and talked about widely in the media, from local newspapers exploring on the ground issues like the Khmer Times to internationally recognized powerhouses like the Wall Street Journal. Below are a few snapshots*



## **Homeward Bound: Rescuing City's Trash Scavengers from the Cycle of Poverty** November 17, Khmer Times



"Srey Mom has gone from trash scavenger to local heroine. She spent most of her teenage years digging through trash searching for recyclables in the now-closed Steung Meanchey garbage dump, but in 2009 she entered a leadership program started by the Cambodian Children's Fund (CCF) which helped lift her out of poverty.

With lessons in public speaking, English, and computer literacy, CCF's training helped Ms. Mom overcome her humble

beginnings. She now teaches leadership classes to students at a CCF school. Buoyant and charismatic, she is a favorite of the many children who study there.

"When I started out studying, I only knew the letters A, B, C, and D," she said. "I was collecting garbage since fourth grade and earning \$1 a day. But now I have the opportunity to learn and help a lot of people." And she is a star beyond the Steung Meanchey neighborhood: last year Ms. Mom participated in the BBC's "100 Women" conference, which hosted debates over women's issues.

CCF's school program has grown dramatically since 2009, and now provides lessons for more than 2,000 children. But schooling is only part CCF's mission to transform the lives of Phnom Penh's poorest families. Over the last year and a half, CCF has built more than 300 homes as part of its World Housing program, providing housing to hundreds of families at just \$15 a month."

<http://www.khmertimeskh.com/news/17760/homeward-bound--rescuing-city---s-trash-scavengers-from-the-cycle-of-poverty/>

# THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/scott-neeson-from-hollywood-executive-to-philanthropist-1434134269>



“About a decade ago, in Phnom Penh, an 86-year-old Cambodian woman grabbed then-Hollywood executive Scott Neeson’s hand to lead him over to where three young children were on a garbage heap, gravely ill with typhoid. Then his cellphone rang; at the other end was a major actor complaining that his private jet didn’t have the right amenities on board. “My life wasn’t meant to be that difficult,” said the actor.

At that moment, Mr. Neeson realized that it was time to give up his job as president of Sony Pictures for his charity work, as head of the Cambodian Children’s Fund. He soon left behind his \$1 million a year salary and sold his Porsche, yacht and home in what he describes as “the mother of all garage sales.” Speaking over Skype from his new home in Cambodia, he says, “I lost that sense of doubt about selling everything and moving over here.”

Mr. Neeson had first visited the country on a five-week vacation through Asia in 2003. Out of curiosity, he asked a local friend to show him the poorest area of Phnom Penh, where he found women and children rummaging through burning garbage piles for scraps they could sell for money. He found the scene so disturbing that when he met one 10-year-old girl there, he asked to meet her mother (through an interpreter). He set the family up in a rental home and gave them money and rice to eat, at a total cost of \$35 a month. He also made sure the girl could go to school.

These days Mr. Neeson, 56, spends much of his time in the vicinity of Phnom Penh’s garbage dumps. When we spoke, he had just returned from the shantytowns around a former landfill. There he had witnessed two funerals and a wedding and had found two abandoned children.

His fund has 65 interconnected projects around Phnom Penh, providing services such as health care, child care and education to children and their families. Last year, it spent \$8.8 million and helped some 2,400 children. Nearly 80 participants have graduated from high school and are now enrolled in college. ☺☺

## ***"World Housing builds community-oriented homes', Phnom Penh Post***

December 28, 2015

<http://www.phnompenhpost.com/real-estate/world-housing-builds-community-oriented-homes>

“Over the past year-and-a half, Cambodia Children’s Fund in Partnership with World Housing has built 360 homes for underprivileged families in Stung Meanchey. The ambitious goal was to create community-oriented homes that operated on a principle of a one-for-one real estate gifting model that allows families to rent homes at an affordable price. Post Property spoke with Graham Brewster, the managing director of World Housing about the success of the project and asked how the project came about.



“World Housing’s foundation in Cambodia goes back to 2010, when co-founder Pete Dupuis was introduced to Scott Neeson of the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF). Pete was writing his master’s thesis at the time, centred on the idea of creating a model to build homes for families living in slums around garbage dumps.

In 2013, the concept became a reality when we built our first community of five homes together with CCF. Since then, we’ve built hundreds of homes and discovered the real impact comes with building communities, which is so much more than a group of homes.”

## ***Khmer Times, Man devotes life to protecting abused kids***

December 23

<http://www.khmertimeskh.com/news/18742/abandoned-as-a-child--man-devotes-life-to-protecting-abused-kids/>

“The experience of being forced to live apart from his parents as a child has prompted one young man to devote himself to protecting children from abuse. Now 21, Sear Mao works as an assistant at one of the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF)’s Child Protection Units (CPU).

### **Abandoned as a Child, Man Devotes Life to Protecting Abused Kids**



“My parents split up; my mom moved to Poipet and my dad left for Banteay Meanchey province,” Mr. Mao said. The family members were all forced to live apart. Abandoned by his parents, Mr. Mao went to live with an uncle. They had just enough to eat but he was unable to attend school regularly until provided with support by CCF.

Mr. Mao eventually won a scholarship to study at the Royal University of Law and Economics. He is now a sophomore studying law. Following his life’s dream of being a lawyer, Mr. Mao is devoted to completing his education. As an assistant at the

CPU, he helps explain legal procedures and facilitates the filing of abuse complaints for clients. “Since I was young I have hated domestic violence. I never want to see it happen; it can impact children’s mental health and ruin a family’s reputation,” he said.”

## Tatler Magazine, "Rewriting Their Story"

August 1, 2015

“One issue Scott observed early on [during his work at CCF] was that every night mothers would pull carts into Steung Meanchey to sort through recyclables. Because there was no one to care for their infants while they worked, they put their children in the back of carts. In the city’s chaotic traffic, cars would often hit the carts and injure children; other children would become sick from being pulled around in the waste until 3am.

Neeson’s solution was to set up drop-in areas on the way to the landfill – nurseries with baby hammocks where children could be washed, fed and put to sleep while their mothers worked, and where they could be collected on the mothers way home. “You wouldn’t even know this was an issue unless you were here,” he says. That’s just a tiny part of the CCF’s work; it has 68 programmes, many of which relate to education.”



FERTILE GROUND The Cambodian Children's Fund educates and feeds 2,000 impoverished youngsters

### Rewriting Their Story

After 26 years in show business, **Scott Neeson** traded Hollywood for the poorest part of Phnom Penh. He tells **Madeleine Ross** about his mission to enrich Cambodian communities through education

## Leadership Skills for Vulnerable Youth', Khmer Times

30 September 2015

<http://www.khmertimeskh.com/news/16367/leadership-skills-for-vulnerable-youth/>

### Leadership Skills for Vulnerable Youth



“Children from the garbage dump in Phnom Penh are improving their leadership skills by studying at a program courtesy of the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF). At Sisowath High school last Thursday, CCF, a foundation working to help improve the situation of poor children at the garbage dump and in the general community, organized the 2nd Annual Youth Leadership event, bringing together over 360 CCF students to learn and share their leadership skills with each other.

The event, which was led and organized by CCF youth, helps young people develop their leadership skills by playing leadership games and participating in group-leading activities. CCF’s founder, Scott Neeson, said “I want these kids to become strong leaders, top students – they have to understand the emphasis of community, responsibility, family values and understand the issues that affect Cambodia. That’s how I recommend making Cambodia even better.”

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

## CAMBODIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

DECEMBER 31, 2015

(WITH SUMMARIZED COMPARATIVE TOTALS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2014)

	December 31	
	2015	2014
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents (Notes B, C and E)	\$ 3,663,851	\$ 4,199,348
Accounts receivable	-	101
Loans receivable (Note B)	57,251	31,967
Prepaid expenses	50,013	78,451
Inventory of rice stock	17,651	4,343
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>3,788,766</b>	<b>4,314,210</b>
Investments (Note C)	2,587,970	2,504,000
Fixed assets, net of accumulated depreciation (Note D)	5,822,213	4,689,154
Other assets	216,574	324,208
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 12,415,523</b>	<b>\$ 11,831,572</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 425,235	\$ 241,266
Employee benefit payable (Note F)	361,000	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>786,235</b>	<b>241,266</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>786,235</b>	<b>241,266</b>
Commitments and contingency (Notes G and H)		
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted	11,256,197	11,590,306
Temporarily restricted (Note K)	373,091	-
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>11,629,288</b>	<b>11,590,306</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 12,415,523</b>	<b>\$ 11,831,572</b>

# STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

**CAMBODIAN CHILDREN'S FUND**  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2015

(WITH SUMMARIZED COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014)

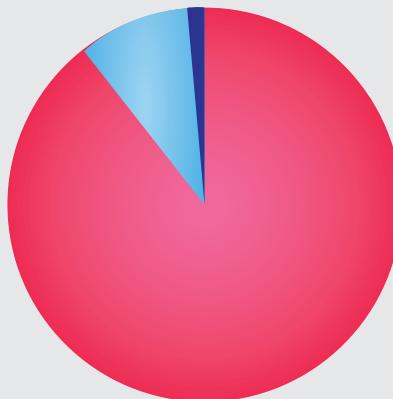
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total Year Ended December 31	
			2015	2014
<b>REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>				
Contributions	\$ 9,614,516	\$ 373,091	\$ 9,987,607	\$ 10,658,866
Program revenue	159,367		159,367	73,349
In-Kind supplies	425,193		425,193	164,498
Investment income	157,651		157,651	227,336
Other income	31,673		31,673	16,675
	<u>10,388,400</u>	<u>373,091</u>	<u>10,761,491</u>	<u>11,140,724</u>
Net assets released from restriction			-	-
<b>TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<u>10,388,400</u>	<u>373,091</u>	<u>10,761,491</u>	<u>11,140,724</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Program services	9,433,318		9,433,318	7,497,296
General and administrative	968,992		968,992	825,557
Fundraising	320,199		320,199	51,403
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u>10,722,509</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,722,509</u>	<u>8,374,256</u>
<b>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</b>	(334,109)	373,091	38,982	2,766,468
<b>NET ASSETS, beginning of year</b>	<u>11,590,306</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,590,306</u>	<u>8,823,838</u>
<b>NET ASSETS, end of year</b>	<u>\$ 11,256,197</u>	<u>\$ 373,091</u>	<u>\$ 11,629,288</u>	<u>\$ 11,590,306</u>

## WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

We keep overheads low to ensure your donation is spent where it is needed - on children and families living in poverty in Cambodia.

This data comes from our most recent annual report.

For further details, please visit our website.



**88%**

on programs

**9%**

on administration

**3%**

on fundraising

# THANK YOU



To all our donors, supporters, volunteers and staff  
for making 2015 possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
[www.cambodianchildrensfund.org](http://www.cambodianchildrensfund.org)

