

Social Work Department

Monthly Report for August 2011

Department Summary

Department Action for the month of August 2011:

- *We visited 26 families and children as well as some other slums located around Riverkids Foundation.*
- *We provided counseling to 9 children and families known to have mental health problems and/or problems coping in school.*
- *We recruited more kindergarten children for the Get Ready Project (the updated number of children will be reflected in the September 2011 report).*



Social Work Weekly Meeting

Butterflies Club

Highlights

1. The Field Trip activities were very successful with a high participation rate.
2. Participants expressed great interest in the program, especially the vocational training provided by Ms Try Davan and Ms Khek Sinoy.
3. After the field trip, more than half of the female participants approached the staff for more information on the program.
4. Four female participants successfully graduated from the Butterflies Project.

Challenges

1. The older women were hesitant about changing their working hours to the evenings as they felt it would be too late.
2. Unfortunately, several target female participants were unable to join the event as they had to spend time with their clients.
3. We had tried contacting previous participants to join us for the field trip again. Unfortunately they could not be contacted.

Next Month

- *The Social Department will organize a training in relation to issues faced by 'Butterflies' women.*
- *Training will be held at the SSC from 19th-23th August 2011.*
- *To follow up with the women at Phsar Touch, RailwayII, Doeum Khvit, and Khlang Sang Village.*

Activities This Month

- A trip was organized to Out Dong Mountain handicraft shop. 32 women from three villages – Khlang Sang, Railway II and Doeum Khvit – participated.

Current clients attending Butterflies

- 32 women are presently part of the Butterflies Project. 6 women have expressed interest in skills like sawing and beauty, while the rest are still undecided.

New or Returning Clients Attending Butterflies this month

- We have 20 new women from Khlang Sang, Railway II and Doeum Khvit villages joining the Project this month.

Graduated Clients from Butterflies this month

- 2 graduates are currently attending training at Hagar and 2 others are attending sawing training at Riverkids.

Bootstraps

Highlights

1. On 22 August 2011 the Career Pathways Training Group VI (Ms S.P and Ms H.T) selected via the Butterflies Project, began training at HAGAR.
2. On 26 Aug 2011, the group was encouraged to join the training on a regular basis as well as observe punctuality. The group was also encouraged to approach the staff should they have any issues to discuss.

3. All groups have expressed how much they enjoy the training at HAGAR.

Challenges

1. Disease (Ms M.S was unable to join the training sessions because she was still weak).
2. Ms C.S failed to attend the vocational training session last month. Efforts made to follow-up with her were unsuccessful as she was seldom at home.
3. Several of the teenagers were found to have problems focusing on their studies.

Next Month

1. Ms Try Davan will be attending a Boys First work shop at First Step Organization.
2. Ms Try Davan will be monitoring the attendance list of participants undergoing vocational training at other shops, under the Career Pathways Training Program.
3. Ms Try Davan will be following up on the progress of the participants of these trainings.
4. A weekly meeting will be held with the participants.

Field Trips and Workshops

- On 30 August 2011, a field trip was made to Chamkar Pring Resort. The objectives of this trip was to have the participants share their training experiences with each other as well as make the women more aware of the types of skills training available to suit their individual interests.

1. Family Visits and Counseling

Highlights

1. Mr Phat Sam Ann fetched newly registered Get Ready Boys, Get Ready, and kindergarten participants.
2. Mr Phat Sam Ann sent social work monthly report to donor in Singapore.
3. To bring two football players to attend the conference for Homeless World Cup in Paris.
4. Get Ready project participants are ready to begin their new training.
5. Parents have been informed to encourage their children to develop regular study patterns.
6. Counseling on behavior and attitude at the Career pathway training every week.
7. Follow up with students frequently absent from the special class.
8. Mr Chin Chea made 9 home visits this month.
9. Mr Theany visited the community to reconstruct a missing case file
10. Mr Theany brought the sick children to the hospital.
11. Mr Theany visited families to check if any required micro-financing or loans.

12. Mr Theany visited six families living near Chroy Changva bridge.

Challenges

1. It is very difficult to encourage girls to attend Get Ready Girls because their parents force them to work at the garment factory.
2. It is very difficult to encourage boys to attend Get Ready Boys because they have to work at the construction site.
3. Some parents still force their children to collect trash and work to earn money to support the family.
4. Children often skipped school during floods because they were busy playing in the water. Those living near the river also faced difficulty getting to school and the frequency of flooding has increased.
5. It is still a challenge trying to convince parents to send their children to school.
6. C.R was absent from class because his mother had forced him to collect trash.
7. Some families of Career Pathways training participants are more concerned about their daughters earning money to support the family, instead of them receiving education.
8. The staff feel stressed and overloaded by the amount of duties that have to be completed within the month.
9. Several student had to drop-out from school because their families needed them to work due to the poor standard of living.

Next Month

- *Mr Sam Ann will resign from Riverkids Foundation next month.*
- *Ms Sokkhim will follow-up with Get Ready students living in Psa Touch.*
- *Ms Sokkhim will facilitate the new Get Ready Girl class.*
- *Ms Davan will attend Career Pathways training at HAGAR every week, together with participants' families.*
- *Ms Davan will make home visits to Phsar Touch, Km six, Samky village, Beng salang and RWII every week.*
- *Mr Chin Chea will be making a visit to a family in crisis as well as follow-up on an old case.*
- *Mr Chin Chea will be providing counseling for families and children with problems.*
- *Mr Chin Chea will be selecting children from the community for the next kindergarten class.*
- *Mr Chin Chea will be continuing his efforts to build and improve relations with the local authorities.*
- The football team will be training every Saturday at Boeung Kangkorng with HFCA.
- New Get Ready Boys and Get Ready Girls have already been selected.

Family Visits by Staff

1. Staff managed to convince Mr N.O's mother to encourage him to go to school regularly, as he spent too much time repairing motorcycles.
2. Mr M.R has a mental health problem and his brother-in-law is now better caring for him at home, at the advice of our staff.
3. Mr K.L is part of the Get Ready Boys project. He was however absent from school for two weeks as he had to work to support his family. His attendance in class has not yet improved, but staff are following up on his case.
4. Ms K.S.M has 12 other siblings and they are facing food shortage at home. After careful consideration, Riverkids has allowed three of her siblings to have lunch at Family House.
5. Staff managed to convince Ms L.S's mother to allow her to continue studying at Beltie until Grade 12.
6. Ms L.K.E was a victim of sexual assault and our staff advised her mother on which organization to approach for help on the matter.
7. Our staff managed to convince Ms G.S.N's parents to allow her to continue studying at Beltie.
8. Ms S.S and her husband had signed a contract to work in Malaysia for two years, but now wished to break the bond. However, they do not have the money to compensate the company. Our staff was unable to help in the matter as it was a case of breach of contract. In addition, Ms S.S and her husband had even borrowed some money from the said company previously.
9. Ms C.S had been absent from trainings and our staff counseled her on her goals and aspirations for herself. However, she insisted on taking a break from training for the moment.
10. Ms S.L of the Butterflies Project fell ill and was unable to carry out her office cleaning duties. We encouraged her to seek medication at the community clinic and she acknowledged. She informed that she will return to work once she recovered.
11. Mr C.R often skipped class. Our staff visited his parents and convinced them to help encourage him to come to school. His attendance has since improved.
12. Visited Mr K.V's family to update their details for our records. The family was cooperative.
13. Mr O.S often skipped class. Our staff visited his grandmother and convinced her to help encourage him to come to school. His attendance has since improved.
14. Ms S.V's mother expressed her desire for her daughter to be enrolled in vocational training. Our staff advised her to submit the application and she acknowledged.
15. Visited Ms S.L's family to update their details for our records. The family was cooperative.
16. Mr L.K often skipped class. Our staff visited him and encouraged him to come to school. His attendance has since improved.

17. Mr M.R was recently hospitalized due to an illness. He has recovered but has yet to return to school.
18. Mr K.L was often absent from class. Our staff visited him but he informed that he wished to withdraw from the class as he needed to work to support his family and his sick brother.
19. Mr S.S was hospitalized for an illness, but has since recovered and returned to class.
20. Mr P.D was often absent from class. Our staff visited him and convinced his parents to encourage him to come to school. His attendance has since improved.
21. Ms K.S was hospitalized for an illness, but has since recovered and returned to class
22. Mr C.R was absent from his training. He has not yet returned despite encouragement from our staff.
23. Mr C.V skipped school and played truant instead. He has not yet returned to school despite being counseled by our staff.
24. Ms N.M dropped out from school because of her illness. Our staff encouraged her parents to send her back to school and they informed they will try.
25. Ms T.B wished to drop out from school to work instead. Our staff counseled her and she promised to return to school soon.
26. Mr T.K and Mr T.D were absent from school because they had to help their parents sell coffee. Our staff convinced their parents to allow them to return to school.

Counseling

1. Mr K.L is from the Get Ready Boys Project. He was absent from school for nearly two weeks because he wanted to work to support his family. Our staff counseled him but he still refused to return to school. We are still following up on his case.
2. Mr S.S is from the GRB Project. He is currently undergoing a course to qualify as an air-conditioner technician. However his father had wanted him to stop studying to work and support the family instead. Our staff managed to convince his father to allow S.S to continue studying.
3. Ms L.C wished to switch her training venue to the French Organisation and did not wish to work till late anymore. Our staff is unable to help the situation without speaking to Ms K, who is in charge of the matter. However Ms L.C has been encouraged to speak to Ms K again about the matter.
4. Ms L.K.E decided not to accept compensation from her accuser's wife for the court matter, as she is concerned for the welfare of her child.
5. Our staff counseled Ms S.S on her goals and aspirations for herself and she informed that she will discuss again with her brother on her returning to school.

6. Ms L.K.E is a victim of sexual assault and we counseled her on the matter.
7. Our staff spoke to Ms S.C's mother about her absenteeism from vocational training. Her mother was cooperative but S.C herself was not.
8. Mr L.M had been absent from vocational training for one week but has refused to cooperate with the staff.
9. Mr V.T and Mr T.H have been absent from class. Our staff counseled them and they now attend class regularly.

Special events and workshops

1. **29th Aug-2nd Sep 2011**, Ms Sokhim joined training at SSC on children's rights, understanding clients' needs and positive thinking.
2. **1st Jul-7th Aug 2011**, The social team held a recruitment drive near Riverkids office to search for Get Ready Boys, Get Ready Girls, and kindergarten students.
3. **2nd Aug, 2011**, Staff met Ms L.K.E and her mother to discuss her case. Ms Sokkhim and Mr Sam Ann were also involved in the meeting.
4. **3rd Aug, 2011**, Mr Lim Theany together with Hope Cambodia, provided a bicycle to S.B's mother. Hope Cambodia gives hope to families that have HIV/AIDS.
5. **3rd Aug, 2011**, Mr Lim Theany met S.L to discuss the problem with the mother in law.
6. **4th Aug, 2011**, Mr Lim Theany visited Phsar Touch to check on children absent from Chim Mom class.
7. **4th and 5th Aug, 2011**, took L.K.E and her mother to collect documents from the hospital.
8. **5th Aug, 2011**, Mr Sam Ann and Ms Sokhim asked SSC for help in counseling K.E and her mother.
9. **10th Aug, 2011**, Mr Lim Theany visited Phsar Touch to meet with the Executive Director of the women's network.
10. **11th-12th Aug, 2011**, Mr Lim Theany, visited Areisat village and Chbar Ampov village with teacher Sok Sophrith to make uniforms for children.
11. **17th Aug 2011**, Mr Lim Theany with teacher Sengly made visits to families in Phnom Penh Tmey and Chamka Morn village to obtain feedback on the RKF Project.
12. **10th Aug 2011**, Mr Lim Theany brought foster Child's Dale (NHI and HAO) to Komacheat Hospital for a health check.
13. Mr Lim Theany hired a Tuk Tuk to help S.B and her mother move house from Psa Touch to their new home supported by Habitat Cambodia.
14. **5th Aug, 2011**, Ms Sokkhim and Sophorn from Aple spoke to K.E and her mother about the letter received from the hospital.
15. **16th Aug, 2011**, Ms Sokkhim brought S.P and H.T for an interview at Hagar International.
16. **16th Aug, 2011**, Ms Sokkhim and Mr Chin Chea visited Psa Touch with Menamo's staff.

17. **17th Aug, 2011**: Mr Sam Ann and Mr Sok Chay brought the two football players for a conference at FCC for Homeless World Cup 2011 in Paris.
18. **18th Aug, 2011**: Mr Sam Ann and the Social Work Team attended a workshop at Freedom Cambodia on how to work with drug abusers.
19. **5th, 12th, 19th, 26th Aug, 2011**: Mr Sam Ann chaired the social work weekly meeting to discuss the previous week's achievements.
20. **21st Aug, 2011**, Social Team underwent training at CJCC on Holistic thinking and decision making skills.
21. **25th Aug, 2011**, Ms Sokkhim and Mr Lim Theany underwent peer supervision training at Chab Dai.
22. **1st-5th Aug, 2011**, Ms Try Davan attended a workshop on National Minimum standards for protection of Victims of Human trafficking at Seihanuk Vill.
23. **12th Aug, 2011** Ms Try Davan had a meeting with Mr. Phy Sophon (Executive Director) and the career pathways training group at Riverkids Foundation office.
24. **On 15th Aug 2011 to 19th Aug 2011, Ms Try Davan attended a workshop with First Step (Boys First training course)**.

- **On 15 Aug 2011**

- Introduction - Getting to know your client: Understanding victims of sexual abuse and exploitation. Discussed the topic of sex.
- What do we mean by sex/ sexual relationship?

- **On 16 Aug 2011**

- What happens if we are too shy to talk about or listen to clients talk about their sexual experiences?
- Sex and Sexuality - 9 Different kinds of relationships.
- Body Mapping.

- **On 17 Aug 2011**

- Introduction to lessons on sexual abuse: Defining what is Ok and Not Ok in Sex.
- Definition sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Legal issues

- **On 18 Aug 2011**

- Power and consent.
- Introduction to boys and Development.

- **On 19 Aug 2011**

- Introduction: Causes of sexual abuse and exploitation - Risk and vulnerability factors/ the push and pull factors.

25. 2nd Aug, 2011 - took photographs of the children at Compassion House during snack time for grand class and kindergarten levels.

26. 4th Aug, 2011 - facilitated a training session by AFIRE organization to train the children how to protect themselves during a fire emergency.

27. 6th Aug, 2011 – brought a Get Ready Boy to hospital for health check.

28. 6th Aug, 2011 - Searched for a community network at the remote area that we work in.

29. 18th Aug, 2011 - Participated in training with Freedom Cambodia.

30. 22nd Aug, 2011 - Visited the Blum Project with overseas volunteers.

31. 23rd Aug, 2011 - Provided clothing for children at Km 6.

32. 26th Aug, 2011 - Participated in the Opening Ceremony of CSI organization.

33. 30th Aug, 2011 - Participated in conference with YMCA organization.

34. 31st Aug, 2011 - Interviewed a family at Blum project.

35. 2nd Sept 2011 - Mr Theany visited the community to reconstruct a missing case file.

5. Get Ready for Boys

Highlights

1. Two Get Ready Boys in Groups 1 and 2 received salary from the shop owner.
2. Two Get Ready Boys had the chance to participate in the Homeless World Cup football match in Paris.
3. Followed up with Get Ready Boys at their vocational training shop.

Challenges

1. Some of GRBs dropped out from the project because they had to work to support their families.
2. Some of GRBs did not attend school regularly because of their busy schedules.
3. Some of GRBs needed salary from the shop owner as they had to support their families.

Attendance

- Over the period of five weeks, attendance for both groups was about five to eight boys each week.
- About one to three boys were absent each week.
- About three boys from each group dropped out from the project each week.

- There were no new or returning students this month.
- There were no graduating students this month.
- Five boys were absent for more than 30 days from the project and they eventually dropped out of the program, as they needed to work to support their families.