



2014

The Savong Foundation Annual Report



A 501(c)(3) non profit organization

Board members

Phil Caldwell
CEO

Amelia Yim
Treasurer

Brandi Jackson
Secretary

Eddie Lamborn
*Scholarship
Manager*

A letter from the CEO

Dear Friends,

As the Savong Foundation enters its fourth year, we have a lot to be thankful for. Because of additional member donations as well as a corporate sponsor (iHerb), we have almost doubled the number of scholarship students whom we support at either a private high school or a local University. We have also been able to hire Rathana as our on-site Cambodian scholarship manager to make sure our students are performing well and keep us up to date on their progress. We have worked with some incredible volunteers who helped us find appropriate students to support and we are always grateful to Savong who navigates us through the challenges that Cambodia presents to us.

Most importantly, I'm thankful that we have come this far and have learned some interesting lessons that have allowed us to improve the overall organization of our projects. We are more focused than ever on our short term goals and our long term mission and we are fully accountable to you, our supporters.

But 2014 wasn't all about business, we had a lot of fun too. Two of our board members (including myself) travelled to Cambodia and we spent time meeting with the students, hearing their stories and taking lots of photos. Not only was it enjoyable but it was rewarding; we are truly blessed to be able to know so many wonderful people and be so closely involved in improving their lives.

I'm looking forward to 2015. We hope to expand our scholarship program and improve the student center. We want to help our students work in the community and increase our overall impact. We want to give as many people the future that they deserve and we would love for you to continue our journey with us. We promise it will be a great year when we all work together.

As they say in Cambodia, I wish you all good luck and good dreams!

Akun,
Phil Caldwell
CEO The Savong Foundation



Our Programs



Student Center



Scholarships



Outreach



Student Center

The Savong Student Center (SSC) sits on a small piece of land in Siem Reap.

The SSC is designed to be a living/learning center for male students who need a place to live in Siem Reap so that they can attend a better quality of school. The maximum capacity (with renovations) is 16 young men.



It has five bedrooms, a dining room, a kitchen, a bathroom, a large classroom and a computer room.

The SSC allows the young men to be independent but still operate as a "family." They all have chores that they need to do and they must work together to assure that the center runs smoothly.



Cheat is the student manager of the center. Orong looks after the accounting.

All these students are on a "full scholarship" which means that their food, accommodation and tuition are paid for. They also receive a small monthly stipend to cover costs for personal items.

We provide internet access and there are six computers in the computer room.

We hired a computer teacher at the end of 2014 who gives supplemental computer instruction to both the young men at the student center as well as the young women who are part of our full scholarship program.



Through most of 2014, one of our university students taught English to the children in the local community. He left the center and we are now looking to find another English teacher early this year.

The Student Center is very susceptible to flooding and we hope to do renovations to correct this in 2015.



Scholarships

There are two types of scholarships that we offer to underprivileged students; a **full scholarship** or a **partial scholarship**. These scholarships are based on **need** as well as **academic performance**. We want to provide **GOOD education** so we send our students to a private high school with higher standards. This costs more but it's worth it!

What is a full scholarship?

A **full scholarship** includes tuition, school supplies, accommodation, food and a small monthly stipend to pay for personal items. If a student does not have their own transportation, then a bike will be provided. The students attend the Future Bright International School or one of the local universities. These scholarships are designed for students who cannot live locally with either their parents or relatives.

What is a partial scholarship?

A **partial scholarship** includes tuition as well as a bike if transportation is needed. These students live at home and attend Future Bright International School or one of the local universities.

The statistics

Total Scholarship Students: 29 (13 male and 16 female)

Full scholarship Students: 15

Partial scholarship Students: 14

High School Students: 21

University Students: 6

Students on Mechanic Apprenticeship: 2



Outreach

*Our outreach project currently consist of two parts;
our scholarship student selection and our new student water pump project.*



Student Selection

Before school started last year, we were blessed to find a great outreach team consisting of a British volunteer and one of our senior students. They were able to visit families in Siem Reap province (one of the poorest in Cambodia) and find families who were committed to helping their children get a better education. The students filled out application forms and upon approval, they were admitted into our program.



Student Water Pump Project

A source of drinking water can be a big problem in rural Cambodia and many families must obtain it from neighbors or get it from contaminated pits. Single family water pumps are easy and cheap to build and our students want to build them! These pumps not only would help the community but a portion of the profits would go back to the students and the student center. It's a win-win-win situation. You can contribute towards the start-up costs here:

<http://www.razoo.com/story/The-Water-Pump-Project>



The challenges we face

And what we are doing about them

There are always unique problems that we face as a non profit in Cambodia but **we've learned a lot over the past four years and we definitely learn from our mistakes!** Here are the ones that we are facing now ...

Keeping costs as low as possible

It's sometimes surprising how much items cost in Cambodia, especially when you consider that many workers earn only \$40/month. To make sure donor money (minus transaction fees) is used only for our projects, all board members pay their own travel expenses and they don't take a salary. Operational fees such as accounting fees are minimal.

Renovations at the Student Center

The Student Center desperately needs to be renovated due to severe flooding during the rainy season and generally inadequate ventilation. Our estimates to do the complete construction are between \$25,000 and \$30,000 so we will need to come up with cheaper ways to accomplish the same goals or have a HUGE fundraiser.

Students dropping out of the program

You might think that this wouldn't be a problem but we have had a few students drop out either due to family pressures or poor performance at school. We work very hard to know each student individually and we do everything we can to support and motivate them. In some cases, even this isn't enough.

Maximizing our impact

Our impact is constantly being internally evaluated. We strongly believe in good education but in 2015, we hope to explore other ways to support students and their families such as free English and computer classes and water pump building.

Who made all this possible?

Without the kindness of our supporters, we would not be able to help all the people that we do. In return, we strive to reach expectations of **transparency and accountability**.

Individual donors

We are so thankful for all the donors from around the world that have supported us through the years. We realize that there are many other ways to spend money so we are humbled and grateful that they have chosen to contribute towards our students' futures. Without our individual donors, we simply could not continue our work

Corporate and organization donors



iHerb has contributed towards scholarships and is now the official sponsor of the Savong Student Center.



The Pepper Project has contributed towards scholarships as well as our outreach projects.



Heal The World For Children contributed towards scholarships as well as providing computers for the student center.

WACKY

Welfare and Charity Keen Youth's Society is a group of students from Taylor's College in Malaysia. They provided scholarships, bikes as well as computers for the student center.

Englestoft Family Foundation

This foundation has contributed towards the student center as well as providing scholarships.

Yokohama International Women's Club

YIWC has contributed towards scholarships.

The amazing year in photos

It was a fun year that made all the hard work worth it



What we hope to accomplish in 2015

There is always something we can be working on ...



Financial information

THE SAVONG FOUNDATION, INC.
Statement of Income and Expense
 January through December 2014

Income		
Contributions	\$	49,755
Fundraising		-199
Interest		2
		<u>2</u>
Total Income	\$	49,558

	<u>MGT/GENERAL</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Expense			
Grants to other Nonprofit Organizations		\$ 39,956	\$ 39,956
Direct Program Expenses		2,791	2,791
Advertising & Promotions	\$ 89		89
Professional Fees	988		988
Office Expenses	808	801	1,609
Travel Expenses		4,719	4,719
		<u>4,719</u>	<u>4,719</u>
Total Expense	\$ 1,885	\$ 48,267	\$ 50,152

Net Income **\$ (594)**

Program Breakdown:	<u>\$\$</u>	<u>%</u>
Community Outreach	\$ 8,714	18%
Savong Organization Cambodia	19	0%
Savong School	-	0%
Savong Student Center	21,468	44%
Young Cambodian Womens Center	12,526	26%
General Cambodian Program	5,540	11%
Total:	<u>\$ 48,267</u>	<u>100%</u>

Percentage Administrative vs. Program	4%	96%
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Note: Government guidelines suggest that administrative costs vs. program costs be no more than 25:75 while nonprofit grading scales allow the top rankings for organizations with a ratio of 15:85. The Savong Foundation's ratio of 4:96 gives them a high ranking among nonprofit organizations.

All travel expenses and Management/General expenses were covered by board member contributions. 100% of 2014 public contributions went to program expenses.

This report was prepared by Johnson's Bookkeeping, an independent bookkeeping service specializing in nonprofit compliance.

Letter from a student

This is what makes it worthwhile

Hello mom!

How are you?

My name is KHONG NHEY and I am 16 years old. I study in 10th grade at the Future Bright International School. When I left from SOC to study at FBIS I felt very happy. There are twenty eight students in my class and they are very friendly to me. When I don't understand something, they always help me. Anyway, the teachers have a lot of experiences and they explain everything very clearly. When I don't understand something they will always try to support me.

The class is bright with fresh air. Going to school makes me very happy every day. The teachers give me homework every day so I can improve my knowledge. The regulation of the school is very good. It taught me to be a good student and a good person as well. Recently, I passed my examination in November.

I get up at 5:00 am every day to review the lesson. Afterwards, I wash my face, do housework and after finished I do my home work. I take a shower at 10:30 then eat lunch and I go to school at 12:00. I come back at 5:55 and after came from the school , I start to do the house work again.

I would like to say that thank you very much for supporting me to school. You like a second parents of mine. I promise you that I will study hard to become the best student .I hope that you will come to visit me soon. I wish you good health be good luck all the time.

Happy birthday to you.

LOVE FROM KHONG NHEY

*Nhey is one of our female scholarship students attending
the Future Bright International School.*

Thanks for being a part of our family!

“We are visitors on this planet. We are here for ninety or one hundred years at the very most. During that period, we must try to do something good, something useful, with our lives. If you contribute to other people’s happiness, you will find the true goal, the true meaning of life.”

H.H. The 14th Dalai Lama

