



2012

The Savong Foundation Annual Statement



Board members

Phil Caldwell CEO
Amelia Yim Treasurer
Brandi Jackson Secretary
Amir Lakhani
Eddie Lamborn

Advisor to the Board

Dilshad Sumar

2012 – a message from phil



The Savong Foundation made significant progress in 2012. From our very humble beginnings two years ago, we have matured into a more focused organization that is making a real difference for many young people in Cambodia. Functioning as an IRS-recognized 501(c)(3) charity, we have worked hard to improve the transparency and accountability of the programs we support as well as develop synergies with other support groups and donors. Along the way, we have experienced some disappointments and setbacks but the rewards along the way have kept us moving forward.

Our most exciting accomplishment this past year was the opening of the **Savong Student Center (SSC)** in Siem Reap. This is a home for ten male students who are attending the local high school or university. We provide them with accommodation, food, tuition, computers, internet access, transportation and a monthly allowance. I've known most of these students for many years and I'm very proud that we are giving them opportunities that would be out of reach for many Cambodians of their age. In 2013, we have

many great plans for the center: We hope to complete the final bedroom, add more students, hire an English teacher and purchase a neighboring plot of land which



could be used for a garden and/or livestock in an effort to make the center more sustainable. The Savong Foundation is in charge of all the costs associated with the student center and we rely on generous donations from all over the world to keep it running.

Although our main focus has undoubtedly been the student center, we have supported and will continue to support on



a limited basis the **Savong School** as well as the **Savong Home and Education Cambodia (SHEC)**, previously known as the **Savong Orphan Center (SOC)**. In 2012, in conjunction with the non-profit organization

Orphans to Ambassadors, we purchased a solar panel for the school which provides electricity to the computer lab and other areas of the facility. At the SHEC, we have taken on the treatment of the dogs which have been sick with a serious contagious tumor. This ongoing project is in association with the **Angkor Paws Animal Rescue (APAR)**.

On a sadder note, we must report the demise of the medical center which we built in 2010. The challenge of finding a long term doctor and the overall costs of maintaining the center proved to be too much and it has closed indefinitely. We were also disappointed that we had to move away from coordinating sponsor money for the individual children at the SHEC. Duncan Stuart, one of the original supporters from New Zealand, is now fully in charge of the SHEC sponsorships and you should contact him if you are interested in supporting a child. His website is www.savong.com.

In addition to Savong's projects, we are also working with the **Angkor Hospital for Children (AHC)**. This year, in coordination with Dilshad Sumar, an American pediatric dentist and advisor to our Board, we have launched a fluoride rinse program with the AHC's dental department.



To do this, we transported two large suitcases full of fluoride rinse from the United States to Cambodia which have been used in two schools with 1400 students who are at high risk of developing cavities.

This rinse is administered once weekly under the supervision of teachers. In the future, we hope to expand this program by adding more schools, teaching more kids

the importance of brushing and distributing dental kits so they are more likely to continue their dental hygiene at home.

With all these projects, I have relied on skype, oovoo and almost daily emails but there is nothing like getting over to Cambodia and seeing everything firsthand. In November, I took three weeks out of my usual job as a veterinarian and made the long journey to Siem Reap. Another board member, Eddie Lamborn, joined me later in my trip and we ran through a very ambitious agenda which included meeting people, buying and fixing items, setting up a complete budget for the student center and teaching the students how to use Excel spreadsheets which are now used to give us information about their daily and monthly expenses and activities. It was a very sad day when we had to leave but I felt great that so much had been accomplished.

I'm looking forward to a productive and rewarding 2013.

We are still a very small organization but our support is certainly growing if our facebook "likes" and our donations are any reflection of that. We are so thankful for everyone who has followed our adventures and in return, we will work very hard to give the highest level of accountability and transparency that we can provide.



In addition to all our supporters, I would like to make a special thanks to the Cambodian people but especially Savong and the students. Their kindness, generosity and constant desire to improve their lives have fueled the passion that keep us moving forward.

Akun!

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