



TOGETHER FOR CAMBODIA wish You
MERRY CRISTMAS 2012 and HAPPY NEW YEAR





Dear Benefactors and Friends ...

Cambodia, December 2012.

The countdown has already begun, the last days of the year are on us, we are already moving forward to the new one. We have lived through many things together. Objectives have been met. We have created new dreams. Next year there will be more new dreams and dreams fulfilled.

TOGETHER FOR CAMBODIA can be proud that all the targets for the wellbeing of our children have been met and more. All outstanding legal issues in Cambodia are resolved, partly in thanks to the collaboration of some of our Benefactors.

We have developed new projects in conjunction with the community, supporting and encouraging families with children suffering from horrendous malformations to receive medical help, assisting with food and medicines to elderly women abandoned to their fate. Also training women workers in the workshop with new techniques and taking on new employees with families who will now have a better, different life... We have begun to pay for our own land, the land where we want to move all our projects for LIFE, with a solid financial spine, accountable and open with an organized workload. I want to THANK everyone, all our Benefactors for supporting us for another year, all those recent supporters, for believing in our dreams and wanting to make them real.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU VERY MUCH and looking forward to a Christmas time filled with love and hope, peace and hearts filled with joy, with the sick and disadvantaged looking forward to a better time, wishing everyone much Happiness... and if it is possible, especially, that we do not forget those who need us the most.

OCTOBER 2012

From 13-17th was The Festival of Pchum Ben, it is one of the most important of the Khmer calendar which celebrates the return of departed spirits, over several days. Families come to leave food for the spirits at the pagodas (local churches), to make donations to the monks and bring them food too, so they can feed themselves and share, with their poor community. A large number of our children visited their extended families and communities for a few days and they enjoyed maintaining contact with their roots and origins. Those children still at home had organized fun and recreation, so they enjoyed the holiday period too. Our employees had a holiday as well and just 3 staff was here to help me with the security of the compound and look after the few children at home.



We took this opportunity to ensure our children's very old and helpless grandmothers, received a food package.





25 October 2012 we visited the countryside community in the province of Siem Reap. We interviewed and assessed the situation of six families, two of them with a similar pattern: an old woman in charge of child, parents deceased or missing. The elderly women get work for their own livelihood, children look after themselves, they are happy in their surroundings, a medieval agricultural environment, one of them coughs incessantly, the grandmother has tuberculosis and we fear that the children may also end up infected. Here they do not visit health centers, the sick rely on boiled herbs and consume these broths... so is why they have been dying, many members of the original families of our great family.



NOVEMBER

In *The World and ME*, we have been studying and conducting several research papers on the Amazon. Divided into working groups, each of which developed two topics, finding information through the internet and eventually making a presentation to all the others involved. All in English. After several weeks of work and after the presentation, which was a great success, we invited all the smaller members of the house and shared with them the information and images in Khmer. They have their eyes opened to a world beyond physical boundaries.



Our library has grown, we have a wide variety of books (English and Khmer) as well as various educational games. We really enjoy reading, playing, doing homework...the young adults are responsible for the control and maintenance.



The House Mothers have regular meetings with the children to review rules of coexistence, resolve day-to-day issues, to teach them and remind them to respect and forgive others, the hygiene rules... children are like sponges and react quickly as soon as they are taught or reminded.

Our love for the sport involves all!!! The children enjoy in mixed teams ranging from 7 to 10 years, so many children in training, they take it very seriously, when they play against other teams. To run behind the ball makes them stronger physically and how they behave as part of a team is one of the important facts of Life, the two create the passion!!!. To learn to win and to learn to lose, so necessary to be able to live in balance and harmony.



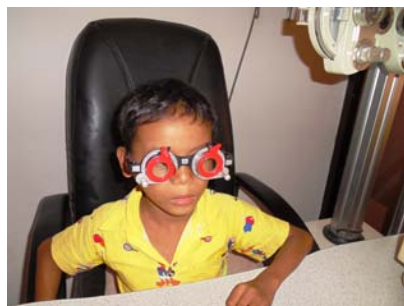
Because a good night's sleep is necessary for growth and good health, on the 15th we bought new mattresses and pillows for all the children and it was like a big party! So happy they could choose the color that they liked.



The 16th we visited grandmothers, helping with emergency food packages: 50 Kg of rice, 20 packs of noodles, 2 Kg of salt, 2 Kg of sugar, 2 bottles of soy fish, 4 bottles of soy beans, 2 cans of condensed milk, 10 cans of fish and medicines.



Health Section: First Aid Training organized by Globalteer. In total 6 people from TFC have enjoyed, refreshing and learning about the importance of this area. Leap went was again to check out the eyes and grading new lenses.



On the 22nd we held a meeting with several families in the countryside, to encourage them to come on the 28th, to bring their children to a hospital in Phnom Penh, to meet with a group of French doctors. These doctors specialize in surgery, correcting severe deformations that affect health, such as the meningocele or cases of extreme burns and malformations. We had the opportunity to check the importance and excellent results from the medical work carried out a few months ago, when we took two children from the same community to these doctors. Of all the families that attended this briefing, 75% decided to come to the capital to seek solutions for the welfare of their children.



The Water Festival on days 27, 28 and 29 we celebrated the guys cooking. As a result a delicious tomato sauce with onion, garlic, pork meat and spices. They bought, washed, cut, cooked and ... enjoyed!!!... In addition to our Full Moon Party whose ingredients are: mashed rice, bananas, coconut water and incense with many doses of illusion is what we offered to the Moon and we shared the best wishes.



DECEMBER

Preparations for Christmas. Although here we are Buddhists and practice the celebrations in the Buddhist calendar, we are in a city where a high percentage of permanent and temporary foreign residents celebrate Christmas, with all the trimmings! The children already know of this tradition from a long time ago. For this reason, we took time to explain about Christmas and decided to take part in the celebration with our style, making drawings and preparing our own decoration, using the children's marvelous imagination and creativity, we were inspired! A few days later, the Management of the Hotel La Residence d'Angkor, gave us a wonderful opportunity, by involving our children in the Christmas decoration for their Christmas tree and hotel. Working with paper crafts, glitter, fabrics, colors, watercolors, brushes, play dough and much more...we had a great Saturday at noon, in different groups doing the more diverse creations!



Within our section The World and ME, we have begun to study and research the topic "Ancient Egypt". Also during this month within our studies we have included the International Photo Festival of Siem Reap, which this year follows 20 artists and their work under the stars. On one of the nights I was accompanied to the exhibition by 9 of our young adults, so they could experience and learn to appreciate this art form and the small notes of social life in their city, within which they take an active part. Also we have been cooking a delicious recipe "Biscuits by St Lucia", under the gaze of our good friend Kristin, resident in Cambodia and actively linked to social assistance, through their own program for education/training. Kristin explained about the traditions in her country of origin and taught us this delicious cookie recipe.



I am very excited to share with you all, that we have been blessed with a new addition to the Children's House, our family grows! Our new child has a sibling in the house and the reunion with his brother has been unforgettable. Now they will be together along with their Together for Cambodia family, a true family that will always care for him and each other. We would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to the Department of Social Affairs of Siem Reap that has overseen the operation and welcomed the decision of the grandmother, the community and the representatives of the same.



Dear BENEFACTORS and FRIENDS, please find attached the first draft of our Children's Land Project. Of course there will be several changes along the way, depending on the budget but I would like to share, with all of you, my dream for the children and for TFC.

The Children's Land will be divided into 3 main sections:

1- RESIDENTIAL CENTRE (RC). Here our children will live and maybe some more vulnerable children in the future.

2-SPORTS CENTRE (SC). To be enjoyed by the RC and the Community (CC).

3-COMMUNITY CENTRE (CC). To be enjoyed by the RC too.

The RC will have its own entrance and will be separated from the SC and CC because this will be a private area for the children living there.

The SC and the CC will be shared with the community.



Dear Friends, please don't forget our wonderful CERTIFICATE that you could send to your family, friends and colleagues to celebrate Christmas time and will give support to our Children's Land Project". Help to purchase the land with us, one square meter for \$29US!! . Many Thanks.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS JOHN MAY and a HAPPY NEW YEAR 2013 !!!

JENNY MUSTOE kindly made a generous donation to the charity TOGETHER FOR CAMBODIA on YOUR behalf. We would like to thank YOU for supporting the purchase of land for THE CHILDREN'S PROJECT, in Siem Reap, Cambodia. This WONDERFUL contribution is worthwhile and very much appreciated, will enable our charity to make the DREAM REAL for a new generation of Cambodians, enabling us to offer education and play to many more children during their childhood.

Thank YOU very much for YOUR contribution and support to the most vulnerable.
Do look at our website www.togetherforcambodia.org to see THE DREAM unfold and come to life.

IT COULDN'T HAPPEN WITHOUT YOU!!




Notes of Gratitude

- Thanks to Joana and José (Spain), during their trip to Southeast Asia, they came to meet us with 100 kilos of rice brought with a card. On the following day they returned to our center with a wonderful variety of hygiene products!!!!
- Thanks to Lesley and Peter (Australia) for sending to us these marvelous rugby balls, courteously of the team The Adelaide Crows, the best of the league!!, as well as an instructive video to learn to play this sport.
- Thanks to Charlie and Jon (England) for coming to visit again, on this occasion accompanied by Charlie's parents. They brought us 100 kilos of rice.
- Thanks to Heritage Hotel for reorder laundry bags for guests rooms and tablecloths.



A very, very BIG Thank You to the Hotel LA RESIDENCE D'ANGKOR. Twice a week they open their doors to us, inviting us in, giving our children the opportunity to enjoy and practice English and at the same time meet Benefactors who want contact with us. All the Management and staff make the children feel respected and loved. Every month the Hotel gives us 200 kilograms of rice, THANK YOU from all of us. Similarly, through ordering laundry bags for their guestrooms, made by our sewing ladies in our workshop, they help us to help them increase their skills and make an income to support their families, so helping us and the community.



Thank you to SPOTLIGHT Australia for helping us pass on the teaching of sewing skills through their program STITCH IN TIME. The donation of the sewing machines, enabling our ladies to make cloth bags and the monthly order of bags, are now a sustainable project, giving protection and a new life style to a group of 6 families. These women are getting skills and a fair salary which enables them to re-organize their lives and improve the quality of hygiene, health and education for their children. And also Thank You very much for permitting the distribution of our book FOOD For The SOUL through your stores across Australia.



We have 3 new sewing machines in our workshop, courtesy of Spotlight, these will ensure the ladies achieve the best finish on their work. Thank you to Spotlight once more, for their contribution to this project and for responding, without hesitation to our request.



Thank you to **EVERYONE** that through the **Child Sponsorship Program**, the **Scholarship Program** and donations for different **projects** altogether make it possible that we stay on budget.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH to ALL the **Staff members** for their work and to ALL the **Benefactors** who give us hope.

Bank details:

Bank Name: ANZ ROYAL BANK

Account Name: TOGETHER FOR CAMBODIA

Swift: ANZBKHPP

Account Number: **2087220** (Child sponsorship, Scholarship, General Budget). Only US\$.

Contact details:

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THANK YOU VERY MUCH

AUKUN CHARAN

Lidia Linde Ginesta.

President & Founder.