

HUMAN AND HOPE ASSOCIATION



PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

FUNDING PROPOSAL



# About Human & Hope Association

Human and Hope Association is a grassroots community centre based in Siem Reap, Cambodia. Established in 2011, we are run entirely by local staff and aim to alleviate poverty in our surrounding community.

Instead of giving out direct aid, we invest in education, vocational training and community support projects that have a long-term impact. These include:

## Education Programs

Aimed at children aged **5-18 years old**, these programs supplement their public school education, setting them up for a brighter future. We provide the following classes in: English, living values, Khmer, preschool, art and library. We also provide ongoing programs in staff development.

## Vocational Training Programs

Aimed towards all community members, many of whom were **unable to complete high school** and most of whom are illiterate. While this proves challenging at times in delivery of the program, the results are wholeheartedly worth it upon seeing improvements to their confidence. We currently have a sewing program, sewing cooperative and a home sewing business program.

## Community Support Programs

The community projects at Human and Hope Association are targeted towards the most vulnerable community members who are the poorest of the poor. Whilst challenging, we believe in empowering the community with the knowledge and skills to achieve a sustainable future. They currently run workshops, outreach and opportunity scholarships, family farm programs and university scholarships.

We involve the community in our program development and take monitoring and evaluation very seriously. We are a leading NGO due to our commitment to local empowerment our ability to raise 25% of our income each year through sustainable methods.



# About Cambodia



Modern-day Cambodia is the descendant of the ancient Khmer Empire, a powerful empire that stretched over much of South East Asia between the 8th Century and 15th century.

Despite its proud history, Cambodia fell into a dark period as it was drawn into conflict during the Vietnam War and then fell to the Khmer Rouge in 1975. Between this time and 1978, leader Pol Pot attempted to turn Cambodia into a purely Communist country, sending millions out into the countryside and deserting Cambodia's once energetic cities. Intellectuals and city-dwellers bore the brunt of Pol Pot's brutal regime initially, but disease, starvation and Khmer Rouge cruelty saw the **death toll rise to an estimated two million**, over a quarter of the population.

Cambodia had to build themselves up again, and it hasn't been easy. Cambodia remains the poorest ASEAN country by GNI per capita (World Bank, 2016). While its rapid economic growth saw it reach lower-middle income status in 2015, **35% of Cambodians people still live below the international poverty line** measured at US\$1.90 per person per day (UNDP, 2018). 40% of Cambodia's rural population live in multi-dimensional poverty, while 45% of Cambodians living in poverty are 19 years old or younger (UNDP, 2018). Over 8.1 million Cambodians are near-poor, meaning if they lost 30 cents of income per day they will be thrust back into the poverty bracket. Also, the unequal distribution of economic gains means many Cambodians still have poor levels of health, low levels of education, skills and employment, and **struggle to access essential services**.

Domestic violence is also a significant issue for many Cambodian women, with 21% of women reporting they have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence (UN Women, 2015). 1 in 4 Cambodians over the age of 15 are illiterate. 36% of Cambodian children are involved in child labour. 40% of children in primary school do not progress beyond grade five. Only 35% of females at the appropriate age enrol in secondary school. With poverty and gender issues come other issues such as lack of hygiene, poor health, lack of family planning, domestic violence, poor school attendance, high school dropout rates, etc. We aim to change these statistics in our community.



# Preschool Program

Many children in the community where Human and Hope Association is located are neglected by their parents who have to work very hard all day just to make ends meet. These young children either have to go to work with their parents, stay at home unsupervised, or work themselves.

Our preschool program allows these children to be under the supervision of good role models, meaning they are less likely to form bad habits or attitudes. Each month, the **attendance rate is 95%** on average. This demonstrates their parents' commitment to education.

Our preschool program runs every weekday for two hours. The students learn how to read and write in their native language. They play sports (concentrating on the aspect of teamwork), do arts and crafts, play with toys, learn about good habits and spend time in the library.

In addition to this, the students brush their teeth at Human and Hope Association every day. Before attending Human and Hope Association, the students had **never brushed their teeth before**, so this is a crucial habit to begin at this age. On Fridays, they learn about living values.

Every October, a graduation ceremony is held, and the students are provided with a school starter pack to properly equip them for school. Since launching the program in 2013, **50 children have graduated** from the preschool program. 98% of these children remain in public school to this day.





# Preschool Program Team



## Education and Community Manager – Loeum Salin

A founding member of Human and Hope Association, Salin is responsible for running the education and community programs and is always thinking of ways to improve the impact that we have. He holds a Bachelor of English Literature from Build Bright University.

*“I work at Human and Hope Association because I want the children in my country to be educated people, not ignorant people.”*

## Budget

The budget breakdown below will ensure 10 at-risk Cambodian children are enrolled in our preschool program for a full year.

Teacher's Salary	\$2,290.00
Study Resources	\$128.00
Hygiene Materials	\$30.00
School Starter Packs	\$150.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>AUD\$2,598.00</b>





## \*Clay's Story

Eight-year-old \*Clay began studying in the preschool program at Human and Hope Association in 2015. Her father is a builder who would work far away from home to support Clay's family. Her mother, a housewife, would often collect rattan to make baskets that she could sell for a few cents each. It was a challenge to keep her in the program; not only was Clay younger than the other students, she was also a lot smaller having been born prematurely.

Clay would cry every day when her mother brought her to school, and would often refuse to go to class. With persistence from her teacher and dedication from her mother who wasn't afforded an education herself, Clay's behaviour eventually started to change. She would respect the teacher in class, brush her teeth at school (even though she had never done so in her four years on earth) and made friends. Although her learning was slow, it eventually improved, and Clay graduated from preschool in 2017 and made the transition to public school.

Clay will graduate from grade one at public school in October. Her grades are good, and she still attends Human and Hope Association daily for Khmer language classes, English phonics and to read in the library. Her younger sister is now a preschool student herself.

*"Clay has improved her behaviour and confidence a lot. She talks more to teachers and friends, comes to class regularly by herself and has improved her hygiene."*

- Thai, Director

# Our Commitment to Ethical Standards

At Human and Hope Association, we are committed to acting in a highly **ethical** way to build **trust** and **respect** with our community and donors. We achieve this by:

- Publishing our monthly finances on our website
- Verifying transactions and counting cash each month by Director
- Auditing of accounts every three months by our qualified Board Treasurer
- Holding a partnership agreement with Human and Hope Association Incorporated (HHA Inc.), who fundraise for our cause
- Providing monthly program updates to HHA Inc.
- Randomly verifying five of our transactions every month with the Board Treasurer of HHA Inc.
- Conducting a monitoring visit to Cambodia every year with HHA Inc
- Externally auditing HHA Inc.'s accounts every year
- Verifying and checking every month of HHA Cambodia and HHA Inc.'s bank accounts by the Director of HHA Cambodia and President of HHA Inc.
- Ensuring our staff abide by a Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policy
- Implementing a strict visitor policy to ensure our community feels safe
- Requesting our staff declare any conflicts of interest



# How to Donate



Donations through our fiscal sponsor, World Relief Australia, are tax-deductible and can be made by credit card or bank transfer here: <https://wra.org.au/1432hhadev>.

If tax-deductibility was not required, donations can be made straight to our bank account in Australia:

**Bank:** Commonwealth Bank of Australia

**BSB:** 065 124

**Account:** 1033 8820

**Name:** Human and Hope Association Incorporated

# To Say Thank You

To say thank you for your generous support of our Preschool Program we will place your name on the sponsor's page of our website. Additionally, you will receive a personalised thank you from the Director of HHA and an e-book pack of stories written by our students.

An advocate speaker can attend a club meeting in Sydney, Canberra and Melbourne, or present at a meeting via Skype.

# Want to Know More?

We would love for you to take the time to think about supporting our Preschool Program. Please feel free to contact us using the details below:

**Australia:** Sally Hetherington, President of HHA Inc  
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