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Cambodian Children Against Starvation and Violence
CCASVA ស៊ីកាស្វា

NGO Permit 889

Cambodian Children Against
Starvation and Violence Association
PO Box: 2203 Phnom Penh 3,
Kingdom of Cambodia

18th November 2008

Dear Friends, Donors and Sponsors,

Time flies, here we are coming up to the end of the year and only 3 newsletters have been sent out. My sincere apologies to everyone who was expecting a more regular (monthly) read. Time simply won't allow for monthly newsletters.... Quarterly it is!

I suppose the most important piece of news from CCASVA is..... the Centre is FULL! We now have 50 kids living here 24/7, all are attending either primary school, secondary school or are in vocational training programs. Some are doing exceptionally well at school and are sure to be model students throughout their schooling years.

Please remember, all of the children at the CCASVA CCD (Centre for Child Development) have been rescued from a situation of very high risk or existing physical/sexual abuse, trafficking, forced labour and in the case of girls, the high probability of being sold into prostitution. Given their shocking background I can only admire and applaud their guts and determination to succeed.

I would welcome any feedback from our supporters as to how best to proceed forward.

Do we open another Centre?

Our social workers who live and work amongst the slum children are calling me regularly ... "can we bring another abused child into the Centre?" At the moment we have to say, no, there are no more beds available and our budget doesn't extend beyond 50 kids.

Another Centre, say, for up to 100 kids (probably only girls as they are the most vulnerable) can be easily located however the cost of setting up and running a Centre is in the vicinity of US \$120,000 PA. probably more as we will require more in house teachers and staff. So we are talking round \$1200 per child..... doesn't sound much does it?

\$1200 is not a lot of money to those of us who live in or come from, affluent Western countries. It's a mere drop, regardless of the current and hopefully short lived world wide financial crisis, however it will do enormous amounts of good for the child recipient. Believe me, I see the "before and after " results of donor funding and it simply... changes the child's life! They know the Barang, (foreigner or the westerner), has helped them and this I guarantee you, they will never forget.

Another possibility is a **Day Centre**, located in a slum area where kids can drop in for Counseling, free medical care and perhaps free or subsidized food, during daylight hours. This Centre would have no accommodation however it would serve a greater number of children and would allow us to identify high risk kids and perhaps the possibility of placing them into another "safe house" out of harm's way.

The cost of a Day Centre would be in the vicinity of US\$30,000 - \$40,000 PA, depending on the drop-in numbers and food requirements.

The above is food for thought and I welcome your feedback and comments.

Of the 50 kids at the CCD, we now have 21 sponsored by either local or overseas sponsors. The kids love the idea of a "mummy or daddy "in some far off country and those lucky enough to have a local sponsor are "over the moon" (and maybe just a little spoilt).

Please remember, most of the kids have never had a parent or had someone to look after them and care for them. Their only memories are of violence and abuse.

Sponsorship (US \$60 /month or US \$720 PA) helps off- set expenses at the Centre and is an important source of income for the CCD. All children are the direct recipients of sponsorship funding, however the sponsor is also a winner . He or she gains a beautiful Cambodian child as an extended member of their family. now that's absolutely priceless!

We now have internet facilities at the Centre and the kids can be contacted at kids@ccasva.org

I would like all of our supporters to understand our present position. CCASVA has two long term donors, Save the Children Norway and Save the Children, Netherlands. Both have been long term donors however most of their funding goes to the CCASVA Street Education program. Only a small amount goes to the CCD. Your donations are currently funding the 50 kids living 24/7 at the Centre for Child Development. Please do not forget this as the ongoing viability and continuity of the Centre is dependent of your support.

Our new website is almost complete and should be live next week. You will notice our new "help the Kids" logo and the light, vibrant colours. A Donate button using PayPal is provided for those who would like to donate using on-line banking or PayPal facilities.

Your feedback is very important and I promise, each email I receive, will receive a response.

Thanking each and every one of you for taking the time to read this letter.

Until next year,

Best regards

Pete

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