

SUPPORT FOR DAUGHTERS OF CAMBODIA

Daughters of Cambodia is a non-profit organization which helps young women and men escape the horrors of sex trafficking, and start sustainable new lives for themselves. They provide dignified, rewarding employment, paired with vital health and support services, including medical clinics, educational opportunities, creative programmes and psychological counselling. MSAVLC has been proud to support Daughters since 2015 by sending funds to help them with their work, providing medical assistants, counsellors, medical supplies and emergency funds.

When victims come to Daughters most have no skills, no education and no concept of any type of job outside of sex work. Sadly, many of the girls have been trafficked into the sex trade by their own families, who want them to work to support them, and the girls are afraid to leave. If they do, they are worried that their younger sisters may be sold in their place, and they feel obliged to support their families in this way. Many have suffered terrible abuse at the hands of their clients and have often been beaten and tortured.

Daughters helps these young people to recover from their ordeals by gentle help, practical aid, compassion and encouragement to change their life-styles. Medical and psychological support is given, and they are found work in one of Daughter's workshops,



Art therapy classes at Daughters of Cambodia

the Visitors' Centre, shop, café or beauty parlour.

MSAVLC is in frequent contact with Daughters. Newsletters and narrative reports are sent to us on a regular basis.

In the latest reports we learned that Daughters were very thankful to MSAVLC for supporting their health and wholeness activities over the last year. They were excited about what they had achieved, and the challenges that they are continually tackling in this front line work. They continue to focus on health, education and prevention, and have held many workshops, along with some creative programs for therapeutic purposes,

such as art therapy, music, singing classes and dance classes.

Medical referrals to specialists were made when necessary, and counselling sessions given. With our help they accepted 56 young people over the year, and currently have 91 clients at Daughters, the youngest of whom is just 14 years of age.

Daughters has many challenging cases to deal with which illustrates the need for both medical and social-work services. One such case is outlined below:

BR left Daughters for a month in 2017 and went to India to sell her kidney. She received \$5,000 for this. She used the money to buy a

motorbike for her partner. On her return she told Daughters:

"I sold my kidney because I wanted to help that man in India to continue his life, and he helped me a lot by paying me \$5,000. Afterwards my health was fine, I didn't get ill, except for a headache and cold. It took about 1 month to get back to normal, but the doctor said I couldn't lift anything heavy. I felt very happy that I could help one person's life.

My partner uses the motorbike

I bought him every day to go to work. He gives me a little bit of his salary for household needs but spends most on his debts and on his alcohol addiction. He is not faithful to me, and has many other women, but I still love him and will do anything for him. Sometimes he beats me and often threatens to leave me. I feel sad".

Daughters has recently heard that BR is now on bed rest at her parents' home with kidney failure and is in a serious condition. Her partner has left her for another woman, and refuses to help contribute towards her

medical costs. She asked him to return the motorbike she bought for him, in order to pay for her medical care, but he refused. As the bike is registered in his name, she has no claim to it by law.

Daughters continues working to help BR and others in desperate situations. With your help, the Trustees hope to be able to continue funding Daughters compassionate and vital work, well into the future.

Mary Lidgard,
Honorary Secretary.

GOOD NEWS FROM NEW HOPE

The Trustees are pleased to report that the money raised by the Sunday School children and teachers from the Newquay Evangelical Church in Cornwall, has been used to purchase new school bags and toys for the children of New Hope Children's Home.

We were delighted to receive these photographs from the Home of the children with their gifts, and going off to school in their tuk-tuk.

Once again, the Trustees thank the Sunday School children for their splendid effort, and we send our love and very best wishes to Rostitus, his staff and all the children at New Hope Children's Home in Poipet, Cambodia.



Above: Cheng Rostitus and the children of New Hope Children's Home with their toys and school bags.
Below: Off to school in a tuk-tuk.



LISTEN.OUT.LOUD.KRATIE!

MSAVLC has been funding projects for All Ears Cambodia (AEC) since it was originally established in Phnom Penh by Glyn Vaughan, 16 years ago. As the only free ear and hearing NGO in Cambodia, AEC has the dual function of caring for the day-to-day ear health of the whole country, and training clinicians to provide that service throughout urban and rural Cambodia.

Over recent years MSAVLC's funding has been provided to support clinician training at their Phnom Penh Training School, but last year we were asked to fund an exciting new project entitled LISTEN.OUT.LOUD.KRATIE! This is a two-year outreach project which will provide both:

- ♦ Primary Ear Health Care, which includes testing and fitting of hearing aids, and
- ♦ Ear and Hearing Health Education for children and adults.

Kratie Province was chosen as the first region to host the project, with the hope that, if successful, it could be rolled out to other provinces in the future. The Project began in March 2018 and the first mid-term report covering the period from March to September 2018 was received recently.

All Ears Cambodia reported that daily clinical services have been provided at the AEC's base clinic in Kratie town, as well as at outreach clinics, which are conducted weekly. Focus is on local townspeople, villagers, schoolchildren and target groups drawn from several partner Non-Government Organisations.

During the reporting period 5,332 consultations were carried out. Patients of all ages were provided with help – from infants through to the elderly. Of these:

1,727 patients were seen at the AEC Kratie Clinic in the Kratie town.
Adults: 409 male and 532 female.
Children: 467 male and 319 female.
3605 patients were seen at outreach clinics in the province.
Adults: 10 male and 34 female.
Children: 1734 male and 1827 female.



All Ears Cambodia also provided primary ear health care screening at the AEC clinic in Kratie Town and through outreach clinics in the province. About 8,250 persons were screened at weekly clinics at school or village level within the project period. Of these, a total of 3,605 cases were seen at the outreach clinics.

Primary ear health care generally focuses on diseases and anomalies of the outer and/or middle ear. While some outer and middle ear conditions are innocuous or bothersome at worst, others are considered serious and may require surgical intervention. If left untreated (or undertreated), in some cases, patients can experience significant discomfort and even permanent hearing loss. As with most illnesses, quick identification and treatment of these conditions are integral to achieving satisfactory outcomes.

As part of their Continuing Professional Development Program, newly qualified Grade 1 Primary Ear Health Care clinicians were able to make case studies of the more interesting cases and give presentations to their colleagues.

The AEC ear and hearing health educational program (the Roadshow) runs concurrently with the clinical program. AEC's education program

enables people to become more aware of how their ears work, how to prevent problems, how to recognize initial signs of problems, and what to do if things go wrong. It also underlines the importance of proper hygiene and good nutrition.

The program is designed to work in the smallest village school or in a large professional theatre. The aim is to deliver the LISTEN.OUT.LOUD show at a minimum of 12 schools and villages located across Kratie Province as well as target groups under the wing of at least 5 local partner Non-Governmental Organizations. It is anticipated that a minimum 1,200 children will be involved in the LISTEN.OUT.LOUD show.

In the reporting period, script sections for the interactive education presentation were test ridden with children in Phnom Penh; and local students in Kratie then received presentations. So far a total of 292 students from Grades 1-6 have participated in, and enjoyed the roadshow.

From the report received from All Ears Cambodia, it appears that in the first half year the project objectives have been successfully achieved.

MSAVLC's funding for the remainder of the project will ensure that All Ears Cambodia's vital work in Kratie Province continues.

CAO BANG MIDWIVES' COURSE



Professor Trinh Ngoc Trinh with traditional midwives in Thach An District, Cao Bang Province. The MSALVC logo can be seen on the banner at the back.

Readers may remember that the training course for traditional midwives which was planned for Thanh Son District, Phu Tho Province in Vietnam, had to be cancelled because of the devastation caused to that province by Typhoon Son Tinh.

Our project partners, the Highland Education Development Organisation (HEDO) hastily re-arranged the location of the course to Thach An District, Cao Bang Province.

Cao Bang is one of Vietnam's most remote provinces, and although it was not severely affected by the typhoon, nevertheless its population is hampered by the mountainous terrain and poor infrastructure.

In October HEDO's Director Professor Trinh Ngoc Trinh reported that the course had been successfully carried out with the assistance of Cao

Bang Province's Department of Health. Traditional village midwives from all the major towns and villages in Thach An District had been trained in modern, safe, childbirth methods in the intensive two-week residential course. Much of this training involves developing good practical skills in delivering babies safely at home, but it also encourages mothers to have their babies at their local clinic, whenever possible. The courses also include advice on antenatal and post-natal care, sex education, contraception, HIV, health and hygiene, and drug abuse.

This is the sixteenth midwife training course which has been funded by MSALVC in Vietnam's Highlands since 2003. As a direct result of the courses, the maternal and infant, mortality rates in these districts has been considerably reduced.

THE BULLETIN - DATA PROTECTION

MSALVC is committed to making sure that our communications with you are secure, considered and welcomed. We promise to respect any personal data that you share with us, we will keep it safe, and we will not share it with third parties.

If you no longer want to receive the Bulletin and want to be removed from our mailing list, please contact:

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CIRENCESTER CURRY AND QUIZ NIGHT

The ever-popular Annual Curry and Quiz Night was held once again in November 2018 at the Organic Farm Shop in Cirencester.

As a result, over £500 was donated to MSALVC by our supporter David Smethurst and his team. The Trustees are most grateful for their efforts, and for again donating some of the proceeds to MSALVC.

BONNETS AND BOOTEES

A big thank you to Miss Copeland and Karen Norton, who over the past two years, have kindly knitted for us an array of beautifully soft and colourful clothing for premature and new babies in hospitals in Vietnam.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated and the clothing will be distributed on the Trustees' next visit to South-East Asia

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our next Annual General Meeting will be held at St Mark's Methodist Church Hall, Gloucester Road, Cheltenham on Saturday 11th May, at 2.00 pm.

All of our supporters are most welcome to attend.

Full details will be published in the next Bulletin.