

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលសហសង្គ្រោះកម្ពុជា
Salvation Centre Cambodia
(SCC)



Writing Up
As from April – June 2019

Submitted to
Firefly Mission

Project Title: Funeral Support
Location: Phnom Penh, Battambang, and Siemreap provinces, Cambodia

SCC in a Nutshell



IDENTITY

SCC is a dynamic, Cambodian faith-based organization that has played a major role in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Through the Loving-kindness, Compassion, Sympathetic Joy, Equanimity, commitment and dedication of a team of Buddhist monks, nuns, staff, volunteers and generous supporters, SCC has been able to improve the lives of many people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS, particularly the poorest and least fortunate families, especially children, either orphans or adversely affected by HIV/AIDS.

VISION

A Cambodian society where, all Cambodian people live with good health, freedom, dignity and prosperity.

MISSION

SCC commits to develop capacity and sustainable community mechanisms through faith-based networks and other stakeholders to reduce vulnerability, and to prosper livelihood, health and children's rights to education.

GOAL

SCC will have a significant contribution to achieve the national strategic plan by intensifying vulnerable families' and children's equitable access to health service and education.

VALUES

SCC is guided in all its actions and by its core values, which are solidarity, spirituality, compassion, human rights, good governance, and democracy and rule of law.

Writing Up Hard Life Stories

Funeral project is one of other project has been implemented by Salvation Centre Cambodia (SCC) for deceased families in the coverage areas in Phnom Penh municipality, Battambang, and Siemreap provinces funded by Firefly Mission from Singapore.

The purpose of this program is generous for the deceased of the poorest families, people living with HIV/AIDS, elderly people with disabilities, homeless people, orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) who have no money to arrange the funeral event for their dead members. We have cooperated with NGOs partners, local authorities, community leaders and village chief of our networks in order to implement this program for the needy people. The main objectives of funeral support donation are: 1) for the poorest deceased families when their any members died and have no money to arrange the funeral event. 2) Help to meet the urgent needs of the poorest deceased families and condolence to relief their suffering from their shortage of money to manage the funeral ceremony.

The process before providing budget for deceased family: After we have got information from the dead family, neighbors, community leaders, NGO partners, or local authorities, SCC staff visits directly to deceased family to get exact information about them and about their living conditions. Then we let them fill the form of Cash Request for Funeral with their signature or thumbprint. After that we get confirmation from their village leaders or SCC NGO partners to reassure that they are truly poor.

In addition, we work very carefully in providing the funeral support the poorest deceased families before donating money to them. The reason is that we are afraid of being cheated from the tricky people. Funeral support is very valuable for the poorest people in Cambodia. We provide it to all types of poor families without discrimination because of race, group of the people, political trends, or religions.

Significantly, SCC would like to indicate three writing up which implemented in Phnom Penh, Battambang, and Siemreap provinces as from April to June 2019 for your information as follows:

1. Funeral Support in Phnom Penh City



Deceased members received cash from SCC monk

Mr. Sok Sambath and Mrs. Sok Sreymao who are living at Saensokh Village, Khmounh commune, Saensokh district, Phnom Penh City, Cambodia. They have got 5 children. Mr. Sok Sambath has worked as a construction worker and his wife worked as a cleaner at the garment factory. They both earned income not enough to support their family in daily. They had to work very hard and worked overtime every day in order to increase their income. Because of working hard and overtime job, his wife has got serious illness until she can't go to work anymore. She got the cirrhosis and chronic illness. In the meantime, her husband also got the chronic illness too. They can't go to work and they just stay at home. The family's burden has fallen on their children who are responsible for earning income. One of their daughters got married and went to live with her new family; she is also so poor except her brothers and sisters who are living with their

parents. All of their children decided to drop out of schools because of their living standard. One brother and sister become a beggar because they have no education. As for two elder brothers become a recycling or rubbish collectors to feed their family. Even though they have this job, but they still don't have enough money to support their family's need, especially their parents' medical treatment.

Mrs. Sok Sreymao has gotten serious illness for 6 months. After that she died on June 12th, 2019 aged 48 years old. Then her family members have no money to perform her funeral ceremony. Even though they are so poor and facing hard situations and worse consequences, they still held a small funeral cremation for her. Mr. Sok Sambath aged 50 years old have borrowed money amount 150.00 US dollars from the financial service to arrange his wife's funeral ceremony. By the pitifulness of their neighbors and relatives helped him to manage the funeral event for his wife. On the funeral day, neighbors, relatives, friends, village chief, communities' leaders and local authorities participated in the cremation for condolence. To help deceased family's burdens, the village chief contacted SCC staff and asked for help because he knows that SCC has available budget for funeral support to provide for the poorest families' funeral. Then, SCC staff provided 40 US dollars based on SCC's budget plan for contributing towards deceased family. Evidently, SCC staff took photo of receiver (family members) who received aid as cash from SCC staff. At last, Mr. Sok Sambath feel really excited and he would like to express his gratitude for SCC's staff and Firefly mission from Singapore. He thanks you very much for useful help.

2. Funeral Support in Battambang Province

Mr. Ven Yoeut and Mrs. Lit Leang live in Bak Rothes village, Prek Hluong commune, Ek Phnom district, Battambang province. They have 7 members in which 3 females in the family. They don't have their own land to grow rice or land to grow vegetables. They live in a small cottage on the land of others. This small cottage is constructing on their relatives' land. The old small cottage was constructed by no valuable wood with the roof and walls equip with zincs. Because of their poor living standard, their children don't have any opportunities to attend schools and get education like other children. All of them dropped out of school, they go to work and help their parents for earning money to support their family. They have to work hard in order to increase their income, even though they have tried hard, but they still cannot fulfill their desire. The income which they have earned did not enough for their expense in daily. They spend their income on their daily food, medical treatments and other inevitable expense from day by day.

Mr. Ven Yoeut and his wife are facing with unstable work and difficult situation to manage. Therefore, they decided to do any jobs based on the renters and owners are asking them to do. Normally, their family has been asked to work at the fields to grow rice and harvest it; they worked as a grass cutter, pick up beans, corns, potatoes, cucumbers and rubber resin. The money they have got from these works to buy daily foods and medicine for her husband. They do everything as much as they can for money to feed their children and her husband's disease. By doing hard work, Mr. Ven Yoeut has fell severe illness and has the chronic illness nearly two years. At that time, family heavy burden is relied on his wife and children who are responsible for it. They are facing more and more difficult situations and need to work harder, whatever they do is to earn money for supporting medicine for Mr. Ven Yoeut and hospital caring but his disease becomes severe. He departed from his family on June 08, 2019. After he died, his wife has no money to arrange the funeral ceremony; therefore, she decided to borrow some money from her elder brother-in-law amount 100 USD to manage the funeral ceremony for her husband. At the same time, her family also owes her relatives amount 200 USD either. This situation makes her family more concerned. By seeing this worse situation, her neighbors and relatives helped her to arrange and participated in her husband's cremation.



Activity received cash from SCC Staff Battambang

To facilitate the deceased family, the village chief of Bak Rothes contacted SCC staff directly and asked for help because he knows that SCC has budget to support the poorest dead families. Then Our SCC staff arrived at their home to see the real situations of the deceased family. They welcomed and invited us into their home as you see above pictures. We made conversation with them honestly about their children and their living condition. Through this conversation, we realized that they are facing difficult situation in their living. So SCC staff decided to contribute 40 USD with deceased family donated by the Firefly Mission from Singapore. They feel excited for helping them during they have a shortage of money for funeral support. She said, "I feel very great with donation and it is very helpful for supporting her husband funeral ceremony". Furthermore, the deceased family, village chief, communities' leaders and local authorities wanted SCC and Firefly Mission keep helping the poorest families in their villagers and all Cambodian people.

3. Funeral Support Siemreap Province

A grandma Hor Ching, her age is 73 years old who has lived in Rahal village, Nakorthom commune, Siemreap district, Siemreap province. After her husband had died for long time, she has only one son who is her heart and take care of her. Mr. Ann Leap had married but he got divorce and came back home to live with his mother in the small old house which built by wood, walls and roofs are using thatches and palm tree leaves. Mr. Ann Leap, his age is 48 years old and he is a widower. As a single child in the poor farmer family, he had more worked in the rice fields whatever someone asking him to do or rent him to grow rice or harvest it. By the old age of mother, poor living conditions and need to take more responsibilities, he has worked as a sculptor to sell it as a souvenirs for all visitors, local customers and foreigners in order to get some profits.



He does whatever with the righteous works by using his own hands and strengths to get some benefits to support his family. But the income of his work cannot actually support the family daily life because the income he gets day by day up and down sometime 10000 Riel (it's equal 2.5 USD), less than and sometime nothing. While he is working hard to make more income, it has caused him into seriously sick till

he cannot go to work anymore. He had the lung diseases for over a year. As an old age of a widow mother, she cannot go to work or do anything else because by old age and health is not possible for her. She's asking her relatives and neighbors who has the kindhearted and compassion on her for help. All neighbors and relatives, they're really feel pitiful on her and her son so much. They help her as much as they can. The money she gets from them, she buys food supplies and others needed, medical treatments and hospital caring. She said **“during the time of my son being sick, I felt worst and devastated for lying my son that he can be better, please eats more dear and don't worry even I know he has an incurable diseases”**. He had departed from his lovely mother on Wednesday 6 June 2019.

While her son had died, she doesn't have anything left she has cried and asking her son to be back but it's not possible, some relatives and neighbors have consoled her for the great loss of her son. She said **“as an old age who has only mother and son but now he passed away from me, how could I live”**, even money to manage my son funeral ceremony. The relatives and neighbors helped her to arrange this funeral and the village chief has contacted directly to SCC and asking for help. SCC staff has come to see the real hard situation they're facing and we have offered 40 USD to the decease family which donated by the Firefly Mission from Singapore. She feel happy for helping on her son cremation. In addition, the deceased family, village chief, and local authorities need SCC and Firefly Mission continue helping the poorest families in their villagers and also all Cambodian people.

Finally, all Cambodian people in the coverage areas (Phnom Penh City, Battambang and Siemreap Provinces), village chief, communities leader, local authorities, the poorest families, we still persist SCC and Firefly Mission from Singapore please keep assisting the pitiful Cambodian people. The last but not least, we would very much like to thank you Firefly Mission from Singapore for your generous sponsorship our funeral support. We can't tell you how much all of us at SCC and all Cambodian people appreciate your contribution to our cause. Fortunately, thanks to your donation, we'll be able to have funding support to run our funeral support program continuously. May the triple gem bless SCC, Firefly Mission and all members from Singapore forever, be healthy, wealthy, happy, longevity, and peaceful in life.

Thank you very much for your very fruitful help!

With metta,

Written by: **Ven. Sovat Ann**

Monk Team Leader

Date: on Thursday, 11 July, 2019