



TEEN CHALLENGE CAMBODIA

PHANHA'S TRANSFORMATION

"I have new life because of Teen Challenge." These words of Phanha at age 22 reflect his hope after a long, dark journey.

At age 13, Phanha's father died while he and his family were living in Phnom Penh. Without this male figure in his life, Phanha soon started acting out. His mom, unsure of what to do with him, decided to send Phanha to live with his uncle.

Phanha's uncle is a welder, and as Phanha hung around his uncle's shop, he took an interest in his uncle's trade. He watched his uncle weld and soon he was trying it out for himself. By age 16, Phanha's welding skills had progressed far enough that he could begin making real contributions to his uncle's business, and Phanha started earning an income.

Phanha's heart, however, had not changed. He was still spending time with a tough crowd of friends. Some of them were using drugs, and Phanha wanted to experiment too. Furthermore, with a bit of money in his pocket, Phanha now had the means of buying drugs.

Phanha was hooked. Over the next four years, he would weld to finance his new addiction to meth and crystal meth. His relationships were strained, and his work was only a means to buy more drugs.

As Phanha's habits became more destructive, his mom worried about his behavior. As a Christian, she asked



him if he would be willing to try Teen Challenge's recovery program. Additionally, Pastor Mark, who is one of Teen Challenge's church partners and knew Phanha's mother, sought out Phanha and encouraged him to go and see what Teen Challenge was like. Phanha decided to listen to their advice.

The first month was the hardest. Phanha was not sure if he could make it in the new environment. He did not want to be there; he wanted to leave and go back to his old life. However, by the grace of God, Phanha decided to stick it out.

Today, he's glad he did. "Knowing God more clearly was my biggest experience at Teen Challenge," said Phanha. He learned about the God whom his mother had told him about

for years, but now, this God was real for Phanha, a Savior who could bring his life back from addiction.

With this new life, Phanha wanted to give back, and he began using his welding skills around the center. He did welding on the new bathrooms and the piggery at the Men's Center, and he taught some of the other clients and staff some of the basics of welding.

Phanha left the center in January, and he is now living at the dormitory at Pastor Mark's church. He is welding again too. Phanha said, "I used to weld to get money to buy drugs, but now I'm trying to save money to start my own business."

HELP FROM HONG KONG



For a month, Teen Challenge Cambodia was privileged to host a team of 6 university students from Hong Kong.

Before coming, none of them had much experience with drug and alcohol addictions. The team simply found Teen Challenge via the Facebook page when the team was looking for a place to volunteer in Cambodia during their school vacation.

The Women's Center clients especially are glad they came. The team spent the majority of their time with the women and children, though they also helped with the street outreach and the Men's Center one day per week. The team led art projects and games, shared their testimonies, and taught basic English.

Despite the language barrier, the team and clients persevered to build relationships together. The clients were excited to learn new things from the team and to build relationships with foreigners over the course of the month.

Cambodians are often shy and reticent to speak with foreigners. However, the tears that the clients shed when the team left demonstrated that they truly had appreciated the



team's presence.

Building partnerships with visiting teams is an important part of Teen Challenge Cambodia's work. Like the visitors from Hong Kong, visiting teams provide encouragement and support to our clients and can also help ease the workload of some of our centers' staff. Thanks for coming!



HOPE FOR THREE GENERATIONS

Our Vision

Facilitate life-transformation for people with life-controlling problems, one person at a time, by the power of God.

Our Mission

Develop quality programs to help youth, adults and families with life-controlling problems to become established in society through faith-based solutions

Cambodia Contact

Bunnavuth Rath
 (+855) 12 72 03 01
 Teen Challenge Cambodia
cambodiateenchallenge@gmail.com
www.tccambodia.com

U.S.A Contact

Denise Roebuck
 706-576-6555
 GlobalTeen Challenge
droebuck@globaltc.org



February 4, 2015 was a big day for Sokleang and her pregnant daughter Srey Meas. It was the day that they were going to be evicted from their home near the train tracks in Phnom Penh. It was also the day of a lunch fellowship at Teen Challenge Women's Center when the staff invite women to visit the center.

This was the opportunity they needed since Sokleang had been using drugs and working in prostitution since Srey Meas was one year old. She had sent her daughter to be raised by a relative outside of Phnom Penh, but at age 13, Srey Meas ran away to find her mom in Phnom Penh.

Without means of supporting themselves, Sokleang eventually asked neighbors if they knew a man for Srey Meas to marry, someone who could help support the family. Unfortunately, the neighbors suggested a

man who was abusive and addicted to drugs. He stayed only long enough for 18-year-old Srey Meas to become pregnant, and then he left.

Sokleang and Srey Meas were unsure of what to do next until one of their friends told them about Teen Challenge's lunch invitation. Not having enough to eat at home or money to pay rent, Srey Meas was amazed at the food at the center, and Sokleang and Srey Meas decided to move to the center that day.

Srey Meas now has a beautiful daughter who was born in June, and the whole family is experiencing the care of the Women's Center staff. Sokleang is learning to read and write and is also learning to become more patient and control her anger. Sokleang hopes to one day have a small shop along the road, and Srey Meas hopes that she can become a hairdresser.