QUARTERLY IMPACT REPORT
Our Quarterly Impact Report provides details and statistics of beneficiaries and their families for the quarter period.
1 January to 31 March 2016

NUMBERS THIS QUARTER

- ENROLLED ANOTHER: 60
- ACROSS: 4 NEW VILLAGES
- AND PROVIDED: 27 MORE WATER FILTERS
- AND ADDED: 122 LIBRARY BOOKS
- TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRLS ENROLLED: 639

NUMBERS TOTAL

- HOUSES BUILT: 9
- COMMUNES: 13
- VILLAGES: 42
- WATER FILTERS: 280

MORE water filters
NEW VILLAGES
At Free To Shine, we believe having adequate shelter and feeling safe is essential to getting the most out of an education. This quarter we have been busy completing 4 house builds for 4 very amazing girls on our program. These girls, like many of our families, were living in houses with missing walls, holes in roofs, and no doors. And so, because of their great need for new shelter and the whole family's dedication to their daughter's education, Sreytouch, Sreyhon, Lai, and Konthea, have been provided with new homes.

We are so excited to announce that with thanks to our new partnership with World Housing, this time around we were able to make our houses sturdier, safer and larger. For each house we prepared the land with 10 trucks of soil to elevate the land, so that it wouldn’t flood in the wet season. Materials were transported on trucks from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap, approximately 6 hours away, and then out to each girl’s village. We laid a concrete base underneath the houses so that they could be used as outdoor kitchens, which is customary in Cambodian villages. Each house has a pipe connected to it, used to collect rainwater to deposit into a large jar which the girl’s family can use for drinking and cleaning.
Sreytouch and her family were living in a house with just one wall. When it rained there was no way to stay dry and everything they owned got completely soaked. When it was hot there was no protection from the sun. Most alarmingly, anyone could just walk into their home and take their belongings. Or worse.

Sreytouch is 11 years old and has been on our scholarship program for 7 months. She once came from a big family of 12, but 6 of her siblings have passed away and the rest have moved to other villages. Her family has very little income, as only her mother can work by making baskets, which earns the family $1.50 per day. Her father is chronically ill and unable to work. Without help, Sreytouch and her family never would have been able to afford a new house.

Thanks to a generous sponsor, and our partnership with World Housing, we were able to provide Sreytouch and her family with a brand new house. Their new house is sturdy, and is made to withstand Cambodian weather conditions. But most importantly, it can keep Sreytouch safe. “I am really happy to live in a good house like this. My house before was not a real house. Now I don’t worry about the house anymore, so I will sleep well at night. Not like before, I was always worried about our house” – Sreytouch’s mother.
Sreyhon has been on our program for 2 years and is studying in grade 7. She lives with her mother and two younger siblings. Four months ago her father died, leaving Sreyhon’s mother as the sole provider for the family. However, since her husband died, Sreyhon’s mother always feels sad and often falls sick. She can only earn money in the rainy season when some of her neighbors hire her to help them harvest their rice.

Their house was riddled with holes and on the brink of collapsing. The roof was in such bad condition that the family couldn’t sleep in the house when it rained. “I really need the house to live in, but we do not have the money to build the new one”, said Sreyhon’s mother. We felt that this family was truly in need and deserving of a new house. Thanks to our partnership with World Housing and a generous donor we were able to build them a new home! Sreyhon’s mum said, “I am very happy Free To Shine built this house. My husband just passed away so I never expected to be able to live in a good and safe house again. Thank you very much.”
Lai’s house was beyond repair. The beams were decayed, there was no door, the roof was full of holes, and the stairway was rotten. Whenever Lai’s older brother was at work, Lai and her mother felt unsafe in their own home, as anybody could have walked straight in.

Lai is 16 years old and has been on our program for 3 years. She tries her best to study hard; she really enjoys studying Home Economics but finds Maths difficult. Lai’s mother used to make baskets to support her family, but six months ago she had stop because of searing pain in her hands. Now she sells grilled chicken, which brings in only enough money to buy rice and sometimes some vegetables. Lai’s brother works as an assistant construction worker, but this is unreliable and does not pay well.

Now that they have a safe, dry place to live, Lai and her mother no longer worry about staying home alone. “I never expected that I would have a good house to live in with strong material to protect me and my children. The house is good enough for my whole family to stay in. Now I will not move to stay with my neighbor when the rain and wind comes”, said Lai’s mum.
Konthea’s life has been extremely unsettled in the 6 months that we’ve known her. When we met her she was living with her grandma and aunt, as her parents had gotten divorced and both moved to different provinces. No one in the family had heard from Konthea’s parents in 3 years, until one day her father arrived and took Konthea to live with him and his new wife. However, Konthea and her stepmother did not get along, so her mother moved back and brought Konthea back to live with her.

As her mother didn’t have a house, they were living on a platform that extended out from the aunts house, which was made from bamboo, wood and plastic. They made it themselves; it had no walls or doors and left them extremely exposed. We were really worried about their living situation because with the wet season approaching, they had no protection from the elements.

With the help of a generous donor and World Housing we were able to supply them with a new house to live in, which will keep them safe and dry. “I am very happy that Free To Shine built this house. I have always dreamed of having a house but could never afford it. Now my dream has come true”, said Konthea’s mum.