Our Quarterly Impact Report provides details and statistics of beneficiaries and their families for the quarter period.
1 July to 30 September 2015

**NUMBERS THIS QUARTER**
THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR BEGINS SOON SO WE’VE BEEN BUSY PURCHASING AND DISTRIBUTING:

- **6000** EXERCISE BOOKS
- **1000** SCHOOL UNIFORMS
- **500** PAIRS OF SHOES
- **500** SCHOOL BAGS
- **500** PENCIL CASES

**ENROLLED ANOTHER**
- **62** GIRLS ENROLLED

**ACROSS**
- **5** NEW VILLAGES

**AND ADDED**
- **216** LIBRARY BOOKS

**TOTAL NUMBER OF GIRLS ENROLLED**
- **546**

**NUMBERS TOTAL**
NUMBER OF VILLAGES
- **35**

SCHOOLS
- **41**

LIBRARY BOOKS
- **2,216**

WATER FILTERS
- **143**

HOUSES BUILT
- **5**
This quarter we held our first Community Training on sex trafficking. Our team were apprehensive about teaching this and weren’t sure how it’d be received out in the communities or whether we’d get in trouble for talking about it.

Keeping with our proactive approach, the class is designed to give parents and guardians, and our teenage girls, the knowledge to recognise potentially dangerous situations, which could result in being coerced or forced into the commercial sex industry.

The class covered who is targeted, why and how. We discussed the deeper social aspects of Cambodia, including education, socio-economic imbalance, tourism, employment opportunities and the significant role poverty plays in creating an environment where traffickers thrive. Then we taught how traffickers target families, their recruiting methods and what warning signs to look for. Then we taught about what happens to girls when they are trafficked for sex. We taught how to recognise ‘opportunities’ as dangerous and recognise untrustworthy people and to ask a lot more questions and discuss these opportunities and these people with the village leader, commune chief, police chief and Free To Shine. We taught who to contact if they suspect a girl has been targeted or they are unsure about an offer of employment and we provided emergency contact information on an easy to read laminated card to all attendees.

We showed a short video of 2 Cambodian girls who had been trafficked and our class participants got to hear what they and their mums said, and see for themselves it really happens in Cambodia. Then we read “Phea’s Dream” together that showed in an easy to read comic the dangers of taking opportunities without ensuring they are safe. 2 of our girls came up to the front and read the parts of the 2 main characters.

It was a huge success and now we’ll teach this class in each of the other villages we work in.
We have enrolled 500 girls onto our program so far in the rural villages of Siem Reap and it is our plan to double this to 1,000 girls over the next 12 months. We believe we will have then reached every high risk girl. But there are other towns, and other girls, outside our current reach.

We set out on a research trip to Battambang to assess whether to replicate our program in the rural villages there. We focused on one main point: Are we needed? We set out to discover whether or not trafficking was occurring, whether girls were attending school, what the differences and similarities to Siem Reap are and whether or not our program would work well.

In Battambang the majority of people grow rice, so they rely heavily on rain to be able to cultivate their crops. Unpredictable weather has meant that families go without a reliable income. This has led to massive amounts of parents moving to Thailand in search of work, raising the threat of isolation and exploitation for children in the area.

We found that while most girls go to primary school, the numbers drop off in secondary school and high school. Obstacles to going to school were similar to those in Siem Reap, namely: the cost of schooling, transport and the distance to schools. Some villages have as many as 80% of children dropping out of school before they reach high school.

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“'I am so excited to hear that your organisation want to operate in Battambang province. I will support and help you what I can do. I will open all doors to welcome you. It is amazing project that most of the students in village need it,” one village leader said.

Vechheka is 14 years old and only grade 5. Five years ago, her mother left her father, who was an alcoholic and couldn't find work. To make her ends meet, her mother went to work in Thailand. They haven't seen her in two years. Vechheka and her three siblings were left with their 85 year old grandmother and 78 year old grandfather. Not knowing what happened to her mother and not hearing from her is heartbreaking for their family. Their grandfather cannot work due to an illness and they receive no money from their mother or father. They survive by selling brooms at the
BATTAMBANG CONT...

local market. Vechheka and her grandmother make brooms from palm leaves and sell them for 38c. Vechheka has to climb high palm trees to get the leaves, a very risky job for a small amount of money. Despite their small income, her grandmother still sends Vechheka and her siblings to school. “We don’t want to see Vechheka make brooms all her life. We want to see her have better life in the future,” She said. Vechheka dreams of being a teacher one day. But she’ll need support to transition to secondary school.

Reaksmey is also 14 years old and dropped out of school a year ago. She ran away from her mother, who was often cruel. She now lives with her father, who is kind to her and loves her. His work is irregular. She has a 12 year old step-sister called Channy, who dropped out of school three months ago. Her stepmother has poor eyesight and is finding it difficult to find work. She is actively seeking work now for the two daughters.

Our research trip provided evidence that girls are being trafficked and that our program is needed. In just these 10 communes we assessed, we found three hundred girls currently at risk.