



## **COMMUNITY OVERVIEW**

The Kro Bei Riel Community is a rural community on the outskirts of Siem Reap. Made up of 12 villages, it has 8416 residents. Kro Bei Riel is predominantly an agricultural community, based on rice and vegetable farming and small scale animal husbandry.

Once a strong hold of the Khmer Rouge. Kro Bei Riel like many other rural communities in Cambodia is still overcoming the toll the civil war took. Members of the Community experience significant poverty and hardship on a daily basis. Some of the major challenges faced by families in the Kro Bei Riel Community are - no running water or electricity, impermanent housing, family violence, alcoholism, trafficking, sickness and disease, poor hygiene and nutrition. Lack of employment, sustainability for farming, waste management and community development. For these reasons, families are unable to provide an education and opportunities for their children. When families struggle to provide the basic necessities such as food, clean water, shelter and clothing, education is understandably not such a priority, rather seen as a luxury rather than a necessity. However at SHCC, we believe education is the key to breaking the cycle of poverty and moving towards a self sufficient community.

### **Why was SHCC established?**

There simply were no government support systems, current initiatives or other existing organisations or services to help address the significant issues experienced by rural communities in Siem Reap. What SHCC does is provides opportunity and a starting point for children and their families to improve their lives.

SHCC has full community support for their work and the projects they offer. They are achieving impressive results with their work and accomplishing incredible things for the children, youth and families in rural Cambodia.

### **What does SHCC Offer?**

SHCC offers free educational and vocational opportunities for children and youth, empowering them and giving them hope for a brighter future. We believe education is the key to positive change and breaking the cycle of poverty.



Through educating the younger generations now and supporting children and their families to become self-sufficient, sustainability will be achieved as well as an improved quality of life and a future full of possibilities.

Before coming to SHCC many of our students had never had any social interaction, most could not read or write and many were in extremely poor health and all were victims of tragic circumstances, living in poverty. Their future was bleak, now they are looking forward to a bright future full of possibilities.

In addition to the school environment and community activities SHCC offers for some of our students in unsuitable living situations or poor health SHCC also provides a safe place for them to live.

## **SELF HELP COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Self Help Community Centre (SHCC) is a registered Non Government Organisation (NGO) that provides educational and vocational opportunities to over 1400 disadvantaged children and young adults in the Kro Bei Riel Community, Pouk District, Siem Reap, Cambodia.

### **SHCC Philosophy**

#### **Our Vision**

Equality and Unity within our community, educated children, positive connections between community members, working together for the younger generations.

#### **Our Mission**

To create a capable and self-sufficient community by:

- Providing free quality educational and vocational opportunities to children and youth in rural communities
- Empowering children and young adults to take responsibility for their and their communities future
- Supporting and strengthening children and their families
- Promoting Equality and Unity within the community
- Assisting communities in working towards self-sufficiency and sustainability, working towards breaking free from the cycle of poverty



## Our Values

- Empowerment
- Self-Determination
- Knowledge and Education
- Respect
- The Future

## How does SHCC operate?

SHCC works through an empowerment model at the grassroots level, which maintains all paid employees, are native Cambodians. SHCC has a staff of twenty three. There is a management team of four who oversee all aspects of SHCC's operation. This is lead by the Founding Director, and comprises a Head of Academic Education, Head of Community Development and Finance & Human Resource Manager .

SHCC relies solely on funding and sponsorship from generous international contributors from all over the world and ensure that 100% of the funding goes directly into the SHCC, its projects and the Kro Bei Riel Community. SHCC has no ongoing funding. The majority of our funds have come from past and present volunteers, fundraising efforts and also from successful funding proposals to international grant making organisations.