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Project Proposal

Prepared for: Danish Red Cross

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Grace House Community Centre

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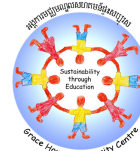
Registered Kingdom of Cambodia Non Government Organisation number 580



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Grace House Community Centre

Kor Kranh Village, Siem Reap, Cambodia

Registered Kingdom of Cambodia NGO no. 580

Mission Statement

Enabling the Community to become Sustainable through Education, Family Support and Health Care.

Vision

In providing opportunities to learn vocational, craft and language skills families will increase their ability to earn an income or run a business, enabling them to become self sufficient. Grace House Community Centre intends to achieve this by supporting families while learning new skills and setting up new business. Offering access to health care, sanitation, clean water, dry homes and micro loans. Educating the children in English Language and ensuring they receive a state education.

About Grace House Community Centre

Grace House opened in November 2008, it is a non political, non religious registered Cambodian NGO no. 580, it is also a registered UK charity through its partner organisation Globalteer, charity no. 1119706.

Contact Details

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1. Organisation

Grace House Community Centre (GHCC) is situated outside Siem Reap on the road to Tonle Sap Lake. Providing a Community Centre for the villages of Kor Krahn, Spean Chreav and Treak where 30% of the population live below the poverty line.

Awarded local NGO status in Cambodia in April 2010. The committee comprises of

Dani Chan (F) Executive Director - teacher

Alan Cordory (M) Vocational Director - former senior civil servant

Bridget Cordory (F) Project Director - former social services and community worker

Jim Elliott (M) Director and Founder - also Managing Director of Globalteer

Mai Mon (F) Director for Women's issues - local mother

Net Chhen (M) Director for Community - local father

2. Context

According to the UNDP 'Cambodia Human Development Report 2007', 35% of the rural population still lives below the poverty line. In Siem Reap province the poverty rate was 42.8% in 2003-4 and only 33.1% have access to potable water. What is surprising is that Siem Reap does not appear near the top on any of the HD (Human Development) indicators; the spinoff effects of tourism do not appear to have benefited the local populace. Human poverty is the highest in provinces around the Tonle Sap, which coincides with the high rate of consumption based poverty levels there.

Although the economic growth rate has almost doubled in Cambodia in the last decade, reaching 4.9 percent in 2004. More than one third of Cambodians live below the poverty line which is set for Cambodia at 1826 Riel (less than US \$0.50). Poverty is especially pervasive in rural areas and among children, who constitute more than half of the country's population.

Regular attendance at school remains limited since children are often expected to stay at home and help their families to generate income. As a result families often can't afford to educate all, if any, of their children and must choose certain children to attend. Boys are more likely to receive education than girls.

An additional problem that occurs frequently is disguised school fees. Although officially free of charge, students are forced to pay school fees to attend the lessons. Since teachers cannot live on their low salary they often request school fees or bribes to pass exams.

3. Background

Since opening in November 2008 GHCC has been successful in raising funds from individual and group donations.

- Funding was awarded by the German Embassy in Cambodia to build and equip the Domestic Electrician's Training workshop.
- 3 classrooms and the library conversion were funded by schools and universities in Canada and Australia,
- 2 classrooms were funded by Lions and Rotary groups (Australia and Holland).
- Toilets, medical room and office by private donations
- House repairs, water wells and toilets installed by private donations
- Water filters for families by a Lions club in Australia
- Woodturning workshop by private fundraising in Australia
- Books for Asia (The Asia Foundation) awarded books for new library
- Funding has just been secured from a local NGO Green Gecko Project to build a workshop for the weaving project, with GHCC agreeing to employ mothers supported by the Green Gecko Project. A new and exciting partnership.

Donations from volunteers, supporters and a sponsor a family scheme help to meet running costs. GHCC employs 7 full time and 9 part time local staff who are supported by 2 local volunteers, 3 long term overseas volunteers and between 4 and 8 short term overseas volunteers. The land is rented on a long term lease renewable every 5 years for 15 duration. All buildings are constructed of metal frames and open sides to allow good ventilation saving on costs of running fans. They can be dismantled and moved to another site if needed.

GHCC runs two programs - **Education and Family Support**. The aim is to enable the community to grow in sustainability; this is achieved through education in the broadest sense.

3 a Education

- English Language and General Education program teaches 250 children and young people a day Khmer teachers are employed and assisted by Western volunteers. In addition to educating the school age children, pre – school children are offered a safe environment to play and learn while their siblings study. Health and hygiene are taught and a sports program is offered.
- Vocational Training in 3 skills - domestic electrician and weaving are currently taught, wood turning will start in January 2011 once machinery is installed. These skills will en-

able employment or a small business opportunity. We aim to provide skills that will give young people and women opportunities for employment outside fishing and farming.

- Adult Literacy classes are available to the villages as many of the children's parents are unable to read or write. This enhances their opportunities of employment and enables parents to assist children with school work. Better educated parents pass their skills on to the next generation. A Community Library is currently under construction and will open in a near future, giving the villages access to Khmer and English language books and newspapers.

3 b Family Support issues are met by assisting families in need with

- Rice aid
- Water wells
- Water filters
- Sanitation
- Sound housing.
- Vegetable growing on GHCC land
- Medical needs are addressed and children taken to Angkor Children's Hospital or the dentist as needed
- Children are encouraged to attend state school and assistance with school uniform, bikes, school supplies and fees enables this
- Micro Loans for small business start ups

The emphasis is on encouraging villagers to be self -sufficient. Working on the 'teach a man to fish and he will support his family, buy the man a fish and he will be hungry the next day' concept. However, GHCC excepts that families need support until such time viable employment and improved farming techniques are available.

4. Proposal

4 a Identified Needs

GHCC is concentrating development on the Vocational Training Program assisting poverty alleviation in two of Cambodia's poorest demographics – disadvantaged and marginalised youth and women. Learning a skills enables greater life choices, financial benefits leading to improved living conditions and healthier lifestyles.

4 b Domestic Electrician and Wood turning

Background

Wiring in Cambodian homes is at best haphazard and at worse extremely dangerous, there are reports almost daily in the local press of death or injury from electrical wiring. The Cambodian government aims to provide all of the country with electricity by 2020 under the Rural Electrification Fund.

The Domestic Electrician course aims to provide young people from disadvantaged and marginalised groups with the skill not only to make a good living but also have the expertise to perform their work in a safe manner. The course is now in its second month, 2 of the students are ex street kids who are sponsored by other NGOs. GHCC has one local young man who needs support and has failed to attract a fourth student due to financial restraints.

The local young man comes from a family GHCC support with rice but there are 7 children and both parents are unable to work due to illness. He is attending classes 9 - 3 then works from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. in a local restaurant to help the family. This is a typical situation for the local students GHCC wishes to attract to the vocational courses. In January it is planned to commence training 6 young men and women in woodturning but they will still need to support their families.

The 6 months woodturning course will teach students to turn bowls and pens together with scroll work. At the end of the course the products will be of marketable quality and students will be able earn a salary. It is hoped that profits from the wood turning products will fund the subsequent courses.

Both courses are taught by volunteer teachers with the assistance of a local translator whose salary is funded by the German Development Agency. The aim is to employ local teachers/instructors in the longterm, making the project sustainable and community led.

Funding Need

To support students undertaking the training.

The Electrician course is 12 months duration, funds are needed for 2 students for 12 months @ \$50 a month \$1,200

The woodturning course is 6 month duration and the finished products will be marketed and sold to tourists in Siem Reap.

6 students for 6 months @ \$50 a month \$1800

Total \$3000

Monitoring

The project will be monitored at 3, 6 and 12 months by

- level of attendance
- progress of students

Evaluation

- Rise in level of household income
- Decrease in family dependancy on GHCC
- Rise in self esteem
- Successful completion of Electricians course and placement in local company or set up of own business
- Income from sell of wood turning products
- Increased literacy and business skills

4 c Women's Weaving Group

Background

In April 2009 local mother showed the project manager her skill of making bags and hammocks from local raw materials and recycled plastic. A class was established to teach other mothers with the aim of supplementing their income. These mothers are all on the 'poverty list', several are single parents and all illiterate. The group now consists of 14 women (2 from Green Gecko Project) who come daily to weave bags. The products are sold in NGO shops in Siem Reap. The women receive a small wage and rice, their children are cared for in a creche. The weaving instructor receives a salary. GHCC has yet to recover the initial set up costs but has established a market for the products. The Artisans Association of Cambodia is interested in promoting our products; there is also interest from shops in the UK and USA. An expat fashion designer donates the fabric for lining the bags and the recently established partnership with the Green Gecko Project has enabled construction to start on a purpose designed building for the women.

The women are currently only able to work for 2 hrs a day Monday – Friday as GHCC can only man the creche for this time. In order to maintain a high standard of work, the bags and hammocks need to be made on site. All the women live in palm leaf houses and do not have the space to keep the products clean, dry and away from rats.

Funding for the project comes from GHCC daily running costs and currently runs at \$50 a month. Production currently averages 10 bags a month and 2 hammocks. The bags are sold for \$12 and hammocks \$15. All profit goes into purchasing new material and the instructors salary.

Funding Need

- To purchase a sewing machine so the linings, currently outsourced, can be completed in house, giving greater quality control.
- To employ a local marketing and quality control person to move the production forward. This person will initially be assisted by a western volunteer with experience in this field.
- To establish a support group for the women, many of whom are subject to domestic violence, offering workshops/short courses on child care, women's health and women's rights
- To employ an additional creche worker so working hours and production can be increased

Monitoring

The project would be evaluated at 3, 6 and 12 months using the following criteria

- The increase in output

- Raised standard of goods produced
- Profit to be reinvested into the enterprise
- Regular attendance

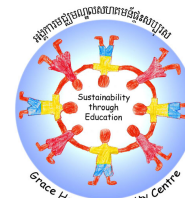
Evaluation

- Rise in families living standards
- Rise in awareness and life skills
- Decreased dependency of families on rice aid from GHCC
- Increased literacy and business skills

Fund

Reconditioned electric machine sewing machine	\$200
Workshops for women on child care, women's health, domestic violence to be outsourced from NGOs in Siem Reap working with women's rights estimated \$150 a course	\$600
Creche worker 12 months @ \$30 a month	\$360
Weaving Instructor full time (1/2 funded by GHCC) @\$30 a month	\$360
Marketing and Quality Control 12 months @ \$100	\$1200
Adult literacy tutor for all vocational training 12 months @\$50	\$600

Total \$3320



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Budget

Item	Cost	Source of Funding	Duration	Amount requested
Trainer Electrician	\$0	Volunteer	12 months	\$0
Trainer Wood turning	\$0	Volunteer	12 months	\$0
Translator	\$70 a month	German Development Agency	12 months	\$0
Electricity	\$50 a month	Private donor	12 months	\$0
Trainee Sponsorship Electrician	2 @ \$50 a month=\$100		12 months	\$1200
Trainee Sponsorship Wood turning	6 @ \$50 a month = \$300		6 months	\$1800
Sewing Machine	\$200		one off	\$200
Weaving Instructor p/t	£60 a month	\$30 met by GHCC	12 months	\$360
Crèche worker p/t	\$60 a month	\$30 met by GHCC	12 months	\$360
Marketing and Quality control officer f/t	\$100 a month		12 months	\$1200
Women's Workshops	4 over 1 year @ \$150			\$600
Adult Literacy tutor	\$50 a month		12 months	\$600
			Total	\$6320

Summary

Objective

To relieve poverty amongst the poorest in the villages of Kor Krahn, Spean Chreav and Treak.

Solution

In providing achievable training GHCC will enhance the life skills and employment opportunities of 30 families over the course of one year. The benefits of these families increased earning capacity will generate prosperity in the local community. The families will enjoy better health and increased self respect as they will have the means to provide for themselves.



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Appendix i

Grace House Community Centre Budget

November 2008 - November 2009

Income		Expenditure	
	\$22,960		\$18,171
Held in reserve	\$5768	Balance	10,557

November 2009 - September 2010

Income		Expenditure	
	48,666		38,133
		Balance	10,533

Appendix ii



Grace House Community Centre



Classroom - electrical and wood turning workshops are completely enclosed for security reasons



**Domestic Electricians
and Weaving**

