

Youth Star News

April 2017



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Welcome to the New Cohort 24

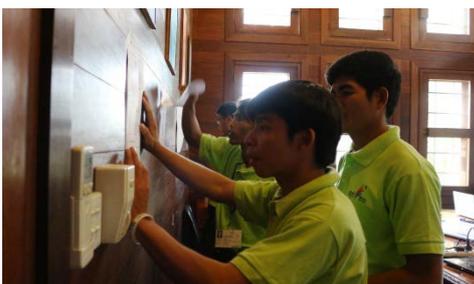
Youth Star would like to announce the successful recruitment of 8 new volunteers for a one year community volunteer placement. Cohort 24 will be working across Kratie and Prey Veng provinces to carry out the Youth Star vision. The process began with several rounds of January and early-February recruitment announcements. This process was followed by four rounds of selection interviews, prior to the final offers.

Having completed their pre-departure training in early-March, Cohort 24 is now settled into their communities and on their way to making a real sustainable change.



Cohort 24 and PO Mr. Thang Makara during their placement

End-of-Service Training for Cohort 22



Cohort 22 during their practice to apply for job announcement

March marked another successful transition for Youth Star Cambodia with volunteer cohort 22 completing their volunteer service in the community, paving the way for their successors in

cohort 24. In consolidation of their achievement they were invited to attend our End-of-Service training from March 13 – 15, 2017 at the Youth Star office.

The main purpose of this training is to develop post-service employability: covering interview and application skills, service-reflection, and personal growth consideration.

The first day training began with reflection on their time in the community; the challenges, successes, and solutions they faced. Later in the day, the feedbacks on their one year service were shared amongst the group to outline their considered

performance, and work to identify the means to improve or capitalize on it moving forward.

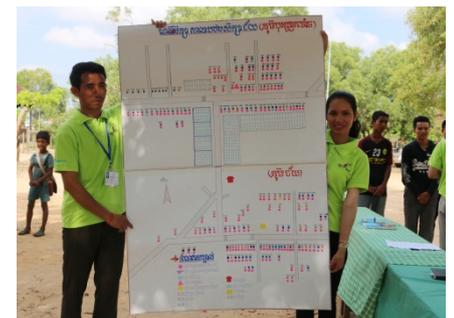
The next day, Youth Star Cambodia was pleased to welcome trainers from HRInc. Cambodia, BDLiNK, and National Employment Agency (NEA) who offered our volunteers training on technical skills on how to professionally write cover letters and CV's, alongside a presentation on the qualifications that employers are seeking from applicants.

After going through two days of reflections, feedbacks, and theory, the last day allowed them to put what they have learnt into practice. They were asked to write CV to apply for actual job announcements. Afterwards, program officers and volunteers performed an interview role-play. During this activity, they were videotaped so that it could be replayed later for everyone to watch and give their opinions, comments, and advice.

In celebration of their successful completion of a one year volunteer service with Youth Star Cambodia, a dinner party was prepared to allow everyone to enjoy themselves. In the end, Youth Star Cambodia would like to say thank you to volunteer cohort 22 for their hard works and crucial contribution to the communities in which they served.

Successful School Mapping: Kompong Thom

Youth Star Volunteer cohort 23 based in Sala Visai, Doung, Prey Kuy and Trapeang Ruessei communes collaborated with eleven local schools from various school clusters on school mapping. Six of the schools are located in Bos Veng, three in



School Mapping drawn by Mr. Sienlong and Ms. Sreytov

Doung, one in Prey Kuy, and the last one in Samroung school clusters. Owing to close cooperation, eleven school mappings were successfully produced with more accurate and specific location and identification of each targeted person, particularly Out of School Children (OSC). This consequently allows the schools to easily identify, intervene and follow up with these children. According these eleven school mappings, there are 164 Out of School Children (with 63 being female) who have been identified and intervened. So far, among 164 OSC, 56 children with 20 being female have been reintegrated into school. To encourage these 56 children to further remain in school and

inspire other OSC to get back into class, award granting ceremony for OSC was held to reward these children with school uniforms, shoes, stationeries, and shampoos.

Sokunpharady's Trip to New York

In January 2017, Program Officer Ms. Kao Sokunpharady travelled to New York City in the USA as Cambodia's Youth Representative for the 2017 Economic and Social Council



Ms. Kao Sokunpharady at UN Headquarter in New York, USA

(ECOSOC) Youth Forum on "The role of youth in poverty eradication and promoting prosperity in a changing world." The platform allows young people to engage in a dialogue to promote innovative approaches and initiatives for advancing the youth development agenda at all levels, and to launch ideas and initiatives for collective action for people, planet, peace and prosperity.

Equally as special was the opportunity for Ms. Sokunpharady to enjoy her first plane ride, and visit some world-famous New York sights.

Youth Star Cambodia would like to take this chance to thank UNFPA and UNDP for offering this opportunity for our program officer.

Youth Star's Strategic Planning

Following the successful recruitment and placement of Volunteer Cohort 24, Youth Star Cambodia has entered an extensive and ongoing phase of strategic planning. Having effectively consolidated our program objectives across the last three years it was time to plan for the ongoing and increasing success of the organization. The process began during the annual board meeting with the identification of time frames and target areas, and was furthered with the insight of our team. Acting in her capacity as the new Chairperson, Mrs. Sharon Wilkinson led the staff in an organizational objectives group working session to identify the current competencies, weaknesses, and desired outputs moving forward. These areas covered four key areas of the organization; financial, program, operational, and people. Moving forward Youth Star has begun to develop its strategic plan to best develop our impact within Cambodian Youth Volunteerism.

Board Changes

Youth Star Cambodia's Annual Board Meeting 2017 witnessed key developments in the organization's personnel at board level. Board Chairperson and Youth Star founder, Ms. Eva Mysliwec, oversaw her final board meeting. Ms. Eva's vision, dedication, and continued support have ensured Youth Star Cambodia's continued contribution as a facilitator for sustainable community and individual development through volunteerism and stakeholder engagement. We all wish her the absolute best

moving forward, and look forward to her continued oversight from the soon-to-come 'advisory panel'.

It was also a final board meeting for valued members Ms. Patricia Baars, and Mrs. Soheat Chi. Their valued engagement, support and advice throughout their time on the board has been immensely beneficial. We wish them our best wishes as they move forward.

Stepping into the role as Chairperson (in its new 'year-rolling' form) is Mrs. Sharon Wilkinson. Nominated by her peers, Sharon enters the role with a wealth of experience and support within the organization.

We welcome our two newest board members. Mr. Sou Savorn to us as a former Youth Star volunteer, and Mr. Greg POLK. With extensive experience, expertise and passion for the organization, Youth Star Cambodia is well served moving forward to its next stage.

Support Us

Donating to Youth Star Cambodia

Partner with Youth Star in bringing transformation to the lives of our volunteers and the communities where they work.

Sponsor a Volunteer

Sponsorship provides greatly required funding in an underserved field. Beyond the ability to engage with and develop a volunteer, your contribution directly benefits the lives of hundreds of children with precious little else. At costs of (US)\$3,500 per volunteer per annum, Youth Star provides necessary training, supervision and support, in addition to recruitment and placement. Whilst costs can be calculated, the potential is immeasurable.



Please contact us to arrange for your contribution:

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