

## HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUTH STAR CAMBODIA

September 2020 marks the 15th year since the beginning of Youth Star Cambodia that was initiated by Ms. Eva Mysliwiec in 2005.

Fifteen years ago, Eva felt strongly that Cambodia's young people could be a powerful resource for addressing their country's most pressing social issues and for contributing to the development of the country. Alongside this, Youth Star has become a place to build human resources, capacity and leadership, developing young Cambodians to fulfill professional careers.

### *The Story of Change of Phat Sat*

*By Long Sok Chea, Youth Star Volunteer based in Kampong Thom*



Phat Sat is a 12-year-old boy living in Koh Samrong village, Por Pork commune, Staung district, Kampong Thom province. Born into a poor family of three children, Phat Sat is the second child who entered the first grade at Sambour Primary School in 2017 and dropped

out in 2018 due to nephropathy. His illness was in a better condition in 2019, but he did not return to school, but instead, he had to help his parents with farming.

On Saturday, February 15, 2020, I visited Phat Sat's family in Koh Samrong village. I went to talk to Phat Sat and found out that he was an out-of-school kid. I immediately comforted and persuaded him to return to school, but he said, "No, I'm busy going to work on the farm with my parents."

On Saturday, February 22, 2020, I went to Koh Samrong village again. We sat and talked about life, study, and other issues for almost an hour together. When I was ready to go home, I tried to persuade him to go back to school again, emphasizing the importance of education and promising to provide him with the study materials and encourage other children to do the same. Then, he also said that he would go and ask for permission from his parents to go back to school. If his parents agreed, he would go to see me at school on Monday, February 24, 2020.

Finally, his parents allowed that, and he came to see me at school. Then, I took him to see the school principal, and the principal let him get into grade 2. And Phat Sat told me he would try his best to keep up with his study.

### Pre-departure Training Cohort 33

Youth Star Cambodia would like to announce the successful recruitment and placement of 12 new volunteers to serve their one-year service in our target communities.

The Pre-departure Training for our new cohort (5 males and 7 females) was conducted from 21 to 26 September 2020 at our Youth Star Office.



Team building activity during the training

Pre-departure training is a crucial period for equipping volunteers with the skills and confidence they need before heading to their communities. It covers areas such as community mobilizing, leadership, conflict solving, communication and networking.

We would like to thank our organization partners, SIPAR, for providing a technical training session for our volunteers. We also would like to thank to Azahar Cambodia for providing a Yoga exercise for our Youth Star volunteers.

Following pre-departure training, Youth Star Cambodia held a closing ceremony in Phnom Penh to celebrate the success of the training completion of our new volunteer cohort.

The team has been placed to serve communities of Prey Veng, Kampong Thom, and Kratie provinces. We would like to congratulate them and wish them a successful journey.

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## End of Service Training Cohort 29 & 30

Youth Star Cambodia would like to congratulate our volunteer Cohort 29 & 30 for their successful completion of one-year voluntary service. The group was placed in Kampong Thom province on 01 October 2019 and successfully finished their one-year service on 30 August 2020.



Group photo of Cohort 29 & 30 after the training

As part of successfully completing the service, the volunteers were invited to join a three-day End of Service Training at Youth Star office. This allowed them to develop their post-service employability covering job interview and application skills, and giving them an opportunity to reflect on their service and personal growth.

The training provided our volunteers with technical skills to professionally write cover letters and CVs, along-side a presentation on the qualifications and attributes that employers are looking for.

Youth Star Cambodia is proud to see the fruitful results of their efforts in both the communities and their personal development. We wish them a bright future.

## Training on Vlogging for Youth Star Volunteers

On October 27, 2020 Youth Star Cambodia successfully delivered training on Vlog under the topic "Community Vlog" at Youth Star Office to our volunteers currently serving in the communities.



Group photo after the training

The training involved a total number of 24 Youth Star volunteers from the target communities in Prey Veng, Kampong Thom, and Kratie provinces.

The purpose of the training is to deliver knowledge on Vlog, for them to identify actions and milestone to function their vlog, and for them to be able to create their own Vlog to highlight their work in the communities. This training is funded by Transparency International Cambodia.

## 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 under-served 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 living allowance, necessary training, supervision and support, in addition to recruitment and placement. Whilst costs can be calculated, the potential is immeasurable.



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