

SE Asia Foundation
Caring for Cambodia, Siem Reap
Grant Proposal Unfunded Project
May 2023

Project Fund: CFC Preschool Program

Beneficiaries: 12 CFC Preschool and kindergarten program, children 3-6 yo, family caregivers and village leaders in Siem Reap

Background: Caring for Cambodia is a non-profit organization that serves 7,000 students from Preschool-12th and is dedicated to improving the quality of education in Cambodia. With a strong focus on gender equality and female empowerment, CFC strives to ensure that all children, regardless of gender, have equal access to quality education and that our teachers have the resources necessary for success. Girls make up fifty percent of Caring for Cambodia's 7,000 students.

There are many barriers to education in a developing nation such as Cambodia, barriers that seem insignificant to us but loom large in the lives of CFC students. One of those barriers is access to early childhood education.

Thanks to our 12 preschools and kindergarten program, CFC is a national leader in early learning. Our preschools lead the country in best practices and early enrollment, making it more likely young students will stay in school, achieve, and go on to graduate.

Designed to support mothers and teach them skills they were not able to learn from their own families due to genocide and poverty, CFC provides children and families with resources for health, nutrition, early skills-building, and more.

Often operating in community centers or space donated by a village leader, CFC teachers provide children and families with resources for health, nutrition, early skills-building and more. CFC schools enroll more preschoolers than five other provinces combined. 93% of CFC preschool parents enroll their children by age 5, compared to just 33% nationwide.

Project Goal: Ensure access to quality preschool and kindergarten education for as many Cambodian youth and families as possible. Empower CFC and local educators with innovative teaching techniques and resources to give Cambodia's most disadvantaged communities the tools necessary to rise out of poverty by shifting rural parents' attitudes, expanding engagement with the community, and creating sustainable change.

*The first five
years have so
much to do
with how the
next 80 turn
out.
~Bill Gates*





Project Funding Options:

- One School Year support for CFC Preschool and Kindergarten Program: \$43,651.50
- One Quarter/ year support for CFC Preschool and Kindergarten Program: \$11,000.00

- Large and small group lessons at our preschools
- A preschool curriculum for both caregivers and children: child development, early literacy and numeracy, first aid, and more
- Family support through home visits and community meetings
- Library with preschool resources
- Teacher training and designated ECE mentor teacher

ECE PROGRAM BUDGET	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	TOTAL
ECE	\$11,535.00	\$10,001.00	\$11,103.50	\$11,012.00	\$43,651.50
Kindergarten Supplies	\$1,291.00	\$594.50	\$989.00	\$690.00	\$3,564.50
Kindergarten Transport	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$144.00
Teacher Training	\$544.00		\$544.00		\$1,088.00
Preschool	\$1,183.00	\$859.50	\$1,053.50	\$1,805.00	\$4,901.00
Srash Srong	\$432.00	\$462.00	\$432.00	\$432.00	\$1,758.00
Staff Salaries	\$8,049.00	\$8,049.00	\$8,049.00	\$8,049.00	\$32,196.00

Specific Deliverables:

- **Foundation for Lifelong Learning:** Preschool education is a critical foundation for a child’s lifelong learning journey. Research consistently shows that children who attend preschool person better academically, exhibit greater problem-solving skills, and have improved social interactions.
- **Gender Equality and Empowerment:** CFC’s Preschool education program can be a powerful catalyst for advancing gender equality and empowering girls and women in Cambodia. We address existing gender disparities in education and challenge harmful stereotypes. When females have access to quality early education, they gain confidence, self-esteem, and a sense of empowerment, enabling them to break free from traditional gender roles and contribute to society as leaders, decision-makers, and change agents.
- **Health and Well-being:** Preschool education enhances cognitive abilities and promotes all children's overall health and well-being. The CFC ECE program provides essential knowledge about hygiene, proper nutrition, and disease prevention.
- **Social Cohesion and Sustainable Development:** Investing in preschool education fosters social cohesion and contributes to sustainable development in Cambodia. By promoting equitable and inclusive access to education, we build a more cohesive society that embraces diversity and fosters harmony.