

Safe Kids Thrive



Phnom Penh, Cambodia

3 Year Project: March 24 - February 27

Total Budget: \$152,000



Combatting Trafficking

Year 2 Budget: \$50,000

Overview

This project supports vulnerable and exploited children living in high-risk communities across Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, where poverty, violence, and trafficking are prevalent. Through 44 established Kids Clubs and Youth Programs, children access safe spaces where they can build trust and begin healing.

Creative Adventure Play (CAP) therapy is integrated across all activities, using play, sport, and creative expression to help children process trauma in age-appropriate ways. The program also strengthens community engagement through regular family visits and local outreach, helping prevent further exploitation.

Impact for March 2025 - February 2026

1000 Children in Kids and Youth programs



built safe, trusting relationships with staff, often beginning to share their experiences of trauma through play. A further 157 children engaged in soccer and Krav Maga programs, using physical activity as a healthy outlet to process difficult emotions. Through sport and movement, they not only released stress and trauma, but also developed strong, supportive relationships with coaches who acted as consistent mentors and positive role models.

157 children met with counselors

Through CAP therapy, children used movement, play, and creative expression to safely process their trauma. For some, this healing journey led to remarkable courage. 30+ children are testifying against their abusers in court. This bravery has resulted in two perpetrators recently being convicted and sentenced to prison, demonstrating the powerful role of CAP in both healing and justice.

157



300 Families of children who received CAP services



are supported through regular home visits, where staff check in, offer care, and build strong relationships. As children process their emotions through play, families experience improved wellbeing and healthier interactions at home. Many parents have shared noticeable positive changes in their children since joining CAP programs.



Rina's Story

Rina (name changed), a young girl living in extreme vulnerability, was identified through an international investigation into online child exploitation. Hidden in plain sight, she faced ongoing abuse with little hope of escape.

Through Creative Adventure Play therapy, staff gently built a relationship of trust with Rina. In the safety of play, she found the courage to begin sharing her story, something she had never been able to do before. Her disclosure became the turning point, enabling authorities to identify and arrest the perpetrator.

Today, Rina is safe. While her healing journey will take time, she is no longer alone. With continued trauma-informed care, she is beginning to rediscover safety, trust, and hope.

This is the power of CAP - creating safe spaces where children can be heard, protected, and begin to heal.

Thank you for enabling hope in hard places