

Keep Me in School



Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Education

3 Year Project: Jan 2024 to Dec 2026

Total Budget: \$110,000

Year 2 Budget: \$39,000

Overview

Our partner works in the slum communities of Phnom Penh, supporting families and children who have not yet entered, or are at risk of disengaging from, formal schooling. Children with a strong motivation to learn are identified and supported from primary school through to university and beyond.

This work is delivered through community-based activity centres that form a core part of the Education Program. The centres provide tutoring and remedial support in Khmer and basic Mathematics, a safe space for homework, and enrichment activities such as English, Computer Skills, Art, Music, and Sports.

Impact for January - December 2025

Providing quality after-school programs

Over the past six months, Flame's Afterschool Program supported 351 students in Grades 1–6, providing structured, high-quality learning alongside their government school program. Students attended three-hour sessions, four days a week, where they received support in reading, writing, basic mathematics, and life skills, helping them maintain steady academic progress.

Through this consistent support, children made steady gains in literacy and numeracy, while also developing important life skills, confidence, and strong interpersonal abilities. The program ensured that students were fully supported in their studies, contributing to 100% of participants successfully passing their grade level.

Beyond academic achievement, the program fostered self-confidence, resilience, and a belief in their ability to succeed, preparing students not only to excel in school but also to engage positively with their communities.

- The project responds to the urgent need for education in slum communities, enabling children to reach their potential while reducing their vulnerability to risks such as trafficking. Many former students are now succeeding at university, with graduates actively contributing back to their communities.
- Increasing enrolment and long waiting lists demonstrate both the program's positive impact on academic outcomes and the strong demand from local families.

351



Chea You Eer's Story

My name is Chea You Eer. I am 12 years old and in Grade 6. I have two younger siblings. My father is a tuk tuk driver and my mother works in a factory.

Before joining Flame in Grade 1, I struggled with reading, writing, and math. I didn't understand my lessons, my handwriting was poor, and I was too shy to speak in class. My family couldn't afford extra classes, so I had little support at home.

Flame gave me a safe place to learn with teachers who explain things clearly and encourage me when I make mistakes. They reminded me to practise at home, and slowly my skills and confidence grew.

Now, after five years at Flame, I feel happier and braver. I can read, write, and do math much better, and I am no longer afraid to ask questions. My teachers' kindness has made a big difference, and it inspires me to become a teacher one day.

Thank you for enabling hope in hard places.