

TABITHA - CAMBODIA
UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF SOUTH EAST ASIA
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR AUGUST 2008 – JULY 2009

Executive Summary:

Tabitha is a sustainable non-profit organisation with minimal overheads and running costs. All funds are used to help the poorest people in Cambodia by running self-help programs focusing on personal and financial development. Tabitha does not give out money. Participants raise money through micro financing schemes where families are given interest free loans. The small profit made from the Cottage Industry program covers Tabitha's administrative expenses. All donated funds are used for specific purposes (e.g. for houses or wells) or are used to allow Tabitha staff to expand development programs to more villages in more provinces.

Case / Mission Statement:

Tabitha's philosophy of self-help is designed to promote self sufficiency and dignity through savings, counselling, and goal setting programs. More importantly, they have achieved a sense of dignity and with their heads held high can now look into the future and see hope for their families.

Description of Programmes, Services & Activities:

Tabitha's main activity is the savings program (Family Partnerships). Before joining Tabitha many families have no savings or may only save a few cents each week as the average family earns less than \$1(US) a day. Through interest free loans, people set goals to make their lives better.

Outcomes / Impact of Activities:

Tabitha staff make weekly visits to families in the program to offer support and collect the savings. After 10 weeks, the families are paid 10% interest on their savings – they use the money to buy items they need thus achieving their initial goals. Then they start the cycle again, with new dreams and goals. Families graduate from Tabitha in 5 - 7 years, after which they have enough food, clean water, shelter and a sustainable source of income.

Future Plans:

Raise funds and awareness for Tabitha.

In particular continue Project Partnerships which include:

- Family Partnership programme
- Wells
- Pigs and animal husbandry
- Handicraft sales (linked to SAS)
- Housebuilding (Grade 8, FIB and Grade 11; Women; Staff)

Fact Sheet:

Total Number of Beneficiaries: over 600,000 since Tabitha was founded in 1994

Estimate of Amount Raised: annually around S\$60,000 to \$90,000

Estimate of Funds Disbursed: \$60, 000 to \$80,000

Estimate of Total Number of Fundraising Activities Conducted by the IPAC initiative: Sponsored Fasts / Candy Cane Sales / Mini Marathon / Sports Event supporting stalls / Community Fairs

Estimate of Total Participation from Students, Parents and Teachers: over 200

CONTACT DETAILS			
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