



# KHMER LOWELL

## ខ្មែរ ឡូយ៉ែល

Edition 12 July 2000

CMAA Quarterly Magazine

**Happy  
Khmer New Year  
of the Dragon!  
2000**

**សួស្តីឆ្នាំពោឃ!  
ឆស ២៥៤៤**

Highlights in this issue:

This is definitely  
Graduation Season!...

Post Khmer New  
Year Festival 2000  
at the Tsongas Arena...

Violence Reflective  
of our Society...

CMAA Programs  
& Services...

Light of Cambodian  
Children Activities...

Youth Peer Leaders  
Receive Community  
Award in Boston...

S.E.A. Water Festival...

And other News...



Students of the Employment Services Program graduate from their job trainings, see p. 13



Right:  
This is a picture taken from the graduation ceremony from the Comprehensive Outreach Education Program (COEC) on April 13, 2000. Of this group, the following are from the CMAA's Board of Directors and Staff: Mr. Seang Sak, Ms. Lillian Pelletier, Ms. Chenda Soth, Mr. Sovann Kheam, and Mr. Samuth Koam.

នេះជារូបភាពបង្ហាញអំពីបុគ្គលិកសមាគមខ្មែរដែលបានទទួលសញ្ញាប័ត្របញ្ចប់ការសិក្សា ផ្នែកចំណេះដឹងក្នុងទ្វេ  
Comprehensive Outreach Education Program នៅមជ្ឈមណ្ឌលបម្រើសុខភាព កាលពីថ្ងៃទី១៣ មេសា ឆ្នាំ២០០០។  
នៅក្នុងនេះគឺមាន លោក សាំង-សាក់ លោក សុវណ្ណ ហាម អ្នកស្រី លីលាន លោក សាមុត គម និង កញ្ញា ចិន្តា សុត។



Students from Lowell H.S. come to CMAA to Job Shadow



CMAA's Aquaculture Project

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 បានចូលរួមជាបុគ្គលិកនៃក្រុមសហគ្រាសយើង

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# សមាគមខ្មែរក្រុងឡូឡើង

សមាគមខ្មែរ ផ្លូវចាកសិន  
បុគ្គលិកស្រីប្រុស ចាំត្រៀមត្រា

ខ្មែរលាវយួនចិន ចូរយាត្រា  
បងប្អូនត្រូវការសូមឈាងចូល។

មិនសំរាប់តែ ខ្មែរប៉ុណ្ណោះ  
ក៏អាចឈាងចូល ជួយមិនក្រែង

ទោះស្រីប្រុស ជនជាតិផ្សេង  
ត្រជាក់ក្រែលែង មិនហត់នឿយ។

យើងមានគ្រប់ផ្នែក សំរាប់ជួយ  
មិនចាំបាច់មាន Skill ចំណេះ

ការស្រណុកស្រួល តាមយើងចេះ  
យើងខំគិតរិះ ជួយគ្រប់ប្រាណ។

យើងមានផ្នែកជួយ រកការធ្វើ  
ចង់ចូលសញ្ជាតិ ជាស៊ីទិសែស

បើចំណេះស្ទើរ បង្រៀនថែម  
ជួយជនរាប់សែនមិននឿយកាយ។

យើងរួមលើកស្ទួយ សង្គមខ្មែរ  
រួបរួមសាមគ្គី ជាចំណេះ

ភាគតិចស្រុកគេ តែខ្មែរចេះ  
មិនស្ងៀមមិនតិះ ខ្មែរជាតិឯង។

យើងជនជាតិខ្មែរ ឈាមជ័រខ្មែរ  
ទាំងអក្សរសាស្ត្រ រូបរាងមុខរូងរឿង

ត្រូវតែខំថែ ជនជាតិយើង  
អរិយធម៌ច្រើន ដូចអង្គរ ។

រៀបរៀងដោយ យាម សុវណ្ណ

## Congratulations to the Peer Leaders of the CMAA Youth Group!

**They received the Outstanding Community Youth Leaders award for "having the courage and heart to take the best from the past while leading the way to the future."**

**The award was given in Boston on June 30, 2000 by:**  
**Health Care for All,**

**Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition, the DPH Refugee and Immigrant Health Advisory Committee, and the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health/ Refugee Committee.**



We would like to give best wishes to Lorraine Cordeiro who has left the Youth Services Program in order to study in the fall, Alison Gervais who has left the Young Parent Program to take care of her newborn baby, and Lillian Pelletier who's gone up one floor to Clarendon Day Care.

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**Khmer Lowell Magazine** is a quarterly publication published by the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA) of Greater Lowell, Inc.

All articles published represent the views of the authors; they do not necessarily represent the views of the CMAA or its funders. Your contribution such as articles, folk stories, modern fiction, poems, news, etc. are happily and gratefully welcomed. Please, limit the document to 1-3 (11x8) pages, and make sure to include the author's name, address, telephone, and signature of the responsible person.

Khmer Lowell Magazine committee reserves the right to publish an entire document and/or in part based on space and budget, and all those articles shall become the legal property of the Khmer Lowell Magazine.

Besides, we would like to ask for your good heart to help us by subscribing to, or advertising in the magazine. Your generosity is needed to help us continue in publishing this KL Magazine. The subscription rate is \$14.90 per year, including shipping and handling. Thank you!

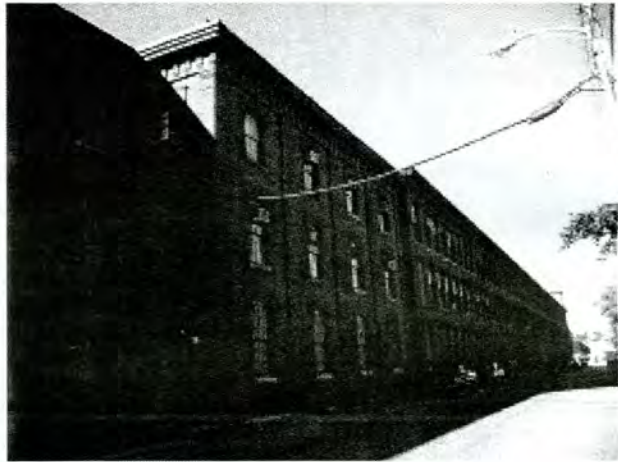
ឧស្សាហកម្ម វិទ្យុស្ត្រី ត្រូវបានរៀបចំដោយសមាគមខ្មែរប្រចាំក្រុងទ្វីប ជាដំបូង រាល់ត្រីមាស។ អត្ថបទទាំងឡាយដែលបានបោះពុម្ពផ្សាយទាំងនេះ គឺមិនមែនជារបស់សមាគមខ្មែរ ឬក្រុមហ៊ុនណាមួយ ក៏ដូចជា គ្រឹះស្ថានណាមួយនៃសមាគមខ្មែរ ឬក្រុមហ៊ុនណាមួយនៃសមាគមខ្មែរឡើយ។

ជំនួយដ៏វិភាគទានរបស់លោកអ្នក ទោះជាអត្ថបទ រឿងនិទានផ្សេងៗ ប្រលោមលោក កំណាព្យ ឬជាព័ត៌មានផ្សេងៗ គឺយើងខ្ញុំទាំងអស់គ្រប់គ្នាស្រឡាតមន់ និងសូមអរគុណជាដាច់ខាត។ ដោយទំព័រ មានចំនួនតិច យើងខ្ញុំសូមកំរិតនៃអត្ថបទ ទាំងឡាយត្រឹមតែពី ១-៣ ទំព័រ ហើយត្រូវភ្ជាប់មកជាមួយនូវ ឈ្មោះអ្នកនិពន្ធ អាសយដ្ឋាន លេខទូរស័ព្ទ ព្រមទាំងហត្ថលេខារបស់អ្នកនិពន្ធផងដែរ។

ចំពោះអត្ថបទទាំងឡាយណាដែលយើងបាន ឬមិនបានបោះពុម្ពផ្សាយទាំងស្រុងក្តី (ដោយ អាស្រ័យទៅលើមតិរបស់អ្នករៀបចំកិច្ចការ) គឺត្រូវបានក្លាយជាកម្មសិទ្ធិរបស់ទស្សនាវដ្តីខ្មែរទ្វីបទាំងអស់។ យើងខ្ញុំសូមលោកអ្នកបញ្ជាក់ឱ្យបានច្បាស់លាស់ទៅលើការអនុវត្តន៍ដោយអចេតនាទាំងឡាយណា ដែលកើតមានឡើងដោយកង្វះបច្ចេកទេស ទេពកោសល្យ ឬចោលខ្លួនផ្សេងៗ ជាដើម ។ ល។

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CMAA Building Donated by Courier Corporation

Photo by Sophy Theam



A shot from the Community Education Forum on 1/21/00, organized by Light of Cambodian Children and the CMAA.

Photo by Sothea Chiemruom

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Welcome again to another edition of the Khmer Lowell Magazine, a quarterly publication published by the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA) of Greater Lowell, Inc. In each and every issue, we try to communicate with our community members, supporters and friends about the different things that we at the CMAA are working on and/or plan to do in the near future.

For the past several months, we have been quite busy with numerous projects at the CMAA. One project that I'd like to share with you is our Community Services Employment Program (CSE), which is being funded by the Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR). Because of the tremendous success of this program, the federal government has increased the funding from \$623,000 to \$1.5 million a year. There are over 150 people who have benefited from this program. Another program is the Massachusetts Self-Sufficiency Program (MSSP), which is also funded by ORR through the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI). The MSSP has been helping hundreds of Cambodian and Southeast Asian people in getting meaningful jobs with livable wages and excellent benefits. More than 350 people have benefited from this program and a lot more are on their way to achieving economic self-sufficiency, which is really the main goal of the program as well as a much-needed achievement for our community members. Yet another successful program is the Youth Services Program, which is serving more than 450 youth through a wide range of activities, from social services, educational, cultural, recreational, multimedia, to employment and community services. One of their most recent activities was with the U.S. Census 2000 bureau in the effort to promote awareness through the Community Outreach and Educational Program. Our Youth Peer Leaders and adults walked every streets in Lowell and knocked on hundreds and thousands of doors to encourage people, particularly those of Cambodian, Southeast Asian and Latino descents, to respond to the U.S. Census 2000 questionnaires. Now, they are involving in the CMAA's Summer Camp better known as the Future Stars program, which use sport, educational and recreational activities as ways to counterattack negative influence and gang involvement. There are close to 200 youth ages 7 to 16 enrolled in this summer program. Many thanks to the Red Auerbach Youth Foundation, the City of Lowell, United Way of Merrimack Valley, Theodore Edson Parker Foundation, Stevem Foundation, and many more generous individuals who helped make this summer program become a reality for our youth.

Other significant achievements worth mentioning here also are 1) a new five-year funding from the Massachusetts Department of Education to provide Bilingual/Native Language Literacy; 2) a two-year grant from the Freeman Foundation to continue the Project LEAD (Learning English to Advancement), which is a workplace English program targeting Asian refugees and immigrants to access to education and economic opportunities; and 3) a three-year Community Technology Center funding from the Federal Department of Education to expand the CMAA's Computer Lab/Training Center that will be further equipped with computer systems, multi-media capacity, and connected with DSL Internet that will allow staff, youth, adult students and community members alike to learn new technological skills, surf the World Wide Web, and access the Superhighway information. The CMAA is committed to help bridge the digital divide by working closely with the Lowell Telecommunications Corporation and the Lowell Technology Consortium, to expand and establish between 8 - 10 computer centers throughout the Lowell community.

On the building development aspect, we have been making more progress as well. We have just finished the first phase of the facade improvement with a \$200,000 grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the City of Lowell's CDBG. Now, with another \$260,000 loan from the Boston Community Capital Loan Fund, Inc., we are in the midst of renovating approximately 3,800 square feet space on the first floor in an area right behind our Komar Day Care Center into a "West-Meets-East", or known as the "Metta Health Center" for the Lowell Community Health Center, which already secured additional funding from the federal governmental agency to provide health and mental health services for the Southeast Asian community in the Greater Lowell area. The Metta Health Center will be operational and providing services to the community by September 2000.

Also, the CMAA is in the midst of a Capital Campaign with our goal of raising \$1.5 million to renovate approximately 20,000 square feet of space on the second and third floors of the CMAA's building on 165 Jackson Street into a Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center. Much of the work will be into building a new service core that include a passenger elevator, stairway, lobby, restrooms, offices, arts and dance studios, music recording studio and performance stage/multi-functional hall that will allow youth and elders as well as community members alike to have access for social and cultural gatherings. The Capital Campaign is scheduled for completion by June 2001, while the Center itself will be completed by the end of 2001.

Step by step, we will be able to complete the entire building development project as a "One-Stop" Center for the Cambodian community, offering social, educational, cultural and economic development programs and services. And together, we will make a big difference for our community.

Once again, thank you for your continuous support and guidance. We would like to invite you to get involved in our Capital Campaign Project so that we can physically develop the Family and Youth Center for the Cambodian and Southeast Asian community in Greater Lowell. If you have a chance, please stop by for a chat and enjoy our humble exhibition of different instruments and artworks from Cambodia. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Samkhann C. Khoeun, Executive Director



Photo by Rady Mon

**Meditation Sessions**  
 Every Sunday  
 4:00pm to 6:00pm  
 CMAA  
 165 Jackson Street, 3rd Floor  
 Lowell, MA 01852  
 For more information,  
 please call Tom Stylos at (800) 308-3700

# The President's Note

It seems like yesterday, but we are already half way into the year 2000. Time is really flying fast and just like everything else around, we have to move along accordingly, or else, we will be left far behind.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you and friends for supporting and making the Khmer New Year Festival at the Tsongas Arena a big success despite a short time spent on organizing the event itself. Of course, I did not get the actual count, but reliable sources indicated that there were about 6,000 people attended this event on April 8, 2000. We hope to have yet another successful event again in April 2001.

We have been, thus far, blessed with good board and staff members who have been working very hard on different projects, from social services to cultural celebrations, to hosting distinguished visitors and dignitaries, to receiving awards and recognition. Our organization has been visited by high profile guests such as His Excellency Eng Roland, the Ambassador of the Royal Government of Cambodia to the United States; His Excellency Uoch Borith, the Ambassador of the Royal Government of Cambodia to United Nations; His Excellency Sam Ramsey, member of Parliamentary of the Royal Government of Cambodia; His Excellency Veng Sirivuth, minister of Tourism of Cambodia; His Excellency Thong Khon, Secretary of State of Cambodia; His Excellency Sambo Chey, Under-secretary of state of Cambodia; Prince Norodom Sirivudh; His Excellency John Kerry, US Senator; Maha Ghosananda, the author of "Step-by-step" and the leader of Dhama Yeatra; Ms. Yolanda King, the daughter of Civic Right leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other important dignitaries and individuals, just to name several in the past six months.

Within the next few months, the CMAA will be involved in a number of exciting projects, including the Lowell's Folk Festival, which is scheduled for July 28-30, 2000; the Southeast Asian Water Festival; which is scheduled for August 19, 2000; the CMAA's 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in late October 2000; and other activities to promote our cultural heritage as well as to celebrate our community achievements.

Likewise, and more than ever, we are committed to developing resources, programs and services to serve our community members and other minority groups so that they can achieve their economic self-sufficiency as well.

Clearly, we cannot achieve these milestones without your continuous support and guidance as we are now moving forward in leading our community into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We still have a long way to go, but we are committed to learning, listening, and serving our community the best way we possibly can.

Once again, thank you so much for your generosity and collaboration in helping the Cambodian American community of Greater Lowell and others.

Sincerely,

Bunrith Lach  
President of CMAA's Board of Directors



L-R Front: Councilor Rithy Uong, Dr. Sovann Kheam, Sak Seang, Lillian Pelletier, Prince Norodom Sirivudh, Samuth Koam, Mel Mon, Samkhann Khoeun, and Sothea Chiemrhom. L-R Back: Mark Goldman, Vincent Un, Thirith Hut, Danny Div, Margaret Tham, Jenny Lee, Pov Ye, and Bunrith Lach

6/28/00

## សមាគមខ្មែរ

ទេសភាពនៅតាមដងស្ទឹងម៉ារីម៉ាខនៃនិទាយ: រដូវដែលស្រស់ស្រទន់  
ប្រៀបបីដូចជាបុគ្គលិកស្ម័គ្រចិត្តដែលចេះកែច្នៃនិងពត៌បន្លន់  
នូវពេលវេលាផ្ទាល់ខ្លួនឲ្យក្លាយជាសារៈប្រយោជន៍នៃសហគមន៍ដោយទន់ភ្លន់។

ក្លិនក្រអូបនៃផ្កាម្លិះ គឺក្រអូបប្រហើរ តែជាប់យូរ  
ហាក់បីដូចបុគ្គលិកទាំងអស់របស់សមាគមខ្មែរទូទាំងដែលតស៊ូ  
ហើយដែលខំធ្វើការទាំងយប់ទាំងថ្ងៃដោយមិនទារអ្វី។

គ្រប់ជោគជ័យនៃកម្មវិធីដែលមានបំរើនៅសមាគមខ្មែរទូទាំង  
គឺកើតឡើងដោយសាមគ្គីភាពរវាងប្រជាជននិងបុគ្គលិកដែល  
មិនចាំតែមើលបំណាំ គ្រប់អស់ទាំងជននៅក្នុងនិងក្រៅក្រុងទូទាំង។

បុណ្យអុំទូកក្តី បុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំក្តី គឺកើតឡើងដោយភាពឈ្លាស់វៃ  
និងដោយភាពស្នេហាវប្បធម៌របស់បុគ្គលិកនិងខ្មែរប្រុស-ស្រី។

វេហាស៍ខៀវស្រលះ ខ្ពស់សន្តិម បីដូចជាក្តីសង្ឃឹមនៃប្រជាជនខ្មែរ  
ដែលនៅក្នុងថ្ងៃណាមួយនឹងអាចជួយកែប្រែ  
និងកសាងនូវវឌ្ឍនភាពសំរាប់គ្រួសារនិងសង្គមយ៉ាងដូច្នោះដែរ។

នាងខ្ញុំជាតំណាងសមាជិកនៃទស្សនាវដ្តីខ្មែរទូទាំងទាំងអស់  
សូមលើកហត្ថាប្រណម ប្រគំប្រាមដប់ ឧទ្ទិសមិនចំពោះ  
សូមសុភមង្គលកើតមានជូនគ្រប់លោកស្រី-ប្រុស។

ធម្ម-ឡារីន  
នាយិកាទស្សនាវដ្តី

On behalf of the committee of the Khmer Lowell Magazine, I would like to give my respect, thanks, and love to all of Khmer Lowell Magazine supporters. There are many of you out there who are so generous and have a good heart toward our work—CMAA's work. We are not only honored by having your advertisement in our magazine, but some of you even go further by giving your donations to the Khmer Lowell Magazine and, especially, to the whole CMAA organization. Just to name a few at this time are Attorney At Law- Thomas Stylianos, Superwash Laudromat- Marty Conley, and Lowell Walk In Medical Center- Dr.Tamarin

Once again, thank you to the Committee and the supporters for bringing this Khmer Lowell Magazine to serve the community. Please, keep up with the great work.

May you all have a very good and safe summer!!!

Margaret Tham  
Editor in Chief

## The Editor's Word

As part of life, everyone has his/her own duties to accomplish. Parents try their best for their children's sake; civic leaders work hard to improve the condition of their community's life; business owners think all day and night searching for ways to bring profit in; not to be out of the living society, birds travel thousands of miles just to fill up their tiny stomachs.

Because of a combination of the above reasons, the CMAA staff, paid or volunteers, full-time or part-time, work hard from Sunday to another Sunday without any complaint. They want to provide a good start to their next generation. They want to give prosperity to their community. They want to bring profits to their own society, and they also want to feed themselves so they can be alive and continue doing all of the great works. They do all of these not only for their Cambodian community, but also for the rest of the community living in the United States and outside of the country as well.

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**Sambath Keo, D.M.D.**  
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**Vanthan Un, Esq.**

# Community News

On behalf of the CMAA's organizing committee for the Khmer New Year Festival 2000, we would like to thank the many volunteers, contributors, and supporters who helped to bring the event at the Tsongas Arena to a reality. With this being the largest indoors Khmer New Year celebration that the community has seen in a very long time, we would like to acknowledge the approximately 6000 individuals--young and old alike - who gave life to the festivities by being there and enjoying the various performances and cultural presentations. Thank you all for your support. We hope to turn this event an annual event with even more exciting shows and performances in store.

Once again, we would like to thank the following individuals, organizations, and companies that have made a huge difference in the turnout of the Khmer New Year Festival 2000:

1. Congressman Marty Meehan, Member of US Congress
2. H.E. Reichelderfer, US Consul, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
3. H.E. Uoch Borith, Cambodian Ambassador to UN
4. H.E. Eng Roland, Cambodian Ambassador to US
5. MassBank
6. Amara Fashions Boutique
7. Pailin Supermarket
8. New England Employment Network, Inc.
9. Third-Rail Wireless Services
10. Blaine Beauty Academy
11. Mr. Kimsok Koam, Stage Designer/Artist
12. Ministry of Culture, Cambodia
13. Tsongas Arena Management
14. Peter Aucella, Lowell Historic National Park
15. The Mayor's Office, Lowell
16. The City Manager Office, Lowell
17. Lowell Police Department
18. Khmer TV Program
19. Khmer Community Network
20. Lowell TeleCommunications Corp.
21. Rady Mom Studio/Photography
22. Ms. Kanarath An
23. Angkor Dance Troupe, Inc.
24. Friendship Dance Troupe
25. KimKhaleyan Bridal Services & Gowns
26. Ms. Somaly Hay
27. Massachusetts Cultural Council
28. All the models
29. Youth performers
30. Ms. Sek Serey Rath, Mr. Sophea Davit, Mr. Preap Sovath, and Mr. San Phanith of Cambodia.
31. Mr. Chath pierSath
32. And many other businesses, organizations, and individuals for their support and participation.

Stay tuned for the Khmer New Year festivities of April 2001!



L-R: Sek Sereyath, Preap Sovath, Samkhann Khoeun, Monica Am, San Phanith, Sophea Davit; Photo by Rady Mom



Modern fashions designed by Jean-Timmi Lach; Photo by Rady Mom

## សកម្មភាពសមាគមខ្មែរធ្វើបុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំថ្មី នៅពហុកីឡដ្ឋានសុងហ្គាស (Tsongas Arena) កាលពីថ្ងៃទី៨ ខែមេសា ឆ្នាំ២០០០

អ្វីដែលអស្ចារ្យគឺអ្វីដែលប្លែក។ អ្វីដែលចម្លែកគឺអ្វីដែលធ្វើឲ្យគេនឹកស្មានមិនដល់។ រឿងដែលសមាគមខ្មែរធ្វើបុណ្យអុំទូក (Water Festival) រហូតដល់បានធ្វើឲ្យទីក្រុងទូទាំង ក្លាយជាទីក្រុងលេខ១ (All America City) ក្នុងសហរដ្ឋអាមេរិក នោះគឺជារឿងមួយដែល ធ្វើឲ្យមានការភ្ញាក់ផ្អើលល្បីរន្ទឹមទៅហើយនៅចុងសតវត្សទី២០នេះ។ បន្ថែមពីលើទៅទៀត គឺនៅដើមសតវត្សរ៍ ទី២១នេះដែរ សមាគមខ្មែរក៏ទទួលបានជោគជ័យច្រើនមួយទៀតគឺការធ្វើ បុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំថ្មីមហាស្រុកពហុកីឡដ្ឋាន New Year Festival ។ ស្តាប់ឮទៅ Water Festival និង New Year Festival ដូចជាជាប់សាច់ញាតិបងប្អូននឹងគ្នាទេដឹង? ពេញ! បងប្អូនឬមិនបងប្អូន យ៉ាងណានោះ ខ្ញុំសូមទុកជូនមិត្តអ្នកអានធ្វើការពិចារណាតាមការតតុះ! តែសូមត្រូវរើង ចក្ខុក្រវែមទៅមើលបុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំនៅពហុកីឡដ្ឋានមើលតើមានសកម្មភាពយ៉ាងណាដែរ?

ប្រមាណជាមួយអាទិត្យកន្លះមុន គឺថ្ងៃទី៨ ខែមេសា ឆ្នាំ២០០០ នេះ គឺមានលេចពាក្យ ចម្រើនអាណាគមន៍ក្រុមប្រឹក្សាប្រឹក្សាមានអសន្តិសុខ ដែលជាហេតុធ្វើឲ្យបងប្អូនខ្លាចរអា ព្រួយបារម្ភក្រៃលែង។ ស្ថិតនៅចំពោះមុខការគំរាមកំហែងដ៏គួរឲ្យភ័យខ្លាចនេះ សមាគមខ្មែរ ក៏បានប្រឹងដោះស្រាយដើម្បីរក្សាសន្តិសុខយ៉ាងពេញទំហឹងនិងដោយប្រុងប្រយ័ត្នជាទីបំផុត។ មិនយូរប៉ុន្មានថ្ងៃទី៨ មេសាក៏ចូលមកដល់។ ទាំងបុគ្គលិកទាំង គណៈកម្មាធិការនាយកហៅថា Board of Directors ក៏បានទៅជួបជុំគ្នានៅពហុកីឡដ្ឋានដលោម៉ោង ៨:០០ព្រឹក ដើម្បីរៀបចំ គុបតែងកន្លែងធ្វើបុណ្យតាមមុខនាទីរៀងៗខ្លួន ដូចដែលមិត្តអ្នកអានបានឃើញនៅទំព័រ ទី១០នៃទស្សនាវដ្តីលេខមុនស្រាប់។ ក្រុមប្រឹក្សាសមាគមខ្មែរបានប្រកាសទាំងក្នុងទាំង ក្រៅ។ ទាំងប្តីលីស ទាំងសមាគមខ្មែរ សុទ្ធតែប្រកបដោយវិទ្យុទាក់ទងគ្នាគ្រប់ៗទៅ។

ការរៀបចំគុបតែងនេះចេះតែប្រព្រឹត្តទៅជាលំដាប់។ បុគ្គលិកម្នាក់ៗធ្វើការរៀបចំខ្លួនយ៉ាងស្នាហាប់និងដោយ យកចិត្តទុកដាក់ជាទីបំផុត។ ពួកអ្នកដឹកចេញដូចជា លោក អ៊ិន ប៊ុណ្ណា លោកផល យិន និងខ្ញុំជាទីដើមកំ ខំដឹកចេញមិនឲ្យគាំងដំណើរទេ។ ចំណែកក្រុមអ្នក រៀបចំលក់គ្រឿងឧបភោគនិងបរិភោគឯណោះវិញក៏ ចេះតែប្រព្រឹត្តទៅជាបណ្តើរៗដោយទឹកមុខរីករាយ សើចក្លាក្លាយសប្បាយខ្សៀវខ្សា ធ្វើឲ្យទិដ្ឋភាពនៅក្នុង ពហុកីឡដ្ឋានកាន់តែប្លែកកាន់តែល្អ និងកាន់តែកុះករ ជាបន្តបន្ទាប់។

តាមកម្មវិធីត្រូវចាប់ផ្តើមនៅម៉ោង២រសៀល ប៉ុន្តែ កម្មវិធីនេះត្រូវបានរៀបចំឡើងទៅមុនបន្តិចព្រោះនៅម៉ោង១ រសៀល ក្រុមប្រឹក្សាសមាគមខ្មែរបានសុំឲ្យអ្នកនៅ ក្នុងពហុកីឡដ្ឋានទាំងអស់ចេញទៅក្រៅដើម្បីធ្វើការពិនិត្យក្រែងមានរឿងអាស្រូវផ្សេងៗ។



Angkor Dance Troupe: Sovann Macha; Photo by Rady Mom





# CMAA's New Year Celebration

## Tsongas Arena on April 8, 2000



What is unusual is amazing. Something that one cannot realize of accomplishing is different. CMAA's organization of the Water Festival to helping the City of Lowell gain the recognition of All-America City are a couple of things that have gotten the attention from the community at the end of this past twentieth century. But in the beginning of this second millennium, the CMAA has accomplished yet another feat, that is the Khmer New Year Festival. Doesn't the Water Festival and Khmer New Year Festival sound like they are related? I will leave it up to the readers to find out what kinds of activities took place at the Tsongas Arena.

About a week and a half before the 8th of April, 2000, there were rumors that there will be mishaps at the arena that would cause chaos and insecurity, causing some people to be afraid of what may take place at the New Year Festival. At this time, the staff of CMAA tried the best they can to ensure safety for the community. In a short time, April 8th arrived. Then, both staff and board members of CMAA met at the Tsongas Arena at 9 o'clock in the morning to set up for the festivities and make sure that everything will proceed smoothly. The police were standing guard in just about every corner that may be considered a dangerous place. And both the police and staff held walkie-talkies for communication purposes.

Each staff member paid attention to their own duties during the set up process. The truck drivers such as Vincent Bona Un and Mr. Paul Yin and I tried not to slow down the process of setting up. As for the



vendors of merchandise and food, they proceeded with their booths with smiles and laughter as things got better and more people entered into the scene.

Events were supposed to begin at 2pm. However, they were delayed a little because the police department and security wanted to check that all the people who had entered the arena were clean of weapons and any harmful items. At this time, the outside had a cheery atmosphere. Everyone approached others to see how they were doing. "Are you OK?", "Which state are you from?" Some said they were from Maine, while others said they came from New York, Rhode Island, Florida, California, and Canada. Just a bit further, young girls and boys or young men and women held hands, walking or sitting together with their partners or friends in enthusiastic crowds. How appropriate of an atmosphere to the weather outside. Young children on the other hand were chasing each other all around, making me remember of the time long ago when I used to do the same thing.

As I was still trying to think of the old days, the doors to the arena suddenly opened for the public at 2pm, a sign that the security crew has finished making sure things were safe inside the arena. The people squeezed into the doors to get in. Those who did not purchase tickets yet went to the ticket lines while those who had tickets in their hands went to the entrance area at the stairs to find seats. But before they can proceed to the seating areas, they had to be checked with security wands that would detect any weapons. Let's leave the lobby area of the arena and go to the inside where the activities were happening. What kinds of things were taking place?

Look at that, the food and merchandise vendors as well as the information booths were competing for customers and guests to go to their respective booths. The seats were arranged in a semi-circle, the usual arrangement for such a place. At one end of the seating was one large stage. On the stage was a decorated background consisting of doors of a prasat that were painted by the staff and volunteers of the CMAA, with Mr. Kim Sok Koam as the leading artist. This beautiful stage was made even more lively by the colorful dancing stage lights.



The backstage area consisted of numerous rooms where all of the performers and artists were getting ready for their acts and shows. In front of the stage were arranged between four and six hundred seats for those who had purchased VIP tickets. Behind these chairs was a



place for the young children to play along with the accompanying music. More people, young and old, continued to come into the arena. Some saw each other for the first time in a long time and stopped to see how the other was doing. some walked around, looking

at what was available at the booths while others bought delicious food from the vendors to eat or searched for good seats in the arena. At this point, I noticed there were some minor problems. That is, the chairs in front of the stage were not set up on time causing some to not be seated. Because of this, I would like to apologize on behalf of the staff of the CMAA, and would like to ask for the forgiveness from those who felt inconvenienced.

At the same time, boys and girls played traditional games like Chaul Chhoung (throwing a cloth), Leak Kanseng (hiding a handkerchief or scarf), and Tort Sey (Khmer hackey sack made with bird feathers) until 3:40 p.m. On stage, the Chhayam group beat their drums loudly so that everyone would know the ceremony has started. Just about a minute after, Chhayam dancers came out. In their colorful traditional costumes, the dancers dance along the sound of the drum. The combination of the chorus, the music, and the movement of the dancers—shaking their body, shoulders, and their head, made the performance very lively. The audience watched without blinking; some even forgot to eat the popcorn that they were holding in their hands. As well, uncles and aunts who are vendors at the booths up on the second level no longer took notice to their customers; all they cared at that moment was to watch the Chhayam performance.

When the Chhayam ended, Samkhann Khoen, the Executive Director of the CMAA, came onstage to give a warm welcome to the audience. Then, he asks four monks, the Venerable Sao Khorn-Kerth Sambo - Kun Sen Socheat- and Path Sophal, along with Muth Song to ascend onto the stage and do



a blessing for this new year. After the monks had provided the audience with their blessing, the Angkor Dance Troupe and the Friendship Dance Troupe performed the following dances: the Blessing Dance and Robam Phoung Neary. These in turn were followed by dignitaries' remarks, including words of welcome by Mr. Rithy Uong, Lowell's Khmer-American City Councillor. As for the rest of the special guests that were on stage, one at a time they expressed their enjoyment wholeheartedly that they even tried to say "Suosdei Chhnam Tmey" (Happy New Year).

The exiting of the dignitaries offstage brought the Friendship Dance Troupe once more onstage where they performed Bopha Lokei, a dance consisting of beautiful young girls, and a folk dance called Robam Kaen.



After the dancers left the stage, the Lakkaun Basaak, a type of Cambodian Opera, was presented. The actors and actresses performed one act that showed a prince bidding farewell to the hermit, his master, to be on his way to the Royal City. The prince met his love with the daughter of the great Yak, the cannibalistic people who can turn into giants. The Yak came just in time and fought with him in a great battle until the Yak accepted his defeat. At the beginning just the Yak's footsteps caused one side of the sky to rumble. But when the Yak cried that he was the CMAA Yak, the audience were so enthralled that some exclaimed that the CMAA Yak was not only just big in size and small in heart. As for Ah-Kang, the hermit's boy, he is not big in size for nothing. Before leaving, he applied for SSI for his master. To conclude the one act opera left the audience with something unusual but impressive in their minds.

When the Basaak Opera was over, other performers came on stage to entertain the guests with poetry reading, an educational comic act, more traditional dancing, and a fashion show displaying clothes from different eras and for various occasions, until the Sava band began playing music for the guests to dance until 11 o'clock at night, when the entire event came to a close. But when you turn to watch the staff of CMAA you will see that they tried very hard to fulfill their responsibilities for the event without end and without taking a rest. Even when the event ended, the staff stayed in order to break down and clean up the arena until 1 am when everyone was sure everything was in place and that there was no need to worry anymore.

written by Sak Seang  
translated by Sophy Theam



Right: Miss Sek Sereyath

Left: Ms. Bopha Neang in Wedding Dress

Photos by Rady Mom



Seasia with Preap Sovath, Sophea Davit and Arn Chorn-Pond



Friendship Dance Troupe waiting to perform "Bopha Lokei"



Bara Loeum in Farmer's Clothes



Left Top Corner: San Phanith

Above right: Arn C.P. and Miss Sek Sereyath



Left Bottom: Sophea Davit

Right: Annie Sek in costume for the Angkor Era Fashion Show.

Photos by Rady Mom



Many thanks to the Board of Directors, Staff members of CMAA, and Volunteers for making this Khmer New Year Festival 2000 a success!



As an update for the community, Light of Cambodian Children (LCC) is still accepting donations to fund the Cambodian American Scholarship Program for Khmer high school seniors who plan to continue their education within one year of graduation.

Light of Cambodian Children (LCC), a non-profit and non-governmental organization, hopes to bridge the gap between the different Khmer generations so that we can be a part of the healing process in the aftermath of civil strife. LCC will build a future based on non-violence, caring, and understanding among Cambodian youth in the United States as well as providing humanitarian relief for children in Cambodia.



LCC members meet with UYCAF (United Young Cambodian Americans Foundation) in Maryland for Khmer New Year, 4/16/00

Light of Cambodian Children (LCC) have just recently finished the election process for 2000-2001. Announcement of the new officers will be made public at an Awards Banquet, to be scheduled for August. Please look out for information regarding this event. Aside from that, many members worked very hard on preparations for the Upward Bound (UB) Workshop for July 4, 2000 at UMass Amherst. The committee worked intensively to research and do a two hour presentation on Cambodian culture and traditions, educating the 80 Upward Bound Program students who range from the eighth through the twelfth grades and who come from Lynn, MA. The workshop was a great success! And on July 18th, LCC will present a similar workshop, but this time on our organization for the Fall River Upward Bound students. On July 7-9, a group of LCC members and several high school age students attended the National Landmine Conference in Washington D.C.

LCC also held our first (hopefully it will be our annual) successful Soccer Tournament at the South Common Soccer Field in Lowell, MA. This event brought many teams together to play for the same goal which was to raise money that will contribute to our mission. Everyone had a great time even the organizers. This experience will definitely be a plus for LCC members in the future.

LCC members are very happy to be able to fund two Khmer high school graduates to continue their education. This scholarship fund was made possible through fundraising activities and individual in-kind donations. We LCC members cannot reiterate enough how much we appreciate any kind of donation. The (2) two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) will definitely assist Khmer students in some of their educational expenses such as books and supplies. We hope to increase the amount given out in the coming years. LCC's scholars will receive their scholarship award in our upcoming Awards Banquet.

CMAA Youth and other youth programs mingle after an LCC Basketball & Volleyball Tournament held at Northshore Community College, Lynn, MA 4/29/00



Photo by Sophy Theam



Sopheap Theam manning the LCC info table at the Sports Tournament 4/29/00

Photo by Sophy Theam

LCC, as part of our mission statement to assist Cambodian children in Cambodia who are victims of landmine and civil strife, was able to send \$300.00 to Cambodia. Through Arn Chorn Pond, a founder and a member of Cambodian Volunteers for Community Development (CVCD) in Cambodia, the \$300.00 made an impact in the children of the Cambodian Street Children Assistance. The money assisted street children in obtaining their basic needs such as food and shelter. It also assisted in purchasing school supplies such as books and book bags.



Last but not least, LCC members would like to thank all the teams for their participation, good sportsmanship, and volunteering efforts in the soccer tournament. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the Water Festival on August 19, 2000.

Pov Deborah Ye, Chair  
Cambodian American Scholarship Program  
Light of Cambodian Children

To Make Donations,  
please send checks to:  
LCC  
P.O. Box 369  
Lynn, MA 01905

WWW.LCCWEB.ORG

### ទូក-ង ឧត្តម!...

- \* ខ្ញុំ!ខ្ញុំ! ទូក-ងបរវរសម ខ្ញុំសែនរីករាយក្នុងទីយា ទូក-ងឧត្តមសមសោភា បានជួបព័រងារគ្រានេះម្តង ។
- \* ខ្ញុំ!មហារីកយប់ពណ៌លឿន មានតែអ្នកហើយដែលខ្ញុំបីង បុព្វមានប្តូរទិញអ្វីមួយស្តង អ្នកជាចំណងមិត្តភាពថ្មី ។
- \* សូមអ្នកមើលហ្នំព័នក្មេងចាស់ បានមកជួបជុំជូនពរថ្ងៃ មានច្រើនជាតិសាសន៍ណាពិសិ ទុកជាសាក្សីភក្តីស្តេហ៍ ។
- \* សូមឲ្យកល្យាណបានសុខុម យើងសូមសម្រាប់ស្តេហ៍ ជាមតិកខ្មែរកេរ្តិ៍ដំណែល ។
- \* ជាអនុស្សាណាព្រលឹង មានតែអ្នកហើយជាដំណែល ម៉ារីម៉ាកស្ទឹងក្រុងឡឆ្នើម ខ្មែរក្រុងឡឆ្នើមចារប្រវត្តិ ។
- \* ហេតុនេះខ្មែរអើយស្រស់ពាលពៅ យើងមានវប្បធម៌ជាបន្ទាត់ ពីថ្ងៃនេះទៅពេកក្លាត់ ខំសាងប្រវត្តិខ្មែរប្រពៃ ។
- \* ទើបខ្មែរឆោមឆាយសប្បាយសព្វ ទូក-ងឧត្តមខ្ញុំកវី នៅទីបញ្ចប់សូមជូនជ័យ សូមជូនពរជ័យក៏ទូករ ។
- \* សូមមានកម្លាំងណាពន្លក សូមឲ្យអ្នកមានសុខភាពល្អ សាងបុណ្យអុំទូកយើងបរវរ មិត្តភាពស្មោះសតទៅអើយ!... ។

ដោយលោក ស៊ាង ស័ក្តិ

# Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations and best wishes to the following achievers:



Completion of the Parenting Skills Class of the Family-Based Services Program  
Cycle I: March 22-May 24, 2000

Am Chak  
Chy Song  
Luk Chhoun  
Sophay Srey



Graduates from Lowell High School: Champe Pang, Phea Kim, and Savath Phan who will be attending Middlesex Community College in the Fall; Hieng Chhay and Ann Marie Kim who will be attending University of Massachusetts Lowell in the Fall; and Savoan Moua.

Sophath Phiang for completing his GED and who will be attending Brandeis University this fall.

នេះគឺជាគំនូរដ៏ល្អដល់បង-ប្អូនខ្មែរគ្រប់រូប ត្បិតថាមិនមែនតែអ្នកដែលមានជីវិតរុងរឿង ឬបញ្ញាវាងវៃនោះទេដែលអាចសិក្សាបាន ទោះជាអ្នកដែលល្ងង់ ឬក៏មានបញ្ហាលំបាកនៅក្នុងជីវិត ទាំងផ្លូវកាយនិងទាំងផ្លូវចិត្តក៏ដោយ ឲ្យតែចេះតស៊ូ នោះគង់តែបានសំរេចដូចចិត្តជាមិនខាន។ សមាគមខ្មែរសូមជូនពរជ័យគ្រប់ប្រការដល់សិស្សដែលរៀនចប់ថ្នាក់ទាំងអស់នេះ សូមអ្នកទាំងអស់បន្តនូវការតស៊ូដ៏ល្អនេះតទៅទៀតចុះ...



Congratulations to Sarom Seth who had worked very hard for her education. She was awarded a certificate from her Computer Class on April 29, 2000.

សូមសរសើរដល់នាងសេត- សារ៉ុម ដែលបានខិតស្វ័យយ៉ាងខ្លាំងនៅក្នុងការសិក្សារបស់នាងនេះ។ នាងបានទទួល សញ្ញាបត្រផ្នែកកុំព្យូទ័រកាលពីថ្ងៃទី២៩ខែមេសា ឆ្នាំ២០០០។ ទឹកមុខដ៏ស្រស់សប្បាយរបស់សារ៉ុម គឺបញ្ជាក់នូវការពេញចិត្តចំពោះការដ៏ល្អដែល នាងបានធ្វើឲ្យខ្លួននាង នេះ។

After rain, the sky is cleared!!!... While struggling very hard to improve his life, he had used his time wisely in his job training. Sophal Ou receives two certificates in Computer Class and Soldering Class. Great job Sophal! Keep working on it.



ក្រោយភ្លៀង មេឃ ស្រលះល្អ!!!... គេបានខំពុះពារគ្រប់ឧបសគ្គដើម្បីកសាងជីវិតគេឲ្យបាន ប្រសើរឡើង។ គេបានភ្លៀតទៅរៀនមុខវិជ្ជានៅសមាគមខ្មែរ ហើយគេក៏ បានជោគជ័យដូចក្តីប្រាថ្នាមែន។ អ៊ូ-សុផលទទួលសញ្ញាបត្រដោយទឹក មុខរីករាយ។

She was always tired and sleepy from her work, yet she still came to the CMAA for her class.



Keang Ea while working as an electronic worker (third shift), she was also a student of the Computer Class at CMAA. She persevered with the education for her life and for her family.

ភ្នែកបើកសឹងមិនរួចព្រោះអត់ងងឹយដោយធ្វើការនៅវេលយប់ ហើយពេលចេញពីធ្វើការគឺខំរត់មករៀនរាល់ព្រឹកទៀត...។ នេះជាការតស៊ូរបស់នាងយៀង-វិទាដើម្បីជីវិតរបស់នាងនិងគ្រួសារ។

### Graduates from Employment Services Program

#### Computer Class:

1. Victor Khamphilavanh
2. Sarom Seth
3. Chitavong Boutsabouabane
4. Keang Ea
5. Sophal Ou
6. Em Pehn
7. Sambath Boeun

#### Soldering Class:

1. Sophal Em
2. Sophal Ou
3. Steven Sam



### អត្តាធិប្បាយបុណ្យវិសាខបូជា

ដោយ លោក សាំង-ស៊ីក្សី

បុណ្យវិសាខបូជា គឺជាបុណ្យប្រពៃណី ព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនាតាំងពីបូករណកាលរហូតមកម្ល៉េះ។ ដូចនេះ យើងមិនត្រូវយល់ច្រឡំអំពីប្រពៃណីជាតិ និងសាសនា ឡើយ។ ប្រទេសខ្មែរយើងបានប្រកាន់ខ្ជាប់នូវបុរាណ យ៉ាង គឺជាតិ សាសនា និងព្រះមហាក្សត្រ។ ជាតិ សាសនា មហាក្សត្រ គឺជាស្ថាប័នដាច់ពីគ្នាដែលមានបន្ទាត់គោលការ រចនាសម្ព័ន្ធច្បាប់ និងប្រពៃណីរដ្ឋបាល។

ព្រះមហាក្សត្រឬស្តេចសោយរាជ្យមាន ទសពិធរាជធម៌, មានរាជប្រពៃណីពិធីច្រកព្រះនង្គ័ល និងទ្រង់ព្រះពន្លឺពាក់រំលេចពណ៌តាមថ្ងៃនីមួយៗ។ ជាតិគឺជាប្រជាពលរដ្ឋ ប្រជាជន ឬប្រជាស្រ្ត ហើយមាន ច្បាប់ពលរដ្ឋយ៉ាង ដូចជាការស្លៀកពាក់ទៅតាមធនធាន កាលៈទេសៈ ទីកន្លែង និងបុណ្យចូលឆ្នាំជាប្រពៃណីជា ដើម។ ឯព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនាដែលមានព្រះសង្ឃជាតំណាង នោះវិញ គឺ មានធម៌សិក្ខាបទ២២៧ ដូចជាការស្លៀកពាក់ ស្បែកទឹកក្រវាញ និងមានបុណ្យវិសាខបូជាជាប្រពៃណីជាដើម។ បុណ្យវិសាខបូជា គឺជាបុណ្យដែលព្រះសង្ឃដឹកនាំធ្វើឡើង ដើម្បីរំលឹកដល់ថ្ងៃដែលព្រះពុទ្ធ ទ្រង់ដាក់ព្រះពន្លាយសង្គម ចូលនិព្វាន (ឬថា បរិនិព្វាន ចូលទីវង្គត់ សុគត ឬស្លាប់) នៅថ្ងៃអង្គារ ១៥ កើត ខែវិសាខ ឆ្នាំម្សាញ់ មុនគ្រិស្ត សករាជ ៥៤៥៤ឆ្នាំ។

ដូច្នេះហើយបានជាបុណ្យវិសាខបូជាតែងតែ ប្រព្រឹត្ត ទៅរៀងរាល់ថ្ងៃ១៥កើតខែវិសាខនៃឆ្នាំ នីមួយៗ។ តាមធម្មតា ព្រះសង្ឃថ្វាយបង្គំព្រះរតនត្រ័យ សមាធិ ចម្រើនព្រះបរិត្តនិងសម្តែងធម៌ទេសនា អំពីព្រះពុទ្ធប្រវត្តិ តាំងពីដើមរហូតដល់ចប់ ឬថាតាំងពីថ្ងៃប្រសូត្ររហូត ដល់ថ្ងៃបរិនិព្វានដែលជាថ្ងៃ១៥ កើតខែវិសាខនេះឯង។ លុះដល់ថ្ងៃស្អែកឡើង ជាថ្ងៃ១អាចទើបឆ្លងជាកិច្ចបញ្ចប់ បុណ្យវិសាខបូជាដោយបរិបូណ៌ និងជាថ្ងៃចាប់ផ្តើម បន្ថែមព្រះជន្មស្សា ឬព្រះជន្មាយុ ឬអាចព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនា ១ឆ្នាំទៀតរៀងទៅ។

ពំនោលខាងលើនេះ លោក-អ្នកក៏មិនត្រូវភ្ញាក់ ធ្មេញឬច្រឡំអំពីការចាប់រាប់ឆ្នាំតាមរបៀបព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនា ព្រះពុទ្ធសករាជ និងចូលឆ្នាំខ្មែរដែរ ព្រោះទាំងនោះមាន កាលបរិច្ឆេទខុសគ្នាទាំងអស់។ តាមធម្មតា ចូលឆ្នាំខ្មែរ គឺចាប់រាប់នៅថ្ងៃ១កើត ខែមិគសិរ ដែលជាប្រពៃណីចូល ឆ្នាំថ្មីរបស់ជាតិខ្មែរ។ ប៉ុន្តែការចាប់រាប់ព្រះពុទ្ធសករាជថ្មី តាមមហាសាស្ត្រនោះវិញ គឺធ្វើនៅថ្ងៃឡើងសក គឺថ្ងៃទី១៥ ឬ ១៦ ឬ១៧ មេសា ដែលជាប្រពៃណីកំណត់របស់ក្រុម មហាសាស្ត្រ។ ឯព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនា ចូលឆ្នាំថ្មីគឺចាប់រាប់ពី ថ្ងៃ១អាចខែវិសាខតទៅ គឺជាប្រពៃណីព្រះពុទ្ធសាសនា ដែលមាន ព្រះសង្ឃជាអ្នកដឹកនាំ ឬនិយាយម្យ៉ាងទៀតថាៈ ព្រះសង្ឃចូលឆ្នាំថ្មី នៅថ្ងៃ១អាចខែវិសាខនេះឯង ហើយលោង។

### ជំងឺស្ទះសរសៃឈាមខួរក្បាល (Stroke)

Stroke គឺជាជំងឺម្យ៉ាងដែលមានទំនាក់ទំនងយ៉ាងជិតស្និទ្ធជាមួយនឹងសរសៃឈាម ដែលភាសាខ្មែរហៅថា៖ ការស្ទះ សរសៃឈាមនៅក្នុងខួរក្បាល។ Stroke គឺជាជំងឺដែលមានគ្រោះថ្នាក់ជាទីបំផុតដល់ជីវិតមនុស្ស។

- មូលហេតុដែលបណ្តាលឲ្យមានជំងឺ Stroke
- មូលហេតុទី១ ដោយសារជាតិខ្លាញ់នៅក្នុងឈាមច្រើន ហើយបានកកផ្តុំគ្នានៅសរសៃឈាម ក្នុងខួរក្បាល។
- មូលហេតុទី២ ដោយសារជំងឺលើសឈាម។ បើមនុស្សចាស់ មានជំងឺលើសឈាមនោះ គឺជា លក្ខណៈមួយដែលអាចបណ្តាលឲ្យមានជំងឺ Stroke យ៉ាងឆាប់រហ័សបំផុត។
- មូលហេតុទី៣ ដោយសារការរលាកសរសៃឈាមនៅក្នុងខួរក្បាល ឬដោយសរសៃឈាមមាន លក្ខណៈមិនប្រក្រតី ឬដោយសារមានជុំសរសៃឈាម។ មូលហេតុទី៣នេះ គេពុំសូវជួបប្រទះ ឡើយ បើសិនជាមានគឺចំពោះតែមនុស្សវ័យក្មេងប៉ុណ្ណោះ។

**FAST FACTS ABOUT IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**  
*Compiled by Erika Weissinger*  
**Strengthening Immigrant Families and American Communities Conference**  
*June 2000*

*Numerous studies and reports have demonstrated that immigrants and refugees show tremendous signs of success and prosperity in the U.S. The Urban Institute and The Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP) are two of many organizations that have shown the net economic contributions made by immigrants and refugees in the U.S. While these positive findings should not be overlooked, this document focuses on trends highlighting the needs and challenges faced by low-income members of this community that are of most concern to those in the foundation, government, and nonprofit sectors seeking to strengthen immigrant and refugee families. It is our hope that by identifying challenges, as well as some successes, we can more strategically mobilize our resources to make a positive difference in the lives of immigrants and refugees.*

#### Demographics and Background Facts

*Immigrants make up a growing segment of the US population:*

- One in five children in the U.S. is either an immigrant or has an immigrant parent (Ruiz de Velasco and Fix, 2000).
- Approximately 26.3 million immigrants now live in the United States, the largest number recorded in the nation's history, and a 33 percent increase over 1990 (Camarota, 1999).

*Most Immigrant Families have mixed immigration statuses:*

- Nearly one in ten U.S. families with children is a mixed immigration status family— i.e. families where at least one parent is a noncitizen and one child is a citizen (Fix and Zimmerman, 1999).
- Eighty-five percent of noncitizen-headed families with children are mixed immigration status families (Fix and Zimmerman, 1999).
- Three-quarters of the children in noncitizen families are citizens (Fix and Zimmerman, 1999).
- Sixty percent of all low-income children in Los Angeles and 30 percent of New York's low-income children live in mixed status families (Fix and Zimmerman, 1999).



Health News Continued...

• រោគសញ្ញានៃជំងឺ Stroke

តាមការស្រាវជ្រាវរបស់អ្នកវិទ្យាសាស្ត្រផ្នែកជំងឺស្រួចជំងឺ Stroke ច្រើនមាននៅលើមនុស្សដែលមានសុខភាពធម្មតា គឺថាជំងឺកាលគេកំពុងតែធ្វើការ ក៏ស្រាប់តែងងឹតមុខ ឬដួលសន្លប់បាត់ស្មារតីតែម្តង ដោយគ្មានរោគសញ្ញាអ្វីបញ្ជាក់មុនបន្តិចសោះ។

ជំងឺកាលអាចមានរោគសញ្ញាខ្លះបង្ហាញមុនដូចជា៖

- ឈឺក្បាល, ងងឹតមុខ, ហឺងត្រចៀក,
- អ្នកជំងឺមានអារម្មណ៍ដូចជាស្លឹកដៃម្ខាងឬក៏ស្លឹកជើងម្ខាង បន្ទាប់មកក៏ដួលសន្លប់បាត់ស្មារតីតែម្តង។ ពេលនោះយើងសង្កេតឃើញអ្នកជំងឺគេងធ្លាក់ដៃជើងរបស់អ្នកជំងឺត្រង់ស្លាកគ្មានកំរើក។ មុខអ្នកជំងឺជួនស្លែកជួនក្រហមដូចអ្នកស្រវឹងស្រា។ អ្នកជំងឺដកដង្ហើមធំ មានស្ទើរច្រើននៅបំពង់ក ហើយពេលគេដកដង្ហើម ច្រាមមាត់ចេញដោយឥរិយាបថ ហាក់បីដូចជាដួលអ្នកបើកបរ (ច្រាល់ទាំងពីរ ច្រាមមាត់មិនស្មើគ្នា)។ ឯមុខអ្នកជំងឺបែរទៅចំហៀង តែបើយើងទាញមុខអ្នកជំងឺឲ្យត្រង់ ដល់ពេលឈប់ទាញនោះមុខអ្នកជំងឺបែរទៅចំហៀងវិញដែរ។ ភ្នែក បិទគ្រាប់ភ្នែកឥតធ្វើចលនា កូនក្រមុំគ្រាប់ភ្នែករួមគូច គ្រាប់ភ្នែកងាកទៅមួយចំហៀង (ចំហៀងខាងមុខ)។

តើឯនិងដៃអ្នកជំងឺមួយចំហៀងទន់ និងគ្មានចលនា។ បើយើងលើកដៃ ឬជើងអ្នកជំងឺឡើងឲ្យផុតពីដី ហើយលែងវិញ នោះដៃជើងអ្នកជំងឺនឹងធ្លាក់ចុះវិញ ហាក់បីដូចជារត្នគ្មានវិញាណ។

អ្នកជំងឺនោមដាក់ខោដោយមិនដឹងខ្លួន ពេលខ្លះទល់នោម (ពុំអាចនោមបាន)។ ជីពចរលោតមិនធម្មតា ពេលខ្លះញាប់ឬ យឺតបន្តិច។ អ្នកជំងឺឥតគ្រុនក្តៅទេ តែក៏រិតលាមឡើងខ្ពស់។

(នៅមានតទៅភាគក្រោយទៀត)  
រៀបរៀងដោយ ឃាម សុវណ្ណ

Health Care

Key Issues

Recent declines in health insurance coverage reduce access to health care for many low-income immigrant children and reduce public reimbursements to providers that serve immigrants. In nearly every family income group, the citizenship status of a child and the child's parents strongly affects whether that child is insured. For children, a regular connection to the health care system is important for the continuity of care for acute and chronic health care checkups and treatment, preventative care, and developmental assessment. Immigrant children are highly likely to lack a regular connection to the health care system. Even among insured children, immigrant children are less likely than native children to receive medical care. This means that immigrant children are less likely to receive timely care for acute and chronic conditions, and are unlikely to receive preventative care. Many studies have suggested that fear of deportation or other immigration-related consequences may be deterring many immigrant parents from applying for Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program.

Large numbers of immigrants and refugees have no health insurance and have poor access to health care:

- A majority (59 percent) of low-income noncitizens in the U.S. were uninsured in 1998, a rate almost double that of the overall low-income population (35 percent) (Ku and Matani, 2000).
- Immigrants are much less likely to have Medicaid or job-based insurance than native citizens (Ku and Matani, 2000).
- The rate of uninsurance has been climbing more rapidly among noncitizens than among the general population (Ku and Matani, 2000).
- More than one-third of low-income noncitizen adults and one-quarter of noncitizen children have no usual source of health care, rates at least twice as high as for native citizens and children of citizens (Ku and Matani, 2000).
- For children who are U.S. citizens but whose parents are noncitizens, uninsured rates are double that of children whose parents are citizens (Brown, et. al., 1999).
- Forty-three percent of non-citizen children lack health insurance coverage of any kind—more than triple the rate for children of U.S.-born or naturalized parents (Brown, et. al., 1999).
- More than one in five children in the U.S. without health insurance live in a mixed-status family (Fix and Zimmerman, 1999).

CONGRATULATIONS TO

AMY FORTNER ON HER "OFFICIAL" GRADUATION FROM UMASS/LOWELL ON MAY 28, 2000



ARN CHORN POND ON HIS HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE FROM CONNECTICUT COLLEGE ON MAY 27, 2000

BUNRITH LACH ON HIS MBA FROM CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE

ALISON GERVAIS ON THE DELIVERY OF HER 10 POUND 6 OUNCE BABY GIRL ON MAY 27, 2000



**Employment**

**Key Issues**

Over five million adults in the U.S. do not speak English at all or do not speak English well. For many of these adults, lack of English proficiency results in limited employment opportunities and earnings. This partially explains why immigrants are disproportionately poor and much more likely than citizens to rely on wages from low-wage work as their primary source of income; immigrants are more likely than citizens to have "low-wage" jobs that pay less than \$7.50 an hour.

**Immigrants make up a growing share of the U.S. workforce:**

- The foreign-born population accounts for 12 percent of the U.S. labor forces (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).
- One in five new entrants to the U.S. workforce is an immigrant (Passel et. al., 1998).

**Immigrants are more likely to have low-paying, low-skill jobs:**

- Nineteen percent of recent immigrants—versus nine percent of U.S. natives—work in service occupations, which include occupations such as food preparation, childcare, and janitorial services (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).
- Forty percent of all foreign-born persons work in the manufacturing and service industries compared to 30 percent of natives (Fix, et. al, 1994).
- An Illinois survey found that refugee women moving from welfare to work were concentrated in low-wage jobs—33 percent earned less than \$6.00 per hour and 88 percent earned less than \$8.00 per hour. Only eight percent earned more than \$9.00 per hour (Illinois Refugee Social Services Consortium, 1999).
- Thirteen percent of non-citizen workers are low-wage workers who live in low-income families with children compared to 4.3 percent of whites and 9.9 percent of blacks (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).
- Even though only seven percent of all workers are non-citizens, almost 20 percent of all low-wage workers who live in a low-income family with children are non-citizens (U.S. Census Bureau, 1999).

been to translate for Dean Proeung Chhieng, one of the award recipients, who had been asked to write up an acceptance speech. But it turned out that his English speaking ability was great and that he didn't need me to be up with him to translate. Nonetheless I enjoyed the event in its capacity and was able to translate conversations for Dean Proeung Chhieng and a very young dancer that were both seated at the same table. The young dancer, So Vannary Sao, came from Siem Reap only a month ago. While he was performing in Cambodia, he was seen by the President of the U.S. National Ballet Association, who was thoroughly impressed with his dancing capability. She decided to sponsor him over to the States where he is currently put into a dance school in New York City to learn ballet. With him being fairly young, only about 15 years old, I can only imagine how he feels being brought over from his family and friends, and knowing almost no English. But he is one lucky young man to be the chosen one among his peers in the dance troupe back in Siem Reap.

Sitting at the table amongst such prominent individuals and hearing the President of the ACC Board open the luncheon with words about two Southeast Asian nations that are hardly mentioned in the arts and culture sector, and Cambodia being one of them, I felt proud, not only for Dean Proeung Chhieng but for the people and culture of Cambodia itself for being recognized for such a prestigious award. Dean Proeung Chhieng of the faculty of choreographic arts at the Royal University of Fine Arts in Phnom Penh has been instrumental in the preservation and conservation of Cambodian classical dance ever since the Genocidal Khmer Rouge regime that terminated the lives of about 90% of the dance artists and masters of Khmer music and dance. Alongside his work

**CAMBODIAN ARTIST/SCHOLAR RECEIVES JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 3RD AWARD**

written by Sophy Theam

On June 5, 2000 I had the privilege to attend the John D. Rockefeller 3<sup>rd</sup> Award Luncheon, held at the Rainbow Room of Rockefeller Centre in New York City. This event was organized by the Asian Cultural Council, an entity that supports cultural exchange, in the area of the performing and visual arts, between Asia and the United States. Serving both as a grant-making foundation and a service organization for cultural exchange, the Asian Cultural Council (ACC) presents the John D. Rockefeller 3<sup>rd</sup> Award to an individual from Asia or the United States who has in a significant way contributed to the understanding, practice, or study of Asian art and culture. Each award recipient receives \$25,000.00 for their professional achievement and continuation of their practices in the arts of Asia, whether it be through international research and/or travel, and with affiliation with an institution or working individually.

In this event, I sat amongst a group of about forty-five people, consisting of ACC Board of Directors and prominent funders and supporters of Asian art and culture, including Mr. Stephen Rockefeller. My role in the event had

at the Faculty of Fine Arts, Mr. Chhieng has been leading artists and masters to record the history and background of Khmer classical dance to be passed on to the future dancers and musicians, has organized numerous performance tours in the United States, France, Europe, and Asia, captivating both international and Cambodian audiences. In addition, he co-directs the Cambodian Artists Mentorship Program, is a senior consultant to the Dance Notation Project that's funded by Japan, and serves as an advisor to H.R.H. Princess Bopha Devi, Cambodia's minister of culture. Mr. Chhieng briefs the five priorities that he uses in his hopes to increase excellence in art achievement: "1. to stop the present erosive process of culture, 2. to safeguard the Cambodian cultural heritage, 3. to restore Khmer cultural values and norms, 4. to benefit and promote the artistic creation, and 5. to diffuse culture and promote international exchanges."

The other recipient of the John D. Rockefeller 3<sup>rd</sup> Award is Dr. Nguyen Van Huy, director of the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology, which opened in November 1997 in Hanoi. A leader of ground-breaking field research projects on Vietnam's highland ethnic groups, Dr. Huy worked with Vietnam's government-run social science institutions, the Musee de l'Homme in Paris, the French government, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Ford Foundation to establish and construct the museum, exhibiting various crafts traditions and ritual performance forms of Vietnam.



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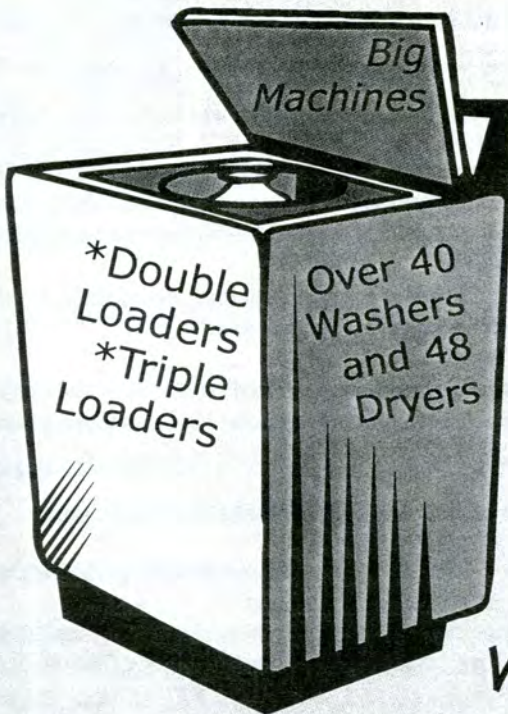
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# The Violence Reflective of Our Society

By Chath pierSath

Like other cities throughout America, this mill town, Lowell has its share of the violence, which is reflective of the problems in our larger society. Guns are cheap and accessible to children here. Poverty shows a wide inequity between people in a country where the bounty of its food can feed the world. Yet, people still go hungry everyday. Throughout the urban slums of America, drugs and domestic violence turn the innocent into murderers. In addition, raw footage of Hollywood movies and video games fill the minds of these children with heroes who destroy, bomb and shoot people for revenge. America's youth are easily convinced or swayed to fill the meaningless void with hate and rage. Without love and positive adult supervision to back and guide them against all these evils, they will pick up a gun, and when angered, shoot out of control.

In a city of 100,000 people like Lowell, when children die of violence, it is very disconcerting to people. The Cambodian community has more than its share of violence. People are plagued with remorse and sadness of multiple losses in addition to the suffering and the poverty they experience. It is here, in this immigrant city of mills and factories, that mothers and fathers gathered to raise their children from the war and poverty of their homeland. They came with only a few things on their backs, fleeing the refugee camps, torn in so many directions. When a young child dies of violence here, it is even more difficult for the parents already mourning their earlier losses because they all had hope that America would provide them with the safe refuge from the violence they had run from.

America, as many later discover, is not the safe haven they had sought. Children, when physically or emotionally broken and neglected to their own demise, will seek out gangs as a way of banding together for emotional support and a sense of belonging. They cannot stand alone to resist violence or the hurt and pain that they experience in their lives. Without proper physical and psychological nurturing, they will run to fight evil on their own terms even when it means being evil themselves. Instinctively, this is how the world works.

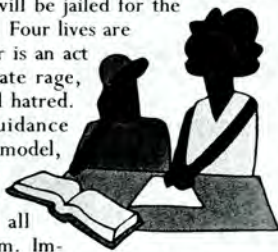
Growing up in this country is not easy for most Cambodian children. Their gentle nature is divided and torn between two different cultures and their identity is fractured. They experience racism. Some live in poverty, where they are shoved into a one-room apartment with two or three other brothers and sisters.

At the age of ten, a Cambodian child is expected to care and become responsible for other younger siblings. If the parents are struggling to make ends meet, they may neglect their children in order to work at odd shifts. Sometimes the father or the mother has a gambling habit to feed. There may be a history of family violence and abuse in addition to other social problems crowding the children's minds.

A healthy child requires good parenting, emotional nurturing and caring as well as ongoing communication. Not every family is capable of becoming whole and healthy because different people experience the world in different ways. Level of education, culture and how we are socialized to see and interpret things around us determine who we are and what we become. It is not simple to blame, whether it is the victim or the perpetrator. Everything is connected, just as we value the idea behind the African proverb, "It takes a village to raise a child," which implies that all of us have the responsibility toward every child in addition to the children we raise.

The so-called 'bad child' is reflective of all of us. When a youngster commits a murder or an improper act of violence against his fellow beings, we tend to think that it is because he is bad or the parents did not raise him right. That is why he has become so violent. Yet, through our labels and our prejudices, we make that child violent, in the images we see them to be. We confuse them with mixed messages of our own as to what is right and wrong. There is a lot of confusion out there that young people face. Some of them are living in a state of paranoia, in their gang code of ethic and law, they see the world as an unfriendly place, with suspicion, and plans of vengeance against those whom they perceive are against them.

When found guilty, the two boys, both age fifteen, will be jailed for the rest of their lives. Four lives are now lost. Murder is an act of instant passionate rage, anger, and bottled hatred. Without adult guidance and a positive role model, these children are not able to know how to deal with all that is inside of them. Images of enemies invade their hearts and souls, thinking that they would be free to commit a murder in revenge of their friend's death.



## Childcare

### Key Issues

Quality childcare is often critical to ensuring low-income immigrant families can achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. As welfare reform has increased efforts to move welfare recipients into the workforce, the cost, availability, quality, and accessibility of childcare have become major issues among many populations, including immigrants and refugees. Childcare can play a key role in facilitating the adjustment of new immigrant families to the U.S. For many new immigrants, childcare serves as the as the primary point of extrafamilial contact and can help ease the introduction to a new culture and alleviate problems of social isolation.

### Lack of childcare impedes many immigrant women's ability to work and learn English:

- In a national survey of female adults who were interested in taking ESL classes, but not currently enrolled, four out of every 10 nonparticipants cited lack of child care or transportation as their primary barrier to participation (Child Welfare League, 2000).
- Childcare was an even more significant barrier for nonparticipants who did not read English at all or not well (Child Welfare League, 2000).
- In an Illinois report, 63 percent of non-working women cited childcare as the number one reason for why they did not work (Illinois Refugee Social Services Consortium, 1999).

### Many working immigrant mothers are unsatisfied with their childcare situations:

- A Florida State University study found that Spanish-speaking persons participating in WAGES, Florida's TANF program, reported the following:
  - Almost 60 percent of Spanish-speaking participants reported that childcare was not available when they started working, compared to 18 percent of English-speaking participants.
  - Fifteen percent of Spanish-speakers reported having been given the opportunity to meet with a childcare counselor compared with 30 percent of English-speakers (Crew and Eyerman, 1998).
- According to an Illinois refugee women survey:
  - Only two percent of women reported being happy with their child-care arrangement.
  - Twenty-one percent of working women rely on older children to provide childcare and 32 percent rely on relatives.
  - Twenty-six percent of working women said they have no one to care for their child while they are working (Illinois Refugee Social Services Consortium, 1999).

There is a whole world out there, which most adults do not understand. The adults may not have the skills or the patience to listen. They may be the enemies these children see in the world. Some are abusive, drug addicts, alcoholics, and misogynists. These people may themselves be the children of the adults who had also abused and neglected them. The cycle of hate and violence passes down from the oppressors to the oppressed. It is what we know and learn, and they are images of ourselves on white horses toward hell. We will never be free our own darkness and the suffering we cause each other. Once innocence is lost it is harder to correct or restore. The innocence of those boys being arraigned in court has probably been violated many times. They do not seem to have any remorse for the deaths they caused. They are so numbed by the despair, outrage, and sense of their own losses that they do not seem to care anymore.



For those of us who remember April 17, 1975, we know too well of these faces, with guns as their shields, as they marched others to their death. Young men filled with inhuman hate. Their eyes showed no mercy or compassion. We would never understand where all that outburst of violence is coming from, but it is in all of us, the way our society portrays it, and how we judge children based on their external expressions. When we see others as different from ourselves, we make excuses for our own hatred, our prejudices, and our indifference to each other. All we have to do is look inside to find the answer to these problems of gangs and murder.



## Domestic violence

### Key Issues

Organizations such as the National Organization for Women (NOW) report that immigrant women are particularly vulnerable to domestic violence since language barriers and fear of immigration authorities often prevent these women from seeking assistance from police or victim advocates. Cultural factors may also discourage them from asserting their legal rights. For some undocumented female immigrants, maintaining the relationship with their abuser is sometimes the only way they avoid deportation and remain in the U.S.

- In a survey of battered immigrant women conducted by AYUDA:
  - Sixty-one percent of respondents reported that they were subjected to weekly physical or emotional abuse;
  - Thirty-one percent of respondents reported an increase of abuse with immigration into the U.S.;
  - Nine percent reported that abuse began with immigration;
  - One fifth of respondents reported that their spouses used threats of deportation, or of withdrawing these papers as a power and control tactic in abusive relationships; and,
  - One fourth of respondents stated that fear relating to their immigration status prevented them from leaving the abusive relationship (Orloff, May 1999).
- Between 1994 and April 1999 over 9,500 battered immigrants filed petitions under the Violence Against Women Act. (VAWA Sec. 40701 8 USCA 1154).
- A survey conducted by the Immigrant Women's Task Force of the Northern California Coalition for Immigrant Rights revealed that 34 percent of Latinas and 25 percent of Filipinas surveyed had experienced domestic violence either in their country of origin, in the U.S., or both (Family Violence Prevention Fund, 2000).
- A recent survey found that nearly 83 percent of battered immigrants did not contact the police for help despite lengthy histories of domestic violence (Orloff and Dave, 1999).
- In a survey conducted in San Francisco, 64 percent of undocumented battered women said that fear of deportation was the primary reason why they did not seek social services (Hogeland and Rosen, 1991).

## 4th Annual Southeast Asian Water Festival

The 4th Annual Southeast Asian Water Festival will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2000 on the banks of the Merrimack River on Pawtucket Boulevard in Lowell, Massachusetts from 9:00am to 6:00pm.

There will be boat races, arts and crafts booths, and environmental and information booths at the festival. The Southeast Asian Water Festival committee has established the following sub-committees: 1. Boat Committee, 2. Publicity/Media Committee, 3. Fundraising Committee, 4. Booth Committee, 5. Entertainment Committee, 6. Parking/Security Committee, 7. Trash/Litter Committee, and 8. Logistics Committee.

There will be four boats, two Cambodian and two Laotian, involved in the races this year. Finally there will be music (bands, dancers, & singers) at the Sampas Pavilion and possibly one additional stage similar to last year. This year's Water Festival is expected to attract between 30,000 to 40,000 people.

For more information and/or to volunteer, please call the SEAWF office, located on the 3rd floor of the Mogan Cultural Center on French Street, at (978) 970-5046 and ask for one of the co-coordinators Rasmey Roun or Chhavy Sinoun.

Written by Mark E. Goldman  
Member of the Southeast Asian Water Festival Committee  
CMAA Board of Directors, 2nd Vice President



A Capital Campaign

The Southeast Asian Family & Youth Center

មជ្ឈមណ្ឌលសំរាប់គ្រួសារ និង យុវជន

The Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA) of Greater Lowell, Inc. is in the midst of conducting a capital campaign to raise \$1.5 million to support the physical development of the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center, scheduled for completion by June 2001. When completed, the center will be able to serve as many as 5,000 individuals and family members a year through its various social, educational, cultural, and recreational activities.

The proposed Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center will be located on the second and third floors in the former Courier Corporation building at 165 Jackson Street in Lowell. The Courier Corporation generously donated its former headquarters building, with over 90,000 square feet of floor space and worth approximately one million dollars, to the CMAA in August 1997. The center will be occupying about 20,000 square feet in the unusable space of the Mills building. Therefore, the much needed works will go into an infrastructure improvement and construction of a new service core that will include a passenger elevator, stairway, lobby, entrance, new roof as well as office space and a performance stage for traditional dance rehearsal, after-school youth program activities and for community social and cultural gatherings.

The Family and Youth Center project has been and will be involving many youth, families, volunteers, CMAA's staff and board members, elected officials, governmental officials and representatives from various funding agencies and foundations who are committed to working together over a period of 18 months to make plans, carry out those plans to raise enough funding, and to complete their ideal Center for the Southeast Asian American community in the Greater Lowell.

The Family and Youth Center will empower the Southeast Asian youth, young parents, parents, adolescents with developmental disabilities, and the elders to build positive self-esteem, learn a new language and vocational skills that would lead them to achieve self-sufficiency in their newly adopted country—America. In addition, the center will be a pivotal point in helping to foster and strengthen good relationships, fill the intergenerational gap between family members and build a strong and healthy community.

Statement of Needs for Lowell's Cambodian-American Community

Lowell has the second largest Cambodian population in the United States, numbering 30,000. The largest Cambodian community is in Long Beach, California, with an estimated number of 60,000. Many of the Cambodian residents of Lowell are refugees who fled from war-torn Cambodia and now live in poverty in the United States.

In April 1975, the Maoist communist Khmer Rouge regime led by Pol Pot, evacuated the cities and systematically killed over two million people—a quarter of the population—especially targeting the wealthy, educated, or professional people. Doctors, nurses, clergy, teachers, business owners, artisans, city dwellers and even those who wore glasses were singled out for execution since they were seen as bourgeois or contaminated with Western influence.

The Khmer Rouge maintained control by mass public torture, executions, and dismantling the social order of Cambodia. Men, women, and children were sent to labor camps and forced to do strenuous work. Famine and disease became epidemic while medicine and medical care were non-existent.

When the Khmer Rouge regime was overthrown in early 1979, thousands of Cambodians fled on foot to refugee camps on the Thai border, where they waited for up to twelve years to be resettled in a third country.

Upon arriving in the United States in late 1979 and early 1980's, either alone or in decimated families, the Cambodian refugees were generally resettled in economically disadvantaged inner city areas such as Lowell's Acre and Highland neighborhoods. Negotiating their way amidst gangs, drugs, urban violence, inadequate housing, and poor schools, many felt they had been transported from one war zone to another.

Moreover, these refugees were among the least prepared to adapt to such an environment. Not only were they suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and physical ailments which resulted from their ordeal, but they tended to be from rural backgrounds, with little or no education, frequently illiterate even in their own language.

These challenges continue to affect the Cambodian American community today. According to the U.S. 1990 Census: 26% of Cambodian families in Lowell are headed by a single mother. The average size of a Cambodian family is 5.03 persons. Only 46% of Cambodian men and 22.6% of Cambodian women over the age of 25 have completed high school. The average per capital income for Cambodian population \$6,250, and 49% of Cambodian families live below the established poverty level, constituting the second most economically disadvantaged Asian American group.

Cambodians came to Lowell to build a new life. Despite their social and linguistic isolation, many were able to find work in Greater Lowell's factories. Factory work was ideal, as it required only technical ability or manual labor; fluency in English might not be necessary. Cambodians got together and built two temples—one located in North Chelmsford and one on Cambridge Street in Lowell. In 1984, the Cambodian community leaders came together to establish the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell, Inc., whose mission is to assist Cambodians and Southeast Asians to achieve self-sufficiency in their newly adopted country—America, while at the same time trying to promote and preserve their native cultural heritage.

Programs and Services to be housed in the proposed Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center

- § The Monorom Family Support Services Program provides comprehensive services to families that have children with developmental disabilities. The program name came from the Khmer word "Monorom" which means "peace or harmony", which reflects the program's origins as a respite care services. Services available include Case management, translation, and transportation to assist families in accessing other services providers, crisis intervention, counseling services, special education and advocacy; parent support group to assist parents of disabled children in coping with the unique stresses and difficulties of caring for children with special needs; American sign language classes for those whose principal language is Khmer; and social and recreational programs for disabled children, including traditional Cambodian dance troupe which integrated disabled and non-disabled children.
- § Youth Services Program offers a safe and supportive environment and an alternative to gang involvement for the "at-risk" and gang-involved youth between the ages of 10-22. Program activities include peer leadership development, Khmer language instruction, Cambodian traditional dances, music and arts classes; employment training and placement, health education and training; computer training, and homework club; sports and recreational activities, summer camp. The youth have been involved in numerous activities including an annual Water Festival, Khmer New Year, Lowell Folk Festival, and other special events throughout the year. Over 400 youth are enrolled in this program.
- § Young Parents Program aims at reducing welfare dependency among young parents, ages 14 – 21, who have not achieved a high school diploma or its equivalent. YPP espouses a model of employability development to successfully prepare an individual to obtain a job as quickly as possible in the primary labor market. CMAA's YPP attends to the whole person, recognizing that basic educational and job specific skills are important to young parents in the acquisition of and advancement in the work environment. More than 50 young parents have been enrolled in this program.

§ The Elderly Outreach & Assistance offers older Cambodian Americans transportation, family and psychological support, translation, hospital visit, citizenship education, case management, health education, emergency assistance, crisis intervention, cultural and religious activities, exercise and recreational activities. Traditionally, elders are part of the extended family, which provides for their needs. As a result of the war, the Killing Fields under the Maoist communist regime, the refugee episode, disruption and dislocation of families that accompanied them, many elderly Cambodian refugees do not have surviving children, or may have been unable to locate and reunite with their surviving children or relatives. In Lowell, Cambodian senior citizens are often isolated. They often do not speak English. They have limited access to social services because of language and cultural barriers.

Objectives, Goals & Measurements

1. To conduct a capital campaign with a goal of raising \$1.5 million to support toward development of the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center at the CMAA's headquarter building on 165 Jackson St.
2. To construct a service core that includes a fire rate stair, an ADA compliant elevator, lobbies, wheelchair lift/ramp, and an entranceway at a point 432 feet from the East end of the building at 165 Jackson St.
3. To renovate and obtain occupancy permits for approximately 20,000 square feet of second and third floor space for use as the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center that include performance stage and multifunction facilities.
4. To serve 500 at-risk youth, 250 children/adolescents with development disabilities and their families, and 350 elders in the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center.
5. To provide multi-function facilities to the Southeast Asian community in Greater Lowell at an affordable costs serving up to 7,500 people a year. At least 75% of the persons served in the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center will be low-income families.

Key Personnel

The CMAA will use outside consultants for the capital campaign, fund raising, legal services, building development, architectural designs, engineering, and construction of the family and youth center. In addition, CMAA will put into good use its own management team that consists of an executive director, Mr. Samkhann C. Khoenun, who brings a history of successful administration of community organization to CMAA; a fiscal manager, Mr. Thirith Hut, who hold an accounting degree from Northeastern University; a development director, Mr. Joseph Sexton, who is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and Suffolk University Law School; plus staff members from the CMAA's Youth Services, the Monorom Family Support Services, the Elderly Outreach Program, the Young Parents Program and also the youth, clients and its dedicated volunteers. Yet, the CMAA's board of directors, who represents a broad variety of professions, will bring an important array of experience and training to the CMAA's policy-making, leadership body, and community relations and connections.

Kick-Off for Capital Campaign

Thus far, the CMAA's Youth Services Program has raised about \$25,000 in gross income from the "Children of War and Theatre Play", held on March 4, 2000 and which featured Ms. Yolanda King, the daughter of the civic right leader Martin Luther King, Jr. The event was the CMAA's kick-off and was made possible by the generous contribution of the River Arts Repertory and the Children of War organization. The play brought several hundreds of audiences to Lowell Memorial Auditorium to support the capital campaign initiative of the youth and family members.



At a time where violence touches every society and hurts our children, the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell Inc. and its proud sponsors bring to Lowell a play about children of war-torn countries.

# Children of War

## ជីវិតក្មេងនៃក្មេងសង្គ្រាម

### Film & Theatre Project

The Children of War Theater and Film Project is a collaboration of artists working toward the creation of a theater piece that addresses ethnic conflict, its effect on the world's young people, and the power of compassion to heal and inspire change. It is based on the inspirational work of the Children of War organization founded by Judith Thompson and Arn Chorn-Pond. Over the past several years, the project artists have traveled to Cambodia; Dharamsala, India; Zagreb, Croatia, and Sarajevo to conduct interviews with survivors, refugees, and leaders which formed the basis of the text. The artists were filmed by Barbara Kopple, an Academy Award-winning documentary filmmaker whose footage will be used both in the theater piece and in her own documentary about the behind the scenes creation of the project.



L-R: Yolanda King, Priya Ayyar, Daniel Carlton, Leo Marks, David Ige



L-R: Yolanda King, Mayor Eileen Donoghue, Judge Mark L. Wolf, Lorraine Cordeiro

The Children of War organization devotes itself to supporting the emotional, psychological, and spiritual development of young leaders who have experienced war, violence, injustice, and oppression. Many young people growing up in these difficult circumstances have a desire to devote themselves to social transformation. Children of War has worked

with young leaders from 22 countries, including U.S. inner cities, homeless shelters, Native American reservations, and farm labor camps. These youth leaders have traveled to 60 U.S. cities and over 450 high schools to share their stories and insights with U.S. youth, building partnerships between inner city youth and international "war" survivors, utilizing their common bonds of suffering as a doorway to a deeper joy of compassion for each other.



Photos by Raddy Mom

Sign of Appreciation: Mr. Samkhann Khoenun presents souvenirs to Children of War actors and actresses. L-R: Lorraine Cordeiro, Samkhann Khoenun, Yolanda King, Priya Ayyar, & Daniel Carlton

**Timeline for the Capital Campaign and the Family & Youth Center**

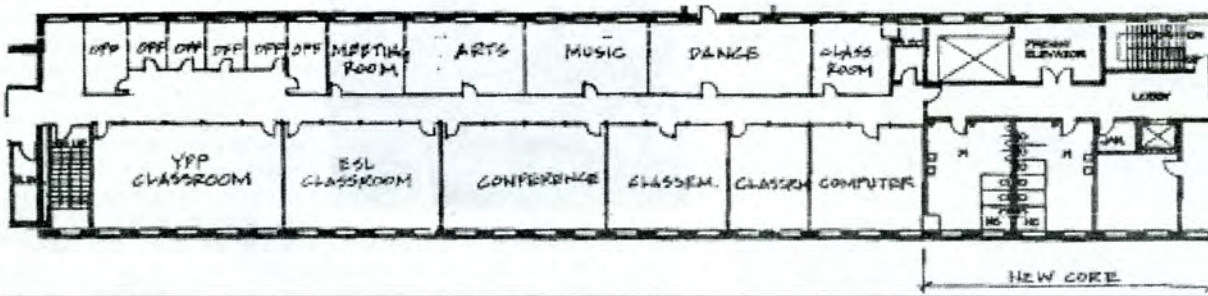
- January 2000 \* Planning that involved youth, family members, staff, volunteers and board members
- February 2000 \* Prepare proposal to City of Lowell under its Consolidated Plan—CDBG
- March 4, 2000 \* Kick-off event with "Children of War Theatre and Film Project" at Lowell Memorial Auditorium
- April 8, 2000 \* Khmer New Year Festival – Tsongas Arena
- May 2000 \* Capital Campaign – In progress
- June 2000 \* Capital Campaign – Ongoing
- July 2000 \* Capital Campaign – Ongoing
- \* Starting new fiscal year
- August 2000 \* 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Festival
- Sept - Oct \* Finalizing on design and construction plans
- Nov 2000 \* Bidding & selecting constructing company
- \* CMAA's 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration,
- Dec 2000 \* Starting on demolition
- Jan 2001 \* Construction begins
- Feb – April \* Construction continues & furnishing the Family & Youth Center
- May 2001 \* Construction complete
- June 2001 \* Permit & Occupancy

**How YOU can support the CMAA Capital Campaign?**

*If you are interested in supporting the fundraising efforts for the development of the Southeast Asian Family and Youth Center, you can send donations to:*

**CMAA's Capital Campaign**  
**C/o Southeast Asian Family & Youth Center**  
**165 Jackson Street; Lowell, MA 01852**

For further information, please contact the CMAA's Executive Director, Samkhann C. Khoeun at (978) 454-4286, or Email: skhoeun@cmaalowell.org



Proposed Second floor plan: Youth Center

**Yes, I want to reserve advertising space(s) in the Khmer Lowell Magazine.**

**I would like my advertisement to be...**

<b>Size</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Our Ad is :</b>
_____ Back Cover	\$ 250.00	_____ a camera-ready copy
_____ Inside Back Cover	\$ 175.00	_____ an enclosed typed copy. I understand that a camera-ready copy will be translated and designed for an additional cost of \$75.00
_____ Inside Front Cover	\$ 150.00	_____ not ready yet, but will be sent by _____.
_____ Full Page	\$ 100.00	(date)
_____ Half Page	\$ 75.00	TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED:
_____ Quarter Page	\$ 50.00	\$ _____ X _____ quarter (s) = _____
_____ Business Card	\$ 30.00	

Business/Org. : \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person : \_\_\_\_\_

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

City : \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip : \_\_\_\_\_

Phone : (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to :  
 Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association  
 ATTN: Khmer Lowell Magazine  
 165 Jackson Street, Lowell, MA 01852  
 Tel: (978) 454-4286 Fax: (978) 454-1806

# Readings for Pleasure

## រឿងបងប្អូនពីរនាក់

កាលពីព្រេងនាយមានបងប្អូនពីរនាក់ បងប្រុសឈ្មោះ ណុល ប្អូន ជាអ្នកមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិយ៉ាងស្តុកស្តម ហើយជាមនុស្សលោភលន់ជាទីបំផុត។ ផ្ទះទេពិញប្អូនប្រុសឈ្មោះ យុង ប្អូន ជាមនុស្សត្រីក្រែតមានចិត្តសប្បុរសធម៌។

មានថ្ងៃមួយកូនរបស់យុង ប្អូនទាំងពីរមានការស្រេកប្រទះសត្វត្រចៀកកំបាំងខ្លាំងណាស់។ យុង ប្អូនក៏បានទៅស្វែងរកបងប្រុសដើម្បីឲ្យកូនភ្ញាក់។ ប្អូននៅពេលទៅដល់គាត់បានជួបជាមួយ បងស្រីថ្លៃគាត់ ហើយនាងមិនចង់ឲ្យបងគាត់ឡើយ នាងបែរជាវាយគាត់នឹងដៃកាយច្រក ផ្តល់របស់គាត់។ ដោយហ្មានបាយពេកគាត់ក៏បានយកបាយដែលជាប់នឹងផ្តល់របស់ គាត់នោះមកអី។ បន្ទាប់មកគាត់ក៏បែរផ្តល់មួយចំហៀងទៀតឲ្យនាងវាយ ប្អូនខ្លាំងនេះ នាងស្រីនោះយកដៃដែលគ្មានជាប់បាយមកវាយគាត់ទៅវិញ។

នៅតាមផ្លូវត្រឡប់មកផ្ទះវិញ គាត់ក៏បានជួបប្រទះសត្វត្រចៀកកំបាំងខ្លាំងមួយ។ គាត់ក៏បានយកវាមកព្យាបាលទាល់តែវាជា ហើយបានលែងវាទៅវិញ។

នៅពេលនិយាយរដូវមកដល់ ត្រចៀកកំបាំងខ្លាំងនោះក៏បានពាក់ស្រោបប្លោក មកដើម្បី ឲ្យគាត់ដាំ។ នៅពេលសរទះរដូវ គឺបន្ទាប់ពីគាត់បានប្រមូលផលផ្លែប្លោកនោះហើយគាត់ក៏ បានលុបវាមួយមើល ស្រាប់តែមានកាក់មាសហូរចេញពីផ្លែប្លោក ហើយគាត់ក៏ក្លាយទៅជា អ្នកមានទ្រព្យសម្បត្តិចាប់ផ្តើមពីពេលនោះមក។

រឿងនេះបានធ្វើឲ្យ ណុល ប្អូន មានការរត់រង្វល់ខ្លាំងណាស់ព្រោះឥឡូវនេះប្អូនប្រុស របស់គាត់មានផ្ទះធំ ហើយមានស្ថានភាពរស់នៅល្អឡើយ។ គាត់ចង់ដឹងថាតើប្អូនប្រុស គាត់ក្លាយជាអ្នកមានដោយរបៀបណា។ ដូច្នេះ យុង ប្អូន ក៏បានរៀបរាប់តាមដំណើររឿង ដែលគាត់បានជួបប្រទះនោះប្រាប់បងប្រុស។

តាមផ្លូវដែលគាត់ត្រឡប់មកផ្ទះវិញ ណុល ប្អូនក៏បានជួបប្រទះសត្វត្រចៀកកំ បាំងខ្លាំងមួយ។ គាត់ក៏បានយកវាមកព្យាបាលទាល់តែវាជាហើយបានលែងវាទៅវិញ។ មួយ គ្នាប្រកាសមក ប្រចៀកកំបាំងខ្លាំងនោះគ្រាប់ប្លោកមកឲ្យ ណុល ប្អូន។ គាត់បានធ្វើតាមប្អូនប្រុស របស់គាត់ប្រាប់។

ប្អូននៅសរទះរដូវ ពេលដែលគាត់លុបប្លោកគឺគ្មានកាក់មាសឡើយ មានតែ ទឹកហូរចេញពីប្លោកហូរទាល់តែក្លាយជាទឹកជំនន់លឺចម្លោះនិងស្រែចំការរបស់គាត់អស់។ រំពេចនោះគាត់ក៏បានធ្លាក់ខ្លួនក្រដោកយ៉ាកគ្មានមួយអាហារឡើយ និងគ្មានទិវារក្រដោកនោះ ឡើយ។ ណុល ប្អូនមិនដឹងជាធ្វើដូចម្តេចទៅអង្វរសុំឲ្យយុង ប្អូនជួយ។ ជាការពិតណាស់យុង ប្អូនជាមនុស្សចិត្តល្អ ហើយក៏ព្រមជួយបងប្រុសគាត់ទៅ។

ក្រោយមក ណុល ប្អូនបានយល់ឃើញនូវកំហុសរបស់ខ្លួនហើយក៏បានរែកខ្លួនជា មនុស្សល្អឡើងវិញ។ ពួកគេក៏បានរស់នៅជាមួយគ្នាប្រកប ដោយសុភមង្គលអស់មួយជីវិត។

ដូចជាក្បួនស្លាកខ្ញុំរំពេចតែដំណាលថា៖ អ្នកមានកុំអាណន៍ អ្នកក្រកុំអាណន៍ អ្នកមានដេកដី អ្នកក្រដេកពួក

## Don't Make a Bargain with a Fox

*It was very cold. Two rabbits were playing in the field. Far away they saw two small red objects. The rabbits went closer to look.*

*The two red objects were pieces of an old red blanket. The pieces were warm and thick, but they were very small. They were too small to use.*

*Soon a fox came by. "Good day my friends," he said. "You look worried. Do you have a problem?" The rabbits answered, "Yes! We need a needle and thread to sew the pieces of the blanket together." "You can use my needle and thread if I can use the blanket, too," said the fox.*

*The rabbits used the fox's needle and thread. When the rabbits finished their sewing, the fox looked at their work. "You did a good job," he said. "I'll see you tonight."*

*Night came, and the wind was very cold. The fox came back to the rabbits. "Good evening, my friends. It's a cold, cold night. But we will be warm! We have the nice, warm blanket you sewed with my needle and thread. You sewed down the middle of the blanket. The right thing is for me to sleep in the middle." "Yes, that's right Mr. Fox," said the rabbits.*

*So the fox lay down on the ground. The rabbits put the middle of the blanket over him. The blanket covered him, but it did not cover the rabbits. They were cold all night!*

*So you see, you should never make a bargain with a fox. He will always win.*



## កុំកំរាត់កំរាត់

មេឃស្រពក្រវាត់។ ទន្សាយពីរកំរាត់កំរាត់ប្រលែងគ្នាលេងនៅក្នុងទីវាលមួយ។ នៅឯម្ខាងម្ខាង ឯនោះ ទន្សាយទាំងពីរមើលឃើញមានស្លឹកពណ៌ក្រហម។ ទន្សាយក៏ចូលទៅទិតដើម្បីពិនិត្យមើល។ របស់ក្រហមទាំងពីរនោះគឺជាបំពែកក្នុងយន្តចាស់មួយ។ បំពែកទាំងនោះគឺត្រូវសំហើយកកកញ្ចប់ណាស់ ប្អូនវាតូចពេក តូចទាល់តែមិនអាចប្រើវាបាន។

ភ្លាមនោះមានចចកមួយដើរមកហើយនិយាយថា : ទិវាស្លឹកស្លឹកម្យាញ់។ មើលទៅឯងដូចជា ព្រួយចិត្តណាស់។ តើពួកឯងមានប្រើវាអីទៅ? ទន្សាយក៏ឆ្លើយថា : បាទ! យើងត្រូវការមូលនិងផេស ដើម្បីដេរនូវក្បាលទាំងអស់នេះឲ្យជាប់គ្នាវិញ។ អ្នកអាចប្រើមូលនិងផេសរបស់ខ្ញុំបានបើសិនឯង ឲ្យខ្ញុំប្រើក្បាល នេះដែរនោះ ចចកពោលឡើង។

ទន្សាយក៏យកមូលនិងផេសរបស់ចចកមកប្រើ។ នៅពេលដែលទន្សាយដេររួចហើយនោះ ចចកក៏ពិនិត្យមើលកិច្ចការនោះ ហើយក៏និយាយថា : ពួកឯងធ្វើការបានល្អមែន។ ម៉្លឹងម៉្លងឯងនៅយប់នេះ។ \*ត្រឹមត្រូវតែមិនមែនដល់ហើយនាំមកនូវខ្យល់ដ៏ស្រស់ត្រជាក់។ ចចកក៏ធ្វើដំណើរមកជួបនឹង ទន្សាយវិញ។ \*ចេតនិយាយថា : វាត្រឹមត្រូវស្រស់ម្យាញ់។ យប់នេះត្រជាក់ណាស់...តែយើងនឹងបានកក់ក្តៅជា មិនខាន! យើងមានក្បាលដ៏ល្អដែលកក់ក្តៅមួយដៃមួយ បានដេរវាដោយប្រើមូលនិងផេសរបស់ខ្ញុំ។ ឯងបានដេរហួតដល់ទៅពាក់កណ្តាលក្បាល។ គឺជាប្រើប្រាស់មូលនិងផេសត្រូវដេកនៅកណ្តាលគេ។ បាទ! ត្រូវមែនហើយលោកចចក ទន្សាយទាំងពីរពោលឡើង។

ដូច្នោះចចកក៏ប្រទះខ្លួនដេកទៅនឹងដី។ ទន្សាយក៏ទាញក្បាលចាក់កណ្តាលមកដល់បំពែក ចចកនោះ។ ក្បាលគ្របជិតចចកមែនតែមិនគ្របជិតទន្សាយទាំងពីរឡើយ។ ពួកគេនៅតែរងរាពញ មួយយប់នោះដ៏វែងល!

ដូចនេះគឺអ្នកយល់ហើយអ្នកមិនត្រូវប្រកែកកំរាត់កំរាត់តែចចកឡើយក្បាលគេនៅតែឈ្នះជានិច្ច ។

These are some of the services the CMAA provides for the community of Greater Lowell.



Above: inside entrance to the Komar Daycare



Left: Students learning computer skills for work



### ល្បួងប្រាជ្ញា

មិនមែនជាចំណោទគណិតសាស្ត្រនិងមិនមែនជាពាក្យបណ្តឹងទេ។ ល្បួងប្រាជ្ញា គឺជាល្បួងប្រាជ្ញាត្រូវដោះស្រាយឲ្យស្របទៅតាមទស្សនៈអ្នកគន្លឹះ។ បង្កើនតិចនេសាទ ឬថា ធ្វើការតិចបានផលច្រើន។ ពេលគឺដោះស្រាយបញ្ហាមួយដោយធ្វើសកម្មភាពតែមួយ។ ដើម្បីឲ្យបានយល់ច្បាស់នៅក្នុងរបៀបលេងនៃល្បួងប្រាជ្ញានេះ សូមអានរឿងខាងក្រោម ហើយចូលដោះស្រាយបញ្ហាដូចតទៅ៖

គាតេសងចិត្តប្រើប្រាស់ឈ្មោះសុភារាជ្យ។ ពេលនាងសុភារាជ្យ ចម្រើនវ័យវឌ្ឍនា កាលណា លោកគាត់មានចិត្តប្រតិព័ទ្ធចង់បានរូបនាងមកធ្វើជាប្រពន្ធ។ លោកគាត់ហូរចូលនេះបានយក ប្រាក់កាក់ខ្មៅពីរដាក់ទៅក្នុងបំពង់មួយហើយហៅអ្នកស្រុកឲ្យមើលជាសាក្សី។ ពេលអ្នកស្រុកជួប ជុំគ្នាហើយ គាតេសង់ចង់បានប្រពន្ធក្នុងរូបនោះក៏ប្រកាសថា៖ នៅក្នុងបំពង់នេះមានប្រាក់កាក់ស១ ខ្មៅ។ បើនាងសុភារាជ្យ ចាប់បានប្រាក់កាក់ពណ៌ខ្មៅនាងត្រូវបានធ្វើប្រពន្ធរបស់ខ្ញុំ តែបើនាងលួចចាប់យកបានប្រាក់កាក់ពណ៌សគឺនាងត្រូវរួចខ្លួន។ ឮដូច្នោះអ្នកស្រុកក៏សុំឲ្យលោកគាត់ប្រាក់កាក់នោះមើលសិនដើម្បីជាក់ច្បាស់ តែលោកគាត់មិនព្រមព្រោះខ្លាចបែកការណ៍។ រឿងនេះក៏ធ្វើឲ្យនាងសុភារាជ្យយល់បានថា ប្រាក់កាក់ទាំងពីរដែលគាត់ដាក់នៅក្នុងបំពង់គឺប្រាក់ដុល្លារខ្មៅទាំងពីរហើយ។ ប៉ុន្តែទោះបីជាមានយល់ត្រូវយ៉ាងនេះហើយក៏ដោយ ក៏នាងនៅតែសម្រេចចិត្តលួចចាប់យកប្រាក់កាក់ក្នុងបំពង់នោះដែរ ព្រោះនាងមិនអាចប្រកែកបាន។

- ១. កុំឲ្យខ្លួននាងបានទៅជាប្រពន្ធគាត់ឈ្មោះនោះ?
- ២. ធ្វើឲ្យអ្នកស្រុកនៅតែជឿថាមានប្រាក់កាក់ស១ខ្មៅ?
- ៣. កុំឲ្យគាត់ចិញ្ចឹមអាម៉ាសមុខ?

សូមអរគុណ  
សូមជូនចម្លើយនៅលេខក្រោយ

ទិព្វនាងរឿងឡើងវិញដោយ លោក សាំង-ស៊ី

**A riddle** is not a mathematical problem. Nor is it a word of discipline. A riddle is a tale or problem that has to be solved in a way that's to the ideas of scholars: being taught little but knowing a lot, or to work less but to get much accomplished. It is to be able to solve numerous problems with only one move.

In order to help you understand more clearly of what solving a riddle is all about, please read below and help solve the problem as follows.

Grandfather Seng raised a young girl named Sophea, beginning when she was 7 years old. When the young girl turned into a young woman, Grandfather Seng wanted to take her as a wife. This naughty old man took two blackened brass coins and placed them in a long cylindrical container and called the townspeople to be witnesses. When the townspeople were all gathered, the old man who wanted to have the young woman as wife proclaimed, "In this container are one white coin and one blackened coin. If Miss Sophea takes out the blackened coin, she will have to be my wife. But,

if she pulls out a white coin, she will be free.

Upon hearing his proclamation, the townspeople requested the old man to take out the two coins first so they can all see but he refused. Because of this refusal, Miss Sophea understood that the two coins the old man had placed in the container must both be blackened coins. But despite her knowing this for a fact she still decided to grab for a coin anyway because she couldn't argue. Therefore, how was Sophea able to grab for the coin which will:

- 1.) Not allow her to be the wife of her foster grandfather?
- 2.) Make the townspeople believe that there is both a white and a blackened coin?
- 3.) Won't disgrace the foster grandfather?


Thank you. Please wait for the answer in the next edition.

Rewritten  
Retold by Mr. Sak Seang  
Translated by Sophy Theam

**Konstantin V. Amirzadov, D.M.D.**

**Lowell Family Dental Practice**

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បើគេមិនចាប់ភ្នឹកហើយគ្មានភស្តុតាងគ្រប់គ្រាន់ទេ គឺគេពិបាកនឹងសន្និដ្ឋានថាគេរូបគំនូរដែលមានរូបព្រះអាទិត្យនៅប៉ប្រើមនិងមាត់ទឹក ឬ ក៏ដងភ្នំនោះជារូបព្រះអាទិត្យដែលកំពុងតែរះឬក៏កំពុងតែលិចឡើយ។

សូម្បីតែព្រះកំនៅមានមារ ចុះទំរង់តែយើងជាស្រ្តីប្រជាតិមានរណាដែលអារយើងនោះ? ប៉ុន្តែបើយើងរវល់តែយកពេលមកគិតធ្វើយ៉ាងណាឲ្យស្រូវទាំងអស់ក្លាយជាមិត្ត ប្រហែលជាយើងគ្មានពេលណាសល់ដើម្បីជួយមិត្តកុំឲ្យក្លាយជាស្រូវយើងនោះឡើយ។

ដោយ ឆ-ឡានិន

**Announcement:**  
The CMAA has recently created the "Community Emergency Assistance Fund" to aid families and individuals with unexpected life tragedies. If you would like to make a donation into this fund, please make checks payable to the CMAA and send to:  
**165 Jackson Street, Lowell, MA 01852.**

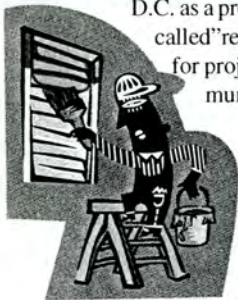


# CMAA Programs and Services

## COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

### FY2001 AND BEYOND

The Community Service Employment Program (CSE) was first introduced in may 1998 by the Office of Refugee Resettlement in Washington D.C. as a program announcement called "request for applications for projects to provide Community Service Employment opportunities for refugees who have experienced long-term difficulties in assimilation".



As broad as this statement is, it opened many new opportunities for the Southeast Asian population, especially the Cambodian Community of greater Lowell. In the first year grant the CMAA was awarded \$623,000 for refugee assistance followed by a \$1,500,000 grant for fiscal year 2000. The CSE program for the first year provided the impetus for a true set of guidelines for those affected by unemployment, low levels of work readiness. Refugees are also affected by an inadequate supply of jobs for their skill level and some may have been impacted by job exclusion.

The Community Service Employment program is sponsored by a grant from the Office of Refugee Resettlement, and is maintained by the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Greater Lowell. In the first year, CSE was able to service 115 clients who came to the center. Of these 115 intakes, 42 were placed in subsidized employment through the program.



In fiscal year 2000 the CSE program increased the outcome by placing 62 refugees in the CSE program while taking in over 89 new clients. The Community Service Employment program is now entering its third year with another \$1.5m continuation grant to assist additional refugees with subsidized placement.

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Citizenship Class

To seek help in obtaining citizenship, contact Samuel Sok at 978.454.4286, ext. 42

# JOBS BRING DIGNITY TO LIFE

CMAA is willing to help you to reach self-sufficiency !!!

Our Employment Services Program (ESP) at the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association (CMAA) is funded by the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) via the Massachusetts Office for Refugees and Immigrants (MORI).

This is the second year of the work, and it has been improved a lot. It will get even much better in the next following years. Through the hard work of all three staff, the program has provided a lot of benefits to the community. Individuals' and or family's needs have been served, helping people achieve self-sufficiency.

In the past two years, hundreds of refugees' families, S.E.A. and others, have received assistance from the MSSP at CMAA, particularly in support services and job placements services. Just only in the first 6 months of the second fiscal year alone, from October in 99 to March 2000, more than 350 families have been assisted in filling out applications for Food Stamps, Mass Health, Public Assistance, Housing, Citizenship, Legal issues, and so on.

The MSSP staff of CMAA also made applications to the Center for Educational Documentation in Boston to get an equivalency for our clients. These clients are new immigrants who received their college degrees in Cambodia. The good result is that some get their education equivalence to M.D. for General Practice, and some get a B.S. degree in Economics in the United States.

For job placements, in the same six month period the staff has helped to place, 113 individuals, 97 of them are adults. Among them were 24 families who used to receive part or full benefits from TAFDC (Welfare Department). We have many connections to all kinds of work, ranging from office to manufacturing to professional.



Moreover, at the present time, the staff has established two job skills training classes to enhance the ability level of our clients. The training classes are COMPUTER and SOLDERING. These classes are led by the qualified and certified instructors who really have a heart for the community. There are four classes of computer training and two classes of electronics training. Both training are conducted on week-

day and week-end. The MSSP staff had enrolled 35 clients in the computer training and 23 more clients in the soldering training. They will finish their training at the end of this July.

Therefore, if you or someone you know needs a job or job training in the above two fields, please come to visit CMAA, or call any one of us, Margaret Tham, Pov Ye, or Vincent Un, at 454-4286.



Soldering Class

# ការងារនាំមកនូវភាពរុងរឿងថ្លៃថ្នូរនៅក្នុងជីវិត

សមាគមខ្មែរទ្រទ្រង់រស់រានជួយលោក-អ្នកឲ្យជួយខ្លួនឯងបាន

កម្មវិធីជំនួយរក  
ការងារនៅសមាគម  
ខ្មែរទ្រទ្រង់រស់រានខិតខំធ្វើ  
ការបំរើសហគមន៍ជន  
ជាតិភៀសខ្លួនអស់រយៈ  
ជិតពីរឆ្នាំមកហើយ។  
កិច្ចការរបស់យើងនេះ  
បានទទួលជោគជ័យយ៉ាង  
ត្រចះត្រចង់ដោយសារការ  
គាំទ្រ របស់សហគមន៍  
ខ្មែរទាំងនៅក្នុង និងក្រៅ



Training

ទីក្រុងឡូរែល និងដោយសារការតស៊ូដឹកនាំរបស់បុគ្គលិកនៃកម្មវិធី។  
កម្មវិធីជំនួយរកការងារនេះ គឺមិនមែនជួយតែរកការងារ ជួសបង់ប្អូន  
ប៉ុណ្ណោះទេ គឺយើងមានជួយបំរើកិច្ចការផ្សេងៗជាច្រើនទៀត។ គ្រាន់តែនៅក្នុង  
កំលុងកន្លះឆ្នាំនេះប៉ុណ្ណោះ យើងបានជួយបំរើជាង៣៥០គ្រួសារ រួមទាំងខ្មែរនិង  
ទាំងជនជាតិភៀសខ្លួនដទៃទៀតដែរ។ យើងខ្ញុំជួយបំរើដោយបំពេញពាក្យ  
សុំជំនួយរដ្ឋនានាដូចជាទទួលប្រាក់ដែលប្រើប្រាស់ស្រាប់តែទ្រទ្រង់មើលខ្លួន ទីលំនៅ  
តុលាការ បច្ចុប្បន្នសញ្ជាតិជាដើម។

ជាពិសេសទៅទៀត បុគ្គលិកយើងបានជួយដាក់ពាក្យទៅរដ្ឋាភិបាល  
ខាង ក្រសួងសិក្សាធិការនៅទីក្រុងបស្ស៊ីន ដើម្បីទាមទាររកតំលៃនៃការសិក្សា  
ដែលបង-ប្អូនខ្មែរយើងខ្លះបានទទួលមកពីមាតុប្រទេស។ លទ្ធផលជោគជ័យ  
នោះ គឺក្រសួងសិក្សាធិការនេះបានទទួលស្គាល់ ហើយឲ្យតំលៃដល់បងប្អូនខ្លះ  
បានស្នើសុំនិងវេជ្ជបញ្ជា ឯអ្នកខ្លះទៀតបានស្នើសុំនិងបញ្ជាប្រគល់សញ្ជាតិ  
នៅស.វ.អា.នេះ។

ចំពោះផ្នែកការងារវិញនោះ បុគ្គលិកទាំងបីរូបរបស់យើងក៏បានខ្លះ  
ខ្លះយ៉ាងពេញទំហឹងដើម្បីជួយរកការងារដែលស្របទៅតាមសមត្ថភាពនិង  
ចំណូលចិត្តរបស់ប្រជាជនយើង និងជាពិសេសបានតំលៃគួរសមទៅតាម  
សេដ្ឋកិច្ចស្រុកផងដែរ។ នៅក្នុងរយៈពេល៦ខែ កន្លងទៅនេះ គឺពីខែតុលា១៩៩៩  
ដល់ខែមីនា ២០០០ពួកយើងបានជួយមនុស្សចំនួន ១១៣នាក់ ដែលនៅក្នុងនេះគឺ  
មានមនុស្សពេញវ័យ ចំនួន៩៤និងក្មេងជំទង់ ចំនួន១៩នាក់។

មិនត្រឹមតែប៉ុណ្ណោះទៀតសោតនៅក្នុងចំណោមអ្នកទាំង៩៤នាក់  
នេះគឺយើងបានជួយ២៣គ្រួសារឲ្យចេះសំដោយខ្លួនឯង ដោយយប់ ឬក៏បន្ត  
នូវការទទួលជំនួយពីក្រសួង ដែលប្រើប្រាស់។

សារៈប្រយោជន៍មួយទៀតដែលសមាគមខ្មែរទ្រទ្រង់ បានធ្វើជូនដល់  
សហគមន៍ខ្មែរនោះ គឺការផ្តល់នូវជំនួយហ្វឹកហ្វឺនិដ្ឋាជីវៈ ផ្នែកកំព្យូទ័រ និង  
ផ្សេងៗទៀតផងដែរ។ មុខវិជ្ជាទាំងពីរមុខនេះគឺគេកំពុងតែត្រូវការជាខ្លាំងនៅតាម  
សហគ្រាសនានា។ សិស្សសព្វថ្ងៃនេះយើងបានទទួលសិស្ស៣៥នាក់ឲ្យចូល  
រៀន កំព្យូទ័រ និង ២៣ នាក់ទៀតឲ្យរៀនផ្នែកផ្សេងៗទៀតផងដែរ។ សិស្សទាំងនេះ  
នឹងបញ្ចប់ការសិក្សារបស់គេនៅចុងខែកក្កដានេះហើយ។

ហេតុដូច្នេះហើយបើសិនជាអស់ លោក-អ្នកឬអ្នកណាមួយដែល  
លោក-អ្នកស្គាល់នោះ ចង់ឲ្យពួកយើងខ្ញុំជួយរកការងារ ឬក៏ជួយចុះឈ្មោះចូល  
រៀនមុខវិជ្ជាខាងលើនេះ សូមមេត្តាអញ្ជើញមក ឬក៏ទូរស័ព្ទមក អ្នកណាមួយក៏  
បាននៅក្នុងចំណោមពួកយើងទាំងបីនាក់គឺ ធម្ម-ឡាវីន យ៉េ-ពៅ និង អ៊ិន-  
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## កម្មវិធីរៀនភាសាអង់គ្លេស គឺសំរាប់អ្នករៀនដំបូង។


គោលបំណងរបស់កម្មវិធីនេះគឺដើម្បីជួយលោកអ្នកឲ្យមានភាពច្នៃស្រាវជ្រាវក្នុងការរស់នៅក្នុងសង្គម ហើយជួយលោកអ្នករៀននិងយល់ភាសា អង់គ្លេសដែលប្រើកំរៅនៅកន្លែងធ្វើការ។

កម្មវិធីភាសាអង់គ្លេសអាចជួយលោកអ្នក៖

- ★ រៀននិយាយភាសាអង់គ្លេសក្នុង កន្លែងធ្វើការ
- ★ ងាយស្រួលរកការងារធ្វើ
- ★ លើកស្ទួយជីវភាពគ្រួសារ
- ★ ត្រៀមខ្លួនមុនពេលចូលធ្វើការ



សូមចូរសម្របសម្រួលកម្មវិធី Danny Div នៅសមាគមខ្មែរ



Daycare children holding a baby Burmese python at an animal fair at the CMAA

Photo by Sophy Theam

### KOMAR DAY CARE CENTER PRESCHOOL PROGRAM

- v SERVICES FOR 2.9 YEARS TO 5 Y.O. CHILDREN
- v SERVICES FOR 5 TO 7 Y.O. CHILDREN

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# កម្មវិធីយុវវ័យ

គិតម្សិលមិញនៅក្នុងចំណោមកម្មវិធីដទៃទៀតរបស់

សមាគមខ្មែរប្រចាំទីក្រុងឡូដែលដែលយើងនិយមហៅកាត់ខ្លីថា ស៊ីមីមេអេ ។ កម្មវិធីនេះបានរៀបចំឡើងដើម្បីមិនចំណែកដល់ការរស់នៅនៃមនុស្សវ័យក្មេងដែលមានអាយុចាប់ពី ៧ រហូតដល់ ២១ ឆ្នាំ។ ការរស់នៅនេះគឺធ្វើឡើងបន្ទាប់ពីម៉ោងសិក្សាហើយដែលសំដៅចំពោះការរស់នៅរបស់យុវវ័យមនុស្សខ្មែរមានដូចជា

១. អក្សរសាស្ត្ររៀនរាល់ថ្ងៃចំនួននិងថ្ងៃសុក្រពីម៉ោង៤ ដល់ម៉ោង៥ល្ងាច។ និងរៀនរាល់ថ្ងៃសៅរ៍ពីម៉ោង៤ដល់ម៉ោង១១ព្រឹក។
២. ភ្លេងបូណ៌ ចាប់ពីថ្ងៃច័ន្ទដល់ថ្ងៃព្រហស្បតិ៍ពីម៉ោង៥ដល់ ម៉ោង៥ល្ងាច។
៣. របាំប្រពៃណី រៀនរាល់ថ្ងៃអង្គារ, ព្រហស្បតិ៍និងថ្ងៃសុក្រពីម៉ោង៥ ដល់ម៉ោង១ល្ងាច។
៤. វិទ្យាសាស្ត្រ(ឥន្ទ្រ) រៀនរាល់ថ្ងៃច័ន្ទ-ពុធ-ព្រហស្បតិ៍ និងថ្ងៃសុក្រចាប់ពីម៉ោង៣:៣០ម៉ោង៥ល្ងាច។
៥. របាំនិងចម្រៀងសម័យជាតិសាសនាអង់គ្លេសចាប់ពីថ្ងៃច័ន្ទ ដល់ថ្ងៃសុក្រពីម៉ោង៣:៣០ដល់ ម៉ោង៥ល្ងាច។

ក្រៅពីខាងលើនេះទៀត កម្មវិធីយុវវ័យមានផ្តល់ការរស់នៅតាមបែបប្រជុំភ្នំភ្នំ ជុំវិញការរស់នៅ, ប្រវត្តិសាស្ត្រ, និទានរឿងខ្លីៗ, កិច្ចការ, ជួយការងារ, ជួយទាក់ទងរកសាលារៀន, ជួយធ្វើកិច្ចការដែលគ្រូម្នាក់ពីសាលាសិក្សាអំពីវិទ្យាសាស្ត្រទាក់ទងសង្គម, ទឹកដីធ្វើបុណ្យផ្សេងៗតាមបែបប្រពៃណីសាសនា, ទឹកដីទៅសម្តែងនៅទីប្រជុំសាលាណាមួយក្នុងសហគមន៍, និងជួយដោះស្រាយ សម្របសម្រួលកិច្ចការផ្សេងៗ ទាំងបញ្ហាគ្រួសារ និងច្បាប់រដ្ឋ។

បន្ទាប់មកគឺចាប់ពីម៉ោង៥ដល់ម៉ោងប្រមាណជា ៧:៣០ប្តូរ ល្ងាច កម្មវិធីយុវវ័យយើងផ្គត់ផ្គង់បានផ្តល់យានជំនិះទឹកយកកូន-ចៅប្រុសស្រីរបស់លោក-អ្នក ទៅកាន់គេហដ្ឋានដោយសុវត្ថិភាពទៀតផង។

តាមបទពិសោធន៍ជាក់ស្តែងកន្លងមកបានបញ្ជាក់ឲ្យឃើញថា៖ សកម្មភាពរបស់កម្មវិធីយុវវ័យដូចបានជម្រាបនៅខាងលើនេះបានផ្តល់មកវិញនូវគុណប្រយោជន៍សំខាន់ៗខាងលើ៖

១. បានកាត់បន្ថយបង្កិចម្តងៗនូវអំពើអាក្រក់មុខផ្សេងៗទាំងតាមផ្លូវផ្តល់ និងទីសាធារណៈ។
២. បានផ្សារភ្ជាប់យុវវ័យទៅនឹងសង្គមសហគមន៍ទាំងមូល។
៣. បានធ្វើឲ្យយុវវ័យដឹងថាសង្គមគ្រួសារពួកគេ។
៤. បានធ្វើឲ្យយុវវ័យដឹងថាពួកគេក៏មានសិទ្ធិធ្វើបុណ្យទានបានដែរ។
៥. បានធ្វើឲ្យមានការយោគយល់អន្តរាស្ត្រយុវវ័យគ្នារវាងមាតា-បិតា និងប្រុសស្រី។
៦. បានរក្សាខ្លួនបន្តសុភាពសុខភាពខ្មែរគឺ៖ ទំពាំងស្នងប្បស្សី ខាងវិស័យវប្បធម៌។

គុណប្រយោជន៍ទាំងអស់នេះ មិនមែនបានមកដោយឯកឯងទេ!តាមពិតទៅគឺបានមកដោយសារការប្រឹងប្រែងរបស់បុគ្គលិកកម្មវិធីយុវវ័យ, របស់លោក-អ្នកទឹកដីសមាគមខ្មែរគ្រប់ឋានគ្រម, និងរបស់អ្នកផ្តល់ជំនួយជួយថវិការាជានាយិកាស្ថិតស្ថាន។



Photo by Sayon Soeun

John Hancock Parquet Challenge, Feb. 6, 2000 @ Fleet Center

ស្នាហប់និងលំបាកលំបិនជាទីបំផុត។ ក៏ប៉ុន្តែគុណផលដ៏ប្រពៃនេះគឺជាមិនទាន់គ្រប់គ្រាន់នៅឡើយទេ ព្រោះមកពីមានបញ្ហាដ៏ធ្ងន់ដល់ទៅ២មុខទៀតដែលដោះស្រាយមិនបាន ឬមិនទាន់បានដោះស្រាយនៅឡើយ។ បញ្ហាទាំងនោះគឺ ថា ទី១ យុវវ័យមិនទាន់មានការទទួលបានលើកទឹកចិត្តគ្រូម្នាក់ក្នុងស្ថានភាពគ្រប់គ្រាន់ ពីសហគមន៍នៅឡើយទេ ជាពិសេសគឺសហគមន៍ខ្មែរខ្លួនឯងតែម្តង។ ទី២ គឺថាបុគ្គលិក នៃកម្មវិធីយុវវ័យ និងមាតា-បិតានៃក្មេងដែលចូលរួមទាំងនោះ គឺមិនទាន់មានធ្វើការទាក់ទងប្រជុំដើម្បីឲ្យយល់សុខទុក្ខគ្នាទៀតទៅមកនៅឡើយទេ។

បើដឹងអញ្ចឹងហើយសួរថា តើយើងត្រូវទុកបណ្តោយឲ្យបញ្ហានៅតែជាបញ្ហាដែលជាដីដែលទៀតទេ? ខ្ញុំសូមឆ្លើយថា ទេ! យើងមិនត្រូវធ្វើអញ្ចឹងទេ! គឺយើងត្រូវចេះជួយលើកទឹកចិត្តគ្នា។ ជាពិសេសគឺបុគ្គលិកកម្មវិធីយុវវ័យនិងមាតា-បិតាត្រូវមានកម្មវិធីជួបប្រជុំភ្នំភ្នំឲ្យបានញឹកញាប់ព្រោះការប្រជុំច្រើនគឺច្រើនល្អ! បើបុគ្គលិកហើយរឿងអីមិនល្អនោះព្រះ?...

ដោយ លោក ស៊ាង-ស័ក្តិ



## CMAA's Youth Services Program

The youth services program is one of many of the Cambodian Mutual Assistance Association of Great Lowell (CMAA). The program has been established to provide additional educational opportunities for youth whose ages are between 7 and 21. This is an after school program that intends to educate youth in Khmer culture such as:

1. Khmer language every Monday and Friday from 4-5pm and every Saturday from 9-11am.
2. Traditional music Monday to Thursday from 4-5pm.
3. Traditional dance every Tues., Thurs. and Fri. from 5-6pm.
4. Arts and culture every Mon., Wed., Thurs. & Fri. from 3:30-5pm.
5. Modern English songs and dance from Mon.-Fri. from 3:30-5pm.
6. From 5-7:30 or 8pm, the program provides transportation to youth to get home safely.

### Other Activities

The youth program provides education through social and historical discussions, short folk story telling, sports, employment assistance, help with finding schools, help with homework, study about strategies of leadership, lead youths to do other Buddhist ceremonies, bring youths to perform different places in the community and provide general help to families regarding civic rights.

True experience has shown that activities of the youth program mentioned above have provided 6 benefits:

1. Reduced harmful actions in public places
2. Connected the youth to whole community
3. Made the youth aware that their leaderships are needed in the community
4. Made the youth aware that they have rights to celebrate/do ceremonies
5. Made the youth understand between them and parents
6. Connected to the Khmer proverb: youth are future in keeping our culture

These benefits don't come by themselves! They came because of efforts of youth staff, leadership of CMAA and funders who face many challenging problems to provide funding for the program. But these benefits are truly not enough. There are two other main problems that cannot be solved yet. First, youth have not received incentives from the community (especially Khmer community). Second, youth staff and parents have not established a good relationship to create confidence with each other.



Now that we know about the problems, do we continue to let them exist? My response is no! We'll not allow them to happen. We must help encourage and give incentive to our youth. Especially, the youth staff and parents must often meet with each other because more meetings can improve their relationship with each other.

50 YEARS OF GREATNESS

RED AUERBACH YOUTH FOUNDATION

*Red Auerbach*

JOHN HANCOCK PARQUET CHALLENGE  
FEBRUARY 6, 2000



Friendship Dance Troupe waiting to perform "Phoung Neary" at the Khmer New Year Festival; Photo by Rady Mom

### ការដឹកជញ្ជូននៅសមាគមខ្មែរ

ដោយ សាវ៉ា ស័ក្តិ

ការដឹកជញ្ជូនមានសារៈសំខាន់ណាស់សម្រាប់សង្គមនិមួយៗ។ នេះគឺមានន័យថា សង្គមគ្រួសារក្តី សង្គមក្រុមហ៊ុន ពាណិជ្ជកម្ម-ឧស្សាហកម្ម-កសិកម្មក្តី និងសង្គមប្រទេសជាតិទាំងមូលក្តី គឺសុទ្ធសឹងតែត្រូវការឲ្យមានការដឹកជញ្ជូនជាចាំបាច់។ គ្រួសារកម្មករ កសិករ ពាណិជ្ជករនិងក្រសួងរដ្ឋ បានយករទេះគោ រទេះក្របី រទេះសេះ អ៊ីវ ទោច ក្រយាន ទោចក្រយានយន្ត ត្រីចក្រយាន រថយន្ត រថភ្លើង ទូក កាណូត កុប៉ាល់ និងយន្តហោះជាដើមធ្វើជាមធ្យោបាយដឹកជញ្ជូនប្រចាំថ្ងៃ។ ជួយទៅវិញ បើទាំងអស់គ្នាពុំមានអ្វីជាមធ្យោបាយដឹកជញ្ជូនទេនោះ នោះសង្គម នោះច្បាស់ជាពុំមានការលូតលាស់ទេ! ច្បាស់ជាទៅសុញភាពង្អាតរាងកាយគ្មានការទាក់ទងគ្នា។ ដូច្នោះមានន័យថា ការដឹកជញ្ជូនគឺមែនមានប្រយោជន៍ត្រឹមតែដឹកជញ្ជូនតិចមួយទៅមួយប៉ុណ្ណោះទេ!! តែគឺវាមានប្រយោជន៍ យ៉ាងសំខាន់ ក្នុងការទាក់ទងគ្នា រវាងសុខុមភាពទៅវិញទៅមកចម្រើនផង។

យ៉ាងណាមិញបើយើងក្រឡេកមើលទៅសមាគមខ្មែរវិញយើងនឹងឃើញថាការដឹកជញ្ជូនគឺជាផ្នែកមួយនៅក្នុងចំណោមការងារសំខាន់ៗ អន្តរកាលដែលធ្វើឲ្យសមាគមខ្មែរចេះតែមានចលនាប្រព្រឹត្តទៅមុខជាទិញ គឺប្រៀបបីដូចជាអ្នកយំរះ ដែលធ្វើឲ្យកាយបានចម្រើន ធំធេងជាលំដាប់ដូច្នោះដែរ។ ជាការពិតណាស់ដែលសមាគមខ្មែរ មានការដឹកជញ្ជូនភ្នាក់ងារដើមរៀងមកហើយនោះ។ ខ្ញុំបានចូលធ្វើការសមាគមខ្មែរ នៅថ្ងៃឆ្នាំ 1997 ខាងផ្នែកជំនួយការនៃកម្មវិធីចាស់ទុំ (Elderly Program) ដែលមាននាងជំរុយ គឺ ជាប្រធាន។ ពេលនេះសមាគមខ្មែរមានឡានដឹកដំបូង ដឹកដំបូង (Dodge Ram) ឆ្នាំ 1987 ដែលមានចំណុះ 15 នាក់។ យើងខ្ញុំតាំងខ្លួនខ្ញុំ បានប្រើឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះសម្រាប់ដឹកចាស់ទុំទៅទីកន្លែងនានាដូចជា ទៅមន្ទីរពេទ្យ ទៅពិសារ បាយនៅ Smith Baker ទៅពិនិត្យឈាមនៅវគ្គទាំងពីរ «គ្រួសារនាមនិងពន្លឺ- ពន្លឺចក្រ» ទៅប្រជុំនៅសមាគមខ្មែរ និងទៅដើរលេងក្នុងរដូវក្តៅ។ល។

បន្ទាប់មកគឺនៅដើមឆ្នាំ 1998 លោកនាយកប្រតិបត្តិ សំខាន់ ឃឿន បានតម្រូវបន្ថែមការងារឲ្យខ្ញុំធ្វើជាអ្នកបើកបរ ដឹកសិស្សានុសិស្សនៃកម្មវិធីយុវ មាតាបិតាហៅ Young Parent Program (YPP) ពីផ្ទះទៅសមាគមនិងពីសមាគមទៅផ្ទះវិញ រៀនរាល់ថ្ងៃធ្វើការនៅថ្ងៃទី 15 មិនា 1998 សមាគមខ្មែរបានផ្លាស់ទី 125 Perry Street មកនៅអគារលេខ 165 Jackson Street សព្វថ្ងៃនេះ។ មិនយូរប៉ុន្មាន លោក សំខាន់ ឃឿន ក៏បានចាត់ខ្ញុំឲ្យធ្វើជាអ្នកបើកបរដឹកយុវវ័យហៅថា Youth Services Program នៅពេលល្ងាច ដើម្បីជួយការពារកុំឲ្យមានបញ្ហាផ្សេងៗផង។ ភាគច្រើនគឺខ្ញុំដឹកយុវវ័យ ចេញពីសមាគមខ្មែរនៅម៉ោង 5:00 រហូតដល់ម៉ោង 6:00 ឬ 7:00 ឬ 8:00 ល្ងាច អាស្រ័យតាមចំនួនតិចច្រើននិងកិច្ចការដែលយុវវ័យត្រូវធ្វើជាចាំបាច់ដូចជាទៅសម្លែងរាំ ឬ ទៅលេងល្បែងកីឡាជាដើម។ ជាការពិតណាស់ដែល Dodge Ram ដឹកដំបូងរបស់យើងមានសភាពទ្រុឌទ្រោម រទេះរខាក ចាញ់ភ្លៀងចាញ់ទឹកកក ជូនឈឺជូនជា ឬពេលខ្លះខ្ញុំត្រូវចំណាយប្រាក់កាសផ្ទាល់ខ្លួនខ្លះ ដើម្បីជួសជុលកង់ដោយ ក៏ខ្ញុំគ្មានដែលបាន នឹកគិតគូរអំពីបញ្ហាទាំងអស់នេះទេ។ ពេលបើកបរទៅណាមកណាមួយ តើអ្វីដែលខ្ញុំត្រូវគិតជាចម្បង គេនោះ គឺត្រូវផ្តល់សេចក្តីសុខុម្បជាន់ដល់អ្នកជិះក្នុងឡានគ្រប់ៗគ្នា។

ពេលកំពុងស្ទង់អាវម្នាក់និងឡានចាស់ស្រាប់តែនៅដើមឆ្នាំ 1999 ខ្ញុំបានឮដំណឹងពីលោក សំខាន់ សុភា និង អ្នកដឹកនាំទៀតៗប្រាប់ខ្ញុំថា យើងជិតបានឡានដឹកដំបូងហើយ។ មិនយូរប៉ុន្មានគឺនៅថ្ងៃព្រហស្បតិ៍ទី 27 មករា ឆ្នាំ 2000 អ្នកស្រីឡូដើន ជាប្រធានផ្នែកយុវវ័យបានប្រគល់សោឡានឲ្យខ្ញុំដំណើរម៉ោងបើកនេះរសៀល។ ដែល បញ្ជាក់ច្បាស់ថា

CMAA បានឡានដឹកដំបូងប្រាក់ដើមនិមាត់ Ford ២០០០ ឆ្នាំ ២០០០ ពណ៌ស ចំណុះ ១៥ នាក់។ ខ្ញុំចាប់បើកឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះ តាំងពីវាទើបតែមានត្រឹម៥៧ម៉ែ។ ឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះ មិនសម្រាប់ដឹកកម្មវិធីចាស់ទុំ-យុវមាតា បិតា និងកម្មវិធីយុវវ័យដូចបានដំបូង ហើយនោះទេគឺសម្រាប់បុគ្គលិកទាំងអស់ឲ្យតែនៅក្នុងក្របខណ្ឌការងាររបស់សមាគម។ តែចំណែកកូនសោរមានអ្នកកាន់តែ២នាក់ទេ គឺរូបខ្ញុំផ្ទាល់អ្នកប្រើប្រាស់ច្រើនជាងគេ និងនាងមុត-វីនី។ ហេតុនេះបើបុគ្គលិកណាត្រូវការប្រើប្រាស់ម្តងម្កាល គេត្រូវបំពេញ Form ប្រាប់លោកអ្នកបើក បានកូនសោរពិណាយកឡានទៅណា មានសមាជិក ឬ client ជិះនៅក្នុងនោះប៉ុន្មាននាក់ ម៉ោងប៉ុន្មានចេញទៅ ម៉ោងប៉ុន្មានមកវិញ ថ្ងៃខែឆ្នាំណា ដែលប្រើឡាននោះ ...។ល។ កិច្ចការនេះគឺធ្វើដើម្បីឲ្យដឹង និងចៀសវាងនូវការប្រើមិនដឹងមុខដែលជាហេតុមិនល្អហើយឈ្មោះថាខ្លះរបៀបរបប។

តាំងពីបានឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះមក ខ្ញុំត្រូវបន្ថែមការប្រុងប្រយ័ត្នខ្លះមួយជាពីរ។ ម្យ៉ាងគឺប្រយ័ត្នក្នុងការបើកបរច្រើនថ្ងៃកុំមានគ្រោះថ្នាក់ ហើយម្យ៉ាងទៀតត្រូវដំណើរដល់ យុវវ័យឲ្យស្គាល់ថាឡានដឹកដំបូងរបស់ពួកគេដែរ ឲ្យពួកគេចេះស្រឡាញ់ ជួយចែកឲ្យប្រាក់បែកបំណែកដាច់ដោច និងប្រឡូកប្រឡូកប្រឡូកជាដើម។ តាមការពិសោធន៍កន្លង មកនេះគឺឃើញថាការដំណើរដំបូងនេះមានប្រសិទ្ធភាពណាស់ ព្រោះថាការដំបូងបានឬ មិនបានក៏ព្រោះតែមកពីគេស្គាល់ឬមិនស្គាល់អំពីសារៈប្រយោជន៍នេះវាង។

ម្យ៉ាងវិញទៀត ចាប់តាំងពីបានឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះ មកគឺមានការដឹកជញ្ជូនច្រើនណាស់។ ពេលខ្លះ លោកអាន ចន់ផន ឬសាយ៉ន ដឹកយុវវ័យទៅសម្លែងរាំឬទៅលេងកីឡានៅ Amherst ឬ Lynn។ ពេលខ្លះខ្ញុំដឹកយុវវ័យទៅមហាវិទ្យាល័យ ឬសាលាវិទ្យុសាស្ត្រនៅប្រទេសស្តុនខាងកើតដែលមានចម្ងាយរាប់រយម៉ែ។ បើនិយាយពីការដែលខ្ញុំដឹករាល់ថ្ងៃវិញគឺក្នុង១ថ្ងៃ មិនគិតជាង៥០ម៉ែទេ។ ជាក់ស្តែង គ្រាន់តែពីចុងខែមករាដល់ខែឧសភា ឆ្នាំ២០០០នេះ ឡានដឹកដំបូងដល់ទៅ ៣៥៧១ម៉ែដំណើរ។ តែទោះបីជាមានដឹកជញ្ជូននេះមមាញឹកយ៉ាងណាក៏ដោយ ក៏ឡានដឹកដំបូងនេះនៅតែមិនអាចបំពេញសេចក្តីត្រូវការនៅក្នុងសមាគមបានឡើយ។

សូមមើលចុះ! បុគ្គលិកនៃកម្មវិធីនិមួយៗ សុទ្ធសឹងតែមានសមាជិក សមាជិកា ហៅថា client គ្រប់ៗគ្នា។ ឯបុគ្គលិកម្នាក់ៗសុទ្ធតែមានកិច្ចការទាក់ទងទៅខាងក្រៅ ដូចជាទៅមន្ទីរពេទ្យ សាលារៀន គុណការ រោងចក្រ និងទៅប្រជុំតាមក្រសួងនានាជាដើម ដែលសុទ្ធតែត្រូវប្រើរថយន្តផ្ទាល់ខ្លួនយ៉ាងសកម្មរាល់ថ្ងៃ។ ដល់ត្រង់នេះទើបយើងមើលឃើញថា ឡានដឹកដំបូង ឡានផ្ទាល់ខ្លួនរបស់។ ការរស់រវើកច្រើននេះហើយ ដែលបញ្ជាក់ថាមិនតាំង។ ការមិនតាំងនេះហើយដែលបញ្ជាក់ថាសមាគមខ្មែរមានដំណើរទៅមុខមាន វឌ្ឍនភាពមានការរីកចម្រើនដោយសារតែមានវិស័យទាក់ទងខាងការដឹកជញ្ជូនជាប្រភព។



Photo by Sak Seang

# TRANSPORTATION AT CMAA

The mean of transportation in any society has a very crucial role in it such as in family, business, non-profit organization and government institution and society as a whole need to transport object or person from one point to another point in space. In any walk of life need to use transportation such as; farmers, businessperson, and public officials. In the early society, especially folk in agriculture economy have been using ox cart, horse cart, elephant, bicycle, car, tricycle, train, boat, ship, and airplane to transport object or person from one place to another in daily activity. If we don't have the mean to transport objective or person from point A to point B, then the economic activity in that society is undeveloped or poor condition. The communication activity for public official or private institution would unproductive if without the mean of transportation.

If we look back to CMAA organization, the transportation job is one of the most important activities that can move our organization forward its agenda.

I have been starting working at CMAA since the late of 1997 in Elder Assistance & Outreach Services program which under the direction of Ms. Thy Chey. In that time the CMAA own an old van made in 1987 that have 15 passenger seats. We used an old van to carry elder to the hospital, temple, and training at CMAA ect.... In early 1998, Mr. Samkhann Khoen, the director of CMAA increased my job description by adding After School

Youth Services into my job responsibility. My job was to drive the youth from CMAA to their resident or vice versa on working day basis. On March 15, 1998 CMAA had moved from old place from 125 Perry Street to a new place at 165 Jackson Street. Then the director asked me to drive the youth at afternoon 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. depend on the number of the youth and their activities outside of CMAA such as; performing Khmer classical dance, sport activities ect.... CMAA 's van in a very bad condition; the oil is leaking, brake problem. Sometime I have to us my personal money to fix CMAA property in order to provide safety for our youth and the passenger. I am felt confident driving the van. Then in early 1999, I have heard good news from the leadership. They wanted to purchase a new van. On the January 27, 2000 our program director Lorraine Cordeiro gave me the key to me.

The CMAA got a new white van, a 2000 Ford E350; it carries up to 15 passengers. I have driven this new van since its mileage was about 40 miles. The new van is not only for the Elderly program and Youth program, but it also for all of the CMAA programs.

Only two CMAA staffs are responsible for the key, Ronnie and me. So, if any staff member wants to use it, s/he should fill out a form telling who is going to drive the car, from where and what time, to where and what time, the number of passengers, date of using it, and so on. The purpose to fill out the form is to make sure the car is used for a good reasonable service.

Since I got the new van, I have taken care of it very carefully, I even double the work that I used to do with the old car. I have to be careful with my daily driving. I instruct the youth to understand that this car is also belong to them so they should help to take care of it (not to break things or mess it up). I have noticed this instruction works very well. It is important to instruct them, because if they do not understand about the importance of the van, it is hard for them to help in taking care of it.

Since we receive the car, the need of transportation is increased. Sometimes, Arn Chorn Pond, or Sayon Soeun, takes the youth to perform classical dancing or playing sports in Amherst or Lynn. Sometimes, I take them to the university in Boston. Just my driving of the van is over 50 miles per day. For instance, from the end of January to the end of May, 2000, this van had been driven 3571 miles. Although the van is used a lot in transportation, one van is still not enough for the need. As you can see, there are many staff members in each program. The program staffs are busy with inside and outside work, like taking clients to medical clinics, schools, courts, companies, and to meetings. Everyday, all of them use their own cars to provide the services to the clients. Now, you can see that not only the CMAA's van that is busy, but the staff's cars too. This work goes on without stopping. The non-stop activity shows that the CMAA is going forward, improving, and developing because of the availability of the transportation.

*Transportation is the main source of communication.*

By Sak Seang  
Translated by Vincent Un

## “កម្មវិធីមនោរម្យជំនួយគ្រួសារខ្មែរ”

កម្មវិធីនេះមានគុណនិមិត្តសេចក្តី ត្រូវការគ្រួសារខ្មែរណាដែលមានកូនពិការភ្នែកសិក្សាថ្នាក់ មេឃុំដែលមានឈ្មោះចាស់ពីកើត ដល់២២ឆ្នាំ។ កម្មវិធីមនោរម្យជំនួយគ្រួសារខ្មែរផ្តល់នូវការបំរើនាណាដូចជា ៖

- ◆ ជួយបកប្រែសាសា
- ◆ ជួយដឹកជញ្ជូនទៅពេទ្យនានា
- ◆ ដោះស្រាយបំពោះវិបត្តិផ្សេងៗ ។ល។

អាស្រ័យលេខនេះមើលទៅ-អ្នកមានកូនពិការនិងត្រូវការជំនួយសូមមកជួបនិយាយខ្លីៗដល់គាត់យើងស្នើសុំឲ្យមានការបំរើនាណាដូចខ្ញុំ ៖

ទូរស័ព្ទលេខ (៨៧៨) ៤៥៤-៤២៨៦

លេខបន្ត ៣៦, ៣៧, ឬ ៣៨៥ សូមអរគុណ



Photo by Brian Chen

Monorom youth at Hampton Beach, 6/26/00

## កម្មវិធីជំនួយមនុស្សចាស់

ជាកម្មវិធីមួយរបស់សមាគមខ្មែរប្រចាំក្រុងឡូរ៉ែល។ កម្មវិធីនេះគឺសំរាប់ជួយបំរើសេចក្តីត្រូវ ការនិងជួយសម្រួលនូវភាពតានតឹងដល់លោកអ៊ី ប្រុស-អ៊ីស្រីដែលមានអាយុចាប់ពី ៦០ឆ្នាំឡើងទៅ។ បើអស់លោក-អ្នកចង់ប្រាប់ព័ត៌មានបន្ថែមទៀតសូម ទូរស័ព្ទមក(៨៧៨) ៤៥៤-៤២៨៦ លេខបន្ត៣៧។

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