Cambodian Development Mission for Disability

I am from the United Kingdom and work for CBM as a Co-worker and advisor for the Central East Asia region with responsibility for Community Based Rehabilitation activities. I left Cambodia in 2006 and now work in Vietnam with CBM and seconded to the Ministry of Health.

My association with CDMD (formally Maryknoll RBC) began in 1993 until 2000 when I moved to another project in Cambodia. Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers from the USA were already working in Cambodia before CBM arrived. They ran a Center Based Skills training programme for a small group of war veterans. By being encouraged to develop the programme into a Community Based Programme the possibilities to reach more people was realized. CDMD still remains only one of two CBR programmes working with visually impaired people in Cambodia.

Today the organization still runs with many of the original Cambodian staff that began the work in 1993. During the programmes early development many other needs within the community were found and so the programme tried to adapt to fit those needs.

With the ever-increasing demands all over the world for assistance and to make a programme sustainable it is becoming ever important for programmes to generate their own funds. CBM also encourage this independence but still sees the relevance of providing some financial support as well as technical input.

The programme became a Local NGO in 2007 and the work still continues. People with disabilities who are involved in the programme need a variety of different support mechanisms.

There are different ways that you can help to encourage and improve the lives of People with disabilities and their families.

- Provide seed money, to raise a cow or pig or another income generating activity for individuals. This is used as a revolving fund so can benefit many.
- Funds for self help groups of people with disabilities as well as other vulnerable people in the community. This is also a loan and will be repaid for the use of others.
- Grants for very poor families with special needs
- Support for education of children who have disabilities so that they can go to school
- Support a child needing varieties of surgery from orthopedic to plastic surgery.

I have no hesitation in recommending CDMD as a reliable NGO who spends its money wisely on the people who will benefit the most. CDMD has compassion and professionalism and is highly regarded within the disability sector in Cambodia.

Please feel free to contact me for more information
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