Quarter Overview

It has been another busy but fulfilling quarter for PEPY. 80 scholarship opportunities were given to students from Kralanh and Srei Snom districts, of those 43 are female students. 17 students from promotion 5 are now fully registered at universities studying accountancy, finance, IT and tourism. The four PEPY students who passed their primary teacher exam have now started their teacher training course.

In January PEPY held another Sharing Event in Kralanh which was attended by 25 scholarship students and over 200 Dream Class students. There were three speakers at the event who shared their experiences of studying and working abroad which the students found inspiring.

In staff news in February PEPY welcomed Denise Davis-Boreham to the post of Fundraising & Communications Manager. Denise has over 15 years’ experience in the not-for-profit sector in the UK.

We also welcomed visitors from the United States accompanied by Go Philanthropic who have been long term supporters of PEPY. They visited Kralanh and the Learning Centre and shared their career achievements with the students. They have committed to supporting the ICT project for the next three years which really is fantastic news!
Scholarship Program

PEPY Empowering Youth provides university and vocational training scholarships for students from Kralanh. Recipients are supported with tuition fees, study supplies, a bicycle, use of a computer, a living allowance, and access to health care. Scholarship students also attend the Learning Center for additional training.

Quarterly Overview

As well continuing with their studies PEPY students have enjoyed some fun extra-curricular activities this quarter. 31 PEPY students and 2 staff members took part in a competitive climbing event the Angkor Cup which was organized by the Cambodia Climbing Federation. It was a physically demanding challenge and one which none of the PEPY students had attempted before but everyone gave it their best effort so much so that two of the students achieved 2nd Grade and two 3rd Grade including one of the girls.

25 students and three staff members took a trip to Jombok Hoas Adventure Learning Centre in Preh Vihear. The main objectives of this trip were to promote team building, communication, self-belief and creative thinking. The students were initially nervous to take part in the activities but by encouraging each other they all took part and went on the Blind Walk, Giant Shoes, Gibbon Swing and Giant Swing. As well as the day time adventures, there was also nightly washing up duties, diary writing and reflection time.

All the students felt their confidence had increased and their team building skills as well as it being a fun and enjoyable trip.

Students registration at universities

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Learning Center Project

With employers increasingly highlighting the need for soft skills, PEPY’s Learning Center aims to increase the employability skills of scholarship students through the provision of English and ICT classes and soft skills training through Youth Empowerment classes. Students are also connected to new ideas and potential career opportunities by means of inspirational speakers, career mentorship, internships, and volunteers.

Quarterly Overview

English Class

Students in the English classes are now starting to show consistency in terms of discipline in the classroom and working together as a team. An example of that being that four students have shown exceptional improvement over the past 3 months in terms of comprehension and participation in the class and they have been from the Beginner to Beginner+ class.

The Writing Through organization provided 41 students with a poetry and story writing workshop. The purpose of the workshop was to improve student’s English skills, critical thinking and conceptual thought as well as enhancing individual self-esteem. The workshop ran for five mornings leading up to the ‘Big Event’ at which students read the poems and stories they had written to an audience of friends and staff.

ICT Class

ICT classes are currently being provided to 30 students 5 of whom are non-scholarship students. The students had their quarterly exam and the average score was 82% - a great result for the students and staff! The students are also starting a new exchange program with Bridge 21 in Ireland. The purpose will be to learn about communication, producing media as well sharing about the students’ different cultures and lives. At PEPY we are all trying to improve ourselves and with that in mind the ICT Officer recently attended a workshop on Communication for Leaders provided by the Civil Society Academy. The skills he learnt there will be passed onto other staff and will improve the students learning environment.

Youth Empowerment

25 scholarships students attended Youth Empowerment Class and topics covered this quarter included goal setting, time & project management, communication & leadership skills, and a history lesson on Mahatma Gandhi. International Cooperation Cambodia ran a two-day parenting skills workshop for 21 students. Through group discussion, team building exercises and role play students learnt about caring for child, child development and behavior so that they will in the future be responsible and motivated parents. The USEA, Vanda Institute and Pannasastra University held an open day for prospective students to find out about courses available, fees, facilities on campus and student life there. 25 PEPY students attended and they found out about the law, tourism and accountancy courses, they got to meet with one of the professors and a student representative, attend some classes and visit the university library. Students have also been learning to play football. Both boys and girls have been taking part in the sessions every Friday evening. Not only does this keep students fit & healthy but it has also taught them valuable team building skills. And to improve their environment and keep their bicycles safe students built a cycle park at the PEPY office. They made it out of bamboo with green netting and even added some pot plants to make it look more attractive!
Dream Management Project

Dreams are very important to us at PEPY Empowering Youth. Many of the students we work with are only exposed to a limited range of opportunities. We believe it’s important for young people to dream big and see how they can make their dreams a reality. Through our Dream Classes, we aim to nurture those big ambitions for their future and give them the resources and connections to take the necessary steps to make their dreams a reality. In the PEPY Dream Classes, young people are given a forum to identify and discuss their ambitions for the future, and any challenges they may need to overcome. The classes provide career resources, mentorship, and group workshops. Successful Cambodian professionals present to our students, thereby giving them exposure to different ideas and aspirations.

Quarterly Overview

In this quarter, different topics have been provided to students in grade 10, 11 and 12: Grade 10 have had for example sessions on goal setting, personality test, delivering presentations & the art of learning, Grade 11 sessions on Self-discovery, leaving comfort zone & Overcoming criticism and grade 12 sessions on Public Speaking, how to give and receiving feedback and Teamwork. Outside speakers from different organizations and businesses also help deliver those sessions. The first Dream Talk was held in December for this academic year and three inspirational speakers were invited to talk about their careers. The talks were on careers in agriculture, how to be a tour guide and accountancy. These sessions really help students make informed decisions about what their own career choices will be.

The Dream Class students have also been actively improving their environment. They have built two gardens making and putting up gates and planting flowers & plants. They also took part in a litter pick around the school and they are now watering the trees twice a week being positive role models and showing other students how to care for their environment. The Dream Project Officer is also supporting students to set up a Youth Committee at the school. The aim of this is to improve the school environment by reinforcing school discipline around litter, keeping bikes stored properly and making students know not to ride bikes and motorbikes on school property. Discussions have been held with the School Principal and who is full supportive of the idea and we are now awaiting confirmation that it will go ahead.

Looking forward to:

- Welcoming students from the Packer School in New York, USA who will be visiting Siem Reap for a week and taking part in activities with PEPY students.
- Welcoming students from the Brentwood School, USA who will be visiting us at the end of March
- Learning all about our staff & students visit to DPETNS & Donabate College in Dublin Ireland.

Sharing event

251 participants
3 speakers
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