

# CHILDREN'S SURGICAL CENTRE

# Rehabilitation surgery for disabled Cambodians National Rehabilitation Center, Kien Khleang.

## **Quarterly Report October 2023**

#### WHO WE ARE

CSC provides affordable surgical care by skilled specialists, offers it free to those who need it most, builds capacity by the provision of sub-specialty surgical & international training, and fills gaps in current available healthcare.

Integral to CSC's mission is a program of training local surgeons and hospital staff by international experts – focusing on the development of sustainable surgical services.



### Giving hope to a teenager living with a spinal deformity

SiekMeng is a 15-year-old girl from Prey Veng Province. She lives with her parents, who are rice farmers, and two younger brothers. During her spare time, she is keen on improving her English skills and enjoys watching English-language movies. In the future, she would like to go to university and study medicine. When she was 6 years old, her parents noticed her back didn't look right They sought advice two years later but could not seek treatment as it was too expensive. Over the past year, she has been experiencing more difficulty breathing because her rib cage is putting pressure on her lungs. She also occasionally feels numbness in her legs from her vertebrae pressing on nerves. SiekMeng was self-conscious about her spinal deformity and limited mobility, so she quit going to school full-time. She and her parents learned about Children's Surgical Centre from a relative, prompting them to travel there for care. SiekMeng was diagnosed with scoliosis - a deformity of the spine. Surgeons performed a spinal fusion with implants on 2 August 2023.

It will be a long recovery process for SiekMeng to recover, but she knows it will be worth it in the end. The surgery was important to ensure her condition does not worsen as she grows older. Her love for reading will keep her busy as she recovers. She has started physiotherapy and will return regularly to the doctors at CSC to assess her progress. This surgery will improve her life because she can already breathe better and wants to go to school full-time to fulfill her dream of being a doctor.

We are guided by the needs of our patients and strive to help them achieve health and meaningful change in their lives.

#### THE ASK

Whatever you can give, please know we are grateful to receive it! Little acts of kindness can collectively make a big difference. Thank you for your continued support and for helping us through what continues to be several challenging years.



Please visit <a href="https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/build-hospital-wing-for-25000-disabled-cambodians/">https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/build-hospital-wing-for-25000-disabled-cambodians/</a> to learn more about how you can help change the lives of thousands of Cambodians each year.

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