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**Story of Change**

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| **Title of story of change:**  The Khanchor Siem Reap KCP Group is an advocate for OVC returning to school. | | | |
| **Time Period of Case Study:** | October 2023 | **Location:** | Siem Reap Province |
| **MRO Boundary Partners:** | Orpha Vulnerable Children | **Author:** | MEAS Sarom |

In the past three months, we intervened in 151 cases, including 79 involving girls, referred by Our M’lup Russey Key community People , Local Authorities, NGO partners in Cambodia. Through our family strengthening and separation prevention services, we have successfully supported and prevented the separation.

Siem Reap Kanhchor Key Community Support Group intervened and advocated for the support of a 14-year-old girl, KONG Kea, who dropped out of school, was discriminated against, dared not speak and interacted with people around her, lacked basic hygiene, and was thought to be mentally health issue. She is suffering from violence from her father and lack of warmth and attention, the girl has mental problems, fear when meeting strangers and drops out of school in the second grade) and her family lacked income.

Our two KCP members always rode a motorcycle 15 kilometers to visit the girl after they had counseling and had visited the girl’s family. In order to ask the girl's mother and other family members for additional help the girl further and they spend at least two hours consulting with the girl. Our KCP group discovered that the girl only had mental retardation, not the alleged memory impairment or mental issue. Our KCP group advocates with the teacher, the school director, and the girl's classroom to support her return to school without facing discrimination from her peers. She also had positive relationships and conversations with all of her friends. The KCP visited the girl regularly, provided additional life skill and coaching on her studying, tried to build friendships and warmth, taught hygiene, and met with the class teacher to monitor her studies regularly. The KCP have asked M’lup Russey to help her with school supplies, uniforms, transportation, and to buy school supplies and equipment to help the girl learn more at home, as she has slower developing on studying ,is older than other children and she is also studied and learned English. While at home, the girl spends time with her younger sister, learning more, reading books, writing letters, and helping with some household chores, such as taking care of her sisters, sweeping the house, and cooking. Through the KCP monitoring, it has been observed that the girl has better relationships, non-discriminate from friends, dare to talk to the others, teachers, classmates are no longer shy, dare to mention her wants, needs and she has friends, join with the other classmates, be brave, talk more, friendly and knew how to taking care of her health and hygiene.

**Our KCP Group is putting forth a lot of effort to address the challenges.:** Although the Local Authorities have been aware of the girl’s problem previously, this change is largely due to the involvement of our KCP groups, who have used their time, money, and patience to help the girl. However, the girl is living in an environment where neighbors still consume alcohol and need more attention from mothers and family members. After our KCP advocated with Local Authorities and they are continuing to monitor children through our KCP groups and the girl families will try to encourage the girl to attend school and learn more at home, such as reading, writing, and providing warmth to their children and teachers at school treat the girl like other students.

A group of people sitting under a tent

Description automatically generated**Two girls standing outside a building

Description automatically generated**A person wearing a mask and a couple of girls in a classroom

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