



# Quarterly Update At MRO 1 (January to March 2021)

## Update on COVID-19:

Phnom Penh and Takhmao are locked down temporarily for 14 days with serious restrictions for movement. Most people remain at home for their safety but worry about food accessibility and the increasing prices. Even though the city is in lockdown, the number of COVID-19 infections is still increasing daily. According to the website <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>, there are 7,747 cases in total with 4,899 are active cases, and sadly 54 cases are dead.

### Reported Cases and Deaths by Country or Territory

The coronavirus COVID-19 is affecting 219 countries and territories. The day is reset after midnight GMT+0. The list of countries and their regional classification is based on the United Nations Geoscheme. Sources are provided under "Latest News." [Learn more about Worldometer's COVID-19 data](#)

[Report coronavirus cases](#)

MAIN WEEKLY TRENDS new

Now Yesterday 2 Days Ago Columns Search: Cambodia

All	Europe	North America	Asia	South America	Africa	Oceania							
#	Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop	Population
1	<a href="#">Cambodia</a>	7,747		54		2,794	4,899		458	3	811,284	47,992	16,904,519
	<b>Total:</b>	144,480,499	+55,339	3,072,576	+1,486	122,959,991	18,447,932	109,842	18,535.5	394.2			

Highlighted in green = all cases have recovered from the infection

Highlighted in grey = all cases have had an outcome (there are no active cases)



## Child Welfare Network Sector:

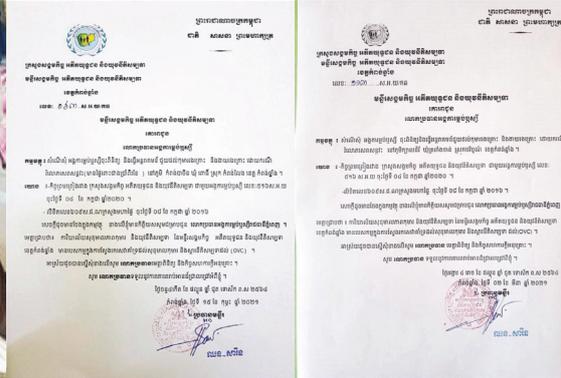


On the morning of February 10, 2021, CWN attended a meeting to review the work results from 2020 and increase implementation for 2021 for the National Council of Cambodian for Children in Takeo Province. In the meeting, results, challenges, and solutions were discussed with the Council as well as focused improvements in implementation in 2021. Many leaders attended the meeting including Heads of Departments, Armed Forces, Deputy Governors, and representatives from civil societies and financial institutions.



On February 3, 2021, the CWN joined the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development to discuss, plan, and disseminate information on the awareness and prevention of violence against children. This prevention program has six target provinces: Kandal, Phnom Penh, Siem Reap, Battambang, Sihanoukville, and Ratanakiri. 34 people joined the meeting including officials from the Department of Child Welfare, Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Cults and Religions, and partner organizations.

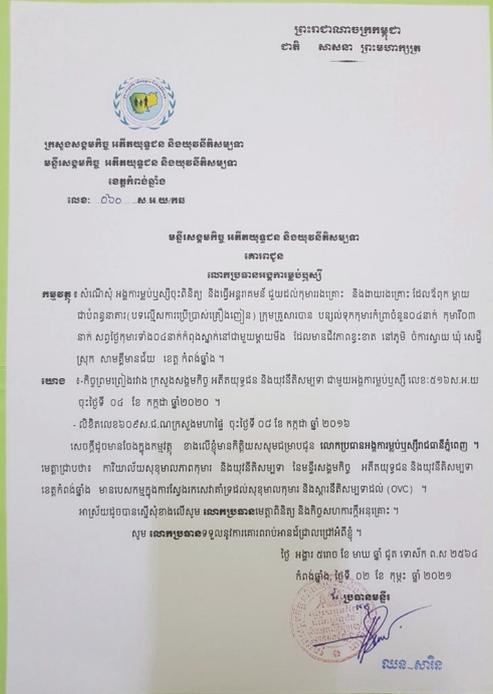
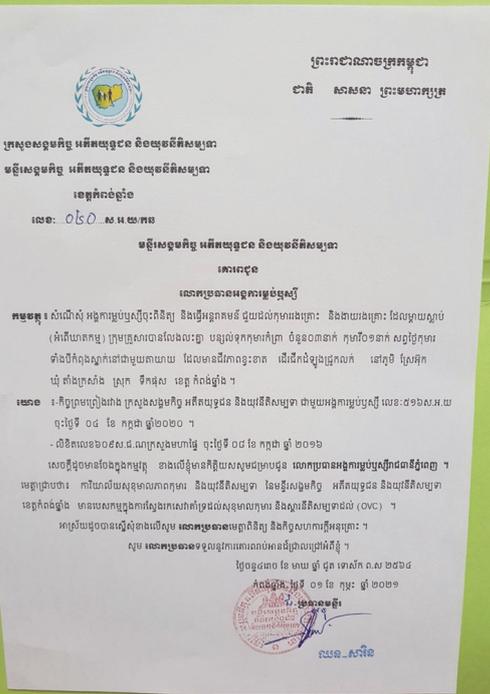




CWN cooperated with the Child Welfare Office of Kampong Chhnang Provincial Department of Social Affairs to become involved in the case management of two girls who had been raped. M'Up Russey supported by providing food to the families of the two victims. MRO's partner organization, Mother's Heart Organization provided additional materials to support one of the children raped, as she had become pregnant and gave birth. The Child Protection Unit of the Ministry of Interior provided legal assistance to both of the victims.



CWN participates in a meeting with the Welfare Department of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans, and Youth Rehabilitation. There will also be an online meeting with the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Social Affairs, Alumni and Youth Rehabilitation with the participation of officials from the Ministry of Social Affairs, Under Secretary of State in charge of the General Director, Technical Officer of the Department of Child Welfare and Organizations. Stakeholders including UNICEF, Save the Children, Holt International, Children in Families, Friends International, and M'Up Russey.



On February 5, 2021, CWN cooperated with officials from the Office of Child Welfare of the Department of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, and local authorities to intervene in two cases of child victims.



The first case involved three children, two girls, and one boy, from a poor family. On January 27, 2021, the mother was murdered and the suspect escaped. M'lup Russey Staff and officials from the Provincial Department of Social affairs with local authorities worked to find safe, alternative care for the children with their grandmother. Who also received support in the form of emergency food services for the children.



The second case involved four children, three girls, and one boy. On February 2, 2021, their parents were charged with drug abuse. Authorities detained and imprisoned the parents, leaving the children without a caregiver. M'lup Russey Staff, officials from the Provincial Department of Social Affairs, and local authorities worked to find safe, alternative care for the children with their aunt. Who also received support in the form of emergency food services for the children.

Since the February 20, 2021, COVID-19 outbreak, CWN has discussed with provincial officials, disseminated handbooks on case management during COVID-19, and continues to provide support services for vulnerable children. Working with local officers online CWN has remained active in the following ways:



- Manage cases and monitor visits with children living in care and children who have been integrated into the community.
- Intervene to prevent and solve cases of child abuse in the community - including both violence and sexual exploitation.
- Assess and follow up on cases involving child victims and vulnerabilities of parents who are trapped or facing larger issues, who might need shelter and emergency food for children.
- Promote prevention and spread of COVID-19 by supporting the use of hygiene by washing hands with soap or rubbing alcohol, and wearing masks.



CWN has provided online information on a case involving violence against a seven-year-old girl.



CWN provided online information in the case of four children who were living with their 68-year-old grandmother. Who was unemployed and digging for crabs to sell. The family lacked food and would sometimes go without food for days. Due to CWN's work, local authorities were mobilized and resources were provided to support this grandmother and four grandchildren.



On February 21, 2021, CWN worked with local authorities in a province and worked to support two poor families.

- A 68-year-old female widow, raising four grandchildren.
- A 60-year-old female widow, raising six grandchildren.



CWN delivered donations to poor families. Each family received: 25kg of rice, six bottles of fish sauce, one fishing rod, one box of noodles. Thank you to those who donated to secure supplies.

CWN is happy to report many donors who helped the 68-year-old grandmother who is raising four grandchildren.



## Case Management:

Conducted family assessment by Social Workers. On March 4, 2021, with collaboration with DoSVY. Two Kinship families have been assessed. The objective of this assessment was to recognize the children and families' needs through Kinship Care Service.



On March 10, 2021 MRO provided emergency food packs to two OVC families with three children including a disabled girl. She has a severe mental and mobile disability, she can't talk and move at all. Social Workers organized to provide her with some special foods and materials for her daily use. The supported food and materials are not much but it is helpful. They show that MROcares and wants to help reduce the family's expenses.



On February 17, 2021, Social Workers conducted one case closure.



Social Workers provided ongoing follow-up care to EFC, reintegrated children, and families to understand their current situations through phone calls during the COVID-19 community outbreak. Issues and options for better solutions were discussed.



## RCI Directors:

From January to March 2021, MRO has supported five RCI partners for Technical Reintegration Support in Phnom Penh, Kampot, and Battambang Province. After working with these RCI partners, they are now starting to think of the children's best interests and follow guidelines of Minimum Standards and Case Management. Due to COVID-19, we could not meet with RCI partners for supporting them in the Technical Reintegration Process, but we kept supporting them via phone calls and online meetings

MRO staff worked closely with all 13 RCI partners to support them via online phone calls for preparation on child protection during COVID-19. MRO staff had followed up and reviewed the Case Management process. What has been done well and what they need to continue to learn from MRO to gain independence in the process. Also, MRO staff keep updated the information on government restrictions due to the COVID-19.



From January 17-22, 2021, MRO staff from Youth Support Sector linked with CWN Sector to support Technical Reintegration process. There were two cases of youth to successfully close. In addition to the four cases that need follow-up and close soon. During the follow-up with the cases and MRO staff collected more information about cases. They have been placed with a family and MRO follows up with them. They are happy with their live-in community. They did not have any concerns or problems. They have good food, and a good environment, good relationship with their family and neighbors. In the near future, 10 new cases for the Technical support process with MRO's involvement. Then they will do without MRO involvement next time.



## Youth Club Activities:



In January 2021, 56 Youth Club Members met at three different clubs to share what they had learned from MRO within their Residential Centers. This included small workshops without MRO facilitating.

According to a follow-up with the Youth Club Spokesperson, they had shared what they have learned from MRO to all the children, who are Youth Club Members at the meeting. All the children understood about the Four Main Children's Rights. We coached the Youth Club Spokesperson on good habits of child decision making by being a good student to a role model of the youth club. According to Caregivers in CRO, young people in their center now respect the time in being on time when they join the meeting.



In the Youth Club Spokesperson workshop on February 7, 2021, in Battambang Province, the two Careleavers from Phnom Penh, shared their experiences of life in the center and after leaving the center to Youth Club Members. The main point of the workshop was about the needs before leaving the center, team building, and facilitating skills.



On February 8, 2021, there were three SOS Youth Club Spokespersons asking MRO to discuss and share how to conduct the workshop in their Center in Battambang province by committing to having a monthly meeting by themselves. They have facilitated the meetings with their children and youth in the Center. According to the feedback from the RCI Director, the Youth Club Spokespersons have done a great job in facilitating their first workshop with 22 Youth Club Members.



MRO staff provided Personal Development by Coaching and Mentoring to 169 Youth Club Members for them to be ready for life before moving out of the Center. The Youth Club Members have used their rights for being good students, not being involved in wrong activities, good communication, and good relationships with young people in the Center.

On February 22, 2021, we provided a workshop to Youth Club Members who had just left the Center recently about "how to be safe in community living" by using the 'Safety of the Tree' and 'Diagram of Life' tools. After the workshop two Youth Club Members changed from being sad and unhappy with themselves about their difficult lives and they now feel motivated to live effectively in the community. They have committed themselves to work on time and setting a life plan with activities during their studying vocational skills.





Due to COVID-19, MRO staff could not facilitate the meetings face-to-face with Youth Club Members. However, we still engaged with 71 You Support Members between February 20, 2021 and the end of March. MRO was able to provide budget support to four Youth Club Members. Additionally, Youth Club Members designed lessons and activities for learning and sharing with one another on the topics of: good health, dreams and goals, and preparing for life after the Center, during their school closures due to COVID-19.

### **Challenge for Youth Club Activities:**

Due to COVID-19 and Government restrictions, we could not conduct activities face to face with our Boundary Partners.

### **Solutions for Youth Club Activities:**

- We have cooperated with RCIs to follow-up their youth club members and we used online call to our boundary partners who has online contact.
- We supported young people in the center with material of workshop and meeting to them to lead the activities in their center by themselves.

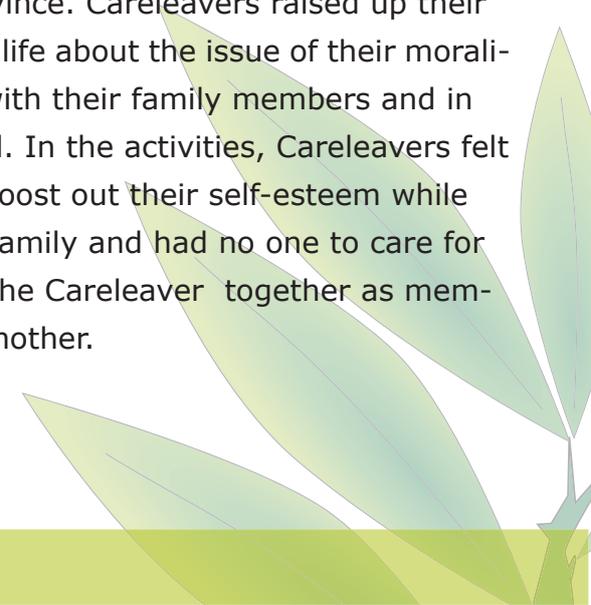


## Careleaver Activities:

On January 18, 2021, five Careleavers Core Group Committee Small Group met at MRO Office. Through the activities done, the core group committee produced a clear lesson plan which followed the "WH Question" on topics of Traffic Law and Effective Communication. A Careleaver is Chairman Assistant of the Careleaver core group committee and had a chance to practice leading discussion of preparing lesson plans on Topic "Effective Communication". She expressed her feeling that she felt comfortable in leading the discussing whenever the committee prepare the lesson plan next time. At the same time, the committee members express their interest in the tool of Changing mindset which is useful and helps them to have self-reliance and self-development by sharing knowledge to other youth. The committee group is planning to work together with other Careleavers members who also have work experience in Battambang to access on budget requesting and setting up a workshop to facilitate on topics of Traffic Law and Effective Communication in February 2021.



On January 20, 2021, Support Careleaver Small Group Meeting in Siem Reap Province. Careleavers raised up their current challenges in daily life about the issue of their morality, building relationships with their family members and in their workplace and school. In the activities, Careleavers felt motivated and helped to boost out their self-esteem while they felt ignored by their family and had no one to care for them. We had connected the Careleaver together as members and to support one another.



February 8, 2021, A planned Careleaver Core Group Committee started its first meeting by sharing information related to traffic signs and symbols and good communication skills. MRO provided coaching, mentoring, and observations and feedback after the small group meeting in order to ensure that the committee had learned by leading the meeting. The Careleaver Core Group Committee Leader enjoyed the facilitation and the growing relationship that is being built. She felt more confident in leading the group and providing feedback to the committee on what went well and what were areas of improvement. The committee found a good way of communication to set meetings and prepare lesson plans even though they are far away from one another. They shared that they are very impressed by learning from each Careleaver in the meeting. Most of them decided to obey the traffic signs and laws, which they never noticed before and that they could cause a traffic jam. They are excited about the next meeting. They never thought that they could be facilitators for any meetings. They do like the way of working together as a team.



Before the training MRO staff accessed the Careleaves in Battambang and we found that the Careleavers did not know much about how to take care of their personal hygiene. Through their experience while they were in the Center and lacked life skills on how to take care of their personal care because everything prepared by caregivers and RCI staff.

During training on March 25, 2021, MRO's Advisor in Battambang office helped to share with the Careleavers about personal care: on what to clean, when to clean and alternative care. At the beginning, the Careleaver did a pre-test for the personal care and they did not know much about personal care and they asked a lot of questions to do with personal care.



After the training, the Careleavers know a lot about personal care, take care of their body, how to clean and wash their body. Moreover, they got information from social media, but some of the information is not correct.

At the end of the training, the Careleavers told MRO staff that it is a very helpful life skill that they knew about personal care and that if they did not know then it would affect their health. This would cost a lot in terms of health care and in their daily living. This topic is very important and Careleavers will tell what they had known from the training to their family members, friends and other Careleavers about the personal care

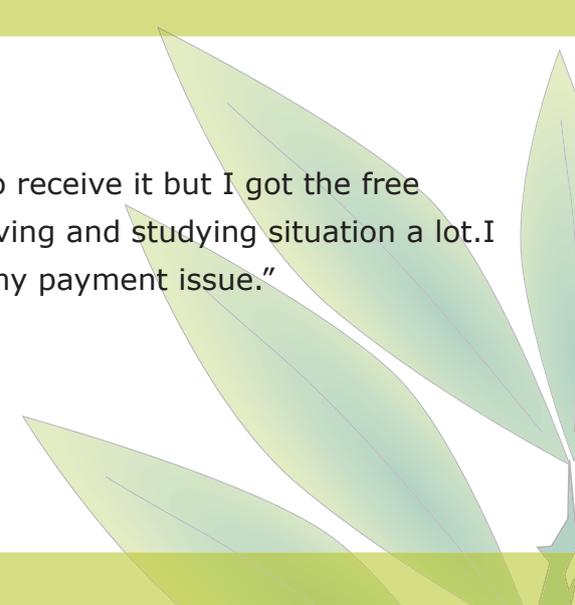
On March 3, 2021, three Careleavers got scholarships for University and accommodation to stay in Phnom Penh. The Careleavers just finished high school. The Careleavers just moved out of the Center and are now living in communities. Under MRO staff facilitated and cooperated with NGOs networks. As a result, the three Careleavers applied, and they passed the interview by applying for the scholarship for four years of university fees and for accommodation in Phnom Penh.

## Testimonies:



Noeurn Saranak

"I am so happy. I never expected to receive it but I got the free scholarship which will improve my living and studying situation a lot. I don't have to worry or be afraid of my payment issue."





"I am very happy to receive the scholarship that will help me not to worry much about finding extra work to support myself while I study. I will try to the best of my ability and never give up reaching my goal."



"I am very happy to receive the scholarship of my study and accommodation. This is the thing that I used to worry about the most, but I got a scholarship for my studying. I would like to thank M'lup Russey for helping me to find the scholarship that I will commit to study hard and will do more research for a better future."

On March 3, 2021, the Youth Support Sector linked with the Family Base Alternative Care Sector to support one girl who wanted to drop out from school and ask for Vocational Training Skills from Careleaver Program. MRO staff accessed the girl and helped her to see what the skill she wanted to learn. During the process MRO staff encouraged the girl to focus on her English study and seek more information on vocational skills or to continue her study..

On March 7, 2021, MRO staff followed-up with a Careleaver for Vocational Training Skill and materials which were provided to him at the end of December 2020. He is happy with his vocational skill as motorcycle repair skills even during COVID-19 but he still is committed to continuing in his training. Moreover, he could earn income from his skill and provided some service to other customers for fixing motors.



On March 8, 2021, MRO staff met with Careleaver for support coaching and mentoring before ending his three month work experience with MRO.. MRO staff had a half day meeting for fellowship together to support him in reflecting on what he's learned and to help him seek a new job. On 22, March 2021, he called to tell MRO staff that he passed two interviews and was offered a job With opportunities like work experience at MRO, he was able to pass the interview and get the job, "Without MRO staff and support from MRO, I never would have received that."

On March 17, 2021, one Careleaver applied to work at Battambang MRO office to gain work experience. She is learning a lot of things like how to process cash advance and practice on how to do a report after a meeting. She enjoys the work experience with the team in the MRO office . It helps her to learn new things every day and practice on how to do a job in an office and file work. Also, she feels more confident and more practiced for leading and facilitating to help staff for meeting, workshop, or training. She hopes to get a job, after she finishes her work experience with MRO. Through the job interview and application for an internship with MRO, she felt more motivated and positive..



On March 29, 2021, the Careleavers Committee Group met at MRO Battambang office to each other by presenting what they had planned and did in the previous month to the new working experience. We hope to include the Phnom Penh office in future meetings as well.



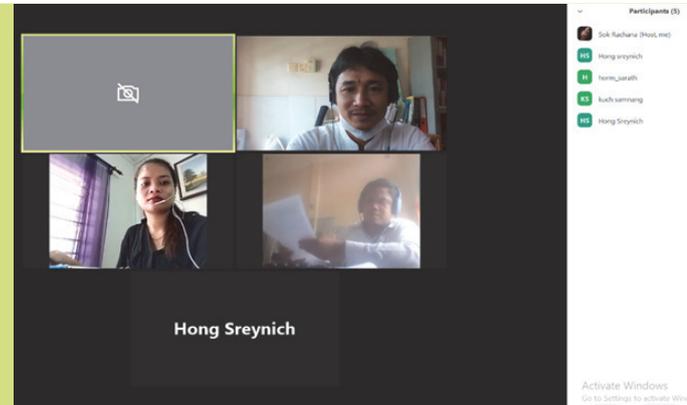


## Community Activities:

Since every staff member is involved with annual planning. Here are the steps we take to progress forward with this project.

### Staff Meeting within a Project:

- Follow up and team well being and individual call for day to day working.
- Update any work with Boundary Partner.
- See how the team is dealing with COVID-19.



### Networking with Partners:

Community staff is keeping connected with authorities about what should be done to help OVCs in the community. Some areas have been allowed staff to do direct visits. However, the staff work is to respect the government regulations. Due to social distancing, connection staff form a group Telegram to contact the Key Existing Group in order to follow up and track the situations of OVCs and family.



### Battambang Staff:

- Visited existing groups and provided intervention materials during COVID-19.
- Provided follow up visits to groups.



### Battambang Staff:

- Visited existing groups and provided intervention materials during COVID-19.
- Gave study material to Role Models to support OVCs.

### How Staff is Working with Result Reporting:

Due to social media, community teams have worked with existing Boundary Partners to share what they are doing during this pandemic. For example:

- Role Model provided care to OVCs and visited them.
- Role Model gave study material for OVCs to learn at home.
- Staff demonstrated the activities working with RM and KCP at BTB and provided material support during COVID-19 to KCP so that KCP can work for OVCs and the community there.

