

# PURPLE BRICS

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KHANA'S MONTHLY BULLETIN

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## \$3,000 AWARD FOR PRINT JOURNALISTS' NEWS REPORTING ON HIV/AIDS

As media has an important role to play in eradicating and informing the public about HIV/AIDS and challenging stigma and myth, the Khmer HIV/AIDS NGO Alliance (KHANA) has decided to offer \$3,000 Award to three print journalists for their excellent news articles on HIV/AIDS in the Cambodia.

The winners will be selected for their best articles:

### 1. Increasing awareness and information about HIV/AIDS This category can be:

- Stories that report on new research into the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Cambodia
- Stories that challenge misconceptions about HIV/AIDS such as so-called "cures" and misinformation about methods of transmission
- Stories that focus on how people, particularly young people and married women, can protect themselves from HIV.

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## A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OVC FAMILY



Phanny (left) with her siblings -- Phanna (center) and Seila -- shell boiled crab shells to make some money to support their daily lives.

At just 13 years of age, Tach Phanny has a huge obligation. She has been responsible for her two younger siblings since their parents died of sicknesses related to HIV/AIDS seven years ago. Her obligation is a heavy burden for her, as Phanny also has asthma.

Phanny, her sister Phanna, nine, and their seven year old brother Seila, live in Koh Krisna village, Kampot province, about four km from the border with Viet Nam. Their parents died in 2000, and since then Phanny has become the main breadwinner for the family. Every morning she makes some money

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from shelling crabs. She can earn 1,000 riel a day (about US\$0.25) from shelling a kilo of crabs. With the money, Phanny buys food for Phanna and Seila and medicine for herself. Being the breadwinner meant that Phanny missed out on an education. However, thanks to KHANA's partner CDRCP (Cambodian Development and Relief Center for the Poor), Phanny started going to school for the first time five months ago.

Through the support of CDRCP, the three children have a four meter square hut with thatch walls and zinc roof built on a villager's plot of land. With support from the World Food Programme, CDRCP also provides 30 kg of rice, one kilo of cooking oil and a half-kilo of salt per month to the kids.

It is this support from CDRCP that has given Phanny the chance to attend school. Every afternoon, Phanny and Seila go to school on the bicycle donated by CDRCP, carrying their books and pencils and their new school bags. Although Phanny is currently in First Grade with her brother, she is doing well and will be joining her sister in Second Grade in a few months time.

CDRCP is KHANA's partner responsible for home-based care and prevention among OVC in Kampot province's Kampong Trach district. With support from KHANA, CDRCP assists 249 orphans and 439 vulnerable children in the district.

Through its partners, in 2006, KHANA supported 13,031 OVC and enabled 4,292 OVC households to receive food through WFP. Through home based care programs, OVC receive comprehensive care and support services including basic health care, psychological and social welfare, economic support, and the provision of ARV. Home Care Teams also provide OVC with school materials such as books, pens, and school uniforms and supported 5,497 OVC to attend school. Through its partners and Home-Care Teams, KHANA was able to find foster care for 1,201 OVC in 2006.

The United Nations Children's Fund estimates that by the end of 2005, 100,000 children had been orphaned by HIV and AIDS in Cambodia. Currently, KHANA provides care and support to approximately 14,000 OVC in 17 target provinces.

## 2. Reducing stigma and discrimination The category might include:

- Stories that challenge misconceptions about vulnerable groups such as men who have sex with men, drug users and entertainment service workers
- Stories that promote understanding and compassion for adults and children infected or affected by HIV
- Stories that address issues of stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV in the workplace, and community.

## 3. Promoting advocacy and policy for HIV/AIDS issues This is including:

- Stories that challenge existing norms regarding gender equality, access to services, workplace policies and expansion of services in rural areas
- Stories that examine and challenge the cultural perceptions of young people, women and other vulnerable groups that can affect their access to services and information
- Stories that examine the long term impact of the epidemic particularly in terms of OVC, the health and socio-economic needs of PLHA and the capacity and directions of the public health services.

Five independent judges will be selected from professional media organization, GO and NGO involving with HIV/AIDS. The news articles submitted for the contest must already be printed and they can be collected between 1st January, 2007 and 31st October, 2007. The deadline for the entries is 31st October, 2007 and the Awards ceremony will be held on 1st December, 2007. Each winner will receive a Purple Award certificate and a cash prize of US\$1,000.



After stripping crabs, Phanny prepares lunch for her siblings before she goes to school



## SEX WORKER: I WANT TO SHARE MY OWN EXPERIENCE WITH THE PUBLIC



*Nou Srei whose parents died when she was a small child. She became HIV positive after being a direct sex worker for a decade. She is now living in a brothel in Sihanoukville.*

Living a normal life, nobody knows about Nou Srei's health condition unless she chooses to tell them. Last October, through one of KHANA NGO partners -- Khmer Women Cooperation for Development (KWCD) -- in Sihanoukville, Nou Srei went to have voluntary, confidential counseling & testing for HIV and the result was positive.

Becoming an orphan in her childhood, Nou Srei had only an elder sister but the sister died of sickness a few years ago. "When my sister was still alive at the time I was 17, she sent me to live with a family in Phnom Penh as a maid. The landlady expelled me from the house a few months later after her son raped me," she said.

Nou Srei then was brought to Sihanoukville, the country's international seaport in the southwest of Phnom Penh, where she has become a sex worker since then. "It is hard to remember how many men who have had sex with me but since being a sex worker for 10 years, I have slept with at least 2 to 3 men every single day and sometimes

between 5 to 10 men a day," she said by adding that most of her clients are fishermen and port workers and does not remember how many men did not use condom with her. As no place to go and no job to do, Srei is still working at the brothel in Sihanoukville.

Last year through its positive-peers who are former sex workers, KWCD found Srei in a brothel. Since finding out about her HIV status, KWCD has helped Nou Srei to improve her health; they provided drugs for opportunistic infections (OI) before helping her to access ARVs. According to KWCD Programme Manager Say Nara, there are 144 direct sex workers in 33 brothels in Thmei village. The number of sex workers in the village has decreased, if compared with previous years. "Many direct sex workers have left for their home villages after realizing that they are HIV positive," he said. According to Nara, KWCD peers go to the fields to raise awareness on the risk of HIV/AIDS in communities, villages, and brothels. "Our peers regularly meet with villagers, especially women, and sex workers

directly for counseling on safe sex and reproductive health and how they can find health service in their areas," Nara said.

KWCD has now six 6 peer educators who are also sex workers and Nou Srei also wants to join them to share her own experiences to the public. "I really want to volunteer to be a peer for KCWD to help educate people on the risk of HIV/AIDS," she said. She wants to appeal to all entertainment service workers and their clients to use condoms when they have sex otherwise they will be, "like me".

KWCD is one of KHANA's partner responsible for programmes of home-based care and prevention in Sihanoukville. According to Say Nara, 1,048 people in Sihanoukville are HIV positive and 296 of them are being taken care of by the organisation. However, he said, more people who have medium and high living conditions are HIV positive but they still keep their status secret due to their embarrassment. Through its partners, KHANA has reached 1,782 direct sex workers and 1,621 indirect sex workers. According to last updated database of the National Center for HIV/AIDS, Dermatology & STD Control (NCHADS) in November 2006, there are some 2,977 direct sex workers and about 9,785 indirect sex workers in Cambodia.

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populations, such as men who have sex with men, sex workers, drug users, garment factory workers and married couples.

According to the project agreements, WOMEN, CPR, CCASVA, NAPA, PC, and WOSO are getting support under EC funding to implement the programs in three selected provinces -- Kampong Speu, Kampong Chhnang, and Prey Veng, Phnom Penh and while CARAM and NACD are receiving funds from USAID in Phnom Penh. MHSS is getting support in Battambang province from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

# KHANA APPROVES PARTNER PROPOSALS FOR NEW PROJECTS



*KHANA Officers discuss KHANA's partners' proposal review to kick off new projects funded by EU, USAID, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation*

**K**HANA's Proposal Review Committee (PRC) has met to finalise the proposals submitted by eight potential partners to start implementing new projects funded by the European Union (EU),

USAID, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The PRC is a cross-departmental committee whose remit is to ensure that projects meet donor requirements and contribute to KHANA's overall mission. The committee ensures that proposals (including workplans and budgets) meet KHANA's basic criteria for technical approach, financial management, organizational strength and are based on community needs.

The partners received financial support from KHANA to carry out community needs assessments in April, in addition to technical support on project planning and proposal development. All eight proposals have been recommended for

funding beginning in May. The 8 NGO partners are: Women Organisation for Modern Economy and Nursing (WOMEN), Community Poverty Reduction (CPR), Cambodian Children Against Starvation and Violence Association (CCASVA), National Prosperity Association (NAPA), Partners in Compassion (PC), Women's Service Organisation (WOSO), Men's Health Social Service (MHSS), and Coordination of Action Research on AIDS and Mobility (CARAM). The government partner is National Authority for Combating Drugs (NACD).

The partners will be implementing action in two key areas: Integrated Care and Prevention which will target people living with HIV/Aids and orphans and vulnerable children; and Focused Prevention targeting the most at risk

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## KHANA'S STAFF CORNER

*Congratulation to the very new staff  
who started work for KHANA in May. Welcome!*



Name: **Mr. Chim Charanay**  
Position: **Team Leader of Program Management**  
Started: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007

As for a team leader, Charanay is responsible for building effective leadership management and good governance of KHANA's NGO partners in South and Eastern Region (Kampot, Takeo, Sway Rieng, Prey Veng, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom, and Kratie). He has wide experiences in project development management, democratic governance, decentralization, and partnership capacity building. Before coming to KHANA, Charanay worked as a local administration advisor for UNDP/PSDD. Before that he also worked as an executive director and program coordinator for several humanitarian and development organizations.



Name: **Hak Siphirath**  
Position: **Counseling Specialist**  
Started: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Siphirath has experience in training and counseling. Before working for KHANA, she worked as a Social Worker/Trainer at Social Service of Cambodia (SSC) in providing training on Social Work/ Counseling Skill for NGOs Staff and doing counseling with people who have mental problem, Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse.



Name: **Mr. Kang Davan**  
Position: **Finance Officer**  
Started: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Before working for KHANA, Davan was employed by Care-Cambodia. He has a series of experience in budgeting, financial reporting, grant management, providing technical support to grantees, field auditing, checking head office GL, supporting new field finance staff, balance sheet reconciliation, and developing new financial form. He also used to be administrative assistant for Cambodia Mekong Bank.



Name: **Bou Molika**  
Position: **Team Leader for Program Management**  
Started: 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2007

As a team leader, Molika is responsible for providing support and close collaboration with KHANA's NGO partners in western and central region (Phnom Penh, Kandal, Kampong Spur, and Sihanoukville). She has lots of experience related to HIV/AIDS programming. She used to work with community, partners, and private sector. Before working for KHANA, she worked for PSI as an HIV/AIDS / STI coordinator. She also used to be HIV/AIDS senior programme officer for CARE.



Name: **Mr. Am Vichet**  
Position: **Team Leader of Planning and Reporting, Strategic Information Department**  
Started: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007

Vichet has experiences in project management, monitoring/evaluation, planning & reporting, staff supervision, budget management, proposal development, and media and advocacy works, IEC, and training manual/curriculum development. Before KHANA, he used to work for Triple Line Consulting Ltd., HACC, CARE, RACHA, and World Vision-Cambodia.

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