



# Veterans International Cambodia Rehabilitation Project

A Project of The International Center

## Cambodia UPDATE

April-July 2010

### HIGHLIGHTS

- VIC conducts 12 tests on its awareness campaigns and sees a marked increase in the understanding of disability.
- VIC staff lobby for healthcare for those with disabilities.

### RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

- VIC helped 3,307 people with disabilities in 2010
- VIC conducted 12 awareness campaigns, with a total of 4,810 participants in the first two quarters of 2010.

### VIC Rehabilitation Centers help over 3,300 in 2010

VIC's rehabilitation centers in Kien Khleang, Prey Veng, and Kratie helped over 3,300 in 2010. The centers averaged 530 patients a month with disabilities ranging from club foot to Osteomyelitis.

The center in Kien Khleang helped nearly 60% of VIC's overall patients, totaling 1,970 people. The center averaged just fewer than 330 people a month.

The center also consulted 685 patients, assessed 300 patients with their progress, and referred 252 patients to the hospital for surgery and/or medication.

The center conducted 94 sessions on education to 172 children, averaging 2 children per session. The center also conducted 139 sessions on recreational and sport activities to 758 children, averaging 6 children per session.

Kien Khleang produced 189 prosthetics, 212 orthotics, 82 wheelchairs, 30 tricycles, 40 cosmetic hands, 29 shoes for leprosy and 444 feet. The center also repaired 180 prostheses, 102 orthoses and 62 wheelchairs.

Prey Veng helped roughly 27% of the total, or 897 patients. The center averaged about 150 patients a month.

The center also consulted 94 patients, assessed 48 patients on their progress, and referred 158 patients to the hospital for treatment and/or medication.

The Prey Veng center conducted 225 sessions for children's education, with 758 PWDs and 165 family members attending, averaging 4 PWDs per session. The center also conducted 224 sessions of sport and recreational activities, with 2029



PWDs attending, and 1090 family members, averaging 9 PWDs and 5 family members per session.

108 prosthetics, 119 orthotics, and 68 wheelchairs and tricycles were made. Also, 80 prostheses were repaired and 96 orthoses were repaired.

Kratie helped 440 patients, 13% of the total. The center averaged about 75 patients a month. Similar to the other centers, most of the patients were male.

Kratie conducted 242 sessions of children's education, with 237 children attending, averaging 1 child per session. They also conducted 240 sessions of recreational and sport activities, with 446 PWDs and 153 family members attending, averaging 2 PWDs per session.



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### VIC finds Improvement in Cambodian Awareness and Understanding of Disability

VIC has conducted 12 tests in conjunction with their awareness campaigns this year. These tests showed improved understanding of disability by the Cambodian people.



VIC's Awareness campaigns are vital to the work of its centers, because they help the population of Cambodia gain knowledge and understanding in disability issues. VIC's testing showed that the awareness campaigns have been effective in their goals.

In the second quarter, Kien Khleang conducted two pre-tests and two post-tests on 159 people. The results showed a 33% increase in their knowledge and understanding on disability issues after attending the awareness campaigns.

Four post-tests to 87 people were conducted in Prey Veng and Svay Rieng. Similar to the results in Kien Khleang, the results showed an increase in their knowledge and understanding on disability issues after attending the awareness campaigns. The awareness campaigns raised the population's knowledge and understanding by 18%.

In Kratie, one post-test and three pre-tests were conducted on 170 people. The results showed a 37% increase in the population's understanding of disability issues after attending the disability awareness campaigns.

These campaigns help educate the population of Cambodia on the issues of disability, and therefore help the lives of those affected to be able to be productive and active in society. They are vital to promote acceptance of those with disabilities and inform the community about how to best deal with those with disabilities.

### VIC Works to get free Healthcare for PWDs

The staff at all three of VIC's rehabilitation centers have been in constant contact with local authorities, hospitals and health centers in order to advocate for free health care for the marginalized PWDs. The idea would be to have ID cards for PWDs too poor to seek medical treatment

In Kien Khleang, VIC staff members communicated with three referral hospitals in the Saang, Kiensvay and Lvea Em districts. In these discussions, VIC staff advocated for ID cards for the poor.

So far this year, Kien Khleang staff has visited 10 commune health centers, Prey Veng staff has visited five health centers and Kratie staff has visited nine health centers. These visits advocated for free medical care for PWDs, as well as giving out posters regarding disability prevention.

During their visits, the VIC staff also informs each health center of the availability of rehabilitation services at the VIC centers.

In Kandal province, the Second Health Sector Support Project (HSSP2) recently started a pilot project in Kiensvay district. The HSSP2 was created by the World Bank in Cambodia with the objective to support the implementation of the government's health strategic plan of 2008-2015.

The Royal Government of Cambodia has received joint funding for the HSSP2 from the International Development Association, the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Department for International Development-UK (DFID-UK) and the Australian Government Overseas Aid Program (AusAID). These multilateral and bilateral donors will help issue insurance cards to provide free health care for the poor, as well as provide centers with medical equipment, and personnel trained to install and fix the equipment, in order to improve the health sector in Cambodia.

For more information, please visit our website.  
<http://www.ic-vic.org>