

CHILDREN'S SURGICAL CENTRE

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

Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Issue 58, Winter 2022-23

IN THIS ISSUE:
-Who We Are
_Stories from the Ward
-Visitors and Donors

WHO WE ARE

CSC aims to improve the quality of life for disabled poor people by providing free or low-cost rehabilitation surgery. 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.

A Future Transformed for a Young Man with a Birth Defect

Meet Theara, a 19-year-old student from Kampong Cham in Cambodia. His parents are farmers and grow rice and vegetables. He enjoys reading Khmer literature, and when he graduates from high school, he would like to attend a university to study law. Theara was born with bilateral clubfeet, a condition in which the foot is twisted out of shape. He has difficulty walking and cannot wear shoes. His parents consulted with a local hospital when he was born, but they could not access care due to lack of money. If left untreated, his disability would be worse as he aged, which would make it hard for Theara to walk at all. He says his condition made it difficult to join in games or keep up with other kids, and stigma prevented him from socializing or forming friendships.

Theara thought he would never walk normally but was assured by the expertise of the Children's Surgical Centre surgical team, who performed a corrective surgical procedure on his legs and placed external fixators on both feet to ensure that they become properly aligned. He has been recovering in the hospital for several weeks and will keep the frames on both legs for eight to twelve weeks as his tendons heal. Theara will receive rehabilitative therapy to adjust his gait and increase strength and range of motion. Surgeons are hopeful he will recover without any pain or walking dysfunction; he looks forward to fewer symptoms from his condition and hopes to keep up with school and realize his dream of becoming a lawyer.



His mother said: "we are relieved that Theara will have the opportunity to walk normally, be like other young men his age, finish school, and have a good life. Thank you to the donors who helped to pay for his surgery because we could not pay for his care.

Children's Surgical Centre (INGO), P.O. Box 1060, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (National Rehabilitation Centre, Kien Khleang, Route 6A, Chroy Changvar, Phnom Penh, Cambodia)

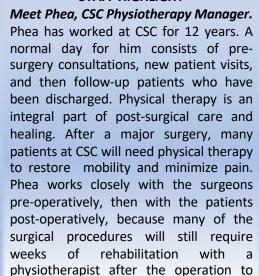
Tel/Fax: +855 23 430 202 – Email: info@csc.org – Website: https://www.csc.org/



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STAFF HIGHLIGHT



ensure success.





He shared: "I like working with the patients who are amputees. When we can help them and fit them with a prosthetic, it gives them hope."

Watsi has been a valued partner and donor for CSC for 10 YEARS!

Watsi directly funds life-changing healthcare for CSC patients with disabilities in Cambodia and around the world.

Check out the Watsi patient follow-up videos: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCV5uE70vqR 40x1HQ-TMIbMQ





Recent Visitors!

The CSC staff is happy to see the return of many surgical teams and consultants who were unable to visit during the COVID pandemic. Their presence supports the education and surgical expertise of Khmer surgeons in training and medical students.

Robert Siorpaes and Thomas Herz, Austria Gavin O'Neill, Singapore Fred Lauwers and Team, Toulouse, France Abhineet Jain, India

Christopher Lyon, California, USA Angela Herde, Australia Brian Moore & Ellen Interlandi, New Mexico, USA

\$25 dollars a month will cover the cost of one life-changing operation a year. **DONATE HERE or contact** <u>info@csc.org</u> **for other options:**

https://csc.org/donation.php