



Comprehensive Prison Health Program

CARITAS CAMBODIA

Program and Background

Caritas Cambodia started to work in prisons since 2005 by the request of Prison's Director of Siem Reap province. Caritas's involvement in the prison aims to provide health and psychosocial care support and the needs to prisoners.

In 2010, due to excellent results and great reputation of Caritas Cambodia's work in Siem Reap provincial prison, the Ministry of Interior requested Caritas to extend its Prison Health program to other provincial prisons. In 2010, Caritas's prison health care program has moved to Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Mondolkiri and to Kratie in 2011. In 2015, it expanded into Stung Treng and Rattanakiri prison. All the programs are now supported by Caritas Spain and Caritas Australia.

Objective

- To promote, maintain and improve the "Health and well being" of the prison's population through the development of a "Comprehensive Health Post Program" including health care, emotional support and Vocational skills training"

What we do

1. Develop and improve health posts infrastructure with necessary equipment facilities and support transportation vehicle, drugs when shortage, secured room at Referral Hospital
2. Establish networking and coordination with Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior- General department of Prisons and Ministry of Labor at National and provincial levels through regular meetings and joined supervision
3. Build Prison Health staff capacity to provide effective and compassionate medical care, strengthening Tuberculosis (TB), HIV and chronic illnesses as well as care to pregnant women and children at prisons.
4. Support safe drinking water, sanitation procedures at prisons
5. Advocate and educate prisoners and prison population on health and other crosscutting issues such as human trafficking, child abuse, drug addiction, domestic violence, mental health, Prisoners rights and gender.
6. Develop and strengthen vocational training skills at prisons with literacy, sewing, beauty parlor, computer and gardening skills to prepare re-integration after release.





Key achievements in current cycles

1. Infrastructure and Networking

- Constructed and equipped 1 health post at Steung Treng
- Constructed and equipped 2 Tuberculosis (TB) lab in Preah Vihear and Steung Treng
- Renovated 4 secured rooms in Preah Vihear, Steung Treng, Rattanakiri and Mondulkiri

2. Attend quarterly meetings & site supervisions

3. Support to patients

- Consultation: 41,005 People / female: 4,880
- TB identification and treatment:
 - ❖ Screened by sputum check: 1,871 P/ female: 58
 - ❖ Screened by X. ray: 2,771 P / female: 223
 - ❖ TB Positive: 96 P / female: 5. All on treatment, free of charge and nutrition support provided
- HIV identification:
 - ❖ HIV testing: 5.611 P / female: 526
 - ❖ HIV positive: 33 P/ female: 10 and all on treatment

4. Water/sanitation: provision of 83 water filters and supplies for infection control at 7 prisons

Key facts

- Prisoners access freely to health post for services, enjoy a good health and good diet which reduce stress and violence at prisons and financial burden for families
- Health care and vocational trainings are managed by the Ministry of Health with Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training with strong sense of ownership by all 3 departments and sustainability becomes a reality
- Dignity of prisoners ensured through clean environment, decent rooms for living and availability of vocational skills trainings for immediate self-esteem and to prepare for better future after release
- Behavior changes on health and cross-cutting issues take place due to various groups discussions and awareness sessions



5. Education: 9 topics on health issues to 31,038 participants / female: 4.811 in 348 sessions

6. Vocation training

- Sewing skills: 90 trainees / female: 67
- Beauty parlor skills: 54 trainees / female: 54
- Computer skills: 85 trainees / female: 0
- Literacy skills: 279 trainees /female: 9
- Vegetable gardening: 65 all male, Harvest water grass, cabbage and radish: harvested around 1500 kg in 3 years, used in daily diet of the prisoners

Target areas

7 Provincial Prisons: Siem Reap, Kampong Thom, Preah Vihear, Kratie, Stung Treng, Rattanakiri and Mondolkiri.

Our partners/donors

Caritas Belgium, Caritas Australia, Caritas Spain

