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# Mission Lines

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An occasional newsletter of mission news and activities

No.48

## Cambodian Hope Organisation

*“As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people”*

*Galatians 6:10*

*“How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news”*

*Romans 10:15*



*Read about  
**UMOJA**  
over the page!*



### Highlights and challenges of the last 3 months

**by Leeta Jump (CHO)**

The past three months have been filled with feelings of both great excitement and fear, as we faced many challenges. However, through God's grace we have been successful in overcoming all fears and challenges.

As we look back, we feel that one of the most exciting events we have been able to hold was our Christmas celebration with our CHO staff and pastors, who work in 80 of the surrounding villages. This was a wonderful opportunity for all the staff and pastors to share with each other what they were grateful for, and what their hopes and plans are for the upcoming year as they continue to do God's work. We celebrated it as we ate together, enjoyed one another's company as we sang, and in watching a video together, focusing on Jesus' death and resurrection.

Each of the UMOJA villages also held their own Christmas celebrations. We were also able to lead a short Christmas program with all the Safe Haven students, where we introduced them to who Jesus was and why he came to die for us.

Within these three months we have been able to perform an internal evaluation. In which we have evaluated the Umoja project for the year 2019.



### *Church service*

The results have shown us that 80% of the community group prefers to raise chicken rather than to plant vegetables. It also showed that attendance at church has decreased by 40% due to lack of income and people migrating to find work across the

border. We have seen that children are keener to learn than adults. Our evaluation established that more children are getting baptized than adults. Case studies we have viewed indicates a behaviour change within the church members and villages. We have also been able to ask the Umoja projects about upcoming 2020 church and village plans, they have indicated that such plans are to:

- Work together to build more roads in the community.
- Learn Disaster risk reduction (DRR) so that they will not have to worry about disasters like drought.
- Connect with other churches or NGOs to help provide training and resources to improve the village living conditions.
- Work more with the churches to strengthen their core so that more people will want to join and be invested in its mission.

These are some very positive outlooks for the village and the church. It shows us how they are continuing to grow towards sustainability.

Within the past three months we have been facilitating an increased amount of health training in villages and the church. Due to the COVID-19 virus, we have focused particularly teaching and encouraging everyone



prevention and identification of the virus. This has

### *Teaching children how to do hand washing and awareness of coronavirus*

included techniques for handwashing; the benefit of avoiding crowded places; and the signs and symptoms that can occur from the virus.

We are very excited to see how God will move through us in 2020. We have been very busy focusing on helping the villages and the church work on their plans and how it might implement it this year, as they work towards their vision. Thus we are very excited to see God's will unfolded in them and their work.

Our plan for the upcoming three months is to continue to focus on strengthening the church, we wish to support them as they facilitate the UMOJA process in their churches and villages.

We also aim to continue to provide and facilitate regular workshops to both our direct and indirect church partners.

## **Sok's story**

My name is Sok. I am the church leader at Banteay Ty Mouy village. This year has been very hard for all our church members as well as the community. Due to the drought, many people from my village have gone to find work in Thailand. This has caused our congregation to nearly half in number. We started 2019 with a total of 15 adults and 18 children in our



church, but due to the drought, we ended 2019 with only 8 adults and 10 children regularly attending. I am very sad by this, but I will continue to pray that God will protect those that have gone to Thailand, and that He may bring them back to us safely.



*Children's bible study*

In our church and community, we have a total of 14 families raising chickens. This has meant a total of 758 chickens for meat and 210 chickens for eggs. We use to have around 2000 chickens, but because of flash flooding and disease break out, we lost a lot of them.

Please continue to pray that we will be able to provide for the families that lost their chickens and that no diseases will harm them. Please continue to also pray for our church members, that they will be able to come back and that we will be able to teach God's words to many more people.



*Providing dental hygiene to church members*

## Prayer

1. Pray for all the home churches. That God may be with them as they continue to be strong and encourage one another. Pray that their members also continue to be invested in the church missions.
2. Pray that God will bless us with rain so that the villages have water for their daily lives, and that God may provide for their crops and their animals.
3. Pray that a cure will be found for the new virus, COVID-19, and that it will not continue to spread.
4. Pray that God will continue to bless the management team; that they will have the wisdom to lead the organization in the way of God.
5. Pray that God will continue to bless all our donors, teams, and brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray that He will continue to lead them and provide them with good health.

## What is UMOJA?

**Umoja**, which means 'togetherness' in the Swahili language of East Africa, is an exciting and transformational church and community initiative. It helps church leaders and their congregations work together with the local community to bring about positive change for the whole community. Umoja is promoted by Tearfund but is used by many other development agencies and the UN.

Umoja helps local churches and communities build on the resources and skills they already have. It is a process that inspires and equips local people with a vision for determining their own future with their own resources.

Umoja is based on more than 20 years of experience working with churches and communities throughout Africa and Asia.

*If you have a news item for inclusion in the next edition of Mission Lines, send it to [mission@brbc-horsham.org.uk](mailto:mission@brbc-horsham.org.uk)*



## GOOD NEWS FOR G2

### God's generous provision for one of Chad's busiest hospitals



Receiving six new mission workers is an exciting answer to prayer for BMS World Mission's partner Guinebor II (G2) mission hospital in Chad. Working in a country with one reported doctor per 25,000 people, the crack team consists of Bethan Shrubsole, a music therapist and her husband Gareth, who will be the hospital manager; Mel Spears, a public health specialist and her husband, GP Tom; and Brian and Jackie Chilvers, both trained nurses.



*The Shrubsoles, Spears and Chilvers families are committed to serving at Guinebor II hospital!*

Working alongside BMS pharmacist **Claire Bedford** and BMS surgeon Kalbassou Doubassou, they'll deliver healthcare to over 16,000 people in one of Africa's poorest nations. Continue to pray as G2 looks to double its capacity in the next five years, ensuring Chadians have access to quality healthcare.