

Report on Visitation to Kratie and Takeo, Cambodia

Yuka Takahashi

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Since 2015 WFWP NJ Chapter has supported children in Cambodia, in partnership with WFWP Cambodia. Foster parents sponsor a student's yearly education, books, and more. In exchange, the foster parents receive letters and school reports from the children. Below are excerpts from two reports written by Mrs. Yuka who lives in Cambodia and works for WFWP Cambodia, and personally visits the children.



Excerpts from Report #1 Visit to Kratie, Cambodia Written June 2021

In Cambodia, COVID-19 is spreading more rapidly in 2021 than last year. The traffic regulations and meetings became stricter from February, and we had the lockdown from April of this year. Now, some places are getting released from the lockdown, so we decided to visit our foster children in Kratie, Cambodia.

The parents and children attended the gathering. We explained our mission statement and details of the Cambodia Project to them. The children had time to write short essays. We decided on the essay topic, "What are you doing every day?" or "What would you like to improve during the lockdown?" This gave the children a chance to form sentences and set their goals. We are glad to share that the children looked

well.



**Excerpts from Report #2 Visit to Takeo, Cambodia
Written June 2021**



We ran the Cambodia Project program visit to the City of Takeo under the supervision of the state of Takeo, to avoid the spreading of COVID 19. The Reach Sei Assoc., under the Ministry of Public Service, donated face masks and soaps to each child.

During the program, the representative of Takeo encouraged the students by sharing about his own physical disability, and how his studying was not hindered by external factors. At the temple in Takeo City, a representative monk talked about how to live well. It was a valuable experience for the children. They had a QandA about Buddhist principles and one of our children answered a question from the monk.

We asked the children to write essays about their lives during lockdown. However, the 12th graders talked about their plans after graduating from high school. There were some children who did not attend the meeting to avoid exposure to COVID-19. Although the children have encountered many challenges, we are glad to report that none of them have dropped out of school!

To read more about how the Cambodia Project click [here](#)



BE A FOSTER PARENT FOR CHILDREN IN CAMBODIA

November 3, 2015 · Denneze Nelson



Yumi Tanaka & Tomomi Ueda speaking about fostering children from Cambodia

One Sunday after church service, Mrs. Tomomi Ueda, a WFWP member in New Jersey, decided to make a bold move to share about a WFWP International project that she has been supporting for many years. Mrs. Ueda has been a foster parent for students in Cambodia and fosters three children by providing for their school education, school meals, and books for only \$150 a year. Mrs. Ueda had long been asking herself if there was a way for WFWP USA to join her in supporting this project that so desperately needs more foster parents. She brought this project to New Jersey Chairwoman, Rev. Denneze Nelson for consideration. After discussion with WFWP National President, Mrs. Angelika Selle, the NJ Chapter launched the project on September 6, 2015.

The Cambodia Foster Parent project is a project that WFWP Japan initiated and has managed for many years. This amazing initiative gives people the unique opportunity of making a child in Cambodia part of their extended family, as they sponsor their educational and, to a large extent, their moral wellbeing. Each foster parent is updated on a regular basis on the grades, growth, and overall performance of the

children they are sponsoring. Cooperation between WFPW Japan and local Cambodian schools and teachers is one of heart and familial engagement which truly embodies the meaning of “it takes a village to raise a child.” Tours are also arranged for foster parents to visit the children at certain times in the year.

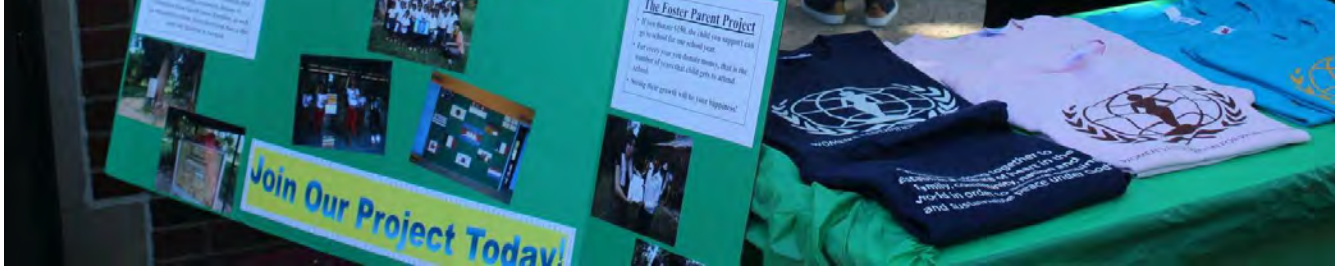


The New Jersey Audience

Eighty percent of the Cambodian population is under 40 years old; so it is a very young country. Photos of 4-year-old children with babies in their arms, standing on the street and begging, are commonplace and a heart-wrenching sight in Cambodia.

Mrs. Ueda’s sister, Mrs. Yumi Tanaka, is one of the wonderful WFPW Japan volunteers who is responsible for the Cambodia Project and frequently goes to Cambodia. When Mrs. Ueda and Clifton Chairwoman, Mrs. Hiroko Nitro, told her they were planning to introduce the project to New Jersey, she flew from Japan to New Jersey to speak at the launching of the Cambodia Project. Mrs. Tanaka gave a riveting presentation which inspired many. As a result, 25 out of 70 attendees signed up to become foster parents with others promising to sign up before the end of the year. High School students who attended this event became foster parents and volunteered to sell T-shirts in support of WFPW on that day.





T-Shirt Sales

Mrs. Ueda and Mrs. Nitro planned and executed an outstanding launch of the Cambodia project. Overall, the event was spiritually stimulating and moved participants' hearts and minds. WFWP asserts that women stand in the position to restore the problems of the world and comfort the heart of God. When our spiritual selves can acknowledge that we are truly one family under God, we live by the logic of love through serving those less fortunate. Moreover, we heal the pain and suffering of the children who are the future leaders of their countries. At the same time we are teaching them how to have hope, and to also live for the sake of God and others through the example of service and love. WFWP New Jersey feels very grateful for this opportunity to foster the children of Cambodia and hope that a blessing can come to the children of New Jersey because of this venture.

Are you interested in The Cambodia Foster Parent Project? WFWP New Jersey Chapter will continue to collaborate with WFWP Japan to support the Foster Parent Project in Cambodia.



Promoting the Cambodian Foster Parent Project





The New Jersey Leadership Team



Display Poster for the Cambodia Project



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