



the Ron Abney Educational Fund[©]

Changing Lives Through Education

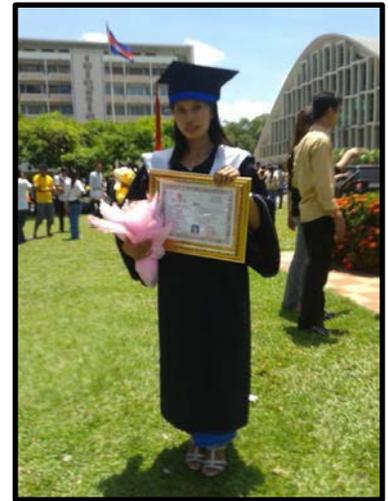
Newsletter #3

August 2014

*Whitney Webb visited Takeo Orphanage in December 2013.
She was very impressed by the work being done
there and the influence Ron Abney had on improving
the children's lives.*

I first heard of Takeo back in 2010, while living and volunteering at an orphanage in Siem Reap. After spending several years in Asia, Africa, and most recently working in financial education in the US, I returned to Cambodia in December of last year and made a visit to Takeo. My main goal was to run a 1/2 day session with the teens in regards to personal finance. I have volunteered in several orphanages around the world, and I was largely taken by surprise at the level that Takeo was operating. While still modest by many standards, the living conditions for the children are amazing, allowing personal space, beautiful shared outdoor areas, and some of the most organized structures and guidelines I have seen implemented. Below the surface, things got even better. While running the sessions with the teenagers, I was stunned by their English skills, compassion to one another, respect for us as visitors, and most importantly their hopes for their own lives. While Takeo is located several hours from Phnom Penh in a somewhat secluded area, these kids were well beyond the dreams of those I have worked with in some of the bigger cities. The girls and boys alike had concrete goals and plans for their future, and I truly believe that the possibility of college drove them to succeed. After seeing the impact that the opportunity of further education has on these kids, I suggested Takeo as a recipient for a grant from the Ruth and Hal Lauenders charitable trust, which was recently approved for \$10,000. I am hopeful for the kids at Takeo orphanage and hope to continue to support the program in any way that I can.—

Whitney Webb
Director of Operations
Independent Means
1209 1/2 De La Vina St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



Ms. Nhouv Sam

Graduation Day 2014
Royal University of Phnom Penh

It is through the continued support of our donors that this young woman's dreams are made possible. I can not thank you enough for your help and support. We *can* change the world through education. This statement is not just our motto--I honestly believe it is true. We have now graduated almost 40 orphans from college, a truly amazing achievement. When I first saw this photo, it brought tears to my eyes. I could not be prouder of Nhouv if she were my own daughter. Lee Darter, President , Ron Abney Educational Fund

While visiting from Cambodia, I.M. Soda attended a BBQ at Abney's home in Georgia and met with with our Cochran supporters.



Lee Darter –
RAEF President

Caroline Turknett –
Lemonade Stand Supporter

I.M. Soda –
RAEF Operations Director
in Cambodia



Three of our 2014 graduating class

Please make your donations to:
The Ron Abney Educational Fund
14216 Mapledale Ave.
Woodbridge, Virginia 22193

You may donate by PayPal online at:
www.ronabneyeducationalfund.org

Your donations are tax deductible .
The RAEF is a 501(c)(3) charity.



Ron Abney (2004) deep in thought, pondering how to help all the orphans get through college!

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would like to thank the Ruth & Hal Lauanders Charitable Trust for their generous grant. We would also like to thank Whitney and Jack Webb for their continued support.

Please remember to...



Email: director@ronabneyeducationalfund.org

Phone 703-965-1467