



November 18, 2022

Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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12th Annual

Fundraising Gala

Promoting Health Through Service and Education



COMMUNITY MEDICAL WELLNESS CENTERS USA

CMWC

QUALITY, INTEGRITY, RELIABILITY
 "Your key to wellness"



Dr. Kitya Paigne



Dr. Bakheng Pheng



Dr. Javier Quesada



Dr. Jasmin Lynn

Bilingual in both Khmer & Spanish



Medical Primary Care and Behavioral Health Care
 1360 E Anaheim Street Ste 103 and 203 Long Beach, CA 90803
 Medical: (562) 270-0324 / Behavior Health: (562) 285-7806



Khemara Clinic:
 1533 Alamitos Ave Suite B, Long Beach CA 90813
 (562) 218-5350



Palo Verde Clinic: Dentistry and Pediatric
 3325 Palo Verde Ave Ste 203-204, 208 Long Beach, CA 90808
 (562) 421-8283



CMWC Vision:
 Multicultural Annex Building Coming Soon!
 1350 E Anaheim St. Long Beach, CA

Medical Services

- 🏥 Adult Primary Care
- 🏥 Pediatrics
- 🏥 Geriatrics
- 🏥 Podiatry
- 🏥 Chiropractic
- 🏥 Optometry
- 🏥 Dentistry

Behavioral Health Care Services

- 🏥 Psychiatry
- 🏥 Psychology
- 🏥 Individual & Group Therapy
- 🏥 Licensed Clinical Social Work
- 🏥 Substance Abuse Counseling
- 🏥 Crisis Intervention
- 🏥 Court Mandated Counseling

Advocacy Case Management

- 🏥 Medication Management
- 🏥 ESL Classes
- 🏥 General Relief
- 🏥 Cal Fresh
- 🏥 Citizenship Classes
- 🏥 Food Drive
- 🏥 Medi-Cal Enrollment
- 🏥 Housing/Shelters
- 🏥 Cultural Specific Social Activities
- 🏥 Immigration & Refugee Support

Registered Dietician

- 🏥 Diabetes Health Education
- 🏥 Dietary Assessment
- 🏥 Nutrition Counseling



Cambodian New Year Parade 2022

LEGAL AID FOUNDATION
 OF LOS ANGELES
 Justice • Equity • Hope



Medical-Legal Partnership with
 Legal Aid Foundation of LA.
 Bavani Sridhar is the direct legal services
 at CMWC for the community.

COVID-19 Vaccine Shots Fridays, 2pm-4pm

ស្នេហាគ្រូសិស្ស



Welcome!

It's such a privilege to come together in person tonight after the extraordinary circumstances of the past few years. The events of the pandemic have made it even more clear that there is a great need for a compassionate healthcare community. Everyone here is a part of that community. In the coming months, our team of volunteers will donate their time and energy to providing care to underserved communities in Cambodia.

Thank you for all your support!

Gala Chairs
Daniel Chan, MD
Salan Thong, PharmD



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

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Kosal. Kom, DDS, INC
- 50 Nguyen Theam, LIP
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Masters of Ceremony



Phillip T. Thong CPA, MBA

Mr. Thong is a founding vice chairman of Bayani Pay Inc., a fintech company. He was a co-founder of First Choice Bank, having served as Vice Chairman since inception till the bank was merged with Enterprise Bank & Trust. He is a retired Certified Public Accountant / Business Advisor, he was the founder & Managing Partner of Thong, Yu, Wong & Lee, LP. He previously served as a member of the Board of Directors and Chairman of the Audit Committee at International Bank of California. He received awards from the Los Angeles Business Journal for setting an example of excellence, as well as from the Asian Business Association for CPA Firm of the Year.



Salan Thong, PharmD

Dr. Salan Thong was born in Svay Rieng, Cambodia during the midst of the Pol Pot Regime. She and her family fled her motherland and found refuge in the U.S. Dr. Thong graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience from the University of California, Riverside in 1998. In 2004, Dr. Thong earned her Doctor of Pharmacy from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. As a board-certified pharmacist, Dr. Thong managed CVS stores for 12 years before opening her own independent pharmacy in 2015, called Yucaipa Care Pharmacy. Dr. Thong has been a member and strong supporter of CHPAA for the past 10 years. She is inspired by the dedication and enthusiasm of CHPAA's volunteers. She notes that her own humble beginnings have inspired her to give back to the community through philanthropy and service.



Dinner Program

INTRODUCTION

Phillip Thong and Salan Thong, Masters of Ceremonies

MISSION VIDEO

Daniel Chan, MD

GALA CHAIR WELCOME

Daniel Chan, MD and Salan Thong, PharmD

CLASSICAL KHMER DANCE PERFORMANCE

Robam Chon Por By Sreymuch Seng

SUPERSTAR SINGER FROM CAMBODIA

Doung Virakseth

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Song Tan, MD

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Mariko Kahn

5 YEARS AND 10 YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

Presented by Song Tan, MD

SCHOLARSHIP AND LINATH LIM, MD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Presented by Chamroeun Heng, MD and Dr. Lim's Family

LIVE AUCTION

CLOSING EMARKS

DINNER AND DANCE



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Keynote Speaker

Mariko Kahn



Mariko Kahn has a wealth of knowledge and experience working with diverse Asian Pacific Islander (API) communities. She was Executive Director of Pacific Asian Counseling Services (PACS) for over 17 years. PACS is a non-profit that provides mental health services to the severely and chronically mentally ill in Los Angeles County. It is well-known for its culturally and linguistically sensitive services working with API refugee and immigrant populations. As executive director, she wrote several grants to improve the mental health services for Cambodians in Long Beach. In 2011, PACS won an innovation grant to provide integrated behavioral and medical services to Cambodians.

Since then, It has served hundreds of Cambodians. Its use of spiritual traditions like the Buddhist Blessing Ceremony as part of the healing process was highly successful. Since 2008, Ms. Kahn has been an active board officer of Cambodia Town and is committed to its mission to improve the lives of Cambodians through culture and traditions.



Cocktail Hour



Samosas donated by

Jyoti Datta, MD and Nona Datta, MD

They have generously provided us with these tasty pastries with flavorful stuffings such as potatoes, spices, herbs, noodles, macaroni, and other meats. Pine nuts can also be added.



Chicken donated by

Louisiana Famous Fried Chicken

This globally successful franchise is a result of the hard work and entrepreneurial spirit of a Cambodian business man who started with very little. As we enjoy the delicious pieces this evening, we are truly taking a bite into an amazing success story.



Chicken donated by

SoCal Wings

SoCal Wings has kindly given us rich and mouthwatering chicken to share. Located in Westminster, this family owned store lives by the motto "First come love, then came marriage, then dreams came true."



Entertainment

Doung Virakseth



Doung Virakseth, a superstar singer from Cambodia who has a huge fan base all over the world. He is a very talented singer and songwriter, well known for his love songs and soft, melodic voice.

In 2016, Virakseth rose to stardom when he won the Khmer singing competition and TV program “I Am A Singer Cambodia,” produced by Hang Meas HDTV, one of the leading entertainment companies in Cambodia. Hang Meas then signed on Virakseth as a singer, songwriter, and actor. After the completion of his contract, Doung Virakseth signed with Ream Production, another prominent Khmer music production company.

Today, Virakseth is a freelance performer at different events and venues in Cambodia. He spends most of his time writing music. He wants his music and songs to be enjoyed by future generations.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

November 18, 2022

Dear distinguished guests, friends, and supporters,

After a two-year pandemic-induced hiatus, we are happy to welcome you back for our in-person 12th Annual Fundraising Gala, in celebration of “A Decade of Giving” and the 25th Anniversary of the founding of CHPAA.

No sooner had we returned from our 10th mission to Kampong Speu province in January 2020, than this once in a century public health crisis began. For the past two and a half years, our efforts have been focused on combatting Covid-19. In Cambodia, CHPAA donated life-saving medical equipment, including oxygen concentrators, pulse oximeters and face shields to protect Cambodian front-line health care workers. Several CHPAA volunteer physicians presented didactic lectures via zoom to assist the Cambodian Doctors on the front-line treating COVID patients in Cambodia.

Locally, this pandemic has highlighted the critical role that health care workers play in keeping our community safe. Among all community organizations, we are proud that CHPAA is the most relevant organization with the most trusted and authoritative voice in educating the community about the awareness of COVID and preventive measures, vaccines, while also addressing the rampant misinformation. CHPAA produced a Covid-19 public service announcement that reached tens of thousands social media views, as well as other public announcement in partnership with local hospitals and organizations. In the early stages of the pandemic, CHPAA also commissioned the production of face masks to distribute to the community.

As front-line health care workers, we are proud of the CHPAA members who have courageously risked their health and lives working to save lives despite PPE shortages and the uncertainty of this novel virus at its early stage. We are saddened by the loss of one of our own volunteers, Dr. Linath Lim, who succumbed to Covid-19 while heroically working to save lives. To honor her life and memorialize her noble sacrifice, a special “*Linath Lim, MD Memorial Scholarship*” has been established, which will join the ranks of our existing student scholarships. These scholarships are part of CHPAA’s ongoing mission to encourage the younger generation to enter the health care work force through scholarship, mentorship, and role modeling.

We are happy to resume our global health endeavor with our Mission 11 to Banteay Meanchey province, set to take place in late January 2023. This mission will be especially critical, given the backlog of cases that were postponed due to the pandemic.

Thank you all for your continued support, for without your support our missions are not possible.

Sincerely yours,



Song Tan, MD, FAAP
President





Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Table Sponsors

- | | |
|---|--|
| American University of Health Sciences | Community Medical Wellness Center |
| Mr. Alex Lim & Mrs. Cindy Lim | Mrs. Somaly Rawles & Jody Rawles, MD |
| The Thong Family Trust | Nhak Vann, PharmD & |
| Mr. Michael Eng | Salan Thong, PhamD |
| C-Auto Group, Inc | LA County Cambodian Employee Association |
| K. V. Kuraitis, MD, PhD | (LACCEA) |
| Courtyard Care Center | Dignity Health- St. Mary Medical Center |
| Ark Clinical Research | Mr. & Mrs. Michael & Jasmine Khoo |
| Cambodian Association of America | Videth E. Whitt, MD |
| Karing Pediatrics | Ms. Reta Heng |
| Mrs. Susie Hem | Robert Yagar, PharmD (Walgreens Pharmacy) |
| Mrs. Huoy Lor | Khmer Parent Association |
| Mrs. Suhua Peng | Tony Chi, DMD |
| Irene Sasaki, MD | Mr. Chantha Hean |
| Mr. Freeman Chan & Mrs. Mariane Chan | Peter Ferrera, MD |
| Mrs. Lina Shelly | Both Huk, PA |
| Cambodia Town, Inc. | Te Medical Center (Sean Te, MD) |
| Mrs. Christine Lay | Cambodian Ethnic Chinese Association |
| Mrs. Jenny Kree Manimbo , NP | Mr. Sean Young & Mrs. Kim Young |
| Mrs. Sophie Wherritt | |
| Crisp Imaging (Mr. Philip Chou) | |
| Mr. Aaron S. Lim | |



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

ALAN LOWENTHAL

47TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY
& MINERAL RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF
THE UNITED STATES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER, OCEANS, & WILDLIFE

COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS & TRANSIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON WATER & ENVIRONMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COAST GUARD & MARITIME



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House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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FAX (562) 437-6434

www.lowenthal.house.gov
facebook.com/RepLowenthal
twitter.com/RepLowenthal

November 18th, 2022

Dr. Song Tan, President
Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America (CHPAA)
930 Pine Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90813

Dear Dr. Tan and Friends at CHPAA,

It is with great pleasure that I send my warmest greetings to all attendees at the 12th Annual Fundraising Gala, with the theme of *“A Decade of Giving”*. I am honored to join you in celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America!

In the past 25 years, CHPAA has provided much needed health care services to the underserved population, contributed to advancing the wellbeing of the community, and made long lasting impact in the lives of thousands of individuals and families. CHPAA has been a constant presence in the community with the mission to promote health through education, advocacy for health equity, and encourage the younger generations to enter the health profession.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, CHPAA’s presence has been more relevant than ever in providing an authoritative and trusted voice to the community about COVID-19. CHPAA’s work to promote awareness on COVID, public health measures, vaccines, and misinformation through health forums and public service announcements, reaching tens of thousands of viewers, has been instrumental to Cambodian American community.

CHPAA’s dedicated volunteers and Board Members constantly put others before themselves. Tragically during the COVID pandemic, Dr. Linath Lim, a CHPAA co-founder made the ultimate sacrifice as a front-line healthcare professional. We honor Dr. Linath Lim and deeply appreciate her lifelong dedication to providing healthcare to those in need.

As your Congressman and Co-Chair of the Congressional Cambodia Caucus, I commend CHPAA and all of its volunteers on your 25 years of accomplishments and I wish you all the best in the many more years to come.

Sincerely,

ALAN LOWENTHAL

Member of Congress



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

November 18, 2022

Dear Members, Sponsors, and Supporters:

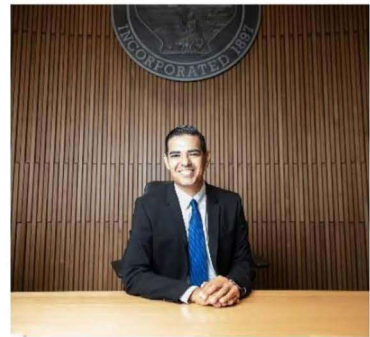
សូមស្វាគមន៍ និងសូមអរគុណ!

Saumosvakom ning saum arkoun!

I am happy and honored to welcome you to the 12th Annual Fundraising Gala of the Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America! We are so proud to host you again, and so grateful to the CHPAA for their work year in and year out.

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, congratulations on your success, and my thanks to all of you for supporting the CHPAA’s efforts to serve those in need – both here in California and in Cambodia.

CHPAA provides crucial healthcare services and resources to of thousands and thousands of people, based right here in the Long Beach’s own Cambodia Town. With roots in Cambodia and in our city, CHPAA is a unique and powerfully effective force in our community. I want to make special mention of the new Linath Lim, MD Memorial Scholarship, a beautiful tribute to a beloved community leader. We also want to recognize this year’s honorees, Neil Sullivan, MD; Tony Chi, DMD; and Song Tan, MD, being recognized as Volunteers of Distinction for 10 Years of Service, and Mr. and Mrs. Billy & Nearyphal Lim; Cathy Moffatt, RN; Kenten Wang, DO; and Neil Wang, DO, Volunteers of Distinction for 5 Years of Service.



Thank you all for your dedication and hard work – and thank you to everyone supporting CHPAA all year round, ensuring this fundraiser and all their efforts continue to thrive and success. We appreciate you, and hope you have an enjoyable and fun night at the Gala.

Warmly,

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

822 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION/ LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
Telephone (213) 974-4444 / FAX (213) 229-3676

JANICE HAHN

Supervisor, Fourth District

November 18, 2022

Dear Friends:

As a very proud supporter of the Cambodian Healthcare Professionals of America Association (CHPAA), I am honored to celebrate your 25th Anniversary and recognize this year's incredible group of honorees. In particular, Dr. Linath Lim, who made the ultimate sacrifice and died from complications of COVID. We will never forget her commitment to help others.

We all witnessed the bravery and sacrifices our healthcare workers made during the pandemic. I sincerely believe you all are heroes and I am grateful for CHPAA's dedication to care for people in their time of need.

As your County Supervisor, I am committed to health equity, and I appreciate the trust CHPAA has earned in the community. CHPAA has been an outstanding partner and I look forward to continuing our community collaboration.

I hope everyone enjoys the 2022 CHPAA 25th Anniversary Celebration and Award Presentation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Janice Hahn".

JANICE HAHN
Supervisor, 4th District
County of Los Angeles





DR. SUELY SARO
COUNCILWOMAN, SIXTH DISTRICT
CITY OF LONG BEACH

November 18, 2022

Dr. Song Tan, President
Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America (CHPAA)
930 Pine Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90813

Dear Dr. Tan and Members of CHPAA,

As a supporter of the Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America (CHPAA), I am honored to celebrate your 25th Anniversary and 12th Annual Fundraising Gala. It is with great pleasure that I extend my warmest greetings to all attendees celebrating and recognizing this year's honorees.

Since 1997, CHPAA has been a respected and trusted leader in promoting the health and wellbeing of underserved populations and the Cambodian American community. CHPAA have made lasting impacts on the lives of thousands of people by advancing health through education, advocacy for health equity, and encouraging the younger generations to enter the health profession. During the last two years, CHPAA has been vital in promoting awareness on COVID-19 about public health measures and vaccination to the community.

CHPAA's front-lines health care workers have put their health and lives at risk working to save lives and many were exposed and affected by COVID. Tragically, Dr. Linath Lim, a CHPAA co-founder and volunteer, succumbed to COVID while in the line of duty. We honor her memory and are deeply grateful for her dedication to care for people in their time of need. The pandemic had also made it challenging for CHPAA to deploy medical missions in Cambodia. Now that things are improving, CHPAA can hopefully resume their missions to provide healthcare to people in Cambodia.

As the Councilwoman of the Sixth District of Long Beach, I am committed to health equity and commend CHPAA and all its volunteers on your 25 years of accomplishments. I look forward to seeing what CHPAA will accomplish in the many more years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Suely Saro".

Dr. Suely Saro, Ed.D
Councilwoman, Sixth District
City of Long Beach



Mission Story: Tony Chi, DMD

Written By Taylor Chay and Robin Chay



Tony Chi, his wife Kweifang, along with their two children, Amy and Milly have been a part of the Long Beach community for over 20 years. Dr. Chi is a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DMD,) specializing in oral maxillofacial surgery. In addition to working at St. Mary's Medical Center and Long Beach Memorial Center, he also serves as the president of Harbor Dental Society and is chief of oral maxillofacial surgery at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center.

Dr. Chi was inspired to become a DMD because he has always been devoted to the care of others. He believed he could and would make a profound impact on the lives of patients. During our chat he said, "seeing patients walk away with gleaming smiles after I performed oral surgery on them, is one of the many things that makes me happy."

He is surrounded by a supportive family, great friends, and is engaged in a meaningful career. However, Dr. Chi feels he wants to do more, especially when it comes to improving the lives of others.

Thus, when presented with an opportunity to give more and do more by joining CHPAA, Dr. Chi welcomed it with heartfelt excitement! He became familiar with CHPAA through Dr. Tan. Although Dr. Chi has always been committed to serving and bettering the lives of others, he became even more inspired after meeting Dr. Tan. In 1998, Amy, Dr. Chi's eldest daughter became ill. Upon hearing the unfortunate news, Dr. Tan immediately offered to visit Amy at Dr. Chi's home to check on her. Dr. Tan's offer, this seemingly simple act of kindness, not only touched Dr. Chi's heart, it inspired him to join CHPAA, an organization with ideals, goals, and a vision he admired and shared.

Dr. Chi's first mission with CHPAA was in 2011. He has enthusiastically given countless hours of service and continues to participate in every mission since. On every mission, Dr. Chi receives the gift of meeting patients who remind him of the wonderful privilege he has been given to be able to serve by applying the skills and knowledge he acquired as an oral and maxillofacial surgeon. Sometimes, his reward is as simple as seeing smiles and happy faces of patients waiting in long lines under the scorching sun, but yet they are thrilled just to get a homemade dessert he and his co-volunteer, Cliff Moffatt are passing out. Other times, it is encountering patients such as the one-year-old girl with a cleft lip he met on one of his earliest missions when he was not yet trained to do maxillofacial surgery. Meeting this child and numerous other patients who sometimes trek hundreds of miles to receive medical attention is why Dr. Chi remains continuously inspired to do more by improving on his deficiencies as well as further developing his surgical skills so he can provide even better treatment. The experiences from the numerous missions have enormously enriched his life. He knows it is others (family, friends, patients, donors) who have given him even more in return.

Dr. Chi is passionately committed and honored to serve with CHPAA. He embraces the opportunity to improve the lives of the underprivileged and underserved around the world. He cherishes inspiration from others and serendipitously inspires many more individuals with his own quiet but active example of service. Although Dr. Chi has done much and continues to give more; he is humbled and is immensely grateful for the team of gracious donors, avid supporters, and devoted volunteers that make CHPAA's missions successful. In his heart, mind, body, and soul, he knows you are the true heroes!



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Past Outstanding Volunteers

2020
Arn Yan
Franklin Yong, DMD

2019
Douglas Fulton
Christopher Hy
Kim Mak

2018
Clifford Moffatt

2017
Lynne Porter

2016
Jasenska Stojic

2015
Angeline Barnes, MD

2014
Cynthia Ly, PharmD

2013
Tung Cheung, PA-C

2012
Neil Sullivan, MD
Susan Murray, RN

2011
Lykuong Eng, DDS



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Recognition for 10 Years of Service

CHPAA is pleased to recognize the following volunteers who have devoted a decade of Medical Mission to Cambodia.



Neil Sullivan, MD



Tony T. Chi, DMD



Song Tan, MD

Congratulations on serving CHPAA for 10 years! CHPAA is eternally grateful for everything you do. Thank you for your years of service and dedication to CHPAA. All your years of hard work, effort, tireless commitment, and enthusiasm helps make an enormous difference around the world and is a great inspiration to others. We couldn't do it without you!



Recognition for 5 Years of Service

CHPAA is pleased to recognize the following volunteers who have dedicated 5 years of Medical Mission to Cambodia.



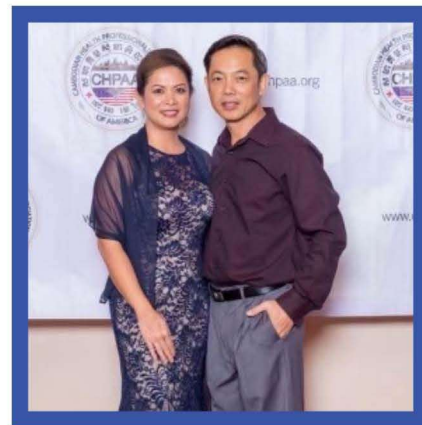
Cathy Moffatt, RN



Kenten Wang, DO



Neil Wang, DO



Neary Lim
and Billy Lim



Past Philanthropy Awardees

2020 Youcaipa Care Pharmacy
(Salan Thong, PharmD)



2019 Sody Lay, JD

2018 Michael Eng
Louisiana Famous Fried Chicken

2017 Mr. & Mrs. Alex Lim

2015 Mr. & Mrs. Gerard Ngo
Mr. & Mrs. Ly Por You



2014 Mrs. Choeung Sokuntheavy
Mr. & Mrs. Grard Ngo

2013 Mr. Kevin Ng
H.E. Mr. Mong Reththy
Mr. & Mrs. Phillip T. Thong



2012 Tung Cheung, PA-C

2011 Mr. James & Mrs. Nancy Lee



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Doctor Survived Cambodia's Killing Fields, but Not Covid

By Emily Bazar April 7, 2021

Staff writer of Kaiser Health News



Dr. Linath Lim's life was shaped by starvation.

She was not yet 13 when the Khmer Rouge seized power in Cambodia and ripped her family apart. The totalitarian regime sent her and four siblings to work camps, where they planted rice and dug irrigation canals from sunrise to sunset — each surviving on two ladles of rice gruel a day. One disappeared, never to be found.

Just a few months before the Khmer Rouge fell in January 1979, Lim's father starved to death, among the nearly one-quarter of Cambodians who perished from execution, forced labor, starvation or disease in less than four years.

For Lim, the indelible stamp of childhood anguish drove two of her life's passions: serving people as a physician and cooking lavish feasts for friends and family — both of which she did until she died of covid-19 in January.

"These experiences during the war made her humble and empathetic toward the people around her," said Dr. Vidushi Sharma, who worked with Lim at Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno, California. "She always wanted to help them."

Lim's story is one of suffering and triumph.

During the Khmer Rouge's brutal reign and the Cambodian civil war before it, Lim and her nine siblings attended school sporadically. The ravages of war forced the family first from its small town to the capital, Phnom Penh, and then into the countryside when the Khmer Rouge took power in 1975. As part of its vision to create a classless agrarian society, the communist group split families and relocated residents to rural labor camps.

Lim survived the work camps because she was smart and resourceful, said her youngest brother, Rithy Lim, who also lives in Fresno. She dug ditches, hauled clay-like dirt on her back, built earthen dams in the middle of a river during monsoons — all with little food or rest, he said.

She also became a skillful hunter and fisher, and learned to identify plants that were safe to eat.

"You cannot imagine the horrible conditions," he said. "Think of it as a place that you live like wild animals, and people tell you to work. There's no paper, no pens. You sleep on the ground. We witnessed death of all sorts." Top of Form Bottom of Form

Vietnamese troops liberated Cambodia from the Khmer Rouge in 1979. Later that year, Lim, her mother and siblings sneaked into Thailand. "The whole family walked through minefields," Rithy Lim recalled. There, they waited and worked in refugee camps. At one camp, they met a dentist from California's Central Valley who was on a medical mission.

When Lim and her family arrived in the U.S. in 1982, they landed in Georgia. But she and an older brother soon moved to the small town of Taft, California, about 45 minutes west of Bakersfield, at the invitation of the dentist they'd befriended at the Thai refugee camp.



Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America

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When she hit the ground, the 4-foot-11 dynamo, then 19, was driven by “pure determination,” Rithy Lim said. Within two years, Linath Lim learned English, earned her GED and graduated from Taft College — “boom, boom, boom,” her brother recalled. (She learned to make traditional, middle-America Thanksgiving dinners when she worked at the community college’s cafeteria, which she would later cook for scores of friends and family.) She went on to attend Fresno State and then the Medical College of Pennsylvania, sleeping on friends’ couches, borrowing money from other Cambodian refugees and scraping by.

“Imagine not having any money, studying alone, sleeping in someone else’s living room,” Rithy Lim said. Lim became an internal medicine doctor “because she always wanted to be really involved with a lot of patients,” Rithy Lim said. After her residency, she returned to the Central Valley to practice in hospitals and clinics in underserved communities, including Porterville and Stockton, where some of her patients were farmworkers and Cambodian refugees.

California has the largest Cambodian population in the country, with roughly 89,000 people of Cambodian descent in 2019, according to a Public Policy Institute of California analysis of American Community Survey data. Twice, Lim joined the Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America on weeklong volunteer trips to Cambodia, where she and other doctors treated hundreds of patients a day, said Dr. Song Tan, a Long Beach, California, pediatrician and founder of CHPAA.

“She was a kindhearted, very gentle person,” recalled Tan, who said he was the only member of his family to survive the Khmer Rouge. “She went beyond the call of duty to do special things for patients.”

Most recently, Lim worked the swing shift, 1 p.m. to 1 a.m., at Community Regional Medical Center. She admitted patients through the emergency room, where she was exposed to countless people with covid. She worked extra shifts during the pandemic, volunteering when the hospital was short-staffed, said Dr. Nahlla Dolle, an internist who also worked with Lim. “She told me there were so many patients every day, and that they didn’t have enough beds and the patients had to wait in the hallway,” Tan said.

Colleagues said she was aware of the risks but loved her job. Lim, who was single and didn’t have kids, drew happiness from celebrating others’ joys. After getting home from work in the small hours, she slept for a bit, then got up to cook. Her specialties were Cambodian, Thai, Vietnamese and Italian food. She sometimes ordered a whole roasted pig that she transported to the hospital. Her memorable Thanksgiving dinners served 70 or more people.

“For any occasion that comes up — if it’s a birthday, if it’s a baby shower, if it’s Thanksgiving — she would cook, she would order food and bring everybody together,” Dolle said. “She loved to feed people because she experienced famine and lack of food.”

The week before she died, Lim cooked for her colleagues almost every day, and threw a baby shower for Sharma, complete with chicken calzones and blueberry cake.

“Every day, we were having lunch together,” Sharma said. “She did the shower, and then she’s gone.”

Lim, who had health problems including diabetes, had not been vaccinated. Family and friends had urged her to take care of herself, and to check her blood sugar and take her medications. “She would care about everyone but herself,” Sharma said.

On Jan. 15, Lim told friends by phone that she was exhausted, achy and having trouble breathing. But she said that she would be fine, that she just needed to rest. Then she stopped responding to calls and texts.

When she didn’t show up for work a few days later, her brother went to check on her at home and found her on the couch, where she had died.

Now her brother and colleagues are haunted by what-ifs over the loss of a remarkable woman and doctor: What if I had checked on her sooner? What if she had been vaccinated? What if she had gotten care when she started feeling ill?

“To have someone who has been through all that in her childhood and then flourish as a physician, a human being, coming to a new country, learning English, going to school and college without having much financial support, it’s phenomenal,” Sharma said. “It’s unbelievable.”

This story is part of “Lost on the Frontline,” a project from The Guardian and Kaiser Health News that aims to document the lives of health care workers in the U.S. who die from COVID-19, and to investigate why so many are victims of the disease.

Emily Bazar: ebazar@kff.org, @emilybazar



Mission Statistics

From 2011 – 2020, CHPAA volunteers from US teamed up with Cambodian volunteers to provide free treatments and services to over 54,000 underserved Cambodian patients. Medication, vitamins, glasses, toothbrushes, hands on training, and health education were also funded by our organization.

Mission Statistics 2011-2020

54,207 Patients Served

USA



CAM

1,006 USA Volunteers

554 Cambodian Volunteers

Services Provided:

- Medical treatments and management
- Surgical: Hysterectomy, C-section, Hernia, Tumors, Eyes surgery, etc..
- Pain Management
- Physical Occupational Therapy
- Dental Treatments
- Psychological Therapist
- Dental Treatments
- And much more

MISSION 10 KAMPONG SPEU PROVINCE Jan., 2020

131 USA Volunteers

90 CAM Volunteers



Services Provide:

- Medical 5,032
- Surgery 72
- Ophthalmology cataracts 36
- Dental 595
- Mental health 73
- Pain management 295

TOTAL PATIENTS: 6103

- Ophthalmology Consultations: 278
- Neonatal Resuscitation Trainees: 37
- Didactic Lectures: 6
- Eyeglasses Distributed: 3,170



Donation: over \$30,000 of operating room equipments



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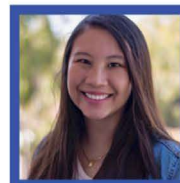
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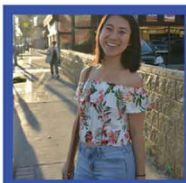
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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Mission Story: Bharat Patel, MD

Written By Bharat Patel, MD



I was first introduced to CHPAA by my dear friend and colleague Dr. Sy Oang in 2016. When I found out about the medical mission to Kampong Cham Province in 2017, I immediately signed up. I had gone to several medical missions in the past, but this was different. I was really impressed by the teamwork among all the participants. The patients we saw came from distant places and waited in line for hours. Some of them had never seen a doctor. We did our best to help them, and when we were not able to render the treatment they needed, we gave them vitamins and a pair of glasses. They left happy with a smile on their face. As my spiritual guru has said "Love all Serve all." When you do selfless service without any expectation in return the joy you get is beyond explanation. It was truly a very humbling experience.

Since that first mission I have participated in every mission since then. My late wife accompanied me in the last mission in 2020 to Kampong Speu Province. She was a pediatrician and really enjoyed serving the children she saw. She was looking forward to the next mission to Banteay Meanchey Province as that was close to Dr. Oang's hometown. So I am going to dedicate this mission trip in her memory.



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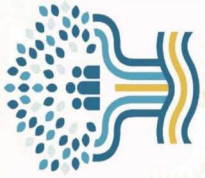


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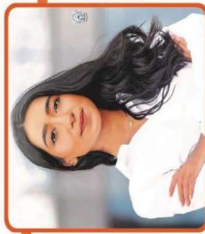
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 - ☑️ ការប្រើប្រាស់ប្រព័ន្ធប្រព្រឹត្តិសាស្ត្រសុខភាព



COVID-19 Vaccine Shots Fridays, 2pm-4pm



Cambodian New Year Parade 2022



Medical-Legal Partnership with Legal Aid Foundation of LA. Bawani Sridhar is the direct legal services at CMWC for the community.



Mission Story: Robert Yagar, PharmD

Written By Robert Yagar: PharmD



I work at the Walgreens pharmacy here in Long Beach, a city which hosts the largest population of Cambodians outside of Cambodia. One day Borin Manestitaya came into the pharmacy and asked if I would join the Mission. I was intrigued. Then I come to find out that my 15 year old daughter's high school has this program encouraging students to travel abroad. Faye was bound for England. I asked if she would rather join me in Cambodia. To my surprise she ditched her school friends to hang out with her dad!

There is an unbelievable amount of preparation and logistics incorporated in the mission. It is not primarily about health care professionals prior to the mission

the staff from my pharmacy helped to count out tablets and capsules and stuff them into tiny bags labeled with product info and directions for use written in Khmer. All the equipment and supplies were packed into totes that weighed exactly 50 pounds so that CHPAA could cut costs by having members check them in as luggage. Dr. Song Tan asked me how many of these totes could I bring. I told him 2. He said: "I'll give you 3."

At the airport I saw all these people like me lugging black totes with yellow lids. I felt at ease introducing myself to these tote carriers. Suddenly, my familiarity with only 2 CHPAA members grew to about 10 members. I already felt this sense of camaraderie that would continue to grow. At the airport I met Dr. Vasanti Patel and her husband Bharat. She was so kind and humble. Later in the trip she saved me by offering up her Zofran the day after I recklessly ate a raw oyster at the hotel (total rookie mistake). Faye and I felt a deep sense of loss later when we found out she had left this earth.

Faye didn't get to see England, but I know this trip left a more profound impression on her. She loved to hang out with the "older" Cambodian pharmacy students. She was ecstatic that we shared our hotel room with a gecko. She was thrilled by the tuk tuk rides. She laughed when the monkeys climbed all over her at Angkor Wat. She received complimentary acupuncture when her back was ailing. She even witnessed a surgery - a mastectomy. She didn't particularly enjoy working in the pharmacy though. By day 3 of the Mission she told me how boring it was. I said, "Hon, I understand - I've been a pharmacist for 25 years." She transitioned to helping take vitals. She also worked logistics with Cliff, Neil, and Batman who collectively looked out for her.

The Mission changed the way I picture the world. I had little knowledge of Cambodian history or culture. The ancient Khmer city of Angkor was once the largest preindustrial metropolis in the world, but the travesty of the Khmer Rouge can still be felt to this day. Visiting Tuol Sleng made it all so real. The only thing I had known about Cambodians before the trip was their affiliation with donuts and the pink box that contains them. I had no idea that they had expanded into seasoned fried chicken! There is a sense of hope, and when you join the Mission in whatever capacity, you bring that hope to people who really need you, meeting very dear friends along the way. Plus I had a wonderful opportunity to bond with my daughter and see the world through her eyes. This year, I hope to share that experience with my son Amory. I look forward to Mission 2023, 2024, 2025, and beyond.



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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Volunteers' Testimonies



"I am so honored to be able to provide medical care to humankind across the globe, but CHPAA taught me be both human and kind."

Bunnany Chhun Pekar, PhD,
CRNA, AGACNP



"I loved volunteering with CHPAA on the 2020. To quote Gandhi, "the best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in service of others."

Joan Sullivan



"I am very happy to volunteer with CHPAA. To provide free treatment to Cambodian. I am grateful to CHPAA for always thinking about the well-being of the Cambodian people."

Phanith Nop



"We wish to thank CHPAA for the privilege and opportunity to serve the underserved people of Cambodia. This opportunity to help patients that may never have exposure to such extraordinary healthcare is an exceptionally positive professional and personal experience. The citizens of Cambodia ask for nothing and give only gratitude in return. The personal reward is overwhelming. We are truly honored and grateful to be part of this wonderful team."

Kestutis V Kuraitis MD. , PhD
Santa Kuraitis RN. , BSN



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Promoting Health Through Service and Education



"For me, the highlight of our CHPAA mission is the interacting and teaching the eager, enthusiastic and smart medical students that serve as our translators. These students remind me that there is much reason for optimism in Cambodia as the next generation of committed professionals takes shape. It also proves another link in the unbreakable chain of medicine and our shared humanity. Thank you for giving me and us that opportunity."

-Robert S. Negrin, MD Professor of Medicine Stanford University

OUR MISSION

CHPAA's services provided: medical, surgical, dental, eyeglasses, medications, vitamins, patient education, professional education, and as well as hand on training to the medical, surgical, dental, pharmaceutical, and more.... CHPAA's goal is exclusively humanitarian, working to promote health through service and education in Cambodia and America.

OUR TEAM

CHPAA's success is owed to dedicated volunteers in many roles. Physicians: PAs, NPs, Mas, Surgeons, Anesthesiologists, IM, FM, Peds, Pain Management, etc... Dentists, Dental Hygienist, Das, Pharmacist, Nurses, Optometrist, Ophthalmologist, Chiropractors, Hilled Health: RT, OT/PT, Psychiatrist, Acupuncturist, Psychologist, MSWs, Non-Health Professionals: Khmer Interpreters, Educators, Others Logistic Helpers, Cambodian health department, students, and ordinary people, government officials from the airport to all the way to the mission site



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Promoting Health Through Service and Education



"The experiences are so rewarding and so life-changing that I would not trade them for anything else."

-Daniel Chan, MD



OUR IMPACT

Through 10 missions, approximately 56,000 patients have been served. CHPAA provides free medical treatments: surgical, dental, mental health, pain management treatments, ophthalmology consultations, neonatal resuscitation training, didactic lectures, medications, vitamins, and eyes glasses.

OUR EXPERIENCE

"We wish to thank CHPAA for the privilege and opportunity to serve the underserved people of Cambodia. This opportunity to help patients that may never have exposure to such extraordinary healthcare is an exceptionally positive professional and personal experience. The citizens of Cambodia ask for nothing and give only gratitude in return. The personal reward is overwhelming. We are truly honored and grateful to be part of this wonderful team."

-Kestutis V Kuraitis MD., PhD
Santa Kuraitis RN., BSN



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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Mission Story: Humanitarian Experience

Written By Duangnapa S. Cuddy, D.O., FACOS, RPVI.

I grew up in Thailand, a developing country where distribution of medical care is not always consistent, where quality medical care in rural and underserved areas may be very difficult. Since completion of my fellowship in vascular surgery, I have dedicated my career to work in rural practice where the subspecialty is not easily accessible, as well as my interest to sacrifice my time to volunteer in medical and surgical mission work in third world countries. Throughout my practice experience.

Among many surgical/medical mission works, I had been doing volunteer works with Cambodian Health Professionals Association of America (CHPAA) organization in Cambodia. In Jan 2014: I began to do volunteer work with CHPAA Medical/Surgical Mission as general and vascular surgeon in Cambodia at: Battambang Province in January 2014, Kampong Thom Province in February 2019, and Kampong Speu Province in January 2020.

Through my volunteer work experience, I have learned valuable philosophy of compassionate medical and surgical practice. The experience led me to meet many volunteers who had common vision of compassion. We were able to achieve difficult task at most challenging environment. We never compromised standard of care even extended circumstances. In the end, my working team turned into my extended family. Together, we extended compassionate practice to building community outreach and cultural embrace. Beyond all the rewards, the ability to inspire and plant seed to our future generation was the gift that filled my heart.

Currently since December 2018, I am a co-founder of Down to Earth Preventative Medicine nonprofit organization. I am currently working as the leading vascular surgeon at IU Health Hospital in Bloomington Indiana, since June 2019, where I have opportunity to continue my humanitarian work through this pandemic time. I am currently collaborating RMAT (Regenerative Medicine and Advanced Therapy) humanitarian work with utilization of Human Acellular Vessel for expanded compassionate use in hemodialysis patients. It is the mission that I have envisioned it will provide pathway to our future generation of medical and surgical regenerative organ replacement and for global humanitarianism.



Patients' Stories

Written By Borin Manestitay, RN



Patient 1

Dr. Cuddy was working with a patient who was in constant pain for several years from her gallstones. She did not have money to have it removed. When she heard the news that CHPAA was coming to Battambang Province in 2014, for her, it was a second chance at life and a better life for her poor family of seven. The gallstones were removed successfully. She was so happy, she put her hands together, and especially thanked CHPAA and the surgical team. She said that her prayer was rewarded by CHPAA volunteers and Dr. Cuddy, who gave her a second chance to live a better life with her family.



Patient 2

A patient had a big, hard, chunky earwax that had been bothering her for years. Dr. Nga removed it for her. Dr. Nga put it on the stick and gave it to her, and she kept on smiling and looking at the greasy earwax, and repeatedly said, "what a relief!" She smiled at our volunteers and she made Dr. Nga and all of us smiled with her. Sometimes, a simple thing could make people happy.



Patient 3

A patient came in with his two hands holding his groin, complaining of excruciating pain. It was late Thursday evening, our CHPAA surgical team was in the process wrapping up the last few cases. However, they saw the patient in such severe pain, and thus, could not say no to him. Their devotion to the CHPAA mission and compassion for the patient, gave the volunteers the strength to work into the wee hours of the night to treat him.





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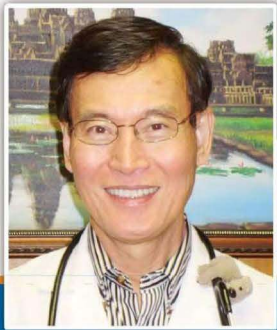
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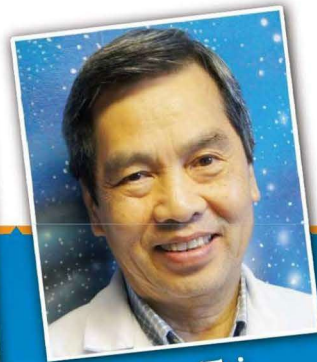
Happy 25th Anniversary to CHPAA



Dr. Tan



Rosita S. CPNP



Dr. Tsi



- ▶ វ៉ាក់សាំង COVID-19 មាននៅទីនេះសម្រាប់មនុស្សគ្រប់វ័យ (ចាប់ពីអាយុ ៦ ខែដល់មនុស្សចាស់)... គ្រប់គ្នាសូមស្វាគមន៍... ឥតគិតថ្លៃ!
- ▶ BIVALENT BOOSTERS ឥឡូវនេះមានសម្រាប់ ១២ឆ្នាំឡើងទៅ (ចាប់ពីថ្ងៃទី ៧ ខែកញ្ញាឆ្នាំ ២០២២)... គ្រប់គ្នាសូមស្វាគមន៍... ឥតគិតថ្លៃ!
- ▶ មានបទពិសោធន៍ក្នុងការព្យាបាលទារក កុមារ និងមនុស្សវ័យជំទង់ដល់អាយុ២១ ឆ្នាំ ។
- ▶ អាចទៅមើលព្យាបាលនៅ Long Beach Memorial / Miller Children's Hospital និង St Mary Medical Center (អ្នកអាចជ្រើសរើសវេជ្ជបណ្ឌិត Tan ជាគ្រូពេទ្យទារកនៅមន្ទីរពេទ្យទាំងពីរខាងលើ)។



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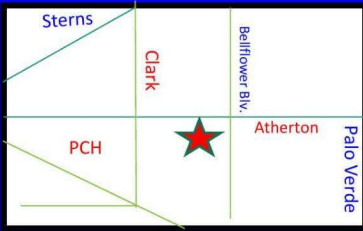


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Bio: Outside of work, Philip enjoys outdoor activities, sports and travelling. He founded and established a non-profit organization 501(c)(3), Cambodian Americans Coming Together, since 2003 supporting underprivileged children in Cambodia.



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**PASTOR:
DR. CHRISTINA LEE**

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Dr. Christina Lee - A Cambodian female doctor now caring for patients of all ages in Long Beach. *She also speaks Khmer and Spanish.*

បើសិនជាឪពុកម្តាយ ឬជីដូនជីតារបស់លោកអ្នក ដែលនិយាយភាសាខ្មែរ ហើយត្រូវការគ្រូពេទ្យមានភាពស្និទ្ធស្នាល ប្រចាំគ្រួសារ ព្រមទាំងអាចនិយាយភាសារបស់គាត់បាន លោកអ្នកអាចនឹងទុកចិត្តលើវេជ្ជបណ្ឌិត គ្រីស្ទីណា លី ដែលមានការយកចិត្តទុកដាក់នេះ ។

If your parents or grandparents who speak Khmer and would like to have a compassionate personal family doctor who speaks their language, you have found the right caring doctor.

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Dr. Christina Lee has over 20 years of experience and looks forward to serving you.

យើងទទួលការធានារ៉ាប់រង (អាស៊ុរ៉ង់) ទាំងអស់ដូចជា, We welcome major insurances: Medicare (មេឌីវែរ) , Brand New Day, Humana, SCAN, United Healthcare, Wellcare, Anthem Blue Cross, Blue Shield, Cigna, Healthnet, LA Care and more...និងលើសពីនោះទៅទៀត ។



Majestic Medical Clinic



Mission Story: Bunnany Chhun Pekar

Written By Bunnany Chhun Pekar, PhD, CRNA, AGACNP



In Cambodia, approximately 23% of children die before the age of 5 years due to lack of medical care. Additionally, the wait for treatment may be very long, which affects their outcome. The reality also, is that many do not have the means to travel to the nearest state facility to be cared for.

Medical missions, such as CHPAA, provide much needed medical, dental, surgical care for those who are young, elderly, or underprivileged in addition to conducting education on specific health care topics. Unfortunately, Cambodia is not alone. Many emerging countries are facing the same health care needs. The US spends approximately \$8200 per person on healthcare, whereas some countries of southeast Asia and Africa spends about \$25 per person. Most importantly, there is a lack of providers such as surgeons, OB/GYN, and anesthesiology personnel.

We take our healthcare system, though not perfect, for granted. There is public assistance and public healthcare for citizens. In some of these emerging countries, there are no bootstraps that people can pull themselves up. It is up to each of us to make the sacrifice to help out our fellow human being. In a speech that was delivered to an audience over 40 years ago, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, a steward of his community stated “Every person must decide at some point whether they will walk in the light of creative altruism or in the darkness of destructive selfishness”. Dr. King believed that in order for us to impact the lives of others, it cannot be just through our thoughts or words, it has to be in our actions. It is about choosing to serve oneself versus something greater. Dr. King often asked his followers “what are you doing for others?”

As a survivor of the Khmer Rouge regime, I am so grateful for the second chance at life. I would like to show that gratitude to my late Mother who have fought so hard for my survival and to America, my adopted country, who have provided me with all the opportunities to better myself by offering my medical skills/knowledge to those in need.

I am so blessed to have gone to Cambodia twice through CHPAA. Not only have the senior leadership welcomed me to the organization; they have taken great care of me while I was on those missions. By not having to worry about my well-being and personal needs, I was able to offer my medical knowledge/skills to the Khmer people who needed medical and surgical treatments so they can live healthier lives. My role was to provide anesthesia care during surgeries and delivery of babies. Our mission not only impacts the health care recipient, but also their family’s well being and future earning potentials.

I am so excited every time I am on a mission trip in Cambodia. My CHPAA family is from different profession, religion, ethnicity, and background. However, we are united by one common goal and that is to provide self-less care to the people of Cambodia, as “gentleness, self-sacrifice and generosity are the exclusive possession of no one race or religion” (Gandhi).





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Monday, January 13, 2020, the CHPAA surgical team welcomed a beautiful healthy baby girl into the world by C-section. She was named Ly Chan Champa, (named after CHPAA & Chan for Monday in Khmer).



Patient was so happy when he got his prosthetic hand that was placed on him. He was taught how to use it by our local volunteer.



CAMBODIAN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

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CHPAA is a non-profit 501 (C) (3) Tax ID# 90-0546021

11th Medical, Surgical, Dental Mission to Cambodia: Banteay Meanchey Province

January 25 to February 6, 2023

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Cost:

Airfare: Volunteers purchase

Mission Only:

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Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Note of Appreciation

CHPAA would like to thank the following volunteers who worked tirelessly to plan and organize this event.

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Produced by: Borin Manestitaya, RN
Co-Produced by: Taylor Chay
Book designer: Taylor Chay
Welcome page: Stacy Chou
Photos by: Kawei Day, MD
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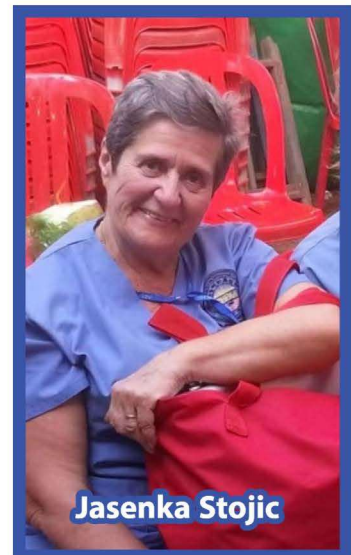
Promoting Health Through Service and Education

Special Tribute



“You melted our hearts with your smiles. You devoted your lives for others. Your bodies may have left this Earth, but your memory and legacy will never leave our hearts!”

Written by Borin Manestitaya



Happy 60th Anniversary



Mom & Dad

With Love,
All your children & grandchildren



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Dr. Kitya Paigne



Dr. Bakheng Pheng



Dr. Javier Quesada



Dr. Jasmin Lynn

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