



2020 Annual Report

Inclusive Education Programme

Epic Arts ran three special education classes, Growing Class, Peace Class and Independence Class. The three classes had a total of **20 children and young adults with disabilities** enrolled throughout 2020 with 100% retention rate. Eight students were over 18 years old and Twelve students were aged 18 and under, see the table for more detailed information about student's disabilities.

Student's Disability Type	Total Students	Under 18 years old	Over 18 years old
Students with Down Syndrome	10	4	6
Students with Intellectual Disabilities (Autism, ADHD, other)	9	7	2
Students with physical disabilities	1	1	0

Throughout 2020 the safety of students and their families was our top priority, we communicated with Department of Education regularly and followed the government's Covid-19 safety measures including closing our classrooms during the nationwide school closures from March to October.

As children with intellectual disabilities need more engaging teaching methods during the classroom closures our teachers visited students on a weekly basis. Following best practice covid-19 safety guidance, the weekly home learning visits included teaching students on topics such as hygiene as well as providing respite for parents of children with disabilities.

We supported the **one girl with physical disability to enrol at her local primary school**, Wat Kampot School. Epic Arts Teachers identified the student's ability to learn in school through observations and assessments, secondly, we supported her to get an official diagnosis of her disability from CCAMH in Phnom Penh. We then liaised with the School Director and supported the school to prepare for her enrolment by providing material support so the School could improve accessibility.



Community Programme

Epic Arts' community programme is changing projects which are based on the needs of the community in 2020 the community programme had an increased focus on social work.

Kampot ChildSafe

ChildSafe is a global movement empowering people to protect children created by Friends International and run by partner organisations in eight provinces in Cambodia. Friends International approached Epic Arts to set up and run the Kampot ChildSafe Project in 2019. In 2020 Epic Arts worked closely with the Department of Social Affairs and other various stakeholders in Kampot to protect children from abuse in Kampot. The Kampot Childsafe Hotline has been fully operational throughout 2020 with local authorities, NGO partners and agents aware of the phone number.



In 2020 **Epic Arts supported 18 clients through the ChildSafe network**. 16 cases were opened and managed by Epic Arts with 48% of cases managed directly by Epic Arts social workers with support of local authorities and 52% of cases refereed out to partners in Kampot and Phnom Penh at Dept of Social Affairs, ADHOC, LICHADO, Sonja Kill Memorial Hospital, Garden of Hope, Mary Knoll, APLE, RHAC Clinic, Mother's Heart and Kien Khleang National Physical Rehabilitation Centre. The children and families supported were living across Kampot Province and included cases from 6 districts: Krong Kampot, Angkor Chey, Dang Tong, Kampong Trach, Chhouk and Chum Kiri. Epic Arts received 2 serious allegations of sexual abuse which we were reported and referred on to local authorities and APLE for further investigation.

Covid- 19 Community Response

Epic Arts **delivered emergency food and Hygiene packages to 101 vulnerable families** in Kampot across seven districts during the Covid-19 pandemic. The materials were distributed to:

- 80 children and youth under 25 (54% female)
- 60 people with disabilities (48 under 25 years) ,
- 6 orphans
- 47 poor families (38 without ID card / 9 with ID card)
- 2 elderly people



Support for Families of Children with Disabilities

During the year we provided support for the 20 families for children with disabilities enrolled in our Inclusive Education Programme.

As an organisation receiving official covid-19 information from government authorities and NGO stakeholders we were able to provide advice and information to families. Throughout 2020 we updated families about the latest covid-19 situation in order to limit the spread of false information and news.

In October **Epic Arts supported six families who were impacted by flash flooding** by providing them with emergency food and hygiene supplies.



Social Enterprise Programme

Epic Encounters Performance Team

Epic Encounters Performance Team is an inclusive contemporary dance team in 2020 **we employed 14 performers including 12 people with disabilities**. In the first quarter of 2020 before the covid-19 pandemic hit Cambodia our performance teams **delivered 2 performances and workshops** in Phnom Penh and Takeo Provinces to stakeholders in the NGO, CSO and Government sectors in order to change society's perception of people with disabilities. Later in the year the performers focused on showing their work online and took part in several international artistic collaborations.



Epic Arts Café and Creations Shop

Epic Arts Café and Creations Shop is social enterprise located in on old market in Kampot. The Café was open to the public throughout 2020 whilst following all government safety measures and protocols related to covid-19 pandemic.

In 2020 Epic Arts Café and Creations **shop provided jobs for 14 people including 8 people with disabilities (57%). We served 7,573 customers** with delicious coffee, cake and meals.

During the covid-19 pandemic we supported the community by **making over 700 reusable face masks** and worked with the social work team to distribute them to 101 vulnerable families in Kampot Province.

