Our new mission statement and tagline highlights the focus and importance of Trailblazer Foundation's work. Read about our renewed commitment to three core principles of rural community development in Cambodia.



November 2015

## New Mission Statement, Renewed Commitment...



Hello Trailblazer Foundation Supporters,

The video linked above is a visual look at the lengthy process Trailblazer Foundation's Board and U.S.-based staff recently went through to refine the organization's mission statement.

As anyone who has gone through such a process knows, this was a great exercise for us to assess and evaluate our mission, and then enhance our statement of purpose to better reflect Trailblazer Foundation's goals. Here is the end result of our efforts:

To improve health, food security, education, and economic development in rural Cambodia in ways that are self-sustaining by the individuals and communities we serve.

As well, we committed to renewing the use of an older tagline, which more simply explains what it is we do:

Developing ripples of sustainability through community water projects.

This revised mission statement and renewed tagline reflect three core principles of Trailblazer Foundation:

- 1) We start with water projects, because water is life. Without clean and abundant water (by way of digging wells and constructing water filters), our partner communities would not be able to address their other needs, such as food, education, and jobs.
- 2) It is important to have a comprehensive strategy for helping these communities shift from surviving to thriving. This is where our Education and Economic Development programs come into play. To that end, our Board redoubled Trailblazer's commitment to education, by authorizing the building of at least one new school each year moving forward. As well, in 2016, we will increase the number of capacity building trainings we provide to our partner communities, and the staff of our in-country affiliate Trailblazer Angkor.
- 3) Finally, we don't merely want to give these villages a proverbial fish. Rather, Trailblazer Foundation wants to help them learn how to live in ways that are self-sustaining. In doing so, these villagers can be more in charge of their future, and Trailblazer can expand our efforts to support other communities in other ways.

This revision process was very timely, because Trailblazer Foundation is in the midst of enhancing our own capacities and financial resources, so we can take the organization to its next level. For us, this means providing additional poor, rural villages in Cambodia with more of our life enhancing products, services, and trainings.

In the next three weeks, Trailblazer Foundation will be sending you an appeal for support, as part of our year-end campaign to start 2016 in a financially strong position. I hope you will seriously consider making a gift.

