

# CAMBODIA VOLUNTEER SERVICE TRIP – JUNE 2016

Newsletter #1 – January 2016



**PARTICIPANTS** for our Cambodia service trip next June include Jui Buamahakul, Derek Cai, Megan Carchidi, Lily Carlson, Anastasia Chase, Tenzin Chodak, Connor Cook, India Daniel, Sydney Farrell, Kyle Ferguson, Leland Frantz, Tony Hwang, Julia Jeffries, Dennis LaRock, Brian Lee, David Martignetti, Mao Matsuo, Taka Matsumura, Kiley O'Leary, Caroline Packard, Christina Romagnoli, Jack Shi, Poom Sombutboon, Annalisa Souza, Jack Sweeney, Christian Vander Mel, Emma Wang, Kitty Wang, Sherry Wang, Cassie Womeldorf, and Chris Xue. Faculty include Mr. Rick DaSilva, Mr. Steve Downes, Ms. Paige Kemezis, Dr. Karl Kistler, Mr. Gary Sousa, and Mrs. Liz West. Our goal is to provide and encourage leadership from both students and faculty.

**FUND-RAISING** will support both the cost of the trip for some students, as well as enhance the project itself that we will build in Kontreang Commune, near Siem Reap, Cambodia. Many thanks to the parents who have already supported trip costs for some Tabor students. Jason Ma has volunteered to organize an origami rose fundraising project again this spring, and we may do some fundraising at Asian Dinner next month. We welcome other fundraising ideas from student or faculty members of our group.



**SAFETY** is at the top of our trip list. Immunizations will be arranged through Tabor's Health Center. Travel advisories and precautions from the CDC and WHO will be monitored and followed. While we are on the trip, you may not leave our group without permission. Tabor rules apply, including alcohol and drugs. We will be accompanied always by local guides who are experienced with the culture, regulations and environment of the areas where we will live and travel.

**LIVING** accommodations will be provided at Kontreang Commune during our one-week stay there. Given our group's size, we may be at more than one home stay location, with faculty at each site. Tabor's group of 37 students and faculty will live in a bungalow like the one pictured to the right. The facilities are clean and sanitary, with sleeping on floor mats and inflated thin cushions. In order to be seen and accepted as partners by the children and families that we will meet, our lifestyle will be simple.



**A SERVICE PROGRAM** has some physical, concrete goals. For us, these will include building a home for a needy local family, and teaching English to local children. A service project also includes person-to-person friendship and cooperation that we hope will give some of the most meaningful experiences and memories of the trip. Our work-day will see us form teams that will rotate through different tasks of construction, under guidance from experienced project leaders. We will have a chance to get to know each other, depend on each other, and accomplish something great together. Mr. DaSilva, Mr. Downes, Dr. Kistler, Ms. Kemezis, Mr. Sousa and Mrs. West look forward to joining you in this adventure!