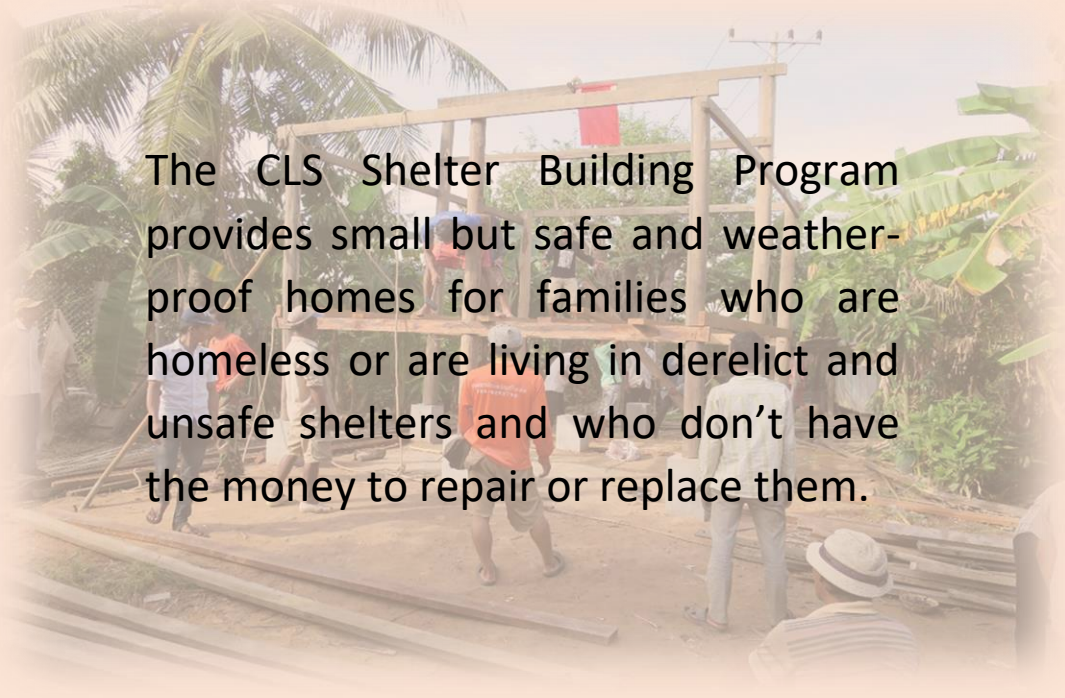


## SHELTER BUILDING



The CLS Shelter Building Program provides small but safe and weather-proof homes for families who are homeless or are living in derelict and unsafe shelters and who don't have the money to repair or replace them.

In ten years, the program has seen over 100 shelters built for needy families in Chumkriel and neighbouring communities.



CLS staff visit villages and meet Commune Chiefs, Village Chiefs, and families to assess needs and priorities. Demands are many and varied – such concerns as bikes for children to get to school, rice for families in crisis, medical assistance, repairs to shelters, or new shelters!

With demand so great, priorities must be set. These consider size of the family, health, employment and income, whether children go to school (or will go to school if a shelter is built), and, of course, living conditions.



Materials for a shelter cost US\$700 to US\$1,000 and are bought with donations from individuals and organisations. The latter often send volunteers to assist in shelter construction.



CLS organises the shelter builds. It purchases the materials, coordinates work on the ground, and, when volunteers are involved, assists communication between them and

Khmer workers. It also sees that volunteers have the opportunity to interact with the local people and, through the experience, gain insights into Khmer culture and life in these impoverished rural communities.



New shelters change lives! Families take pride in their new home. With better protection from weather, and hygienic living conditions, health and security improve. Parents are better able to work. Children attend school regularly.



And for volunteers it's an enriching exposure to Khmer life and culture, with the added satisfaction of seeing first-hand the benefit of their efforts.

