

Early Childhood Education and Nutritious Meals: Transforming Family Livelihoods



Mrs. Phet Vongvichit, a parent from Dindak Village, Toumlan District, Salavan Province.



In the past, my child rarely wanted to go to school. But after the school was upgraded with better facilities and diverse learning materials, they now wake up early, eager to go to school every morning. My child is happy to learn, listens better, and has shown wonderful development



This story is shared by Ms. Phet, a student's parent:

The positive changes in her child were not limited to a newfound eagerness to attend school. Previously in Dindak Village, Toumlan District, challenges such as old school buildings and a shortage of teaching and learning materials left many children lacking motivation to go to school. Furthermore, the burden of taking care of her child at home during the day served as a major obstacle that prevented her, as a mother, from fully engaging in income-generating activities or working to support her family. After the school was upgraded, a clear transformation took place in her child—especially through play-based learning and delicious, nutritious school lunches. Her child's behavior changed noticeably; every morning, the child wakes up enthusiastically, quickly washes their face, gets dressed, and asks her to take them to school. Play-based learning, nutritious school lunches, and attentive care from teachers have supported the child's development. As a result, the child has become more attentive, disciplined, and helpful with household chores.

"My child's eating habits have improved so much—they eat much better now! Before, my child wouldn't touch vegetables, but after having school lunches, they started eating them. Having my child attend school also gives me time to manage household chores and run my small business. This has helped increase our family income while easing my daily caregiving responsibilities during the day."

For Ms. Phet, a standardized school is more than just a new building—it is about creating opportunities for children to thrive while simultaneously improving the quality of life for their families.

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