

# Transformations

Visit us online:  
[www.hopenow.org](http://www.hopenow.org)

Two steps and you're  
 up:

A caring relationship  
 plus a job, lifts a gang  
 member from the  
 street into a life of  
 hope and success.

Employers Wanted.

We take donations of  
 cars in good running  
 condition. We pass  
 those cars on to young  
 men and families in  
 need of transportation  
 who have proven  
 themselves worthy.  
 Odd Jobs Needed.

It only takes about  
 \$5,000 per year to  
 guide and assist one  
 young man. Your gift  
 goes a long way!  
 Thank you for giving  
 monthly!

Executive Director and  
 CEO, Since 2004  
 Pastor Roger Feenstra

Founded 1993  
 Rev. Roger Minassian

The lack of a male role model is one of the most prevalent problems in society. Young men are plagued with it every year, and the problem is growing. How does a boy learn to be a man without one?

John's father was always in and out of prison, and though they were not close, it hurt and affected John profoundly. Then, both of his parents died within months of one another, and he became a ward of the state at the age of 14.

Moving from a group home to three different foster homes, John was in the wrong place at the wrong time when he was picked up for robbery. He was sent to juvenile hall and then boot camp. He only finished 11th grade.

When he came to Hope Now his life began to change. Suddenly he was in the midst of several male role models.



Our staff embraced him and gave him positive feedback. John told me, *"There is zero negativity here."* This year he worked hard and got his GED.

John's long term goal is to become a personal trainer. He loves to workout and lift weights. To achieve that goal he plans to enroll in college soon.

In June, John joined our part-time staff. He assists our full-time counselors in recruiting young gang members from the streets. John said, *"Everyday that I go into the streets to hand out cards I think, 'I want to change the life of one person today!'"*

John has a child on the way and wants to be a positive role model. Please pray for John to learn to break the bonds of his past and be a godly man.

*Roger Feenstra*  
 Executive Director



**DONATE**

# Save The Date

Now is the time to save the date for our 25th Anniversary Banquet.

Thursday,

February 22, 2018.

Mark your calendar today and plan on attending.

Tell a friend.

# Cambodia Corner

[The following is a true account. The name of the young man has been withheld to protect his identity.]



The door to his mother's room creaked as he opened it. Confusion and terror gripped him as she hung by a cord. Taking her own life was the only way she could cope with the pain of the war she and her family had escaped. The devastating takeover by the Khmer Rouge created a country-wide concentration camp. Two million people were killed between 1975-1979. The young boy stared wide-eyed at his unconscious mother. Barely able to make a sound, he could only gasp in horror. But she didn't die, not yet.

Two months later she succeeded by overdosing on pills. The six-year-old who had already lost his father was completely traumatized, and his life would never be the same.

As the boy grew, he moved from foster home to foster home. From Illinois to Texas, then to Michigan. He drifted to the dark side, trying to escape his own pain. Lonely, he joined with his friends in petty crime. Later his small crimes elevated to felonies. Because he was not a U.S. citizen, he was placed on the deportation list.



Our staff member, Chantha (left) making a difference.



In 2011, at the age of age of 31, he was put on a plane and sent to Cambodia, never allowed to return to the U.S. Like all 600 plus deportees who now reside there, Cambodia was a place he had never been. The language, although spoken by his parents, was unfamiliar. The letters and words on signs were strange and impossible to read.

He tried to get his life together, but the prospect of building a life in Cambodia seemed dismal without resources or money. Then he found Hope Now. We assisted him with a place to live (he was homeless), bought him food and a rice cooker, got him a phone, and found him a job. We provided him with a new Bible, a book he cherishes.

Today, he works for Mama. She is the owner and cook at *Mama's New York Deli*. She is like a mother to him. His salary is \$150 per month with two meals a day. He works seven days a week with one day off per month. A dream job in Cambodia. He helps wait on customers and keeps the establishment clean.

This is what we do and how we make a difference. Thanks for your support and prayers for our Cambodia ministry.



559.237.7215



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