

Report from Foundation for Life July to September 2009

This report is a series of reports given regularly to friends, supporters and new partners who would like to be updated on the happenings of our Foundation. As such we need to repeat the introductory section for sake of newcomers.

The Girls' Brigade, Thailand has been in the "business" to develop girls using a wholistic approach for a period of about 15 years and has been well received by the society for its efforts. In 2005 a similar program in the form of The Young Men's Brigade, was launched for the benefit of the boys and has since been played a role as a counterpart to the girls' ministry.

The Girls' Brigade and The Young Men's Brigade has a total membership of about 2,000 strong, where programs and activities are run on a *weekly basis*, developing the young people mentally, physically, morally and socially, so that they may have self-control, reverence and a sense of responsibility, ready for good works in their 18 communities where they are situated, both in Bangkok and upcountry (i.e. Khon Kaen, Chonburi, Chiangmai, Chiangrai, Rayong, Samut Sakhon, Samut Songkhram, Roi Et, Sisaket, etc.)

In 2004, the Foundation for Life (licence number กท. 1470) was inaugurated as a charitable arm, with emphasis on the children and family, the poor and underprivileged in society. Through love and compassion, regardless of race or religion, the Foundation seeks to help communities be self-sufficient and achieving a better quality of life.

The following is a report of what has been done from July to September 2009

1. PROJECT "CAMPS FOR KIDS BY KIDS" ON THE THEME "ONE ACCORD"

As an on-going project from April, the Foundation gathered the core group of 40 young leaders from Bangkok and suburbs to brainstorm, teach skills in organizing camps like looking after younger kids on safety issues and taking care of kids that come from upcountry, as well as planning activities and delegated tasks to the groups from various provinces. The theme was "One Accord". As a result, the camp came into realization from July 4 to 6 at Prachuapkirikan province with a total of 250 campers from various provinces. Campers learnt though fun activities that aim to develop them physically, emotionally, intellectually and socially for instance, station games that build strong teams to be in One Accord, sharing in groups for moral encouragement, handcrafts, etc. On the final day, campers gave the young camp organizers a rousing approval for a great camp and for being exemplary in their conducts.



2. PROJECT "FACILITATING WORKSHOPS FOR LEADERS"

The Foundation was privileged to have Mr Lai Mun Loon, a partner from Compass Training Hub, Singapore who offered to train 20 of our leaders and volunteers from Bangkok and upcountry on 19 Sep 09. The objective of the training was to use creative games to facilitate learning, build self-esteem and value others and establish strong teams. All trainees benefited greatly from the seminar and were able to practice these skills to further develop the children and youths in their care.



3. PROJECT "THE S.M.A.R.T. (STEWARDSHIP OF MONEY AND RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS TREASURES) FAMILY - TEACHING KIDS WISDOM IN GIVING, SPENDING AND SAVING

Poverty, destitution, lack of resources etc. are complex obstacles in life that may have devastating impact on our youths either directly or indirectly. As such the 'blue-prints' to teach kids to be smart in giving, spending and saving thus took about 5 years to formulate, as observations were made. As starters, mini-ventures were launched to instill the habits of in saving via the production of the savings doll. This year the Foundation did the first batch of training for 250 children and youths (from primary to university levels) and even adult volunteers, from Bangkok and the provinces, so that all may know how to give to others, budget their expenses and save for future investments. The response was good and the Foundation will follow-up on this with the hope that the cycle of "scarcity mentality" may be broken to be replaced by a life-style of sufficiency.



4. PROJECT EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

The Foundation gave out books to various libraries in schools and institutions in Bangkok and Chiangmai.

The Foundation is grateful for your continued support of our programs so that children and youths may be duly developed in the past trimester. Despite the downturn in the economy, we have been greatly encouraged and blessed by philanthropists like yourselves. May the Lord bless you and your family with true happiness and prosperity!!