

Report From Foundation for Life

October to December 2008

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 the work of our Foundation. As such we need to repeat the Introductory section for the 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, has been 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, Chiangrai, Chiangmai, 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.

(1) DEVELOPING YOUNG LEADERS

The Foundation has an on-going process of Leadership Development for children and youths. This year, young and potential leaders from the various centres where the Project "Moulding the NeXt Generation" are run, gathered in a 4-day camp to train them physically, emotionally, intellectually and socially. The Theme this year was "Arise and Shine!" aiming to instil in them a sense of service to the communities from which they live.

Subjects for the training include inner courage, the theory and practical skills pertaining to leadership development, and teaching the teams of energetic youths to use brainstorming techniques and creative ideas to weave into workable solutions. Other workshops like Teamwork, Creative Song and Game Leading, Understanding Others, Planning for a National event in 2009, Handcraft of Beaded Tealight containers for girls and Tin Lanterns for boys, Endurance Hiking cum Outdoor Camping, Foot Drill, etc were conducted as age-appropriate activities.

The 250 leaders from various provinces like Bangkok, Khon Kaen, Chonburi, Chiangrai, Rayong, Samut Sakhon, Roi Et and Chiangmai, were divided into 3 separate camps namely, one for primary girls, one for secondary girls and one for boys. These camps were run from 10th to 13th October in Saraburi province, and it is the Foundation's highest aspirations that these Young Leaders would use what they have gained, to the benefit of other kids in their centres and hometowns.



(2) NATIONAL DRILL COMPETITION

The organisation of the National footdrill competition aims to inculcate habits of self-discipline and teamwork, which go hand-in-hand with the 4 fold development of the physical, mental, intellectual and

social aspects in the lives of children and youths. This competition comprises compulsory planned step patterns and the creative element, where competitors have to choose the appropriate music with the planning of steps within a specified time limit. The Competition was held on 22 November, in the Thai Christian School, with 250 participants gathered from various provinces.



(3) FEEDING THE FAMILY PROJECT

The Foundation supplied Goody Bags of daily necessities and rice to 23 disadvantaged families living in the Klong Toey Slums.



(4) EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT PROJECT

Stationery, developmental toys and presents were sent to needy kids in the Klong Toey community (Bangkok), Sangkelerk (Rayong), Khunharn (Sisaket) and those in the leprosy community in Saelaphum (Roiet).



(5) LIVEABLE HOME PROJECT

This on-going project is carried out in co-operation with the Baan Chiwit Mai Centre, so as to help educate families in the Klong Toey Slum Community in healthy, clean living and looking after their homes. Volunteers help with the physical cleaning, simple and practical interior designing and to lift the flooring up, repairing of roofs, painting the walls, upgrade the kitchen, toilets and to change broken down furniture as needed, so as to be a model home for the neighbourhood. At the moment, renovations of the 4th, 5th and 6th clients of the centre are being carried out.

(6) BLESSING THE COMMUNITY

With the intention to bless the community where she is located, the Foundation with volunteers from Singapore, visited around 130 homes in the estate, with a small gift to greet them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The Foundation is grateful to all who help support our programs so that sustainable development may be realised. May the Lord bless you and your family with true happiness and prosperity in the year 2009!

