

Project Report: Empowering Myanmar's Visually Impaired Community

We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your interest and support in our vocational training project. We are pleased to share the progress of the current term with you.

Progress Overview:

The academic year commenced in June, and we have admitted seven trainees until now. Our program includes both manual and practical training in medical massage, spanning a total of ten months, concluding in March. At the end of the academic year, trainees will undertake a final exam to earn a Certificate of Successful Completion, certifying their proficiency in practical massage skills dealing with customers.

Trainee Background:

Four trainees lost their vision due to diseases or accidents during their youth.

One trainee was born blind and has no prior schooling or outside home experience.

Two trainees have educational experience from the School for the Blind.

In addition to vocational training, we provide support in daily living skills and Orientation & Mobility training.

Training Details:

In the first month, we introduced basic Braille literacy, presenting a significant challenge for beginners as they learn to cope with braille dots in writing and reading without vision, going on life journey without sight. This adjustment period has been emotionally demanding for some trainees, leading to homesickness and occasional crying. However, they are gradually adapting and finding joy in their studies and daily dormitory life.

Accommodation and Health:

Due to extreme summer heat and excessive rainfall, we have arranged suitable accommodation and a friendly, healthy classroom environment. We still are looking for classrooms ceiling repair and air conditioners maintenance. During the current flu season, trainees are often sick, catching colds, runny noses, and sometimes facing diarrhea. So, there was a mobile clinic health check-up arranged in July. The doctor provided health consultations, and some students received iron vitamins and other necessary medications.

Daily Routine:

Trainees are occupied with lessons in day times and private study hours in the evening. Most of them prefer audio recorded lessons and enjoy writing Braille using Slate and stylus. Teachers are attentive to each trainee's individual needs, offering additional learning support and extended private study hours as necessary.

Funding Support Requirements:

We are still seeking financial support for essential maintenance and repairs. Specifically, we need funding for ceiling repairs in the classrooms and maintenance of air conditioners to ensure a comfortable and conducive learning environment for our trainees.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to updating you on further progress.

Attached below are the photos for reference.



Learning Activities at the training center



Mobile Clinic Health Checkup



Trainees of the academic year

