

We make dreams come true



Newsletter from ELCT Diakonia Department December 2018



***“It doesn’t matter who you are or where you come from.
Every child deserves a good beginning.
This will give them the hope and confidence needed in their life”***

Lutheran Christian Foundation of Thailand

Dear friends and supporters

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We wish you and your family health, happiness, peace and prosperity in this holiday season and in the coming New Year. May the love of Christmas fill your heart all year long.

You are today holding the third edition of our Diakonia Department's newsletter 2018. In this newsletter, you can read about what we are doing in our different projects, and stories about people who get support through our projects.

We are very thankful for your support. This makes it possible for us to help Thai people in need. If you want more information about our projects, please contact Miss Nipaporn Kunaruk aomlove2412@gmail.com or Ms Anne Storstein Haug on annesh@nms.no

Kind regards

Nipaporn Kunaruk and Anne Storstein Haug
on behalf of the Diakonia department

Home of Grace- a shelter for pregnant women in a difficult life situation, Bangkok

The women who come to Home of Grace (HOG) have all different backgrounds and stories. Some of them are working as prostitutes, some have become pregnant with a man who already is married (but didn't tell before after she got pregnant), some are young and in love...as the university student Ann. Common for all of them is that they have ended up in a difficult situation and need support, love and care.



Illustration picture

Ann is 18 old and studies in a well-known university in Bangkok. She comes from the countryside. At the university, she met a boy and after a short while she found out she was pregnant. Her boyfriend told her to get an abortion, but she didn't want to. She was in a stressed situation, her boyfriend left her, and she didn't dare to tell her parents about the pregnancy. She searched on the web to see if there were someone who could help her, and she found Home of Grace. She called them, and the staff there told her that she was welcome to come and stay. When she was 7 months pregnant she went to stay in Home of Praise. In the car, on her way to HOG she got pain, and when she arrived there the staff called the ambulance immediately, because they saw that she was soon giving birth.

Ann got her beautiful little baby girl in the ambulance. The baby was only 1200 gram, and had to stay in the hospital for a long time. Ann went back to school, but brought milk and visit her baby in the weekends. Ann had already decided to give her baby away for adoption. Home of Grace helped her to contact a foundation they co-operate with when it comes to adoption and foster care. When the baby came to the foundation, she had a health check. At this health check, they found out that the girl had an irregularity in the brain and they were afraid the child was autistic. Because of this they could not send the baby away for adoption and Ann had to take care of the baby her selves. It was a shock for Ann, and she did not know what to do. She went to talk to the child's dad. He went to talk to his family, and they decided to help the young parents, and is now taking care of the little girl. During the whole time, staff from Home of Grace was there for Ann, ready to talk and comfort.

Immanuel hostel- a dormitory in Phibun, North-East Thailand

Immanuel hostel is a dormitory located in Phibun province in North East of Thailand. Girls from underprivileged families can live there while they study at high school level in Phibun city. In addition to this they offer scholarships for secondary school students who stay at home while they study at a local school. Here is a letter from Ya who lives in Immanuel hostel



Dear all.

My name is Ya. I'm 18 years old, and I'm studying my last year in Phibun high school. I came to live in Immanuel hostel for more than two years ago, and since then my life has changed a lot. I got new friends, a new community and I got new opportunities. I feel happy, I got many good memories and I'm impressed in many things. There are good rules in Immanuel hostel. When we do wrong, the staff will gradually teach us in a gently way. I want to thank you for the opportunity to stay in this dormitory. If I did not get this opportunity, I would probably not have the chance to study, because my parents are poor. I would like to thank you for everything that has been given to me during my time here. Immanuel hostel is like my second home. It is a home with both love and warmth. We do activities together, we have social gatherings every evening, we help each other, we have family days where our family can visit etc.

Thank you from Ya

LaOn Siam- a dormitory for hill tribe children in Chiang Rai

LaOn Siam is a dormitory located in Chiang Rai city in Northern Thailand. The dormitory gives an opportunity for children from unprivileged families to come and live while they study at secondary- and high school level. Pete is one of the students there. Here is a letter from him.



Dear all

My name is Pete and I'm 14 years old. I study in a secondary school in Chiang Rai city. I'm from the Lahu hill tribe and come from a small village in the mountains in Chiang Rai. I'm the oldest child in my family and I have two little brothers. My family is poor, and our parents don't have the opportunity to send us all to study at a higher level. When I was a little child I was very worried about this, because I really want to study. When I still were in primary school my parents got to know about LaOn Siam through the local church. They applied for a place for me here, and I was lucky and could move into LaOn Siam dormitory after a short time. After I moved to stay here all my worries went away, because I knew that LaOn Siam will take care of all my expenses. It means a lot for me to stay in LaOn Siam. I can study without being worried, and I have received many good and useful things, such as language knowledge, how to live a good and disciplined life and how to be a good person in the society. I have also learned to play music and to make handicraft.

I'm very thankful for the opportunity to stay in LaOn Siam, and I will use what I have learnt in the rest of my life. My dream is to learn more about Christianity, and I want to study the bible in the future.

I want to say thank you to the staff who look after me and guide me, to the supporters who give me the opportunity to study, and to the Lord for all the good things that happen in my life.

Thank you from Pete

Hope for families- provide support for families in need.

Hope for families is a project that gives support to underprivileged families, including providing scholarships to children and youth and economical support to elderly people, handicapped people and people with HIV/Aids.



Nook is a young man who is 24 years old, he has graduated from the Institute of Bachelor Degree Business Administration Program some years ago. Nook came from a poor family living in Bangkok, and has been a scholarship student in the Hope for family project since he was a little child, until he finished his bachelor degree. When he finished his education, he had a job waiting for him as an Assistant manager in a local 7/11 store. After a while he was promoted to be the manager in the same store. He stayed in that position until this year when he got a new job in Allianz Ayuthaya Life Insurance as an Agency leader. He is very thankful for the scholarship support from Hope for families, and that he today is able to take care of him selves and his parents.

Home of Praise and Home of Praise Immanuel- two nurseries in Klong Toey community, Bangkok.



Illustration photo

needs a lot of attention and love, which she gets in the nursery, from the teachers, friends, volunteers and visitors.

Nong Va is a little girl living under the highway close to Home of Praise. She is only 2 years old, but has already experienced many painful things in her life. She has never known her dad, and her mum is in prison. Her mum was caught when selling drugs, and has to stay in prison for many more years. Today Nong Va stay with her grandma, who do her best to take care of Nong Va. For half a year ago, something good happen in Nong Va's life, she got a place in Home of Praise nursery. For her grandma, this meant that she was able to start to work again and for Nong Va it meant that she could stay in a safe environment, with people who gave her love and care. A place where she can run around and play, where she can learn, get a healthy meal and rest.

Nong Va loves to be in Home of Praise, she loves the teachers and she loves her friends. She is a very engaged learner, and when she learned to talk she also started to ask questions. She is a smart little girl with a good mood, but she

We are thankful for all kind of donation

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