



**FOR LIFE
THAILAND**

For children, for families, for life

**SUMMER NEWS
MAY 2021**



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US
DURING THIS DIFFICULT YEAR.**

THANK YOU FOR RESPONDING

We have been overwhelmed by the amazing response to our Christmas appeal, in which we asked for your help to reach families plunged into desperate poverty during the pandemic. We received an astounding £5,932 in donations to buy care packages for these families. Your kindness has helped so many children, just like Song and Jon, featured below.



You may also remember Khun Yai and her grandson, who were barely able to make ends meet during lockdown.

Thanks to your support, Khun Yai received care packages of food and everyday essentials to help keep her small family afloat.

We are delighted to bring you the news that Khun Yai has recently moved to a neighbouring town to be closer to a relative who can help her care for her grandson.

She is feeling more stable and is enjoying life in a friendly community where she can access local services and support.



JON'S STORY

Jon is 15 years old and lives in Pathum Thani province with his mother. It is just the two of them and they are critically poor with very little regular income. They have no relatives close by to help, which means Jon's mother suffers with loneliness, fatigue and a number of mental health issues. She has felt hugely overwhelmed with worry about being able to provide for her son.



Your donations meant that CCD were able to take rice, dried food, eggs and milk to Jon and his mum. Jon is able to eat a better variety of food so his physical health and strength has improved.

Jon's mother's worry has been eased, as she can now rely on the care packages for basic supplies, as well as emotional support from the care team.

SONG'S STORY

Song is 15 years old and lives in the rural province of Chai Nat with her mum and dad. The family has a small vegetable garden where they grow produce to sell at a stall in the village. However, their daily income is dependent on sales and time spent at the market. Some days they make no sales and bring home now money. Song's mother spends a lot of time caring for Song so cannot find work elsewhere.



The care packages you donated meant that project staff were able to provide the family with rice and dry food, as well as new bedding and pampers for the children. The donations have reduced expenses for the family meaning they are less stressed and can devote more time to Song.



**YOUR
DONATIONS
REACHED DOZENS
OF STRUGGLING
FAMILIES**



I AM **ENABLED**

POOM'S STORY



Poom's Story

CCD have been providing invaluable support for 14 year-old Poom, who has cerebral palsy, for some time and with their help he has made a vast amount of progress. He lives with his family, his father who is a farmer, his older brother who is studying and his mother who cares for him at home.

When CCD first started working with him he was mostly dependant on his mother. He had trouble sleeping, wouldn't participate in any activities with people he didn't know and spent most of his time sitting or lying down which meant he put on a lot of weight. He tried to walk with a

wheelchair frame, but due to a fall he had so much fear that his mother always had to support him.

Once CCD started to help they would visit him weekly to practice development and do physical therapy. To begin with, Poom found it hard to cooperate but once he got to know the staff and therapists he started taking part in the training and activities.

Poom now has a full care plan, he attends an inclusive school three days a week for educational development and does physical therapy with CCD once a week. His time at school means he depends much less on his mother, and his teachers

and physical therapists agree that there is clear improvement in both his physical and mental state.

Poom is now much more interested in taking part in activities, which, in turn, has meant his weight has decreased and his sleep has improved. He can now even walk unaided with a therapist nearby,

meaning he no longer depends on his mother to always support him.

Poom continues to attend school and CCD plans to teach him to walk using the wheel-walker frame so he is able to go to the bathroom by himself. The staff at CCD and Poom's mother are overjoyed with his progress.

READ MORE STORIES AT: WWW.FORLIFETHAILAND.ORG/BLOG

2020 ACHIEVEMENTS



233

families of disabled children were reached by community outreach



29

children made progress in walking after regular physical therapy



8

young adults were enrolled in vocational training placements



53

young children enrolled in Early Education and daycare programmes



112

pupils with learning difficulties were supported in mainstream schools



30

grandparent carers received physiotherapy training



8

young people moved out of residential care and into independent living



5

children were fitted with new specialist wheelchairs



80

families attended Rainbow Camp for respite & relationship building

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Tarn is the eldest daughter of the CCD founders, Wasan and Chariya, so the work of CCD has always been part of her life. Tarn has been working for CCD for 10 years in project management and volunteer coordination. Here she shares some insight into her work.

What do you love most about your job?

I love to see the development of each child and to be part of their development. To be able to help many families that really need help, and to be able to change attitudes of the public.

What changes do you see in Thai society relating to disabled people?

People in Thai society are starting to accept disabled people more than before. They understand about disability more, and try to help disabled people receive their rights.

What is your greatest memory from your time working at CCD?

Playing with children and working as a team with other staff. To see how hard CCD staff work with the children in order to improve their quality of life.

What would you like to see in the future for disabled children in Thailand?

I want disabled people to have equal rights in society. I want them to be able to travel by themselves, use the road, footpaths, department stores, schools, etc. And for these things to be properly accessible for disabled people.

What is the biggest challenge in your job?

The lack of professionals in specialist areas, such as, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy, in our country. Another challenge is the public attitudes around disabled people in Thailand.

How do you like to relax when you are not at work?

I like to relax at home. Watching Korean TV series, making cakes and cookies, and listening to worship songs.



TARN SAITHONG

Deputy Project Development Director

INTERNSHIPS & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We are now accepting applications for volunteer placements in 2022.

Would you or someone you know be able to give your time and talents to support children in Thailand? CCD welcomes volunteers and professional interns from all over the world to work alongside their own employed staff with children and communities.

For Life and CCD promote **ethical volunteering**. This means volunteering in a meaningful and mindful way through placements that do not cause any harm to, disrupt, or exploit the individuals and communities served.



To ensure our volunteering opportunities are ethical and rewarding for both volunteers and communities, we invite volunteers with specific skills and qualifications relative to caring for/teaching children with special needs or those with a significant period of time (3 months +) to give to a volunteer placement in Thailand.

Email for more information:
info@forlifethailand.org



World Walking

JOIN OUR WALK TO BANGKOK!

Our Virtual Walk covers 8,921 miles, which is the walking distance between London and Bangkok. You can join from anywhere in the world and can help us on the epic journey of 19,458,208 steps to Thailand's capital!

Visit www.forlifethailand.org/walk

Scan with
phone camera
to visit the
website >>



HOW YOUR GIFTS CHANGE LIVES.



£5

can provide school lunch for a class of kindergarten children



£10

can pay for a child's daycare costs



£20

can provide regular community health-checks



£30

can buy a care package for a struggling family



£50

can provide a young person with vocational training opportunities



£75

can pay the monthly wages of the centre's kitchen staff



£100

can install an access ramp for a wheelchair user



£200

can provide a month's worth of physiotherapy sessions



£500

can buy specialist mobility equipment for a disabled child