



HAND TO HAND FOUNDATION

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January

Sponsor's Thank You Celebration

On January the 7th the students at the Hand to Hand pre school had the opportunity to say 'thanks' to many of our sponsors and volunteers. The children made cards and coconut ice which they personally gave to the guests on the day. The biggest hit of the day however, was the children's performance of the songs and poems that they have been learning in both English and Thai. The rotary club hired a clown who also performed on the day entertaining both the young and not so young!!! Afterwards, there was an amazing feast to enjoy, which was sponsored by the Brotherhood motorbike club. Thanks to all of our sponsors and volunteers who help us!

Children's Day

The staff and children joined the activities at Pattaya City Hall to celebrate children's day on the 12th of January. We hosted a stall where we gave out free smiley face balloons, treats, colouring books and we also did some amazing face painting!

Bechtel

A big thanks to the Bechtel company that have given so generously to us this month.

A Day at Regent's School

Twelve of our Hand to Hand students were treated to a day at the local Regent's International School. The Regent's students taught us how to play some fun new games and then we had the opportunity to play in their first class playground and learning center. For some of our children it was the first time they had an opportunity to paint a picture and these treasured items were certainly taken home. At the end of the day the children all enjoyed time to swim in the pool before returning to the center.

BBX

We are very excited to have our very own BBX card, which allows us access to many goods and services. A big thanks to all of our supporters who have added credit to our card. We have been enjoying the supplies from Acorn for many months now and the children enjoy this food a lot.

Internet Safety

We hosted another internet safety training program at the REPS School in Rayong. We are excited to be able to educate and empower more students about staying safe on line and what they can do if they have any problems. A big thanks to the school who also collected donations for our projects.

Anti Human Trafficking

Margie attended the next anti human trafficking advisory panel meeting in Bangkok which is exciting as it gives us a voice at higher governmental levels. ECPAT, who is also a member of this group, will be coming to Pattaya next month to do some much needed training in the city regarding child protection policies. Hand to Hand and the Pattaya City hall will jointly host this meeting. The foundation has also been asked to plan and run a workshop at the upcoming anti human trafficking conference in Bangkok in March.

Team Building Week

Hand to Hand closed it's doors to the children for the week 17th- 21st of December. We took this opportunity to serve in all of the areas of ministry together as a team to gain a deeper appreciation of what each person does. On Monday we all went to school no. 4 to teach about 350 children about Christmas. During the rest of the week we all went to the prison, slum, old peoples home and took the opportunity to spend some time together. We had lunch with Khun Jiap who will be joining us in January too. At the end of the week we had a debriefing meeting for the year and went on an adventure to the zoo.

Slum Activities

We have reassessed the families receiving food and support on our weekly slum visits to ensure that the most needy are receiving the resources that they need. Robin has also started some activities for the children in Theprasit Soi 7 slum where some children do not go to school. This has already proved to be a great success.

Monman

Baby Monman was admitted to ICU this month due to a severe chest infection. He is beginning to recover and is now in the general ward at Chonburi hospital. We have been able to find more suitable work for his mum so that she does not have to live and work on a construction site. When he is well enough, Monman will be able to rejoin his mum.

Khun Jiap

Khun Jiap joined our team this month. She will be replacing Sam who would like to further develop the disabled project. Khun Jiap has taken responsibility for the scholarship project, hospital ministry and a multitude of other tasks. We are so blessed to have her on our team.

Scholarship Party

We had a special scholarship party to celebrate children's day. All of the students were delighted to receive a gift which were generously donated by the staff and families at Regent's school.

Volunteers

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This month we said 'goodbye' to Liselotte and Tamara who have been with us for 6 weeks. We welcomed Nia, JT and Rory to the center and they have been an enormous help with everything from teaching the students to administration work.

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