



"Baan Zion" Children Prison Ministries

A Foundation Zion Child Care Intl. Project
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*"So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people
and to distinguish between right and wrong"
1Kings 3:9*

News flash March/April 2017

Dear friends,

It has been a while since you have heard from us. For the last couple of months I am suffering from a rather mysterious inflammation in my joints that suddenly occurred and that made it almost impossible for me to walk or being active in any other way. The reason for this, being some sort of bone affecting bacteria that I somewhere during my 20 years in Asia picked up and now started to be active. But after many tests it finally has been found and on proper treatment now to subdue this, it is expected that I will be okay again in a month or two.

Girls

The girls are fine and being school holiday, they as far as it was save or they wanted to go had the opportunity to stay with grandmothers or other family members in the villages. The 4 University students do not have holidays and are working hard on their tests for this semester.



On a regular basis we inform you about girls that are reunited with the released mother and how happy we are that until now we do have a 100% success rate in helping them on their way to a new and better life.

But also about the fact that some girls cannot go home because they are not wanted or that the mother absolutely is not able to care. One of these mothers that absolutely is unable to care is the mother of 3 of our girls. This holiday we again went to visit her and her circumstances now are really very bad.

She is very sick and because of the superstition in the Hmong society concerning her illness she is banned to live in a hut outside of the village.



She does not have a Thai ID and therefore cannot apply for the so needed healthcare and daily medication, which in

her case are very expensive. For our 3 girls, who of course love their mother and together with us go there as much as we can, this every time is traumatic and when back home need time to place this.

As a Ministry we are very limited in what we can do because low as it is, all sponsoring is for our girls. But it would be fantastic if we through some form of sponsoring could help this mother.

House



New house no 1

As you may know, our housing was under serious pressure due to the fact that the government did not approve any more of the house we were living in. Many people from all over the world, Holland, America and Korea to name some, did visit us there and are equally surprised.

We negotiated and understood that we could stay until end of our rental contract in December of this year. But in February they visited us again and ordered us out. Reason: we had 3 fishponds on this huge property which was considered as dangerous and not allowed, while you find those everywhere.

That this previous 7 bedroom house was modern and spacious, both on the inside and the outside, well equipped with 5 bathrooms, a large outside kitchen and dining area, an inside kitchen, an office and had a huge piece of land to play, grow fish, fruit, and flowers and above all was in a safe and rather secluded place did not help.

We just had to go or faced being closed down.

So we had to do everything in our power to find a new place for our girls. Not an easy task but with the help of a fellow Pastor we in town itself found two much smaller and older houses in the same street



opposite to each other with much less inside and outside space.

New house no 2



Very little outside space

We need two houses in order to shelter all of our girls and also have the compulsory office space. Both of the houses of course do not have a kitchen or outside dining area and do not have water pumps or water purification systems.

Apart from the fact that we still are very sad that we had to leave our old house where our girls had such a fantastic place to live, we again have to make expensive and unnecessary



extra costs to make the houses liveable for our girls. A lot of money that we do not have in our budget.

And also inside it is very cramped

For the two new houses we next to the rent as being usual in Thailand, had to pay several extra months as a so called security deposit.



We have to make an outside kitchen and dining area for our girls, we from health safety perspective have to install water purification systems and we need to install our internet again etc. etc.

Present very small inside kitchen that is broken and insufficient to house all that is needed for so many girls.

And to top this off the landlady of our old house is claiming the remaining rent for the rest of the 3 year set rental contract period. She meantime has threatened with legal action and blacklisting us if we do not pay. Something you have to take very serious here in Thailand and which may lead to losing our NGO ship or even closing down Baan Zion as a whole.

In all we are confronted with an about 6,800 Euro in extra costs because of the forced move we just cannot pay out of our present sponsoring and we simply do not have available.

This huge amount of 6.800 Euro we absolutely do not have and is really needed now, is placing us for a big problem and we would be helped with every extra donation possible.

Thank you dear friends for standing next to us in the care for our girls and we would like to ask you to prayerfully consider a possible love offering for our present need.

In the service of His children,
Rev. Dr. Jan and Ps. Ellen Smit

Thanking points

The fact that we did manage to find two houses for our girls

The help we had with moving all of our stuff

The good school grades for all our girls and the summer holiday

Prayer points

The really needed extra funding for our unexpected costs

The overall sponsoring

The fact that the girls and staff may adapt quickly in the new houses

Our own family



How to donate to our Ministry

For donations directly towards Thailand

Bank: Bangkok Bank

Swift code: BKKBTHBK

Account number: 537-0-35592-6

In the name of:

Foundation Zion Child Care Trust Intl.

Chiangrai 57000, Thailand

For donations in the US

We are blessed to be in partnership with Emerge Children's Ministry USA.

If you feel that God is leading you to partner up with us please use the following donation link

<https://www.egsnetwork.com/gift2/?giftid=E15B7C93D4F240D>

In the US, Baan Zion is also in blessed partnership with Commission To Every Nation, a 501c3 missions organization. You can send your tax-deductible donation to them by mail at:

CTEN PO Box 291307

Kerrville, TX 78029-1307 {Please include a note with Baan Zion on it}

Donate online at <http://www.cten.org/baanzion/>

Click the donate button. For further assistance call the CTEN Finance Dept. at 800-872-5404. Thank you for your prayerful consideration to partner with us.