

YOU'RE AMAZING!

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VOLUNTOURISM



▲Ellinor teaching at the Emergency Home.

▼Knees & Toes — The interns show the way!

Far right: Instructing at the pool

Bottom left: Mari provides personal attention

Middle: Ida enjoying her time at the nursery

Bottom Left: Guitar lessons for the teens by Mari

What's the best way to visit a foreign country and feel the heartbeat, get down to the grassroots and get to know local people, their lifestyles and the social, cultural makeup?

Four Swedish university students from Mid-Sweden University are doing just that as they fulfill a three-month social work internship in Thailand. CTM has arranged projects for them to work with, from hill-tribe children in rural schools in Chiang Mai to persecuted Karens and internally displaced persons in Mae Sot to the abused children/women at the protective shelter of Emergency Home, the orphans of Babies' Home, the mentally-challenged of the Thanksgiving Home and down south to the migrant communities of Khao Lak.

Given such a wide variety of experiences, Hanna, Ida, Mari and ellinor not only come up close and personal with the local people, but they interact with those who seem to come from another world, one full of hardship and without privileges. The girls learn to serve, to love and to be a strength to those who have lived at a disadvantage..The girls are given a different perspective to life, as they

know it . Besides the community services, co-ordinators at each location help with the touristy advice of local attractions, shopping venues and local handicrafts. With weekends free for sight-seeing, this all adds up to a lifetime experience which they will never forget!



You're Amazing!



"YOU'RE AMAZING! JUST THE WAY YOU ARE!" That was the theme for our traditional Mother's Day event on Aug 25th. which was hosted for the residents of the Emergency Home (a protective shelter for abused children, teens and women.

We had a great turnout! The team of 15 from the Dhurakij

Pundit University International College (DPUIC), helped with the entertainment and organization of games. For the main

part of the program, Glammer Hair-dressing School, Makeup Arts and Technique School as well as Dasy Design International joined hands to provide the makeover in hairstyling, makeup and nail design. We also had four Swedish volunteer students from the Mid-Sweden University who helped to make booklets, organize and pack gift bags! Thank you all! Though not present but very much an integral part, we were supported by



parents and families from the French kindergarten, Centre Acacia, as well as the Ban Job Rak school & other private individuals who provided the gifts and prizes which were distributed to the moms, teens and kids.

Our traditional pillar of support for many years is the Oishi Group which traditionally provides the healthy green teas as well as the tasty Japanese "o-bentos"! This year, we had a sumptuous array of four varieties of o-bentos. Friends also helped in donating what was needed to make the extra Thai special of Kai Yang, somtam and Kao Niew, for lunch. Thanks to Miracle Grand Hotel, we had THREE beautiful

cakes, and lots of cookies plus Chomthana's Cremo icecream at the start of our program. Afterwhich, "We've Got Talent!" – Six teams from the HIV women's group, to the teens and even the children vied in the talent contest for the prize money of 1,000, 800 & 500 baht – donated by the Italian Women's Association. We encouraged the residents to all work together, and as it turned out, the first prize went to the traditional Thai dancers from the HIV group. Next, the teens and older children group won with their song rendition for Mother's Day. Finally third prize went to the whole kiddy department, of some 10 kids who sang a simple song together. While some ladies were getting their makeovers, the DPUIC engaged the rest of the crowd with a Hot Potato game, where those receiving the 'potato' were asked to sing and dance. For an incentive, there was a prize when they did well. They could choose their prizes from the DPUIC gift table. The game definitely brought on some good fun & laughs! Another team from DPUIC took all the kids, played games & sculpture balloons. Besides the yummy lunch treat, everyone was also entertained by the young magicians from the Thanksgiving Home. They gave a fascinating performance – pulling a pigeon out, surprising us with bouquet of flowers....all done by young kids, 6 and up, commendable for kids who have slow mental development. It all stems from their amazing mentor, Khun Wanchai! After lunch, we were able to distribute gifts bags to the pregnant mummies, mothers with newborns, then the young single women / teens, the HIV department and finally the children. They received a variety of supplies including milk bottles, diapers, towels, powder, deodorants, soaps..etc.. Thanks to the Ambassador Bilingual School in Chiang Mai, all the moms also received the bilingual book "Wonder of Mothers" . while the other single residents, participants and sponsors received our inspirational "You're Amazing" booklet. And if all that wasn't enough..... since we also had a big bag of nice clothes, we had the ladies choose one outfit (top and bottom or one piece each) . They were then obliged to go on the catwalk and show off their clothes. We promised them a prize for whoever could best walk/dance and strut their stuff. The music came on and the fun began! They sashayed down the aisle, just showing off and having a great time! We gotta do this again! An event of almost four hours, we finally came to the end of an amazing day , with everyone leaving with their hands and hearts full – thanks to so many who shared with us and made that difference to these lives!



-- Just the way you are!



The winners of the talent Show. ▲



Kids from the Thanksgiving Home show off their magic! ▲



▼ The Mommies with their gifts



▼ Presenting gifts & motivational booklets



One of our Fashion show stars, enjoying the Catwalk



Thank you to everyone who participated and helped in some way towards this amazing event! We couldn't have done it without you!

EVENT SPONSORS:

- Ambassador Bilingual School (Chiang Mai)
- Centre Acacia Bangkok
- Chomthana (Crema) ice-cream
- Ajaan Kannika
- Students, Parents/Staff of Ban Job Rak School, Pathumthani
- First-year students of Dhurakij Pundit University
- Dasy Design International
- Glammer Hairdressing School
- Golden Foods Siam
- Khun Sureeporn Sereerattanathaiyaporn
- Makeup Arts and Technique School
- Mr Didier Morales
- Miracle Grand Hotel
- OISHI group
- Mrs Eleanor Chaturachinda
- Mrs Rosy Barratino
- Tong Garden Co.



NO Limits!

A van-full of residents from the Rachawadee Home (Girls) and the Thanksgiving Home were treated to an evening of inspiration on Sept 3, when CTM arranged for the team to attend No Limits! — a stirring presentation by NICK VUJICIC, the world-renowned motivational speaker who, though born without arms and legs, has continued to 'wow' the world with his incredible, 'no-limits' faith of doing what others say cannot be done by such a handicapped person.

This includes surfing, sky-diving, horse-riding, getting married and having a baby — just to name the extreme.

So what is that for the girls who are developmentally-slow, mentally challenged and slightly autistic? Now their caregivers believe and say, if Nick can do it, they can definitely overcome and strive to push the limits till there are none! Everyone left the full-capacity Hua Mark Stadium, with a heartfelt of hope, newfound courage, faith and a will determined to succeed, to at least try and as Nick admonished over & over, Never Give Up!



Making a Difference

Central Thailand Mission is one of the selected humanitarian aid projects working in partnership with the American human service agency – *Family Care Foundation* – which is an American, tax-exempt, non-profit, IRS-approved 501 (c) (3) public charity.

Based in Bangkok for the last 20 years, CTM works to help the disadvantaged in many ways.

♥ Being the bridge between people with the needs & those with the resources

♥ Supply of basic essentials of food, water, clothes as well for destitute communities

♥ Initiating the sponsorship of major needs & projects eg. Building a water supply for a school, education seminars & AV materials for schools

♥ Counseling & Encouragement for the handicapped, AIDs patients, abused women & children

♥ Services include: preparing orphans for adoption, laughing yoga at hospitals, therapy for abused women & teens

♥ Providing assistance to international volunteers who want to give of their time, talents or resources to help others.

♥ Giving God's love, spiritual strength & comfort to those who need & seek a purpose & direction for a meaningful life.

How You can Help!

Christmas and the year-end will soon be upon us!

In order to serve all our different communities & projects at this time of year, we'd like to include YOU! Whether you participate by giving or helping in some way, you would have shared a part of your heart — and that lives on in the hearts of others. Can You assist with the following:



- Openings at parties, Christmas performances for the Thanksgiving Home's Magic Show (the kids are pretty pro, having been featured on local TV as well!) They are raising funds for a new van.
- Providing a special excursion for the kids we serve (about 20 at a time)
- Christmas Party for three charity homes on Sat. 21st December— we need food, drinks, game helpers, entertainment, gifts
- Supplies for the displaced people communities in Mae Sot — rice, oil, blankets, mosquito repellents, nets, toothbrushes, toothpaste

In Appreciation

Being an essentially volunteer effort, we would not be able to take on many of these projects as well as cover the basic operating costs of running a centre. To this end, we would like to thank the many friends & corporate partners who have so kindly supported us with gifts, services and contributions. These include:

<i>Angie Watt</i>	<i>FIDA international</i>
<i>Bouygues-Thai</i>	<i>Golden Foods Siam</i>
<i>D. Morales</i>	<i>Hester Chew</i>
<i>Gilbert Wong</i>	<i>Tong Garden</i>
<i>Kamthorn, Surachet, & Somsak</i>	<i>Thai Air Asia</i>
<i>Thai Air Asia</i>	<i>Fast Cheetahs (Singapore)</i>

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/>

Central Thailand Mission is a non-profit volunteer organization. ALL projects & activities are possible through contributions from corporate partners as well as caring individuals. Please contact us if you want to participate or sponsor the work we do.

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