

Mother of Perpetual Help Center Thailand

P.O. Box 19, Nong Bua Lamphu 39000 Thailand

www.aidshephthailandia.com

Newsletter No. 4

December 2015

*From all of us at Mother of Perpetual Help Center, Mother Mary House and St. Michael's Church, we wish you and your loved ones a **Blessed Christmas and a very Happy New Year for 2016**. It seems like only yesterday that I came to Nong Bua Lamphu from Bangkok after Thai language study — that was in 2000, already 16 years have passed.*



**Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year**

Mother Mary House



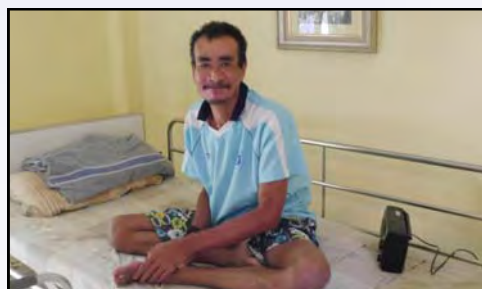
Mother Mary house has gone through a few transitions during the year. Two of our teenagers were killed in a tragic accident in May. They had been on a picnic outing earlier in the day, in the evening slipped out to meet friends. Four on one motor bike met with an accident, our two girls were killed, the two boys with serious injuries. It was a difficult time for the others.

During the year too we've accepted other needy teenagers, not just those infected with HIV. Others with physical disabilities are now at Ban Mae Marie. One with down syndrome and another mentally disabled—both have been attending special schools and have done well. The young girl with down syndrome was being looked after by her aging grandfather who felt he could no longer be responsible for her, so he approached Ban Mae Marie—we gladly accepted her. Another young teenage boy recently accepted with HIV, but also with epileptic fits, he also has fit in very well and happy to be with us.

*2015 has been a good year for the Center and all of our activities. A busy, but fulfilling year. A year filled with many blessings thanks to so many of you who came to our rescue with your prayers and generous donations. This year's fundraiser at Techny was another success and it was good to see so many of you who have been faithful for so many years already. With this newsletter I say **"Thank You"** and God bless you all.*

Villa Marie Hospice

A good part of 2015 our hospice has had a low intake of persons needing extra care. Villa Marie has become more of a care center rather than a place where people come to die simply because the antiviral medications are doing what they were meant to do. While the number of persons being cared for were small, all of a sudden the number has grown and the hospice is completely full. One difference being that the majority of those under our care now are somewhat mentally disabled because of the sickness. All will most probably be with us to stay for a long time, some of them permanently. Those patients who have been at Villa Marie for some years already, who have no place to return to are living on our farm and looking after themselves.



Aids Education Awareness

Aids education and awareness with the youth in schools remains another of our priorities. One would think that Aids after such a long period of education would decrease, but that is not the case—Aids continues to rise, especially among the teenagers.

Mother of Perpetual Help Center started training teachers in the schools to do the Aids education program with their students, but this is a long term project and will require in-service follow-up training for those teachers who have been trained to ensure they are doing the job intended. For some of them it is a matter of building up their self-confidence to carry on with giving proper and correct information to their students. The Center has been fortunate to receive help for this program from various organizations in Europe and America.



Part of the training process for teachers once they have gone through a camp similar to that given to students and a workshop, they will assist staff from the Center with camps and follow-up work with the students. Teachers have now been trained from three of the six Districts and these teachers will go through another in-service to up-date them.



“A bicycle built for two”

Can you imagine yourself riding around Asia on a bicycle such as this? This young couple from France did just that, riding through Malaysia, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar to visit children in the scholarship program from families in France. By the time they reached Nong Bua Lamphu in April they had already travelled 6,000 kilometers and were not to return to France until July. They certainly drew a lot of attention.



Another project to help needy children is our project giving support to another 400 children with school clothing, uniforms and supplies. Each year before the school terms open distributions are made to a certain number of children in each of the 6 Districts of Nong

Bua Lamphu here in the Northeast of Thailand. This project has been going on for about 15 years already so many of the children have outgrown this support and moved on to higher things—other needy children have taken their place. The majority of children are from HIV families, but not excluding other poor and needy families.

Children



Scholarship program for 32 children of HIV & poor families who receive 18 Euro (600 Baht) a month to help with school lunches and transport. These children are sponsored from families in France—this program has been in place now for five years—while not much, for these families it is a lot.

Including Mother of Perpetual Help Center and Ban Mae Marie in your Last Will and Testament will ensure a long lasting future and continued support for these important activities.

Other donations can be sent to:

***Divine Word Missionaries
Mission Office—1835 Waukegan Road
Techy, Illinois 60082***

***www.svdmissions.org (on-line)
www.aidshelphthailandia.com***

“Thank you” to all who have so generously supported our endeavors through prayer and other donations.”