

Integrated Ministries for Ethnic Minorities Foundation (IMEMF) July 2017 Update

Kim's Comments

Are you ready for a few more success stories? In May, I focused on our college grads at the House of Love (HOL), and then last month, educational successes from our House of Blessing (HOB) students. Now, I want to share updates from some of our children at the Christian Center for the Development of Persons with Disabilities (CPDP). Because our children at the CPDP have profound challenges, success looks a little different but oh, do I celebrate the efforts these students have made to achieve academic triumphs. If you are praying and/or giving to any of the work in Thailand in any form (for my salary, for specific projects, for student sponsorship) these successes are yours as well-I hope you enjoy these stories, and to God be the glory! (please note that the children's names have been changed).

Nong A was a tiny premature baby who survived a very rough infancy, but showed developmental delays already by 8 months. Despite the mother realizing something was different, nothing was done for 8 years. It was then that the CPDP staff met Nong A and started her with physical therapy twice a week at the center. Nong A was also welcomed into classes, and proved to be a bright and engaging student, one who was determined to not let cerebral palsy stop her! She soon was able to study at Maesariang Industrial and Community Education College (similar to vocational education in the US) where she recently finished the grade 9 business computer course, with the help of her special education teacher from the CPDP. Next goal-to get a job! Recently the CPDP had opened a service center to help persons with disabilities do the necessary paperwork and complete documents, and the office needed computer help. I am sure you can guess the rest of the story-Nong A is working in this paid position at the service center, and is a blessing to many in her role!

Sasitawn is another little girl who started life as a premature baby, and despite her uncontrollable movement, wasn't brought to the CPDP until she was 7 years old. The CPDP therapists worked with Sasitawn, helping her to learn to write and do practical things like washing clothes. The CPDP also supported her to live in a hostel so she could attend school. Once she

graduated from the 9th grade, Sasitawn was able to transfer to a vocational school for persons with disabilities that is located near Bangkok, and is studying computer programming for the next two years.

Nat is a little 8 year old boy who has spina bifida. His parents had kept him at home his whole life because they were concerned a teacher would not be able to care for him with his disabilities. The CDPD staff met Nat, and learned that Nat really enjoyed learning new things, and also loved being with other people. The staff worked with a Thai school so that it would be ready to have Nat come to study, and also worked with Nat so that he could overcome some of the physical limitations of the spina bifida. He is now enrolled in school, and loves being a student.

Praise and Prayer

- I love answer to prayer! Praise God our HOL boys have started a cell group for Bible study, prayer, accountability, and encouragement.
- Khun Warapon, the director at the CDPD will be coming to the US with me to share firsthand about the work in Thailand. I am grateful for her companionship, too!
- The HOL students are starting their mid-terms. I know they would appreciate you praying for diligence in studies, and the ability to finish projects in a timely way.
- The HOB teachers will be attending seminars this week so that they can keep their teaching licenses current. Please pray that they learn new and creative methods that they can adapt for their classrooms.
- I am a part of the Thailand Baptist Missionary Fellowship, which is the umbrella group that supports Baptist missionaries not only from the US, but also Sweden, Australia, Norway, Japan and Great Britain. We will be having a conference from Aug 5-9 and I would appreciate prayer for me as I have some leadership responsibilities, but also for us as a group to have good times of encouragement and refreshment. Thank you!

kbrown_thai@yahoo.com

Photos



Here is a picture of Nong A at her 9th grade graduation



Sasitawn (3rd from the left) poses with a group of friends from her vocational school near Bangkok.



Nat works on a picture with another student.