



LE SOURIRE DE CHIANG KHONG



Report of activities 2017

In Thailand

Over the months

- January Children's day in Thailand. A day with various activities was organised for all our children (dances, songs and games). The children participate in a camp organised by the adolescents of the centre.
- March The children participate in a sports day organised by the staff. The children participate in several camps organised in the region of Chiang Rai.
- May All the children participated in the summer camp (education and thinking), organised by the adolescents of the foyer.
- July Construction of a shelter for the children at the primary school of Ban Saeo.

August	Mother's Day. A day was organised at the centre. On the program, a show with songs and dances as well as a special meal for the children.
November	«Loy Krathong» celebration. A day was organised at the centre. On the program, preparation of «krathongs» by the children and traditional festivities. The children participate in a sports day organised by the staff.
December	Visit of various members of the Government for a thorough control of the foyer: constructions, security standards, hygiene, all is compliant. In collaboration with the Government (social protection department), several days of training were organised in favour of various NGO in Thailand. On the program, raising awareness (sensitization) and improvement in the field of the development of social work.

On a daily basis

- ❖ Follow-up on the schooling.
- ❖ Learning the Thai language.
- ❖ Hmong and Akha courses (mother tongue of most of the children).
- ❖ Preservation of the ethnic traditions (sewing, embroidery, dances, songs).
- ❖ Prevention and awareness against drugs.
- ❖ General education.
- ❖ Personal care (hygiene) and prevention.
- ❖ Activities – cultural, sports, animations...
- ❖ Summer program for the older children of the foyer (work experience placement).
- ❖ Active participation in the official celebrations and religious celebrations of the country, both Buddhist and Christian.
- ❖ Recruitment and training of young people for the supervision of the children.
- ❖ Children of the foyer bring occasionally their help to the farmers of the neighbourhood villages.
- ❖ Diverse and necessary steps with the Government, in order to obtain the official papers (ID card, etc.) for the children.
- ❖ Continuous support to the Thai villages and to the tribes Lahu, Lisu, Akha and Hmong.
- ❖ Continuous support to the different schools attended by our residents and by the children we support in the villages.
- ❖ Regular visits in the villages to look after the needs of the inhabitants and the follow-up of the sponsorships.
- ❖ Permanent contacts with the indigenous of Chiang Rai Province that support our action.
- ❖ Organise reunions with the parents of the sponsored children living in the villages.
- ❖ Active attendance in various meetings organised by the Government for all the NGO and the foundations of Chiang Rai province.
- ❖ Fund-raising and donations.
- ❖ Continuous training of the staff (courses and seminars organised by the Government)

The staff

To assist them, Barbara and Prapapone recruit the staff in the local population. This allows to give some work and to firmly anchor the foyer in the life of the region. In order to ensure having competent persons and in the idea of ensuring the perpetuation of the Sourire, former inmates are called in.

The farm and the buildings

During the whole year, within the framework of the extracurricular activities of the children, we farm our cornfields, our rice fields and our plantations; we look after our animals (pigs, cows, buffalos, etc.), cultivate our gardens and take care of the maintenance and development work.

Thanks to the support of generous sponsors and foundations, some work was able to take place:

- ❖ Various renovations took place – a staff's house, the visitors' building and storage spaces, the floor by the boys' changing-rooms and showers, the three girls dormitory houses, the building for the corn storage, the shed for the large shed for the large vehicles and the two barns.
- ❖ Revision and additional installation of the whole electrical system of the centre
- ❖ The significant kitchen-canteen building is under way.

In Switzerland

Along the months

January	Committee meeting in Coppet (Vaud).
February	For the Chinese New Year celebration, animation in Neuchâtel, tchaï and soups were being sold in favour of the Sourire.
May	General assembly in Blonay (Vaud).
June	5 Continents celebration in Martigny (Valais), information booth, AMAT massages and selling handicrafts in favour of the Sourire. In Neuchâtel, during «Festi'Neuch 2017», information booth and AMAT massages.
August	Committee meeting in Savièse (Valais).
September	Sponsors and friends of the Sourire picnic took place in Cartigny (Geneva) in the presence of Barbara.
December	«Christmas tree», collection sponsored by the Espace Interculturel of Sierre. Vin chaud (warm wine) in Neuchâtel in favour of the Sourire. In Gilly (Vaud), on the Christmas market, sale of manufactured objects. Presentation of the association at the secondary school of Conthey.

During the whole year, in Sion, at LA BOUTIQUE, sale of second hand clothes for the benefit of children' sponsorship of the Sourire de Chiang Khong and Couleurs de Chine.

Enlarge the solidarity network

Thanks to the sponsorships, some 400 children are welcomed in the foyer or supported in their villages.

All year long, the association of the Sourire de Chiang Khong is active in developing sponsorships of children, in collecting funds and in getting involved in events that benefit the children of the foyer. A large number of communes and foundations support one-off projects.

Organisation

Human-sized organisation, managed and controlled in a strict manner, the association generates a minimum running costs (less than 1 % in 2017). The help goes directly to the action on the ground.

In 2017, the Committee met three times, in Coppet, in Blonay and in Savièse. The General Assembly took place in May 2017 in Blonay. The composition of the Committee can be found on the website of the association.

An organisation committee has been created for the 20 years of the Sourire in 2018, in order to ensure that the festivities run smoothly.

As a humanitarian organisation, the website of the Sourire de Chiang Khong is the following: www.lesourire.org.

Blonay and Chiang Rai, April 13th 2018