



LE SOURIRE DE CHIANG KHONG



Activity report 2018

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 ChiangRai.
- April Thai volunteers came to teach the children how to build earth houses. Also the month of the « Songkran » celebration, three days of festivities were organised in the home. The children participate in several camps organised in the region of ChiangRai.
- May All the children participated in the summer camp (education and reflection), organised by the adolescents of the home. The staff took part in a training and information day linked to the risks of earthquakes and fires – practical advice, fire exercises and safety instructions were given.
- June Election of the home's children's committee for the school year 2018/2019.

July	Fire exercise and safety instruction day for all the children of the home. A visit by various members of the Government for a thorough inspection of the home: construction, security standards and hygiene, were all found to be compliant.
August	Mother's Day. A day was organised at the centre. On the program there was a show with songs and dances as well as a special meal for the children. Thanks to the generosity of a local fish farmer, we were able to re-populate our lake and fishpond. The children participate in several camps organised in the region of ChiangRai.
October	The staff took part in an awareness meeting on hygiene issues within the neighbouring villages. A medical examination was organised for all staff.
November	«Loy Krathong» celebration. A day was organised at the centre for the celebration. On the program was the preparation of "krathongs" by the children (decorated baskets which are floated on a river) and traditional festivities. The children participated in a sports day organised by the staff. Le Sourire de Chiang Khong received the Education Award bestowed by the government – social department of ChiangRai.
December	In collaboration with the Government (social protection department), several days of training were organised in aid of various NGOs in Thailand. On the program was raising awareness and improvement in developing the field 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 home (work experience placement).
- ❖ Summer program for the new residents, classes and teaching improvements.
- ❖ 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 home occasionally offer their help to the farmers of the neighbouring villages.
- ❖ Continuation of diverse and necessary steps in making applications to 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 to the villages to look after the needs of the inhabitants and the follow-up of the sponsorship programme.
- ❖ Continuing contact with the indigenous people of ChiangRai Province who support our action.
- ❖ Organise reunions with the parents of the sponsored children living in the villages.
- ❖ Active attendance at various meetings organised by the Government for all the NGOs and foundations of ChiangRai province.
- ❖ Fund-raising and donations.

- ❖ Continuous training of the staff through courses and seminars organised by the Government.

The staff

In order to assist them, Barbara and Prapapone recruited staff in the local population. This allows them to provide some work and to firmly anchor the home in the life of the region. In the interest of ensuring the continuation of the Sourire, and to ensure competent people are assisting, some former residents are called in.

The farm and the buildings

During the year and within the framework of the children's extracurricular activities, we farm our cornfields, rice fields and 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 our generous sponsors and foundations we were able to start some work projects:

- ❖ Various renovations took place – the girls' showers, the library, the structure «Life is Love», which is a part of the main building.
- ❖ Construction of a kitchen/canteen for the children, with the installation of a more professional kitchen which is better adapted to the number of children.
- ❖ Construction of a store for tableware, etc.
- ❖ Construction of a toilet block for the children.
- ❖ Construction of a dam gate between the lake and the pond and the erection of a fence around a part of the lake.

In Switzerland

Along the months

January	Committee meeting in Genthod (Geneva).
April	General assembly in Blonay (Vaud).
June	5 Continents celebration in Martigny (Valais), information booth, AMAT massages and selling handicrafts in aid of the Sourire. In Founex (Vaud), Mireille sold handicrafts.
August	Committee meeting in Coppet.
September	20 th anniversary of the Sourire – gala evening in Chavanne de Bogis. Information booth and AMAT massages at Equissima in Chalet-à-Gobet.
November	Information booth and AMAT massages in Aigle.
December	«Christmas tree», collection sponsored by the Espace Interculturel of Sierre. ELSA Day – presentation of the Association and broadcastin of the film of Claude Schauli at the Neuchâtel University. Information booth and AMAT massages in Morges.

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

Enlarge the solidarity network

Thanks to sponsorships, some 400 children are welcomed into the home or supported in their villages. All year long, the association of the Sourire de Chiang Khong is active in developing sponsorships of children, collecting funds and getting involved in events that benefit the children of the home. A large number of communes and foundations support one-off projects.

Organisation

A lean organisation, managed and controlled in a strict manner, the association generates minimum running costs (less than 1 % in 2017) allowing help to go directly to action on the ground.

In 2018, the Committee met three times, **in Genthod, in Blonay and in Coppet**. The General Assembly took place in April 2018 in **Blonay**. The composition of the Committee can be found on the website of the association.

A humanitarian organisation, the website of the Sourire de Chiang Khong can be found at: www.lesourire.org.

Coppet & Chiang Rai, April 20th 2019