



Annual Report 2024

Araya Foundation

“Improving Education for Rural Children in Thailand”



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■ Mission

The Araya Foundation Thailand is dedicated to the charitable goal of helping to ensure that the learning needs of all young people are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life skills programs as well as to serve the learning and working needs of youth particularly in rural, agrarian communities where the lack of formal and advanced education are most apparent.

Due to the personal biography of the founder of Araya Foundation, Dr. Duen Marti, the foundation has decided to focus its activities in Thailand. The Araya Foundation Thailand sets up and supports a program of volunteer teachers to encourage cultural exchange and facilitate foreign language learning by rural underprivileged Thai children. In our current world of globalization we believe foreign language skills, openness to foreign mentality and culture will be essential in ensuring peaceful and fruitful international cooperation and development.

We are currently working with multiple schools in Chiang Mai, Thailand, supplying them with volunteer English teachers in order to provide the students and teachers the opportunity of learning the English language from native speakers.

OVERVIEW



DR. DUEN MARTI
FOUNDER



MR. METHA JUNHASIRI
PRESIDENT



MRS. SUMALYA SURIYA
VICE PRESIDENT

Araya Foundation Thailand is a non-profit organization founded in May 2010 in Chiang Mai for the purpose of promoting education of children in rural areas.

Founder Dr. Duen Marti who sees the importance of education and its necessity for the future of Thai children and who continues to advise and guide the foundation has appointed Mr. Metha Junhasiri as President and Mrs. Sumalya Suriya as Vice President as it is beneficial to have local leadership within the organization.

The Araya Foundation searches for qualified candidates who best personify the goals and values of the foundation. Since the founding of the Araya Foundation in 2010, a total of 36 volunteers have been provided to teach at 4 different Chiang Mai area schools.

In addition to education, the volunteers provide the children with their first real look at western culture, we believe that such positive interaction with foreigners at an early age can help broaden their worldview and leave a lasting impression.

Our volunteers are provided with on campus housing and all the basic necessities for living. We also prepare them with a loose curriculum for teaching that allows the volunteers to inject their own personalities and experiences into their lesson plans.

The Araya Foundation hopes that our program can make a real difference in the lives of these children.

Current Projects



1. Volunteers Program: In May of 2023 we were able to bring in our first volunteer since the start of COVID and we have been able to continue this through 2024

2. Donation of funds to help hire a dormitory teacher at Giu Lae Luang School. [Since 2019]

Current Projects: Return of Volunteers





We are happy to say that we have finally been able to restart the volunteer program.

Our first Volunteer since 2020 was James, from the U.S.

James came to us with a few years of professional teaching experience and was able to acclimate perfectly in a short time.

Kitty and Neil from the U.K. were the next volunteers to join us, both with backgrounds in education as well.

We could not have asked for a better restart to the program.

Everything seems to be back on track.





Current Projects: Donation of Funds To Help with Teacher Salary

Since 2014, when Giu Lae Luang School was subjected to severe budget cuts and needed to hire a new teacher for the children living at the dorm, at their own expense. Previously, teachers at the schools had to take turns supervising the dorm children after school hours.

The Araya Foundation has stepped in to help cover some of the monthly costs of hiring this new teacher. She has had an excellent impact on the children who live at the dorm and provides them with a more stable environment.



Past Projects

We would like to take this opportunity to showcase some of the projects that the Araya Foundation has been involved with in the past.

Since the founding of the Araya Foundation we have sponsored many projects such as recruiting and hosting volunteers to teach English, agricultural activities at the schools, donations and construction projects.

Past Projects



1. Volunteers: Over the past Decade the Araya foundation has sponsored 36 volunteers from around the world to teach language skills at rural schools.

2. Agricultural: The Araya Foundation has donated funds to help with several agricultural based projects such as Mushrooms Sheds at Baan Hua Khuang school (2016, 2019) and a vegetable garden at Giu Lae Luang School (2019).

3. Donations: The Araya Foundation has donated sporting equipment and school supplies to are Baan Mai Pattana Santi School and Baan Mae Malaw Schools in Mae Chaem (2020), Mae Ngan Luang School in Mae Jaem (2019), Baan Pa Khao Lam School in Mae Taeng (2018), Rong Wua Daeng school in San Kham-phaeng (2017). In 2015, the Araya Foundation donated blankets for the young and elderly in the rural area of Mae Chaem.

We also donated for several projects to improve nutrition at Giu Lae Luang School between 2015-2020.

During the COVID pandemic The Araya Foundation donated masks, gel and rice multiple times to Giu Lae Luang, Baan Maelong, and Ban Huasom schools (2020-2023). We also donated meals to Maharaj and Hang Dong Hospitals (2021) and rice to the Chiang Mai Immigration Charity (2020)

4. Construction and Infrastructure: The Araya Foundation has renovated and old abandoned building at Giu Lae Luang School so it could be used as a dormitory (2013). This included the addition of toilets and shower facilities. Rooms for volunteers were added as well. Later (2014) a water tank and pump were added to the dormitory to aid with water flow and pressure. Recently in 2020 we remodeled and further improved this dormitory.

In 2013 the Araya Foundation has sponsored a Library as well as a Foreign Language Center (2016) at Baan Maelong School.

In 2010 the Araya Foundation built a two bedroom two bathroom teacher's dormitory at Namsum School.

Volunteers





In the past we have had the pleasure of bringing in 36 volunteers from 13 different countries, some who have come back multiple times, and all have made a big impact on the schools we work with.

For a complete listing of volunteers and photos prior to 2023, please see the Araya Foundation Annual Report 2020.



Agricultural Projects





Vegetable Gardens, Mushroom Sheds and Projects for Sustainability



Over the years we have donated funds to help with several agricultural based projects such as Mushrooms Sheds at Baan Hua Khuang school (2016, 2019) and a vegetable garden at Giu Lae Luang School (2019).

These projects were part of an educational program to teach the children about sustainability and being self sufficient.

We are looking for opportunities for the Araya Foundation be able to help support the schools again in these types of projects.



Donations



From early 2020 to early 2023 we made donations to schools and local communities that were specific to the COVID pandemic.

Several times throughout this period the Araya Foundation Donated masks, Alcohol gel, and rice to Giu Lae Luang, Ban Huaysom, and Baan Maelong schools.

Another way the Araya Foundation found to help was by donating meals to the overworked hospital staffs at the area COVID hospitals. Mrs. Sumalya Suriya, Vice President of the Araya Foundation personally prepared these meals.

In April 2021 the Araya Foundation donated meals to the Cohort ward staff at Maharaj Hospital.

In May 2021 the Araya Foundation donated meals to the medical staff at Hang Dong Hospital.

May 2020 The Araya Foundation donated bags of rice, thru Chiang Mai Immigration's charity drive, to underprivileged families in Chiang Mai who are struggling due to COVID-19.



Donations: Meals to Schools



We are always looking for opportunities to improve the nutrition of meals, reduce the cost burden on the schools or sometimes just provide a nice treat for the children such as:

At Giu Lae Luang School we provided special meals and snacks for Children's Day (2017, 2020). Funds to help with rice for meals (2016-2019). Funds for kindergarten meals (2016). Eggs and nutritional meals (2016). Weekly food deliveries to help enhance nutrition of meals (2015).

We also sponsored special meals and snack at Baan Maelong, Baan Hua Khuang and Giu Lae Luang schools (2017).



Donations: To Other Communities

Donations: To Other Communities



Over the years The Araya Foundation has, in cooperation with Chiang Mai Immigration's charity, made several donations to those in need in very rural areas.

Among the communities that the Araya Foundation has donated sporting equipment and school supplies to are Baan Mai Pattana Santi School and Baan Mae Malaw Schools in Mae Chaem (2020), Mae Ngan Luang School in Mae Jaem (2019), Baan Pa Khao Lam School in Mae Taeng (2018), Rong Wua Daeng school in San Kham-phaeng (2017).

In the winter of 2015, the Araya Foundation donated blankets for the young and elderly in the rural area of Mae Chaem.

We are currently looking for more community projects to help out with.



Construction



The Araya Foundation has sponsored many building projects at our schools. Such as, a Library (2013) with an addition of Books and Bookshelves (2014) as well as a Foreign Language Center (2016) at Baan Maelong School.

At Giu Lae Luang School we renovated and old abandoned building so it could be used as a dormitory (2013). This included the addition of toilets and shower facilities. Rooms for volunteers were added as well. Later (2014) a water tank and pump were added to the dormitory to aid with water flow and pressure. Recently (2020) we remodeled and improved this dormitory (See page 13).

In 2010 the Araya Foundation built a two bedroom two bathroom teacher's dormitory at Namsum School.

Now that we have remodeled the children's dormitory, we are looking to refresh the volunteer rooms to make them more welcoming and comfortable.





Renovation of the Dormitory at Giu Lae Luang School



Renovation of the Dormitory: Painting

In 2020 thru 2021 The Araya Foundation sponsored a complete remodel of the children's dormitory at Giu Lae Luang School. This has massively improved the quality of life for the children who stay there during the school year.

High quality Industrial paints were used in hopes of keeping the dormitory looking good for years to come.

Ceiling tiles, windows and screens were replaced and security bars were added for the children's protection.

Renovation of the Dormitory: Structure



Wall panels in front of the bathrooms and dividing the boy's and girl's rooms were repaired or replaced and re-enforced.

The stairway platform to the girl's dormitory was completely replaced and the broken wooden floor on the terrace was repaired and re-enforced.

The plumbing systems was completely reworked, replacing broken pipes and improving the drainage. Cesspits were added to bring the plumbing up to standard.



Renovation of the Dormitory: New Beds and Bedding

In February of 2021, with the first phase of the Renovation of the Dormitory at Giu Lae Luang School project having been completed. The Araya foundation purchased new bed frames as well as good quality mattresses.

The Araya Foundation donated 18 bunk beds and 44 mattresses. The foundation also secured a donation of an additional 4 bunk beds from Chan Furniture and the Chiang Mai Rotary Club. For the new bed frames, we decided to go with the best frames on the market which are made of stronger and thicker metal and should last for many years.

The total cost of the renovation project was 456,900 baht.

Principal Quotes

"Giu Lae Luang School would like to thank the Araya Foundation for providing volunteer teachers to help improve English language learning and helping to train students to have the courage to express themselves. Thank you all for participating in our students development."

Mr. Chonlawit
Principal of Giu Lae Luang School



"We are thankful for the generosity of the Araya Foundation whose donations of Food, Dormitory and Volunteer teachers has allowed us to focus our meager resources on education related matters "

Mrs. Nuengnoot
Former Principal of Giu Lae Luang School



"Due to the ASEAN Economic Community that began in 2015, whose 10 countries use English as a bridge language. We need to bring our standard of English speaking to a higher level. We are hoping that the Araya Foundation will keep supplying us with volunteer teachers as we are a very small school who could not afford to hire native English speaking teachers"

Mr. Suchart
Former Principal of Baan Hua Khuang School



"Our goal is for our students to be able to learn the basic structure of English in order to be able to communicate with foreigners which can expand their horizons and open up a world of possibilities. We would like to thank the Araya Foundation for helping us to make this possible"

Mr. Narongchai
Former Principal of Baan Maelong School





■ THANK YOU

The Araya Foundation would like to thank all the volunteers who have committed a large amount of their own time to help make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than themselves.

We of course could not have done any of this without the continued generous support from people like you. The contributions from our donors has been pivotal to the success of the Araya Foundation and without it we could not sponsor the volunteers or all the great projects you have read about.

So, from the bottom of our hearts and from the children involved in this program...Thank You!

ARAYA
FOUNDATION



arayafoundation.thailand@gmail.com



arayafoundationthailand.org



facebook.com/arayafoundation

ARAYA FOUNDATION

9 Moo 11 T. Nam Phrae A. Hang Dong Chiang Mai 50230 Thailand

Email: arayafoundation.thailand@gmail.com

Tel. +66 53 414142