



July 2009

Dear Family Member,

The shocking truth is that one in every four children in Thailand are trafficked or sold into the sex trade. To us this reality is devastating, but unfortunately known as a common occurrence. As you look into the faces of these precious children, it is hard to imagine even one of them hurt or abused in such a horrible way.

The sad fact is that annually, there are approximately 600,000 to 800,000 victims of trafficking across international borders worldwide. Each year in Thailand alone, 200,000 children, ages seven to fifteen, are sexually exploited and trafficked. That statistic translates into an astounding 23 children every hour!

Gib is a sweetheart that lights up the room when she enters. She is five years old and loves to play, give hugs and of course, eat treats! Gib has two older sisters and a brother, she is one of four. Gib loves to hold your hand, sit on your lap and give you a hug. Then she bounces off to where the action is as she is always exploring. It breaks our heart to think she could have become a victim if **Serving Our World** would not have been there to rescue her. Gib could have been another statistic of trafficking.



But our goal is not about just helping the kids. It is about recognizing the God-given dreams and desires of each of the children. Then, we try very hard to do all we can to see that these dreams are fulfilled, giving each child hope for the possibilities of a future. As you look in Gib's eyes, imagine the hundreds of others like her that simply want a chance to succeed in life. But only with your help can we rescue more children before it's too late.

Every month YOU do make it possible for these at-risk children to participate in the benefits of the *Good Life Home* by generously providing the funds that keep the home going. Your GIFT connects you to new hope for each child and the smiles that light up their faces. Truly, the transformation in each of these children is remarkable, and is a reflection of what we can accomplish together.

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Touching Lives, Building Futures

STACKING UP SUCCESS

In East Timor steady progress has been made towards a bright future in our remote village where every day struggles for basic needs is the focus of each boy, girl and family. **Serving Our World** and You together have begun to pave the way for them, helping them to see each day that conditions are getting better. Now, they see a future that holds the promise of earning the necessary provisions for their families and the many children that need a helping hand. Things are really stacking up for future success!



The block project is geared to helping rebuild lives, creating an avenue to share love and hope and to begin building a *Good Life Home* for the many children who need someone! This is providing hope for each child who has lost parents. With your support, we are His hands reaching out at this most critical time.

Together reaching those in need,

Michael Thomforde
Founder/President



The students of Hun School held a benefit dance on behalf **Serving Our World**. All the students were asked to donate seven dollars as the music blared through massive speakers. Sophie, the benefit director writes, "Setting up and figuring out the details for this dance was a long and tiring process. The dance was held outside on the Hun School lawn, and many students came out to dance to support the charity.

The students were well aware of the charity the dance was supporting and many even asked how they could help or where they could donate even more. The best part of the dance wasn't the dancing, it wasn't the loud music blaring from every speaker, and it wasn't even the laughter that filled the air that evening. It was the comfort of knowing that all this could go out to help someone who can't dance and laugh like we can. The best part was imagining the smiles on those little boys and girls faces when they can live their lives without worries. The "long and tiring process" that created this dance, seemed like a small price to pay to change lives."