

LIVIN' THE
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THREADS
LIFE

INDIGO THREADS

Laos Education Support and Village Development
A Non-Profit (501-3-C) Humanitarian Organization

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2011

School Lunch Program



Our committed team of 5 Laotian staff persons under the direction of Mary D. Meyer has proven to be the most successful School Lunch Program in our 6 1/2 year history. Expanding the Program to provide 2,800 healthy lunches PER WEEK for students at 5 rural primary schools and surrounding village children, our rented flatbed truck, 5 huge soup pots and the entire staff are engaged in the field, serving the rewards of our 6:00 am labor. More importantly, with an increase in student attendance, Indigo Threads is attaining one of our primary goals by alleviating hunger and chronic malnutrition; conditions with catastrophic consequences throughout developing countries. You can become an actual participant in improving the lives of school children in Southern Laos through your support of Indigo Threads' School Lunch Program.



Annual School Health Fair

The 3rd annual Indigo Threads Student School Health Check-Up was held in early February 2011. Increasing the Program to 9 rural primary schools, Indigo Threads works in cooperation with the District Health and Education Departments to provide a general health examination for students by local doctors. As this is the only health care students receive, 1,160 students participated at their individual schools. Indigo Threads takes this opportunity to present healthy food choices, personal hygiene and wellness demonstrations. We are seeking your support to supply students with dental hygiene supplies and multi-vitamins throughout the year. Individual and corporate sponsorships are needed to continue our Student Health Check-up Program. Your networking skills are welcome.



Visit Indigo Threads Website at
www.indigothreads.org and our blogs, too.

Teacher Training 2010-2011 Scholarship Awards

School Well Repairs

Indigo Threads is proud to announce the award of 8 scholarships to the Pakse Teacher's Training College for the 2010-2011 school year. Three students received a renewed second year scholarship; while another received a renewed award to complete his final special course. Four new recipients were selected to begin their first year of teacher training. Indigo Threads' scholarships include student tuition and on-campus living expenses,

while students are required to invest in their own education by providing for any additional expenses.

After completing their education, recipients are required to return to their rural regions where there is a critical shortage of qualified teachers to work in village schools. Your investment in a Laotian young person's teacher training will provide future lifelong employment while passing on the gift of education to village children.

Functioning wells are critically important as the only water source at rural Laotian schools. Equipment breaks down, sitting idle for long periods of time without funds for necessary repairs. Louyta Primary School's (Km.16) well was constructed by Indigo Threads in 2006. We make every effort to keep the well operational for their 165 students and teachers with recent repairs made in October 2010. With this repair the entire atmosphere of the school campus changed. Students clean their classrooms and furnishings, personal hygiene improved to include use of the outdoor latrine built by Indigo Threads and plants are flourishing. **Positive changes happen with a source for clean safe water.**

Indigo Threads Donates Back-to-School Supplies

Every year Indigo Threads welcomes excited students back to school with individual donations of school supplies. Eight hundred impoverished rural students received writing tablets and writing implements as a 'helping hand' to begin their first semester. This year we are elated to report that student enrollment has increased dramatically at all

of our assisted primary schools with equal numbers of girls and boys.

Join **Indigo Threads Back-To-School Campaign** providing school supplies throughout the school year for so many more children in dire need of a 'helping hand' to attend school.



Donate Airline Frequent Flier Miles

Please consider donating your frequent flier airline miles to Indigo Threads Director for her travels from the US to our Pakse, Laos field office. For additional information

Contact Mary at mdmeyer@indigothreads.org

Heart Filled Thank You

We at Indigo Threads begin the New Year with our hearts filled with gratitude for all who have encouraged and supported Indigo Threads throughout the past 6 1/2 years. We look forward to continuing to expand our Programs to Laotian impoverished rural children with your help. *Thank You from all of us.*

Correction: Newsletter April 2010

Indigo Threads US Non-Profit 501c3 tax-exempt status was granted March 2006.

Indigo Threads EIN number will be provided on request.

Pay Pal is available on our website for your donations or mail to Indigo Threads, P.O. Box 401, LaQuinta, CA. 92247 or Board Member, Shelly DeChantal, Indigo Threads, 2740 S. Humboldt St., Denver, CO. 80210. A grateful thank you.