

Rejoice Foundation Review 2014

(Period April 2014—March 2015)

Highlights



Dr. Martin Huddart and Gee attend HIV/Aids conference in Bangkok
[\(read more\)](#)



HIV Health Care Workers enjoy a barbeque during the first "Exchange Meeting" At the Queen Sirikit Royal Project sponsored by Rejoice at Thaton on the Myanmar border....[\(read more\)](#)



Children with HIV meet in Chiang Dao and learn about the importance of taking their medicine each day on time by making drawings of clocks... [\(read more\)](#)

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Core Outreach



Wi and Arm visit Pitoon in Chiang Dao

The Outreach Team makes weekly visits to over 300 patients in established clinics in 6 diverse areas of Chiang Mai Province.

[Photo Album](#)

Home Care Outreach



Home Care visits are made together with Hospital Health Care workers

Home care visit are made to 224 patients in co-operation with HIV health care workers, to the more the isolated villages and communities.

[Photo Album](#)

Infant Formula Milk Programme



Infant receives his formula at See-Un Muang Daycare

The formula milk programme serves 22 pre-school children including 4 babies recently born to HIV +ve mothers.

[Photo Album](#)

School Scholarship Programme



Some of the Children receiving their scholarships

71 students benefit from the School Scholarship Programme mainly supported by individuals on an annual basis.

[Photo Album](#)

Staff Training Workshops



PHPT training workshop for health care workers at Rattanakosin Hotel

The Outreach Team is now being invited to attend HIV/Aids workshop training sessions.

[Photo Album](#)

Education and Prevention Programme



Education and Prevention Session at Kae Noi school, in a remote border village.

Over 250 school children have attended reproductive health and STD prevention classes organised by Rejoice and Healthcare workers.

[Photo Album](#)

Outreach Clinics

The Outreach Clinics have been maintained at previous levels.

The number of patients at each clinic are as follows:

- Phrao, 59 patients (twice per month)
- Sankampeang, 36 patients (weekly)
- Sanpatong, 43 Patients (weekly)
- Chomtong, 18 Patients (twice per month)
- Chiang Dao, 93 patients (weekly)

Once a month the Outreach Team visit Mae Ai on the Myanmar border and make an overnight stay in Fang.

Also weekly visits are made to See-Un Muang temple day care centre near Chiang Dao.



Rice Fields with Chiang Dao mountain in the background



Songkran at clinic in Phrao



Ice Cream at Lisu Day Care Centre near Chiang Dao

Home Care

The number and frequency of home care visits has been increased and now includes co-operation with health care workers at both Sankampeang and Mae Ai hospitals . To date some 224 HIV patients have been visited. The patients are mainly ethnic hill tribe tribes who have migrated to Thailand via Burma or Laos. The Chin Haw speak a dialect of Yunnese Mandarin, The Lahu (or Muser) speak their own native language and the Tai Yai speak Shan language, which is similar to Northern Thai (Lanna) spoken language, although the written Shan language utilises a completely different script. These communities mainly work in agriculture and move from one location to another depending on the season. Many live in very basic accommodation and are extremely poor.



Indoor Kitchen in a Lahu home

.....Home Care (cont.)

Whilst the palliative medicines are provided by the hospital, Rejoice provides provisions such as rice, eggs, cooking oil canned fish etc. Also, school children are eligible for the Rejoice school sponsorship programme.



With peer to peer support and encouragement many HIV sufferers can overcome their co-infection (such as hepatitis or TB) and return to work and lead normal lives once more. Unfortunately, there are exceptions, especially from people who test too late. In the past year 6 patients, in the districts where Rejoice is working, have succumbed to the disease.



Lahu twins with ubiquitous cat and cooking pot

[Home Care Photo Album](#)



Home Care at a Lahu home in Hua Jakan village.



Tai Yai girl's home near Kae Noi



Many patients work from home making baskets, weaving garments and carving wood

Milk Programme



The Milk Programme serves 23 children including 4 babies recently born to HIV +ve mothers. The Thai government provides free formula milk for the first 6 months to HIV +ve mothers after which Rejoice continues the service until the child is considered

sufficiently well nourished. Usually up to the age of 5 years when the child starts school.

Nine years ago, the Thai government made it mandatory for every pregnant Thai woman to be tested for HIV. If the women was found to be HIV+ve the baby would be given formula milk and not breast fed. This enabled Rejoice Charity to reach out to HIV positive mothers with the Milk Programme. To date, Rejoice has not come across a child born to a Thai mother, with HIV. This is a direct result of the government initiative.



Mothers' who are HIV+ve receive formula milk from Rejoice at Sankampeang Community Centre

However, children born to hill tribe mothers with little or no access to medical facilities, or migrants fleeing conflict in war torn Shan State are not so lucky. Out of a total of 24 HIV +ve children, only 5 children under the age of 11, are HIV+ve . These are children born to non-Thai mothers who were unable to access HIV screening when they first became pregnant. Pitoon, an HIV+ve Shan boy, 7 years old is being taken care of by his HIV+ve mother who has recently given birth to a baby girl. It is hoped that by feeding the baby formula milk and getting regular check-ups, she can avoid getting the virus.



Babies born to HIV+ve mothers receive free government formula milk up to the age of 6



Pitoon with his mum and baby sister

School Scholarship Programme

Children living within a family affected by HIV are eligible for a scholarship. The child may be an AIDS orphan, living with one parent, living with grandparents or living with relatives. Rejoice provides scholarships which enables the child to attend school, whilst allowing them to grow up within their own ethnic community rather than them being institutionalized in an orphanage. Currently there are 24 HIV+ children receiving scholarships. Also 8 students are attending University or Technical College and next year a similar number is expected to graduate from school to higher education. Without the Scholarship Programme it is very likely that this would not have been possible. A database of all the children is updated continually and database files are linked to PDF files for each child.

71 students benefit from the **School Scholarship Programme**.

Ostensibly, the sponsorship is in the form of an educational scholarship, but in reality it is much more, it will:

- allow the child to attend school
- allow the child to grow-up in his/her community with their extended family
- allow the child to learn to speak the language and follow the religion of their community
- make it easier for the family to accept financial help – the money is received on behalf of the child
- prevent the child becoming institutionalised in an orphanage
- be a significant factor in deciding whether the child continues his/her education to high school, college or university

SDL Foundation is currently sponsoring 12 children in the upper primary and secondary level. As can be seen from the table below, these children come from families ravaged by HIV Aids with at least one or both parents being HIV positive. The financial plights of these families are dire with the grandparents being the breadwinners.

Although basic education is free in Thailand, textbooks, writing



SDL sponsor 12 children. 5 of whom now attend High School

materials, uniforms, daily commute etc is not covered. Therefore, without SDL, these children would have dropped out of school to earn whatever little they can as unskilled labourers. Therefore, SDL's support is crucial in providing the education foundation for these children to break-out of the poverty trap.

A wonderful way to help such families is to sponsor a child's education for one year. Recently, Rejoice Charity introduced a 3-tiered education sponsorship program (primary, secondary and college/university). This is to better reflect the differences in costs associated with each group of students;

- For infants and Junior School children 5,000 baht,
- Secondary School children (ages usually between 16 and 18) 7,000 baht
- College and University students 10,000 baht.

The higher figure of 10,000 baht reflects the higher cost of transportation and fees etc.

Rejoice keeps a PDF file, with text and pictures, for each student and an XLS database of all the students. Below is an example of a translation of a "Thank you" letter from a student. This is included, together with the original letter in Thai, [in the PDF file](#).

Hello,

My is Tidarat Yain. I am studying in Grade 12 at Chiang Dao Wittayakom School. I live with my grandparents who are very old and not very healthy but they both love me. We are all a little bit sick because it is cold in mornings and hot in the afternoons.

My grandparents work hard so that they can afford to send me to school. Transport to school costs 500 baht every month and lunch costs 50 baht every day.

When I am at home I help by doing the washing and ironing and also cleaning the house because I want my grandparents to relax and not become tired. At the weekends I help by making bamboo baskets, some days I make 30 baht and other days 50 baht.

I promise to study hard and be good for my grandparents and my sponsors.

Finally, I would like to thank you very much for your support again and I will use the sponsorship money in the best way. Without your support I would be unable to attend school.

I hope that you are happy and healthy and I will always remember you.

Best regards, Tidarat Yain

School Sponsorship Programme (continued)

The table below shows the children sponsored by SDL

R	Name Surname	ชื่อ สกุล	Sex	D.O.B	Age			District	address	HIV Status		Renewal	Not sp
					Y	M				Child/Mum/Dad			
1	Kamonchanuk Khamploy	กมลชนก คำพลอย	F	02-Oct-95	19	5		Chiangdao	229 หมู่ 4 ต.เชียง	+ve/died/died		08/01/2015	
14	Narumon Wongdee	นฤมิต วงษ์ดี	F	21-Oct-96	18	5		Sanpathong	9 หมู่ 9 ต.ทุ่งต้อม	+ve/died/+ve		14/11/2015	
3	Kanarong Tethakan	ก้านรงค์ เตชะกัน	M	22-Mar-97	18	0		Sanpathong	206 หมู่ 4 ต.สุทนต์	+ve/died/?		14/12/2015	
62	TITHIPON KANTA	ฐิติพร กันทะ	F	21-Oct-98	16	5		Sanpathong	35 หมู่ 9 ต.ทุ่งสะ	-ve/+ve/+ve		18/01/2015	
63	NARONG LAOKOM	ณรงค์ ลาวคำ	M	01-Sep-00	14	6		Chiangdao	92 หมู่ 1 ต.เชียงด	-ve/died/died		16/02/2015	
44	NATTIRA CHAICRI	นัทธีรา ชัยศรี	F	17-Oct-01	13	5		Sanpathong	9 หมู่ 4 ต.ทุ่งสะ	-ve/+ve/+ve		18/01/2015	
23	Putanet Chompert	ภูวนะ จอมเพชร	M	18-Oct-01	13	5		Chiangdao	203 หมู่ 5 ต.เชียง	-ve/died/+ve		16/02/2015	
35	Areeya Arpa	อารยา อาปา	F	08-May-02	12	10		Chiangdao	313 หมู่ 12 ต.เมืง	-ve/+ve/died		16/02/2015	
36	Araya Chumpharsert	อารยา ชุมประเสริฐ	F	06-Aug-02	12	7		Chiangdao	234 หมู่ 16 ต.เข็	+ve/+ve/died		16/02/2015	
30	Sompop Krimes	สมพงษ์ ไกรมาศ	M	10-Nov-03	11	4		Chiangdao	249 หมู่ 2 ต.เชียง	-ve/+ve/+ve		16/02/2015	
33	Ar-nusat Boonpan	อนุชาต บุญบัน	M	15-Mar-04	11	0		Chiangdao	217 หมู่ 2 ต.เชียง	-ve/+ve/+ve		16/02/2015	

SDL School sponsorships. 12 Children sorted by age

[Scholarships Photo album](#)

Staff Training Workshops

Regular workshops are held throughout Thailand by PHPT. Rejoice attended two workshops given to health care workers, one for the Sankampeang area workers sponsored by PHPT, and the other for Chiang Dao health care workers sponsored by TTAG. [PHPT](#) is an NGO which was formed in Chiang Mai in 1996 at the height of the HIV epidemic. It has since joined forces with French Ministry of Foreign Affairs; French National Agency for Research on AIDS and Viral Hepatitis (ANRS); Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The group promotes seminars worldwide and workshops on a more informal basis.

Rejoice also held a more informal meeting for Health Care workers (all HIV+) from Mae Ai, Sankamoeang and Chiang Dao districts. Rejoice provided the transport and food. The venue was at The Queen Sirikit Project in Thaton in Mae Ai district on the northern border with Myanmar.

This was the first such meeting bringing together the health care workers from a wide area of Chiang Mai Province, allowing them to exchange their experiences and ideas in dealing with their HIV patients. [\(read more\)](#)

[Staff Training Photo Album](#)




PHPT invited Rejoice and community health care workers from villages in San Kampeang, Saraphi and Sansai districts to a meeting at Ratannakosin hotel concerning HIV and Hepatitis.



Health Care workers from Mae Ai, Sankampeang and Chiang Dao at the first "Exchange Meeting" at The Queen Sirikit Project in Thaton, Mae Ai at the Myanmar border.


Education and Prevention Programme



Care addressing the attendees at the first Rejoice sponsored HIV health care meeting at Chiang Dao Hospital.

As reported in our previous Newsletter highlighting the work being done by the various authorities in raising awareness of HIV with the younger generation in Chiang Mai Province, Rejoice has embarked on another initiative in cooperation with Chiang Dao hospital. On 10th June the first of eight scheduled meetings took place with the HIV patients of Chiang Dao Province together with the HIV health care workers and doctors.

The objective of these "Education and Prevention" meetings is to bring the patients together, many of whom have not met



Some of the patients are ethnic Tai Yai and only speak Shan language. Wi, being Tai Yai, can speak to them in Shan. This helps to build trust and sympathy with these marginalised people.

Clip from the archives of the first co-operative meeting at Chiang Dao Hospital in 2013

The above clip, taken from the [July 2013 Newsletter](#), highlights the inaugural "Education and Prevention Meeting" at Chiang Dao hospital. Since then we have;

- expanded the "E&P" by engaging with health care worker volunteers (themselves HIV+ve) from hospitals in Sankampeang, Sanpatong and Mae Ai to organise similar meetings for their patients;
- held informal, weekend meetings within communities, targeting local youth;
- basic reproductive health programmes and STD programmes have been instigated in local schools.

The first meeting was held for [children with HIV](#) at Chiang Dao Hospital, the objective being to teach the children the importance of taking their medicine every day at specific times. The children were asked to draw clocks and use weekly medicine counters.



The first meeting for HIV+ve children - the importance of taking their medicine every day and at specific times.



Baan Muang Khong school which is situated in a remote location, reached by dirt road, to the west of Doi Chiang Dao mountain

Another first was the inaugural "[Exchange Meeting](#)" for all HIV health care volunteers in Chiang Mai Province was held at the Queen Sirikit Project in Thaton on the Myanmar border.

Date	District	Venue	Age Group	Number	Comments
01/12/12	Chiang Dao	World Aids Day Baan Arunotai School	7-18	400+	Rejoice assisted Health Care Workers
29/12/12	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	HIV Patients	40+	Provided food and bathing provisions
23/03/13	Sankampeang Rong Wua Deng	Rong Wua Deng Community centre	ALL	50+	Assisted Health Care Workers
10/07/13	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	HIV Patients	42	Provided food and Transport costs
26/07/13	Chiang Mai	Rattanakosin Hotel, Chiang Mai	Health Care Workers f	Staff Training	Rejoice staff attend meeting by PHPT
08/08/13	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao, Municipality	Health Care Workers f	Staff Training	Rejoice staff attend meeting by TTAG
11/09/13	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	HIV Patients	28	Provided food and Transport costs
14/09/13	Sankampeang, On Tai	On Tai Community	11-18	30+	Provided food and Transport costs
01/12/13	Chiang Dao	World Aids Day Chiang Dao High School	7-18	500+	Rejoice contributed to providing lunch
25/12/13	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	HIV Patients	40+	Provided food and bathing provisions
07/02/14	Sankampeang	Baan Buak Kang School	14-15	30	
28/03/14	Chiang Mai	Rattanakosin Hotel, Chiang Mai	Health Care Workers f	Staff Training	Rejoice staff attend meeting by Thai Phu
28/07/14	Chiang Dao, Muang Na	Nai Wai School	14-15	35	
28/07/14	Chiang Dao, Nong Keow	Nong Keow	14-15	35	
07/08/14	Chiang Dao, Kae Noi	Baan Kae Noi Junior School	11-12	30	
07/08/14	Chiang Dao, Kae Noi	Baan Kae Noi Senior School	14-15	40	
30/08/14	Sankampeang Rong Wua Deng	Rong Wua Deng Community centre	ALL	35	Community Gathering
09/09/14	Chiang Dao	Muang Khong School	14-15		
-26/10/14	Chiang Dao	Wat Umong Weekend Meditation	HIV Patients	40	Transportation
01/12/14	Chiang Dao/Sanpatong	World aids day Chiang Dao/Sanpatong	ALL	200+	Rejoice assisted Health Care Workers
24/12/14	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	HIV Patients	120+	Provided lunch, clothing and provisions
06/02/15	Chiang Dao	Chiang Dao Hospital	Children HIV+ve	10	Provided food and Transport costs
-18/02/20	Mae Ai	Queen Sirikit Project, Thaton	Health Care Workers f	Staff Training	Provided food and accommodation

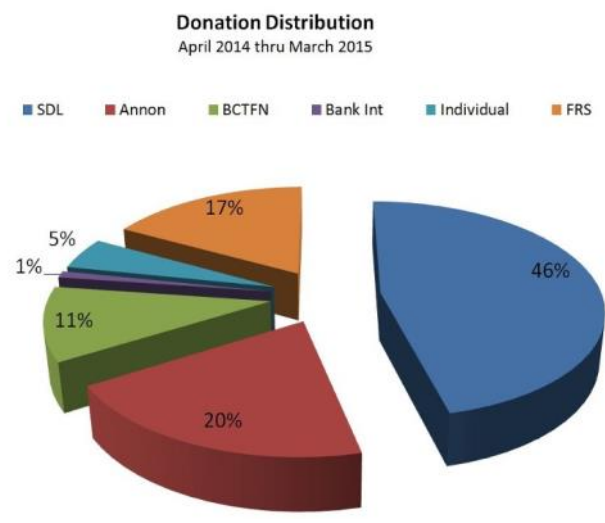
The table is a screen snip of the Education and Prevention meetings Rejoice, together with HIV health care volunteers (who are HIV+ve), have sponsored and participated in

Vicky's Video

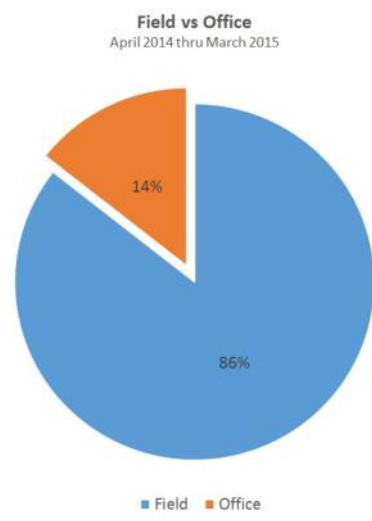
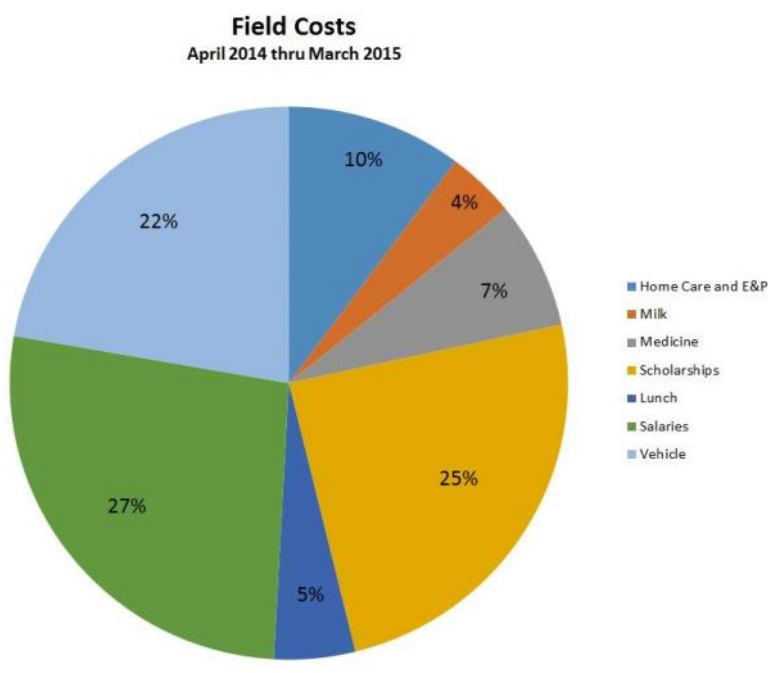
Vicky aged 14 years, is the eldest daughter of Aree, the owner of the Rejoice office building. Vicky together with a few school friends entered a national competition to produce the best educational video. They choose the [Rong Wua Deng meeting](#) to make the video.

Financial Income

The chart at the right shows the distribution of donations for the year April 2014 through March 2015. The anonymous donor supported us for a second year and we are already in the process of applying to them for a donation for the third time. The British Community in Thailand Foundation for the Needy (BCTFN) make regular donations every 6 months, the proceeds from their annual charity fair, “The Ploenchit Fair”, held in Bangkok each year. FRS is Friends of Rejoice Singapore, a wonderful group of individuals who donate and also sponsor children. The group is co-ordinated by Winston’s friend Wight Wong. Winston, SDL Country Manager, exchanges Singapore dollars into Thai baht in order to save on bank charges. Included in the individual donations is the group of SDL Bangkok employees (currently 25) who make regular monthly contributions.



Financial Outgoings



The charts above show the breakdown of costs accrued in the field. Included is fuel and vehicle maintenance costs and the salaries for the Outreach Team.

Office costs are only 14% of total costs due to the fact that the Office is free of rent—purchase price of the building was raised through previous donations, and that the administrative work is done on a purely voluntary basis. At the beginning of 2014 a benevolent/social security fund was set up for current and future employees. The fund is placed in a separate account and is included in “Office Costs”.

It is hoped that during the year ahead Rejoice will be able to expand the Outreach to [more remote areas](#) such as Wiang Haeng District in the North West of Chiang Mai Province and also with Fang and Chai Prakan District hospitals.

The table and charts below reflect these expansions which we hope to achieve with the current full-time staff working together with local HIV healthcare volunteers.

Rejoice Budget for 2015					
Monthly Expenses		Rejoice Format			
Field	Av. 2014-201	Estimated increase	Monthly Budget 2014	Total/Year 2014	
					1 GBP=49 Baht
Home Care and E&P	฿9,728	2.00	฿19,456	฿233,467	£4,765
Milk	฿3,786	1.20	฿4,544	฿54,525	£1,113
Medicine	฿7,103	1.00	฿7,103	฿85,235	£1,739
Scholarships	฿23,443	1.50	฿35,164	฿421,971	£8,612
Lunch	฿4,479	1.50	฿6,719	฿80,627	£1,645
Salaries	฿25,643	1.20	฿30,771	฿369,257	£7,536
Vehicle	฿21,249	1.50	฿31,873	฿382,477	£7,806
Total Field	฿95,431		฿135,630	฿1,627,559	£33,215
Office					
Electric	฿1,500	1.00	฿1,500	฿18,000	£367
Telephone	฿187	1.00	฿187	฿2,242	£46
Internet+Web hosting	฿1,137	1.00	฿1,137	฿13,647	£279
Administration	฿7,286	1.20	฿8,743	฿104,914	£2,141
Office Supplies	฿2,181	1.10	฿2,399	฿28,786	£587
Maid	฿3,000	1.00	฿3,000	฿36,000	£735
VIP Lunch	฿773	2.00	฿1,547	฿18,562	£379
Total Office	฿16,064		฿18,513	฿222,152	£4,534
Total	฿111,495		฿154,143	฿1,849,711	£37,749
Stock	฿11,208	1.00	฿11,208		

