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My ENCOUNTER with Silver Lining

Mother with Five Scars
Silver Lining Family Village in Myanmar
Metamorphosis of a Revellious Teenager

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Mission Statement : “Your LOVE changes LIVES”

Silver Lining is committed to help the impoverished orphans, students and disabled children in the mountainous area, through improving their lives, education, job opportunities, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to the marginalized and neglected, help them overcome poverty, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.



2017 First time visiting Myanmar

MOTHER WITH FIVE SCARS

Last year when I first visited the civil war refugees in Myanmar, I met a beautiful mother that had very short hair. My first thought was, why do people in Myanmar cut their hair so short? Then I looked closer and was shocked. I saw several scars on her scalp and learned she was recently released from the hospital.

War and drugs became the greatest enemy in many families which created countless widows and orphans. This woman's husband was one of the victims from drug addiction. One day when taking the drugs, he started having hallucinations, picked up a knife and started stabbing his wife. The woman was immediately taken to the hospital. While she was in the hospital, the husband sobered up from the drug overdose, walked around his village asking people if they knew where his wife was. Later, he found out that the love of his life was heavily wounded by him and out of guilt, he committed suicide.





This year I have the chance to visit the family again!



The mother is so happy that her children can have the chance to go to school now! "The mother had tears in her eye while hugging me!"

THE VICTIM OF THE FAMILY

It turns out that these kinds of stories happen quite often in Myanmar. Seeing a young mother lose her husband, with no supports to raise her five children (ages 2 to 14 years old) she did not know how to continue to live on. The mother said to me "I wish my children can go to school and learn." Hearing her desperation, Silver Lining decided to built a school that is near this warzone area, and twenty hours driving distance away from Silver Lining Family Village allowing us to help the children nearby to go to school and learn.

Just recently, I had a chance to visit the mother of the five children again. When we saw each other, the mother's eyes were filled with tears and she gave me a big hug. We did not say anything to each other, but I can feel from her heart, all of her challenges that she has endured. Then she told me her family is starting anew again. She happily found a job and her daughters and sons are now go to school. I was so touched by her heart filled words. Before I left, we hugged again, and I felt so much the joy in her spirit and heart.



Before I left, we hugged again!

DEALING WITH THE "DEMON"

RACHEL YEUNG

Written By
Rachel Yeung



The teachers we are working with

I have been working in Myanmar on an education project for the past few months, primarily focusing on drug prevention in the northern area of Myanmar. When I first began this project, my prior knowledge of the current status of drug production or drug use in the country was minimal. I merely knew that poppy plants were farmed there. In January 2018, we did our first training, gathering teachers from surrounded schools in the Shan State that we collaborate with.



Communicating with our teachers



As I was teaching about the effects and symptoms that drugs have on the human body I learned a few interesting things about our teachers. One had shared that when he had a bad toothache, he was giving a small piece of “black tar”, which in reality is a small piece of raw opium. He described it as an instant pain reliever and it is a miracle medicine that cured anything. Another teacher recalls having a terrible fever when he was a young child. After alerting his grandmother about the discomfort, she smoked out of a pipe and blew the smoke into his face, instructing him to inhale deeply. He describes this smoke as smelling incredibly sweet, like nothing he had smelled before but immediately wanting more after it cleared away. He had second hand inhaled heroin but reported that it had made him feel much better the following day and his fever went away.

Teaching about drug prevention is quite an interesting experience in Myanmar. Based on these two stories alone, I learned how common drug use is for medical reasons. I thought to myself “these teachers are supposed to teach the students to not use drugs but they have all used it before and still claim that it’s a working medicine!” What I realized was that the teachers knew drugs were bad, but most of their knowledge came from their observations and experiences, they don’t know how it’s really affecting your body. From my experience, families who aid in the production of opium know not to use it. However, because it is the only money-making crop, they rely on it to raise their family. I have taught teachers who shared that they grew up off of opium farming and it was their only source of income. Their father always told them “taking the drug will only benefit one man, planting it, can benefit the whole family.”

Many of our children in Yun Cai Family Center have parents who are currently incarcerated due to drug abuse or died from an overdose. Once I brought this training to our family center, I came to realize that the children all knew too well about drugs. They knew what drugs does



Children learning about drug affecting people



Teaching how drugs affect people's life physically

to a family, the symptoms, the effects it has on the mind, and the aftermath. They were even teaching me new information that I didn’t know!

When I asked if anyone has seen what heroin looked like, nearly all our children raised their hands. “My uncle used to melt the powder and use a needle to inject it.” A nine-year-old boy shared, pointing to where the needle went. “You smoke it like this” an eight-year-old child explained as she used her hands to form the shape of a long pipe “goo-loo goo-loo” imitating the nose that is made when smoking out it. When I asked about how it affects the family, an eleven-year-old boy shared, “My dad sold everything we had at home and still didn’t have enough money for drugs, so he stole money from family members and friends to buy more. He was addicted at that point. All he wanted was drugs, he didn’t care about us.” Another seven-year-old boy added, “If you don’t have heroin, you start getting very skinny and angry, you start yelling and hitting people.”

Many children nodded in agreement and understanding as these four shared their own stories. They seem to relate on many levels to every single word, others shouting their own personal but similar experiences. The children at our family center have vowed to never use drugs. Those who have realized that because of drugs, their family will never be the same even expressed how much they hate it. Hearing what these children have to say about drugs reminded about me their true past. Ever since they’ve come to the Silver Lining Family Center they’ve changed, they don’t seem like children who have lost a parent or who have been abused before. I always forget what these children have experienced because I only see the smiles on their faces and their vibrant personalities. God’s love changes lives, and these children are living proof of it. However, drug abuse is still a very real issue in northern Myanmar; families are still losing their fathers and wives are losing their husbands due to drug use. There is still a great need for educating these teachers and students and helping these children and wives that are left behind.

Myanmar

Written By
Laurent Mak

Silver Lining Family Village



Stepping into the eighth year, I have witnessed Silver Lining's continuous expansion from Guangxi Nanning, China to Myanmar. It first started out as a small jewelry shop, and now Silver Lining has two orphanages, one rehabilitation center and one school in the mountainous area. Through these services, Silver Lining provides support to the orphans, disabled and underprivileged children. Using the family style model to raise the orphans, allows them to grow up understanding the love and support of a functional loving family. At the rehabilitation center, we use conductive learning to teach the cerebral palsy children. They are taught how to take care of themselves by gaining academic knowledge like

normal children. As for their parents, we provide support and guidance to help relieve their stress in taking care of their cerebral palsy children. Last year, Silver Lining started an afterschool program and many of the children's grades improved after tutoring at our center. As for the mountainous school, we provide education and support for the children. This support includes an improved learning environment, nutritious meals, new clothes, school supplies and emergency medical funding. Silver Lining provides many additional support benefits to these underprivileged children that there is just not enough space in this brochure to list them. I am truly grateful to be a part of this team.



Recently, I had an opportunity to spend a week at the “Silver Lining Family Village” in Myanmar. I enjoyed every moment at the village where I spent time with the children, teachers and mothers. We ate together, play games, played badminton, performed plays and barbecued. I felt as if I went back in time to my early childhood life. One unforgettable moment that I would like to share with everyone was the birthday celebration for one of the children. This was the first time that this child celebrated his birthday and had his own birthday cake too. These children live in the rural mountainous area and most do not even know when their birthday is. Because of this, they never had the chance to celebrate the day of their birth, and of course, no birthday cake. When I saw the joy in this boy’s eyes just cutting the cake, blowing candles and singing Happy Birthday, I’ve got very emotional and felt grateful that these children are now living a better life at the Silver Lining Family Village. Originally, I thought this visit would give something meaningful to the children in Myanmar, but instead I was the one receiving the meaningful and fulfilled experience.



Teaching Children

Myanmar’s Silver Lining Family Village was established less than a year ago and much has been accomplished. All of the children at the Family Village have very eager hearts to learn. These children are not only understanding towards each other, they are also very caring about each other as well. Every day, the children have the opportunity to learn Chinese. In a short period of time, from not knowing any Chinese, they can use basic Mandarin to communicate and can express their needs and feelings! Though every child in the Family Village came from a very sad background, they are changing in a positive way because of the Family Village loving environment. Their smiles have been imprinted into my heart. Their life experience gave me immeasurable encouragement which has allowed me to understand that no matter how bad the situation is, and as long as I am willing to work hard and endure the challenge, my life will change for the better. This group of children is a great example of such encouragement. I hope that many people become encouraged and touched as I have.



Playing with children

When I was chatting with some local friends in Myanmar, one thing they said that really clenched my heart was “If the children don’t come into the orphanage, many of them will be easily lured into prostitution.” I see that this group of children that live at Silver Lining Family Village have a strong chance live normal productive lives avoiding such tragedy... this is a great blessing! Through Silver Lining, these children’s lives are changed for the better, and for me there is an indescribable gratitude towards Silver Lining in my heart.



Singing Happy Birthday , cutting birthday cake with the children

After coming back to the United States, the children’s laughter keeps surfacing in my mind. I miss them very much. I hope to visit the children in Myanmar soon, and play with them again. My greatest expectation for them is that when they grow up, they can become the pillars of the society, and give back to the society.

The Encounter with Silver Lining Foundation

I am Xiao Lei's mother, from Pubei Guangxi. In 2012, my adorable son Xiao Lei was born and he brought so much joy to our family. When my son was born, he had to stay in the hospital for a while, due to the lack of oxygen during his birth which led to asphyxia. Because of this dire situation, we spend a large amount of money on medical expenses but was worth every it. Our child was and is very precious to us.

When my son was around eight months old, he couldn't stand, sit or crawl, all he could do was to lay on the bed. I knew that something was not right so I brought my son to the hospital and ask for doctor's advice. The doctor told us my son had cerebral palsy. My heart sank, I wanted to cry but no tears were coming out, all I could think of was how to find ways to help my child get better. I knew that the medical costs would be high and felt so helpless because I didn't know how I would come up with the money to pay the doctor bills.

During this time when I needed my family support the most, my relatives urged me to give my child away! "Cerebral Palsy cannot be cured," they said, "just let another good family adopt him, they can provide the hospital care and pay the expenses so he can be properly treated." I never thought of giving up my child, if I didn't want him, who else would want him? My husband and I clenched our teeth and stepped into this never-ending road of medical treatment for our son.





The process of recovery was not only painful to Xiao Lei, but it's also very difficult for me. The enormous amount of medical expense placed more burden on our shoulders, we were struggling and were poor to begin with. Originally our family was filled with laughter, but changed to a family full of argument. After one year of rehabilitation, my son began to improve slightly. Even though it's a small change, he can now sit on his own, this development really encouraged me. We continued to face rejection from our family so we had no choice but to ask our friends and neighbors to lend us money so our son could continue his rehabilitation. After a year and a half, we spent the money that was borrowed from our friends and neighbors and we were forced to give up on our son's rehabilitation treatment.

Since Xiao Lei missed the prime time of his rehabilitation stage, his muscles were slowly shrinking and our relatives continued to tell us to give up our child. This time I really thought about it, so after discussing with my husband, we decided to give our child. Xiao Lei was only two years old then, and when he heard that his mother didn't want him anymore, he would not stop crying. "Mommy, please don't give me away, I will be good, I will work hard to train myself." At the end, thanks to my husband insistence, and promises to take good care of Xiao Lei, I regretted my decision to give my child away and shameful that I said hurtful things to my own child.

Last year, we bump into an old taxi driver friend and he mentioned that he helped transport a cerebral palsy child to Guangxi Silver Lining. While chatting with the parents of the cerebral palsy child, they told him the facility Silver Lining provide free rehabilitation treatment for cerebral palsy children. Right when I heard this, I was motivated again and immediately took Xiao Lei to Silver Lining rehabilitation center for treatment and education.



Baby Xiao Lei

Xiao Lei is having a great time at the Silver Lining rehabilitation center, especially being around so many classmates who are experiencing the same condition. One thing that surprised my husband and me was how much that Xiao Lei's has improved within the two months at Silver Lining. Under the teacher's guidance, Xiao can now stand on his own and even walk! It is Silver Lining that brought hope to us again and allow me to believe that Xiao Lei will now be able to attend kindergarten, elementary school and college. I believe now that Xiao's future will be bright!

I deeply regret my selfish thinking from the past. My family is lucky to have good-hearted people supporting a group of parents like us that use Silver Lining as a life support, physical therapy and educational family center. I would like to thank Silver Lining for giving us this opportunity and would like to thank every teacher and staff member for their selfless act of kindness. All of you have been a blessing to our children and many other parents!



Though we are born unfortunate, but we are lucky to have good-hearted people supporting us!





Thank you Silver Lining
for giving us a chance!



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With your support, every child can become a little angel that blesses others!

US\$38/Month



Become a child sponsor and connect with your sponsored child through letter correspondence or visit. Your monthly donation will enable Silver Lining to care for orphans and impoverished children in the mountainous areas, as well as children who suffer from cerebral palsy. Your love changes lives!





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Since 2005, Silver Lining has been doing poverty relief work in Guangxi. We are committed to help disabled children or those living in poor rural mountainous area. Become a "Silver Lining Partner" through a regular monthly donation of US\$20 or more, you can partner with us and bring hope to children and families living in poverty.





Unconditional LOVE

My name is Huang Jiayu, I am from Guiping, Guangxi, I am 12 years old, and I have a blissful yet unfortunate family. Maybe you would wonder why I would say that? The blissful part of my family is, very warm and loving, but the unfortunate news is I have four sisters, and one of my little sister have cerebral palsy.

I am the second oldest in the family, before my little sister came into this world, our family was just an ordinary family, plain but happy. My parents have a very stable jobs, we did not have to worry about anything, but all this changed after my little sister was born.

My little sister was born with cerebral palsy, at that time I did not understand what it was, all I know is that

everyday my mother would hold my little sister and cry. Every 2-3 days they would bring her to the hospital, and when they came home, I would see my little sister's head, arms and legs filled with needle holes. I would ask mom, "Is my little sister okay?" My mom would just say "It's nothing, she is sick."

When my little sister was around six months old, she could not lift her head, or sit and my mother would just sigh. Sometime I would hear my neighbors talking about us and would say that my little sister was retarded. I saw people pointing at my mother or being stared at when she brings my little sister outside. After, my mother and little sister would just stay home and not go out, afraid of being looked upon.

Due to my little sister's medical treatments, we spent all our money and my family's situation just keep getting worse. That was not the lowest point of our family life. My father was diagnosed with a lymphoma tumor. In order to find a cure for my father, my mother went everywhere to borrow money. At the same time, people continued to advised her to just give my little sister up to the orphanage. They warned her that if she doesn't do it now, it will only get worse in the future. My mother aged so much just in a short period of time due to what was happening to our family. With no more options, my mother decided to pack all my little sister, put her in the car and take her to the orphanage. Once my little sister left my mother's side, she started bawling. As the car started to drive away, my little sister's cry got louder, and my mother couldn't resist, and ran after the car. As she's chasing the car, my other sisters and I saw my mother crying and we also chased the car along with her.

The car finally stopped and my mother immediately took my sister out of the car and hugged her. She cried out loud, my two other sisters and I told my mom "Don't give away little sister, no matter what! We are a family, in the future when you and dad are old, us three will take care of you and little sister!" While my mother is holding my little sister, she knelt down and said to us "I am sorry, mommy owes you all so much, little sister is a part of me, and I really cannot give her away!" This day will never be forgotten. All five of us hugged each other and cried in a group.

Luckily, after many treatments, my father is slowly getting better and our family is coming together again. During this time, someone told us about Guangxi Silver Lining and that they offer free rehabilitation for cerebral palsy children. My mother took my little sister to Silver Lining. At Silver Lining, there were many children, like my little sister, and families like us that were in need of help. My mother slowly open herself up, and under the teacher's rehabilitation guidance, my little sister can now sit, lift her head up and also reach out to ask me for food. Whenever I don't have school, I would go and help my mother take care my little sister and when she didn't have a class, my mother and I would bring my little sister out to play. A neighbor once asked me "Aren't you afraid that people will know you have a "retarded" sister?" I told her, "I don't care how others see us, that's their perspective, my little sister is precious and we love her very much. She is not retarded, she just learns a little slower than most other children, but we believe she will get better!"

One time, my mother had to go back to her home town for some family emergency, yet she was worried about my little sister, and asked my grandfather to take care of her. Fortunately, I did not have to go to school that time, so I told my mom I will go help grandpa, one more person's help would make it easier for grandpa. At first my mom didn't want me to, she thought I may not be able to handle it, but I convinced her I could. So I took a bus by myself from Nanning to my grandpa's house, when my little sister saw me, she was overjoyed!

Arriving at Silver Lining, I help my little sister do physical therapy like my mother does with her. At first, she would cry and not cooperate with me, and I was very distressed. Not knowing why, and want to ask my mother, but afraid she might get worried, I didn't give up, and continue to take care of my little sister. In my best effort, she finally cooperated with me. I knew it was very hard and tiring for her and it wasn't easy for me either, but I cannot give up. When she got really tired, I would sing and dance with her. After taking care of my little sister for the past couple days, I was exhausted, I finally understood how tiring it must be for my mother, taking care of my little sister and my sick father. My mother would not show us her tiredness, instead she would laugh with a light heart every day. She say that this kind of tiredness is nothing. For my little sister, and my family, my mother really gave all her heart to us! I just want to say this to my mother "Mom, though my little sister can't talk, I will say this on her behalf, Mommy, thank you for your hard work, and unconditional love!"



Helping my little sister with her rehabilitation

Metamorphosis of a Rebellious Teenager

Written By
Wei Lan Gui

My name is Wei Lan Gui, and was born in the rural mountainous area in Dahua in 1999. My family consists of my mom, dad, grandpa, grandma, one sister and one brother, and our family's source of income is farming. Even though we are poor, our family is always happy. I didn't have much of a concept of what being poor was when I was young, I thought that was just how life is for everyone. I see things differently now because I am living in a better place and have a comparison and I know I don't want to live like that ever again.

The darkest day of my life was when my parents and grandparents passed away. They died when I was nine years old, my sister was twelve and my brother was six. We really did not know what to do and who would take care of us.

My uncle took all of us in and took care of us. One day when my brother, cousin in law and I went to get some wood logs from the mountains, we were pushing the wood logs down to the road from the hill above. My clothes were caught up by some of the logs, and I slipped and rolled down the hill along with the logs. When I tried to get up, I couldn't lift my right arm and I used my last breath of energy and yelled to my brother and cousin in law for help! Immediately they came down from the hill and rushed me home. We had no money to pay for hospital bills, so we could only ask for some Chinese herbs from the head of the village to wrap around my arm. But my arm was already broken, Chinese herbs would do nothing, I was really scared and depressed.

After my grandparents passed away, my uncle's family was also in a very difficult situation. I felt like an extra person that should not be here. During this time, a group of people visited our village, and came upon our family. An uncle gave me and my siblings some new clothes to wear, but I couldn't wear them because I could not move my right arm. Then an uncle noticed my situation, and when they found out what happened to me, they immediately took me to the nearest hospital. Since the village hospital had only limited resources, a stranger took me to a city hospital for medical treatment. When I arrived, I was struck in awe.

This was my first time seeing a big city and eating at a hotel. After my successful surgery, stayed in the hospital and under Miss Choi Ha's care, I recovered in a month, and my right arm completely healed.

In 2011, my little brother and I came Silver Lining Caring Center, a very welcoming big family. During the early stage of my time at the caring center, I had a rebellious period. Insecurity caused me to run away from the center but Silver Lining never gave up on me, they continuously embrace me, encourage me in school, allow me to find a new direction in life and gain self-confidence.

When I got into high school, I fell in love with music and signed up for a performance class. My teachers saw that I had great potential and received a very satisfying score of 227, an "A" on my art exam. I never thought I would have the chance to go to college but am now preparing for my college exam. This made me to work and study harder and look forward to going into college in a few years!

Every day at Silver Lining is a happy day, time flies, cannot believe I've been living here for seven years.

Silver Lining Caring Center is my home. My home consists of my aunt who cares for me and at school I have friends who worry and care for me and when I made mistakes, there are people guiding me. I am living a life like any normal teenager. I am a junior at high school now and live in the school dormitory. Sunday afternoons, I go home to visit my little brother. Though I am not with him always, I am not worried, because I know there are aunts there that care for my little brother and all the children there.



Lan Gui's Broken Arm



COUNSELOR : OUYANG RIYUAN

Lan Gui is a boy from the Silver Lining Caring Center. He is one of the older children there. The younger children call him Big Brother. From when he was a young child up until his high school years, his life experience was definitely a story to tell. Enduring life with feelings of helplessness, hopelessness and shedding many tears, who would have thought that Big Brother Lan Gui would turn into such a true caring gentleman.

When Lan Gui was young, he would vent his anger by using his fists on his younger siblings. At that time this mean “Big Brother” would always say, “The adults are always right, and I am always wrong, that’s NOT FAIR!” The aunties at the care center did not know what to do with this rebellious boy. They didn’t spank or scold him because that type of punishment never worked with him, they were at a loss what to do. When Lan Gui finally grew out of his rebellious stage, his behavior made a 180-degree turn. He changed from being a bully to a caring brother who supported and mentored his siblings. This big brother turned into a gentleman. Even the look in his eyes was so loving towards his siblings and now he puts extra effort to care for, love and support them.

At school, big brother was just a normal student. His grades were average, some subjects were worse than average. Thanks to God’s miraculous work, He closed one door and opened another for our big brother Lan Gui. It was then we found out big brother was very talented in music, he could sing very well and had an eager heart to pursue a career as a musician. Today, he is very skillful in playing many kinds of instruments such as piano, guitar and many more. Our big brother Lan would always hold performances at school, the caring center and back in his home town. Lan would always be the one of the performers ending the shows. His deep attractive voice made people very excited and touched many people’s hearts when he performed! Another milestone that made all of us so proud of our big brother Lan is his remarkable achievement where he set a new grade record for the art examination field in the last seventeen years.

Lan Gui came from a rural mountainous area where he has witnessed the life of poverty and knows the meaning of living a lifestyle that is harsh and of need. One-time Lan came up to me and asked, “What if I meet someone that’s living in poverty, should I help him?” I was shocked by the question, but of course I nodded yes. I realized then that this young boy had matured and was no longer a bully or a rebellious child, he had grown into a caring and compassionate young man!

Growth is like a slow flowing stream, slowly and quietly our big brother grows up learning to be a strong and tolerant individual. There are many stories about the growth of Lan Gui, these stories helped shape a very beautiful and color path for him! Big brother, tomorrow will be a very beautiful day, with no limits!



LAN GUI is good at playing GUITAR

The Person I Most Admire

The person I admire the most is my teacher. She is a very kind and caring teacher. I remember one time our class was having a discussion and we all wanted to go out to play and explore the outside. At that moment, Teacher Huang overheard our conversation, came over and said, "You guys can come to my house to play!"

I replied, "We are too heavy, we cannot go."

Teacher Huang said, "It's okay, no problem, as long as you guys want to come, I will ride my scooter to pick you guys up, what do you guys want to eat?"

The entire class replied "SEAFOOD!" Then teacher Huang said, "Our Jia Xi cannot eat seafood, she is allergic to it. Let's eat duck thigh!" At this time, I was really touched by teacher Huang, she really treats us like her children. I want to tell her "Thank you!"



I am Jia Xi



Class discussion



Remotely Teaching Experience

Written By : Li Jim Ru

In mid-October of 2017, our distance learning program accepted its first batch of students. There were ten students from different areas who came to Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center to learn and train using our new distance learning program. The students and their parents were extremely happy and eager to start the program. This innovative learning solution solved many parent's and children's problems. The children can now receive their rehabilitation and education remotely once they have been trained at the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center.

During the first week of class, all of the students were very eager to learn the physical movements needed for their physical therapy. The parents are actively helping their children practice the movements. Each day during the training period, the children and parents would arrive early, turn on their computer and wait for the class start. They cherished this learning opportunity to grow and heal.

At Silver Lining, every year there are families leaving the rehabilitation center to return to their hometown. Sadly, when they would leave, the rehabilitation sessions stopped for their cerebral palsy children. In the past, every year my coworkers and I would visit these families and check on the children. We discovered that many of these cerebral palsy children's extreme muscles and joints contractures increased. Now, with our new distance-learning program, it helps solve the problem for these families and allows them to continue the physical rehabilitation training that is needed.

After the second semester, I was amazed how passionate these children are in wanting to learn, and how supportive the parents are with their children's rehabilitation training. I can see they have great hopes and unconditional love for their children. All these families require is a platform for learning and training, and this platform is Silver Lining's distance-learning program.



Showing training position to the children



Together we thrive

Rehabilitation Teacher : Lin Chao Mei

I am here and you are there, thanks to advance technology, we are only one television apart. Every day video chatting with every one of you bring so much joy to my life. Every one of you have similar characteristics, perspective in life is very narrow, not very knowledgeable, lack of social interaction, very timid and shy. As a teacher, I try my best to think for all of you, but sometimes during class, I don't see the progress I expected, and I feel very baffled. Is it because my expectation is too high or I need to find ways to improve my teaching, or is it when I am not around, all of you slack off? I love seeing every one of you smiling and laughing, it is like a ray of sunshine.

I love it when I am asking questions, you all give me a surprising answer. (Sè) is the "wolf" group and (xī) is the "hope" group. I only taught you a song two times, and the next day every one of you can sing so well, though the pronunciation might not be the best but your performances show how hard all of you are trying, and that really touches me. All of you are very lovely, and sweet like an angel, no matter where you are all at, hold my hands, and together we thrive!



Teaching children remotely



The story of Cóng Xiǎo

Written By : Zhang Mama



Before coming to Silver Lining Family Village, I never met anybody with such sad, misfortunate and hardship background.

Cóng Xiǎo is a five-year-old little girl from Myanmar. Her father left the family due to drug addiction, and her mother left to work somewhere else. The responsibility to raise her was left to her very old grandmother. With no income or support, their living condition worsened, until one day her grandmother heard

about Silver Lining Family Village and were accepting orphans and underprivileged children. The grandmother then brought Cóng Xiǎo to the Silver Lining Family Village.

The day when Cóng Xiǎo and her grandmother came to find me was the opening day of the Silver Lining school. I was busy prepping for the opening ceremony. I wanted to talk to the grandmother after the school opening ceremony, but without notice the grandmother leaves Cóng Xiǎo at the school, and left, which left Cóng Xiǎo crying and kicking uncontrollably. At that moment, I can only ask two other children from the family village to stay with her. After the opening ceremony ended, I immediately went to find her, and saw her sitting alone by herself in a corner, my heart sunk. She was no longer crying, but she's ignoring me and would not talk to me.

The second day, she was still ignoring me, sitting along by the swing crying. Seeing her like that made tears well up in my eyes. I said to her "Can Zhang Mama bring you to Silver Lining Family Village? There are a lot of children there, everyone is like a family there." Cóng Xiǎo said no, she just wants to go home. My heartache after she said that, I also wished then that every child can be with its parents and live happily...

At the end I still brought Cóng Xiǎo with me to Silver Lining Family Village. Cóng Xiǎo cried on the first day but has stopped crying and been very well behaved ever since. During the car ride to the family village, Cóng Xiǎo was car sick, so I held her the entire time, till we arrived at the family village. She came with me to my house, I helped bathe her, cooked her favorite food, took more effort to care for her, so she could easily adapt to the family village's lifestyle. Children are very naïve and innocent, when you give them love, they will know, and the children will love us back unconditionally. Cóng Xiǎo now loves staying with me, relies on me, and allow me to hug her. She is very cute and loving!

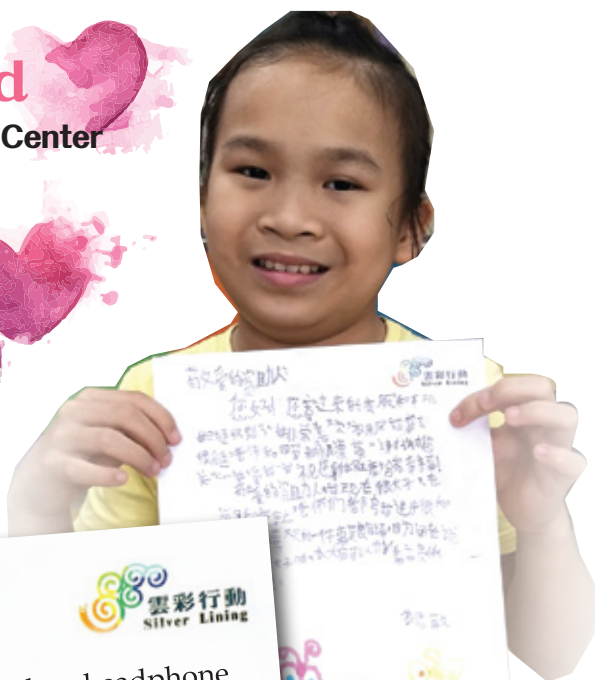
In Myanmar, there are many children like Cóng Xiǎo, currently there's a civil war going on within Myanmar, war and drugs caused many innocent children to lose their families and parents. Through Silver Lining, we've only touch a small part, what can be done is still far from enough...



Thank You Card

Silver lining Rehabilitation Center
Cerebral palsy children

Nong Si Min



Dear donor,

Hello! I received the clothes, headphone you send to me! I love them very much, and I am wearing the clothes. The clothes fit me very well, and my teacher and classmates said it looks very pretty on me, thank you for caring and loving me! I wish you and your family good health and happiness!

I am doing very well both rehabilitation treatment and academically, the teacher said I improved a lot! Now, I love reciting my essays in front of the class, because the teacher said I write very well, and it helps me reach my goal, one day I want to be an announcer.

Nong Si Min



Thank You Card

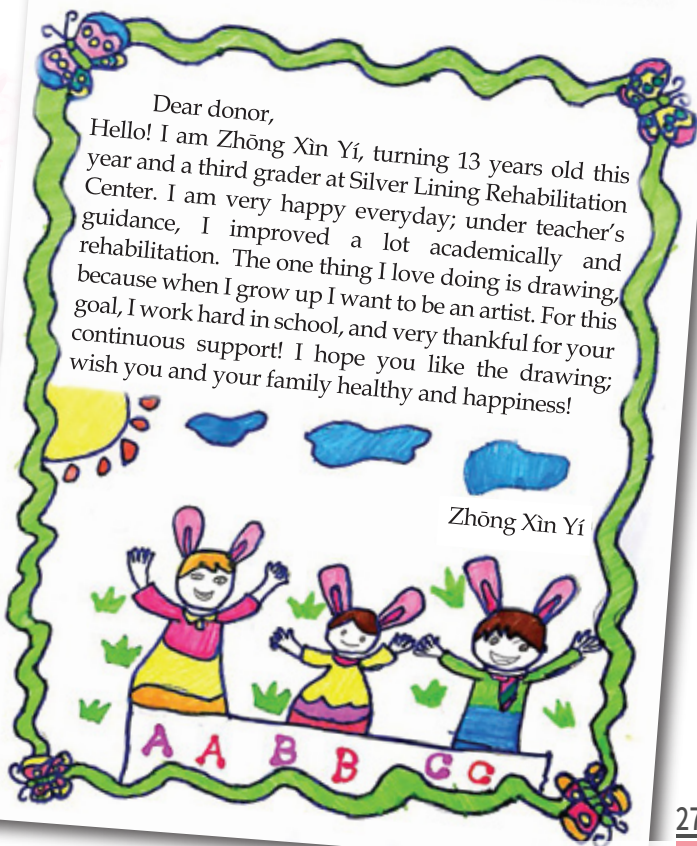
Silver lining Rehabilitation Center
Cerebral palsy children

Zhōng Xìn Yí



Dear donor,
Hello! I am Zhōng Xìn Yí, turning 13 years old this year and a third grader at Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center. I am very happy everyday; under teacher's guidance, I improved a lot academically and rehabilitation. The one thing I love doing is drawing, because when I grow up I want to be an artist. For this goal, I work hard in school, and very thankful for your continuous support! I hope you like the drawing; wish you and your family healthy and happiness!

Zhōng Xìn Yí



Thank You Card

Silver lining Caring Center
Dahua Orphanage

Liu Chun



Dear donor,

Hello! Before coming to Silver Lining Caring Center, my father had passed away, and my mother remarried. In my family the only adult was my grandmother, life was hard, because we were poor. I was very distressed not knowing how I can live through another day. Fortunately, with you and Silver Lining's help and support, my brother and I were able to live at the caring center.

After coming to the caring center, I learned and matured a lot, I felt very lucky to have all your supports, and all the brothers and sisters beside me at the center! There are those who are more unfortunate than I am, therefore, I cherish everyday of my life now. Hope one day, when I can, I would be able to help those in need. I believe those who are good will always be blessed!

With blessings,
Good Health & Prosperity!

Liu Chun



Silver Lining Services

Missions Statement:

“Your Love changes lives,”

Silver Lining is committed to help the impoverished orphans, students and disabled children in mountainous area, through improving their lives, education, job opportunities, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to the marginalized and neglected, help them overcome poverty, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.



Family Model Orphanage
(Silver Lining Caring Center)

HOME for Orphans



Emergency Medical Assistance

Provide immediate help to sick children

LOVE for the Disabled

Rehabilitation Special Education Center
(Conductive Learning)

Sponsor the rehabilitation service and education for children with disabilities such as cerebral palsy



Silver Lining Workshop

Provide job training and opportunities for disabled youth and women



JOY to the students

Improve the living condition and education of students in the mountainous areas

From:

SILVER LINING MISSIONS

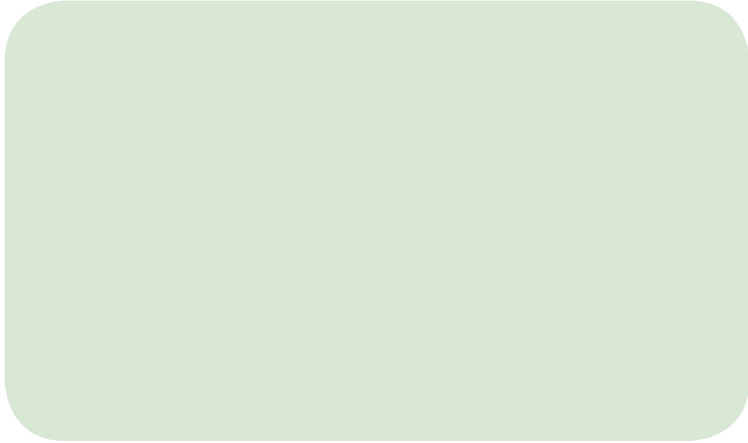
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