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26



SILVER LINING

JOURNAL



FOOTPRINTS
Lucky Me
UPDATES
The Love of Silver
Lining is With You
CHILDREN'S STORY
A Happy Day

Theme Story

A Blessing to Others

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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 life, education, job opportunited, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to marginalized and neglected, help them overcome povety, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.



02



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TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

Walk With You With Everlasting Love, Believe That Love Changes Lives.



A Blessing to Others

The Silver Lining Foundation is committed to its adage to caring for orphans and widows in adversity with an everlasting love.

Four years ago, it came the opportunity to set up Silver Lining Family Village in Myanmar and the hope that orphans would thrive growing up in a family. As we have more than a decade's experience operating Caring Centers in China, it expedites the growth of Silver Lining Family Village in Myanmar faster than our expectations!

At the outset, the primary objective of founding the Family Village is to help the orphans in distress. Until recently, little did we know when many mothers of the Family Village expressed their thoughts that it's a

great blessing to work at Silver Lining. Why do they come up with such a narrative?

Several mothers reminisced their lives before their services at Silver Lining. A majority of them underwent an assortment of unpleasant experiences:

Mom "A": After our marriage, my husband succumbed to drug addiction, and he assaulted my child and me daily, leaving bruises all over our faces and limbs. The recurring thought that my child is too young to live without a father dampened my instinct to escape from this home. Yet, I live a life of fear every day. Finally, through a pastor's referral, I learned that Silver Lining is hiring foster mothers to care

for the children. I finally feel safe after I got the job to come working at the Family Village. It's like heaven here, as I can live in peace without enduring my husband's abuse anymore.

Mom "B": My parents could not raise me because the family was impoverished. Then they gave me up to my adoptive parents. The adoptive father mistreated me as I recalled always living in hunger in my youth. My life would become more miserable when he was drunk, as I would get beat up badly. Once becoming an adult, I thought marriage would lead to a happy life. However, the lingering civil war in Myanmar forced us to live on the run. I encountered the terrifying moment when bombs landed in front of my path. I also came to work at the Silver Lining Family Village through a pastor's referral. After a



week on the job, I give praise, and I thank God for preparing this beautiful place for me. Here, I don't suffer from hunger, assault, or displacement anymore. I can finally settle down. Praise to my Abba Father!

I am very grateful upon hearing these two testimonies. A few years ago, God prepared us a place for the ones he loves. I sincerely hope the mothers can start a new life in the Family Village.

This year is even more complex and trying for Myanmar. As the conflict and pandemic remain unceasing, I believe many children that need assistance will emerge. I now understand why we needed to open the Silver Lining Family Village here a few years ago! The hope is the advent of Silver Lining will become a blessing to the orphans and widows of Myanmar. We are waiting to walk with you as we overcome adversity together! May God use our lives to become a life of blessings to others!





Lucky Me

Hi everyone! My name is Fang-fang. When I was very young, I became an orphan because my family and I were displaced from each other inadvertently. From that moment on, I closed the door of my heart. I have an introverted personality, speak very little, and frown habitually throughout my existence. When I was young, I scowled because I was unhappy. I still frown quite often nowadays, yet I'm living with joy!

that time was as a project staff to assist in the rehabilitation of a group of lovely children inflicted with cerebral palsy. Work was both busy and challenging, but I enjoyed my time there, especially when hearing the children's affectionate greeting, "Good morning, Fang-fang!" Their words are honey-sweet to the soul! The parents of these children with cerebral palsy also treated me splendidly. The reality is I did not help them that much, but their trust in

One may wonder why I have changed so much? I have quite a few experiences during my growth. Some of them are unhappy, yet there are also some fortunate ones. I won't talk about the sad incidents. One has to forget about the bitter loss and remember the sweet success. Fortunately, I am a typical child that can study in a regular school since I was young. I met many caring people that supported me, in particular Mr. and Mrs. Yeung of Silver Lining. Besides sponsoring my college education, they even offered me to work at Silver Lining upon my graduation. My job at



Lucky Me

me was so touching. All I gave was a little bit of support, and their gratitude filled my heart in return. It's a blessing from God for me.

There's a massive change to my mindset after working in Silver Lining. I got married in 2011, and then I gave birth to a daughter. I quit my job and stayed home to raise my child. I become more cheerful because I have my relatives that genuinely belong to me!

An even more pleasant surprise happened in 2017. I found my long-lost relatives through a project that searched for family members! When the staff sent me a picture of my sister, I immediately recognized indeed she is my sister! We're just so alike of each other! There's no doubt that we are family. On the day our family members met, we hugged one another with tears of joy. Wow! Can you imagine that I have six elder sisters! The sad thing is my father passes away already, and he pleaded with my sisters to try to find me



before departing. My mother blamed herself for losing sight of me, and she attempted many frantic searches for me. I do not blame them a bit because I always believe my family would not abandon me. They had yet to find me.

Now I'm no longer an orphan. I have a mother, sisters, brother-in-law, and many cousins and nieces. I also have my husband, who loves me, and two well-mannered daughters. Thank God for providing me more than my wish and desire! Blessings to my loved ones! My life is more fulfilled because of you!



Fang fang



Home is Where Love Resides

“Mother, I love you; you are the most beautiful for me. Thank you for sheltering me from the wind and rain and filling my childhood with sunshine.” Hearing the young vocals of the children at the Mother’s Day event brought the other mothers and me to tears!

It’s a challenge to spend four years of our time together. There are many children at the Family Village, and they don’t have an intact family. Some children lost both of their parents, while others lost either their mothers or fathers. Some of them were children abandoned by their parents. It’s sad enough to hear about these experiences, let alone the children that had to go through them.

Yu-mei is the big sister of the Family Village, a ninth-grader at a Burmese school. She expressed her gratitude about mother’s love profusely. “Thank you, mom, for toiling untiringly for us; thanks to mom for teaching us to adopt a positive attitude for everything and to try our best in pursuit of our dreams; thanks to mom for standing in front of us at all times and protecting us!” A child began to sob, and I saw other children came over right away to hug him, patting his shoulder to comfort him, but his wails were even louder. The child and mother ended up crying together.

Finally, the children presented their honoring gift to the mothers – umbrellas. Guozhi was the first one to give me a gift.

He is sixteen, and we just celebrated his birthday in the morning. Mr. Zhang even fed him cakes. In no time, tears welled up in Guozhi’s eyes. He said, “My father never fed me anything. I failed to recall my mother’s likeness long ago, and I don’t even have any of her pictures. In my heart, the Silver Lining Family Village is my family. I have no idea what would happen to me without it. It surely will be different than what I am now.” Guozhi is a very caring child, and he often saves his pocket money to buy us fruits. I can feel his kinship and love towards us. Although he’s a grownup, his soul still craves our caring.



The other children also offered their gifts to their mothers, and laughter promptly filled the Family Village, displacing the crying. The mood on Mother’s Day was like riding an emotional roller coaster as we cried and laughed simultaneously. While the children’s singing and development moved us to tears, their other traits touched my heart, like Hearing them say they love me; reading the secret letters that they sent me; receiving their gifts; helping me finish the household chores, and giving me back massages.

I am so fortunate to serve at the Silver Lining Family Village. I think I’m the happiest mother in the world because I’m in the company of so many adorable children. Thank you, my lovely children. Mom will always be with you. Our home is where love resides!





A Time for Everything

*For everything, there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.
Work hard for what you should toil for, look up to God, and let Him arrange for the rest!*

A Tough Childhood

Recalling the childhood times evokes the memory of a gloomy period.

I lived with my adoptive parents since I came into cognizance. My biological father passed away when I was seven months old. It devastated my mother, and she gave away my brother and me to my adoptive parents.

My adoptive father was an alcoholic, and he was drunk almost every day. He battered me whenever things did not go his way. I had to take many daily household chores that made regular school attendance a difficult proposition for me.

I often shed my tears in solitude. I can't fathom why my mother would abandon me? Why did God forsake me?

Emerging from the Darkest Moment

At the year when I was nineteen, the banana trees at my home yielded a bumper crop. Every day, I lugged the bananas on foot to sell them at the market from morning till late night. At times, the daily hard labor would not even get me a bowl of leftover rice back home. One late evening, my adoptive father abused me with a violent beating because I dared not to go out to buy him some candles. That night, I thought of running away from home for the first time. It was winter, and the weather was frigid. I escaped to hide in the ditch, but my adoptive mother quickly found me. Later, I quietly found a relative's brother and pleaded with him to take me to Yangon. I only brought a set of clothes on the day I left without taking anything else back home! I came to Yangon just like that, and then I went to Singapore to become a nanny through referral. Nanny is a tough job, but I have no regret leaving home.



From Precipice to Dire Straits

After working as a nanny for several years, I returned to Myanmar once more to renew my visa. Then my adoptive mother discouraged me from going away for a job. After staying home for three months, I met my current husband, and we got married shortly. I gave birth to my daughter soon after, and I thought a new life would ensue. Fate, however, beset me again. It began when my husband became addicted to drugs, and he peddled our entire household belongings in one short year. He eventually resorted to drinking with the hope that it would thwart his drug addiction. I did not want my child to become fatherless, so I dug in. With help from the church brothers and sisters, my daughter and I were fortunate to find a place to call home. Later I carried a second child, but my husband did not change in the slightest. Whenever he got drunk, he became violent, and he would destroy the house, smashed things, hit me, and kicked me in the tummy. I often prayed when times were desperate: "May God helps me, give me peace, and let me have a smooth child delivery." With help from my mother-in-law and sister-in-law, I gave birth to my second child without incident.



The Turning Point

I often pray to ask God to give me some peace and stability. Thank God for allowing me to leave my husband and come to the Silver Lining Family Village. Due to my own experience, I take good care of the children, wishing that they will not travel the same road as mine. At Silver Lining, the children and I live in peace and joy every day. Thanks to Silver Lining for giving me this opportunity to make me become a blessing to the children in the Family Village. May God would lead me to a better tomorrow and give the children at the Family Village a brighter future. May God use me!





Spring in the Snail Class

There's a particular "class" at the Nanning Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center in Guangxi called the snail class. It has six children altogether, and they come from the other classes of the center. They have the same traits: great athleticism but lacking in both cognition and discipline. Therefore, although they can walk and run, they merely fall by the wayside while the therapist gives the children a rehabilitation class in the morning. To make effective use of this session, the therapist, teacher, and social worker have a meeting, and they decide to create a self-care class between 9:00 and 9:50 every day. Children with stronger athleticism from every level would form a temporary group – the snail class. The lady social worker will take turns giving them self-care training.

After taking the lumps and bruises in the first week, the lady social worker eventually adopts an apt method for the children's education.



Seeing the children's strengths

The children of the snail class have outstanding athletic abilities. We leverage their strengths to make them assistant teachers. For example, Xiaoling will help maintain the classroom order, restrain children from creating disturbances; lead the weaker children to practice walking; assist those with limited hand strength to eat their meals. The snail class assistant teachers are great helpers!



Creating a positive experience

The snail class children are relatively weak in cognition and sluggish in picking up new information. So, we begin by taking the children's interests in mind and break out the content that the children need to learn into small tasks. Then, when they complete an assignment, we'll give the children our prompt encouragement and praise. As a result, the children continue to gain positive experiences that enhance their interest in learning.



Take it easy with the children like flowers waiting to bloom

Every child is unique, so the teacher and social worker learn to slow down to allow enough time for the children's development! Once letting go, we'll begin to discover the amusing sides of the children. For example, Xiaojie is quite reluctant to practice eating with a spoon. However, he has no qualms using the spoon once Xiaoling shows up. Both Xiaoxin and Xiaofang like to watch cartoons. We'll consistently meet the request of these two girls as long as they complete their training. Xiaofang and Xiaojie learn to eat and drink by themselves. Xiaorong sometimes asks some curious questions that are quite stimulating.



Every child is equal from our perspective. They possess the inner strength, and we strive to discover and arouse the potential of every child so that they can better themselves. It may take longer to reap the harvest, but the seats will not be empty!



#Amazing Grace Academy



LITTLE ANGEL CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

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

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!

US\$38
/ Month

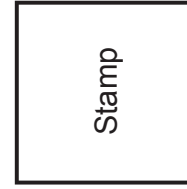


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Become a Silver Lining Partner



With only
US\$20

You can make a difference in a child's life!
Your helping hand will bring a silver lining to children in need!

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.

With Your Partnership,
We Can Go Further!



Sowing the Seeds of “Hope”



to Reap the Fruits of “Change”

The mountain pass leading to Xuejuan’s house is a rugged and winding trail that requires climbing the hills and ridges to reach the ravine where her house is. The names of Dahua’s rural places often feature the word “rong”, meaning a deep gorge surrounded by steep hills. The terrain of the Dahua mountain is indeed treacherous.

We made our first visit to Xuejuan’s home in 2018, not long after the unexpected passing away of her father. Her mother had to raise six children all by herself. Xuejuan is the second child. She was then eleven, and the youngest brother was only three years old. The mother is relatively uneducated. Besides serving meals to the children, there was hardly any hint of education and companionship. The children were very introverted, and they mainly remained quiet throughout the visit.

We began to regularly visit the family every two to three months, bringing living allowances, clothes, and toiletries, celebrating the children’s birthdays, and taking them to their physical checkups. The children still talked very little during our meetings,

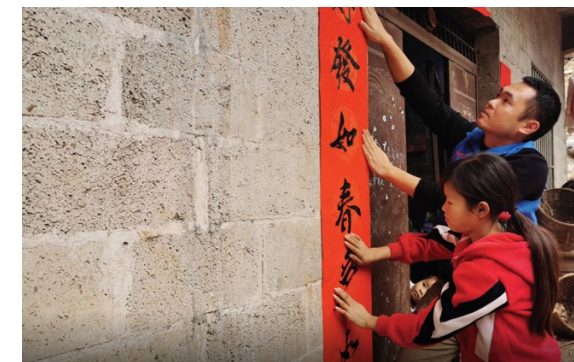
but there were noticeable improvements in their demeanors and presence.

I recalled Xuejuan and her elder sister were in attendance when we organized the first summer camp in Nanning for the distressed children in the mountain regions. Xuejuan hardly spoke. I knew that she was nervous about her first excursion away from home, so I took her by her hand to visit the zoo, take the subway, and explore the science and technology museum. She gradually let go of her anxiety, and a smile appeared on her face! It was the first time I saw her smiling. After all the activities, the exhausted children fell asleep in the vehicle. Suddenly, there came a quiet snuffle in the quiet cabin. I moved there gingerly only to find Xuejuan



hiding behind the bus curtain and crying softly. I slide beside her waiting until her crying stopped, and took her shoulders to comfort her. After returning to Dahua, she left me a note that read: These are the happiest days in my life! It’s a pity that the joy is only so brief! I held the note dumbfounded for a long time.

We came to Xuejuan’s home again on the eve of the 2021 Chinese New Year. Her mother was lying in bed, and the children were all filthy. It turned out the mother was sick for several days already. We gave her medicine right away, and we instructed the children to wash their hair, faces, and hands and change into clean clothes. We led the children to clean up and sanitize the house, went with them to



pick vegetables from the garden, and gave Xuejuan hands-on training to cook rice and make dishes. Before leaving, we felt distraught upon seeing Xuejuan’s tearful eyes.

Xuejuan’s family is the epitome of the countless impoverished families in the Dahua Mountain Region. Like the many other children in distress in that area, she’s just a child, yet she was never the pampered baby. Instead, she became the “little mother” at a young age, taking care of the brothers and sisters, even the mother. Probably she would get a job in the future and take up the burden of the family!

Our every visit and doing is like sowing seeds of “hope” in the family. We hope it will produce fruits of “change” in the future!



The Love of Silver Lining is With You

What are the updates on the Silver Lining Foundation's projects in China, Vietnam, and Myanmar between March and May 2021? Let's find out together!

CHINA GUANGXI

Nanning – Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center

The third day of the third month of the lunar calendar is a day of a traditional festival of the Zhuang people. On this day, the Guangxi Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center teachers put on the folk costume, setting the stage for a festive scene with singing and dancing. The day's activities included singing folk songs, throwing the embroidered balls, playing the coloring eggs games, dancing among bamboo poles, and creating five-color sticky rice. The children had a wonderful time, and they also learned about the traditional folk culture!



Dahua – Silver Lining Caring Center

At the Dahua Caring Center, the "Silver Lining Mothers" and the children celebrate the festival differently by making their five-color sticky rice. Some mothers even managed to create seven colors! They are so amazing! When preparing the five-color sticky rice, the children washed and chopped the vegetables themselves. It was delicious and plenty of fun.

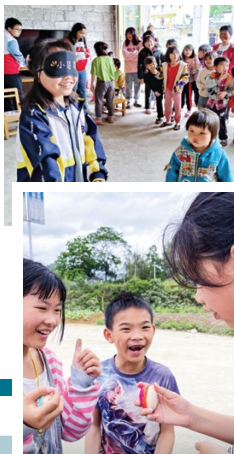


The five-color sticky rice symbolizes good fortune and bounty harvest. We hope everything goes well in the future!

Dahua – Left-behind Children "Growth Family Village"

During the holidays, most of the left-behind children in the rural areas are at home alone as their grandparents are busy in the fields. Then television, the internet, and games become their "companion." Therefore, during the lunar third of March holidays, the Silver Lining social workers came to Qingpo Village of the Gongchuan Township in Dahua, Nongnantun of the Qibai Nong Township, and Qiansen Resettlement Area of Qiangwei Township to launch community activities celebrating the festival.

The Silver Lining social workers introduced many fun and exciting party games: coloring eggs, skateboard races, eating sticky rice blindfolded, throwing the embroidered ball, piglet chase, etc. The left-behind children enjoyed a holiday that was neither boring nor dull!



MYANMAR

Due to the continuing unrest in Myanmar and the pandemic's impact, the Youth Center in Yangon, Myanmar, is closed. The administrator arranged for the non-local students to return to their own homes for shelter against the conflict. We hope the situation can stabilize as soon as possible so that everyone can return to the center to continue their studies.

At the Myanmar Silver Lining Family Village, the Burmese school remains closed. However, the children at the Family Village can continue their studies at the Silver Lining School of Ho Yan. We are offering many exciting courses for the children. Besides the cultural studies, they also include basketball and fitness. Now they all learn to do standard palm presses and sit-ups. During this time, the Silver Lining Family Village also completed various readiness measures to hold regular video conferencing with the parents, prepare for school reopening, and stock for emergency food supplies, ensuring safety and healthy development; of the children in the Family Village!



VIETNAM

We would make glutinous rice balls during the Lantern Festival on the fifteenth of the first lunar month in China. While in Vietnam, we only make the glutinous rice balls during the Ching Ming Festival (The third day of the third month). At the Hanoi Rehabilitation Center, the teachers, parents, and the children gathered together to make colorful glutinous rice balls in red, orange, yellow, purple, green, and others. They resembled a beautiful flower when placed on a plate! Everyone also made cartoon-shaped glutinous rice balls, including piglets, pumpkins and they are so cute!

You see, how everyone was so involved! Placing the colorful glutinous rice balls on the table brought tremendous excitement to the children!





Why is Xiao-ming the once-famous “Blowup Master” of the Silver Lining Family Village?

Xiao-ming was short-tempered; even some trivia matters could set him off! He would refuse to eat or drink at home when he was upset, brooding in his room alone. When he got mad at school, he would skip classes, and no one could calm him down. In the classroom, he would break the window when he was furious. Xiao-ming was like a firecracker. Once provoked, he would explode immediately. Everyone was afraid to rile him.

▶ The volatile “Blowup Master”

Mrs. Zhang is the mother of all the children in the Family Village. Xiao-ming’s “explosive temper” stressed her out.

Xiao-ming’s father is a Jingpo soldier with a violent streak. When Xiao-ming was young, his mother ran away from home because she could not tolerate domestic violence. Later the father left to join the war; Xiao-ming and his brother’s aunt sent them to the Silver Lining Family Center. Xiao-ming is super sensitive, and

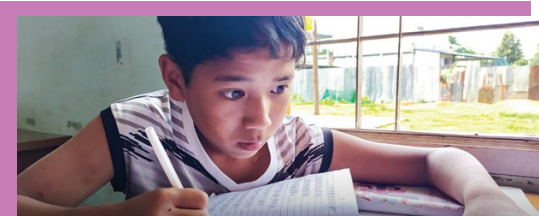
he often felt that others looked down on him, so he often got into conflicts with the children! Shortly after he arrived at the Family Center, he repeatedly asked to return to his aunt’s home. Such impulsive behavior disturbed Mrs. Zhang quite a bit; she even thought of giving up. She asked herself: “If Xiao-ming was your child, what would you do? What would Jesus do?” Mrs. Zhang reasoned: “If it is my child, I would not abandon him, and never would Jesus!

▶ “Blowup” is a form of self-preservation

“Asking to go home once there’s a problem” is the first issue to resolve, so Mrs. Zhang consulted the psychological counselor. It turns out that “blow up” is the camouflage for insecurity, and the emotion behind it is fear. Xiao-ming learned from his father to use violence to solve problems. Once violence failed to work, Xiao-ming chose to escape – the repeated requests to go home.

Mrs. Zhang changed her approach with Xiao-ming. When he “blew up,” she addressed the emotions first, then dealt with the problems. Once his feelings received acknowledgment and acceptance, his temper tantrums became more abbreviated. Every day Mr. and Mrs. Zhang hugged and praised him, talked to and prayed for him, asking God to help him. Mrs. Zhang and Xiao-ming also agreed that they are just like a family in the Family Village, and they would deal with the problems together, refusing to give up without a fight.

Basking in the love of the family, Xiao-ming gradually dropped his full-body armor and his barbs.



▶ “Blowup” is a force

“Blowup in the face of problems” is the second issue to resolve. Behind the “having a short fuse” character is the lack of self-confidence. With proper guidance, “blowup” can become a force. Xiao-ming’s teacher Master Yang took a different tact to elect Xiao-ming as a class prefect to lift his enthusiasm. Having such a “major responsibility,” Xiao-ming learned to control his temper in his interactions with the other students, and he built up his self-confidence through the class affairs.



The fact is Xiao-ming is a remarkable class leader and an able assistant to the teacher.

Nowadays, Xiao-ming is a cheerful and polite student. He’s the teacher’s assistant as well as the mother’s helper.

It’s easy to raise a child, but it’s more challenging to teach him! May we pledge to give our unconditional love to give the children a cherished childhood.

Rekindling HOPE



My name is Artai, and I am from the Paitwa Sivan Village, Chin Province of Myanmar. I'm fifteen this year, and I'm the fifth child in a family of eight. Both my parents are farmers, toiling in the field between dawn and dusk every day. Their hard-earned farming income can only meet the basic life necessities. My father took regular hikes in the mountains to earn more money, searching for a type of plant root called "Wah-uh" to sell in the market. He said it would fetch a significant amount of money.

I learned from my sister that it was probably during one day in 2002 that my father broke both of his legs when he accidentally fell from a steep hill while looking for this precious rhizome. Despite his injury, my father still managed to come up with his smiles to comfort the family members, that at least he managed to stay alive. At that time, my sister held my father's legs and cried for a long time. The family's financial well-being deteriorated after the father's injury. The tuition of our six brothers and sisters was weighing on my mother like a mammoth mountain. Later, the

eldest sister dropped out of school to care for the brothers and sisters at home. I also made up my mind to quit school once I completed the ninth grade of junior high to relieve the burden on the family. Since my elder brother is an outstanding student, we would save him the opportunity for further education. We hope he can sustain himself to graduate from high school, making him eligible to apply for college.

I am very grateful for the unwavering encouragement and support from my family to continue my education. Mother learned from the village chief that the Yangon Youth Center could sponsor the education of impoverished students. She applied for me instantly, and I was fortunate to receive approval for my application. Like my brother, I have the opportunity to enroll in high school, and the tuition is free. I'm so excited! I realize that my foundation is weak because of a lack of teachers in my village's junior high. We hardly went to any class for many subjects. Besides receiving tutoring from the part-time teachers at the Youth Center, we also get plenty of counseling from the pastor couple. I make



great strides in my English. Now I can speak and write in English, which I can't imagine before.

I make friends with many young partners of different nationalities at the Youth Center. We played volleyball and badminton, and we studied together. My trust in God is strengthening, and I enjoy attending the prayer meetings in the morning, evening, on Saturday, and Sunday worship. I learn in the sessions how to pray to God and trust Him. I also master the singing of many hymns—my academics, social life, music,



and sports progress in leaps and bounds. I firmly believe all my dreams will become a reality in the Youth Center.

Recently, the volatile situation in Myanmar compelled the Youth Center to cancel its classes. We went home to take refuge there. Every day at home, I set aside time to study and to pray to God! I also join my family taking on jobs to save up enough travel money; hopefully, I can soon return to the Youth Center!



Artai, a sponsored student at the Partnership Youth Care Center of Myanmar Silver Lining



A Happy Day



May Day is here! The school selected some students to go to Jiangnan Gymnasium on May 2 to do a public promotions campaign. I was fortunate to have the chance to participate. We woke up very early that day, and I felt a slight annoyance, yet I began looking forward to it once getting in the car.

After arriving at the destination, the lady social worker set up the promotion booth and put the canvas bags, diamond paintings that we made previously on display. Then I heard someone asking, "Who wants to become the junior supervisor?" Before I could react, the lady beside me dragged me to the booth! She grinned and said, "Si-min, would you like to try?" "Well, then!" Disinclined to reject her, I agreed. We did the mock supermarket at Silver Lining before, and my math is decent, so I

thought I could handle it! I was, in fact, a little nervous, constantly making pep-talk to myself.

I thought it was straightforward, yet apparently, it was not the case. People were coming and going, and we belted out our cries with conviction: "Come and look, everyone!" Yet no one came over! Was our price too high? Just when we were about to give up, a young lady who was about our age stopped by to check us out and inquired: "How much is this?" I ran them down with her, 30 yuan for the diamond sticker, 30 yuan for the canvas bag, and some crystal beaded accessories between 30 and 40 yuan. The young lady looked at them briefly, and she left. Despite not making a sale, I felt pleased about myself for having the courage to make the sales presentation. We also had



another booth doing fan paintings. Many children gradually arrived to paint. They were all wearing dance clothing and beautiful makeup. I chatted with two children while they were painting the fans. It seemed they were my juniors, one in fifth grade, the other in fourth grade. We engaged in long conversations. They shared with us about their lives, their classes, and the competition on that day.

We ended the campaign in the afternoon. The volunteer brothers and sisters took us to watch the dance contest. I became mesmerized by their graceful moves on stage. The movements were crisp and powerful, and how dazzling were they on stage, displaying their most gorgeous profiles. I hope I can do the same, yet I can't do it. I remember I did ballet performance before, and I felt a tug in my heart.

I dream about having such a day for myself for countless nights, with me running freely and merrily in the countryside. How I wish one day, when I wake up from a dream, I can miraculously walk. The tournament was over while I was fantasizing.

We were ready to go home after the event. It suddenly rained when we were halfway there. The rain seemed to speak: the contest was so exciting, and it moved me into tears. Although we became almost totally drenched today, it was still a fun and fulfilling day, and we wanted more!





Not Giving Up Now

Miracles Will Happen Next

Xiaofeng is a child with cerebral palsy with a weight of only 2.8kg at birth. His right ear also came with a congenital disability. His mother could not handle such a reality, and she divorced his father when Xiaofeng was over a year old.

Xiaofeng lives with his father and grandparents. Dad loves him dearly. He accompanied him to the training in the morning and went to work in the afternoon to make money. He is both a mother and a father. For seven years, the family lived with their belts tightened, hoping that Xiaofeng would recover soon!

The turning point began when Xiaofeng joined the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center.

By chance, Xiaofeng's father learned about the free rehabilitation services for children with cerebral palsy offered by the Hanoi Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center. He took decisive action to sign up Xiaofeng, wishing to give the child a chance. At that time, the family finance was already in shambles. So, we arranged to place Xiaofeng in a group compatible with his abilities and age. In the past, Xiaofeng's rehabilitation required taking medication and injections, and he often cried in pain

while exercising. Dad said the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center is entirely different from Xiaofeng's previous rehabilitation establishment. There's no need to take the bitter medicine or injections. On the contrary, the Center's rehabilitation classes are very stimulating.

In addition to physical training at the Center, Xiaofeng also takes cognition, self-care, language, and social skill classes. Xiaofeng will practice toilet training, toothbrushing, face, and handwashing with his classmates during recess. Rehabilitation begins and ends with singing every day. Since coming to the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center, Xiaofeng has a broad smile on his face every day.

The pastor and social workers of the Center often hold classes for the parent groups to provide opportunities for cooperative learning and experience sharing, standing by the parents to deal with pressure and challenges.



Xiaofeng's father said that the Center is like a second home where families support and encourage each other. Seeing how the Center's other family members working together for the children's rehabilitation moved Xiaofeng's father so much that he attempted to invite Xiaofeng's mother to attend together the children activities organized by the Center. After several events, Xiaofeng's mother gained a better understanding of cerebral palsy. In addition, the Center's upbeat and joyful atmosphere influences her to get more intimate with Xiaofeng and an improving relationship with the father.

Parents are the children's first teachers, and the family atmosphere and environment directly impact the children's psychological well-being. Xiaofeng is making significant progress once his mother gets involved in his rehabilitation. He is assertive in learning and expression, and now he can eat by himself.

Healing a child changes a family! One person may only accomplish a few things, but miracles will happen when a group works together!



Thank You Card

Dear Sponsors:

Greetings to You!

Receiving your letter brings me the excitement that stirs inside me! The review for the first stage of our college entrance examination is coming to an end. Upon reflection on our studies and lives during the term, it was pretty stressful. The main reason was the fear of performing poorly in the exams, leading to missing out on the good colleges. Our teachers often encouraged us by saying, "Taking the college entrance exam is to cross a narrow bridge with tens and thousands of troops. You must give it your best effort! However, you also have to consider your circumstances and choose a path that is right for you." Thus, my pressure is, at times, overwhelming. Yet I seem to gain a better understanding after reading your letter. I'll continue to persevere, transforming anxiety into inspiration, keeping a balanced perspective in both good and bad times, meeting challenges, as well as cherishing the time to live a worthy life every day, and becoming a responsible person.

I am writing this letter to you from home. Unfortunately, something happened in the family. My mother is gravely ill, and she fell into a vegetative state. However, the social workers of Silver Lining always care for me, and they pay me frequent visits, comforting me. I thank them for walking with me through this difficult time.

Finally, thank you for your care and concern. I wish you good health and success in your work!



Orphans Sponsorship Project
in Rural Area
Xiu Xian

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.



Home for the Orphans

Family Model Orphanage · Silver Lining Caring Center & Family Village

Services for Children under Poverty

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



Silver Lining Workshop

Provide job training and opportunities for disabled youth and women



Emergency Medical Fund

Provide immediate help to sick children



Holistic Development

Through the introduction of interesting multi-art courses, teach children correct assessment and help them develop a good character



Rehabilitation Path

Rehabilitation Special Education Center (Conductive Learning)
Sponsor the rehabilitation service and education for children with disabilities such as cerebral palsy



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