

# SILVER LINING JOURNAL



THEME STORY

## Love in action, Hope Sets Sail



A Child Sending Blessings  
Blossoming Like Flowers  
Lighting the Light of Hope

# MISSION STATEMENT

## Your LOVE changes LIVES

Silver Lining is committed to help impoverished orphans, students, and children with disabilities in mountainous areas. We improve their lives through education, job opportunity, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to marginalized and neglected, helping them overcome poverty, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.

## TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

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



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# Love in action Hope Sets Sail

Every New Year's Day, our family has a tradition – we gather together to share gratitude for the past year and set goals for the new year. Time flies, and our three children, have grown up. They now live in different cities, so they may not always be able to celebrate the new year with us. But it's comforting to know that the children from Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center will come to our home and celebrate the new year with us, keeping this tradition alive. Every time I hear the children share stories of gratitude, my heart is filled with emotion. I feel fortunate to have accompanied them on their journey of growth, I sincerely wish them to achieve their own dreams.

A child once asked me, "Father Yeung, how did you start the Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center? Without you and Mom Yeung, our childhood might not have been so happy." The child's question plunged me into deep memories. Over ten years ago, Lydia and I came to Guangxi, China from the United States. Moved by the needs of three underprivileged children, we felt a calling in our hearts and established Silver Lining Missions, a big family that provides assistance to over 1,000 underprivileged children.

The first child who influenced us was a little orphan girl. During one of our conversations, she told me the saddest thing for her was when it rained heavily after school. She would watch her classmates being picked up one by one by their parents while she could only cry and run back to the orphanage in the rain. At that moment, I deeply felt the loneliness in the hearts of orphans and their longing for love. Lydia and I chose to respond. In 2009, we established the first orphanage – Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center, providing care for orphans in a "family-like" setting, allowing them to experience the love of parents and the warmth of a home. Today, when the children at the care center encounter heavy rain after school, they have Silver Lining moms and dads to pick them up and take them home.





The second child who influenced us was an abandoned boy with disabilities named Zhen Wang. It was in 2008 when he was around seven years old. Every day in the orphanage, he cried in despair. Despite our efforts to treat and care for him, he left this world three months later. I prayed sorrowfully and asked God, "why?" God gently told me that He sent our team to help Zhen wang complete the last part of his life's journey with love. Comforted by God's words, we decided to provide assistance to children with disabilities and their families in need. A year later, the Nanning Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center was officially established, providing completely free rehabilitation and education services to over 180 children with disabilities. Afterwards, through God's guidance, we opened Silver Lining Rehabilitation Centers in Myanmar and Vietnam, helping approximately 400 total children with disabilities and their families.



The third child who influenced us was a drug-addicted little girl. In 2017, I saw a heartbreaking video at a missionary's place in Myanmar: a girl around eight or nine years old was using drugs. The video deeply saddened Lydia and me. During prayer, I heard God ask me, "Do you know that there are many children like her in Myanmar? Are you willing to seek them out?" That year, we started an orphanage in Myanmar – Myanmar Silver Lining Family Village, taking care of children who lost their parents due to war, poverty, disease, and drugs. We hope to help them understand that their Heavenly Father loves them and has not forgotten them.



From the establishment of the Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center by Lydia and me in 2009 to the Silver Lining work in Myanmar and Vietnam, we have witnessed the power of love. During each New Year's Day, as we sit together sharing gratitude and expectations, we not only reflect on the past and envision the future but also reaffirm our faith and mission. We believe that as long as love and action reside in our hearts, we can illuminate the spirits of children in adversity, bringing them hope and courage.



# Trip to Myanmar

*I had heard of you before  
now I see you with my own eyes*



"I had only heard about you before, but now I have seen you with my own eyes."

– Job 42:5

During my short-term mission trip to Myanmar, this verse has repeatedly echoed in my mind from the moment I arrived until I returned to the United States. With each new scene I experienced, each new place I stepped into, I deeply felt the love and power of God. Whether it was the rehabilitation center, the youth center, the children at Silver Lining Family Village, or the families living in poverty—their innocence, kindness, and resilience deeply touched me.

It was a journey filled with tears and laughter, walking alongside God. War, poverty, and broken families could not defeat the people living on this land in

Myanmar. What kind of power enables them to constantly smile and maintain a pure heart? What kind of power allows them to continue reading scriptures, to sing, to dance, and to embrace one another? I was truly curious. In my own life, I had never witnessed God working on such a large scale, with His children faithfully following the great commission in Matthew 28:19 – "Go and make disciples of all nations."

During this short-term mission, I witnessed how God transformed lives in various ways. Whether it was the principals and teachers at Yangon Rehabilitation Center, the students at Yangon Youth Center, or the families of children with cerebral palsy, they all demonstrated God's love, mercy, and devotion. They persevered with smiles in the face of challenges. They unconditionally loved the children who were displaced, and they continued to read scriptures, sing, and embrace one another in difficult circumstances. These were all awe-inspiring and displayed the incredible works of God in this war-torn land! Surely, He is the power that changes lives and brings smiles to people's faces!





Even now, I often ask myself, "What did I learn and take away from this short-term mission? How can I be used by God, like those co-workers, to bring people to Jesus?" I feel that God is working in me. The experiences from this short-term mission are something I will share with my family, neighbors, and others whenever I have the opportunity. One particular story deeply touched me.

In Yangon, I had the opportunity to visit 2 to 3 families of children with cerebral palsy. One of the families lived in a slum, and from the moment I entered their home, I was captivated by the smile on the grandmother's face. Her 4-year-old grandson couldn't stand or walk, and she held him in her arms with a loving smile. Prompted by the Holy Spirit and motherly instincts, I asked the grandmother if I could hold him. Smiling, she handed the child to me, and I carefully sat him on my lap. Sunlight streamed through the window onto his face, and his entire face

gleamed with radiance. As I held him, an overwhelming feeling of compassion and love welled up within me.

During the conversation with the grandmother, we learned that her daughter passed away one month after the child's birth. The young father had worked outside for a while and then returned to be with his family. The grandmother quit her job to care for the child full-time. Instead of giving up on this child with disabilities, they chose to care for him with even more love! It was a love that moved hearts!

In our conversation, I discovered that the grandmother also believed in God. She shared with me her motto from Job 5:8-9: "But if it were I, I would appeal to God; I would lay my cause before Him. He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed, miracles that cannot be counted." Every afternoon, after school, the grandmother would teach the young girl to read the Bible. With her smile and faith, she spread God's love to her neighbors!

I am extremely grateful for the Silver Lining Ministry and the group of co-workers who have been willing to "live out love" for many years, changing countless lives through their efforts. Although the short-term mission has come to an end, God's work for me continues, and it must be even more diligent! I will share this sense of awe and love with more people!





## The Warmth and Company of the Silver Lining Family

In 2011, after my father passed away and my mother remarried. My brother and I had no one else to rely on, so we arrived at Silver Lining in Dahua. Time flies, and the years pass like a song.

At Silver Lining, I found a new home. There are brothers and sisters here, but most importantly, there is Auntie, who takes care of me. She is like a mother to me, providing meticulous care in my daily life and teaching me how to do laundry and cooking. Returning home from school on a winter day and seeing Auntie busy in the kitchen with steaming hot dishes on the table is one of the heart-warming scenes in my life. I am introverted and not good at communicating with others. When I started middle school and stayed in the dormitory for the first time, Auntie worried that I wouldn't dare to go to the cafeteria or speak to my

classmates. So, as soon as school ended, Auntie would come to visit me. At that time, I was having my meal in the cafeteria, but because I arrived late, there was hardly any food left. Auntie saw that my bowl only had vegetables and no meat, and anxiously asked me why I wasn't eating the meat. I didn't want Auntie to worry, so I lied and said that the meat was already finished. After Auntie left, tears welled up in my eyes.

When I was young, I loved it when Father Yeung and Mother Yeung came to take us out to play. They would take us to the square to ride the mini train, draw pictures, and taste all kinds of delicious food. Now I have graduated from university, but whenever Father Yeung and Mother Yeung have free time, they still take us out to play. Father Yeung always leaves early in the morning and doesn't return to Nanning until







made me extremely anxious. However, my colleagues at Silver Lining were very friendly. They taught me how to operate servers, how to handle computer malfunctions, and much more. Their patient guidance and selfless help allowed me to continuously grow and improve in my work. At Silver Lining, besides being an IT staff member, I also assist in organizing outings for children with disabilities. Whenever there is a need, I am more than willing to help.

Silver Lining is not just an organization to me; it is more like a home. Here, I feel the warmth of family and friendship. Here, I have found a sense of belonging and value. Here, I have learned how to care for others and how to apply myself. To me, Silver Lining is my home—a warm and caring big family.

after 10 o'clock at night. Sometimes he gets tired and dozes off while talking to us on a bench. But he never admits to being tired; he says that he is happy as long as he sees that we are happy. In my memory, I started to have fewer encounters with Mother Yeung because she is often busy raising funds and traveling abroad all year round. Mother Yeung says she is getting old, but there are still many things she wants to do. She hopes that we can share some responsibilities and continue to pass on this love. Looking at Mother Yeung's tired face, I suddenly realize that we have really grown up, and I need to learn to share the responsibilities of the family.

I studied Electronic Information Engineering Technology in university, and after graduation, the Silver Lining happened to need an IT staff member, so I joined their team. When I first entered the workplace, as someone with social anxiety, I faced numerous unfamiliar challenges that



# A Child Sending Blessings



Dear Toto, Every time I see you smiling and striving forward, I am amazed by your resilience and optimism. Within your small frame lies immense strength, and I deeply admire you for that.

I remember when you first came to the Yangon Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center at the age of six. Due to the pandemic, you could only attend online classes at home using a mobile phone. The small screen was truly too small for a child your age, but you diligently watched the screen, studying and writing with the teacher, and exercising together. You would get tired and blink your eyes, but you never complained. Every time, you listened attentively and learned with all your heart.



Finally, at the end of 2022, we were able to return to the center for classes. I remember that day you were very happy. During class, you eagerly demonstrated the movements you had learned from the online lessons, saying, "Stretch your arm, grab the cup, and drink." However, due to lack of control, water spilled all over.

Seeing your anxious little face, I approached you with a smile and said, "Toto, you didn't splash the teacher during this year's Water Festival. Now you want to splash water to send blessings to the teacher, right? Then you have to work hard and strive to give blessings to the teacher next time." Hearing the teacher's words, you also smiled happily.

At the Yangon Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center, I see a vibrant and confident you. This is your little world where you learn to communicate, collaborate, and play with peers. Here, I have witnessed your growth. You have overcome many physical obstacles and learned many self-care skills. Though your movements may be slower than those of other children, I am still proud of you. You have learned to handle things on your own, eat, drink, and use walking aids to go to the restroom. These are the results of your daily and persistent efforts.

What makes me happiest as a teacher is seeing you becoming more cheerful and confident at the Yangon Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center. You actively help the teacher distribute teaching materials, assist with attendance, and try your best to speak clearly and sing loudly. These seemingly small improvements are a true reflection of your inner strength. For others, these tasks may come easily, but for you,



each one is a significant challenge that you not only overcome but also excel at.

Toto, you're the best! You have proven the resilience and beauty of life through your own efforts and resilience. Though the world has presented you with many challenges, you never back down. You infect everyone with your smile and optimism. Every smile and every effort you make is a precious treasure in the teacher's heart.





## Shining Amidst Hardship

My name is Amu, and I am the eldest sister in my family. We live in a small village in southern Myanmar. Although our family is not wealthy, it is filled with love. Our lives rely on farming for sustenance, but in recent years, Myanmar has been in constant turmoil, resulting in poor harvests and significant financial pressure at home. Many times, I would go to school on an empty stomach, and experiencing hunger became a common occurrence.

Our school is far away from home, and every day we have to walk a long distance to get there. The road conditions are not good, especially during the rainy season when it becomes muddy and difficult to navigate. I only have a worn-out umbrella and often arrive at school drenched.

Despite these challenges, as long as I can study, I don't consider these obstacles.

During my ninth-grade year, my father came one day to ask me if I wanted to continue studying. My heart was filled with anguish. I knew that only through education could I change my destiny and help my family escape poverty. However, the high school fees, tutoring expenses...these were heavy burdens on my mind. After much hesitation, I gathered the courage to tell my father, "I want to continue studying." I had anticipated that my father would persuade me to work instead, so I was surprised when he nodded and said, "I understand. Then you must study hard."





Soon, I graduated from middle school, and during the summer vacation, a lady from the church came to our house to talk to my father. Afterwards, my father beckoned me over with a smile on his face and said, "Auntie just told me that there is a youth center in Yangon that helps underprivileged children fulfill their educational aspirations. Would you like to go?" I was overjoyed and exclaimed, "Yes, I want to! I want to!" My father added, "The center is free, but they have strict requirements. Only children from poor families who are diligent and hardworking in their studies can stay. Can you meet those expectations?" I nodded vigorously and said, "Don't worry, Dad. I will study hard!"

In November 2022, I arrived at the Yangon Youth Student Center. The director took me to the local school to enroll, and they prepared new uniforms and an umbrella for me. During school hours, the teachers would provide us with lunchboxes. I no longer had to worry about rainy days or going to class on an empty stomach.

I got to know new classmates at school and made new friends. Although we came from different places, we all shared a common desire for education. The center arranged tutoring and study groups for us, teaching us effective learning methods. I made significant progress in my studies. In the final exams of 2023, I achieved 2 A's, 4 B's, and 1 C in seven subjects. I was particularly proud of my excellent grades in English and History, although I still need to improve in Mathematics. However, I will continue to work hard.

During the summer vacation, I had the opportunity to participate in a guitar training class, which was a dream come true for me. I hope that one day I can play the guitar and sing for my parents, expressing my gratitude for their support in pursuing my educational dreams. Now, I am a second-year student in high school. I cherish this hard-earned opportunity to learn, and I am filled with confidence and hope for myself. I strive to achieve good results in the college entrance exam.





# Blossoming Like Flowers

Silver Lining Family Village

Photo By Tr. Ko Htike





# 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 visits. Your monthly donation will enable Silver Lining to care for orphans and impoverished children in mountainous areas, as well as children who suffer from cerebral palsy. Your love changes lives!

**US\$38** Month



Invite you to become a  
Sponsorship Angel!



[www.silverliningmissions.org](http://www.silverliningmissions.org)

*Embark the Journey of Love with us*



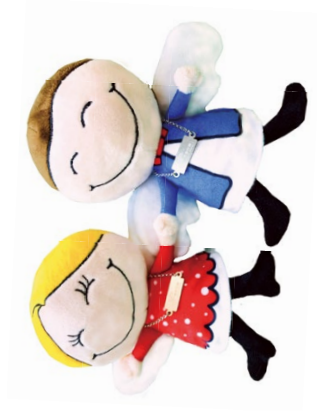




Stamp

## **Silver Lining Missions**

**16 Corning Ave., Suite 206,  
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Bank Transfer

Yearly

Address : \_\_\_\_\_

Checking Account Number : \_\_\_\_\_

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I authorized my bank to transfer the amount indicated above from my account regularly. A record of each donation will be included in my monthly bank account statement.

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Card Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ MM \_\_\_\_\_ YY \_\_\_\_\_ CWV Code\* \_\_\_\_\_  
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I agree the validity of this agreement will continue before or after the expiry date of my credit card account. Regular donations paid by Credit Card will be debited automatically from your account until further notice.

\*Note : CWV code is a 3 digit value printed on the signature strip on the back. ( American Express 4 digit CSC is printed on the front of the Card. )

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For donations of US\$20 or above, an official receipt will be issued for tax deduction purpose.

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## Contact Information Update

Thank you for your support to Silver Lining Missions. Please help us keep our records updated by reporting any changes. You may send your updates to: [info@silverliningmissions.org](mailto:info@silverliningmissions.org) or fill out and return the form below :

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Donor ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt# \_\_\_\_\_

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# College Fund



The children of Silver Lining are growing up, and some have already completed the free education provided by the government and are now seeking to pursue higher education in college. Silver Lining Missions aims to provide these children with access to higher education to the best of our ability. If they have the capability, we also support them in continuing their studies at different institutions.

In response to this, Silver Lining Missions has launched a new program called the "College Fund" to raise funds for these children, ensuring that they can pursue their studies without the burden of student loans. The program collects donations from generous individuals, which are used to cover the children's tuition fees and miscellaneous expenses in college, such as accommodation and textbooks. The donations will be accumulated each year, with the hope of benefiting all the children and encouraging them to embrace education and transform their lives.

The College Fund requires a monthly donation of \$50 or an annual donation of \$600, which will be used in full for university tuition and miscellaneous expenses. We provide annual updates in August on the situation of university students for the year and their upcoming enrollment, helping donors to have a better understanding of the operation and needs of the entire fund.

Donations can be made online through a QR code using a credit card. If you prefer to donate through other means, you can contact the staff at Silver Lining Missions.

US\$50  
Month



Empower kids to follow  
their path to College





# Blossoming Like Flowers

Among the mountains of Myanmar, there is a place called " Silver Lining Family Village " that has witnessed countless stories of children transitioning from adversity to hope. Today, I want to share a special story with all of you about a girl named Er Mei.

Er Mei is the second youngest in her family. When she was young, she lived in a rural area of Myanmar with her parents and siblings, relying on farming for a living. To alleviate the economic pressure on the family, her mother went to China to work, but she disappeared without a trace. Her father passed away early due to alcoholism and the hardships of life. Er Mei and her three sisters became orphaned and helpless. Fortunately, through the recommendation of a caregiver at Silver Lining Family Village, the four sisters came to Silver Lining Family Village in 2020.

When Ermei arrived at Silver Lining Family Village, she was in the fourth grade. Two years have passed since then, and due to the pandemic and political unrest, schools have been closed, so she has remained in the fourth grade. Last year, she finally moved up to the fifth grade, and I became her homeroom teacher. Initially, when I got to know Ermei, I noticed that she lacked

confidence in her studies. She said, "I'm not interested in studying. I've been in the fourth grade for a few years, but I haven't learned much."

The poor academic performance of most children is often due to weak foundations, resulting in a vicious cycle of poor grades and a dislike for learning. Ermei was no exception. In order to help her regain confidence and interest in learning, I made efforts to make the curriculum simpler and understandable. For reciting texts, I used methods like breaking down sentences or interesting associations to help her with memorization. In mathematics teaching, I emphasized explaining abstract mathematical concepts using real-life examples to make learning lively and interesting. Additionally, I focused on dictation to ensure that she could understand and write down each word and sentence.





Children need a sense of achievement in their studies. It not only stimulates their interest in learning but also enhances their self-confidence. My teaching methods proved effective, and Er Mei's attitude towards learning changed. She started developing an interest in learning and would actively seek my guidance when encountering difficulties.

To further motivate the children's interest in learning, we also established monthly exam rewards. In the first monthly exam, Er Mei's sister received first prize, which greatly encouraged Er Mei. In the second monthly exam, she worked hard and achieved good results, standing proudly on the award podium.

In addition to academic progress, Er Mei also participated in the dance and computer extracurricular classes. Despite concerns that these extracurricular activities might affect her studies, she still persisted in participating and put even more effort into her learning. Once, while chatting with Er Mei, I asked her about her dreams for the future. She said, "I want to become a chef and make delicious food to bring happiness to others."

I am delighted to see Er Mei's growth. In the home, each child is like a unique flower, possessing different colors and fragrances. As an educator, we must learn to appreciate the uniqueness of each child, provide them with sufficient nourishment, and patiently wait and nurture them so that the flowers of their lives can bloom with the most brilliant radiance.



# The Silver Lining Road

## 14 Years of Accompaniment and Guardianship



Time flies by, and the Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center has walked its path for 14 years. Throughout these years, Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center has never forgotten its original intention—accompanying and guarding the children in difficult circumstances, illuminating their path of growth with warmth and love. Since its establishment, Dahua Silver Lining has raised approximately 35 million yuan in donations, directly benefiting over 220,000 people. Looking forward to the future, Dahua Silver Lining will remain steadfast in its belief, steadily moving forward with unwavering perseverance and rock-solid confidence, using sincere love to brighten the future of every child in need of help.

Xiao Liu and Xiao Dong shared their journey of growth, and we have witnessed their progress, just as they have witnessed Silver Lining's growth. Xiao Liu was one of the first children to receive support

from Silver Lining, and now she is in her final year of high school. With the care and companionship of Silver Lining, she gradually overcame the self-doubt and loss that comes with being an orphan. Silver Lining is her most beautiful memory. Xiao Dong is also a member of the Silver Lining Family Village. He once dropped out of school and worked due to his weariness of studying. However, with the patient guidance and assistance of Silver Lining's social workers, he returned to campus and successfully enrolled in university.

Witnessing the joyful growth of the children is our greatest happiness. We cannot touch time, but we can see its power. We cannot see time, but we can feel the gifts it brings us. We are deeply honored to accompany so many children on their life journey. In the next ten years, twenty years... Silver Lining will always remain true to its original intention and forge ahead!





# Not Leaving, Not Giving Up, with Great Love and Care

In January 2024, Guangxi Silver Lining "Dream Assistance Action – Rehabilitation and Education Support Project for Cerebral Palsy Children" was awarded the "Bagui Charity Award" for charity projects.

The "Dream Assistance Action – Rehabilitation and Education Support Project for Cerebral Palsy Children" is a specialized, personalized, and continuous public service project of Guangxi Silver Lining Social Work Service Center. It is dedicated to rehabilitation training, education support, and family support for children with cerebral palsy. It provides free rehabilitation education for children with disabilities, effectively improving their physical functions and developing their intelligence, helping them integrate into society. By mobilizing resources, it fully exempts the rehabilitation training fees for each child, reducing the economic burden on their families. It provides home guidance and distance education for children with disabilities in rural/communities who have not received proper rehabilitation education. Crisis assistance is also offered to families of children with disabilities that have higher levels of difficulty, and provides training in life skills and employment for youth with disabilities.

Over the past 10 years, the project has raised more than 36 million yuan, utilizing the new models of "Internet+ technology" and "institution+ community+ remote services" to provide rehabilitation education services to over 10,000 children with disabilities and community rehabilitation services to over 5,600 children with disabilities in rural areas. Over 100 events have also been organized to promote the social integration and awareness of children with disabilities, benefiting more than 30,000 individuals.

Walking hand in hand with love, new hope, and new destinies. Guangxi Silver Lining Social Work Service Center will continuously innovate the concept of public service, deepen the rehabilitation education for disabled children, and provide support for more children with disabilities to fulfill their dreams.

## 荣誉证书

授予助梦行动-脑瘫儿童康复教育支持：

第二届“八桂慈善奖”慈善项目



### Good News | Guangxi Silver Lining Social Work Service Case Wins an Award!

In January 2024, the Guangxi Social Work Annual Conference was held in Nanning. At the conference, awards were presented for the outstanding social work cases in Guangxi in 2023. The Guangxi Silver Lining Social Work Service case titled "The Beacon in Your Heart, Waiting by Your Side – Case Service to Help Rural Disabled Youth Regain Sunshine and Confidence" won the third prize for the outstanding social work service case in Guangxi in 2023. This is recognition of Silver Lining's dedicated and solid service.

This award-winning case tells the story of how Silver Lining, through case work methods, helped a teenager with cerebral palsy from a remote mountainous area regain sunshine and confidence. It is not just a case, but a story of life-changing experiences through Silver Lining's efforts! In the new year, Guangxi Silver Lining will continue to wholeheartedly and passionately carry out every service work and provide strong support to more people in need. We appreciate the trust and support from all sectors of society. Let us join hands and strive together to create a better tomorrow!



# Myanmar Silver Lining Mental Health Training Understanding Emotions, Promoting Growth

Due to years of internal conflict and economic hardship in Myanmar, many families struggle with drug addiction and frequent domestic violence. Many children at Silver Lining Family Village have experienced varying degrees of trauma. In daily caregiving, the behavioral habits and traumatic experiences from the children's original families manifest as parent-child conflicts, posing challenges for caregivers. Therefore, on January 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2024, Silver Lining Family Village invited psychological experts from Yangon to conduct an online mental health training for all staff members of Silver Lining Family Village and special education teachers from Yangon's EDEN Rehabilitation Center. A total of 32 staff members participated in this training.

The training was conducted by Ms. SU ZAR MON, an expert from Yangon Mental Health Center. The main topics covered were emotions and health, traumatic

experiences, and listening exercises. This training helped the staff members of Silver Lining Family Village and the Yangon Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center understand how people behave under stress, anxiety, and unhappy moods. It also helped share about what traumatic experiences entail, and how to share and listen when encountering individuals with traumatic experiences.

At the beginning of the training, the staff members were confused. They hoped to learn methods to solve children's problems during the training, but instead, they were taught to identify emotional stress, listen, and share. As the training progressed, they gradually realized the importance of identifying emotional stress and discovered that it is the critical first step in addressing children's issues. By addressing emotions first and then tackling problems, only by accurately identifying a child's emotional state can targeted help and support be provided.

After the training concluded, a caregiver shared her experience. Previously, if she spoke to a child and the child didn't respond, she would feel that the child was wrong and disrespectful. But now, she thinks about the child's silence and wonders what emotions lie beneath it. Hearing the caregiver's sharing, we deeply felt the necessity of such training and the need to continue it in-depth to help children grow in a healthier way.



# The Beginning of a Dream

Time flies, and it has been 14 years since Silver Lining was established in Dahua. I have also spent nearly 14 years here. In 2010, at the age of just over 4, my sister and I walked through the doors of Silver Lining. At that time, I was the youngest child in Silver Lining, but as time passed, I have now become a high school senior about to enter university.

My life at Silver Lining has been a unique and unforgettable time. Here, I have felt the warmth and care of a family, as well as experienced the joy and challenges of growing up.



Happiness comes from the love I have received from many people – Father Yeung, Mother Yeung, Mother Yu Qin, Mother Bin Bin, Auntie Xiao Lu, and many others. They have taken care of me and taught me the principles of being a good person. I have also made many like-minded friends, and together we have learned, played, and grown.

Challenges arose from an experience in junior high school. At that time, I encountered some harsh voices around me, mocking my background and the fact that I grew up in an orphanage. Before entering junior high school, I had always thought that I was a happy child. However, these heartless taunts were like a gust of cold wind, blowing away my confidence. It turned out that I was a child that no one wanted! I felt as if I were immersed in darkness, not knowing how to face the unfriendliness of the world.

During that time, I closed myself off, creating a thick shell around me. Mother Bin Bin, my sister, and Auntie Xiao Lu noticed my silence and low spirits. Mother Bin Bin used the radiance of motherly love to illuminate the darkness in my heart. Although she was not good with words, she silently loved me in her own way. Every month during the holidays, she would prepare my favorite dishes, gently ask how



I was doing in school, and give me warm hugs. Auntie Xiao Lu is a social worker at Silver Lining. Many people say I resemble her, and she is like my "second mother" at Silver Lining. During my low emotional period, every time there was a break, she would come to pick me up, take me to eat delicious food, and listen to my worries. One time, the children at the center went to see the rapeseed flowers. I couldn't go due to some reason. Auntie Xiao Lu didn't hesitate and drove me there the next day just to see the flowers. She was like a beacon in my heart, always shining warmly and guiding me. And my sister is the most important light in my life. She is my confidante, friend, and role model. With her experiences and wisdom, she helped me unravel the confusions in my heart.

With their companionship, I worked hard to adjust my mindset. It took a long time to emerge from the depths of depression. I



also understood that my parents' departure was not something they desired.

In the 14 years, I have witnessed my own growth and changes. From being timid and introverted at the beginning to becoming confident and outgoing later on, I gradually found my direction and goals. In this process, I have also experienced countless touching moments. I have seen the power of love and selfless dedication. I have seen the tireless efforts of Silver Lining mothers for our growth and happiness. I have seen the courage and determination of my fellow peers as they strive for their dreams.

This June, I will face the college entrance examination, and in the coming months, I will devote myself wholeheartedly to review and prepare—to fight for my dreams.





# Soaring in Adversity

Dear Xin Xin, I remember when you first came into this world, so small and fragile that I was afraid to hold you. But you, with astonishing vitality and determination, surprised me time and time again, overcoming difficulties and proving the strength of life.

Six years ago, you arrived in this world prematurely at just 27 weeks, weighing only 2 pounds and 1 ounce. I didn't even get a chance to hold you before you were taken away from me. You spent your first 14 days in an incubator. However, the test of fate did not stop there. A month later, the doctor told me that you had intestinal obstruction and urgently needed surgery, followed by a colostomy for bowel movements. What followed was endless treatments, and every day we fought against the disease. Each time I received a critical condition notice, it was like a knife twisting in my heart.



It's hard to imagine such pain, but you managed to pull through. Over two months later, the doctor said we could leave the hospital. As a three-month-old baby, you weighed only 4 pounds, with barely any flesh on your body. The doctor also mentioned that you had cerebellar atrophy and white matter softening in your brain, and you would need rehabilitation in the future. You underwent several surgeries, and your health improved day by day. In September 2020, when you were one and a half years old, I started taking you for rehabilitation. We went to many hospitals, running to wherever we heard was good. The doctor said we had to persist with rehabilitation, but the expenses weighed on us like a mountain.





Later, through someone's introduction, I brought you, at the age of two, to Guangxi Silver Lining. I always thought that as long as we persisted with rehabilitation, you would learn to walk and talk like any other child. But after coming to Silver Lining, I realized that reality wasn't so perfect. Many children here couldn't walk or talk either, and your abilities were even more limited. I felt lost for a long time, but with the encouragement of teachers, rehabilitation therapists, and parents, I gradually accepted reality. Even if you couldn't walk like an ordinary child in the future, you would still be my beloved baby.

Under the guidance of the teachers, I firmly held onto the belief in the rehabilitation. In Silver Lining, every minute and second is dedicated to rehabilitation. In the classroom, the teacher is the guide, and the parents are the assistants. Every minute during breaks is a learning opportunity: learning to use the toilet, wash hands, and more. The 20 minutes of waiting before meals is

also a learning opportunity: cognitive skills, self-care, and so on. In the daily routine of rehabilitation training, you have been changing little by little. I still remember the scene when you were learning to walk with a walker: at the beginning, you didn't know how to use your hands and feet, and it took a minute or two just to take a step. It took 20 minutes to walk 5 meters. This scenario played out every day. After six months, you learned to walk with a walker, and over a year later, you learned to walk with a walking aid and even freely pushing the walking aid to play with other children. Your cognitive abilities have also improved—you greet the teachers, chat with other children, and answer questions in class.

In the three years at Silver Lining, your progress has far exceeded my imagination. "Xin Xin, you're amazing, and you will keep getting better!" This is what we most want to tell you. May you continue to maintain this indomitable spirit, move forward courageously, and embrace each day in its beauty!





# Lighting the Light of Hope



Jiao's hometown is a small village in rural Myanmar. When she was eight years old, her father tragically passed away due to armed conflict in the area, leaving her mother to struggle raising six children on her own. Initially, Jiao's aunt and uncle provided a lot of help, but as time went on, the burden on the family became heavier. Eventually, her mother made a difficult decision to send each of the six siblings to different relatives. Jiao and her younger brother ended up at their grandmother's house.

In Jiao's heart, life at her grandmother's house, though difficult, was a rare and warm time in her life. Her grandmother was a devout Christian, and listening to her prayers, Jiao felt a touch of tranquility amid the turmoil in Myanmar. One day, a church minister asked Jiao, "Do you want to study?" Jiao nodded eagerly, but she knew that her grandmother's family was also struggling, and it would be difficult for her to get another chance to study. As a girl, she feared that she would have to get married once she grew a little older.

Thinking it was just a casual question, Jiao didn't expect the minister to actually recommend her to study at the Pyin Oo Lwin Grace Unlimited Center. However, the challenges of learning overwhelmed Jiao. The Grace Unlimited Center required learning in Chinese, which was a huge challenge for Jiao who had just started school. Each time the teacher explained a lesson, she felt completely lost, and the requirement to memorize scripture in Chinese seemed impossible. Although older students were assigned to teach the younger ones, Jiao felt embarrassed to ask for help because she often couldn't remember what was taught. At night, while her classmates slept, Jiao often found it difficult to sleep and couldn't help but shed tears of sadness.





One day, Jiao felt extremely distressed and lost. She felt insignificant, unable to keep up with her studies, and with poor rest. She even thought of suicide, but she couldn't bear to leave her loved ones back home. She prayed to Heavenly Father, "Oh Lord, please guide me!" However, after waiting all night, there was no answer. During the morning prayer the next day, as everyone read a verse of scripture together, Jiao suddenly felt enlightened. The scripture said, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." In that moment, Jiao realized that from her small village to Pyin Oo Lwin—from the past to the present—she had already faced so many difficulties to come this far. How could she give up so easily? Her eyes were fixed on the future; she had to look ahead!



In the days that followed, Jiao no longer just blindly worked hard. She learned to seek God's guidance in the midst of difficulties. Every time she prayed, she felt a renewed strength and wisdom. She also mustered the courage to ask for help from her classmates and seek guidance from her teachers, letting go of her embarrassment. Jiao discovered that the teachers and classmates were very friendly and were always willing to help her without reservation. Gradually, Jiao was able to better understand the course material and keep up with the pace of the class.

Now, when Jiao recalls this experience, she faces it calmly. She has learned to maintain her faith in the face of adversity, and draws strength from prayer to move forward. As a newly joined teacher, I will take greater care of these children, guiding and helping them to equip and enrich themselves through learning.



# Thank You Letter

Underprivileged youth in Dahua Mountain Area - Xiao Ying

Dear Sponsor,

Hello! I am Xiao Ying, the child you have been supporting. I want to express my gratitude for your love and support, which have given me the opportunity to live and study happily with my classmates.

With your support, I have successfully completed my vocational education. After discussing with my family and carefully considering my options, I have decided not to pursue higher education. However, please don't worry. I am no longer a child; I am now a responsible adult. Recently, I have been helping out at a relative's store, doing what I can. But I am not satisfied with the current situation. If the right opportunity arises, I will find a job related to my vocational education. Whatever job I choose in the future, I will work diligently and take each step carefully.

Once again, I want to thank you for silently caring about me all these years. I will always remember your kindness and carry this warmth with me as I move forward. If I become capable in the future, I will also help those in need, just like you—spreading love!

Lastly, I wish you good health. May all your endeavors be successful!



Ying

## 感谢信

亲爱的资助人：

您好！我是您资助的孩子 小英，感谢您一直以来给我的爱心帮助和支持，我才有机会和同学们在一起快乐地生活和学习。

在您的支持下，我已经顺利完成了中专的学业，在和家人的商量下，也经过我的深思熟虑下，我没有继续上大专，不过请您不用担心，我如今已经不再是个小孩子了，而是能对自己负责的成年人了。我近期在亲戚的店里帮忙，做力所能及的事情，但是我也没有满足于现状，有合适的机会，我会找个自己中专所学专业相关的工作，不管我未来做什么工作，我都会脚踏实地地走好每一步路。

再次感谢您这么多年一直在背后默默地关心我，我会永远记住您的恩情，带着这份温暖继续前行，如果我将来有能力，我也会像您一样，去帮助有需要的人，将爱传递。

最后祝福您身体健康、万事如意！

小英

## 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.



### 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



### Emergency Medical Fund

Provide immediate help to sick children



### Silver Lining Workshop

Provide job training and opportunities for disabled youth and women



### 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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Watch us on



Your Love Changes Lives 

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