

SILVER LINING JOURNAL



MAR 2023



THEME STORY

Let my love be the sunshine in children's lives!



- Trip to Myanmar ●
- Mark of Growth ●
- Your smile is so beautiful ●



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 live, education, job opportunitied, 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.



TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

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

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Let my Love be the Sunshine in children's lives!

Time flies, and another year has passed quickly. During the Chinese New Year, my wife Lydia and I celebrated with the children from the Dahua Silver Lining Caring Center. I remember when they first arrived, they were just little kids, and now they have grown up and are in high school, middle school, and even college. Fortunately, the speed at which children grow up is only slightly faster than the speed at which we age, so we still have the energy to run and play with them.

Xiao Lan and Xiao Yi, two sisters, are orphans. Xiao Lan was only two and half years old when she arrived at caring center, and I can imagine how scared she must have been to suddenly be in a strange place. Although Huang Fang Mama, who took care of them, was always with them, Xiao Lan still cried at night looking for her mother. Xiao Yi, who is two years older than her, comforted her while holding her, "Don't cry, don't look for mom anymore, mom is already dead." It was a heart-wrenching scene. Huang Fang Mama was very worried about them and would hold Xiao Lan every night until she





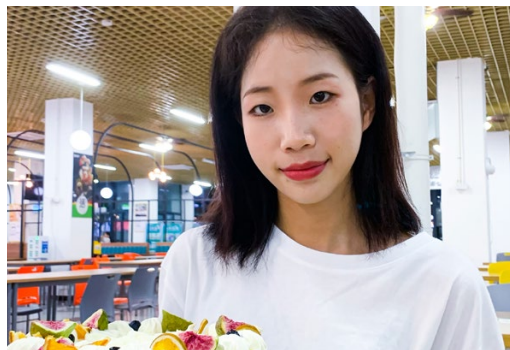
fell asleep. Sometimes, she would have to hold her until midnight before putting her to bed. Now, the two sisters, who used to cry a lot, have grown up and are in middle school. They are even taller than Lydia.

One evening, Lydia, the children, and I were talking about what we were thankful for last year. Xiao Yi was quiet for a long time, and tears kept rolling in her eyes. I felt a hint of worry, but then Xiao Yi looked up at Lydia and me and said softly, "I'm most grateful for having Yeung Papa and Yeung Mama love me!" Hearing Xiao Yi's words, I felt a mix of emotions. As long as the children are happy, I'm willing to endure any hardship. I believe Lydia feels the same way. She immediately hugged Xiao Yi and said softly but firmly, Yeung Papa and Yeung Mama are also grateful to have you as our daughter. We will always love you."

Most children choose to live in the school dormitories when they go to middle school, and I always remind them to study hard and not to fall in love. Some of the children would ask me, "Yeung Papa, when should we fall in love then?" I would say, "When you get into college, you can fall in love. You can study, graduate, and work together with your lover. Isn't that great?"

Several years later, when these children entered college, I asked them, "If you have a boyfriend, remember to bring him to me to meet." Xiao Li laughed and said, "I want to find a boyfriend who loves me like Yeung Papa, so I will take my time." Xiao Li is now a sophomore in college, outgoing and cheerful. Since she went to college, we've had less time to meet, but as long as I have free time, I will go to accompany them. I hope to be a present father in every stage of my children's growth. Xiao Li is also an orphan. Once, she wrote a sharing of over 5000 words for me, and I remember she said in the article, 'Yeung Papa gave me a lot of care and love, making up for the missing pieces in my childhood. As we grow up day by day, he ages day by day, and as I see white hair growing on his once dark hair, wrinkles filling the corners of his eyes, I really wish time could slow down a bit so that Yeung Papa can stay forever young...'

My biggest wish is for all my children to grow up healthy, and I hope they can all enjoy their lives.



Trip to Myanmar



I am grateful to have had the opportunity to visit Silver Lining's work in Myanmar in November.

We first visited the Cerebral Palsy Rehabilitation Center in Yangon, which provides free rehabilitation education for about 200 children with disabilities. Due to the pandemic, they had to teach online, but with the easing of the situation, they have gradually resumed face-to-face classes. However, many families face expensive transportation costs due to the high prices of goods and fuel, which prevent them from sending their children to rehabilitation center. The staff at the center are very caring and responsible, and they do their best for children in need. They combine online and face-to-face teaching every week to ensure that the children receive continuous rehabilitation. They also visit the children's homes at least once a month for rehabilitation guidance, which improves the effectiveness of their rehabilitation. Despite the center being in poor condition, and frequent power outages affecting



the quality of online teaching, the staff perseveres, relying on a generator to teach, which is truly inspiring.

We also went to the Yangon Youth Center (19 students) and Grace Youth Shelter (50 students). The students at the preparatory



class and youth center are young people who are eager to learn but have financial difficulties. With Silver Lining's support, they can continue their studies and aspire to become pastors or missionaries to spread love and help others. Seeing them humbly kneeling down to pray, I was touched by their sincere hearts, praying for God to use them mightily.

There are more than 170 orphans at the Silver Lining Family Village in Myanmar also impressed me greatly. They are very diligent, studying Chinese and English from 6:00 to 7:30 am every morning, followed by Burmese language classes at 8:00 am. After school at 3:30 pm, they immediately take a shower and do laundry because they have to attend tutoring or continue studying Chinese or English from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. After that, they help their mother to cook dinner, and then clean the dishes and do housework. From 8:00 to 9:30 pm,



they do their homework. It is said that children in Singapore have great academic pressure, but the efforts of the children at the Silver Lining Family Village in Myanmar to become self-sufficient are not inferior to those of Singaporean children.

On the last night before leaving Myanmar, we gathered together and worshiped in Burmese, encouraging the children to work hard for their dreams. The most touching moment was when the children came to us and hugged us, and even now, I can't help but shed tears when I think of it.

Myanmar has been ravaged by drugs and war, and there are many orphans and impoverished students. I hope to do all that I can to help them and bring warmth to their lives!



Mark of Growth

My growth experience was a mixed bag of emotions. Before the age of nine, I lived in the rural area of my hometown. My childhood memories were too bitter. My mother left home when I was very young, and my father could only farm a small plot of land to provide for us. Eating meat was a luxury, and the money for my sister and me to go to school was borrowed by my father from here and there. Perhaps life was too difficult, my father rarely smiled during those years, and I lived my life carefully, very sensitive, and afraid of rejection by others. In school, when I couldn't memorize a text, a teacher's "stupid kid" made me feel ashamed, and the blame from others made me feel guilty. I thought I was the worst child.

Unexpectedly, worse things were still to come. One day, my father suddenly fell ill and could no longer take care of my sister and me. We had to live with relatives, and I was very afraid. Later on, even relatives were unable to take care of us, and my



sister and I came to the Silver Lining Caring Center. Before leaving, everyone taught me to be sensible and obedient, but no one taught me how to be happy.

I wasn't happy when I first arrived at the Silver Lining Caring Center. There were no familiar friends, and everything was strange. I was particularly afraid that others wouldn't like me. Fortunately, I met Yeung Papa and Yeung Mama, Hui Cheng Mama, Xiao Lu Sister, and the uncles and aunts of the center who loved me very much. Yeung Papa and Yeung Mama laughed a lot, and they often played with the children. Listening to their laughter, I couldn't help but smile. They talked to me like a friend, caring about my life and





studies, and making me feel warm and happy. Hui Cheng Mama was like my own mother, caring for me and educating me carefully, sharing her experiences with me and encouraging me to move forward. Xiao Lu Sister was like my sister. Whenever I was upset, she would comfort and encourage me. In this loving and affirmative family, I found my long-lost smile!

I wanted to prove that I wasn't the "stupid kid" in the teacher's mouth. I studied hard every day, especially during my three years of high school. Even when I was sick, I didn't dare to relax. I brought test papers to the hospital for medical treatment. If my grades fluctuated, I would feel very bad. Xiao Lu Sister said that I put too much pressure on myself and was afraid of a breakdown. She often talked to me, and even connected me with a psychologist. In my conversations with the teachers, I learned to accept the fearful, helpless, longing to be recognized, longing for love, and longing-for-praise me.



In these years of Silver Lining, during holidays, I often assist Silver Lining's uncles and aunties in visiting children in mountainous areas, doing activities with them, and bringing comfort items to disabled children. Every time I participate in these activities, I receive many innocent and cute smiles from the children, which is the most healing image I have ever seen!

There will always be rewards for our efforts. The three years of high school passed quickly, and now I am a university medical student, majoring in rehabilitation technology. Rehabilitation is not only about physical recovery but also about mental recovery. I hope to shine in my professional field in the future and help more people. As the motto of my medical university says: With high moral character, aspiration, broad learning, and dedication to medical service.



Always Strive to Be Your Best Self

"My wish is that we can learn more skills in the workshop, have our own source of income in the future, live independently, take care of ourselves, and be our best selves."

"What are you doing, Aqi and Axin?"
"We're making bead coasters."

At the Silver Lining Youth Workshop for Disabled Persons, Aqi and Axin, twin sisters who were born premature and developed cerebral palsy due to lack of oxygen, are diligently making bead coasters.

Aqi and Axin, both 21 years old, have been receiving rehabilitation education at Silver Lining since 2011. This year, they completed their junior high school education and became the first batch of students at the Silver Lining Youth Workshop for Disabled Persons. The workshop, which was launched in February 2023, is specially designed for disabled youths, focusing on training their life skills, including independent living, vocational skills, interpersonal communication, and social participation. It is difficult for disabled youths to find



employment in reality, therefore, Silver Lining hopes to provide them with a "sheltered" employment opportunity to learn handicrafts and acquire a skill.

Making a handicraft is not easy. Threading, knotting, passing threads, if one bead is misplaced, the shape is incorrect, and it needs to be redone. Aqi and Axin have weaker hand functions, and with the help of their teachers, it takes them about 5–8 days to complete a beaded coaster. More complex pieces, such as hearts and strawberries, take up to half a month to finish. The number of pieces produced is not the focus; our goal is for disabled youths to find joy and confidence in the process, which is the main purpose of the workshop.





"I am very happy at Silver Lining. I have many friends. Sharing our troubles with friends can make us feel much better," Aqi said. The two sisters have been here for over 10 years, and they have made many friends who care for each other, support each other and bring warmth to one another.

"I am very happy now to be doing handicrafts with everyone. Sometimes we go out to the supermarket to learn to shop, learn to take the subway, and so on," Axin said. She enjoys going out the most because as she grows older, it becomes increasingly difficult for her mother and grandmother to take her out. Silver Lining often organizes outdoor lessons, and with the help of volunteer enthusiasts, the sisters can go to different places, see different scenery, and meet different people. Although they appear calm on the surface, they have deep feelings inside.

"Now, in addition to rehabilitation, we also study Taobao Online Customer Service, creative writing, video clips, painting, and other courses every day," Aqi said. "I hope to have my own job and be able to live independently. My sister's health is not good, and I hope to take care of her."



Incredible Moments at Silver Lining Missions



I am a rehabilitation practitioner and have been working as a therapist for the Dolphin and Leap groups since I joined Silver Lining in November 2018. Over the past four years, I have built a strong bond with the children and their families through our shared battles.

I lead the Leap group, which is a remote education network rehabilitation class providing online rehabilitation courses for disabled children in remote mountainous areas. In online classes, unlike face-to-face classes, the children need to be muted most of the time for better effects, so the whole class is like a one-person performance. But the children are very active. They attend classes on time every day and complete their assignments promptly. If they need to take a leave, they will watch the video later to catch up. Every day, I need to pay attention to the children's condition and abilities in class and urge their parents to exercise with them after class. I also guide the parents to develop their children's self-care abilities, teaching them how to cook and improve their living skills independently.

In addition to providing online rehabilitation courses, Silver Lining also organizes a team of rehabilitation therapists, teachers, and social workers to visit the children's homes twice a year to evaluate their rehabilitation progress and teach the parents rehabilitation techniques. During each home visit, I can feel the parents and children's anticipation. Some children live in remote mountainous areas, and we need to transfer several times to reach their homes. The parents are worried that we will get lost and keep track of our journey in real time. When we arrive in the village, the children will happily introduce me to





their friends as their teacher! The parents' trust and the children's positive attitudes toward life have deeply moved me.

The Dolphin group that I lead is an offline rehabilitation class at Silver Lining. The children in this class are older and have their own thinking. Sometimes, they will show rebellious attitudes during their adolescence, making me love and hate them at the same time. I remember one day when I was feeling unwell, I explained the situation to the children before class and asked them to exercise seriously so that I would not worry about them. The children were very serious about the exercise during the entire class. After class, a child stopped me and gave me a candy, saying with a smile, "Beautiful teacher, you will be happy after eating this candy,

and then rest well. Your body will soon be better." Taking the candy from her, my heart warmed, and my discomfort eased.

There are many moments in the Silver Lining that touch my heart, such as the children's determination to stand up while practicing ballet, and the joy they feel when taking their first steps without assistive devices... These little moments are the reasons why I stay in Silver Lining day after day.

I use my knowledge of rehabilitation to help children become independent and integrate into society. I find this very meaningful. I hope that more people will understand public welfare and join in this cause, walking hand in hand together.





Mark of Growth

Myanmar Silver Lining Family Village

Photo : Xiao Ru





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Since 2005, Silver Lining has been doing poverty relief work in Gunangxi. 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.

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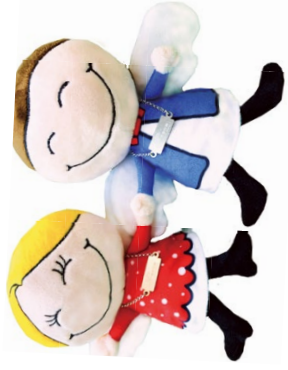




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*Note: CVV code is a 3 digit value printed on the signature strip on the back. (American Express 4 digit CSC is printed on the front of the card.)

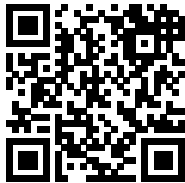
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Embark the Journey of Love with us



YOUR SMILE IS SO BEAUTIFUL

“I spread my legs, spread, spread; I step on the ground, step, step; I slowly bend down, bend, bend...” I demonstrate the movements while observing the children in front of the camera. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, this has become the most ordinary scene in our daily rehabilitation sessions. For the past three years, we have never given up providing rehabilitation classes to children. For those who cannot come to the center, we also provide online classes to continue serving them.

Jen Jen is the child in our class who smiles the most. Her eyes squint into a cute crescent moon shape when she smiles. During those years when the pandemic was severe, and everyone was anxious because of the pressure from life and the economy, Jen Jen’s healing smile brought us a lot of joy.



Jen Jen is eight years old this year. Her mother said she has always loved to smile since she was a child, although sitting, standing, and crawling has always been difficult for her, she has always remained optimistic. Her mother took Jen Jen from a remote rural area to rehabilitation centers in big cities like Hanoi and Saigon for training. Although the trips were tiring, every time her mother saw her smile, her heart would be filled with strength. The high cost of rehabilitation quickly made it difficult for the family to afford it. Her mother found out through the online platform that the center provides free rehabilitation and educational services, and she immediately registered Jen Jen. Jen Jen and her mother cherish the learning time at the center, and their seriousness moved me. Every day, they are always the first to enter the online classroom, and if I have any questions, Jen Jen always raises her hand first.

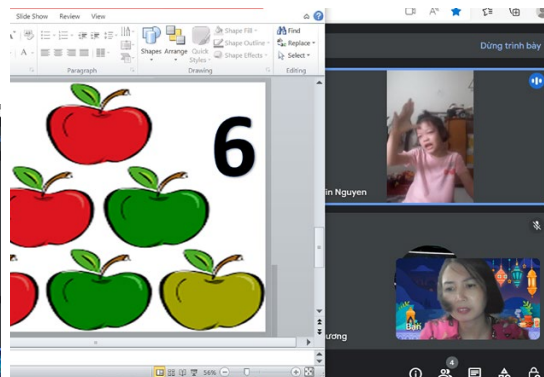


Active exercise is better for the recovery of children with cerebral palsy than passive exercise. Therefore, I try my best to combine rehabilitation exercises with cultural learning, striving to make children move.

One time, I shared a story with the children about a farmer planting rice. I said that if you work hard in the spring, you will have a bountiful harvest in the fall. We should also train hard in the spring, so that we can stand and walk better in the fall. Then I showed the children a photo of the farmer bending over to plant rice seedlings and asked them to imitate the movement. We call this movement the "bear step," which can train the stability of the limbs and trunk. It is not easy to maintain the "bear step," and it is even harder to move forward on all fours. But I use interesting methods such as stories, pictures, rhythmic commands, and music to teach them, and the children will happily do the exercises voluntarily.

Jen Jen once again set a good example. Encouraged by her mother, she tried her best to maintain the "bear step," and with her influence and encouragement, other children also tried hard. "Ah, I'm so tired..." "The farmer works hard all day, it's really not easy!" The children expressed that they would never waste food again, and everyone laughed together.

Nowadays, the impact of the pandemic is gradually dissipating, and we have resumed normal recovery and teaching. I am very grateful that I can continue to be with these lovely little angels. Our greatest wish as rehabilitation therapists and teachers is for every child to grow up healthy, learn happily, and smoothly integrate into society!





Love and being loved

-that's-what-Christmas-is-all-about-

Myanmar Silver Lining Family Village Christmas event

When the willow trees are adorned with silver ribbons,
 When the grassy lawn is dressed in silver too,
 In the distant West, an old bearded man drives a sleigh
 Delivering gifts to children door to door.
 The children's radiant smiles
 And the beautiful songs
 All speak of the joy that belongs to Christmas.



Every year, the Christmas celebration is one of the most important events at Family Village, and the children are eagerly looking forward to it.

To make the Christmas event more fun, the staff designed various activities such as the "Christmas card design competition", "program performances", and "excellent children selection and awards".

Mothers led their children to make Christmas cards as a family, and they were displayed the day before the event. The exquisite works collected the children's wisdom and creativity. The cute and vivid Christmas trees and snowmen made people feel like they were in a fairy tale world. The children's imagination made the staff admire them endlessly.

On Christmas Day, there was a special award ceremony for the ten outstanding children's representatives. The selection activity aims to create excellent young pioneers in the units and establish positive peer models among children, encouraging them to learn more positive character traits.

The program performance was the highlight of the event. Children, mothers, and project staff all participated, and the performances were fantastic, receiving continuous applause from the audience.

For children, Christmas is a sweet and beautiful reality fairy-tale. The Christmas wishes, family gatherings, and atmosphere-filled decorations allow children to feel love and learn how to give love, experiencing the joy of giving.



A Lifetime Promise

2022 Guangxi Silver Lining Disabled Children's Parents (Caregivers) Couple Camp

After marriage, the shared wish of every couple is to be together until old age. But in Guangxi Silver Lining, there are many families with disabled children who have gone through much suffering and tears. The constant pressure of caregiving, financial stress, and long-distance separation have eroded their passion for each other. The relationship between husband and wife is the most important aspect of family life that requires careful nurturing and maintenance. If a couple's relationship is not harmonious, the entire family will be in turmoil, which can cause immense harm to the disabled children's physical and mental health. A harmonious relationship between husband and wife leads to a peaceful home where everyone can benefit and thrive.

To promote a better relationship between spouses and create a happy and harmonious family environment for their children, from November 25th to 27th, 2022, Guangxi Silver Lining organized the "Lifetime Promise" Disabled Children's Parents (Caregivers) Couple Camp. Twenty-four couples with disabled children and their lovely babies spent three days and two nights full of active and joyful experiences.



The "Living in Harmony, Love in Action" marriage workshop

A happy marriage requires maintenance and cultivation, but how can couples achieve this? The center director Wei Yuqin and her husband led the parents to learn about the emotional account, the five love languages and drawing family lifelines, etc., to find the key to harmonious coexistence.



Lifetime Promise, Renewing the Vows



"Taking each other's hand and growing old together" is the wish of every couple. Guangxi Silver Lining carefully arranged a Chinese-style wedding to express their timeless love in the best way possible, saying "we will be together forever" once again! At night, in the romantic candlelight, the couples laughed and talked, sharing a candlelight dinner and dancing in the soft lights. Sometimes, feelings need to be carefully nurtured!



Couples who participated in this camp had been married for anywhere from 5 to 47 years, but because of family reasons, they had spent less time together and worked hard on their own. Although it was only a short three-day journey, the husbands experienced the hardships of their wives caring for disabled children, and the wives understood the difficulties their husbands faced while working elsewhere. At the closing ceremony, the mothers expressed not how touching the wedding was or how romantic the date was, but how moved they were that their husbands recognized how difficult it was for them to take care of their children and saw their efforts and their children's growth. Seeing is the beginning of healing; seeing is true love. When you "see" a person, the energy of love can flow.

A lifetime promise is a commitment to never leave or abandon each other, with love, there is a home, and give children a warm and loving home.



Went To a Couple Retreats with My Parents for The First Time

On November 25–27, 2022, we attended the retreat at Yinlin Resort hosted by Silver Lining.

At the opening ceremony, Uncle Qin asked a question: "For all the moms and dads here, who do you love more, your child or your spouse?" The dads answered, "Mom." (The desire to survive is strong.) Most of the moms answered, "Child." Uncle Qin said, "I believe most parents would answer this way. The correct order should be 'Dad says he loves Mom more, Mom says she loves Dad more, and then together you say to your child, we love you too.'" Then the teacher had the parents hold hands and say to us, "Mom and Dad love you!" Hearing such gentle words, I felt a bit overwhelmed and surprised, but mostly



happy. I had wanted to continue eating "dog food" on site, but unfortunately, the other teachers took all the kids to another meeting room for class.

The teacher taught us about character and we did crafts. I met a classmate named Ah Jun and we played happily together. My younger brother also found a playmate. During dinner, my parents kept serving me food, and I ate it all with a sense of obligation because it was their love.

In the evening, the teachers arranged a date session, and my parents went out to have fun. When they came back, I looked at the photos on my dad's phone. He was smiling, holding an umbrella in one hand and embracing my mom in the other. No wonder they were so happy when they came back.

The next afternoon was a special session: a wedding! I saw my dad wearing a pink suit, which looked particularly special among the sea of black suits. He looked





very handsome! After my dad settled my younger brother and me, he was "expelled." Then the teacher led the moms in and they sat down. When the dads came in and saw a "bride" in red clothes with a red veil covering her face, they were all stunned. The teacher told the moms not to hint, not to communicate, and to wait until all the dads had decided before lifting the veil together. So the dads were all carefully judging, moving left and right, afraid of making a mistake.

My dad chose the second one from the right. When it was time to lift the veil, my dad actually got it right, and my younger brother jumped into my mom's arms when he saw her. After dressing up, my mom looked even younger and more beautiful, with none of the previous exhaustion. She asked me happily, "Am I beautiful?" I smiled and said, "Yes, beautiful!" My dad grinned, and my younger brother and I rushed into my mom's arms. At that moment, I felt extremely happy.

The camp for three days ended super fast. When we got back home, my parents didn't argue as much as before. And even when they did, they were quiet and it didn't take too long. When they scolded me and my little brother, they worked together and were really good at it. It was like they had a secret plan or something. During the camp, my dad realized how important it is to spend time with us. He took care of us and played with us a lot.

Now that we're back home, he told my mom that he wants to be with us for the Chinese New Year! He's even learning how to use the computer and study for his driver's license! The best part of the camp was that our family is happier now. My parents love each other more, and my brother and I had so much fun. I even made a new friend! My little brother got a watermelon and he's not scared of new friends anymore. He likes to play with them now! I really want to go back to camp next year!





Transformation

"Xiao Jun will continue to be our class leader this semester..." before I finished my sentence, the classroom erupted into enthusiastic applause. This is Xiao Jun's third year as class leader, which shows that his ability has gained recognition from everyone. Looking at the handsome Xiao Jun in front of me, I couldn't help but think of the naughty and chubby little boy from three years ago...

Xiao Jun is 14 years old this year and is the eldest son in his family with a younger sister and brother. His father passed away when he was just over three years old. His mother entrusted her young three children to their grandmother and went to work, gradually losing contact with them. The elderly grandmother didn't want to delay the children's education, but she was unable to take care of them. After twists and turns, Xiao Jun and his siblings came to Silver Lining Family Village one after another. Xiao Jun was 10 years old when he first came to family village. He was very mischievous and often quarreled and fought with his classmates. At that time, he was quite chubby, and his classmates called him "little fat boy." Coupled with his average academic performance, he didn't take learning seriously and finished primary school in confusion.

The following year, Xiao Jun entered junior primary school. During the election of class leaders, he was unexpectedly chosen by everyone to be the class leader. His classmates wanted to tease him, but it turned out to be an opportunity for Xiao Jun to grow. He was both surprised and happy about being elected as the class leader. He was happy because he felt "very powerful," but he was also worried that others wouldn't accept him. I thought to myself, "Perhaps I can use this opportunity to change him."

I encouraged Xiao Jun, "I think you are very intelligent and lively. Your classmates elected you as a class leader because they trust you. I believe you can do a good job as a class leader." When he heard that I had such confidence in him, he asked in disbelief, "Really?" I replied firmly, "Yes, as long as you don't talk in class and don't





fight after class, you will definitely do well!" Every child desire recognition. After that day, I found that he was much more serious in class than before. Although he still got into arguments with classmates during playtime, I patiently educated and encouraged him every time. Later on, he became less and less distracted in class, and the frequency of his arguments decreased. His grades improved, and he fulfilled his responsibilities as a class leader. Instead of laughing at him, his classmates became obedient to him. Thanks to Xiao Jun's transformation, children who used to be as playful as he started to follow him in learning.

In the third year, Xiao Jun successfully advanced to the next grade. When I said we would hold a new election for the class leader, the students unanimously said, "Teacher, we don't want to change the class leader!" Xiao Jun scored the

highest mark in the class at the end of the first semester of his new grade. From a naughty and mischievous "little fat boy" to a student with remarkable changes in both academic performance and body management, I am truly proud of him.

"I don't want to follow in my dad's alcoholism footsteps, I don't want to become a manual laborer because of lack of knowledge, and I definitely don't want to end up like those drug addicts whose lives have been ruined by drugs. I want to study hard and achieve great things in the future." Xiao Jun said this during a conversation.

If there were a shortcut to life, studying would certainly be the best way to change one's destiny. I'm glad to see the growth and transformation of these children, and I wish them all the best.

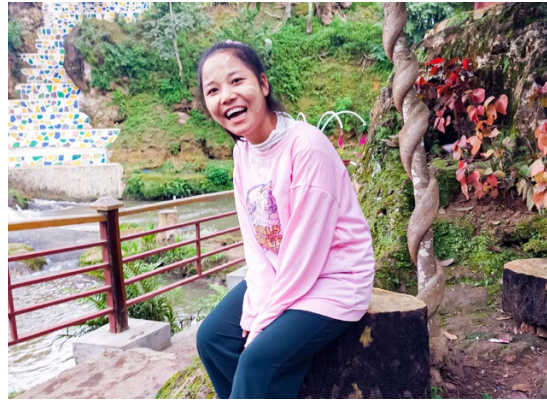




When I found out that my application to the Youth Center was accepted, I was so excited. I finally had the opportunity to continue my studies! But at the same time, I had many worries. What would happen to my family? How would my younger siblings manage? What if I couldn't keep up with my studies? My mother saw my anxiety and hugged me tightly, telling me not to worry and to cherish the opportunity to learn. Now, after nearly three years at the youth center, looking back on my journey, I remember the struggles and challenges I faced along the way.

My mother worked hard for our family's livelihood

My name is Xiao Lan, and I am a Chin national who just turned 18 years old. My family has nine members. My eldest sister married early, and my eldest brother went out to work at a young age. Due to the impact of the pandemic, his income is very unstable. At the same time, my younger siblings are still young and there is a lot of stress around our family. In my childhood memories, my father often drank and the main source of income for the family relies on the mother who picks vegetables and sells them on the street every day. The family barely survived on this meager income. Sometimes the money from their hard work was even taken by my father to buy alcohol.



Wish to quickly take on the burden of life

When I reached 9th grade, I didn't continue studying anymore. I wanted to help my mother reduce the burden of life and give my younger siblings the opportunity to continue their studies. After dropping out of school, I helped my mother with farming in the fields and sold vegetables with her. I have walked countless kilometers on the road that stretches several kilometers around the farmland.





Turning points often start with persistence

One day, my mother received a phone call. After hanging up, she cried and laughed, telling me that the Youth Center (PYCC) would provide financial support for needy children to study. She submitted an application through a pastor and unexpectedly, it was approved. It turned out that my mother did not give up on my education. She has been fighting for my opportunity to study.

At the end of June 2020, I entered PYCC to study. The time spent studying there was really enjoyable. The pastor's wife often talked to us and she was very gentle, just like my mother. My classmates and I had similar experiences, we shared our joys, sorrows, and supported and encouraged each other. During the pandemic when Burmese schools were closed, the pastor's wife arranged for tutors to give us extra lessons and our studies did not fall behind.



Every step you take counts

In February 2021, due to political reasons in Myanmar, we took refuge in our hometown with the help of the pastor. When I returned home, I learned that my father had suffered a stroke due to excessive drinking and was bedridden. I took over the job of taking care of him and often comforted and encouraged him to quit drinking. I told him about my life at the Youth Center and the teachings of the pastor's wife. My father was happy to see me return home and he really took my advice at heart. With our efforts, he slowly regained his ability to walk, although he still limps a bit. He also started to work in the fields and helped cook and send my younger siblings to school.

This is really something to be grateful for, and what's even more heartening is that the turmoil in Yangon has gradually subsided and I have returned to the Youth Center to continue my studies. I believe that life will always get better as long as we keep improving ourselves.

Thank You Letter

Children in Need in the Dahua Mountain Area – Xiao Min

Dear sponsor,

Hello! As the bell strikes midnight, the train of the new year is about to depart, bringing an unforgettable time and ushering in a vibrant youth. I am very happy to receive the gift you gave me on the occasion of the new year – sports shoes and socks. I really like them. Thank you! I wish you a happy new year, all the best, and success in everything!

With your continued support, I am now a high school student. The road to get here has not been easy. Your help allows me to go to school with peace of mind and without too much worry. When I receive the living expenses you provide me every month, I am truly grateful. In the past year, I have studied hard, strived for excellence, and been passionate about life and sports.

As the ancient saying goes, "Dripping water wears through a stone." Thank you for your care, thank you for your help, and thank you for everything you have done for me. You have brought sunshine and warmth to me in the dark valley. At any time, please accept my sincerest wishes!

I will work hard to become a useful person with a grateful heart!

Best regards,
Xiao Min



Dear

您好!零时的钟声即将响彻天涯,新年列车在日出出发,它把去一个难忘的岁月,迎来了一个红色的新年,很高兴在新年来临之际,收到您送给我的礼物——运动鞋和袜子,我非常喜欢,谢谢您,祝您新年快乐,万事如意,心想事成!

在您的支持下,我已是一名高年级啦,这一路走来不容易,您的帮助,让我能够安心的学习,减轻您的担忧,每份钱您都给予我的生活费,我心中感激不已,在過去的一年里,我刻苦学习,努力争优,对生活充满热情,酷爱运动。

在夜深人静时,常常想起您,感谢您的付出,感谢您的帮助,感谢您对我所做的一切,让我在黑暗的夜晚感受到了阳光和温暖,白天时间,请接受我最衷心的祝愿!

我会抱着一颗感恩的心,努力学习成为一个有用的人!

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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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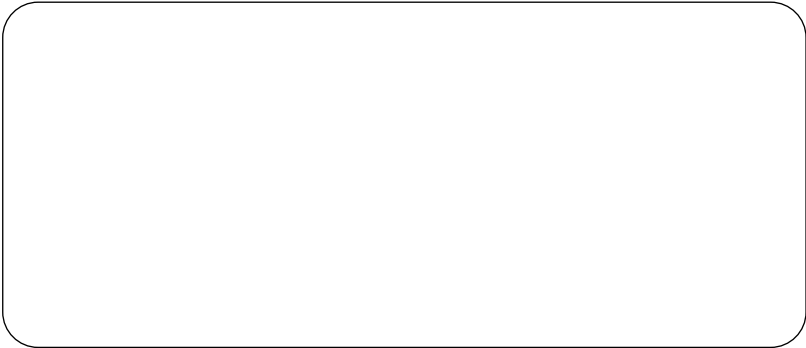
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