

Charity Review SOS Children's Villages Thailand

under the Royal Patronage of H.M. The Queen

Review Date: January 2015

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### Charity Purpose:

Year 2013 was 40 years anniversary of the operation SOS Children's Villages Thailand which has been established since 1971 with its first children's village in Bangpu, Samutprakarn province built on the donated 10 rais of land from its first Chair Women, Lady Somsri Chareon rajapark in order to help, care abandoned children in the form of "Alternative permanent Family" which is international format that SOS International has integrated and applied as a standard orphanage adoption world-wide.

SOS Children's Village Thailand has received NGOs Award 2014 as the top-notch of the large NGOs in Thailand. Its objective is to be and social services organization to assist and take care abandoned children who lose their parents and relatives by providing "Alternative Permanent Family" with a warm family environment living together and providing them education as high as possible upon each child ability in order to be self-reliance, as a good persons who have morality and ethics with quality and ability to build their own family in the future including to be a part of quality people in social and nation.

Its vision is to looking forward to those abandoned children who are under the foundation take-care to have their own "Mom" and their own family by being raised with love, warmth, stability and safety environment, providing them with education, morality and ethics, good careers, self-reliance in order to stand happily with stability in society.

SOS Children's Village Thailand under the Royal Patronage of H.M The Queen is a member of SOS International (SOS Children's Villages International) who take parenting style from Dr. Hermann Gmeiner an Austrian, the founder of SOS International, the parenting theme of Dr. Hermann Gmeiner becomes the prototype of the SOS Children's Village world-wide.

SOS Children's Village Thailand has been registered as NGOs organization with its registered number 668, donation to the foundation is entitled for tax reduction.

### Background to the Need for the Charities Support:

In 1971, Lady Somsri Chareon rajapark japark, a founder, together with Lady Sumalee Jatikavanij, a founder's committee and associates has brought child adoption theme from SOS Children's Villages of Dr. Hermann Gmeiner, an Austrian, the founder of SOS Children's Village International which is the

prototype of orphan adoption theme of SOS Children's Village International world-wide.

- In 1976, the Queen Sirikit has graciously taken SOS Children's Village Thailand under Her Royal Patronage. Pol.Maj.General Norawat Chareon is the Chairman of the directing committees of the foundation. And Mr. Siddhartha Kaul is the Chairman of SOS Children's Village International.
- In 1995, SOS Children's Village International had been awarded "The Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize" United State of America on being as an organization that play major roles in alleviating the suffering of humanity. In the same year, SOS Children's Village International has expand its operation to helping orphans in the countries of Europe zone.
- In 1986, Dr. Hermann Gmeiner had passed away on April 26. At that time SOS Children's Village International has its own 230 children's village world-wide. The organization and the Dr. Hermann had been nominated for the Nobel Prize for peace for many time.
- In 1995, SOS International has provided Emergency Relief for those Asia countries where affected by Tsunami including Thailand. The organization also providing long-term assistance for the natural disaster victims on building new residence as well as establishing SOS Children's Village for those orphans whose lose by the disaster in India, Sri-Langa, Indonesia and Phuket, Thailand.
- In 1995, was also the year of SOS Children's Village International 60 year anniversary, there were 500 children's villages around the world, the 500th village located in Cali city, Columbia, South America. SOS children's Village International is a member of United Nation and nominated as NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nation.

# SOS Children's Village international theme of Dr. Hermann Gmeiner.

Each village consists of 12 home residents for orphans, mother and aunt, those children live together as brother and sister in the virtual environment as "the perfect family" and being as "Alternative Permanent Family" for them. This theme is a major mechanism to reduce and eliminate each child's Inferiority complex on being orphan by fulfil them with love, warmth, stability, safety, healthy and to be supported with education as highest as each child's ability, potential and to self-reliance.

SOS Children's Village Thailand is not only orphanage organization but is the foundation where provide alternative permanent family to those children by fulfilling the missing part of each orphan's life in order to enhance potential, ability and opportunity for brighter their future.

## **SOS Children's Village Thailand's Mission**

The principle of operation:

- 1. SOS children's Village Thailand builds family for orphans by giving them opportunity on creating their relationship in the village as an Alternative permanent family with the 4 operation principles following:
- 1.1. SOS Mother who dedicate herself as real mother to give love and warmth to those orphans.
- 1.2. SOS Brotherhood who are girl and boy from various place in different ages living in the same family with the ties of brotherhood.
- 1.3. SOS Home where every orphans have their own home under the same roof where filled with love, warmth safety and stability with their mother, brotherhood and SOS family.
- 1.4. SOS Children's Village where SOS families live together as children's community where every child is a member of the community to contribute and help each other.
- 2. SOS Children's Village Thailand help and raise those orphans to be able to appropriately determine their

own future by opening opportunity to them on living in response to their own religion and culture with participation and having role in their community including helping them to discover their potential, ability, talent supporting them with education skill training, cultivating virtue, ethics which would help them to achieve success and being accepted.

3. SOS Children's Village Thailand fosters those children to contribute to community development. in response to social demand on child development project management for education, health care, and protection in emergencies in order to building strong families and prevent child neglect.

# **Description of Activities:**

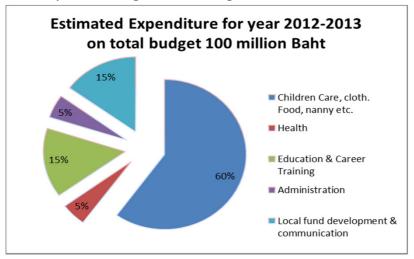
Between 2012 to 2013 there were new 30 orphans who lose their parents and relatives living in SOS Children's village country-wide, in the same time there were 40 teenagers who were able to complete their highest education according to their ability and potential.

In 2012 SOS Children's Village has utilized fund received from donors and supporters on giving quality care to 5 SOS Children's Village nation-wide as follow:

Village location	Boy	girl	Male youth	Total
SOS Children's Village Bangpoo	54	62	23	139
SOS Children's Village Hatyai	58	65	18	141
SOS Children's Village Nongkai	64	50	19	133
SOS Children's Village Chiangrai	66	61	13	140
SOS Children's Village Phuket	61	50	6	117
Total	303	288	79	670

The age of children living in each home are between 1 month to 13 years old. Each home consists Mother, Aunt who raise and take care 10 children encompassing financial management, education preparation, cooking for diary meal, house keeping, clothing and moral with ethics cultivation for those 10 orphans.

Information for year 2012-2013 the foundation estimated from its expenditure at 100 million Thai Baht which was allocated to its expenses categories following:



Those boys whose age 14 above need to move from the village to stay at SOS Youth Facility Centers where locate not so far from each children's villages, they are allowed to visit their Mom and brotherhood at the Children's Village any time this is to foster their potential in response to their age and to self-reliance for adulthood preparation.

**SOS Mothers** are single women who live without any family obligation, age between 25-40 years with commitment and sacrifice to adopt those children who lose their parents and their own families by giving them love, warmth. During the first two years the women who would like to be SOS Motherhood need to be obtained training courses an being interns prior to be officially assigned as SOS Motherhood. On the training duration they would be called "aunty" (Mother's younger sister). Aunty will be trained both theory and practice on children adoption and raising up as well as mental alertness on fundamental of sacrifice.

Those SOS Mothers will be permanent staffs of SOS Children's Village last long, each mother would raise and take care 10 children within a home in the village with full authority in manage fund which allocated to each home yearly, providing education and manners training which include morality and ethics, love and warmth in order to represent herself as a real mother of those children under her own custody in addition to creating brotherhood relationship among children. Each SOS motherhood will work together with Ant who assist her in each house with creating love and warm family environmental atmosphere to reduce dissimilarity which probably occurred with the children.

There are 10 to 12 SOS Children's Home in each village, each SOS motherhood would directly report to Director of the village who is counsellor for each mother in the village.

SOS's Mothers with Ant and other related staffs within each home would obtain training courses annually in order to refresh their knowledge in theory and practice for two weeks, the training contents encompassing raising child, house keeping, cooking, health and knowledge around which is useful for them, the refreshing courses conducted by professional trainers.

**Retired SOS Mother**. As for SOS Mother whose age reaches 60 years and work for SOS Children's Village for 20 years above, the foundation has arranged home for their live after retirement with providing facilities conventionally in order to return their hard working, dedication and intention toward to the foundation.

## Our review Process:

Mr. Manu Pensawangwat, a staff member of Giving Back Association has visited SOS Children's Village Thailand office at 18 Moo 3 Soi Boonsiri, Sukumvit Rd. Amphur Mueng, Samutprakarn on January 26, 2015 at 10.00 a.m. and have a good opportunity to meet and discussed the SOS Children's Village activities with Mr. Chatchai Thepsena, Head of raising Children Program. Giving Back Assoc. has gained invaluable information on orphanage situation in Thailand at present that in every 100 Thai children, there are 20 orphans whose parents abandoned due to many factors such as passed away from disease, accident, natural disaster, poverty, immigrant to other area or violence in family etc. (Citation:The situation of children's rights in Thailand Research: A case study of children on the loss of parents and children without parental care, year 2012)

Giving Back Assoc. also learned that the parenting style that SOS Children's Village has applied and brought in to standard practice with children in each home is able to make children feel that they are living with their own family which match the core objectives of the foundation which aims to:

- To reduce the children's feeling of gap between NGOs Organization and love with warm family.

As a result, SOS Children's Village Thailand doesn't allow any donors to host meal party in the village

for the children except donation in-kind and visit to a home in each village with the consent of Motherhood of the home.

In addition, SOS Children's Village Thailand does not accept orphan directly. Those orphans need to be transferred by the governmental offices or other charities where its work related to abandoned children such as Emergency Accommodation Services Office etc. SOS Children's Village accepts children age between 1 month to 7 years. Those children will be provided all facilities which available in the home and village, school for education covering for all expenses as well as parental take care, school enrolment. Special education will be provided to those children who have shown their special talent such as English class school etc. SOS Children's Village Thailand is the orphanage on long run basis. This means that the charity doesn't accept short duration of orphan's stay, this is to ensure that its parenting theme work effectively with those orphans and create brighter future for them.

**Child Development Program.** CDP is the program to follow-up learning progress on children living in the village individually in order to further plan children's education progress in response to their objectives. CDP program also is a communication channel between children and SOS Children's Village staff members to improve their grade of education in order to make children achieve their career dream.

**Career Support Program.** SOS Children's Village Thailand has implemented the program in order to promote those children whose age beyond 18 years old who are supposed to live independently out off the village. The foundation will help them on searching job placement which match their qualification various networks such as former senior orphans, committee members, corporate supporters etc. in addition to 6 months living allowance and room rental expense outside the village.

Year 2014 was a success year of SOS Children's Village Thailand, 90% of its children who were raised have been graduated in bachelor degrees with getting jobs bringing pride to their mother and the foundation as a whole.

### Reporting

SOS Children's Village Thailand has presented its Annual Report 2012-2013 with its Financial Statement for year 2013 which was audited by Preyada Charnparttaravanit, a Certified Public Accountant no.3939 of WSBS Co., Ltd. On March 10, 2014. The 40 years Anniversary of SOS Children's Village Thailand book has also been presented to the Giving Back Assoc.'s team.

### **Values and Transparency:**

SOS Children's Village Thaiand has its international unique theme of raising orphans which is differentiated from other general orphanange in Thailand, the parenting style of Dr. Hermann Gmeiner which provide "an alternative permanent family" is the theme that make SOS-Thailand and SOS-International has been accredited and successful on orphans raising world-wide which is the strengh of the SOS-Thailand. Giving Back Association's team has coordinated with accounting department in order to request some break-down figure between operation and administration. We are unable to give any comment on it financial statement properly due to no information provision.

In addition, SOS Chilren's Village Thailand annual report didn't demonstrate villages expenses which were able to be compared with its annual financial statement for the year.