2005 Annual Activity Report

Sri-Lanka Tsunami Disaster Relief

The Asian Tsunami Disaster in December 2004 caused extensive damage to the islands of Sri Lanka and resulted in more than 500,000 refugees. Many of them are still living in temporary camps and tents.

NGO Side by Side Sri Lanka donated five fishing boat sets (each set consisting of a boat, engine and fishing nets) to fishermen and their families who lost their houses and boats. Side by Side also donated 6 sewing machines to one of the villages hardest hit by the Tsunami in the Hikkaduwa region, other items include: Milk powder, oil stoves, and stationary items for children. Your continued support is greatly appreciated by many refugees who still lack many of their basic daily necessities.

Gifts of Love to Cambodia

Working hand in hand with Japan Relief for Cambodia, Side by Side International has helped to establish 280 schools, this has been made possible through the generosity and support of many companies and individuals both in Japan and internationally. Most of these schools have been established in rural areas where there is no electricity or telephone lines, the children who attend these schools can now communicate with the world via the internet, and these villages can now receive medical examinations and treatment via the internet from doctors in the Medical College of Harvard Univ., MIT, and Boston General Hospital.

This has been made possible through an intricate system of antennas, satellites and motorbikes. Donated Parabola Antennas have been set up to transmit to satellites, receivers are then used to bring the wireless technology to these various remote villages, as shown in this newspaper article. The computers and servers used for this project were supplied by Side by Side International. In March and November of 2005 we sent two 12 meter long containers packed with computers, computer peripherals, dentist equipment for free clinics, a Mitsubishi Pajero (photo above) custom built for a medical project which brings free medical care to remote rural villages and towns, shoes, and school bags. SBSI also donated 3 mobile library book shelves, as well as the books to stock them.

Disaster Risk Prevention and Relief projects

Side by Side supplied 30 computers for the Disaster Risk Prevention and Relief projects in Mongolia designed to aid in protect local farmers from serious damage to their crops by cold weather or famine.
Homeless Service with Foods and Counseling

This year we supplied a total of 3 tons of food which include, meat, vegetable, fruit and bread, which we cooked and distributed biweekly, with the help of many volunteer workers, to the homeless at Shinjuku Chuo Park. For 2 hours after every meal we give counseling sessions. Through these efforts many have begun to get back on their own feet.

Camps and Forums

In 2005 we were able to hold various forums and camps for all ages covering topics such as relations with others, parenting and communication, all based on Christian teachings and beliefs.

The children and young people from AFC in joint effort with SbSI visited orphanages and retirement homes where they performed songs, clown shows, and magic, as well as distributing gifts and books. AFC has been working with some orphanages in these yearly projects for over 10 years now.

AFC Project Report

“Look at the good and loving things people do & forgive them for their shortcomings, which are sometimes born out of ignorance, insensitivity, lack of prayerfulness, etc. Everyone makes mistakes, you included. Be generous with your love and forgiveness, for that in itself is healing.”

(excerpt taken from Marina’s diary, March 2005)

Asia Book Project

Our most recently launched project. The goal of this project is the creation and distribution of Children’s story books for underprivileged children in Asia, living in severe environments caused by poverty and/or disasters. We believe that these books will give them hope and encouragement as well as instill in them a positive outlook on life and help them to look forward to a brighter future.

Members of Activate Family Circle have presently begun work on art and layout for these books. The Cambodian Ambassador has promised his support for this project and kindly gave us words of encouragement and counsel.

With Cambodian Ambassador in Japan

SIDE BY SIDE INTERNATIONAL

1-17-21 Toneri Adachiku, Tokyo 〒121-0831  Tel: 03-3898-9284 FAX: 03-3898-9285  E-mail: mail@side-by-side-intl.org  http://www.side-by-side-intl.org

Marina Helena Grunhage
(1951-2005)

Marina Helena Grunhage passed away to her heavenly reward in June, 2005. She devoted her life to helping others. With her husband Koji Sasaki (Chairman of Side by Side International), worked tirelessly in organizing Side by Side’s volunteer projects and activities. Her Christian faith and her deep love for others brought encouragement and hope to many.

We are deeply grateful for your support and cooperation.

The best gifts are wrapped in Love.

Bank remittance:
Mizuho Bank
Setagaya branch
Futsu Koza 2223876