

Autumn 2016

## A Message from Patty & Jane



We are overwhelmed by the love and support at the 2016 Sunflower Celebration in June. Together we raised over \$100,000.

The business community, our family and friends, old and new, came forward in a celebration of FTD. Thank you to everyone who came, bid, donated, volunteered and sponsored.

See our story to the right to see the lives impacted by your support. With our Chiang Khong program underway, we are reaching 40 girls and young women this year, more than in any year since FTD was established 11 years ago.

Our expansion will allow us to reach up to 75 girls and young women EACH year. The exponential impact of our program means that many more than 75 lives will be changed in any given year. Our Daughters are mentors and role models who give back to their communities. They are inspiring the next generation.

Thank you for joining us on this important journey.

Khob khun kha, Patty & Jane

## The Chiang Rai Sunflower House LIT Club



(L to R): front row - Som-o, Napa, Mind, Kanlaya, Ladda, Bushoo; back row - P'Aoy (LIT World Partnership Coordinator, FTD Director and program graduate), Ratee, May, Faii, Geang, Aon, Lutha, Meesa, May, Aoy's assistant P'Peh.



## Meet Our Chiang Khong Daughters

*Tucked in the northeast corner of Thailand across the Mekong River from Laos and two hours from FTD's Chiang Rai campus sits Chiang Khong. Chiang Khong is a growing city with new roads and bridges funded by the Chinese government. With this growth and transportation infrastructure, comes great risk of the trafficking of stateless and vulnerable people.*

*An existing girls' shelter in Chiang Khong was in imminent danger of closing due to lack of funding. In May, FTD came to the rescue and created the Chiang Khong Sunflower House (CKSH) under the very capable leadership of long-time and trusted collaborator Puangthon 'Too' Takan. This program is now being expanded to mirror FTD's more comprehensive and long-term program.*

*The CKSH is currently home to 15 girls from ethnic minority groups including the Shan, Karen, Lisu, Lahu, and Hmong. Ages 13-17, the CKSH Daughters enjoy playing musical instruments, listening to music, practicing art and sewing, and participating in LIT Club. Several times a year they visit the Chiang Rai Sunflower House campus to bond with their FTD family and to participate in FTD educational excursions.*

*Photos L to R: top row - Suda, Nara, Sorng, On, and Annie; middle row - Honey, Neung, Jun, Nicha, and Deuan; bottom row - See, Ploy Lek, Seedah, Ice and Ploy Yai. See more CKSH photos on page 2.*



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# BNI Shares Networks

This year, BNI, a long-time FTD supporter, generously shared its global stage, talent and philanthropy with FTD.

First, FTD Director and BNI Massachusetts Executive Director (ED), Patti Salvucci, introduced FTD at BNI's National Conference in April raising critical dollars thanks to a winning bid by Canadian BNI ED, Pat Stride. A few weeks later, BNI Foundation awarded a grant to FTD. In July, BNI Massachusetts stepped up as a sponsor at the Sunflower Celebration. BNI also selected FTD as one of five non-profit organizations worldwide to highlight in its annual *Connect 5* video produced by Kevin Barber and shot by Lawrence Richards. *Connect 5* will be released soon. In the meantime, Lawrence and Kevin donated a promotional video to FTD, which can be viewed on our homepage. Thank you BNI!



The Chiang Khong Sunflower House Family (L to R): Front row – Annie, Jun, Ploy Lek, Ploy Yai, Deuan; middle row - Nara, See, Seedah, Suda, Neung, Sorng; back row - On, Ice, P'Too, P'Maia, Honey, P'Pan, and P'Malee.



Photo above, L to R: BNI CEO Graham Wehmiller, Patti Salvucci, BNI Founder Ivan Misner, and BNI Foundation President Beth Misner at the BNI U.S. National Conference in April.

## An FTD Primer

In 2002, Jane McBride and Patty Zinkowski were traveling in Northern Thailand when they encountered a group of 15 girls at risk of human trafficking, fending for themselves in an abandoned school. They decided instantly that they would help them and the idea of Friends of Thai Daughters was born. After three years of providing financial support from friends and family, they registered Friends of Thai Daughters as a 501(c)3 charitable organization in 2005.

FTD is a prevention organization, focusing its efforts on those most **at risk** of being trafficked. We use the US State Department's annual [Trafficking in Persons \(TIP Report\)](#) as a source of information on the status of trafficking in Thailand and also for identifying risk factors.

FTD is an intensive, comprehensive and long-term program. We provide food, clothing, education, housing and emotional support in a family environment. As of 2016, we operate safe houses, or *Sunflower Houses*, in Chiang Rai and Chiang Khong for 30 Daughters ages 8-19. FTD also provides funding and emotional support and guidance for non-resident Daughters, mostly college students and graduates, assisting them with post-graduate internships and employment.



Jun learns to sew from CKSH assistant, P'Pan.



CKSH Daughters Nara, Suda, See and Seedah relax after school.



Congratulations to Nong Khai and Ozzie Crocco on their marriage. Khai is one of the FTD's original Daughters and has a degree from Chiang Mai University. She is a mentor for her younger sisters. Mutual friends introduced Khai and Ozzie while Ozzie was teaching at Payap University in Chiang Mai.





2016 Sunflower Celebration at Elm Bank in Wellesley, MA. Photos top to bottom, L to R: Oriana van Daele, Debbie Lewis and Lisa Drapkin; Joan and Leonard Shulman; Brenda Hsu, Whitney Strehle, and Corrie Dretler; Jack McBride, the Honorable Evelyn Murphy, and Linda Hardenbergh.

## Sunflower Spotlight

The Sunflower Spotlight is an opportunity for us to share why our donors choose to support our mission and work. Simply put, we could not do our work without the generosity of those who support us. Thank you.

*"We have been enthusiastic supporters of Friends of Thai Daughters for the past decade, since our first trip to Thailand in 2006 when we met the original three Daughters. It has been exciting to watch them mature into intelligent, caring, and dedicated young women, eager to pass on to their new, younger sisters the crucial and loving support they have received from FTD. One has only to listen to all the early life stories of extreme hardship, as well as lack of education and opportunity, to understand the vital importance of this organization. By providing a constant and nurturing environment, FTD has created a safe space where each girl can achieve her greatest potential."*

Linda Hardenbergh &  
Seichi Yasumura  
Newport Beach, CA, USA



## Visit Thailand

Have you always wanted to travel to Thailand and see first hand how FTD is changing lives? Now is the time!

FTD and GoInspirAsian are partnering to provide trips to Northern Thailand to raise awareness, enthusiasm and support for FTD's programs. This new partnership will provide our sponsors and students with a great opportunity to meet FTD's Daughters, spend time visiting their villages, schools and join them in after school activities.

In January 2017, FTD Co-founder Jane McBride will lead our first weeklong Adult Sponsor Tour. These tours have some flexibility with dates and itineraries for customized experiences. It is a great opportunity to spend time with these amazing young women and to see first hand how your involvement is helping to prevent human trafficking.

In July, we led our first Student Service Trip for high school and college students. The students spent 13 days immersed in the culture of Chiang Rai and Chiang Khong. They volunteered at the girls' school, visited their villages, helped them with English, and even rode elephants at a refuge for rescued elephants.

For trip details, dates and information, email [Pauli@goinspirasian.com](mailto:Pauli@goinspirasian.com) or visit [www.goinspirasian.com](http://www.goinspirasian.com).

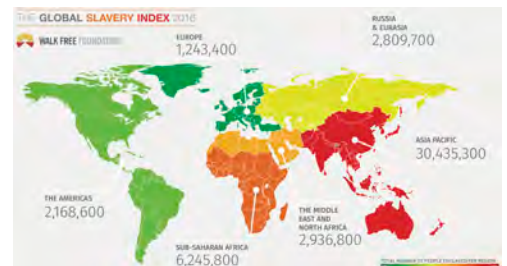


## The Human Trafficking Crisis

Human trafficking, a.k.a. slavery, is a \$150 billion industry impacting an estimated 45.8 million people, of which over 30 million are in the Asia Pacific Region and an estimated 425,500 in Thailand.

FTD's Daughters come from hill tribe villages along the Lao and Burmese borders where ethnic minority girls are most at risk of being trafficked. The primary risk factor is their lack of legal documentation, which renders them "stateless." Many have been orphaned, abandoned or neglected by families leaving them vulnerable.

FTD's Sunflower Houses are often the first time they have encountered indoor plumbing, electricity, sufficient food and a loving and safe shelter.





# Friends of Thai Daughters

Preventing Child Trafficking in the Golden Triangle

Web: [www.friendsofthaidaughters.org](http://www.friendsofthaidaughters.org)

Email: [info@friendsofthaidaughters.org](mailto:info@friendsofthaidaughters.org)

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Trevett, ME 04571 USA

**Save the Dates for  
our Sunflower  
Celebrations!**

**Thursday, May 11,  
2017** in Wellesley, MA

**Friday, August 4,  
2017** in Damariscotta,  
ME

## The Sunflower News, Autumn 2016



### **FTD Expansion Underway**

With the Chiang Rai Sunflower Campus at full capacity, the satellite Sunflower House established in Chiang Khong and LIT Clubs in full swing at both programs, FTD has completed Phases I and II of its expansion. Phase III plans include establishing a third Sunflower House in the border town of Mae Sai (see photo on left), upgrading the Chiang Khong Sunflower House with an enclosed study and activity room and replacing roofs in Chiang Rai.

With three Sunflower Houses strategically located throughout the Golden Triangle (see map on right), FTD will have the capacity to reach up to 45 resident Daughters and 30 non-resident Daughters for a total of 75 girls and young women annually.



### **Sign up for Online Monthly Gifts and Receive Original Woodblock Print Card**

It is now much easier to make a recurring monthly donation online. Please visit our website at [www.friendsofthaidaughters.org](http://www.friendsofthaidaughters.org), sign up for a recurring monthly donation and receive a free limited edition woodblock print card created by FTD's Lek Saruta.

