Progress Report

Rebuilding Lives Through Education



Year 2 Budget \$30,000



Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

MAY 21

Overview

This project supports 35 teachers and some educational materials at two schools (407 students) along the Thai/Burma border area in the Karen State of Myanmar. Burmese families are struggling to survive amidst ongoing unrest and destruction of infrastructure, resulting from the military coup which began 1/2/21, together with the after effects of COVID-19. Families are living with little/no physical resources to support themselves. Year 2 hopes to install a water filtration system at one of the schools. The total budget for this project is \$55,000. The military rule is wrecking havoc - access to food, shelter, water, safety and stability are extremely volatile.

Impact for May - October 22

Two schools are being supported



at KLS and HTL villages (names hidden for security) two hours from the Thai border. This period continues to see severe stress with regular military raids and many displaced. Fortunately the schools have not been attacked directly. Some educational materials have been bought.

34 teachers were supported with funds

during this very difficult time, enabling school to continue as it could, despite the turmoil of the 2-year military coup. The entire region is volatile and retaining teachers is a priority. This is a challenge due to the insecurity of the area. The teachers demonstrate tenacity, care and commitment.



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Student enrolments have declined from 407

due to the conflict. It is difficult to determine the whereabouts of some as they flee for their lives multiple times. HTL school has split their students with boarders and female staff relocating to a safer jungle location close to the Thai border. Classes have been taught and exams sat despite the situation, which is incredible.

The addition of clean water

to the schools will make a big difference. Water filtration through a Singapore company has been commenced. The systems and equipment have been purchased and the team awaits safer conditions for travel to HTL school.

• Our hearts go out to the teachers and students. It is a terrible situation and life-threatening. Despite this, they soldier on with a huge desire to educate the next generation. We stand with them.



A Teacher's Story

One of the teacher's said "For the past six months the school has been in bad shape because our school (KLS) is close to the conflict. Sometimes, Burmese military jets roam over the villages and everyone is tense and we live in fear. We cannot use the roads so we go by foot over the mountains when needed. It is not safe to travel but sometimes we have to as food or medicine is needed. We are committed to the students. Their safety is our biggest concern. We continue to teach them, care for them and support them. It is two years now since the coup happened. We have to stay alert and find a way forward as best we can."







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MAY 23