

I love
School

NEWSLETTER 2025

 Hope House Thai

Swiss Foundation 
hopehouse
education for the future



HopeHouse in Thailand and Laos. *by Gilles Bernard, PhD*

After multiple visits to Laos, we provided decisive support to a school located 40 km from Vientiane, at the end of bumpy dirt roads. We sponsored 275 students to enable them to attend school. The primary motivation was to include tribes that are often marginalized in the education system, particularly the Hmong (the "reds"). In addition, we helped a primary school located 50 km from Vientiane by providing 106 uniforms for children who were happy to finally be able to dress, without exaggeration, decently...

In Thailand, in the province of Loei, HopeHouse equipped a classroom for young people studying computer science... without computers! Complicated, isn't it? Fifteen PCs for the students and the necessary IT equipment for the teachers now enable the students to learn in good conditions.

As I write these lines, the 2024 statistics are coming in: 18% of Thai students drop out of school at age 13, the age for entering secondary school. The main reason given by parents is lack of financial resources. It's clear.

This year, 2025/2026, 429 students will have directly benefited from our support (school fees, uniforms transportation).

This assistance is in line with our ongoing support for our six university students who are pursuing remarkable studies: pharmacists, hospital administrators, environmental engineers, etc.

For the fifty or so Thai high school students we sponsor, everything is going according to plan... Every Saturday, these young people study English and Chinese.

Why did Hopehouse start teaching Chinese to its students? Given the economic vitality (and US customs policy), Thai candidates in the job market face a whole new reality: they need to speak Chinese and English. We have adapted to the situation by maintaining three English classes and creating a Chinese language class.

There is still a long way to go and the future will be challenging. But what we see every day encourages us: children who get up at dawn to go to class, students who dream of opening a pharmacy in five years, and families who find a glimmer of hope where there was once only survival.

Thanks to you!



New:
HopeHouse
in Kap



"It's hard to learn on an empty stomach."

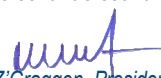
For many years, my wife and I have been visiting South Africa regularly. We are fascinated by this country and its people. However, the contrast between the rich, mostly white, living in huge villas, and the poor, mostly black, living in miserable tin shacks, is unbearable. Years ago, in the hinterland of Paarl, we met Magda, a fascinating woman who has been preparing meals for the poorest people for over 20 years in her simple but efficient kitchen and in a mobile kitchen. **Magda's Soup Kitchen** distributes between 3,000 and 4,000 meals every week in desolate slums. We have often accompanied her! But she does much more than that: she takes care of the children, ensures that they are healthy and go to school, empowers fathers, visits prisons, etc. Tireless, working almost day and night, this woman is simply incredible!

In agreement with the founder of Hope-House, we have decided to include Magda's Soup Kitchen in our donation program starting this year. In the future, approximately 20% of donations will go to Magda, with the majority continuing to go to our long-standing project in Thailand and Laos.

Sharing is a matter of personal attitude. Sharing has many facets, whether it be the time and attention we give to our fellow human beings, our concern for children to grow up in a supportive environment, go to school, and have the chance to lead independent lives. For years, dear donors, you have been helping our foundation to offer this opportunity to children. At first glance, some countries may appear to be experiencing positive economic development, but entire regions remain forgotten, slums and poor neighborhoods persist, whether in Thailand, Laos, South Africa, or countless other countries. Of course, we may only be a "drop in the ocean," but let's not forget that these drops make all the difference to the people concerned! Most of us are in a privileged position, so let's not forget the famous words of the great humanist Albert Schweitzer:

"Happiness is the only thing that doubles when shared..."

Thank you very much for your contribution. The HopeHouse committee wishes you a wonderful end of the year. We are proud to continue counting you among our donors.


Ernest Z'Graggen, President



HOPEHOUSE FOUNDATION

hopehouse.ch hopehouse-thailand.org info@hopehouse.ch

For your donation:

Postfinance, IBAN CH91 0900 0000 1079 0916 5
HopeHouse Foundation, 1436 Chamblon