

May 3, 2012

Peace Corps Thailand, 1962-2012
... 50 Years of shared experiences that have changed lives ...

**Continue the impact of your work as a Peace Corps Volunteer –
please donate to our \$50 for 50 Campaign.**

Dear Friends of Thailand Member,

Thank you so much for your membership in *Friends of Thailand*. While we're sorry you won't be joining us in Bangkok for Peace Corps Thailand's 50th Anniversary in Bangkok in July, please know you'll be with us in spirit! During this trip, we'll reflect on our past Volunteer experiences and learn about new, potential projects planned by current Volunteers. FoT is an all-volunteer organization with a 10-year track record of successfully sponsoring 79 PCV projects totaling \$50,917. However, FoT funding of **new projects is in jeopardy** due to diminished reserves.

As you may know, FoT is **the only ongoing, non-governmental source of financial support** for PCV projects – all of which are approved by the Royal Thai Government and Peace Corps staff. Each project is an integral part of the larger development plan that is helping to propel Thailand's rural communities toward greater prosperity and self-sufficiency. Past projects have included: public health, sustainable agriculture, orphans living with HIV/AIDS, literacy, community development, and more. While these projects have been modest in scale (we have a per project cap of 50,000 baht – \$1,600 USD), **they changed the lives of children, the working poor, and the elderly**. In fact, the current issues of the National Peace Corps Association's WorldView features a PCV project FoT funded in 2011. (Please visit www.friendsofthailand.org <<http://www.friendsofthailand.org>> for details about past projects.) Most project funding has come from FoT membership dues and donations, with some support from corporations, foundations and community groups. In past years, we were able to fund projects as soon as they were approved. But our reserves are now depleted, putting new project funding on hold.

To meet the need for project funds, we have launched our **\$50 for 50** fundraising campaign in honor of Peace Corps Thailand's 50th Anniversary. Our goal is to raise \$20,000. Contributions to this effort, plus dues from our 200+ members, will help us meet this goal. This amount will allow us to fund 12-15 new projects in 2012 and set aside sufficient reserves for project funding in 2013. Will you consider donating **\$50 or more**? Please respond by **May 15, 2012** so we can start funding new projects in 2012. A donation *in any amount* will be appreciated. Contributions may be made online at: <http://www.friendsofthailand.org/donate/main.html>. Thank you!

With warm regards,

Carolyn Nickels-Cox
President and Treasurer, Thai 34
<http://www.friendsofthailand.org>

P.S. All donations are tax-deductible. Our federal tax ID # is: **83-0399152**.

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