

PEACE CORPS THAILAND

Second Quarter Report FY 2010

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EXCERPT FROM QUARTERLY REPORT:

Volunteer Success Stories: Post is pleased to feature PCV Heather Chadwick for the success she is having with the Day Care Center in her community. Heather arrived at her site in northeastern Thailand in April of last year following the completion of her Peace Corps training and has been serving there in our Community Based Organizational Development (CBOD) Project since that time. To succeed in the CBOD Project, PCVs must integrate well into their host communities in order to identify their real needs and interests. One expressed need Heather identified in her host community during her first year of service was to improve the conditions in the local day care center. The toilet and bathroom facilities at the day care center were very poor and unhygienic. Here is what Heather wrote about her service:

“Each week, I work at a small day care in my community, teaching the ABCs, singing songs, and planning new lessons with the teachers. I noticed that the only bathroom at the school was very old and in bad shape so I assisted the community leaders in applying for a grant to build a new bathroom. The teachers and community members were all very excited about this project. The construction only took a week, which is amazing! There are now 3 bathrooms - one for bathing, one adult bathroom, and one kid bathroom with little toilets. I was so excited and impressed by how easily it all came together. Upon completion of the new bathroom, I have begun working with the day care teachers on hand washing and water sanitation lessons for the kids. Currently, there is no emphasis on the importance of hand washing after using the bathroom or before eating, and. I think it's important for the kids to learn about this from a young age. This project solidified and confirmed in my mind why I am here and the great things my Thai counterparts and I can accomplish together. (Photos sent separately)

Not only are the children benefitting directly from the work Heather has done, but perhaps more importantly, the capacity of the day care staff has been increased in a way that will benefit the community for years to come.