

FRIENDS OF THAILAND
PCV Small Project Assistance Funding
REPORT FORM

We ask that you send an electronic copy of your project report to Friends of Thailand within ninety (90) days of your Close of Service date to:
carolynnickels@earthlink.net

You may also send photos you take during the implementation of your project as attachment(s) to the email address above.

PREPARE YOUR REPORT TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

Date of Report: 16 May 2016

Total Funds Received: 25,914.68

Type of Report (check one): Final Ongoing (If this is an Ongoing Report, it is ___ (e.g. #1) of ___ (e.g. 3) Reports to be Submitted)

Title of Project: Tambon Piman Brighter Thailand Global Youth Leadership Camp

Dates of Project:

February 1, 2016: Reserve schedule with Brighter Thailand Foundation and camp location

March 1 - April 3, 2016: Plan and organize Camp

April 4-9, 2016: Conduct 6-day Brighter Thailand Global Youth Leadership Camp

April 11-30, 2016: Process post-evaluation data and organize follow-up youth group meetings

Name, Group Number and Address of PCV:

(Laura) Emily Schell, Group 127
SAO Piman
M.3, T. Piman, A. Na Kae
Nakhon Phanom, Thailand 48130

Location of Project:

SAO Piman
M. 3, T. Piman, A. Na Kae
Nakhon Phanom, Thailand 48130

Individuals/Groups Responsible:

Emily Schell, PCV
SAO Piman, host organization
Brighter Thailand Foundation, NGO partnering with Peace Corps

PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING.

Background Information of the Program/Project:

PCV Emily Schell has been serving as a Youth in Development volunteer with SAO Piman since March 2015. Tambon Piman consists of 10 villages served by 6 schools (five serving grades Anuban through Bprattom 6 and one serving grades Anuban through Mattayom 3). The SAO currently supports a local youth group consisting of about 150 youth, around 20 of whom are consistently active participants in organized activities. The youth group currently meets infrequently and inconsistently based on SAO events and availability of leadership to organize activities. The most active members of the youth group, including its leader, are beginning to disperse to universities and workplaces outside the area, making it more difficult for the group to stay active. Meanwhile, area youth have few opportunities to make productive use of free time during afternoons and weekends/holidays. The proposed camp will serve as a catalyst to create a more active and cohesive youth volunteer organization within the community with a strong representation of current high school students, providing all youth with increased opportunities to get involved.

PCV Emily Schell, youth group leader Atita Inparkdee, and full-time SAO officer Chitnapa Panupakpokin attended a Brighter Thailand Foundation Global Youth Leadership Camp hosted by Tessaban Non Sang in Nong Bua Lamphu province on December 13-19, 2015. All three who attended, as well as leadership at SAO Piman (Bhalat Teerapon Klangprapan and Chief of Office Surat Champa), were eager to host the camp locally for the youth of Tambon Piman. The camp was scheduled for April 4-9, 2016.

A Brighter Thailand Foundation (BTF) camp consists of 6 days and 5 nights of activities, focusing around leadership, teamwork, problem-solving and relationship-building skills, as well as the five core values of respect, honesty, perseverance, responsibility and citizenship. For the first two and a half days, about 15 Mattayom 4-6 students learn a wide array of skill-building activities and games, as well as form mentor relationships with a team of adults including BTF staff, 5 PCVs with Thai counterparts, and 5 Thai university students. On the third day, about 30 Bprattom 5-6 students arrive and are hosted and mentored by the Mattayom students, with the adult volunteers serving as coaches to the Mattayom students in their new roles as leaders. The Mattayom students then spend the next two and a half days facilitating the same activities with the group of Bprattom students, both developing the life skills and confidence of the Bprattom students and giving the Mattayom students hands-on leadership and teamwork opportunities in a position of genuine responsibility. The Mattayom students, as a team, become responsible for all aspects of running a camp for their younger peers, compelling unprecedented transformations in their self-confidence and perceived self-worth. The younger campers, in turn, get to witness youth role models successfully embodying the role of leader.

Because this camp is quite long compared with a traditional camp in Thailand (usually around 1-3 days), and consists of relatively few youth participants (groups of 15 and 30,

compared with oftentimes hundreds at typical camps), the youth are able to make meaningful and lasting relationships and personal transformations that have real ongoing benefit in their lives. The Brighter Thailand format uses the Reflect-Connect-Apply method of discussion after games and life skills activities to help transfer skills back into participants' daily lives immediately. Because the activities are also all designed to be highly fun and engaging, youth are motivated to participate actively and repeatedly, and are eager to share the activities with their peers. The curriculum also includes sessions on gender roles, healthy relationships, planning goals for the future, and English.

Describe how the Program/Project's Objectives and Benefits were met:

1. Twenty Mattayom 2-6 students participated in the transformational 6-day process leading them from participants to active leaders in the program, all demonstrating significant increase in confidence and engaging in hands-on leadership experience facilitating activities for the younger students. They also developed clearly deeper relationships with their peers and Thai mentors (university students, SAO staff, Brighter Thailand Foundation facilitator) as well as four American Peace Corps volunteers.
2. Twenty-eight Bprattom 4-6 students were led by the older youth in 3 days of activities to build confidence, communication and teamwork skills. Several of the younger "campers" expressed excitement to someday become a "counselor" (the older group of leaders) in the future.
3. Youth worked closely with several staff from SAO Piman, 5 university students from the Isaan region, and Brighter Thailand Foundation facilitator Rita Pakkarano during the camp and have developed supportive mentorship relationships with local Thai adults as a result. They have been keeping in touch with these adults as well as each other through a Facebook Messenger group since leaving camp and 6 weeks later the chat group is still active daily.
4. Bhalat (the organization leader and facilitator of youth group) of SAO Piman has developed a relationship with Brighter Thailand Foundation and expressed strong interest in working with the organization again in the future, and adapting current youth programming in the Tambon to be more focused on positive youth development and leadership by following BTF's philosophy and curriculum in future activities.
5. All participating adults (5 university students, 4 Peace Corps volunteers, SAO staff) received hands-on experience facilitating camp activities and forming relationships with youth, exchanging ideas and feedback and developing their own leadership skills.
6. Bhalat and BTF Facilitator have discussed with youth about 1.) repeating this activity in the future with different youth participants within the next year, and 2.) engaging the youth who participated this time in ongoing volunteer projects in the community and maintaining the momentum of the currently very close knit and motivated group. Many of the youth were volunteer participants in the local Songkran celebration the week

following the camp as well as a tree planting event at the SAO in late April, and it was determined that the next organized event should take place after the next school term begins.

7. Nineteen of the twenty “counselors” (one forgot to fill out the back side of the form where these questions were) were asked to assess the following statements and responded as follows:
 - a. I learned something new at this camp. 2 Agree, 17 Strongly Agree
 - b. I would come to this camp again given the opportunity. 1 Neutral, 1 Agree, 17 Strongly Agree
 - c. I would recommend this camp to a friend. 1 Neutral, 3 Agree, 15 Strongly Agree
 - d. This camp changed my life. 1 Agree, 18 Strongly Agree

Describe how the Program/Project Schedule and Initiatives were implemented:

On April 4-9, 2016 SAO Piman held a 6-day, 5-night Global Youth Leadership camp with help from Brighter Thailand Foundation, 5 Thai university students and 4 Peace Corps Volunteers, attended by 20 Mattayom 2-6 students (ages 14-18) and 28 Bprattom 4-6 (ages 10-12) students from Tambon Piman.

Detail the Program/Project Budget as implemented:

Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Price	SAO Piman In-Kind	SAO Piman Cash	FoT Funds
Location/Lodging	-	-	฿15,720	฿15,720	฿0	฿0
Meals	฿40	914	฿36,560	฿0	฿33,360	฿3,200
Camp T-shirts	฿150	70	฿10,500	฿0	฿0	฿10,500
Volunteer Transportation	฿500	8	฿4,000	฿0	฿0	฿4,000
Snacks	-	-	฿5,000	฿0	฿1,340	฿3,660
BTF Speaker Fees	฿1,000	1	฿1,000	฿0	฿0	฿1,000
Materials	-	-	฿2,000	฿0	฿0	฿2,000
Participant Transportation	฿50	16	฿800	฿800	฿0	฿0
Drinking Water	฿10	36	฿360	฿0	฿300	฿60
Ice	฿40	24	฿960	฿0	฿0	฿960
Bank Fees	-	-	฿95	฿0	฿0	฿95
Total			฿77,005	฿16,520	฿35,000	฿25,475
					FoT Funds Received:	฿25,915
					FoT Funds Remaining:	฿440

Detail any Community Involvement (if applicable):

Several members of SAO Piman staff, one local teacher, and the current youth group leader (studying at University in another location) participated in activities during the camp and supported logistical operations such as meal preparation and site maintenance. Many of the participants' families supported by dropping off snacks for the kids. Local community leaders from each village participated in the opening ceremony, acknowledging the importance of the goals of the project.

Describe the Program/Project Sustainability (if applicable):

This project has formed new relationships between SAO Piman, local youth, and Brighter Thailand Foundation which can be utilized for future youth development projects. The experience has also enabled local staff and youth to replicate the camp independently in the future, as well as use individual activities from the curriculum in conjunction with other projects. We have started a Facebook Messenger group for the "counselors" (older group of students) and adults who participated in the camp, through which they continue to maintain regular contact with the camp family and will be easy to contact as a group in the future.