

FRIENDS OF THAILAND
RPCV Small Project Assistance
PROPOSAL FORM

(RPCVs: When Completed, Please forward to carolynnickels@earthlink.net)

Note: The level of specificity and detail should correspond to the total amount of funds requested. That is, for those of you who are requesting a relatively small amount of money, you do not need to fill out this request with extreme specificity and detail.

Date of Request: [April 15, 2018](#)

Total Funds Requested: [\\$1,500.00](#)

Title of Project: [Oven for Occupations](#)

Dates of Project: [June 23rd-indefinite](#)

RPCV Project Manager: [Vicky Rosser, RPCV Thai 90](#)

Location of Project (School or Organization, Moo Baan, Tambon, Amphur, Province): [Baan Eurphon, A. Lamae J. Chumphon](#)

PLEASE PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/PROJECT HISTORY:

[Baan Eurphon is an orphanage/Children's Home located in the province of Chumphon in Southern Thailand. I have personally been there three times. The final time I stayed for nearly two weeks. Baan Eurphon is a private orphanage set up to meet a growing need in the community to house children with nowhere else to go. There is no government-run orphanage in Chumphon or Ranong provinces.](#)

[The mom \(Pee Nui\) and dad \(Pee Nong\) of the orphanage teach independence and life skills as if the lives of the children depended on it. They're not wrong. If the kids had another support system, they wouldn't be there. They have tried very hard to match specific kids with people in the community, who are willing to apprentice them. However, there are teenagers needed at home to help with the little ones who they could not match up with community resources.](#)

[As recently as a few years ago, there were times when there wasn't enough food for all 35 kids who live there. Pee Nong and Pee Nui have since opened a thrift store to fill the gap, and now, just in the last few weeks, a coffee shop on the premises. Someone in the community donated the machines necessary to make the specialty coffees and also came in and trained the older teens. All of the kids help in some way with the coffee shop.](#)

As many of you know, coffee, though it has always been grown in Thailand, is beginning to become very popular, and there are many Starbucks-type coffee shops popping up all over Thailand. However, there are none in Amphur Lamae.

People come every day to "tamboon" (make merit) and to donate to the orphanage. The coffee shop is a great place for them to sit down with Pee Nong and Pee Nui and learn more about Baan Eurphon. Community members who come to tamboon can see how hard the kids are working and also talk to them.

Pee Nui thinks that an oven would really help to boost their sales beyond just coffee. She would like to be able to offer pizza and cake. We have some community people willing to come in and teach the kids how to make pizza. Several members of my group (Thai 90) and I are going to teach them how to make cookies and cake with recipes from our own families.

We have also partnered with a special education class here in my town in Wyoming that will be skypeing with the kids and teaching them the recipes they use to make the cookies they sell to raise money for their classroom and their agricultural projects.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND BENEFITS:

The benefits of such a program reach far beyond what we can even imagine right now. However, we are certain of some things: people will come for pizza and baked goods. People who might not have been planning to come and tamboon will leave with an awareness of what the orphanage is about and at the very least, Baan Eurphon will profit from their business. The community will get a chance to see how hard the kids work and we believe more apprenticeships will come from it.

The younger kids will begin to be trained and have a way to begin to support themselves and the orphanage. Pee Nong is also looking into growing their own coffee so the older boys will be learning to farm soon. They have at least one coffee plant right now and are planning to grow more on a nearby plot of land. The rest of the coffee is currently donated by a famous singer who is from Lamae. Additionally, the kids will be able to keep some of the money and they can start saving for their futures.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

The involvement of the community has been growing by leaps and bounds lately. The immediate community has provided the training for the kids to learn to make the coffee drinks and the machinery to do it. Community members also have come and helped set up the area for the coffee shop. Farming of the coffee will soon be taught by fellow villagers that already have coffee growing.

*You can see pictures of this on their facebook page. Just type **Baan Eurphon** in the search bar.*

Additional community support comes from RPCVs still living in Thailand and from RPCVs who have gone to the orphanage with me and worked. Carolyn introduced me to Rose Marie Wanchupela from Thai I. She currently lives in Bangkok and runs an international school. Every year she puts on a fundraiser and gives the funds to a needy organization. She went down to Baan Eurphon at my suggestion, and she decided to do this year's fundraiser for Baan Eurphon. The Walk-A-Thon/Health Fair was very well attended. The funds raised are going towards remodeling the current kitchen so it can be

more efficient and work in conjunction with the coffee shop. Unfortunately, there was not enough funding for the oven. Rose Marie has also taken a very bright student from Baan Eurphon into her international school in Bangkok.

SUSTAINABILITY:

The oven will allow Baan Eurphon to make and set aside money for the kids who are aging out of the home. We are definitely going by the "If you build it, they will come" philosophy. But we can see that the coffee shop is already doing very well, and being able to add something for people to eat will increase the revenue. It will also continue to provide on-the-job training for the teenagers.

BUDGET (may be a separate document):

The oven that they need will cost 49,000 Baht, which is \$1500.00.

PROJECT SCHEDULE (including start and finish dates):

I should be arriving to Baan Eurphon on or around June 23rd, at which time I will go and purchase the oven from a local store (Home Pro, for those familiar with it). We have already priced the oven and gotten the best price we can. I will have the trainers arriving at the same time as myself and we will spend several days teaching the recipes, skyping with the school here in Wyoming and learning about using the oven.