

The Ayui Foundation is a non-religious, non-government organisation that provides a home, educational opportunities and future pathways for disadvantaged Akha hilltribe teenagers.

# Ayui Foundation

## NEWSLETTER



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Director

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Chiang Rai, Thailand

### FROM THE DIRECTOR

January is a good time for me to reflect on the past year. Like everywhere else in the world, 2021 was disrupted by Covid19 and school shutdowns. For the first time since we opened our doors in 2007, we had to cancel our Annual Clothes Donation because it was too risky. There was a worrying time when 2 of our younger students got Covid while back in their villages, and they had to stay at a government-appointed hotel for mild cases. It was the same place our housefather quarantined in, when he got Covid months ago. Thankfully, both students recovered and returned to Ayui at the start of the new year. All our staff, high school and college students have been vaccinated now, but not our 7 primary school students.



After New Year, it was nice to get a visit from an Ayui college graduate, Yohan, who is now a barber at an upscale barber shop. He first learned how to give haircuts while living at the Boys Home. Despite the frustrations of online learning and class closures, in March this year, 6 of our students will graduate from Grade 9 and stay at Ayui to study further at Vocational College, and 5 of our College students will graduate. One of them has decided to stay on at Ayui and study for her Higher Vocational College Certificate.

*The Ayui staff and students would like to wish our sponsors, donors and supporters a Happy New Year!*



THANK YOU

## WELL FUND DONATIONS

Thanks to donations from Khun Karn and Khun Tai Suwasin, Annette Pilloni, Bruce Millar, Chris Payne, Candace Sellers, Bloodroot Holistics (USA) and Yvonne Ziegler, our Well Fund now stands at B118,000. We still need to raise B82,000 to meet our B200,000 goal so we can start digging the well.

We want to thank child sponsor and long-time supporter Kok Hiang Tan, of Singapore, for his kindness and sending funds to buy Christmas/New Year presents for each child. When he suggested it, he said, "I just thought - with Covid and everything - the kids deserve something nice." The gifts were a really nice surprise for the kids, when they returned on January 3<sup>rd</sup> to start school.



Thank you to Hal Radin in Malaysia for, once again, covering the purchase of our annual rice supply which we buy from local farmers.



Thank you to Khun Tawan Sirijan for donating new hoodies for all the children during the cold season.



Visit [www.ayuifoundation.org](http://www.ayuifoundation.org) for online tax-deductible donations in Australia.

For donations via Paypal, our account is [ayui.foundation@gmail.com](mailto:ayui.foundation@gmail.com)