

ANNUAL REPORT 2020 / 2021

PROJECTS



1. FAMILY AND CHILD SUPPORT



2. SEWING MACHINES FOR SINGLE MOTHERS



3. WORAVUT'S LIVELIHOOD PROJECT



4. SANGKHLABURI ANIMAL SANCTUARY



6. GATEWAY CAFÉ & TRAINING CENTER



7. COVID EMERGENCY AID

8. FAMILY DIRECT AID

1. FAMILY AND CHILD SUPPORT

A big thank you to the Canton of Schaffhausen, Switzerland, for the donation of CHF 10'000 from the cantonal lottery winnings fund, which we transferred according to our application to our partner organization, the ONE SKY FOUNDATION, for the purpose of supporting disadvantaged families and children in Sangkhlaburi. Due to my presence on site, I am in a close and trustworthy contact with ONE SKY and follow their activities regularly.



Due to the government's implemented COVID measures and the ongoing National state of emergency, which have been in place for over a year, many needy families have lost their jobs and thus their income.

This can also cause a disruption of the social system within families. ONE SKY FOUNDATION supports such disadvantaged and vulnerable families and helps them in these hard times not only with emergency food supplies, but also with active help in the field of psychological care for children, as well as school fees and scholarships.

Many families in Sangkhlaburi and the surrounding area are from ethnic minorities or stateless immigrants, are excluded from government assistance, and therefore can no longer manage their basic needs themselves in these hard times.

The goal of ONE SKY is to keep these families together by providing various aid services. Poverty must not be a reason for families to be separated and the children to be handed over to one of the numerous children's homes, which often happens, not only in Sangkhlaburi.

ONE SKY follows the principles of UNICEF and all employees are very committed to alleviate the problems of these disadvantaged families.

For more information please visit: <https://www.oneskyfoundation.org/>



2. SEWING MACHINES FOR SINGLE MOTHERS

To give two single mothers a chance to earn their own income, I decided to buy two sewing machines and find someone to train them on them. I found the partner for this project in ONE SKY FOUNDATION. Our charity invested CHF 600 for these machines and ONE SKY took care of the training arrangements. The machines remain our property, we just provide them for free and for an unlimited time, or as long as they are used by the women.

Since there are still too many disposable plastic bags used for vegetables and fruits at the local fresh market, I came up with the idea of having reusable and washable bags made in different sizes and giving a few dozen to vegetable and fruit vendors at the beginning to find out how big or small the demand is.

Of course, it is also necessary to sensitize customers and make them aware of the environmental problems of single-use packaging. For this purpose it will be necessary to create a flyer.

So what could be more obvious than to have environmentally friendly bags produced locally here in Sangkhlaburi under fair conditions?

Franky, a social worker of ONE SKY managed to find a local and professional seamstress, Mrs. Boo, who made herself available to train the two women at the sewing machines. And so the project took off.

After weeks of training under the coaching of Ms. Boo, the two women are now ready to sew various items such as children's clothes or even masks, and are now also participating in a ONE SKY project to sew parts for natural fiber pan rags.

We will also employ the two women in other projects in the near future, such as for the reusable shopping bags.



3. WORAVUT'S LIVELIHOOD PROJECT

Worawut is a young slightly disabled man who has been living at Baan Dada Children's Home for years and he is very involved in all kinds of tasks there. Since last year he runs his own small compost and chicken farm on the land of the Children's Home. Because some money was missing at the beginning for his project, we contributed THB 10'000 (CHF 320) from our charity as a start-up aid.

Worawut was missing for a few days last year. Everyone was very worried about his whereabouts. Finally he was found herding goats. He took off, wanting to contribute something to his livelihood, and took a job as a goat herder for 40 Thai Baht a day (a little over 1 franc) without informing anyone.

Dada Ricardo Zoleta, the head of Baan Dada Children's Home then created a new project that Worawut manages now on his own and independently, a small compost and chicken farm. This small farm is now located on the land of the Children's Home, and Worawut is excited about his new job.



4. SANGKHLABURI ANIMAL SANCTUARY

On May 1, 2021, the new Sangkhlaburi Animal Sanctuary opened its doors. For this animal sanctuary with a modern and well-equipped vet clinic, our charity contributed CHF 7'250, of which CHF 6'030 were ear-marked donations at the request of some of our friends and donors.

Due to an incomprehensible removal of the management of the old animal sanctuary as well as of some helpers by a rather incompetent one, orchestrated by the land owners, and the intended relocation to a remote area 20 km away, the fear was obvious that it would no longer be run well and for the benefit of the animals.

Reason enough to plan a new animal shelter in or near the town of Sangkhlaburi. Many residents of Sangkhlaburi have no possibility to bring their animals to a clinic 20 km away and we saw the risk that therefore also the willingness to vaccinate against rabies and other diseases would decrease. Rabies is still widespread in Thailand.

After the new management took over, I joined the old team by helping to plan a new one. After a long search for a suitable piece of land for the new sanctuary and after several setbacks, Mr. P, the owner of P Guesthouse, offered us a long-term lease on an old factory site that had not been used for more than 8 years, and supported us in finding helpers and coordinating the upcoming work. More than 15 workers, mostly day laborers who have a hard time finding work in the current COVID situation, could be hired for the 9-week long job. First, tons of old material had to be removed from the site and disposed of before the first cleaning could take place. Only then the planning of renovations, dog pens and facilities could begin. The renovations were carried out by a small local construction company with the help of the many day laborers, our team members and volunteers.

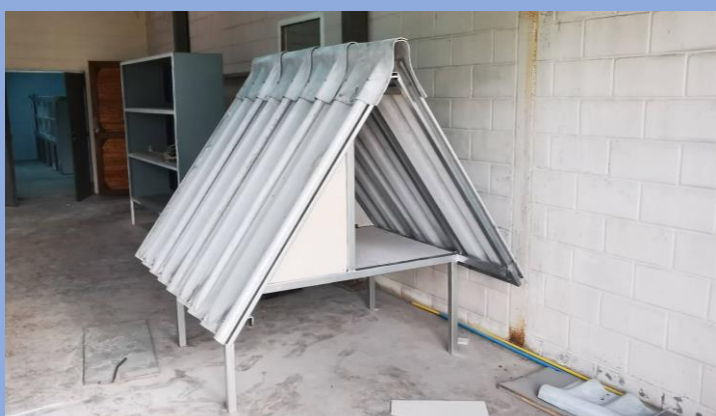
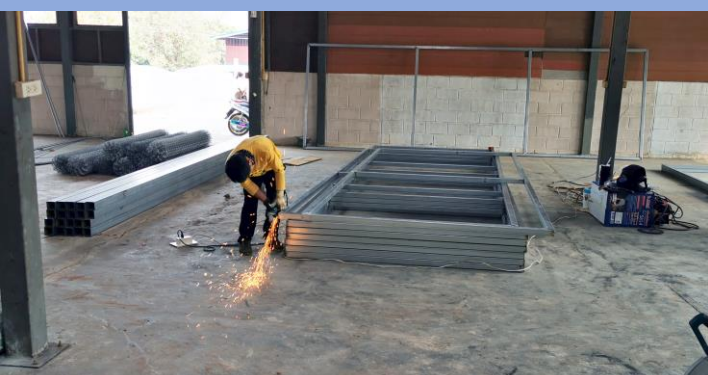
Unfortunately we could only celebrate the completion and opening on the 1st of May within our team, the planned "Day of Open Doors" with a ceremony and food and drinks for the population had to be postponed because of the COVID measures.

Now we can be proud to have created one of the most beautiful animal sanctuaries with a modern equipped vet clinic within only 9 weeks, also thanks to all helpers, volunteers and donors.

For more information please visit: <https://www.sangkhlaburianimalsanctuary.com/>



A video tour through the new Sangkhlaburi Animal Sanctuary can be seen at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9veqtY X5mQ>



5. WEAVING FOR WOMEN

This project was founded in 1995 by Mrs. Daisy Dwe to help stateless families and single mothers of different ethnicities and stateless immigrants in the area to earn an income so that they can contribute to their own livelihood. It is now run by her daughter, Mrs. Nimar Dwe, who took it over from her mother in 2015. We have contributed CHF 2000 to this project.

In recent years, up to 8 women with family or single mothers were provided with weaving and sewing for the manufacture of various products. Unfortunately, now this project is also affected by the restrictive measures because of the Corona pandemic.

In 2020, only a maximum of 2 to 4 women could be employed with reduced working hours, and since the last virus outbreak a few months ago, the looms have come to a complete standstill. Due to the restrictive measures and the resulting lack of tourism in the area, the demand for the manufactured products has decreased significantly.

Our charity supports this project and Nimar's outstanding contribution as well as her social commitment to the welfare of the people in the community of Sangkhlaburi.

With our support, Nimar is now providing basic food supplies such as rice, cooking oil, eggs and canned food to the families of the now unemployed weavers, but also to other families in need.

Without having asked for it, Nimar gives me receipts and records for all the food she has bought and given to needy families. For me, a good example of trust-based cooperation.

A video about this project can be seen on our website.

<https://www.schaffhausen-sangkhlaburi.ch/en/galerien/videos/>



She cannot walk because of accident of her legs sorry I wrote cannot (work)

6. GATEWAY CAFÉ & SKILLS TRAINING CENTER

The Gateway Café & Skills Training Center is located in the town of Sangkhlaburi and is a sustainable project that operates a café and bakery/pastry shop, as well as providing basic education or tutoring lessons primarily to young students, single mothers, widowed women, and displaced migrants. We have contributed CHF 1'600 to this meaningful project.



Rolyn, a Filipina who has lived in Sangkhlaburi for many years, founded this project. The café is a highlight for connoisseurs and lovers of freshly brewed local coffee, various teas, exotic fruit drinks and all kinds of pastries and desserts. Delicious menus are also offered. Some of the products and ingredients used for drinks and dishes are grown in her own garden.

Two widowed women and a teenage apprentice work in the bakery and Café. A free library is also attached to the Café.

At the Skills Training Center, Rolyn offers free English, math and computer classes to young students and later supports them once they go to university. In return, the students come back to Sangkhlaburi during semester breaks and help out in the bakery and café.

Thanks to the help and support of Rolyn and her Gateway Project, three young women are currently studying at the university. One is studying hotel and restaurant management, one nursing, and one tourism and hotel management. They come from remote areas and their families couldn't afford to finance their education due to poverty or family issues.

Rolyn also helps needy families and single mothers in remote areas around Sangkhlaburi with her outreach program. This includes basic food supplies, basic education, hygiene teaching, hospitalization assistance, preventive checkups for pregnant women, etc.



7. CORONA EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

We contributed a total of CHF 1,500 to a Corona Emergency Relief Program for disadvantaged families, organized and run by the local ONE SKY FOUNDATION, which provides essential assistance to affected families who were already struggling to meet their livelihood needs.

After a relatively mild course in 2020, also thanks to the strict measures implemented by the government, the coronavirus broke out quite severely in January 2021 near Bangkok and has since spread across most provinces.

The new and even stricter measures in order to combat the pandemic currently affect 29 out of 76 provinces, which are now classified as dark red high-risk areas. This also includes our province of Kanchanaburi.

Lock-downs, curfews, closing of restaurants, hotels and many businesses also have serious consequences for many people in Sangkhlaburi.

Sangkhlaburi has been cut off from the rest of Thailand since mid-July until further notice and the curfew from 21:00h to 04:00h prohibits leaving the house. Necessary indispensable trips to the provincial capital Kanchanaburi are only possible with a reason and the permission of the local government.

Due to these measures, all hotels and accommodations are also closed here and tourists of course stay away completely. Restaurants are only allowed to sell take-away menus and many shops remain closed.

The whole situation has an impact on the lives of many people in this region, especially for those who have always had a hard time making a living. These are mainly stateless people from ethnic minorities, immigrants, refugees from neighboring Burma or disrupted families.

With the Corona Emergency Relief Program, ONE SKY FOUNDATION supports poverty stricken families with basic food supplies such as rice, cooking oil, eggs, vegetables and canned food as well as milk for children.



8. FAMILY DIRECT AID

With an emergency direct aid of THB 15'000 (CHF 450) we supported a young family in need and helped them to get out of their biggest worries for the time being.

When we had the factory property for the new Sangkhlaburi Animal Sanctuary cleared and cleaned with the help of local workers, a young woman also participated in a cleaning team of 7 women. She was very dedicated and worked hard because she desperately needed the money for her family. On the third day, her colleagues suggested her to go home and take care of her sick little daughter rather than work here. Mr. P. from P Guesthouse and landlord of the factory property, who coordinated and supervised the work, showed his social attitude, gave her three times the daily wage and sent her home to take care of her child.

I then inquired about this young family's situation with Mr. P and a befriended family in their neighborhood.

It turned out that this family is very poor and has two young daughters, one of whom suffers from a chronic illness. Although treatment at the local hospital is free for the needy, they have to pay for the medication themselves.

The father is a day laborer, but in these difficult COVID times, like many others, It's difficult for him finding work. He was then included in the team of laborers for the work on the new sanctuary. This gave him the opportunity to contribute a bit to his family's livelihood. He worked very hard and was content to do whatever he was asked to do.

Considering the situation of this family and knowing that they are very willing to work hard for their living, I decided to help them a little from our charity fund.

We took over the rent for their house and the medication costs for 6 months, which is equivalent to 2'500 THB (70 CHF) per month. So at least for a while they don't have to worry about these expenses. We pay them these amounts in monthly installments.

After learning about our contribution, the young woman joyfully came to my house to express her gratitude, took a broom she saw in the garden and started to mop the surroundings of my house.

It is our great hope and, of course, our goal that with this support, this family will be able to free themselves from their current situation and become self-sufficient in the future. Sometimes all it needs is a little start-up help.



July 31 marked another year of our charity, and we are now entering our 10th anniversary year.

It has certainly not been an easy year for all of us and yet you have again donated generously to our projects. As so often in such difficult times, the disadvantaged are the most affected. I think that even with our small charity and thanks to your donations we were able to contribute to alleviate some of the hardship for many in Sangkhlaburi.

In the past year, we received 24'411.85 CHF in donations, of which 10'000 CHF was a contribution from the Canton of Schaffhausen from the Lottery Winnings Fund, and which was used for a specific purpose according to our application. Another 6,030 CHF were also used for specific projects at the request of some of our donors, and 7,689.35 CHF went to various other projects.

For this, I would like to express my sincere thanks on behalf of our organization to the Canton of Schaffhausen and to all our friends and donors.


Special thanks also go again to Mr. Beat Boos who, as many years before, controlled and audited our accounts. Our association remains tax-exempt, i.e. all donors with residence in Switzerland can deduct their donations from their taxes according to the cantonal tax regulations.

Please also visit our bilingual website
<https://www.schaffhausen-sangkhlaburi.ch/en/>

Thanks again and stay safe.



Sicher
Dank!



Thank you...



ขอบคุณมาก