

Asian foundation

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Psalm 127: 1 "Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain."

Dear readers,

Ten years ago we started our first foster home with 7 fearfully looking children. Now ten years later we have celebrated our anniversary with more than one hundred people and children. What a difference and what have we been blessed in all these years! The above bible verse was our anniversary's theme.



Looking back

These past ten years have not always been easy. We had to tackle malfunctioning staff and a government that wasn't very cooperative. Now the government acknowledges us as one of the best organizations and we have a wonderful staff!

Certainly there have been sad moments when older girls and boys left us and chose not to live with us anymore, while we wanted to protect them and offer them a better future. But overall our children have done very well and have prospered thanks to the care and loving environment we offered them.

Now we do have 3 foster homes in which 25 children live and 2 houses for teenage girls and a haschaa (a piece of land) for our older boys who live on their own (with some supervision). Moreover we look after some very poor families by supporting them.

Foster homes



We welcomed some new children into our foster homes. The youngest came in November; she is a 4-year-old girl. Everybody loves her. She is the sister of a girl who came to us last summer.

The children have had a wonderful summer. In June they had summer camp for a week. And a team from

England came over to help us. After that, the children went to the countryside for 6 weeks. They enjoyed swimming in the river, milking the cows and climbing the mountains. Summer holidays lasts for 3 months and then an apartment is very small. Therefore we were delighted to have been offered to rent several gers by a Dutchman who lives in the countryside



with his Mongolian wife. He is a farmer but also runs a tourist camp together with his wife. Our teenage boys and girls helped him and were able in doing so to earn some pocket money.

Our girls' project

Three out of our group of twelve girls do have a job now. These three girls have a mental or bodily handicap and need a protected environment to live in. They are very glad to be able to live in our teenage girls house. They are doing well and they are so grateful for having a home and a job. The other girls are still studying at different levels. They are glad with the opportunity which has been offered to them and grateful for the safe housing they are in, because this is what they missed earlier in their lives. Also some of the boys and girls we are supporting of the poor families are studying at university. One of the working girls Otgonjargal was one of the first seven kids who came to us in 2001. This is what she says: "If you hadn't chosen me then I would have had a baby by now and would have lived in the streets. I am so very grateful that I now have a job and a house and above all that I have got to know the Lord!"

Christmas

We were saving money for a well, but unfortunately it turns out that the water under our haschaa is of poor quality. So we changed our plans and now we intend to build a simple teenage boys house for about 20.000 euros. This is for the boys who become too old to live in our foster homes. Then they have to go and live on our haschaa where they now live in gers. We have a long way to go yet before we will have saved this amount of money, but it's good to have a goal!

All our children and families will receive a useful present. The young children will get a handbag in which they will find a scarf, a woolen hat and gloves. The older girls will be given a gown. In the evenings they will often wear this on top of their clothes against the cold. They all will also get some sweets. The mothers of the poor families will get some towels, soap and shampoo. We hope to celebrate Christmas together. We are all looking forward to it!

Also we would like to offer something to the poorest of the poor. Some families we have met hardly have clothes or food. They have no coals for their stoves but only a cold ger with summer felt.

In case you consider a Christmas gift you now have some ideas how we may use your gift.

As you have read we have many reasons to be grateful. We also thank God for you all who have made it possible to realize this project here in Mongolia!



10 years anniversary

May God bless you during Christmas and in the New Year!

On behalf of Asian Foundation,
Corry Vreugdenhil,
Mongolia