

# Asian foundation

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

## NEWSLETTER

May 2012

The first few months of 2012 were very busy and exceptional, because in February a television crew of a Dutch Christian Broadcasting Company were shooting a film at our location in Mongolia. Prior to their visit we had to do a lot of preparatory work. Hard work but also lots of fun! Of course we are very glad with this opportunity. Before Christmas the program about our organization will be broadcasted in Holland.

Before the film crew arrived we had asked our children to write about their past (only if they agreed of course) and together with the film crew we went back with some of our children to the place where they used to live: on the streets, in tunnels under the ground through which the warm water supply is running, at the rubbish dump (see picture), in the doorways of apartment blocks etc. Once again it then becomes so real what these children have gone through in their short lives. They were abused: spiritually, physically and sexually.



In our newsletters you always see pictures of smiling children but quite a lot has happened in their lives prior to this. A seven-year-old girl and her four-year-old sister had to go out begging for their mother and granny. They lived on the streets and in the tunnels under the ground. Granny and mother bought alcohol from the money the girls earned and then the girls were beaten in a terrible way. Once the mother even tied their hands behind their backs after which she started beating her kids. Incredible stories.



We also joined the police in hunting down the street children. That is what they call it. It is really heartbreaking to see that these children prefer life on the streets to life in the identification centre of the police. Whenever it is possible these children run away. Especially the older children. It is very difficult to place these children in a foster home of whatever organization. These children can't get used to the rules anymore and therefore it is so important to reach these children when they are young. Over the years we have got several children from this identification centre, who also lived on the streets and now they are doing well. They have become smiling kids who do have a future! This makes this work really worthwhile!

*identification centre*

Several children have successfully graduated from school. One boy will go to university now. Two girls who weren't very successful at school are now entering a vocational training. Two little ones of the first class also got an official "promotion" (see pictures).



Summer holiday will start at the end of this month and then our children will have no school for three months. For six weeks they will go to the country side. We will rent a few gers and the children will enjoy living outdoors. In the middle of August we will have our yearly camp. During a week all kinds of activities will take place for young and old and they all are looking forward to this camp. It is always a joy to see how they treat each other like they are one big family.



There is so much to be thankful about. First of all for all the children who we could offer a home. These children have changed so much because for the first time in their lives they receive love. Then we are thankful because all of our children go to school and several go to university. Children who had no possibilities whatsoever now do get all kinds of opportunities. Isn't that marvelous! We feel so blessed through these children.

*Film crew member visiting foster home 4*

However, we do have some complicated issues that we want to share with you. We have problems with a leaking roof of our girls house. It was only built last year and already we have to replace the roof: costing 5000 euros. Inside the house the walls have turned black. The house smells of mould and if the inspection happens to see this the house has to be shut down.

Our school bus has to be repaired almost every month because of its age. The roads are abominable and that sure doesn't help! If it will fail again, it can't be repaired and then we are without transportation to bring the children to school and to collect them again. Our children are at different schools. At the moment we can't afford to buy a new school bus.

All costs have risen enormously. The price for petrol is almost as high as in Holland. Prices have doubled for meat, food, coal and clothing. Our monthly budget was always sufficient for extra costs like clothing, health and dental costs, the camp etc. This has now become impossible because we need our monthly sponsor money for food, salaries, electricity and water. We can't afford any more. That means that we have a monthly shortage for other necessities. Maybe you know people in your church or neighborhood who are willing to support our work so we can continue to help our children.

We do hope to have a wonderful summer thanks to your help and we wish you all a wonderful summer holiday!

On behalf of Asian Foundation  
Corry Vreugdenhil  
Mongolia



*poor families*