



## At The Threshold of Dreams

RADION International Foundation

By Alvin Ong, Foundation Chairperson

RADION has come a long way since our beginnings in 2007. It was started by two foolhardy (and some say foolish) Singaporeans who acted upon their compassion for the marginalised. What began simply with an act of feeding 5000 Hmong refugees locked up in a military outpost gradually became a social movement to care for the impoverished Hmong community in Thailand by providing jobs for destitute womenfolk, a shelter for abused children and emotional comfort for the neglected old. Our commitment towards standing up for the marginalised led us to start the RADION International Foundation - a not-for-profit arm based in Thailand whose sole mission is to look after the needs of the poor.

The Foundation was started in faith that likeminded people like you and I

would come together to contribute towards a cause to better the lives of the needy. Over these few years, we stand grateful, and are fortunate to have various individuals, rich and poor, come forward to give of their time, energies, finances and talents to us.

Today, RADION stands at the threshold of big dreams that we hope to accomplish. We envision a community of Hmongs working together to lift their people out of the vicious poverty cycle by meeting their social, emotional and economic needs. We dream of building an integrated community outreach complex that will be a safe house for the destitute, the poor, abused children and womenfolk, and people rejected by society at large. This complex will be one that will also be ready 24/7 to meet various humanitarian needs in our immediate geographical region.

Through our activities in Singapore such as the upcoming Project LIVES - an annual drive to gather humanitarian relief items for the poorest of poor in our community, we seek to raise awareness amongst the Singaporean public. By doing so, we hope to empower them to look beyond the comforts of home, and lend a helping hand to those who are less fortunate.

However these dreams will remain as they are without your continued support. In the days to come, we urge you to join us in serving the poor, through your financial giving, or by volunteering with us. We believe every life matters. So come, help us make every life count.



We were reminded of values and things we easily forget amidst our fast paced life back home. I learnt and saw the strength of the local women and children amidst social problems and adversaries, sustaining themselves well with the aid of RADION.

**Carmen Tong, NUS Medical Student**



## Medical Outreach 14-21 June 2011

It was an exciting time in June when we hosted a team comprising medical students from the NUS School of Medicine. The team of 10 was in Khek Noi, the site of RADION's field office, for seven days to assist us in conducting a series of medical outreach projects there and in Poo Kat, a remote mountain village that is a 3-hour drive away.

Besides conducting free medical checkups, attending to the sick and dispensing medical advice, the team also helped in handing out bowls of noodles to children who come from the lower income segment of the village - an under-privileged class.

For many of the beneficiaries of the team's outreach in Khek Noi and Poo Kat, the fact that they received help meant a great deal as they do not have easy access to medical facilities or treatment. We thank the team for their support, and look forward to more of such collaborations in future.

### What the trip participants say

*We were reminded of values and things we easily forget amidst our fast paced life back home. I learnt and saw the strength of*

*the local women and children amidst social problems and adversaries, sustaining themselves well with the aid of RADION. We have much to learn from them. I felt that my training back in school was finally put to real life practice, on a bigger scale outside the hospitals. Thoroughly enjoyed myself and it was extremely meaningful.*

**- Carmen Tong, 22, NUS Medical Student**

*My only heretofore exposure to Hmong culture was Clint Eastwood's 'Gran Torino'; hence, being a part of this project was honestly a huge eye-opener for me, as it highlighted their plight, and experience, as well as their various needs.*

**- Chin Han Xin, 21, NUS Medical Student**

*This trip was a first for me even though it was my second time going on a medical mission... It was a great experience being able to serve the patients... Although the language barrier made clerking tiresome at times, their 'Thank You's' and grateful smiles at the end of each session reminded me that it was all worth it.*

**- Debra Han, 22, NUS Medical Student**

# Project LIVES

Coming your way this October

RADION is organising our 4th annual awareness campaign that seeks to rally Singaporeans and the corporate sector to come together to make a difference to the lives of the less fortunate in Thailand.

This year, RADION is continuing where we left off last year. We are looking to fill up a 40-foot container with relief items to help poverty-stricken villagers brace against the seasonal cold that occurs annually between November to December.

## What is needed

For this campaign, RADION is requesting donations of the following items :

1. **Warm Clothes** (ie Jackets, blankets, children/infant wear etc)
2. **Hygiene Items** (ie soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush etc)
2. **Canned or Dried food items** with at least 6 months towards expiry
3. **Medical supplies**
4. **Used mobile phones** (which will be sold to help defray the cost of shipping the relief items)

For more information, please email your enquiries to [projectlives2011@radion-international.org](mailto:projectlives2011@radion-international.org)



**“I was exposed to the plight of the under-privileged through Project LIVES. Participating in it gave me the chance to assist this group of people with whatever little I had...”**

**Judy Chang, Project LIVES 2010 Volunteer**

## Story of a girl

In this special insert, we'd like to share with you this story of a child we encountered in our line of work, so that you catch a glimpse of the profile of kids in our STREETKIDS! program.

Denise is a quiet and timid 12-year old girl with a heart-wrenching past. She is a child born out of wedlock, abandoned by her natural father before her birth.

When her mother married a man whom she thought would be able to take care of both of them, she did not in her wildest imagination perceive that he is a sexual predator who would later develop ill intent towards Denise.

What followed were nights of fear and shame.

Find out more about what happened by checking out [our website](#).



You can chip in to help young lives like this girl in the picture. For more information, contact us through one of the following ways listed.

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