

Family-Based Child Care Initiative

*“A father to the fatherless,
a defender of widows, is God in
His holy dwelling.
God sets the lonely in families.”
Psalm 68:5,6*



First Steps . . .



Military attacks . . . natural disasters . . . remoteness and isolation . . .
have left most families in the Northern Myanmar mountains in severe poverty.
This has resulted in many children orphaned, abandoned, or with parents who are
unable to care for their children due to illness, disability, or other family disruption.

For several years Asia Frontier Outreach has answered this critical need with residential
children's homes--but now we are asking,

“Are children’s homes the best solution for the child and his/her family?”

God’s Design is the Family--

“...Be fruitful and increase in numbers; fill the earth
and subdue it...” Genesis 1:28

“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows,
is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely
in families.” Psalm 68:5,6



Evidence-Based Research*--

- Children living long-term in institutions often face isolation, loss of a sense of belonging, and identity struggles.
- Youth leaving institutions often have difficulty living on their own, and are unable to make healthy attachments in forming their own family.



Observations --

“We have been blessed to see the young women
leaving Rainbow Children’s Home prepared to enter
safe, productive adulthood. They have been protected
from the threat of trafficking or slavery.

At the same time, after 14 years of observing the
children in our homes, I see a loss of connection to their
family and communities, and to their cultural identity.”

--Pastor Lu

Founder & Director,
Asia Frontier Outreach

***Based on what we have learned and experienced, and after much
prayer, we feel God is moving us in a new direction.***

*Faith to Action (2014). Children, Orphanages, and Families: A Summary of Research to Help Guide Faith-Based Action.

Global Child Advocates. globalchildadvocates.org

Faith to Action (2016). Transitioning to Family Care for Children: A Guidance Manual

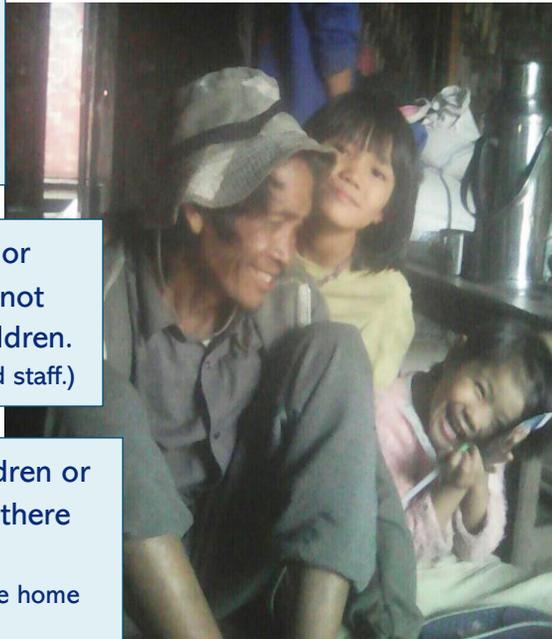
“Changing Practices. Best Practice & Deinstitutionalisation” Kinnected.

Our Vision: Family-Based Child Care

1 - Strengthening families through educational, economic, and spiritual support services in order to prevent separation

2 - Placing children into kinship care or community families when parents are not present or unable to care for their children. (To begin when we can hire additional trained staff.)

3 - Providing family-style (10 children or less) homes for children for whom there are no alternative family settings. (Target date is late 2020 for a family-style home in Putao.)



1st Step - FAMILY STRENGTHENING - June 2020

Nearly half of the children in our homes have at least one living parent or close relative. The biggest challenge facing most of these families is access to education: there may not be a within walking distance, or they may not be able to afford the school fees and required uniform. **Wouldn't it be better for the child and his/her family if this assistance could be given in the child's own home or community?**

We are beginning the Family Strengthening Program in Lisu villages in Putao Division, Kachin State, Myanmar.

God has given Pastor Ah Ti and his wife, Ah Nyi, a heart for orphans and vulnerable children. Last fall Pastor Ah Ti attended the "World Without Orphans" conference and was challenged with helping children in their families. In March, under Pastor Lu's mentorship, Pastor Ah Ti was appointed Program Director for Family-Based Child Care in Putao. As program director, he will be doing family assessments, arranging for needed services, and following-up on children and families.



Pastor Ah Ti, Ah Nyi and the 4 children they have brought into their home.



So, you may be wondering . . .

Frequently Asked Questions

What does this mean for the existing children's homes?

We are still 100% committed to the children in our homes. They will continue to need your prayers and support as they grow into adulthood. Over the next 6 years **Rainbow Children's Home** will transition to a residence for girls who desire to attend high school, when there is no high school where they live. We are no longer bringing girls from northern Myanmar to Yangon and RCH. **Promise Children's Home** is currently in an unstable area due to military activity. Most families here are living in IDP camps (Internally Displaced People). The children at PCH are from homes where family care is not an option. At this time, we will maintain this residence home for 12 children. The support of **Loving Fountain Children's Home** has recently been taken over by a church in the U.S. It is no longer under the care of Asia Frontier Outreach.

How will the Family-Based Child Care Program work?

Our first step is Family Strengthening. Children are referred to us by local pastors, Jesus Foot Soldiers or the village head man. The Program Director will meet with the child and family to assess their needs, make a plan together, and initiate the plan. The child and family will be met with regularly to assess the family's compliance with the program, the child's well-being, and progress in school.

What does this mean financially? How will funds be handled?

Bottom line: your gifts will go farther! It is more cost effective to support a child in their home than in a residential facility. We will now be seeking child sponsorship of \$50 a month for children living at home, but in need of assistance. Your donation will not only pay for a child's schooling and basic needs, but help the family stay together.

A Finance Committee of 3, including Pastor Ah Ti, will be responsible for the handling and accountability of funds in Putao. Cash will not go directly to the family, but expenses will be paid to the school, hospital, etc. If food is needed, it will be purchased and delivered to the family. Monthly accounting will be sent to Pastor Lu.

What does this mean for ME?

- **If you are currently sponsoring a child in our homes - *thank you!*** You are making an eternal difference in their life. Pray for your child; there may be the possibility of reuniting with a parent or family member in their future. We will keep you informed.
- **Would you consider blessing a family in Myanmar by sponsoring their child?** You would be giving a child "a future and a hope" (Jer.29:11) with an education, healthcare, and nutrition, within the love and security of their family.

To Sponsor A Child - go to: asiafrontieroutreach.com/child-sponsorship

Or: Asia Frontier Outreach-USA
PO Box 3312
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920.527.1991

Lois Riddick
Executive Director, AFO-USA

Have more ?s
PLEASE
Contact Us !





