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Subject: October citizenship update

Hi team,

I think it might be easiest for me to update you monthly with what has happened in the previous month and prayer points for the upcoming month.

Dates to keep in prayer:

-Nov 2: Hosanna (Moon's mom), Nada

-Nov 10: Ying

- Nov 11: Kamla

-Nov 19: Fah

First, I'll give you updates for our existing cases:

Chiang Dao:

Ying: (This is one of my foster daughters) we went to the government office on Oct 12 and Oct 15. Even though they told us 3 years ago that she just needed to graduate university and all would be good, when we went to submit the papers, they found all kinds of other things that were not in line. So, now we have an appointment on Nov 10 to bring 8 witnesses to come verify that the name on her birth certificate is really who she is. Then, if they believe the witnesses, they will submit the paperwork up the chain. We are looking at another year of waiting for everything to process. Ying is feeling really disillusioned and hopeless and just wants to give up, but I keep telling her we are so close, just to hold on a little while longer.

Prayers: for Nov 10 for all the witnesses to come and for them to be believed, for the case to be successful and Ying to feel encouraged and not hopeless.

Pawina: We got the paperwork for her to get a DNA test with her mom to verify the name on her birth certificate and the name on her mom's ID card are the same person. We did their DNA test on Oct 20 and it will take about 3 weeks for results. Once the government office gets the results, we will go track down her mom's original paperwork for when she entered Thailand, which is in a different province. Probably in January, we will be ready to submit for citizenship.

Prayers: for the DNA test to come back quickly so we can submit her paperwork and get her case done before she finishes high school.

Kamla: This is a girl from our former high school Bible study group. We tried to advise them on citizenship several years ago, but her family wanted to pay a broker to do it. Of course, the broker did it incorrectly, and absconded with thousands of their dollars. So, we are trying to do what we can to remedy the messed up paperwork so she will be eligible to get citizenship when she graduates college. Kamla is in 11th grade now and wants to be a doctor. She has gotten straight A's throughout school, but without citizenship can't even apply to medical school.

Prayers: For Nov 11, that we will be able to correct a few inconsistencies on her paperwork and make it possible for her to apply for citizenship later.

Fang:

Fah: Oct 28 we took her mom and Fah to the government office so they could talk to her mom and look at the paperwork. They scheduled an appointment for 5 witnesses to come so they can make her an official birth certificate. Then, we will be ready to submit for her citizenship.

Prayers: For all the witnesses to show up on Nov. 19 and for Fah to not feel discouraged.

Mae Suay:

Nada: The government office called yesterday to schedule an appointment for 4 witnesses to come interview on Nov. 2.

Prayers: For the witnesses to come on Nov. 2 and give corroborating testimony so Nada and her 4 children can become citizens.

I also met with School of Promise, a small Christian school here. Pawina, one of the above cases, attends that school, so I asked them to compile the paperwork of any other students who do not yet have citizenship. We met on Oct. 13 to discuss the other children's cases and there are 4 we can help with. One is a girl I know already, so I contacted her mom to start on their case. On November 13, I will meet with the families of the other 3 students to see where they are in the process and schedule their cases beginning in January.

Moon (Chiang Dao): This is a girl I have known almost since she was born. Her mom was in a home for teen moms that I used to work with. I don't know why they never finished her case before, but I contacted the mom and we will take on their case. It is a huge blessing to them because Hosanna, her mom, is eligible for citizenship, but they keep encountering problems with incorrect paperwork. Hosanna is registered in a village 3 hours from Chiang Mai, and her mom is 3 hours in the other direction, so it's very difficult for them to arrange to meet there each time to work on the case. They have been working on it for about 5 years already because they have to save up for each trip, so it can be months between times they go. I think with our assistance, things will go much more quickly. Also, Hosanna got married, had another baby, and then her husband died last month in a car accident, so now she is raising 2 kids alone and still dealing with this.

Prayers: For Nov 2 to go well, that we are able to get her mom's paperwork all sorted out so Hosanna can apply for citizenship, and then Moon will get it automatically.

Otto (Chiang Mai):

This boy was born in Thailand to Burmese parents. We can take him to get his residency card and he will be able to get citizenship when he graduates university.

Nam Hom (Chiang Mai): She is eligible for citizenship on her dad's side. However, the school has no paperwork on her dad. If we can find her dad and he is alive, she can get her Thai ID card immediately. If he is not alive, she will need to graduate university to be eligible.

Sorachai (Wiang Hang): This is a very complicated case. He was born in Thailand to Burmese immigrants. However, the paperwork we have on his parents does not match the name or resident ID number that is on his birth certificate. This will likely need a DNA test and if we can get all the paperwork to line up, he will still need to wait until graduating university to get his ID card.

Luckily, we offer university scholarships to all kids in this situation, so they should be able to attend and complete university if they are dedicated enough.

Thank you for your prayers. I ask that you pray specifically for Ying's case, as we have gone up over 25 times in the past 8 years and they keep finding excuses to not process it. It's heartbreaking to watch her go through this and I know if anyone wanted to write words of encouragement to her, she would really appreciate it.

Thank you so much for providing the finances to support this project! It is helping so many lives.

Heather Askew

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