

HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT AID ABROAD

# HADA NEWSLETTER

July 2002 – Issue 13

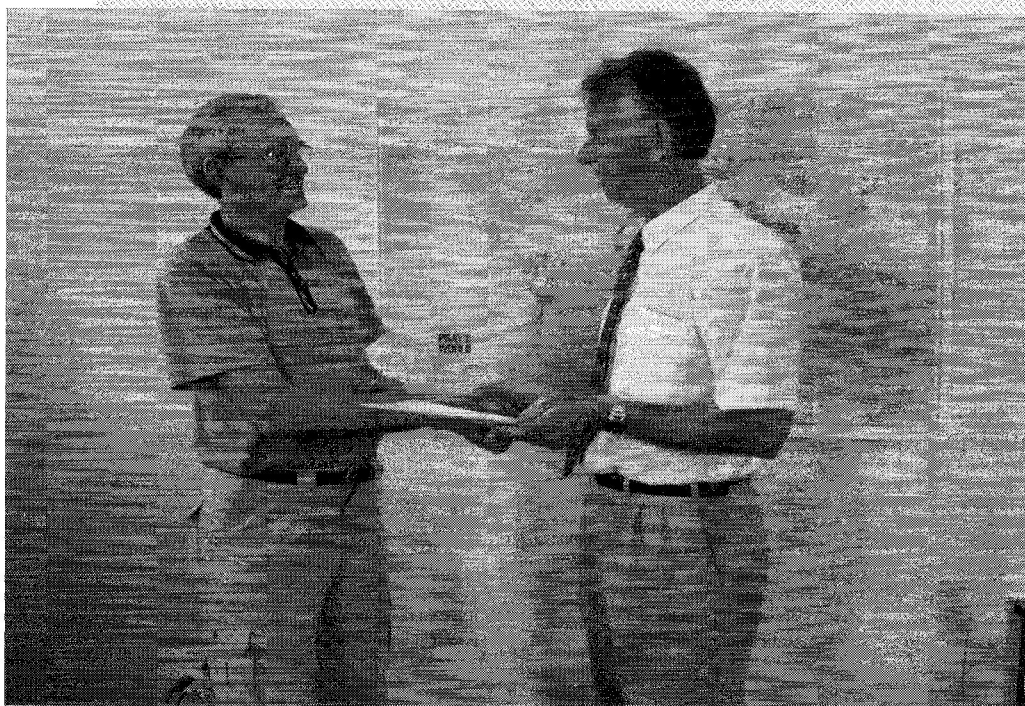
**Vision:** To see medical, literacy, education, agricultural & sanitation programmes established in countries as needed.

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## Development Project Seminar

Inside this issue.....

- 2. HADA – Astana
- 3. Nujiang Pig Project
- 4. HHS Vocational Training Centre – Phnom Penh



All donations for the projects mentioned in this Newsletter or any other HADA project can be sent to: -

The Treasurer  
HADA  
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Australia

**A 6 week course on development! ?** Why do they need this much time? I am too busy to devote this much to a segment of my work! These were all the thoughts that went through my brain when the suggestion was made that I attend the Development Project Seminar.

So what was it all about? There were sessions on the world view of development, the principles of development, team dynamics, team management, strategic planning, assessment, evaluation, monitoring of projects, how to care for those involved, writing project proposals and doing budgets, teaching methods, influencing society, justice issues and reconciliation.

There was a process for writing each series of lectures and we were asked to put on paper what we learned in each segment. The time was very full. The major change in my thinking was that Community is not about money, either given by donors or earned by recipients, but by changing the view of the needy community to a view of how can they improve their own situation.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

One of the major problems with development work is that so often the "foreign expert" comes with a package that they wish to give the community. Whether the community really is interested in this package is not taken into account. So many projects fail because the local community will not use whatever is in the package.

A full and detailed assessment is needed before a project is even considered. We have been given the tools to do this and I need to put the information into a format that can be used for the projects that we undertake.

Neil Young

16 May 2002

By David and Liz

## **HADA – Astana, Kazakhstan**

How do you respond when a young woman comes and asks, "Do you only help pregnant women or do you help other women?" You take a deep breath, and then casually but cautiously ask, *why*? This happened about a month ago, and in response to that cautious *why*? The young lady produced a newspaper article about a 20 year-old homeless girl who had been found in a basement (which is where a lot of homeless people find shelter) lying on the heating pipes, wasting away. She had almost starved to death. Plumbers had found her and called an ambulance. After being turned away at three different hospitals, she was finally taken to a social rehabilitation centre.

The Social Rehabilitation Centre provides the homeless with a bed (not necessarily with a mattress), a change of clothes, a small daily food allowance and very limited medical help, but only for 3 months – and then it's back on the streets. Some go out to work from there, to maybe paint or labour on building sites, for a meagre 150 tg/ day (approx \$2 Australian).

Before promising any assistance, we asked the ladies who have been training as counsellors, if they wanted to become involved. Not only would it require help initially in a practical way, such as providing food and medicine, but it would be a long-term commitment to someone with

many emotional needs, as well as physical. We wanted to be sure that they went in with their eyes open to all the possible problems. We also felt it would provide them with a small training-ground, in learning to interact with some of the institutions that we may need to be involved with in the future. We have been impressed with how they have talked with directors of the Hospital Rehabilitation Centre and Department of Health.

For most of them visiting the rehabilitation centre has been a shock and for some it has crystallised their desire to help others in need. This may seem a strange statement to make but in this culture, help and service to others is not a value that has been cultivated. In the past, 'The State' took care of people. It was not up to an individual to take any responsibility for another's needs.

The ladies have also been to visit another NGO that is offering courses, and any assistance to locals who wish to set up volunteer organisations. The information and training they receive will be useful in investigating all of our options for the organisational structure of the Pregnancy Crisis Centre. It has been encouraging to see them stepping out and developing in these new areas and beginning to show ownership for the project.

As for the HADA team here, we have been continuing with language lessons and the on-going training of our counsellors. They have many questions and a real desire to find out as much as possible, before their work begins in the Crisis Pregnancy Centre. Through a series of questions we have been encouraging them to reflect on what they have been taught. They have also been encouraged to use some of their own reflections and life stories, in pamphlets that will be used to promote the centre. More recently Rebecca has been teaching them the steps to formulate and then deliver a good presentation, using visual aids etc. They will also use this to promote the work they will be doing in the centre.

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### Credit Card Facilities

We are pleased to be able to offer credit card facilities to those supporting HADA projects or for payment of annual memberships. Please use the slip above if you wish to avail yourself of this service.

\*Please note that the bank charges fees in excess of 7% for the use of this service/facility.

***Donations to any of the projects that HADA supports will be gratefully received.***

## Report on the Nuijiang Pig Project

In December 2001, funds were distributed to nine families that had been previously selected to trial this project, in a minority country town. This was to purchase piglets and food.

In April and May 2002, the project was visited and it was assessed that eight families were progressing with their projects. They were doing well, and if at that time, they had sold their pigs, they could make some profit. It is believed they could now make even more.

Case Study of one family: The amount of 2500 rmb received from HADA was divided into three parts. The eldest son received 500 rmb, the middle son 1000 rmb and the youngest received 1000 rmb. The eldest son bought a piglet for 190 rmb plus 50 kg of corn for 250 rmb. On the day we visited his family in May, the pig could be sold for 700 rmb and now much more.

The second son used his money to buy two piglets, one for 250 rmb and the other 170 rmb. The rest of the money was used to buy three young goats. The day we visited, both pigs together could be sold at 1500 rmb and the goats at a total price of 600 rmb. The youngest son used his money to buy three

piglets, paying 450 rmb in total. When visited in May he could have received 1450 rmb if the three were to be sold at that time. It would be more now.

Of course one or two families did not do well. Their piglets got diseases and were still small and not growing. However, they told us they were confident to be able to repay their loans on time.

There was only one family who didn't use their money for farming, for very special reasons. The host lent his money to his friend to build a new house near the river, which would then get him some material support from the local government. (This is a policy to encourage people to move from the mountains to the riverside.) The host has committed himself to fulfil his commitments to HADA.

Some families bought both piglets and cows and in a word, have done well for their families.

We are encouraged by their happiness and peace. Most of the projects hope to repay 100 rmb at the end of June and the rest at the end of the year. This money will be recycled, going to other families who will be chosen for help.

**David**

by Jim Dawson.

## HIS VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE - Phnom Penh, Cambodia

The Vocational Training Centre began in 1996 as an integral part of the holistic ministry amongst street children that Harvest International Services (HIS) has been doing since 1995. The VTC is registered with the Ministry of Social Affairs, Labour, Youth and Vocational Training.

### VISION STATEMENT

The HIS VTC exists for the purpose of training orphans and deprived youth in vocational skills and ethics that will help them become effective citizens in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

### OBJECTIVES

To offer orphans and deprived youth (aged 16-20 years) the following opportunities:

1. Training in vocational skills such as metal trades, computers and sewing, to a competent employable level. These students who come would not have an opportunity to stand on their own feet in life. Many of them are now becoming contributors rather than receivers only.
2. Training in values that can enhance their life.
3. Provision of work opportunities for graduates. Approximately, 65% of the students get jobs, while others continue in other studies.

### TRAINING

A one year Certificate Course teaches the students fundamentals of the trades, through theory, practice, projects and grading of performance. Those students that pass, graduate with a certificate stamped both by our organisation, as

well as by the government. We have three foreign and 10 Cambodian staff.

Prom Wichet was one poor boy who applied himself throughout the year in the metal trade course. He came top in his class and became a member of the family. We have now employed him in our school as a part-time teacher for street children, and to do some maintenance jobs around the properties. He is also an active member of one of our cell groups. Many similar stories could be told of others who have come from very deprived backgrounds.

### FINANCIAL NEEDS

At present the VTC relies on gifts from interested individuals. Students and their relatives or guardians only cover a fraction of the costs. During the last few months, the VTC has struggled financially and now all the funds are depleted. We have 45 students and they are in their second term. **Any financial help would be very much appreciated.**

Jim Dawson

**Gifts can be sent to:  
The Treasurer of HADA,  
PO Box 54, Clayfield, QLD 4011.**

**HADA will forward overseas  
100% of all funds received for  
projects, less bank charges.**

HADA wishes to thank Anthony Smith and Company for the printing and distribution of this newsletter.

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