



## Press Release

### **HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's gracious acceptance to visit SOS Children's Village, Bangpoo. In Celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of SOS Children's Villages Thailand**

SOS Children's Village Bangpoo, Samutprakarn

*Samutprakarn – June 13<sup>th</sup> 2012*

On the auspicious occasion of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn's gracious acceptance to visit "SOS Children's Village Bangpoo, Samutprakarn" 383 Moo2, Sukumvit Road, New-Bangpoo, Samutprakarn 10280 THAILAND. On Wednesday, 13 June 2012 at 13:30 hr. In Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of SOS Children's Villages Thailand.

Thanpuying Sumalee Chartikavanij, Honorary Advisor, Khunying Rose Boribalburiphand, Consulting Chairman and Pol.Maj.Gen. Norawat Charoen-Rajapark, President along with the Board Members of SOS Children's Villages Thailand greeted HRH Princess Sirindhorn.

HRH Princess Sirindhorn arrived at SOS Children's Village Bangpoo, Samutprakarn. Pol.Maj.Gen. Norawat Charoen-Rajapark, President of SOS Children's Villages Thailand presented the 40th Anniversary Commemoration Book of SOS Children's Villages Thailand and reported of the event since established in year 1971 by Thanpuying Somsri Charoen-Rajapark along with Thanpuying Sumalee Chartikavanij and group of honorable supporters. In year 1976, SOS Children's Villages Thailand came under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit.

SOS Children's Villages Thailand is committed to help children who have lost their parents by nurturing them following a long-term family based child care model in accordance to SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES INTERNATIONAL founded by Austrian founder - Dr. Hermann Gmeiner. SOS Children's Villages Thailand is a member of SOS Children's Villages International that is active in 133 countries.

At SOS Children's Villages Thailand, each child has been cared with love and warm by SOS mother, the family ties grow naturally as brothers and sisters, each family creates its own home within the family house and about 12 SOS families are part of the community as the village. Children are offered the chance to develop to their fullest potential emotionally, physically and academically, thereby helping them to become well-equipped to integrate back into their own society. In believe that playing an active role in this manner shall contribute a better future for our children.

Nowadays, there are more than 400 integrated youths and adults from SOS Children's Villages Thailand who are living as independent, responsible and contributing members of society. Presently, there are 650 children caring in five SOS Children's Villages; Bangpoo Samutprakarn, Hatyai Songkla, Nongkhai, Chiang Rai and Phuket. SOS Children's Village Bangpoo is the first project of SOS Children's Villages Thailand.

SOS Children's Villages official opened on February 20, 1974. Her Majesty Queen Rambhai Barni, Queen of the late King Rama VII preside the opening ceremony. SOS Children's Village Bangpoo, comprises with 12 SOS family houses, SOS kindergarten building, office building (including SOS aunts' residence), village director's residence, medical room, library room, guest rooms and retired mother houses. Presently, SOS Children's Village Bangpoo has cared 125 children (60 boys and 65 girls) with 15 SOS mothers and aunts as well as 20 co-workers.

For SOS Kindergarten provides fully professional education by certified teachers to K1-K3 not only SOS children from the village, the kindergarten also provides children from the community surrounding the village. Currently, there are 39 students which are 24 SOS children and 15 children from communities surrounding the village.

In this opportunity, HRH Princess Sirindhorn kindly gave the plaque to SOS supporters. HRH Princess also painted the picture gave to SOS Children's Village Bangpoo and visited SOS families. Before departures, HRH Princess planted the Mahogany tree in front of the Office building.

Contact information

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