

# Good Shepherd Home Foundation 2025 Newsletter

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We are grateful to close yet another year during which we were able to deliver support to our much-loved community and walk with them through their struggles. Each year presents new challenges, and we are always stretched to our limits doing our utmost to meet an ever-increasing demand for services. Our prayers are always answered when generous partners like yourselves step up and offer assistance of all natures, assistance we could not survive without.

We enter 2026 with hope and optimism knowing that we do not walk alone, and that there are so many inspiring individuals and groups who share our mission to make the world a lighter place for the most vulnerable among us.

We are delighted to share our ongoing projects and successes from 2025, and thank you for helping us to 'make it happen' once again.

Wishing you all the very best for the year ahead.

# Fatima Training Center

Our Fatima Training Center has become a beacon of empowerment, offering specialized programs in quality handcraft and needlework.

By instilling a consistent work ethic and the skills to produce meticulous craftsmanship, the center provides women with both the ability and the confidence to progress towards financial independence. The income generated through these crafts are invested into the next generation, most often channeled directly into children's education creating a ripple effect of growth and opportunity.

In 2025 just over 100 remarkable women participated in the program. While many of our participants were '*Learning and Earning*', their children were being cared for and educated in the safety of our Day Care Center. This offered mothers the much-needed freedom and peace of mind to focus on their own personal development.





Staff taught the marketable technical skills to produce attractive and popular local crafts. These included practices in recycling and upcycling, incorporating an environmental awareness and a keen business mentality. Our participants are predominantly unemployed women and youth aspiring to study at a university in the future. The program enables them to sustain themselves while they are supported on the path towards independence.



Participants learn design, pattern making and cutting. Positions on the production line are rotated exposing trainees to a variety of skills and techniques.



Machine operations use up to date technology and enable high volume orders to be produced. The center is bright and airy, providing a comfortable working environment.





Refined and rarely seen handwork offers a unique point of difference and added value. Handmade items are always highly prized and made with love and care.



We introduced crochet work into our assortment bringing little creatures to life such as turtles, birds and elephants as well as Christmas Santas and snowmen.



We also provided opportunities to learn screen printing, which offered limitless creative possibilities and unleashed the imagination of our young learners.





Used uniforms donated by hotels were recycled and reinvented into handmade Thai souvenirs for resale in the hotel gift stores.



Discarded soap bars donated by hotels were also recycled by the Fatima Center. Training and guidance were provided by hotel staff. The students learned not only soap recycling, but the value of collaboration.





At the Fatima Training Center, we strive to create a working environment in which participants are motivated and engaged in their work.

We begin the day with a morning assembly which has been essential to establish a structured start to each day.



Birthday celebrations are held for trainees every three months to lift spirits and spread joy.



Many activities and new skills were trained by volunteers. We were very fortunate that participants were able to receive training from the Thai Red Cross Society.



We also held activities and events such as jumble sales throughout the year. These events help to generate income to cover smaller costs such as afternoon snacks for participants.



Visitors are always welcome and have been frequently received. A very big thank you if you were able to visit our center last year.



# Children's Day Care Center

The Good Shepherd Children's Day Care Center provides a lifeline for low-income families and vulnerable communities who struggle to find affordable, high-quality care. For these parents, our center is more than a day care; it is a vital support system that allows parents to work while knowing their children are in a safe, nurturing environment.



In 2025, we were privileged to care for 85 children daily, with our program running from 7.30 am. to 3.00 pm. The children from 3-6 years old were divided into 4 activity rooms according to their ages.

To ensure the highest quality care, our youngest toddlers (3-year-olds) are cared for by three dedicated caregivers, while our older groups are allocated one caregiver each.

Through engaging activities, we remain committed to our goals. Activities include painting, reading, writing and games which enhance physical and psychological development.

Our goals are:

- **Holistic Development:** Providing targeted physical and psychological support to ensure every child meets their developmental milestones
- **School Readiness:** Cultivating essential life skills so our graduates enter the school system on an equal footing with their peers
- **Nutrition:** Providing reliable, healthy lunches and snacks that are fundamental to children's growth and ability to learn





The success of our environment was perhaps best captured by a visiting Art Therapist, who assessed the children through their artwork and observed:

*'I am overjoyed to see such happy and spirited children. Through their artwork — which often speaks louder than words — it is clear they feel safe and loved. There are no signs of trauma or fear; only the freedom to create.'*



We are proud to report that in this past year, 20 of our 6-year-old students are fully prepared and ready to transition to primary school.

Partnerships with Government Health Centers allowed us to conduct Children's Physical Examinations and Capacity Development assessments.



We strive to instill a sense of responsibility among the children. As citizens and caretakers of the earth, children learned how to separate items and recycle.



Children are also provided opportunities to sing, dance and perform. At Christmas time, carol performances were a highlight and a joy for children and supporters alike.





# Vocational Training

Our vocational training focuses on capacity building by strengthening professional skills to equip participants with essential competencies for future employment in fields such as hairdressing and basic computer technology.



Participants were trained in washing, drying and clamping techniques, styling, make up and facial massage. These skills offer trainees the opportunity to work in local small businesses or eventually establish their own.



## Beauty Salon Training Program

This year we were able to employ a hairdressing teacher, gradually improving her quality of life, helping to ease the burden of her transportation, food and cost of living expenses. Her enthusiastic students also benefited enormously from the hands-on experience and training she provided.





## Basic Computer Training Program

Children and youth learned fundamental computer skills to build a strong foundation for future technological proficiency.



Students gained access to basic computer literacy, learning to operate Microsoft Office programs and how to navigate the Internet safely and responsibly. This knowledge equips them with essential skills that can be applied to their studies and work in the future, enhancing their efficiency and ability to manage information, communication, and perform technological tasks effectively in the digital age.



Creative projects made technology fun and exciting and helped develop confidence.



## Mother and Baby Home (Baan Sukruthai)

In 2025, our mother and baby home made a meaningful and measurable impact on the lives of vulnerable women and children served by the Baan Sukruthai Project, assisting 162 beneficiaries throughout the year, including:

- 15 mothers with unplanned pregnancies in need of safe shelter
- 15 women affected by domestic violence, including mothers residing with their children
- 12 young children aged 1–3 years whose families faced caregiving challenges
- 147 individuals who received general counseling and psycho-social support



Beyond meeting immediate needs for safety and shelter, comprehensive capacity-building and empowerment activities were implemented.

These included programs to strengthen mother–child bonding, newborn care and maternal health education, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) and Art Therapy, vocational training in cooking, personal budgeting, and income-generation skills, as well as a targeted self-care and life-skills program for 12 adolescent girls.

This program played a critical role in preventing serious social risks such as suicide, unsafe abortions, and child abandonment. More importantly, it contributed to long-term positive outcomes by enhancing beneficiaries' skills, resilience, and access to supportive community networks.



Baan Sukruthai continued providing inclusive and effective assistance without discrimination based on ethnicity or religion. There is a continuous and growing demand for these services.



## Residential Care Service (Baan Kevin)

Baan Kevin shelters young women aged 12-18 years who have experienced misfortunes such as family breakdowns, domestic violence or sexual abuse; sometimes all of the traumas listed prior.

Many are in high-risk family environments, have no proper address and forfeit educational opportunities due to poverty.

Our primary services focus on 4 categories: accommodation, education, mental wellbeing and occupation. We also source basic legal support where required.

Providing educational opportunities is fundamental to individual development and provides access to a sustainable future.

We are proud of the 24 young women we hosted from January to April 2025. Four of them graduated from High School by the end of March 2025. Two went on to university, while the other two studied further to become nursing assistants.





From May to present, there have been 20 girls studying at Secondary and High school.

The program provides year-round activities to promote girls' learning, enhance their understanding, foster self-esteem, and develop their potential according to their abilities and interests.

Promoting self-worth and building inner confidence with the appreciation of cultural heritage have been essential. Activities this year prioritized individuality and encouraged self-expression.

