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Burma Children

Medical Fund operating to give
Burma's kids a future

Dear Friends & Supporters of BCMF:

Welcome to the October 2013 edition of the BCMF newsletter! We have several updates to share as we continue to work to provide needed health care to patients from Burma with complex medical conditions.

Announcing the Launch of Our Patient House Fundraiser!

As stated in our last newsletter, BCMF has now reached a point where it is essential to establish a safe house exclusively for BCMF patients. This will allow us to better serve our patients' needs and stabilize our costs. The patient house will be a key aspect of the services we provide to patients. It is essential that patients and their caregivers have a safe place to stay and a social support system while undergoing medical treatment in Chiang Mai.

Our goal is to raise \$5,000 which will help to cover a significant portion of our start-up costs. We have set up an online fundraising page to make it easier for our supporters to donate.

Please go to <http://www.youcaring.com/bcmf> to make a donation.

Please share the link with your family and friends and help us to reach our goal!



October Patient Spotlight:

Zin Maung is a 15-year-old boy who came to BCMF in January 2013 after being diagnosed with Osteosarcoma (bone cancer) in his left leg. He sought treatment in Burma, however his doctor told his family that the surgery would be expensive. Unable to afford the surgery in Burma, his parents decided to seek treatment at Mae Tao Clinic where he was referred to BCMF. BCMF sent him for investigation and treatment at Mae Sot Hospital where doctors determined that amputation of his left leg would be the best treatment to slow the spread of the cancer, reduce his pain, and ultimately prolong his life.

While he is grateful to have

BCMF's Quarterly Report

BCMF has just released our latest quarterly report. In this report, we present a brief analysis of the current state of the health care system in Burma. The findings in this report are based on interviews the BCMF team conducted with health care professionals working both on the Thai-Burma border and inside of Burma, site visits to towns and villages in Karen State and Mon State, interviews with refugees and displaced people living on both sides of the Thai-Burma border, and clinical interviews with BCMF patients and their family members. It is clear that our patients face great challenges in attempting to get medical treatment in Burma and there are no easy answers when it comes to addressing the immense difficulties Burma will face in reshaping its health care system in the years to come.

Please click [here](#) for the latest quarterly report.

On a Final Note...

We would like to send a big thank you to the women of Spring Brook! This group's knitting team sent a box of goods from Queensland, Australia including stuffed bears, blankets, clothing, quilts and slippers. The bears have already been a big favorite with child patients that have come in!

Don't forget to follow BCMF on Facebook and Twitter for more updates and news from the Thai-Burma border!

Best Wishes,

The BCMF Team

received treatment, living with bone cancer has proven to be a huge emotional hardship for both him and his family. He expressed his great sadness for losing his leg, although he says that he is slowly coming to accept it and he and his family understand that it was necessary in order to slow the spread of the cancer and to relieve him of his pain. They expressed their gratitude to the donors and BCMF for facilitating his required surgery.



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