

Spectrum

The magazine for CCD supporters

Issue 1
Jan 2010

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giving opportunity to
disabled children and
their families

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Welcome...

to the first issue of *Spectrum*. We're delighted to bring you this new magazine, packed with all the exciting things that are going on here in Thailand and amongst our supporters around the world.

On the cover, Mos demonstrates that there need be no barriers to creativity. On page 4, we reflect on October's hugely successful Rainbow Camp - our twelfth - where the theme was 'giving opportunity'. As well as painting, Mos enjoys writing poetry and is great with computers. Thanks for being our first cover star, Mos!

A new regular feature, 'Expect the Unexpected', looks at the important role of our volunteers and all they bring to life at CCD. This month, the spotlight is on Linda Broadbent, a volunteer from the UK who has been working with children and carers at all of CCD's centres in Thailand. If her story (page 6) inspires you and you'd like to volunteer with us too, please get in touch!

We're also very pleased to announce that plans

for setting up CCD Australia are now underway. This will be a new fundraising and volunteer-coordinating centre, like For Life in the UK and CCD USA in America. Read about that on page 9 and please pray for all those involved. More prayer requests are on page 11.

Finally, our thanks to you, our loyal supporters, without whom the work of CCD would be so much harder. We hope you enjoy this new magazine. Please share your feedback with us - see below for details of how to do this. Thank you for reading and being a part of the CCD story.



Wasan Saenwian
Executive Director



Tell us what you think

As you will have noticed, we've revamped our supporter magazine for 2010. We want it to be a publication that interests, informs and involves you, and to make sure that it is achieving these goals we need your help. What would you like to read more about? What are we getting right? What still needs some improvement?

If you are online, you will find a quick questionnaire at www.2short.net/ccd. It should take you no more than five minutes to complete but your feedback will be genuinely valuable to us as we prepare future issues of *Spectrum*. If you'd prefer to email or post your thoughts to us, you'll find our contact details below. Thank you for your time.

Spectrum is published every four months. It is written, designed and edited by Sarah and David Giles, International Communications and Development Officers at CCD. © 2010 Christian Care Foundation for Children with Disabilities. Content may be reproduced only with written permission from CCD.

Baitoey

A CCD Success Story

Baitoey is one year old, and the youngest child at Rainbow House. She has Down syndrome, and when she arrived at CCD's residential home in August 2009, she had very weak muscles and few social skills.

Nangsawoy, Baitoey's mother, has six children. They are very poor, and live in a slum in Bangkok. She simply could not afford to take care of another child, so took her to Baan Fuang Fah, a government home for disabled children.

A social worker at the home introduced Nangsawoy and Baitoey to CCD, and she was delighted to learn about all that Rainbow House could offer her daughter.

The little girl's first day at Rainbow House was very hard for both Baitoey and her mother. They were very close, had never been apart before, and both cried when they said goodbye for the first time. But two weeks later, when Nangsawoy came to visit, she found her daughter so well settled with the CCD staff and children that she refused to allow her mum to pick her up. Her mum now visits on a weekly basis, keen to ensure Baitoey does not forget her. Baitoey's progress at Rainbow House has

been amazing. In just a few months, she has gained enough strength and confidence to stand up and start to walk. As for her social development, she now responds to greetings with a wai and a beautiful smile.

If you would like to help CCD in our work with Baitoey and others like her, see page 15 for details of how to donate.



Rainbow Camp 12

Giving opportunity to disabled children and their families

Over 300 disabled children and their families have enjoyed another of CCD's three-day camps held on the coast in Phetchaburi province. This was the twelfth Rainbow Friendship Camp to be run by CCD and the theme was 'Giving opportunity to disabled children and their families'.

The camp was officially opened on 14 October 2009 by the Governor of Phetchaburi province, Mr Chai Panichpornpan. During his opening speech, the Governor extended a warm welcome to the children and praised CCD's work. He said that he was 'very happy to see the co-operation between the government, CCD and the local community', before expressing his hopes that the camp would be 'an opportunity for disabled children to learn new skills and learn from each other'. The attendees of the camp, including children and their families, along with staff and volunteers, then paraded through Phetchaburi city, making an eye-catching sight in their bright blue T-shirts.

Over the three days of the Rainbow Friendship Camp, children were able to enjoy an impressive range of activities. Candle-making, painting, craft, team games,

music, dance and swimming sessions were all organised to enable as many children as possible to enjoy taking part. No child was excluded because of their disability, and volunteer team members from Ratchabhat University and as far away as Canada and the UK were on hand to support CCD's staff team in making participation possible for everyone.

For many of the children, Rainbow Friendship Camp introduced many new experiences. Some had never seen the sea before, and wanted to see it, listen to it, feel it, smell it and even taste it! Even for those who were unable to communicate



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their delight verbally, the ear-to-ear smiles spoke volumes. Parents of disabled children who attended were also to draw on CCD's expertise and learn how to manage their child's special needs. They were also able to exchange hints and tips with other parents coping with similar conditions, and to enjoy being away from home - a luxury which is often not readily available to them.

Members of the local community supported Rainbow Camp generously by staging a free market and funfair. Food, drinks and ice creams were enthusiastically devoured by the children, who also appreciated balloon modeling and opportunities to win cuddly toys by throwing darts or shooting targets.

Following the closing ceremony, Wasan Saenwian, Executive Director of CCD, reflected on a successful camp. 'This was the twelfth Rainbow Camp, and the biggest and best yet. We are reliant on donations to put on events like this, so we are grateful to all those who have given so generously - especially the health ministry and local authority who have financed much of this year's camp. Above all, as a Christian organisation, we are grateful to God who gives us all opportunities, regardless of our physical limitations.'



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Expecting the Unexpected

Linda Broadbent's CCD story

Linda Broadbent from Odiham, UK, volunteered at CCD from September to December 2009. With a background in marketing and a variety of different skills to offer, she said she was happy to work with CCD wherever there was a need.

As part of her orientation, she took part in a trip to CCD's community-based rehabilitation centre at Manorom (CBR3). She joined a team of Australian occupational therapists already working at the centre, and went on home visits with the Thai staff.

On one visit with Nan (a Thai physiotherapist on the CCD staff), Linda - formerly a trained baby massage therapist - massaged the back of a 12-year-old boy with cerebral palsy. She and Nan saw the effects immediately: his breathing was improved, he relaxed, and a smile spread across his face. They showed the boy's grandmother the massage techniques



Bang enjoys a tummy massage as Linda trains carers at a community workshop

Linda had used, and an idea was born.

'I didn't come to Thailand with the intention of doing massage,' says Linda, 'but Nan was excited about the prospect of passing on the skills to the parents and carers of the children who use CBR3. Massage plays a big part in Thai culture, so they appreciate the benefits, but the remedial effects of the gentler stroke techniques of Swedish-style remedial massage are less well-known.'

People who come with skills and initiative can always find things to do. CCD thrives on them.

Linda was already a member of the Federation of Holistic Therapists, but wanted to refresh her knowledge before teaching others. She went to Chiang Mai for a two-week training course in Thai massage, building up her knowledge of functional anatomy which she could apply to understanding the effects of cerebral palsy and other disabilities. She was delighted to find this tremendous sense of purpose in her being at CCD.

Sharing skills

'Once I started, [projects development director] Chariya asked me to train the Thai staff at Rainbow House, followed by a series of community workshops for carers of disabled children at CBR1 and CBR2 and with the staff on the government wards as well,' explains Linda.

'CBR1 has no full-time physiotherapists, just

the CCD staff fieldworkers. They learn techniques from local hospital physiotherapists and encourage the children's carers to learn the skills as well. Introducing massage gave them another physical therapy to offer.

'When I visited CBR2 to work with the physiotherapist I found a very sociable atmosphere. The mums take over the kitchen while the children receive treatment and at lunchtime everyone shares an amazing meal. I won't forget the boy from Myanmar with learning difficulties who was one of my keenest students to volunteer to receive a back massage during demonstrations. Another boy had a bullet lodged in his spine. I heard some incredible stories.

'CBR3 is similar - it's a social gathering as well as skill sharing. The workshops took all morning and continued after lunch - they were so keen to learn.

Reaching out with resources

Linda's time at CCD has had what should be a lasting impact, not just on those who have received training, but on CCD's ability to work with new groups of people. 'For CCD staff to now be equipped with massage training is like having another tool they can use to open doors that might previously have been closed. Offering training builds bridges with other organisations, too,' she adds.

'We have produced resources such as a workbook for volunteers and staff to refer to as they practise what they've learnt and pass it on to

others. Long-term, of course, it would be great to have someone here full-time to follow up the training I've done and to pursue it.'



Linda first heard about CCD through a friend of her son who had come as part of her gap year and was impressed by the way CCD is run, the calibre of volunteers and the skills that they bring. Now Linda has experienced volunteering at CCD for herself, she echoes her friend's recommendation.

'CCD is a great enabler,' says Linda. 'People who come with skills and initiative can always find things to do. CCD thrives on them.'

If you are interested in volunteering at CCD, email volunteer@ccdthailand.org for more information.

About CCD

The Christian Care Foundation for Children with Disabilities in Thailand (CCD) has been providing care and support to abandoned children with disabilities, regardless of gender, nationality, creed or religion, since 1986.



CCD works alongside the Thai Government Home for babies, boys and girls in Nonthaburi, Thailand, which houses over 2,000 disabled children from all over Thailand. CCD currently provides rehabilitation to approximately 500 children from the government homes. CCD is located in Pakkred, Nonthaburi, just north of Bangkok.

CCD's prime objective is to provide care and support to abandoned children and young adults in a professional learning and developmental environment. The children are stimulated mentally and physically when they are at one of four CCD daycare centres. CCD teachers teach the children to count, read, colour, etc while physical therapists work with those children that do not have complete control of their bodies. This is all done with the hope that the children will one day be able to live independently.

CCD projects include:

- Four daycare centres
- A residential care home, Rainbow House
- Three community-based rehabilitation programmes (CBR).

For more information about our work, including details of how to get involved through donating or volunteering, please contact David and Sarah Giles, International Communications and Development Officers, at:

CCD
PO Box 47
Pakkred
Nonthaburi 11120
Thailand

Phone: +66 (0) 2584 6966

Fax: +66 (0) 2584 6007

Email: development@ccdthailand.org

Web: www.ccdthailand.org

CCD's Mission Statement

To demonstrate Jesus' love through helping develop disabled children to their highest potential through a holistic approach and to enable them to have equal rights, opportunities, a good quality of life and full integration into mainstream society.

CCD News

G'day CCD Australia

We're delighted to announce that plans are well underway to set up CCD Australia, which will be a fundraising and recruitment arm of CCD similar to For Life in the UK and CCD USA in North America.



Jill and Frank Reitsema from Perth in Western Australia are regular visitors to Thailand. Frank owns a packaging company which operates in Samut Sakhorn province, near Bangkok. Jill discovered CCD through the church they attend while in Thailand and, having visited Rainbow House and CBR2, felt that she had to get involved. After extensive discussions with CCD Executive Director, Wasan Saenwian, the creation of CCD Australia was agreed - with Jill at the helm.

Currently, work is being undertaken to establish CCD Australia as a registered tax-deductible gift recipient. Jill has also been working with CCD's International Communications and Development Officers, David and Sarah Giles, on devising

promotional and media strategies for the official launch later in the year.

Ramp it up

Australian physiotherapy and occupational therapy students Beck, Jas and Billie have had a lasting impact at CBR3 in Chainat province, where they spent six months. The team of volunteers supported the local staff team in providing therapy to disabled children on home visits and at the community-based rehabilitation centre in Manorom.

Their time with CCD was also used as a concerted fundraising effort among their friends and families back in Australia. Towards the end of their time at CBR3, they were able to see what a difference these donations make firsthand. Identifying that the local school was inaccessible to wheelchair-bound schoolgirl Picnic, they measured up, did the necessary calculations and project-managed the installation of a brand new ramp.



CCD News

Christmas celebrations

CCD celebrated Christmas at all three community-based rehabilitation centres for the first time this year, sharing the Christmas message with hundreds of children and families across four different provinces. The events included Thai dancing, singing, games, balloons and lots of food, and each child was able to make a Christmas angel decoration with a suitable Bible quote. Everyone received a present, and the celebrations were hugely appreciated by the families who attended.



We also celebrated Christmas with 400 children at the government-run Baan Fuang Fah home for abandoned, disabled children. Meanwhile, the Christmas Eve festivities at Rainbow House incorporated a traditional Nativity play and was attended by the Governor of Nonthaburi province, who was the guest of honour.

UK Volunteers make the news



The British media covered the stories of several volunteers from around the country who spent Christmas away from home. Local newspapers from Morpeth and Newcastle in the North East to Stafford in the Midlands told readers about CCD's work, and how the volunteers helped CCD's children to celebrate Christmas. Our work was also featured on BBC Radio Surrey's breakfast show just before Christmas.



CCD Goes Stateside

CCD founders Wasan and Chariya Saenwian traveled to Los Angeles in September 2009, the airline tickets being kindly donated by Flor Indigne at Moana (Asia) Ltd. Whilst in the USA, the Saenwians were delighted to visit the Sasser family, who adopted a child from CCD in 2004. They also undertook an extensive series of speaking engagements, visiting Washington DC and Pennsylvania, and Wasan was interviewed by the Voice of America radio station.

The highlight was an official opening ceremony for CCD USA, the North American fundraising and recruitment arm of the foundation. The event, held in Maryland and organised by CCD USA Executive Director Michon Semon, included Thai dancing and a presentation about CCD's work before a delicious meal which had been donated by local Thai restaurants in the area.

Pray for CCD

Thank you for joining with us in prayer.

Please thank God for:

- All of our board members, staff, volunteers, adoptive families, fundraisers and donors
- Good links with local schools and international communities in and around Bangkok
- Sufficient resources to deliver our care programmes in 2009, despite worldwide economic fragility
- The sporting prowess of CCD's athletes who won medals at the Sritrang Disabled Games



Pray for:

- Three of CCD's young people who will be taking part in a BBC World Service training project from February
- Health and protection for all the children and families we work with
- Continuation of the new therapeutic massage programme
- The new volunteers who will be joining CCD shortly
- A successful launch of CCD Australia, and the continued growth of For Life and CCD USA
- Safety and fun for Rainbow House children in forthcoming outings to the safari park and an arts/craft centre during March and April

Into a new decade...

It's not just the CCD supporters' magazine that is changing. CCD itself is constantly evolving, as it tries to help disabled children and families in the best possible way. Our three community-based rehabilitation projects are thriving and thanks to the support of the local health authority, we are expecting to begin work in the Sangkhaburi area of Chainat province later this year. This will be an extension of CBR3, which has already established an excellent reputation in the community it serves less than a year after opening.

In Pakkred, Baan Piam Rak - our group home where disabled young people can develop



the skills necessary for independent living - is fully occupied. CCD recognises that this kind of stepping-stone is a valuable facility, and we are developing plans for 2010 and beyond.

Central to these plans are a brand new facility on land opposite Rainbow House. CCD owns most of it already, and is being put

to temporary use as an allotment where older children are able to learn simple agricultural skills. However, the CCD board of trustees has now authorised the purchase of the adjacent plot. We intend to commission architects and tradesmen to design and build a purpose-built vocational training centre on this land, which will include improved accommodation for our charity shop. It will also incorporate apartment-style housing which will enable us to offer 'assisted living' to many more disabled young people. We also wish to improve the office environment for Rainbow House staff, by creating new workspace on the top floor. This will involve the construction of a new roof and diverting utilities such as water and electricity.

This expansion is a major undertaking for CCD, which we do not currently have funds to complete. We know, though, that there is a very real need for these facilities and that they will be strategically important to our mission of holistic care. The older young people that we serve are often overlooked, but are no less important to us or to God.

Please would you consider how you can help us transform our plans into reality? Could you commit to giving us a regular income each month? Would you be prepared to tell your friends and family members about what we are hoping to achieve? Can you suggest companies that may be willing to give us time or materials for free?

If you can, please contact us at the address on page 2. Thank you.

CCD's 2009 in Numbers

- We cared for **37** children through the year at Rainbow House residential centre
- **B112,000** paid the yearly salary for one of Rainbow House's daycare teachers
- A physiotherapist at CCD's community-based projects cost **B162,000**
- We welcomed volunteers from **10** different countries
- The food and drink at Rainbow House for the year cost **B2,000,000** (supplemented with donations and home-grown produce)
- Our festive celebrations shared the Christmas message with **more than 1000** children and family members
- The cost of food, accommodation, care, teaching, accommodation for one child was **B11,000** a month
- **8** young men enjoyed living independently at Baan Piam Rak
- There were **68** staff on CCD's payroll
- **B2,000,000** was donated through collection boxes



We would like to thank...

...the teachers, children and parents at the Early Childhood Centre at the **Australian International School of Bangkok**, who donated more than 130 Christmas presents for us to distribute to children at Rainbow House. This is on top of their amazing financial support, which already runs into tens of thousands of baht. We've been able to visit AISB with our Rainbow Magic Show which went down well and we look forward to continuing our relationship with them.



Harrow International School, which is located a few miles away from our headquarters, continues to support us in a variety of ways. A team of students from the school visit Rainbow House a couple of times a week to build links with our children and young people, and we are grateful for regular financial support from the renowned school. Rainbow House children also enjoyed a day trip to Harrow's school fair in November, where they were free access to the many attractions – including a bouncy castle, pedaloes and hydrozorbng!

INVE, the **Rotary Club of the Netherlands**, **Samut Prakarn International Ladies Club** and Bangkok's **Patana School** are among those who have enabled us to open our brand new soft-play area. Opened on



8 December, the 600,000-baht facility is a fun environment for children to develop their co-ordination, motor skills and confidence.

Our vocational training projects are a growing aspect of CCD's work, and we're delighted that so many donors have been able to lend their support. Particular thanks to Australian donors **Jill and Frank Reitsema** from Perth and **Sun Coast Christian College** in Queensland, and to UK mission agency **OMF** and Thailand's **New Sathorn International School** for supporting this work.

Finally, our continued thanks to faithful donors **Thai Oilmen's Charity** who have generously supported CCD's work over many years.



How to support CCD

We rely heavily on financial donations, gifts in kind and practical help from supporters and other members of the public to ensure that our vital work with abandoned and disabled children continues.

If you would like more information about what we do, or are willing to support us in one or more ways, please tick the relevant box(es) below and complete your contact details in the spaces overleaf. Return the form to the address given and we'll respond to you as soon as we can.

Thank you.

I would like to:

- support education
- foster children
- become a volunteer
- provide a meal
- donate toys, equipment, etc
- make a donation
- receive more information

For supporters in Thailand

Please make cheques (in Thai baht) payable to Christian Care Foundation for Children with Disabilities and post to:

PO Box 47, Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120.

If you would like to make a bank transfer, please call us on 02 584 6966 or email accounts@ccdthailand.org for our account details.

Money order:

PO Box 47, Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120

Or give online at www.ccdthailand.org.

CCD is a registered charity, number T83/2540

For supporters in Europe

Donate to For Life online at www.4lifethailand.org

Please make cheques (in pounds sterling) payable to For Life and post to:
For Life, Kennington Road, London, SE1 7QP, UK
For Life is a registered charity, number 1104291

For supporters in North America

Donate to CCD USA online at www.2short.net/ccd-usa

Please make checks (in US dollars only) payable to CCD USA and post to:
PO Box 412, Clarksville, MD 21029
*CCD USA is Tax Exempt 501 (c) (3)
Public Charity EIN #43-2111234*

For supporters in Australasia

We'll provide you with details of CCD Australia as soon as it is launched. Meanwhile, please use the instructions below.

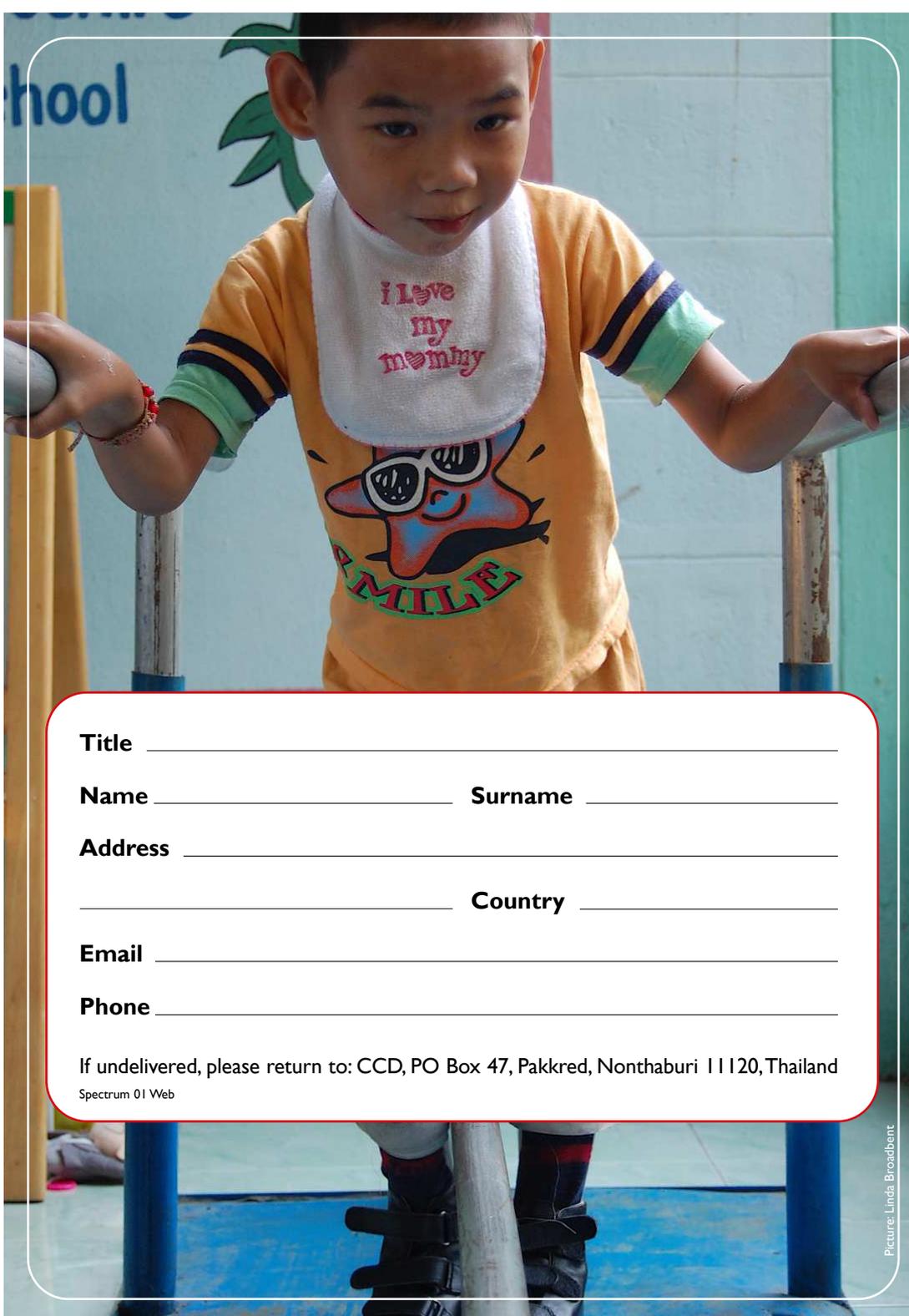
In the rest of the world

Donate directly to CCD online at: www.ccdthailand.org

Please make cheques (in Thai baht) payable to Christian Care Foundation for Children with Disabilities and post to PO Box 47, Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120, Thailand.

CCD is a registered charity, number T83/2540

Please ensure you have completed your contact details overleaf



Title _____

Name _____ **Surname** _____

Address _____

_____ **Country** _____

Email _____

Phone _____

If undelivered, please return to: CCD, PO Box 47, Pakkred, Nonthaburi 11120, Thailand

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