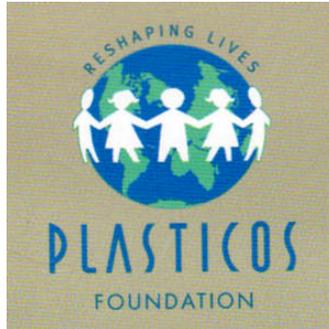


The Luang Prabang Medical Mission in Laos

**A Joint Effort of the Plastics Foundation
And the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation.**



Plastics Foundation is a volunteer organization dedicated to providing life changing plastic surgery for children, correcting birth defects, congenital malformations and traumatic disfigurements. The Foundation is nonprofit, nonpolitical, and nonreligious and serves children both at home and around the world who are unable to afford these services.



A non-profit, nonpolitical and nonreligious organization, the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation's primary purpose is to provide medical services to Laotian citizens, with a greater focus on children. The Foundation recognizes that the best guarantee for sound health is adequate nutrition, basic hygiene, decent shelter, education and reasonable access to medical facilities.

The primary focus of this mission was not just to treat children with cleft lip and palate deformities but also to teach our host physicians how to perform these operations so that they can continue the work after the team has gone.

Over seven days we operated on 96 children performing more than 140 operations. We trained four surgeons, two anesthesiologists and a score of nurses. All operations were successful and there were no complications.



Some of the 96 kids we were able to help during this mission.

Thanks for your support

Before Surgery

After Surgery



Chuesong - ຍອດປາວ



Heuher - ຮີເຮີ



Khamsone - ຄໍາສອນ



Khong - ຄ່ອງ



Maikuamua - ໄມຄົວມົວ



Thitmontha - ທິດມົນທາ



Gaisone - ໄກສອນ



Kaosuayang - ເກົາຊົວຢາງ



Nonglee - ນົງລີ



Pahuamua - ປາຮົວມົວ



Nhot - ນ່ອດ



US brings smiles to Luang Prabang patients

The US based Plastics organisation and the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation provided 97 free surgeries for people with cleft lips and palates in Luang Prabang province from January 9 to 21.

Staff from Mittaphab and Luang Prabang provincial hospitals joined in the surgical activities.

Deputy Director of Mittaphab Hospital, Dr Phoukhieng Douangchack, said the service aimed to improve the health status of rural people.

"This is one of many ways to support government policy on poverty reduction by 2020," she said.

In addition to providing the free surgeries, the Plastics organization and the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation provided free transport and accommodation for all patients.

Dr Phoukhieng said assistance from the organizations had allowed their staff to learn new techniques and improve surgical skills.

This is the second time Plastics has provided free surgeries to disadvantaged people. Along with the Lao Rehabilitation Foundation, they spent more than 680 million kip (US\$80,000) during the two-week period.

Dr Phoukhieng hopes these organizations will continue to help more people in the future.

**By Times Reporters
(Latest Update February 4, 2009)**