

Kids Action for Kids Help Change Lives Club Joins Scandinavian Ladies Group for Dec. 14 Fundraiser

“The Scandinavian Ladies” group and Kids Action for Kids (KAFK), a high school club at ISB, have joined hands to host a Christmas Bazaar featuring activities, food and crafts at the Dec. 14th Nichada market at the new Nichada Plaza. “This special event is organized to raise funds for Kids Action for Kids”, Bazaar Leader Anne Gry Ranchil said.

Kids Action for Kids works with Operation Smile to fund surgeries for children with cleft lip, cleft palate and facial deformities. KAFK, founded in Norway in 2009, is a student-run organization assisted by some adults and chaired by Martin Brekke, a senior at ISB. Martin said he got the inspiration to found KAFK together with his brothers and cousins after a middle school trip to Mae Sot for one of Operation Smile’s surgery missions.

“When I saw the children before and after the surgery, I understood what kind of difference this made in their lives, and that I could actually help make this immediate change for many more kids,” said Martin. “We decided we wanted to help, and started the fundraising first in Norway.”

“Since 2009, KAFK has financed surgeries for around 400 children in Thailand,” Martin said. “100% of the funds raised go directly to surgeries, as all administrative costs are covered by the organization’s board members. Every surgery costs 15,000 baht on average. Our organization pays 7,500 baht and DTAC matches every baht collected, so we are able to double the amount. The great thing about this charity is that everyone, young and old, can participate and make a difference in other people’s lives. It is also important for us to create synergy between our home country and our host country, Thailand. In that sense, we hope to be a role model for other international students to follow our example”.

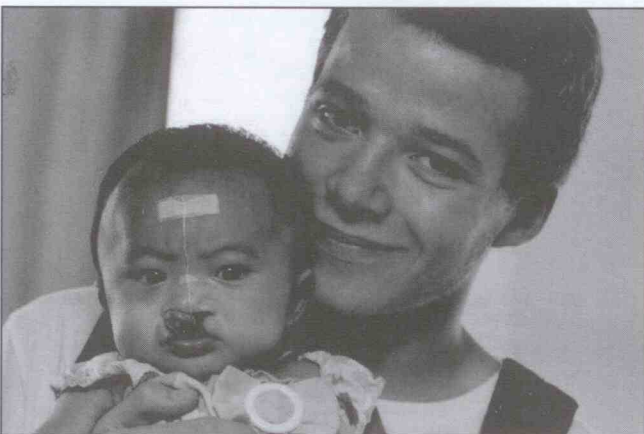
“DTAC is majority owned by Norwegian Telenor, and it was natural for us (KAFK) to look for a company with links to Norway. Since DTAC was already working with Operation Smile, we asked for co-operation. We then decided to work together and pay 50% of the surgeries each,” said Torgunn Aas Reggestad, Secretary for Kids Action for Kids.

“For this project we have the same goals,” said Nattawan Sasipibool, DTAC’s Senior Vice President for Social Responsibility. “We also like the way Kids Action for Kids work, where kids and youth help other kids and youth.”

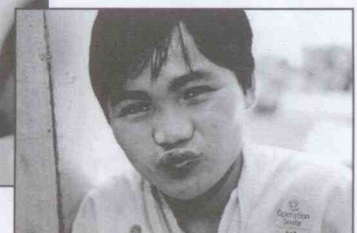
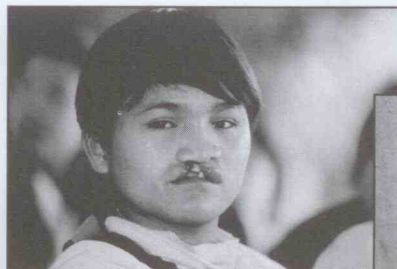
For the Dec.14 Bazaar, a group of kids have made bracelets and Christmas decorations for sale. The high school KAFK Club will be selling hotdogs and drinks, and hosting games and activities. You can find more about the program for the Bazaar in coming advertisements around Nichada and here in *Thani Talk* on page 14.

Please come support Kids Action for Kids and help create many more happy smiles!

Kids Action for Kids website: www.kidsactionforkids.org



*Torgunn Aas Reggestad,
Board member, Kids Action for Kids*





Before & After: (Above, lt. to rt.: Little Nyan before surgery in 2002, after surgery, and now 10 years later.

