

# SILVER LINING JOURNAL



SEPT 2023



THEME STORY

## Ten Years of Nurturing



Love Makes the World Different ●  
Memorable Years Together ●  
Together Hand in Hand, Journeying through Life ●



## MISSION STATEMENT

# Your LOVE changes LIVES

Silver Lining is committed to help impoverished orphans, students, and children with disabilities in mountainous areas. We improve their lives through education, job opportunities, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to marginalized and neglected, helping them overcome poverty, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.



TO THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

**Walk With You With Everlasting Love, Believe That Love Changes Lives.**

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## PRODUCTION

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# Ten Years of Nurturing

Every summer vacation, the happiest thing for me was attending the graduation ceremonies of the children from the Silver Lining Care Center who have been admitted into university. The process of their growth is always full of ups and downs. How many times have they said to me, "Mr. Yeung, I'm sorry, I don't want to study anymore." And later telling me, "Mr. Yeung, thank you for helping me realize, I've decided to go to college." As I've watched these children embark on their path to university, I feel a sense of inexplicable satisfaction. Finally, I can give an account to the parents who have passed away, telling them that their children have been nurtured into talents by the Care Center.

Xiaodong also got admitted to university this year. In his speech during the

graduation ceremony, Xiaodong said, "I used to be a rebellious teenager, but it was the Care Center that didn't abandon me when I was lost and made mistakes. They encouraged me, taught me, and helped me find my determination." Hearing Xiaodong's sharing, I felt very comforted. It hasn't been easy for Xiaodong, who once dropped out of school and went to work in Guangdong.

Xiaodong had a difficult experience when he was young. His father passed away at a young age, and his mother remarried. Perhaps because of his childhood experiences, Xiaodong, although having an outgoing personality, was easily influenced by his friends. In junior high school through his friends' influence, he didn't want to study and was determined to go







dropped out of school, going to work in Guangdong.

I was angry and heartbroken. I asked myself, "Was all these years of effort in vain?" Whenever this question arose in my mind, my answer was always "no." Because we believe that "love can change lives," I believe that with our love, the children will definitely become better. So, we will persist in protecting every child under our care.

After Xiaodong went to Guangdong, I kept in touch with him regularly. Two months later, Xiaodong told me, "Mr. Yeung, although I can earn money by working in Guangdong, I regret this choice. Will you give me another chance? Can I go back to studying?"

When Xiao Dong returned, he had become much more mature and had a clear sense of his goals. This year, he became one of the first batch of children from the center to be admitted to university. At the graduation ceremony, as I looked at his grateful eyes and the confidence he had for the future, and as I thought about his tumultuous journey of growth, my eyes couldn't help but become moist. It further strengthened my belief that although love requires great effort, it will never be in vain.

to work. At that time, I tried to persuade he confidently said, "Mr. Yang, I know you want me to go to college, but I don't like studying. I want to go out and work. Life is not just about studying."

During that summer, Xiaodong planned to work with his friends, but I could tell that he wasn't truly happy. I repeatedly encouraged him and analyzed the benefits of studying. He eventually confided in me about his worries. It turned out that he felt he couldn't get into college, and the pressure was overwhelming. Xiaodong liked computers, so I asked if he was interested in pursuing IT. I told him that I could help him become an excellent IT professional. He was thrilled and said, "Thank you so much, Mr. Yang. Now I know my direction. I want to excel in IT." Xiaodong later chose to study network engineering at a vocational school, and during breaks, I personally taught him IT skills. He learned quickly, and his academic performance was good. I thought I could finally rest assured, but Xiaodong was once again influenced by his friends and



**Because I believe that love can change lives.**



# Visiting Nanning & Dahua in Guangxi

Since retiring in 2009, I have been involved in social work supervision in mainland China. Starting from Hong Kong, my journey has taken me to various regions such as Guangdong Province, the Yangtze River Delta, and East China, and my students come from different provinces. Social workers often refer to me as teacher, supervisor, or Mr. Lu. They describe me as kind, amiable, professional, and wise. I am gratified to be able to contribute my expertise and help the growth of social workers in mainland China after retirement.

In May 2023, I was invited by Hong Kong Silver Lining Missions to provide on-site supervision to social workers at the Silver Lining Center in Nanning, Guangxi. I had the privilege of traveling together with Brother Jianqing, whose mission was to understand the situation of organizations that had received funding and assistance. Although our purposes were different, the love of Christ became the guiding light of our journey, shining upon the groups and people in need of assistance.

The social works in Nanning and Dahua jokingly referred to this visit as a "meeting with an online friend." Indeed, since March 2022, I have been providing services to them online for over a year. During each

online supervision session, I could sense the social workers' pursuit of knowledge and their enthusiastic attitude. I deeply felt their confusion and professional expectations. This face-to-face communication helped me understand them better and provided tangible support for their work.

On May 19th, we arrived in Nanning, Guangxi, and the next day happened to be the National Disability Assistance Day charity run organized by the Silver Lining Social Work Center. We participated as volunteers in the event, which had nearly four hundred participants. We helped 62 disabled children complete an eight-kilometer marathon. Brother Jianqing was amazing in terms of physical strength and endurance, running the full distance with everyone, while I could only keep up as a fellow runner. Despite heavy rain during





the event, the participants' enthusiasm remained undiminished, especially the involvement of volunteers. They used their bodies and a few umbrellas to protect the disabled children from getting wet. The transmission of love clearly demonstrated God's great love and touched the lives of the disabled children. The event was a great success, and the social workers who planned it were the ones I mentioned earlier. As a teacher, I felt infinite comfort and pride in their efforts.



On the third day, our group, including Lydia the founder of Silver Lining Missions, visited the Dahua Silver Lining Care Center. Dahua was quite far, taking over an hour by car from Nanning. Silver Lining Care Center primarily serves orphans in mountainous areas who have lost parental care, providing them with alternative services. Throughout the visit, the social workers shared their experiences of trekking through mountains to visit families in need of assistance and showed us photos of the children, capturing their growth at different stages. I could feel their caring for the children's changes, see their

moist eyes, and realize that, they are not just "social workers," "surrogate parents," "teachers," or "dormitory supervisors." Most importantly, they are family in the eyes of the children.

On the fourth day, Brother Jianqing and I visited the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center in Nanning. It is a day care center for disabled children, where they receive physical exercise and learn self-care skills accompanied by their families. The coordination between parents and center staff forms a beautiful and loving team. The parents often express their gratitude for the services provided to their children by the center. They believe that without it, their children's growth would encounter many problems and difficulties. This gratefulness is something I also need to learn. I am thankful to God for giving me this opportunity to learn.

During the visit activities in Nanning and Dahua, I also set aside time in the afternoon to provide supervision to the social workers, hoping to help them solve practical professional challenges. I often say, "If it's better to do something than to do nothing, then do your best." I encourage them by saying, "Even if the beneficiaries show slight improvement, it marks the beginning of a great change." I hope that the social workers can stay true to their nature, with the goal of helping others and themselves, using love to illuminate each person in need of their services. I firmly believe that their efforts will bear fruit, and God will surely reward them.





# Love Makes the World Different

In this short mission trip, besides experiencing the pure innocence of the lovely children at Silver Lining Family Village, I also witnessed a group of loving mothers and teachers who wholeheartedly and attentively love these children. I am grateful for this work of God, just as Jesus taught us: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me!" To see these children not living in loneliness, but instead having many angels sent by God to care for them and nurture their healthy and happy growth, is a grace and a beautiful picture!

Seeing that each family has a mother taking care of more than ten children, ranging from a few years old to teenagers, and the older children taking care of the younger ones while also learning to be independent and do their own chores, such as washing clothes, is truly remarkable! They work together in harmony. After meals, they quickly clean up and tidy the place. Seeing their respect for elders and their politeness, knowing that it is all thanks to the teachers and mothers at Silver Lining who have taught them so well!





During the two-day vacation Bible school, I was grateful to see the children enjoyment, and at the same time, I was amazed by their familiarity with the Bible and their wholehearted participation in worship. Tears of emotion and excitement involuntarily fill my eyes.

Apart from visiting Silver Lining Family Village, we also visited the Hope Center and the Yangon Youth Center during this trip. We saw their enthusiasm in worship and their willingness to serve the Lord at

such a young age, which greatly touched us. Knowing that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few, we hope that these young people with willing hearts can soon be raised as the Lord's warriors.

During this short mission, I particularly felt that God blesses the work that brings Him joy, and that He watches over His children. I hope that more brothers and sisters from the church and their children can visit these unique children and young people in Myanmar next year. May God continue to bless the work of Silver Lining.







No matter how hard you try,  
life will always surprise you

Through sixteen years of ups and downs, I am grateful to have encountered Silver Lining, which allowed us to finally see the sunshine and the rainbow amidst the storms. One day in June 2007, the cries of a baby filled the delivery room, and our first child was born. Seeing such a cute and adorable little life as first-time parents, we were immersed in joy. We named her Ling Ling. Unfortunately, the joy of becoming parents didn't last long as Ling Ling's condition soon worried us. During the postpartum period, she cried a lot and had very little sleep. At six months old, she had weak neck muscles and couldn't turn over. We took her to the hospital for examination, and she was eventually diagnosed with cerebral palsy. It was like a bolt from the blue, plunging us into endless pain. For the sake of our child, we wiped away our tears and started



taking her to the hospital for rehabilitation. The rehabilitation costs were high, and we borrowed money from almost all our relatives and friends. However, the borrowed money quickly ran out, and with no other options, we had to give up on treatment and prepare to return to our hometown.

In May 2008, just as we were planning to take our daughter back to our hometown, we encountered the kind-hearted Mr. and Mrs. Yeung, who became the benefactors in our lives through Silver Lining Mission's. By a stroke of luck, in September of the same year, we became one of the first families to receive support from Silver Lining. Silver Lining not only provided free rehabilitation for our child but also offered psychological counseling for us parents. It was their support and encouragement that reignited hope in our lives.







Under the careful guidance of the teachers and rehabilitation therapists at Silver Lining, Ling Ling made progress. In June 2011, at the age of four, she learned to walk, speak, and gained some self-care abilities. So we sent her to kindergarten, and she attended for three years. We thought everything was back on track, but when it was time for elementary school, we contacted several schools, and they all refused her admission, citing her inability to follow instructions and the potential impact on classroom effectiveness. Upon hearing about Ling Ling's situation, Teacher Lin from Silver Lining told us, "Then let her come to Silver Lining for classes." These words brought tears to our eyes. There are many children like Ling Ling, who cannot attend regular schools due to intellectual limitations, mobility issues, and poor self-care abilities. That's why Silver Lining established a program for adolescents, providing rehabilitation education with a focus on elementary school subjects.

Ling Ling returned to Silver Lining once again, and we were delighted to learn that Silver Lining arranged a teaching assistant job for Ling Ling's mother. With Ling Ling's mother having acquired a job and Ling Ling having a place to go to school, a heavy burden was finally lifted from my heart, and I could focus on working outside without worries. After years of hard work, we not only paid off

all our previous debts but also saw our lives improve. In 2013, we had our second child, and we were fortunate that he was a healthy child. Our home hadn't been filled with such happiness in a long time, and we named him Xiao Le. From a young age, we have taught him to be loving, grateful, and trustworthy, hoping that he will grow up to be a beneficial member of society.

Looking back on these sixteen years of ups and downs, there are too many people to thank. This debt of gratitude cannot be fully repaid in this lifetime. We can only live our lives well and not disappoint their expectations!



# Memorable Years Together



## Love in the Silver Lining

March 9, 2015, was my first day at Guangxi Silver Lining, and I was honored to become a member of Silver Lining and the homeroom teacher for the Hippocampus class. Time flies, and it has been seven years since I joined Silver Lining. During this time, there have been so many changes, times where my heart was touched, and times when I witnessed miracles. The bravery and efforts of the children filled me with immense joy. The love of parents for their children deeply moved me. The mutual support and understanding among colleagues made me feel at ease, and the encouragement from the leaders strengthened my belief and hope.



## Different "Slow Angels"

There were many unforgettable moments in the past seven years, but what moved me the most was the resilience of the "Slow Angels" I led. My group, the Seahorse Class, had just entered the teenage group (first grade of elementary school). The biggest difference between the teenage group and the preschool group was that parents no longer accompanied their children to class. During the day, parents would drop off their children and pick them up after school. Therefore, the children had to attend classes independently at the Cloud Center. They needed to learn to take care of themselves and to be self-reliant in their rehabilitation and studies. This was a significant challenge for them. However, they were all willing to accept this challenge. Every day when I entered the classroom, I was deeply moved by the sight of the children sweating during rehabilitation exercises and their enthusiastic participation and active engagement in class discussions.

Xiaoxian was the older sister in the Seahorse Class. She had spastic quadriplegia, and



## Dreams Take Flight

Rehabilitation for children with cerebral palsy is a very "slow" process. Teaching for a month, they may only master writing a single stroke. After a year of rehabilitation, they may only learn to take a single independent step. Fortunately, there are always many kind-hearted people willing to support us, not minding the children's "slow progress," guarding their dreams, and accompanying them to bravely pursue their dreams.

In May 2023, the children from Silver Lining participated in the "Power of Dreams" evening event organized by the Nanning Disabled Persons' Federation. Xiao Yu recited a poem titled "The Road." It was Xiao Yu's "journey of growth" and also Silver Lining's "journey of growth." At the end of the poem, it was written, "I know that my life path is full of ups and downs. I must gather the courage to move forward, for those hopeful eyes, for those warm hands reaching out to me. I must bravely move forward." Resiliently moving forward and courageously pursuing their dreams, this is the confidence and pride of Silver Lining's children.

The world is beautiful, and with you, it becomes even more splendid and colorful! Bless Silver Lining! Bless every Silver Lining angel!











With all of you, it's wonderful!

Silver Lining Family Village

Photo : Tr. Wang



# LITTLE ANGEL CHILD SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

**With your support, every child can become a little angel that blesses others!**

Become a child sponsor and connect with your sponsored child through letter correspondence or visits. Your monthly donation will enable Silver Lining to care for orphans and impoverished children in mountainous areas, as well as children who suffer from cerebral palsy. Your love changes lives!

**US\$38** Month



Invite you to become a  
Sponsorship Angel!



[www.silverliningmissions.org](http://www.silverliningmissions.org)

*Embark the Journey of Love with us*



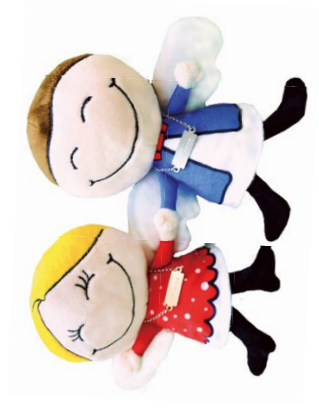




Stamp

## Silver Lining Missions

16 Corning Ave., Suite 206,  
Milpitas, CA 95035, U.S.A.



# US Donation Form

Register Date : \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

## Donation for General Fund

"Silver Lining Partner" Monthly Donation  ONE TIME ONLY

US\$20  US\$50  US\$100  US\$500  
 US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

## Little Angel Child Sponsorship Program

I'd like to be a Child Sponsor and sponsor \_\_\_\_\_ needy child(ren).  
 Monthly US\$38  Half-Yearly US\$228  Yearly US\$456

## Donor Information

Name : Mr/Ms \_\_\_\_\_ Tel : \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail : \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
( please use capital letter ) \_\_\_\_\_

## Donation Methods

Check Payable to "Silver Lining Missions" and send it with this completed form  
 Automatic Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Monthly  
Bank Transfer Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Half-yearly

Request Little Angel

Your little angel will be sent to your address.

Other Request : \_\_\_\_\_

No Little Angel

Your personal data will be kept strictly confidential and be used for communications purpose only. Please "✓" to indicate:

I agree!  I disagree to receive newsletters from Silver Lining Missions. (If you do not indicate your preference, we will send you our newsletters until further notice.)

\*I prefer receiving through  email/  
 mail.



Yearly

Routing Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Checking Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature

I authorized my bank to transfer the amount indicated above from my account regularly. A record of each donation will be included in my monthly bank account statement.

### Credit Card Donation



Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Monthly

CVV Code\* (Note below ) \_\_\_\_\_ Card Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_ (MM/YY)  One Time

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature  \_\_\_\_\_  
I agree the validity of this agreement will continue before or after the expiry date of my credit card account. Regular donations paid by Credit Card will be debited automatically from your account until further notice.

\*Note: CVV code is a 3 digit value printed on the signature strip on the back. (American Express 4 digit CSC is printed on the front of the card. )

### Donation Receipt

For donations of US\$20 or above, an official receipt will be issued for tax deduction purpose.

Please send me a receipt (Receipt made to: \_\_\_\_\_)  To help save administration costs, please do not send me a receipt.

16 Corning Ave., Suite 206, Milpitas, CA 95035, USA 408-770-2018 www.silverliningmissions.org donate@silverliningmissions.org





## Contact Information Update

Thank you for your support to Silver Lining Missions. Please help us keep our records updated by reporting any changes. You may send your updates to: [info@silverliningmissions.org](mailto:info@silverliningmissions.org) or fill out and return the form below :

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Donor ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt# \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



# BECOME A \_\_\_\_\_ SILVER LINING PARTNER

Since 2005, Silver Lining has been doing poverty relief work in Gunangxi. We are committed to help disabled children or those living in poor rural mountainous area. Become a “Silver Lining Partner” through a regular monthly donation of US\$20 or more, you can partner with us and bring hope to children and families living in poverty.

With only

**US\$20** Month

You can make a difference in a child's life!

Your helping hand will bring a silver lining to children in need!  
With your partnership, we can go further!





## Our Stall Diary

In February 2023, the Silver Lining Disability Youth Workshop was launched, and we welcomed 11 students. Under the guidance of employment counselors and social workers, they would enhance their vocational and life skills.

With the rise of the summer night market, we connected with a stall at Jiangnan Wanda Plaza. The best part was that they waived the rent for us. We seized the opportunity. After half a year of learning in the workshop, it was time for the young people to gain practical experience.



I provided training for the young people, teaching them sales skills. Together, we studied the routes and selected suitable products for sale. We even simulated various scenarios they might encounter at the stall for precautionary purposes. On Friday, July 7th, a memorable day arrived. It was their first entrepreneurial activity.

Considering the limited space of a small night market stall, we prioritized arranging for "social butterfly", Ah Shu (who could travel independently) and Jin Jin (who had stronger language abilities) to be the "pioneers." So, at 6:30 PM that day, along with Teacher Dan, I and the three young people arrived at Jiangnan Wanda Plaza with a big suitcase in tow.







When we set up the stall and night fell, the lights came on, and Wanda Plaza became lively. Pedestrians passed by the stall from time to time, and we encouraged the three young people to promote their products. They looked at each other, hesitant to speak, especially Ah Shu, who was stuttering. When someone approached to inquire, he became even more nervous and couldn't utter a word. Fortunately, Wanda Plaza had good foot traffic, so Teacher Dan and I provided on-the-spot teaching at the stall. Stuttering was Ah Shu's weakness, but we believed that courage was more important. Therefore, when a pedestrian came to the stall, we encouraged him to speak up and taught him how to introduce our products to customers. With the experience of their first interaction, the second and third times became less challenging. Gradually, they successfully sold some handicrafts, which boosted their confidence and allowed them to taste the joy of success for the first time.

In the first month, we set up the stall twice a week. By the third week, the young people could handle it on their own. They came to the plaza in electric wheelchairs, took out suitcases from the stall counter, displayed the products, and conducted sales. For an ordinary person, this process is straightforward, but for the young people in the workshop, it took twice as long. However, they overcame these challenges. Now, the young people are skilled at setting up and closing the stall, and they can persist in doing it. Setting up a stall is not just about selling things; there is much to learn, including purchasing, inventory management, pricing, and bookkeeping, which they all need to learn. For the young people who lack the ability to go out and set up a stall, apart from making handicrafts, they also participate in inventory management, ensuring that everyone contributed to the team.



As they learned to set up the stall outside, they accumulated experience and boosted their confidence. At the same time, it helped us explore employment opportunities for disabled youth and provided personalized employment services. With dedication, we believe the future holds great promise!



## Together Hand in Hand, Journeying through Life

### — Vietnam Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center Couple Camp —

"From then on, they lived a happy life!" This is the classic ending of fairy tales. Fairy tales often have perfect endings, but reality is not always as satisfying. With divorce rates increasing year by year, what makes our marriages increasingly fragile? Particularly for families with children with cerebral palsy, the children often become the catalyst for family conflicts. The constant pressures of caregiving and financial burdens erode the passion between couples, leading many to drift apart. In order to enhance marital relationships and create a harmonious and happy family atmosphere for the children, the Hanoi Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center organized its first Couple Camp from June 23rd to 25th. This event aimed to help couples relax, strengthen their relationships, and improve the quality of their marriages.

During the three-day Couple Camp, all participants experienced surprise after surprise. They relived the sweetness

of their initial courtship, renewed their commitment to love, learned the five love languages, and learned to make more "deposits" and fewer "withdrawals" in their emotional accounts. As Asians, we know that many husbands are often not skilled in expressing love or lack intimate gestures. In the camp, we encouraged husbands to express love loudly to their wives and create intimate moments for them. For many of them, this was not an easy task.

However, we were gratified to see that many couples were willing to make active efforts and, in the end, most of them completed the tasks. There were many moments of laughter and tears. Participating in this camp was such a stroke of luck. Our wish is that every marriage in the world would not only have a beautiful beginning, a beautiful journey, lifelong commitment, and lifelong devotion. Because everyone deserves a happy family.









# Love from Billy and Ruby

diagnosed with cerebral palsy. We realized that we embarked on a challenging and arduous journey of rehabilitation, a long road that requires immense perseverance and a forgiving heart. We cannot recall how many hours of rehabilitation therapy Xiao Long has undergone, regardless of sunny or rainy days, scorching summers or freezing winters. All the hardships were for one ultimate wish – to let our son live like a normal child.

The demands of our son's condition and the intricacies of daily life exhausted us. Like any married couple who have spent a decade together, weathering storms



Never did we imagine that after 12 years of marriage, we would have the opportunity to "remarry." From June 23rd to 25th, my wife and I had the chance to participate in a "Couple Camp" organized by the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center in Hanoi, which greatly benefited us.

Since 2014, when we had our second baby, Xiao Long, our peaceful and happy life was disrupted when Xiao Long was

and experiencing ups and downs, we can no longer remember the emotions we felt when we first entered the church or exchanged vows. However, during these past few days at the Couple Camp, long buried memories resurfaced. I recalled the sweet moments of our courtship, the solemn vows exchanged at our wedding, the joy of becoming parents when our baby was born... Many touching scenes are deeply engraved in our memories, but they gradually became obscured by the mundane routines of life, making them difficult to see clearly.

During the three days of the camp, we learned that love also has its own "language." Keeping love fresh requires action, and we also learned to make more "deposits" and fewer "withdrawals" in our emotional account. We are not only great parents; we also need to be a happy couple because a happy family breeds happy children.



We are grateful for the relentless efforts of the management, teachers, and founders Chris and his wife at the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center in Hanoi. I know that they are still there today, tirelessly dedicating themselves to the center out of their deep love for God and for the children. If others can love our children so deeply and work hard for the happiness of our family, then we should strive even harder to ensure our family leads a happy life.



# Being a Blessing to Others

My name is Xiao Di, and I'm 17 years old. I am a student at the PYCC Student Center in Yangon. At the beginning of this year, I was in 10th grade. The Myanmar education system underwent reforms, extending the graduation requirement to 12th grade instead of 10th grade, which was the previous practice for university entrance. Considering that the next academic year will be Myanmar 11th grade, the leaders at the center wanted us to focus on our studies and may not have the opportunity to go home again. Therefore, during this summer vacation, they specially allowed us to take a break and go home to spend time with our parents, relax, and then return to study diligently and prepare for the college entrance exam.



My hometown is Puta O, in the Kachin State, which is far away from Yangon. On the way home, I had to pass through many checkpoints. It took me nearly four days to make the journey, but I'm grateful that I was able to return home safely. The weather in my hometown is cool and comfortable, unlike the constant heat in Yangon. I had a wonderful time at home because I was able to see my beloved family. It wasn't planting season yet, so my parents didn't have to work in the fields. Every day, I helped my parents clean the house, do laundry, remove weeds in front of the house, and we cooked delicious meals together using the limited ingredients from our farmland. Then, we sat together as a family, happily enjoying our meal. Those beautiful and ordinary moments were filled with happiness.

Without the burden of heavy homework, I suddenly found myself with free time and began thinking about what I could do for my hometown. Coincidentally, one of







the leaders called me to inquire about my situation after returning home. I shared my feelings about being home and also expressed my thoughts to the leader. The leader was delighted to hear about it. He mentioned that my math grades were good and suggested that I could tutor the younger children in the village in math. My parents also agreed wholeheartedly, and they found a whiteboard and markers for me. Thus, my "Little Tutoring Society" officially began. I tried to share the problem-solving strategies and techniques I had learned with the younger children, while also telling them exciting stories about the outside world. I hoped they would study hard and strive to achieve their dreams beyond the mountains. Initially, I was worried that they might

not enjoy my sharing, but I soon realized that my worries were unnecessary. Every day, we worked on problems together, discussed them, and shared our knowledge. The days passed by happily and meaningfully.

I am truly happy. From being a recipient of support, I now have the opportunity to help others. My heart is filled with joy. Being able to both be with my family and assist others is something I have always desired. If I have the chance to go home during the next vacation, I will continue to do this and share the grace I have received with different people.



# The Days

## We've Been Through Together



Dear Xiao Bi, Unknowingly, we have already spent eight years together. Along the way, there have been gentle breezes, white clouds, heavy rains, rainbows, and an overwhelming sense of happiness in our hearts!

Mom always remembers that day, the blissful October pregnancy, and the moment you came into this world amidst the blessings of our family. However, the days of happiness didn't last long. Unexpected challenges followed one after another. First, you developed jaundice just a few days after birth, and during the postpartum period, you cried day and night, leaving me physically and mentally exhausted. As you grew a little older, you accidentally scalded both legs with boiling water. I carried you, crying until my voice turned hoarse, to a burn hospital 170 kilometers away. Throughout the journey, my heart felt like it was being torn apart, wishing it was me who got injured. After

undergoing surgeries and a challenging recovery process, seeing your smile gradually return, I could finally let go of the constant worry in my heart.

Soon, you turned six months old, but I noticed that your neck lacked strength, and you couldn't turn over. I became very anxious and took you to the hospital for examination. The doctor's diagnosis was cerebral palsy. Those few words of diagnosis seemed to drain all the strength from my body. Disbelief, pain, guilt...various complex emotions flooded my mind, engulfing me.

Dad is stronger than me. He held both you and me and gently but firmly said that we would never give up, no matter how difficult it may be. We took you to many hospitals, underwent numerous rehabilitation sessions. As you gradually







grew, improvements were seen in your diet and sleep. However, by the age of four, your abilities still lagged behind those of a one-year-old child. While children your age were running and jumping, you could only lie in a stroller. This broke my heart and made me feel helpless.

During my loneliest and most pessimistic moments, through the introduction of an acquaintance, we arrived at the Silver Lining Rehabilitation Center in Hanoi. Unlike other rehabilitation centers, this place not only provided free rehabilitation for children with cerebral palsy, but also allowed me to accompany you and learn together in a group setting, instead of waiting outside the rehabilitation room feeling lonely and helpless. In the process of accompanying you in your rehabilitation, I have also learned many techniques to help you.

With Mom's presence, I noticed that you became noticeably happier. We played together, learned together, and had meals together. The teacher says that life itself is the greatest training, and you need to do everything within your capabilities, try more, and experience more. Gradually, I discovered that you could turn over on your own and sit up by yourself. You also made new friends. These small but significant improvements nourish and warm my soul. In these past few years,

the pandemic has brought considerable stress to both Dad and me. However, no matter how big the pressure is, as long as we are together with you, we have infinite motivation. Although it took you a full eight years from birth to take your first step, Mom and Dad feel incredibly happy and grateful.

I remember reading a story once. Legend has it that every child is a cute little angel in the sky before they are born. They spend their days hovering on the clouds, searching for their mothers. Among the countless people, they choose their favorite mom. Keep going, my little treasure. Thank you for coming into Mom's life. Mom is willing to accompany you as you grow up and hopes that you will accompany me as I grow old slowly.







Not knowing when the rain will cease, it is only after the sun shines that we realize how deep the summer is. In this prosperous month of July, I have graduated from high school. Wearing my graduation gown, standing on the stage, I shared my graduation speech with my beloved parents, Mr. and Mrs. Yeung, my mother, Mrs. Yuqin, and many other relatives who love me, including uncles, aunties, older brothers and sisters, younger brothers and sisters. My eyes welled up with tears silently several times.

There are so many things I want to say, but I don't know where to start. I pretended to adjust my glasses and wiped away the tears from the corners of my eyes. So let's start with these eyes. Due to



## With all of you, it's wonderful!

a childhood eye condition, my eyes have always required medication and regular checkups at the hospital every two weeks. I remember one time when I went to the hospital for a routine eye examination, and the nurse sighed and said, "I graduated and started working at this hospital, and you have been coming for regular checkups ever since. Now I'm married and have two children. You have witnessed my journey from work to marriage to becoming a mother. So many years have passed, and your family has always been devoted to bringing you for check-ups. They really care about you." Hearing her words, I also felt how quickly time has passed. I have always considered myself a very lucky and happy girl. Otherwise, how could I have encountered Silver Lining with such amazing people in this vast sea of humanity!

Before coming to the center, I lived with my younger brothers and grandmother. When I was young, because of my bent spine and my eyes, I would receive many strange looks wherever I went, and I felt particularly uncomfortable. At that time, I didn't understand and thought it was because I wasn't diligent enough, so every time, I would try my best to help my grandmother with the housework. It was only when I grew up that I realized it was because of my physical appearance and eyes, so the other kids made fun of me. I felt very insecure at that time.



Fortunately, with the referral from the village committee, I met the Yang family. They felt sorry for my experiences and helped me start my journey to seek medical treatment. Mr. and Mrs. Yeung took me to Nanning and Hong Kong, visiting many hospitals and undergoing numerous examinations. The results were not optimistic, and surgery was required. Mr. and Mrs. Yeung started running around again, raising funds for the expensive surgery. I am grateful for the help of many kind-hearted people, which gave me the opportunity to undergo surgery to correct my spine and treat my eyes. My eyes need regular check-ups and timely medication. Mrs. Huang, the Silver Lining-like mother, reminds me every day to use eye drops and insists on taking me for check-ups. Sometimes, when I have a little emotional breakdown, she gently comforts me and gives me a lot of love.



Now that I have completed my high school education, I have also made friends with a group of kind-hearted people and together we have experienced an unforgettable period of school life. I remember in "Watching Over" by Long Yingtai, she wrote, "The graduation of one thing is always the beginning of another." I deeply resonate with this sentiment. September is approaching, and I will embark on my new university life. A new starting point, a new beginning. In the days to come, I will continue to cherish life, take my medication on time, go for regular checkups at the hospital, and move forward with love in my heart. I aspire to be a person who contributes to society and makes a positive impact.



# Thank You Letter

## UNDERPRIVILEGED YOUTH IN DAHUA MOUNTAIN AREA - KUN



Respected Uncle and Aunt,

Hello! First of all, I would like to express my gratitude for the help you have provided me. This valuable financial support has to some extent alleviated the economic burden on my family. Your assistance has brought light and hope to us, the children from impoverished backgrounds, enabling us to pursue our studies and use knowledge to change our future paths. Your kindness has made us feel the warmth of society and has deeply touched our hearts, inspiring a strong desire for learning. It is like the nourishing rain and gentle spring breeze, relieving drought and bringing refreshing showers. Here, I would like to express my gratitude to the sponsors for their care and love for us impoverished college students.

For my family, farming is practically our main source of income. For a financially struggling family like ours, it is incredibly difficult to support a college student. The tears shed are endless, and I can constantly feel the worries in my parents' hearts – how high are the expenses for college? Especially for a student like me, coming from a rural area, this is undoubtedly an added burden. The problem we face is the lack of financial resources to pursue education. In such a situation, my uncles and aunts reached out to us, extending a helping hand by providing me with a monthly allowance of \$800. This greatly alleviated the pressure on my family, lightening the heavy burden at home. This money has provided me

with tremendous assistance, giving me indescribable courage and boosting my confidence. It has reduced my worries about living expenses, allowing me to focus on my studies in the classroom with peace of mind.

Adversity has helped me grow, and challenges have nourished my wings. I have crossed the solitary bridge of the college entrance examination amidst a sea of difficulties. Only a few can successfully reach the other side, and entering university is just the beginning of another phase in life. It requires even more effort, strict self-discipline, continuous improvement, and self-enrichment. I will establish my ideals, set clear learning goals, study diligently, cultivate virtues, complete my studies, and mold myself into a person of both good character and outstanding ability. In the future, I will repay my country and society, laying a solid foundation and creating a brilliant life with youthful passion and perseverance.

I always carry a grateful heart and am sincerely thankful for the help you, Uncle and Aunt, have provided me. I will prove it through practical actions. Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt wishes for your smooth work and all-around happiness.

Yours sincerely,

*Kun*



## Missions Statement

### Your Love Changes Lives

Silver Lining is committed to help the impoverished orphans, students and disabled children in mountainous area, through improving their lives, education, job opportunities, rehabilitation and providing emergency medical assistance. With our love and action, we hope to send care and blessings to the marginalized and neglected, help them overcome poverty, while re-establishing their dignity and hope.



## Home for the Orphans

Family Model Orphanage · Silver Lining Caring Center & Family Village

## Services for children under Poverty

Improve the living condition and education of students in the mountainous areas



## Emergency Medical Fund

Provide immediate help to sick children



## Silver Lining Workshop

Provide job training and opportunities for disabled youth and women



## Holistic Development

Through the introduction of interesting multi-art courses, teach children correct assessment and help them develop a good character



## Rehabilitation Path

Rehabilitation Special Education Center (Conductive Learning)  
Sponsor the rehabilitation service and education for children with disabilities such as cerebral palsy



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