



Emergency Covid-19 Support to Families in Thailand

For more than a year and a half, Pearl S. Buck Foundation Thailand's program operations have continued to be affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. Over that time, PSBFT staff consulted with community leaders, teachers, health volunteers, and families on how to protect children, families, and communities from Covid-19. It was determined that there was a dire need for emergency support in the face of the impact of this global crisis.

PSBFT reached out to Pearl S. Buck International child sponsors and donors, asking for help to fund several emergency projects to assist the children and families. As they always do, those sponsors and donors responded generously in the face of immense need.

Pearl S. Buck Foundation Thailand staff and volunteers visited 206 families and delivered a first batch of urgently needed masks, thermometers and hand sanitizer. The subsequent help included giving almost 4,000 masks to



children and families in Mae Ramard, Ubon Ratchathani and Phitsamulok affected by Covid infection, leading hygiene training on how to wear the masks when out in public and teaching how to cook new foods. Children and families were educated about the importance of social distancing in public and while eating, avoiding crowded places, and how to properly wash their hands to be clean of germs and infection. They were also reminded to see a doctor or go to the hospital in the case of serious symptoms or sickness.

PSBFT staff conducted a survey and found that many sponsored families were affected by and suffered directly from the pandemic and were in need of emergency assistance. 140 needy

families were provided bags containing rice, dried fish, eggs, sauces, fish cans, vegetable oil, milk boxes, fruits, and chicken. This target group learned about the health benefits of eating cooked, nutritious foods. The children were happy to learn how to cook and enjoyed eating together with their families.

Thanks to the generous support of child sponsors and donors, these projects were a success. Everyone received face masks and advice on what Covid-19 symptoms are. They learned how to take care of themselves and change their behaviors to be healthy and safe from Covid-19. After attending the trainings, children and families said they will look after their other family members as well and share what they learned. The bags of nutritious food showed these families that there are people out there who care about them, who believe they are worth helping, and gave them hope to get through a troublesome situation. The food will make them healthier and stronger, and cooking and eating it together will help build up good relationships within families. The sponsored children and their families are so thankful for the many kindhearted donors who helped them have better health and live more safely during this pandemic period.



Upcoming Fall Events at Pearl S. Buck

BRIDGING CULTURES  CHANGING LIVES

Fall is finally upon us and there's a lot for visitors to do at our campus in Bucks County, PA. November is the beginning of our busy holiday season—there's always something to do when you come visit us!

On Friday, Nov. 12, PSBI will hold its first **Designer Bag Bingo fundraiser**. This fun evening out will take place in the new Janet L. Mintzer Conference and Event Center— doors open at 6 pm and games begin at 7 pm. Tickets are \$40 and include 10 games of Bingo. Prizes include beautiful purses and handbags by high-end designers such as Michael Kors, Coach, Tory Burch & Kate Spade. Bring your girlfriends, mom, sisters, daughters or anyone else who loves bingo and bags for a night of fun that also supports the humanitarian, educational, and cross-cultural work and mission of Pearl S. Buck International. Tickets and more info are available at <https://pearlsbuck.org/designer-bag-bingo/>



That same day, Pearl S. Buck International will welcome the **Bucks County Conference & Visitors Bureau's "Bucks County" logo sign** to our property, which we will host until January 2022. The structure, which is 32 feet long and three feet high, has been traveling to tourist and visitor locations around Bucks County and joins us just in time for the holidays. Guests and visitors will be able to take photos in front of the Bucks County logo and the Pearl S. Buck House, all decked out for our annual Festival of Trees. Make sure to take advantage of this unique photo op and post it to social media using the hashtags **#visitbuckscounty** and **#pearlsbuckinternational**—we'll keep an eye out for them to share with our own social media network!



November is also when several of our beloved holiday traditions begin again:

- Each year during the **Annual Festival of Trees**, which begins this year on Tuesday, Nov. 16, the rooms of Pearl S. Buck's iconic Bucks County stone farmhouse come alive with the glow of holiday decorations. The event showcases beautiful trees and vignettes designed by Bucks County's best artists, decorators, and local community groups to convey the spirit of Pearl S. Buck's legacy. Visitors have the opportunity to vote for their favorite display. The Festival of Trees remains one of the most unique and historic holiday traditions in the region.
- The **Pearl S. Buck Volunteer Association's Holiday Craft Show**. This almost three-decade long Bucks County holiday staple returns in person at PSBI on Friday, Nov. 26. Enjoy a unique shopping experience at this high-end craft show which offers jury-selected gifts, decorations, food, jewelry, apparel, and more from professional crafters, artists, and chefs. More than 50 artisans will be at this year's show. The Holiday Craft Show is the perfect place to find an array of amazing holiday gifts for your family and friends.

More information on both events can be found at <https://pearlsbuck.org/events/holiday-events/>.



Keep up to date with all of Pearl S. Buck International's upcoming events by visiting our Event Calendar at <https://pearlsbuck.org/events/>