



February 18, 2006

Hi Everyone,

Well, we're back in sunny Chiang Mai in northern Thailand. The weather is perrrrfect!!! It's warm, but not too hot, during the day and cool at night.

The Mae On Project continues to be extremely successful. The acupuncture clinic for people living with HIV/AIDS continues on a weekly basis at Mae On Hospital and still maintains a waiting list for new clients. It's been great meeting all the old clients and seeing how well they are doing.

During our last visit in the fall of 2005, we saw a new client. He was a young man who was suffering from severe foot pain and numbness due to the side effects of anti-retroviral drugs. These symptoms were so debilitating that he was limited to a wheelchair. We saw him again, nine weeks later, and the pain in his feet had decreased significantly. He was able to walk on his own which greatly improved his quality of life. We were very happy to see this. These results confirmed the effectiveness of the acupuncture training received by the nurses.

Five nurses continue their advanced acupuncture training course with Dr. Rungrat at Mungkala Clinic in Chiang Mai. Their classes have been accelerated and they will finish their training in March 2006. We are all proud of the nurses' dedication and commitment to the acupuncture program.

Recently, we received a phone call from an Australian writer and a Canadian photojournalist, who wish to do an article on the Mae On Project. They will be coming up next week to interview us and take photos. We'll keep you posted!!

AND we're very excited to confirm our presentation on the Mae On Project at the upcoming international Global Summit on HIV/AIDS, Traditional Medicine and Indigenous Knowledge in Africa (Ghana) in

March 2006. Details of the conference can be found at [www.africa-first.com](http://www.africa-first.com) (click on 'Conventions'). Many, many heart-felt thanks to Judy, Ian, Heather, Rob, Vickie, Laurie, Jennifer, Sylvia and Debra for all their help. We couldn't have done it without you!!

We hope you all are doing incredibly well and thanks for your continued support and donations. It's much appreciated!!

Yours In Health,

Laura

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### **The Mae On Project Crew**

Above (from left to right): Dr. Nopporn, Laura, Khai, Unchalee, Jeed, Sarinee (acupuncture assistant) and Wanida (acupuncture assistant).