



# Welcome to Joy to the World Foundation Thailand!

We are pleased to introduce you to life at BHJ, D1, and The Radiant Project. A visit is a great way for you to have the opportunity to see how your donation is impacting lives and we are happy to welcome you! We trust that your visit will be a special experience for you and for the JTTWF Thailand family.

Our goal is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for vulnerable children and students. Therefore, their best interests and safety will always be our primary focus. As a foundation, we work in accordance with the Thailand Child Protection Act. We comply with these statutes in order to keep the children safe.

We ask you to be our partners in ensuring that the children remain safe, cared for, and protected during your visit. Staff members will be available at all times during your visit, and are happy to answer any of your questions.

The following JTTWF Thailand Visitor's Guidelines and Policies provides important guidelines and expectations of visitors to, and volunteers and donors of, JTTWF Thailand. These guidelines and policies were created by our Thai and American staff, and have been written from our 20+ years of experience together. We ask that all visitors to, volunteers of, and donors of JTTWF Thailand read the following Visitor's Guide and sign the following Joy to the World Foundation Thailand Policy Declaration, thus acknowledging that you have read, understand, and will respectfully adhere to all of the stated guidelines, policies, and requirements. If you have any questions or need further clarification on any points, please do not hesitate to ask!

With Gratitude, Amy Stroup, Executive Director Joy to the World Foundation Thailand

# **Background** + **History**

Joy to the World Foundation Thailand (JTTWF Thailand) started in early 2000 by Bill and Mary Lee Moritz. In the beginning, it was only Breanna's House of Joy. The home was named in memory of their youngest daughter, Breanna Joy, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Before her death at age 12, Breanna was already an aspiring humanitarian with Godsized dreams, one of which was to adopt several "street" children from Asia. Breanna's House of Joy is a love story about the Moritz family's pursuit to honor Breanna's legacy of Kingdomliving in a broken world. The guest to make a difference in this hurting world brought them to Thailand where they came face to face with the ugly underbelly of human trafficking. Seeing girls as young as six years old forced into prostitution while simultaneously grieving their devastating loss became the catalyst for Breanna's House of Joy. Since 2003, over 83 girls (and counting!) have been saved from a life that is hard to imagine exists. These girls now live in communities where they're able to influence the culture of human trafficking on a major scale. Of those 83 girls, most are the first from their village to graduate high school. Over the last five years, 80% of our BHJ graduates have gone on to university or Bible School studies, and 90% of those have, or are in the process of going on to graduation!

After 20 years of faithful service, Bill and Mary Lee have passed the baton of directing the operations of JTTWF Thailand to their daughter, Amy Stroup, who now serves as the Executive Director for Joy to the World Foundation Thailand.



Founders, Bill and Mary Lee Moritz



Exectuvie Director, Amy Stroup, pictured with her family.



Breanna Joy Moritz November 15, 1985 - April 2, 1998

## Our Vision.

At Joy to the World Foundation Thailand our vision is to see the next generation of youth embrace the life that is available to them in Christ and be equipped as change agents within their culture through example, educational achievement, and love of God, tribe, village and country.

# **Our Mission.**

To provide for the disadvantaged people groups of Asia with care, programs, housing, resources and education that value the dignity and worth of each individual as a child of God, their families, and the communities in which they live.

## **Our Core Values.**

From the very beginning, we have felt God calling us to instill these 5 values into the lives of the children/students that come through our programs at Joy to the World Foundation Thailand (JTTWF Thailand). These are our guiding principles and we strive to ensure that everything we do lines up with these values. It is important that you keep these values in mind as you interact with our children, students, and staff.

**Academic Value:** To provide students with the opportunity to develop their God-given knowledge & wisdom to their fullest potential, so that they might become producers and influencers in Thailand. Daniel 1:17

**Vocational Value:** To promote a strong work ethic and to demonstrate a servant's heart in the workplace whether as an employer or employee. Phil. 2:3-5

**Cultural Value:** To cultivate Christian leaders who will influence the culture at large because of their pursuit of excellence, determination to stand for truth, and willingness to live out their faith. Daniel 3:28-30, Matt 7:24

**Christain Value:** To foster a deeper knowledge of Christ and a desire to be conformed to his image and the desire to live a life that reflects a Christian worldview. Phil 3:7-14, Rom 8:29, Proverbs 3:5-6

**Heritage Value:** To encourage an understanding of tribal and Thai heritage, the value and responsibility of living in Thailand, love of country and people group and the desire to make a difference in the world.

# **Policies and Guidelines**

In view of achieving and holding to our stated vision, mission, and values, the following requirements are to be met by any person or group planning to visit any of the JTTWF Thailand projects, including Breanna's House of Joy, Daniel 1, D1 and The Radiant Project:

### Visits to BHJ and D1 need to be arranged and approved ahead of time

We require all visits (of visitors, volunteers, and donors) to JTTWF Thailand be coordinated with our US office, an application form will need to be filled out ahead of time that will be provided by our US office. As a general rule, in order to make sure that the daily life of the children and/or students is not disturbed, plan to visit no more than twice a year and arrange your visit at least 4 weeks prior with the US office, with an agreement on an appropriate length of time for your visit. Any activities planned during your visit need to be approved by Amy Stroup, USA Executive Director, JTTWF Thailand. Long term or local visitors also need to contact the US office to discuss volunteer opportunities and schedule.

Since Joy to the World Foundation Thailand is responsible for the children and students, at all times, a JTTWF Leadership Team member, or JTTWF Thailand staff member must be present for all of JTTWF Thailand project activities. No children/students are allowed to be alone with a visitor, volunteer, or donor for any off sight activities; this includes any visits to private homes. All activities or outings, on site or off site, must be pre-approved by the JTTWF Thailand Leadership, and/or by Amy Stroup, Executive Director of JTTWF Thailand. Violation of this policy will be considered cause for discipline of any involved staff, and would require that any involved visitor, volunteer, or donor no longer be allowed to visit the JTTWF Thailand homes, projects, children and or students.

# Remember that you are visiting a home

Your visit is appreciated and an exciting event for everyone! However, structure is important for kids to feel safe and secure. In most cases, our staff will work ahead of time to prepare a special program with scheduled activities for you/your team. We ask that you please respect this schedule so that the children and students can maintain their routine and a sense of belonging provided by a stable home.

Cultural differences can lead to misunderstandings. Please be sure to interact with the staff and children in a culturally appropriate way (refer to culture section for more details). We ask that you dress appropriately and modestly when visiting (refer to dress code section).

It is important to remember that you are a new face and it may take some time for the children to warm up to you. In light of this, we ask that you let the children approach you and ask that you don't initiate any physical contact e.g. hugs and kisses with the children.

Because many of the JTTWF Thailand children and students have come from difficult backgrounds, we ask that you interact with them in a way that will strengthen their self confidence, rather than making them feel like objects of pity. Please do not offer correction under any circumstance. If you feel that something needs to be addressed, we ask that you address your concerns with a staff member so that they can address it with the child.

## We are a family

It is very important that all children and/or students are treated equally. If you want to bring a gift, we ask that you bring a gift that all the children/students can enjoy. Individual gifts will not be permitted. These children/students have already faced a lot of rejection in their life so we do our best to ensure that they do not feel rejected or unwanted by any of our staff, volunteers, or visitors. All gifts must be approved by the staff ahead of time (no surprise gifts, please!). JTTWF Thailand does not allow individual distribution of gifts because this creates a disparity of ownership that encourages an environment of jealousy and division.

We understand that these visits may inspire you to support the children/students further. We welcome Holy Spirit inspired support and giving! Yet, it is very important that all monetary gifts of any kind go through the foundation, to protect the integrity/environment of JTTWF Thailand, our staff, volunteers, and children/students. The children/students that are part of the programs at JTTWF Thailand receive everything they need for life through the generosity of donors like you! All this being stressed, if you are inspired to make a special gift to a child, student, or staff member with a special need (for a computer, laptop, telephone motorbike, etc.), please do reach out to one of our JTTWF Thailand Leadership Team members, one of our Project Directors (Breanna's House of Joy, Daniel 1, or The Radiant Project) or to me (Amy) to discuss the best way to approach it.

#### **Dress Code**

#### TOPS:

As a general rule, women should pack conservative clothing to wear while in Thailand. T shirts, or quick dry T shirts are recommended. The weather is very humid. Any type of breathable clothing is best! No spaghetti straps or tank tops at BHJ. Shirts that are low cut are not recommended. While at Breanna's House of Joy, conservative dress is encouraged and appreciated!

#### **BOTTOMS:**

Any shorts or skirts should be knee length or long enough for your fingertips to touch when resting at your sides. Plan to bring at least one ankle length skirt to use when entering a temple. You will not be permitted to enter the temple without long pants/skirts and a shirt that covers your shoulders.

#### SHOES:

Be prepared to take your shoes off wherever you go inside. Sturdy flip flops, Tevas, Chacos or any slip on shoes are recommended. Surfaces can be uneven, so it is important to wear shoes that are supportive. Flip flops are not recommended while in the city.

#### Thai Culture Do's and Don'ts

Do "wai" when greeting others. Thai people do not usually shake hands, but instead push their palms together in front of their face to say hello and goodbye.

Do take your shoes off whenever you enter a building that you see shoes in the front. Feet are considered the dirtiest part of the body. In addition, don't point your feet at someone or use your feet to motion.

Do stay calm whenever possible. Thais have a saying, "mai pen rai" which means no problem, no worries, or never-mind! It is very important in Thai culture to "save face" which means that whenever a frustrating situation arises, both parties stay calm and collected so as not to cause shame.

Don't draw attention to yourself. Thai people are generally quiet, respectful, and gentle. Whenever possible, do your best to mirror this behavior in public situations.

Don't talk negatively about the royal family. That people have a high level of respect for the King and his family. They would never speak ill of the King, not only out of respect, but also because it is illegal to do so. Avoid political discussions because they will likely lead to offense.

Don't show public displays of affection. Thailand is very conservative when it comes to PDA. Observe Thai couples around you to get a feel for what might be appropriate.

Do be respectful and appreciative when Thai people prepare something for you or offer their time/service. Even if it is something you don't particularly want, it is customary to show your appreciation and respect, regardless.

#### BHJ/D1 Do's and Don'ts

At BHJ, we are responsible for minors, therefore it is important that we follow and respect the guidelines that are in place to protect the children.

- Please let our BHJ/D1 kids lead when it comes to affection. They have been taught what is appropriate and what is not appropriate from our staff, but we need visitors to respect these boundaries and let them lead.
- Please do not pick the children up. Men should always hug the tweens/teens/adults of the opposite sex from the side.
- BHJ girls are not permitted to sit in the lap of a male visitor for any reason.
- Women can greet Thai men with a "wai". If a hug is initiated, it is ok to accept.
- Cash/money gifts are not permitted under any circumstance. Please discuss any monetary gifts with the staff.
- Any off campus visits/activities are not permitted unless approved ahead of time by the US and Thai Staff.
- Do not offer your personal contact details (facebook, messenger, email, phone, Instagram, etc.) to any children under the age of 18. For D1 students 18 and over, please discuss this with the D1 staff.

# Thank you for partnering with us to keep our children, staff, and organization safe!



# Joy to the World Foundation Thailand Policy Declaration.

(One to be completed per visitor over 18. Parents are responsible to go over the policies with their children.)

The work of Joy to the World Foundation Thailand has a strong focus on protecting the children in our care. To ensure that all possible steps are taken to protect sponsored children and their families from those who wish to exploit or abuse them, we follow the Thailand Child Protection Act.

I hereby agree to the following conditions set out by Joy to the World Foundation Thailand with regards to the proposed visit. If I break any of these conditions, Joy to the World Foundation Thailand has the right to cancel my visit.

- To the best of my knowledge, I have never been investigated, charged or convicted of crimes, for any form of abuse, violence or sex offence to a child or an adult, including abduction, human trafficking and child endangerment. Nor have I been investigated by a local authority for the mistreatment of children or vulnerable adults.
- I have received, read and agree to abide by the JTTW Foundation Thailand visitor's guide.
- I will contact Joy to the World Foundation Thailand, Executive US office, at least four weeks before my intended visit whether it is a first time or a repeat visit.
- I will only meet children in the presence of Joy to the World Foundation Thailand staff, and will not be alone with them. I will not extend an invitation to any child to visit me.
- I will not ask the children to speak about their past, background or other potentially embarrassing or sensitive personal information (e.g. health conditions, appearance, negative behavior, etc.) I will not share the personal information of any child on any social media.
- I will obtain permission before taking any photos or videos at BHJ, and agree that all
  materials are for my personal use only. Even with declared permission from JTTW
  Foundation Thailand Staff, I will respect the individual wishes of any child or co-worker who
  does not want to be photographed or featured in any kind of material.
- I will at no point give my personal contact details to any BHJ/D1 children under 18 and I will
  ask permission from the staff to give my contact details to D1 students 18+.

Full Name:	Email:
Address:	
Your Signature:	