

meet MARIA AMIHAN



FAITH HOUSE THAILAND

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her story

Maria Nelma Amihan is from the Philippines and originally worked in pharmaceutical sales. In the 1990s, God used the time she spent volunteering at her local church to stir her heart toward the country of Myanmar, which has the longest-running civil war in the world. Maria's initial attempts to follow her calling fell through, and so she sought God's direction, as she strongly felt that is where He was calling her. Then Maria was directed to the border of Myanmar, in Maesot, Thailand, where she saw the migrant children in such desperate conditions and knew that was where she was to fulfill her calling.

In 2002, Elpis Ministries was formed to begin to teach the children to read since they were not allowed to attend a Thai school. What began as a literacy program developed into a migrant school of 35 children, and today the school has 310 students!

Due to desperate conditions, many of these children's parents were not able to care for them, and so many were being forced into human trafficking. It was because of this that in 2004 Maria and her team changed course in their ministry and Faith House was born. The team initially identified two girls who were high risk and provided them with care, schooling, life skills, and the saving message of Jesus Christ. Upon entering Faith House, many of these girls were malnourished, sickly, insecure, and distrustful, but through the years Faith House has changed the trajectory of their lives. Faith House now cares for 30 girls, and many of them have become community leaders, Bible study teachers, and worship leaders. Someday, these young ladies may return to their homeland, and they are now equipped to reach Myanmar with the Gospel and continue the work that Maria began.

prayer requests

Maria praises God that five Faith House girls will be going to university this fall and five will be in technical school. Because of the Lord and FH, these girls' lives and future have completely changed.

Maria also praises God that financial gifts were sent last month that covered the cost of the girls school fees and uniforms.

Maria thanks God for a great harvest of crops in their garden.

Pray for Maria and Gigi's visa application. Their visas expired in May and they need new ones.

Maria and Gigi are both in the Philippines and wanting to return to Thailand. There are five requirements for entry: Covid-19 no infection certificate, Covid-19 insurance policy, permit to enter Kingdom of Thailand, health certificate, and fit-to-fly certificate 72 hours before flight. Pray that God would make the way clear for Maria and Gigi to return to Faith House.

Please pray for Burmese house parents, Saya Naung Naung and Sayaman Esther, that a 10 year Thai ID will be approved for them and they will be able to stay in Thailand.

Pray for Faith House worker, Isabel, who is in the Philippines, and needs treatment for Thyroid cancer. Pray that the lockdown will ease and she can schedule her radiation treatments.

Two Faith House girls are preparing for their Grade 10 entrance exam to high school. And Aye Aye Mint and Naw Mu Aye are taking the exam for entrance into Grade 12. Please pray that all of them will pass their exam.

Pray for one of the Faith House girls, Paw Poe. She is currently in quarantine in Myanmar. She is wanting to go to university in Thailand but needs a passport from Myanmar, her home country. Please pray for a smooth and successful process in obtaining a passport.