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5miles

light the way

If someone forces you to go one mile,
go with him two miles.
Matthew 5:41

UP CLOSE & PERSONAL WITH... OUR BATAM MEDICAL BENEFICIARIES

ARDI WIRANATA, KIDNEY PATIENT

This bright, young boy of 12 suffers from nephrotic syndrome (kidney disorder) and was in ICU when we first heard about him in January 2014. He was discharged and 5miles contributed to his medical fees as the family could not afford to pay. Ardi seemed fine until a few weeks later when he was rushed to A&E (Batam hospital), this time barely conscious.

A church friend, Ah Ling, who was present in the A&E room witnessed Ardi flatlining (his heart stopped beating), then she saw a man in white enter the room to give Ardi four injections (on his arms and his sides). Ardi came back to life immediately after the doctor walked away. When Ah Ling asked the staff who that doctor was and what he injected Ardi with, they said no one came in to give him the injections!

We thank the Lord for restoring Ardi's life and for providing the pro bono medical care through a paediatric nephrologist at Gleneagles Medical Centre (Singapore). Pray with us that Ardi will eventually recover fully. Ardi's health depends a great deal on a low-salt, low carbo diet. Our wonderful helpers in Batam, Song Tie and Yani, shop and deliver fresh vegetables and meat to the family every 10 days so he gets the nutrition he needs. We also receive updates on Ardi's protein level to make sure he does not have any infection.



Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.
2 Corinthians 9:6



If you'd like to offer a love gift to the families under 5miles, please email danchar@singnet.com.sg

Daniel and Charlotte covet your prayers for the beneficiaries and appreciate your interest in this ministry.

5MILES SEW & REAP

This programme was launched so that Ardi's mum, Leny, can supplement the family income by making full use of her tailoring skills. Our customers are mainly from Singapore.

Ardi's dad works as a 'taxi driver' who gives rides to schoolchildren and passengers on his motorcycle and earns just about S\$100 a month—definitely insufficient to support a family of four.

With the money earned under this programme, Ardi's family was able to purchase a second-hand bike for taxi-ing as the old bike kept breaking down and posed a huge safety risk. The older son, Rudi, aged 18, also uses the bike to travel to university which is quite a distance from home. By God's grace, Rudi was awarded a full scholarship and receives a stipend while he works for the university.

Outfits by Leny are beautifully made and prices are reasonable (e.g. S\$20-25 for a top, S\$30-35 for a dress). For more information, please ring Charlotte at 9679 1504.

Future plans: To expand 5miles Sew & Reap to help others with similar tailoring skills to earn an income. We are willing to train those who are willing to learn how to use the sewing machine to make products out of fabric.



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DELVI, DIABETES PATIENT

Last year, Delvi, aged 17, was diagnosed with diabetes after she fainted and was taken to hospital. She was warded for a whole month and was almost denied treatment because her father, Linga, could not afford to pay the medical fees. He borrowed and begged, and friends donated, and finally paid the bill.

We brought Delvi to Singapore in September to Mint Medical (a mission-oriented clinic) to do some blood tests. Again, we are grateful for doctors who waive their consultation fees. Delvi is learning to manage her blood sugars with insulin; she checks her blood sugar before and after meals. 5miles helps to pay (partially) for her test strips, needles and insulin and we monitor her blood sugars every week to make sure she is managing well.

There is another person of concern in the family and that's Delvi's 9-year-old special needs brother. Because Delvi's insulin and consumables cost about \$350 a month, the family had to stop the boy's therapy which costs \$100 a month. We hope he can resume therapy soon. Delvi will also be returning to Singapore for regular eye and foot checks, and blood tests, to avoid developing any complications.

GIAN RONAN, HEART PATIENT

This adorable 9-year-old is our latest beneficiary. Gian has a heart defect called Pulmonary Atresia; he is missing a vital blood vessel that carries blood to his lungs. He also has another heart defect called PDA, in which a little blood vessel that was supposed to close up after birth did not. Amazingly, it is this second heart defect PDA that is helping to bring blood to his lungs! The cardiologist is concerned the blood vessel which is only 5mm wide may not be enough to bring oxygen to Gian's lungs as he matures. The poor boy pants even after walking six to seven steps up the stairs.

In October, Gian came to Singapore to see a benevolent paediatric cardiologist at Gleneagles to do a series of tests—ultrasound scan, blood test, ECG and X-ray—which cost more than twice the family's income of \$300 (even after a very generous discount). Gian's father, Yun Sen, does food product sales while his mum, Lina, mans a little grocery store within her brother's home; the business was pretty successful till the malls came up; these days, they struggle to make ends meet. Lina has two older boys, aged 15 and 12.

We will bring Gian back to Singapore for an MRI in December/January at KK Hospital and to consult a prominent heart surgeon. Surgery will cost at least \$60,000, minus post-op care, so please pray with the family as they consider the next step. We are also looking at how Lina can run a different business to earn a more decent living. Until then, we need to help the children with their school fees.



AHOK, RECOVERING FROM STROKE

Ahok and wife, Aling, have been with 5miles for more than a year and we praise the Lord that Ahok has become stronger since he suffered a stroke that paralysed him on one side for many months. We support this family with a love gift each month for the time being. We hope to find some work that Aling and Ahok can do at home.

5miles believes that it is equally important for the next generation to get a good education to break out of the poverty cycle. The **5miles Tertiary Education Fund** allows young people like Ahok's daughter, Cia, Cia (Jia Jia), to further their education, and find better-paying jobs that can support the family after they graduate. Cia Cia is currently studying Finance and Economics at a private college in Batam, and working part-time. The total cost for the three and a half year degree programme is about S\$3000. Thank God that we have received donations for this fund and will be awarding two other needy students in the near future.



NEEDS AT A GLANCE

One-off payment:

S\$1500 for Gian's MRI plus S\$200 for ferry tickets and other expenses.

Monthly expenses:

S\$100 a month for Gian and brothers' school fees.

S\$350 a month for Delvi's insulin and test strips; \$100 for brother's therapy.

S\$150 a month for Ardi's food/school fees.

S\$200 a month for Ahok and family, for living expenses.

For more information or to make a donation, please email Charlotte at danchar@singnet.com.sg

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."

Matthew 25:34-36