



PACIFIC LINKS
FOUNDATION

REPORT
GRACES SUMMER CAMP
JULY 2011

An giang/Dong thap Alliance for the Prevention of Trafficking

ADAPT

ADAPT

2011 GRACES SUMMER CAMP

Pacific Links Foundation (PALS) conducted the GRACES Summer Camp on July 30-31st 2011 in Long Xuyen, An Giang, Vietnam. The event gathers over 300 ADAPT scholarship recipients and their teachers from three border provinces: An Giang, Kien Giang and Dong Thap. The camp seeks to prevent school drop outs and reduce the risks of human trafficking for recipients of the ADAPT Scholarship Program.

Scholarship recipients are young girls ages 13-17 who are vulnerable to human trafficking. Those who are most at risk come from trafficking “hotspots” **and** also from poor families with:

- Women as the head of household
- Women as the main wage earners
- Multiple daughters in the high risk age group (12–25)
- Family members who are handicapped or have long-term illness.

The 2011 GRACES Summer Camp focuses on promoting the following six values:

Gratitude
Respect
Accountability
Courage
Engagement
Safety

OBJECTIVES

- Engage scholarship recipients with the six GRACES values
- Encourage team building and leadership qualities in scholarship recipients
- Empower relationships between scholarship recipients, Pacific Links Foundation (PALS) staff, and schools.



GRACES SUMMER CAMP AGENDA

Day I – July 30, 2011

- 8:00 – 9:00 Introductions, Icebreakers
- 9:00 – 10:20 Paper collage activity
- 10:20 – 11:30 Values - Circles
- 11:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30 – 15:30 Team building activities
- 15:30 – 15:45 Break
- 15:45 – 17:00 Team building activities
- 17:00 – 18:30 Dinner
- 18:30 – 20:00 Dance practice
- 20:00 – 20:30 Journal Entries Session

Day II – July 31, 2011

- 8:00 – 9:00 Group dance performances
- 9:00 – 10:00 Love, health and safety workshop
- 10:00 – 11:00 Values - BINGO!
- 11:00 – 12:00 Values - Sentences
- 12:00 – 13:30 Lunch Break
- 13:30 – 15:30 Team building activities
- 15:30 – 15:45 Break
- 15:45 – 16:00 Guest speakers (MAST Industries)
- 16:00 – 16:45 Affirmations
- 16:45 – 17:15 Evaluations



GRACES SUMMER CAMP CURRICULUM

The curriculum is designed to specifically meet objectives and serve over 300 scholarship recipients. The following are summaries of the camp's main activities:

Values Circles (Respect, Accountability, Safety)

The activity focuses on three values: Respect, Accountability and Safety. Scholarship recipients are asked to think of and post examples for each value in each of the four levels: the individual (*tôi*), the family (*gia đình*), school (*trường học*), and their future (*tuong lai*). After collective sharing and discussion, participants have expressed that they recognize these values are extremely important to their communities and that they also have realized that they themselves are already role models in exemplifying these values among friends and family members.



Paper Collage Activity



The activity explores the girls' dreams for their future. Working in teams, the girls collectively build and explore their dreams together by making collages from pieces of paper. Coming from rural impoverished areas, the girls are rarely asked to think about their future dreams but instead live their lives by the day. By envisioning their future, summer camp participants begin to see the value and importance of their education. The activity also allows them to share their dreams and find out more about their commonalities and differences.

Team-Building Games

Team-building games allow the girls to build bonds with other scholarship recipients from other schools and to increase their ability to work together and help each other. For example, in the Chopsticks Activity, participants are asked to link with each other in a circle through chopsticks with only one finger at each end and complete an entire rotation without dropping a chopstick. By guiding one another and talking to each other, participants learn the importance of clear communication and leadership. By working together, they exhibit accountability, gratitude and courage.



Journal Entries Sessions

In order to process and reflect on the day's activities, participants are provided with journals to express themselves. They are also given questions as a way to begin their reflection process. The questions include the following:



1. What are your (general) thoughts on the 6 values? How will you use the 6 values to overcome life difficulties?

Bạn nghĩ gì về 6 điều này (tinh thần biết ơn, tinh thần can đảm, tinh thần tôn trọng, tinh thần trách nhiệm, tinh thần hướng thiện, Giữ gìn an toàn)? Bạn sử dụng 6 điều này như thế nào để vượt qua các khó khăn trong cuộc sống?

2. What do you imagine yourself to be at the age of 25? 40 years old? How will the 6 values affect your future dreams?

Bạn muốn trở thành một người như thế nào khi bạn 25 tuổi? Khi bạn 40 tuổi? 6 điều này ảnh hưởng đến ước muốn của bạn như thế nào?

3. How do you feel about Summer Camp and the activities? What have you learned? How will you use the 6 values when you return home?

Sau khi bạn đã tham gia vào các hoạt động của Hội Trại, bạn nghĩ gì về các hoạt động này? Bạn đã học hỏi được điều gì? Bạn sẽ sử dụng những điều đã hiểu biết này như thế nào khi bạn trở về nhà?

Love, health and safety workshop



This year, PALS has collaborated with *Mục Tím*, the leading teen magazine in Vietnam, to conduct a workshop focusing on demystifying common misconceptions about reproductive health and emotional well-being for young girls.

Two female medical doctors lead the informative workshop and also conduct a Q&A session where the girls anonymously pose questions about love, health and safety and have their concerns addressed in a supportive environment.

Values Sentences (Courage, Gratitude, Engagement)

The activity focuses on three values: Courage, Gratitude, and Engagement. The participants are prompted to think of an example for each value for example: “*Courage is _____.*”

The students then write their examples on notes and post them on the wall with the respective value. Through the activity, the participants learn how to apply the values to their own lives, finding examples of how they can exemplify the values on many levels. Through observing their fellow peers, the young women also learn how to collectively share their values.



Values BINGO!

The game is a twist on BINGO! Instead of numbers, the bingo sheet is filled with statements connected to the six GRACES values. Participants must find other girls who are outside of their team who agree with a statement. Once they completely fill up a sheet, they can yell BINGO! The activity seeks to encourage the girls to step out of their comfort zone and get to know other girls from other schools and groups. The activity allows them to build their confidence and create stronger bonds with one another.



IMPACT

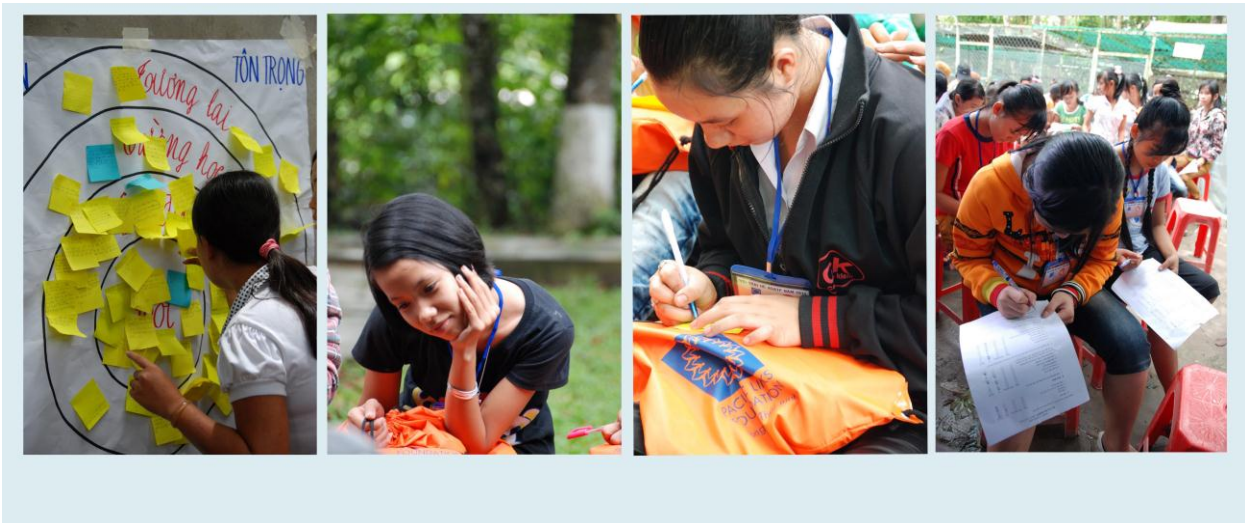


For a majority of the scholarship recipients, the GRACES Summer Camp is the first and only learning opportunity that allows them to go outside of their rural villages. The two-day event has a tremendous impact on the girls, the activities and 6 values strengthen their commitment to staying in school.

Through this event, PALS hopes to prevent unwanted drop outs and significantly reduces the risks of human trafficking.

Through the curriculum activities, the scholarship recipients have become familiar with the six values and have reflected more about how the values can assist them in succeeding and staying in school. The curriculum activities also focus on team building and allow the participants to gain confidence and leadership qualities that they can apply and explore in their homes and communities. Lastly, after two long but rewarding days, capped by the Scholarship Ceremony on August 1st 2001, the GRACES Summer Camp helps build community and strengthens relationships between scholarship recipients, PALS staff, and schools. Journal entries from scholarship recipients and evaluations are used to measure whether the objectives are met.

This year's GRACES Summer Camp is the first to bring together scholarship recipients from all three border provinces that ADAPT serves in the Mekong Delta: An Giang, Dong Thap and Kien Giang. This gathering allows the participants to make new friends and "expand their horizons," an opportunity that many of them would not receive otherwise. Together, the lesson they learn from the GRACES values will become the values that they adopt and by which they can thrive.



SAMPLE REFLECTIONS ON VALUES

Tình 7
Tình thần hướng thiện được coi là nền văn hóa sâu sắc của dân tộc, nó như đã thấm vào xương tủy, nhân tâm của chúng ta. Hướng thiện chính là lương tâm chân chính, biết quan tâm, chia sẻ, giúp đỡ mọi người xung quanh ta... Vì chúng ta cầu này thành đạt thì hãy góp một tí công sức để giúp đỡ 2 người có hoàn cảnh khó khăn.

Tình 7
Tình thần biết ơn là sẽ ghi nhớ công ơn những gì mà ta đã nhận, biết ơn là một đức tính quan trọng, con người sẽ chẳng thể thành đạt nếu quên cái ơn mà ta đã nhận. Nhớ ơn là một cách sống

đẹp và thanh tâm tinh nghĩa. Tóm lại chúng ta khi nhận ơn thì phải biết ghi nhớ tên đáp, đó là điều đó chúng ta cũng đã sống có ích rồi!