



ADRA

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ADVENTIST DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY MONGOLIA

As ADRA Mongolia supports thousands of poor people across Mongolia, we appreciate your support of our vital work .

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Right decision is to quit

Health Education Against Tobacco Project (Funded through ADRA Australia) - this story was from the Daily Newspaper of Mongolia.

It's been a month since my friend quit smoking. After being a smoker for 5 years, he is no longer intoxicated, and when he smells cigarettes he is disgusted. The thing that most influenced him to quit smoking is the current, global economic crisis. He says that he buys 2 loaves of bread instead of a pack of cigarettes with 1500 tugrugs (appr \$1). He thinks that it is very stupid to buy cigarettes because they are poisonous and also not good for the economic situation. People say that poverty and poison together can cause a cycle of violence. According to research it is mostly poor people who smoke cigarettes. Instead of spending money on books, food and education they buy cigarettes which cause bad health and increase medical costs. 84% of smokers in the world are from developing countries. In Mongolia, teenagers are smoking in public without feeling any kind of shame. 14,000 people are dying every day due to smoke-related diseases. Some countries are starting to try out things like

smoke-free streets, restaurants, and public places,..etc. In Mongolia there are no anti-tobacco advertisements, rather advertisements for tobacco. According to research the number of smokers has increased dramatically over the last 3 years with 14.4 % of teenagers smoking and 66.2% of them living in an environment where they are breathing second-hand smoke. There is only one tobacco company and Mongolia is now at a higher rate of smoking than average. According to law, it is prohibited to sell cigarettes to children out of the packet (so they can afford it), but law is just on paper nowadays. A friend of mine who just came from Korea quit smoking because Ulaanbaatar's air is too polluted because of smoke from the ger district's, and the movement of people to the city each day. Polluted air is already bad enough for our lungs, and you can understand that tobacco is bad for your health, so please quit now.

ADRA Mongolia Annual Review 2008

The ADRA Mongolia 2008 Annual Review has been printed and is ready for distribution both in English and in Mongolian. The annual review is a record of all of the projects which were undertaken during 2008 by ADRA Mongolia, as well as a financial record of how money was spent. You can find a copy of the English 2008 Annual Review on the ADRA Mongolia website at www.adra.org.mn/en. To save paper we encourage you to view this publication online. If you would like to receive a copy of the annual review by post, please request a copy by sending an email to director@adra.org.mn

ADRA Mongolia "Social Entrepreneur" of the year



ADRA Mongolia received a 'Silk Road' award from The Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MNCCI) for the category "Entrepreneur of the year". The Silk Road awards are given "in order to pay recognition to the effort of foreign citizens and organizations jointly working towards the development of Mongolia, and to encourage further initiatives". The 'Silk Road' awards are relatively new and were created by the MNCCI in 2007.

"To have our Micro Enterprise Development program recognized in this way is a great commendation of our staff and the activities they perform. We are extremely proud of this award, and hope that in these difficult economic times we can continue to carry out this necessary and vital community service", said ADRA Mongolia Country Director Chris Jensen.



We can achieve more

“When we work together, we can achieve more!” As part of the ‘Supporting Rural Livelihoods through Improved Food Security’ (Bio-funded through ADRA Canada) project, eight cooperatives have been operating in Zavkhan, with the goal of improved food security. Food security is very important because it gives people both work and income. ADRA Mongolia supports these cooperatives in many ways, including: assisting them to create new garden plots in which to grow vegetables, teaching them to create hay fields for the dry summers, and giving gardening training and other relevant training. Extended training is also available to those who are interested in producing

things like handicrafts and traditional clothing, to sell, therefore helping to create another source of income. Currently the cooperatives are working on their yearly business plans for this year. Food Security Project Manager, Tileubek Eltay told me that it is important for the cooperative members to work together in teams because then they are not only sharing ideas, but they are also able to gain a better income by helping each other out. As the cooperatives work on their business plans, ADRA Mongolia helps them to improve their plans, and gives them feed-back. At this time, the Food Security team are preparing for gardening activities and purchasing seeds, for the coming spring.

New Year exhibition

From February 10-13, the National Chamber of Commerce, together with the Provincial Governor of Zavkhan organized a 2009, Lunar New Year exhibition in Uliastai soum (district) in Zavkhan Province. The purpose of the exhibition was to support small businesses, and 99 small business owners from 23 soums participated in this event. Nine Self-help groups from ADRA Mongolia’s Micro- Economic Development project (funded through ADRA New Zealand) participated in this exhibition, and won four awards overall. Participants learned from each other, and now have more experience for any new exhibitions.

Tsagaan Sar Lunar New Year

Tsagaan Sar, also known as the Lunar New Year festival, was celebrated on February 25 this year. Staff enjoyed this special time of eating buuz (steamed dumpling), socializing and meeting with friends and family. Talking about the Tsagaan Sar celebrations, Tungalag Battsengel, the Education Project Coordinator, said, “Tsagaan Sar is not only a festival, but it is the most important Mongolian tradition in which people express their respect to elderly relatives, friends and family, to strengthen our family ties. I enjoyed a lot of meeting with all of my relatives whom I do not meet very often.” We pray that you all had a great Tsagaan Sar holiday, and we are happy that everyone is back safely here at ADRA Mongolia.

ADRA Leadership council meeting in Chiangmai



The Country Director of ADRA Mongolia, Chris Jensen, was able to attend the ‘ADRA Leadership Council’ for 2009. The meetings were held in Chiangmai, Thailand, from February 9-11, where the weather was “warm, humid and delightful!” This is an annual event which brings together around 50 Country Directors, both Divisional and Regional, from around the world. Many important topics were discussed, including: ADRA network functioning, financial issues,

strategic planning, policy and operations, licensing, network representation, and more. Chris Jensen said that the meetings are an important time for networking, capacity-building and also for sharing experiences and socializing with the other directors. One of the topics of interest was the discussion of the licensing model that ADRA uses, and that from now on ADRA International will issue each license for each ADRA office around the world. This decision was made with the “desire to ensure that ADRA retains [it’s] essential country-level church involvement, while continuing to grow as a world-class, unified development and relief agency...”

The ADRA Leadership Council is a time for Country Directors to discuss and reflect on the organizational structure and the future movements of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency network.

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Don’t forget to tag donations for “Mongolia”.