



*to see Mongolians
building and restoring
families, churches,
and communities*

2022 Other Activities in Development

In addition to the project and placement highlights in the January issue of Horizons, these are additional activities from the 2022 Annual Report.

Capacity Building Training in Financial Literacy

In partnership with MINA NGO, a financial literacy program was translated into Kazakh language to serve the people in Nalaikh and Khovd. In Nalaikh, eleven (11) social workers received the training. During the training, they learned from and were inspired by each other. They learned to review their household finances and affirmed their intention to continue saving.

The Financial Literacy training was also held in Khovd province for 20 people. Three trainers held seven days of training. This was a good tool to have good social engagement between Kazakhs and Mongolian families.

The participants were very impressed and realized that savings is like a "savior" for us and our loved ones, and our country. They were encouraged to understand their own worth; identify the worth of themselves and not just wealth. Some of the Kazakh participants who are herders and farmers learned financial literacy for the first time.

More needs to be done to train potential trainers to help more people outside of Ulaanbaatar.

Recovery from addiction and abuse Training

"Together We Celebrate Recovery" NGO organized a campaign "Regain what we lost" and within the framework of this campaign, the National Celebrate Recovery Network successfully organized a 3-day/2-night training in Tunkhel village of Selenge Province. A total of 52 leaders participated in the training which included various subjects, such as: communication, addiction, various types of violence and abuse – and healing. JCS supported this training with a donation.

Leadership Seminar

Financial support was given to Haggai Mongolia for the National Leadership Seminar they organized. Twenty-three local leaders from seven provinces and the capital city participated in the week-long seminar. Topics included leadership, discipline, goal setting, communications, the next generation, and others. Several participants commented that they appreciated the helpful materials used and plan to apply what they learned personally as well as to their business and/or role as a leader.

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PRAY

E-prayer

Would you like to receive the JCS weekly E-prayer? If so, please write to communications@jcsintl.org

On Language Learning & Arriving in Mongolia

by Kristina Maier

It was a windy night in early October when we arrived in Mongolia. In the darkness we couldn't tell that the mountains were already frosted with snow, we were simply happy to have arrived.

Four years ago my husband Thomas and I were married and started our journey towards Mongolia. We prayed and shared about our love for Mongolia and found language teachers and experiences to prepare us.

On long road trips to visit family we memorized the Cyrillic alphabet. International students from Mongolia taught us to make dumplings and salty milk tea. They taught us the words for household items and Mongolian greetings. We acquired a taste for lamb. We read JCS Horizon newsletters and became familiar with people and places. Then the door opened.

In this new place we've felt quite at home.

In Ulaanbaatar it is often faster to walk than to drive, because of all the traffic (50% of which are Toyota Prius', so at least they don't add to the pollution). We've fallen in love with Mongolian hospitality, and know the importance

of bringing gifts when we visit someone's home. Over the past few months we've gained an ear to hear the numbers when we ask how much something costs. We've bought Mongolian wool socks at the Outdoor Market and know how to dress our one year old and three year old for going outside in -30. We flag taxis (any on-coming car will gladly pick you up and deliver you to your destination) and can give directions and attempt small talk in Mongolian.

We've learned to ask friends to take us grocery shopping, to show us what they buy and to teach us to cook. We have pet pigeons on our eternally sunny windowsill, feathers all puffed up to keep warm. We've enjoyed getting out of the city once or twice for fresh air, to hike in the woods, go sledding and listen to woodpeckers.

The Father is at work, young churches are blossoming, but the seeds need water and fertilizer, encouragement and support. Pray for the work in Mongolia, pray Matthew 13:1-9.