

BREF Enotes

Educating Refugees from Burma in India, Bangladesh and Thailand since 1997.

Enote 136:

Kathy Sabino in Aizawl



Greetings from Aizawl!

We've been here for a week and have met and interviewed over 50 amazing young people. It has been a very interesting experience for my brother, Tom Studwell, and me to volunteer as representatives of BREF. We're learning that family is the bedrock of accomplishment for these students. Overwhelmingly they tell us that it is their parents, who fled Burma in order to avoid persecution and to secure a better future for their children, that are the source of their strength and inspiration. Despite significant poverty these families sacrifice so that their daughters and sons can attend secondary school and college. We are so glad that BREF can provide the extra financial support that they need. This afternoon we met with three young women who are preparing to graduate this year: (from left to right in the photo)

C Lalhrialpui is completing a bachelor's degree in commerce this year. She hopes to travel to another part of India in the coming year in order to improve her English skills. She then wants to return to Aizawl and work.

Laldirtluangi is finishing her final year at The Regional Institute of Paramedical and Nursing Sciences (RIPANS) in Aizawl. Her ultimate goal to do earn a doctorate in Pharmacy!

Lalrindiki is completing her BA in education and plans, after graduation, to complete a certificate in computer application as well.

BREF resources are applied to every level of education with relatively small scholarships provided to elementary and secondary students so that they can afford school fees, uniforms and supplies. At the post-secondary level, the leader-Intern program provides resources for individual students and each is interviewed annually, and their progress is monitored. It has been wonderful to participate in this program first hand this year.

Kathy Sabino
Retired History Teacher, Hamilton Central School

Remember your day is not complete until you have done somebody a favor. Please donate to our work with refugees.

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Best Wishes to all,

