

May 2009 Miqlat-Nagaland Newsletter

Life indeed is a beautiful gift from God and I am beginning to understand the value of this gift more as I journey in the lives of these amazing women who are part of Miqlat family. As always, April and May has been another exciting months for Miqlat...We are still on the hang over from all the wonderful April and May experiences. Despite all the hurdles that bombard us each day, we still have so many told and untold reasons to praise God and we always want you all who have been so faithfully interceding and supporting us to be part in praising God and also be part as we continue to intercede for so many people and reasons again.

I don't know how many of you remember this, but sometime in the end of last year I shared a prayer concern about one of our staff who was planning to go for abortion. This decision of her was surprising and disturbing for us but as we counsel and pray for her and with her, she willingly accepted to keep the baby. And now in the beginning of 2009, she gave birth to a beautiful baby girl whom we named Elika (beautifully caught at the end of the journey). She is doing very well, very beautiful, growing fast and is the delight of Miqlat and the family. We thank you so much for taking time to pray for the mother. Elika is experiencing the gift of life today because you all prayed. Had it not been for your prayers, Elika would never get to breathe and enjoy life as today. Thank you and continue to pray for Elika and the family for God's continuous provision so that the family will never feel that bearing Elika has been a burden to the family.

We have been praying for a new warden for Miqlat home and truly God blessed Amen to Miqlat at the right time. Amen is a God fearing woman, spiritually matured and one who walks closely with God. She officially joined Miqlat in April and so far she has been a real joy and blessing to Miqlat.

We also have two beautiful young girls who joined us in April. We praise God for their lives and their contribution to Miqlat.

Miqlat also started laundry services. Actually, we don't get so much either through laundry or cafeteria but the fact that we are able to keep the women employed and pay them a fair salary gives us the joy and motivation to keep working and exploring new horizons. We are thankful to God for His providence to get started with the laundry. We will truly appreciate your prayers for the smooth functioning of the laundry.

Miqlat also had a soap training program in the first week of March. Four of our women joined the training and now two of them are in the production unit. It was successful and the sale is going on well and for which we thank God. Please pray that the soap business will flourish. We have three varieties...aloevera, lemon and orange. Many people have tried it and are demanding more. So I'm sure it's a good one. You are more than welcome to place your orders or ask for trial. We will be happy to serve you.

Miqlat card production is also going on very well. For years we have been trying to refine our cards and finally I think we have reach to that point. Card making is everywhere in Nagaland so we were praying for a market and true to our prayers, we are now partnering with Priscilla centre, Guwahati where they buy cards from us. We praise God for Priscilla's centre initiation and also encouraging us by marketing our cards. You can place your orders for the cards suitable for any occasion.

May 2009 Miqlat-Nagaland Newsletter

For the first time in the history of Miqlat, two days couple's consultative workshop was conducted with the support of Development of Human Potential (DHP) Imphal, Manipur. We were thinking that not more than 15 couples will show up but to our surprise, 24 couples made it for both the days. These couples are mostly our inmates who are broken both in and out. For many it was intense since they never attended this kind of program and mostly because it was strange for them as spouse to be together attending a very decent program. But slowly, many of them open up as the resource persons dealt with hard core issues. I felt that many of them were honest, transparent and the best thing is it was a time of healing and a time of realization for many. For many it was the first time they got to be prayed for, first time to hold the hands of their spouse, first time to say I'm sorry, I love you, first time to communicate what has been bothering them for so long and many other first time stuffs...We thank you for your support and prayer for this program and we ask of you to continue to pray for the release of resources as we seriously realise the urgency of having this type of program from time to time. We also covet your prayers for these 24 couples.

As many of you know that we got a new place and moved in the first week of February. Since then, it's been so much work, non stop renovation work for almost three months and still there are more to do. But we are happy that the major renovation work is completed. So its kind of more settled and organise now. The kitchen construction on the roof is also over. We thank you for your prayers and also thank you that so many of you encouraged and blessed us even materially all through this work process.

Trainings are underway and we are happy for that. Continue to pray for the trainers and trainees.

We also praise God for sending so many people to visit us and encourage us. We want you to know that your visits and encouragement means a lot to us. You may be just visiting us out of curiosity or whatever reason, but we want to tell you that short visit of yours has made an impact in our lives. It has conveyed to us the message that there are people who care, who are concern and who are praying and will pray for us. We thank you for taking time to come and encourage us. God bless you richly.

We also praise God for His endless provision. I think Miqlat is one organization that runs without any source of income or any stable support except for the house rent. But in spite of the inconveniences, Miqlat keeps growing..i don't know how but we somehow manages with the little cash that we have in our hands. So much work has been going on especially with the new house, wages to pay to the workers every week, materials to buy everyday for construction, refreshments to provide everyday, electricity bills to pay every month, salaries to give every month, going around every day, inmates coming in and out every day and so many other things. Seriously, we don't have enough money for any of these, but we have a God who is enough to meet all these needs. None of us are from rich background here in Miqlat, none of our families are in a position to help us but God has been so good and we boldly testify God's goodness, His provision and His abundant blessings through you all. Thank you!!!

We also priase God for Angami Baptist Church Council Women department (ABCCWD) for willing to finance the construction of indigenous naga thatch kitchen on the roof top. Dimapur been a very humid place, the present kitchen is not comfortable for the girls. It's

May 2009 Miqlat-Nagaland Newsletter

always stuffy and feels like too crowded. So as we were praying, we are grateful to God for answering our prayers through ABCCWD under the able leadership of Visasieu Dolie. We also praise God for the refrigerator graciously given by Dr & Mrs. Chubala. We also praise God for the generous gift of Dimapur Angami Baptistpfuko Krotho for their generous gift towards procuring our show cases. We also praise God for the untiring motherly services and advices of Mrs. Kengem Kevichusa. All the renovation works and hiring of workers is done under her supervision. Praise God for blessing us through all these people in different ways.

Praise God for the wonderful staff retreat we had on the 26th of May at Niathu resort. Since its inception, this is the first staff retreat Miqlat had and it was wonderful. It feels so good and refreshed to be out for a day in clean and healthy atmosphere.

Praise God for Sharon, a volunteer from UBS for rendering her tireless voluntary service for a month. She was an all rounder. Her presence in Miqlat has boost so much of our spirit. Thank you Sharon.

Along with all these praises, we also have so many prayer concerns.

We have a group of ten girls come from Shalom Bible Seminary for a month for internship. This is our first time to have such a big number of intern and we are excited but also nervous. Miqlat is just growing now and we really don't have experience in handling interns. So we ask of you to pray for wisdom as we supervise and work out routines for these interns. We really covet your prayers that their one month stay in Miqlat will bring so much inner change in the lives of these women. We also ask you to pray for resources as we arrange for the accommodation and other basic needs. These girls will be with Miqlat from the 27th of May till the 21st of June.

Alebu one of our very own has gone home for delivery and we ask you to pray for her. We also ask you to pray for God's strength and courage as she goes through the difficult times.

On character ground, three of our staffs were ask to take a break. It was hard on our part but we also know that we have to exercise tough love at times. We pray for them always and we ask you to join with us in prayer for these three women that God will open their mind and hearts to realise their mistake and give them the heart to renew their commitment with God and with people.

We also ask you to pray for Apon, one of our women who six months pregnant but very sick. Her health is complicated. We'd appreciate if you mention her to God in prayer.

We need committed and passionate people for outreach. Please pray that God will bring the right people at the right time.

We are still yet to procure a land and we want you to journey with us in prayer for this need.

The need of a car has become urgent. We are facing a lot of practical difficulties without owning a car. We are praying and we really want you all to join with us in prayer. Humanly speaking, this dream seems to be so big and impossible for Miqlat but we are confident

May 2009 Miqlat-Nagaland Newsletter

that God will materialise this dream very soon. We don't want to ask anyone to donate a car, we just want to you all to pray and it's wonderful when we see answers to our prayers.

Continue to pray for good mutual working relations among the staffs, NBCCWD, women secretaries, board members, friends of Miqlat, well wishers, churches and networking partners. We ask of your prayer for wisdom, grace and courage to be transparent, faithful, diligent and honesty before God and before people.

We ask of your prayers for our outreach team. In sunshine and in rain, they still go out reaching and touching lives. Pray for God's grace, compassion and strength upon them.

We also ask you to pray for young people to open up and respond to the need in this field. Pray for youth leaders to rise up and voice out for the cause of these women and thus sensitize the urgency of the need.

John 15:13 " Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends".

Thank you so much for your love, prayers, support and encouragement.

In His service,

Asha Sanchu