



COPE

HELPING PEOPLE MOVE ON

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Thanks to your donation the artificial legs have now been fitted to people like Lung Luavang in need!! Laos is still profoundly affected by the remnants of a secret war that lasted 9 years and ended over 30 years ago. This led to Laos being the most heavily bombed country per capita in the world and to this day is littered with a significant amount of UXO (unexploded bombs). This also contributes to poverty, hunger, and disability on a daily basis.

COPE works throughout Laos supporting essential services to people with disabilities - more than half of whom have been injured by UXO. We also provide devices for, but not limited to, those affected by traffic and work-related accidents, leprosy, diabetes, clubfoot, birth defects and polio.

Lung Luavang is a 65 year old farmer who was injured in a landmine accident in 1967 while working on his farm in Huasaard village in Xiengkoung province, one of the most heavily bombed areas. He is married and had a child, which unfortunately passed away. He was given a new prosthesis on December 7th, 2012, this being the second time that he has received a prosthesis from COPE. Because of the long distance he needed to travel and lack of access to transportation in his village, he spent a day walking from his village in to town and then needed to take a bus to reach COPE. Luavang reports,

"It is very important for me and my wife as we don't have any children to take care of us now, therefore we have to help and take care of each other. I'm very thankful for the kind support that I was given. Now I can move around in comfort and can participate in a normal life effectively. Particularly, I am very happy that I can work on my farm again"

Presently, Lung Luavang spends most of his time growing vegetables and feeding his livestock including ducks, chickens and cows.

On behalf of the COPE team and patients, we would like to thank you very much for your kind support. It is extremely vital for our project to help more people with disabilities to participate in a normal, happy, and active life again!

Thanks to your support we will also continue to cover the complete cost of care to those who cannot afford to pay (including devices, surgery if necessary, rehabilitation, food, and accommodation), train local staff, improve the physical infrastructure needed to deliver this service, and inform those in need the service exists!

Many thanks,
The COPE Team



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