

Name of Student: Efren A. Mande

Father's Name: Doming Mande
Occupation : Farmer/CAFGU
Mother's Name: Lolita Mande
Occupation : Farmer
Siblings : Seven (7)



Sam, as he is fondly called, is the eldest among seven children. To help his family he has to stop his studies when he was in 4th grade and work in a banana plantation. Because he has been out of school for 4 years he is ashamed to go back and be in a class of younger students but his uncle, Rudy Mande, continues to challenge him. Before going back to school he took up a module on Tribal Workers Training in Gumitan because he wants to serve the Lord. When school opened again he took the challenge and enrolled. Now he is working hard in school so he can pursue higher education. “*Abi nko lisod gyud and mueskwela, pero dli diay* (I thought going to school is difficult, but it is not),” Sam said.

Ever since he was a child he has always dreamt of being a soldier. The dream was fueled by his experience hunting wild pigs. Since he was 12 Sam already know how to handle a gun.