

Integrated Support for Families

THA-LIF-ISF-P02



Chiang Rai, Thailand



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget \$36,800

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUL 19

JUN 21



Overview

This project was located in rural villages and towns in NE Thailand. The project provided HIV/AIDS and drug awareness education programs in Thai rural schools, prisons and communities together with simple income-generating projects to support families from the school who are afflicted by disease, and other poor families. By educating and supporting these families with health education and income-generating projects (IGPs) such as chickens and pigs, it allows children to be kept in school, in a family and in a community. The project was affected by COVID-19 lockdowns but has managed to work around restrictions thanks to the versatility of our partners!

Objectives

Impact



Education programs in prisons

12 HIV/AIDS and Drug Awareness programs were run in the Tueng Women's Prison, allowing 50 women to engage in activities and discussion around these life-impacting issues.



Youth detention education

12 Youth Detention Programs on HIV/AIDS and Drug Awareness were held over the two years, empowering 80 youth to make sound decisions once they leave detention. Our partners are trusted and respected by local authorities.



School education programs

40 education programs on HIV/AIDS and Drug Awareness were run in 2 schools (10 each), with 103 students attending. They are able to take the information they learn home to their families and are encouraged to make good life choices.



Income generation projects

28 IGPs with vulnerable families were established. Our partners and the families worked with local suppliers to set up their projects. Families contributed materials and labour and worked with the support and help of our partners.



Life change

- Economic empowerment of the family has allowed children to grow up in a more stable environment, to have better nutrition and to attend school
- Simple income-generating projects encouraged the families to become productive members of their own community
- Education on HIV/AIDS/drug awareness has empowered children and adults to protect themselves from predatory behaviours and long-term harm



Nong Bank's Story

Nong Bank and his younger brother live with their grandmother, who has cared for them since their parents died. As both she and his brother are not well enough to work, Nong Bank is the sole breadwinner of the family, working at night husking corn or hunting small animals to eat or sell. That all changed when our partner helped set them up with egg-laying chickens. “Whenever I had a day off, or some spare time, I would go out looking for ways to earn money. Now the pressure has eased because we have eggs to eat and the rest we sell. The money I get helps look after the family and cover school expenses”, says Nong Bank (left).



A number of education programs are run in schools. Here, students attend a camp.

Nong Toon's Story

When Nong Toon was only two, her parents separated and she became part of a large household made up of her father, new mother, grandmother and two younger siblings. Due to ill health, her father could only work part-time, picking up odd jobs to support the family. Our partner helped the family set up a mushroom harvesting business to provide a stable income. Toon says, “The mushroom project is such a help to my family. It keeps me busy, harvesting and then selling them, but that is a small price to pay for relieving the burden on my family and enabling me to stay at school”.

Nong Toon (right) in front of spawning bottles.

