

Restore Hope, Build a Future

LAO-TRA-RHB-P01



Vientiane, Laos



Economic Empowerment

Year 1 Budget \$20,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

MAR 21

FEB 24

Overview

Our partner exists to assist the poor, disadvantaged and broken people of Laos, with particular emphasis on those addicted to drugs. A newly opened Women and Children's Centre was set up to provide a nurturing environment for both women and children. This project supports women addicted to drugs through rehabilitation and vocational training. Our component of the project is to continue to provide local Lao staff salaries and operating costs for the next 3 years while encouraging the centre to gradually become more sustainable.

Impact for March 2021 - February 2022



11 women currently live at the centre

Three women struggling with drug addiction, two come from abusive situations and 6 disadvantaged women from ethnic minority groups are living and studying at the centre.

Vocational training in baking continues

but the sewing program had a set back when the teacher suddenly moved south. A 2-week training course in January has enabled staff to revive the sewing projects.



One dependent child is living at the centre

He is cared for by his mum as well as staff and other residents. Travel restrictions prevented many women from being admitted to the centre during the pandemic.

Sustainability projects in the garden such as

growing a variety of vegetables is very productive. Turkey and duck numbers have also increased. However, quail production was discontinued because the price of feed doubled.



- Two new sustainability projects have been added to the program - producing bamboo seedlings for sale and catfish farming.
- Chicken and vegetable production is providing most of the food needed for the centre.
- 20 families in the next village had no work or food during the pandemic lockdowns so the women at the centre were able to provide food and follow up for this community.



Mee's Story

Mee (sitting) was abused by her step-uncle and was then blamed by her aunt for being the cause of the problem. She arrived at the centre in a mess but after much love and care, has a whole new lease on life. Mee started volunteering at the Women's centre, helping in the garden and in the kitchen and spending time with the other women. She met a young man called Tom, a former drug addict who had been at the Men's Rehabilitation Centre before being hired to do maintenance and translation work. They are now married and are working together at the centre.



Thank you for making a difference