

Pre-School Centre for Vulnerable Children

MMR-CAC-PSC-P12



Myanmar



Education

Total Budget

Project Timeline

Year 4 extension \$7,500

MAY 19

APR 23



Overview

By offering pre-school education, our partners have educated and cared for 56+ children in a slum area of Yangon. Myanmar has been severely affected by COVID-19 and a military coup (Feb 21). The pre-school was closed for two years as the country grappled for survival. As a result, Entrust added a further year to help part-support the teacher salaries until the end of the 2023 school year. This brings the 12-year support of the pre-school to a close for now. The pre-school continues to be a hub for the community with some now having completed high school. Director Thai has worked tirelessly in the community bringing food, hope, advice and providing education.

Objectives

Impact



65 children enrolled in pre-school

Enrolments have reached near-capacity levels, since reopening last year. Over the entire project (since 2009), 1010 children have graduated, 700 children stay in contact through primary studies, some have finished school and found jobs.



6 teachers supported in final year

Entrust has provided salary support for up to 6 teachers over the years, scaled down from 100% (first 6 years), to 60% (next 3 years), to 40% (final 3 years) as capacity to self-support or attract other funding improved.



Fully accredited school

A key milestone (after a decade-long wait) was receiving Social Welfare Department certification, giving the school government recognition and legal compliance. A fee-paying school is still planned which will support the current school.



Community support for thousands

Support has been provided to school families and the wider slum community to help them through incredibly challenging times - through rice distribution, medical assistance, school supplies and support of children as parents look for work.



Life Change

- Entry to the government school system after “graduating” from pre-school
- Improved health and hygiene of entire families
- Access to ongoing education into high school/further education
- Better socialization skills by participating in a structured program
- Feeling of support and encouragement during extremely difficult times



A special-needs boy welcomed!

A local mother anxiously brought her little boy to our partner's pre-school, hoping they could admit her son to their care. As well as his special needs, the boy's physical appearance is different and no government-run preschool was willing to take him in. When the Director sought affirmation from all the staff she received a resounding 'yes'! Our partner's school has welcomed this little boy with open arms and he is now a happy and active participant in the early learning program. This is just one of the many young lives over the past 12 years provided with hope through education. Education helps raise families out of poverty.



Moe Thing Ki's trophies proudly on display in her home

Moe Thing Ki's Story

Thai, the pre-school Director, says "Recently, a little girl named Moe Thing Ki came to our pre-school and told me her father had passed away. Moe Thing Ki is a graduate of our pre-school who lives in the local community. I visited her house to offer condolences to her family and see how they were faring. While talking to her mother, I noticed Moe Thing Ki's trophies for academic excellence hanging on the walls and her mother excitedly explained that Moe Thing Ki, now in year 8, had been awarded trophies since grade one and she expressed her gratitude to me for running the pre-school in the neighbourhood. Precious stories like this inspire me and remind me that all the struggle and sacrifice has been well worth it."

