

Restore Hope, Build a Future

LAO-TRA-RHB-P02



Vientiane, Laos



Economic Empowerment

Year 2 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. The Women and Children's Centre was set up to provide a nurturing environment for both women, children and their families. This project supports women addicted to drugs through rehabilitation and vocational training. Entrust's component of the project is to continue to provide local Lao staff salaries and operating costs for a three year period, while encouraging the centre to gradually become more sustainable.

Impact for March 2022 - February 2023



7 women have been living at the centre

in the past year. They are struggling with drug addiction and/or are victims of sexual abuse. They receive counselling, rehabilitation and vocational training.

Vocational training in baking, sewing and catfish production

continue to increase skills and provide an income. The women have recently started making hats for sale and there are plans to open a small shop at the front of the centre to sell baked goods to villagers and students who pass by every day.



Two dependent children are living at the centre

Ben, 3 (see story, right) and Len, 12. Len's family live too far from a school and cannot afford room and board so the centre is caring for him during term time and provides him with a bicycle to get to and from school.

Sustainability projects in the garden

mean that the centre is self sufficient in terms of vegetables. The chicken coop was moved to the other side of the property, to increase vegetable production, and there are now 50 chickens and 20 ducks.



- New staff have recently been trained in best counselling practices and a new couple have transitioned into leadership roles.
- Centre staff and friends regularly reach out to the sick, visit local hospitals and give food to the poor.



Ben's Story

My name is Ben and I am three years old. My mum, OB, has some mental health and addiction issues and I was born while she was living at the centre. My mum comes and goes to and from the centre for rehabilitation and the staff are always trying to foster a healthy relationship between my mum and me when she is around. I have been informally adopted by Tom and Mee, who got married last year, and live and work at the centre. Even though my circumstances are less than ideal, I experience so much love and care from Tom and Mee and from the centre's community.



**Thank you
for making
a difference**