

Restoring Lives After Slavery



Bangkok, Thailand



Combatting Trafficking

Year 1 Budget \$30,000

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

SEPTEMBER 21

AUGUST 24

Overview

This project will assist vulnerable migrant workers and impoverished people who are trafficked for slave labour in the Thai fishing and other industries through deception, debt bondage, threats and violence. Thailand is a source, transit and destination country for traffickers making profits through slave labour. Our partner works to reduce trafficking in persons/forced labour (TIP/FL) through improved criminal justice systems and multilateral enforcement mechanisms between countries. The project aims to strengthen social services for trafficking victims by supporting three staff in the Bangkok office, namely a social worker, interpreter and aftercare support person. These staff form part of the Aftercare team supporting rescued victims as they navigate the legal system and providing trauma counselling and assistance with repatriating victims to their families. Year 2 budget: \$30,000

Impact for January - June 2022

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Two Aftercare Team staff salaries

Entrust supported two social worker salaries: the Head of Department and the Capacity Building Coordinator. The current team of 4 will soon be expanded to 6.



7 victims of forced labour and trafficking

supported through victim identification and recovery. Increased focus on partnering with government/NGO services to expand access to high-quality, customised care, has seen fundamental changes to policies that embed trauma-informed practices into victim identification, assessment and support - also resulting in better access to employment for victims.

7



4

4 survivors in aftercare were supported

The lower numbers reflect that Thailand is primarily a destination country for TIP/FL, and many victims choose to return to their home country. They continue to be supported in their country to find jobs and reintegrate into their families.



Training to improve access to support networks

was held with 36 judges to adopt a trauma-informed approach when engaging with victims and witnesses; 46 law enforcement officers to understand relevant TIP/FL laws and protecting worker's rights; and 24 government officials to find victim-centric solutions to the problem of victims testifying in two proceedings (criminal and labour) and to encourage government agencies to work in cooperation with each other.

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Muay's Story

I am a social worker working in our Bangkok office as a senior caseworker supporting survivors of trafficking. My initial work as a teacher helping young people with their problems made me realise what my vocation should be. I remember one rescue of a migrant fisherman who couldn't remember enough details for charges to be pressed. All he knew was he wanted to go home and we pulled out all stops to fulfil this wish. The look of relief and sheer joy on his face that day when he was told he was going home, still warms my heart and makes all the toil and hard work worthwhile.



Thank you for making a difference