

Restoring Lives After Slavery



Bangkok, Thailand



Combatting Trafficking

Year 1 Budget \$30,000

Project Timeline

\$9,900 TO GO

SEPTEMBER 21

AUGUST 22

Overview

This project will assist vulnerable migrant workers and impoverished people who are trafficked for slave labour in the Thai fishing and seafood industry 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 the prevalence of forced labour through improved performance of the 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.

Impact for September - Dec 2021

40



Trauma-informed care training held with

40 Thai public justice system and social welfare officials to enable officers to adopt a trauma informed approach when engaging with survivors and witnesses to minimize re-traumatization and support recovery.

5 victims of forced labour and trafficking

were rescued during the period, including a Burmese woman brought to Thailand as a young domestic worker 13 years earlier and never paid. She had no idea what day, month or year it was when she was rescued.

5



21



21 survivors in aftercare were supported

in their recovery by the aftercare team. The team provides encouragement and ensures the survivors' needs are met, including helping to look for job opportunities outside the shelter so they have secure income.

Visit to Government shelter by aftercare team

to discuss future collaborative plans to provide assistance, protection and rehabilitation to human trafficking survivors.

1



- A roundtable training event between our partner and Thai government officials was held in September to brainstorm solutions for system reform.



Aung Ko's rescue

Driven by poverty and hunger, Aung Ko* was determined to find better opportunities beyond his fishing village in Myanmar. He was smuggled into Thailand to work on a fishing vessel, but his lack of education made him easy prey. Overworked, underpaid and often hungry, he was denied permission to visit his sick mother, who soon passed away, or to be with his wife at the birth of his first child. Watching his close friend beaten almost to death for trying to escape, Aung Ko thought he was trapped. Our partner heard of his plight and a rescue operation was launched, bringing him to safety and reuniting him with his family.



Thank you for making a difference

** not his real name*