

Hope for my Future

LAO-TRA-HFF-P01



Vientiane, Laos



Economic Empowerment

Total Budget

\$35,000

Project Timeline

JUNE 24

MAY 25



Overview

Our partner is dedicated to supporting the poor, disadvantaged, and those struggling with addiction in Laos, with a particular focus on individuals affected by drug use. They currently run three facilities near the capital, Vientiane, including a newly opened Women and Children's Centre designed to offer a safe and nurturing environment. This centre provides rehabilitation and vocational training for women recovering from drug addiction. Our part in the project is to fund the salaries of local Lao staff and cover operational expenses for the year, while also encouraging the centre to work towards long-term sustainability.

Objectives



Rehabilitation and restoration

This year, three women addicted to methamphetamines began their journey to recovery. Two had experienced severe trauma from abuse and divorce and are now receiving counselling and care. They are responding well to the love and care at the centre and are growing stronger each day.



Loving and nurturing place for kids

Two at-risk teenage girls are safely continuing high school, with one returning after nearly dropping out. Two boys are pursuing their goals—one in vocational training, the other in school and competitive soccer. Two young children, including an orphan, now live in a stable, loving community.



Vocational training for women

This term, six young women have been equipped with life, work, and relationship skills, along with training in agriculture, sewing, and candle making. Their growing confidence and pride show the deep impact of contributing to their own future and the wider community.



Sustainability projects

Progress continues in agriculture, sewing, and candle making. Vegetable yields are up 20%, allowing some donations to those who can't afford to pay. Rug sales bring modest income, and candle making has reached breakeven. Online marketing is paving the way for growth.

Life change

- Young women recovering from drug addiction and mental health challenges now have renewed hope and confidence for the future
- They are equipped with life skills and relational tools to re-enter the workforce
- Vocational training helps women better support and care for their children
- Orphans and disadvantaged youth are provided with a safe, supportive environment to grow and learn



Donut's Story

Donut, a 14-year-old from Savannakhet, was on a troubled path—skipping school, falling in with the wrong crowd, and growing distant from her family. With her future at risk in a region known for youth exploitation, a team member from our partner organisation stepped in and brought Donut to the Centre in Vientiane.

There, Donut found safety, support, and a positive peer group. She re-engaged in school, began learning new skills, and even reconciled with her parents. Today, Donut is thriving. “I am experiencing true joy and real love after my life turned around at the centre,” she shared.



Vocational Training Centre

Thong's Story

Thong is a member of the Lantern people group in northern Laos on the border of China. She married a Chinese man and moved to China. She lived in an abusive environment for many years and finally moved back to Laos. This created considerable mental and emotional harm and Thong was found alone, sitting in darkness and despair, depressed and with no clear path forward. Since arriving at the centre, Thong has been given the correct medication and is undergoing trauma informed counselling. She is making progress and has started coming out of her shell. She is participating in activities and becoming integrated in the community. Thong now has hope for a better future.

