

2018

# **Annual Report**



#### Message from the Chairperson



For over ten years, the programmes and activities running under Help without Frontiers
Thailand Foundation have been supporting migrant children and youth living in Thailand. Year 2018 marked another year in which skilled and talented staff and volunteers contributed in managing migrant education and in passing knowledge and skills onto young leaders.

The work of Help without Frontiers is widely acknowledged in the area and its best practices have been summarised in a research paper that investigated the impact of the Rays of Youth project. In addition, Ms Siraporn Kaewsombat has been invited, in her role as Director of the organisation and expert in the field, as a speaker at the UNESCO conference organised for the launch of the report "Migration, displacement & education: Building bridges, not walls".

In this year, the financial resources of the Foundation have suffered heavy cuts and the tight budget constraints have had a significant impact on the learning centres. However, the staff, the teachers, and the volunteers have helped and provided support to address the challenges and mobilise other resources. The result was that everyone worked more and people came together for a common cause. This hard circumstance has pushed the staff to work more closely and unite with passion and joy in order to achieve the mission of a brighter future for children and youth.

On behalf of Help without Frontiers Thailand Foundation board, in my role as member of the board, I would like to express my gratitude and admiration for the staff, the teachers, the volunteers, the youth and the children. I extend my gratitude also to the parents who have worked together with us to go through tough times and accomplish our goals.

May the Holy Triple Gem and all the sacred things in the universe bless you with good health and happiness.

Oranuch Lerdkulladilok

President

#### CONTENTS & YEAR IN REVIEW

#### Contents

Message from Chairperson

Year in Review

Message from Director

Education

Rays of Youth

Child Protection

Health

Fundraising & Advocacy

The Team

**Financials** 



#### Education



2,700 Students in 14 Migrant Learning Centres



729 students in
Alternative Education
Programme

### Rays of Youth



22 Youth Leaders graduated



165 participants in anti-trafficking training

**Child Protection** 

Health





1,719 students given milk 2

#### Message from the Director



The year 2018 has been another challenging year, especially following the introduction of the new government labor policy affecting the well-being of the migrant people in the area. The target groups of our projects, namely the most in need, have been directly affected by this policy. The political developments in neighboring countries are promising and the expectations of the international community and the ones of migrants are high. However, the situation did not evolve as expected and most of the people have not decided to move back as the public and welfare systems are not ready yet. In a hope to improve the situation inside the country and welcome the migrants on their way back, many donors have adapted their strategy and increased their investment of resources inside the country. In reality, migrant people still remain at the border and as their needs increase, resources turn scarce.

In year 2018, public events and activities, such as the Concert for Education and the Run for Education, were organised in an attempt to increase the participation and trust of the local communities, raise awareness on migrant education and generate income. The success and benefits from organising such public events go beyond the income generated. Indeed, through such events, our staff has proved a great willingness and ability to engage in new challenges and find new solutions, overcoming the fear of stepping out from the comfort zone of NGO work and approach the public.

Although advocacy work does not constitute the main focus of our work, Help without Frontiers is often invited to join relevant discussions to inform policy on migrant education thanks to the extensive in-field experience acquired over the years.

In my role as Director of the organization, I was appointed as a member of the sub-committee set up in 2016 for drafting "The Manual on the Educational Management of non-Thai citizens", completed and announced by the Office of the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education, although not ready for implementation yet.

Help without Frontiers is also the first entity in Tak Province having organised trainings targeting private schools, vocational education centres and higher education institution under the Office of the Basic Education Commission (OBEC) to build the capacity of school administrators on the Education for All policy and yet develop a more positive attitude towards welcoming non-Thai children and enrolling them in Thai public schools.

In November 2018, I was given the chance to join the launch of UNESCO's Global Education Monitoring Report, focussing on "Migration, displacement & education: Building bridges, not walls". On that occasion, I had the opportunity to share our experience in providing education to transnational children living in Thailand as well as to draw some conclusions on the role that home countries and host communities and institutions play in creating integrated and recognised pathways for migrant education.

In the past, Help without Frontiers did not emphasise the importance of producing academic work or paper to gather the experience matured but rather provided in-field information when requested. With the increasing experience in the field of migrant education and as the projects and activities implemented by Help without Frontiers become ever more unique, our organisation has become the only agency with experience in certain fields. As such, the need for the codification of such knowledge and experience is emerging so that in year 2018 three important research were conducted by external consultants:

- 1.) "Strengthening Migrant Youth Leadership through Personal Well-Being and Community Compassion":
  - Mr Philip Cook and Ms Michele Cook, two Canadian researchers from the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD), conducted a research on the Rays of Youth program and produced a short document called White Paper underlining the way in which the project enhances the potential of the youth, transforms and improves their lives as well as how it builds resilience and opportunity for young people;
- 2.) Performance Monitoring Report on Myanmar Non Formal Primary Education (NFPE) and Non Formal Middle Education (NFME): Produced by Khun Kusol Phayakasak, the report summarises the lessons learned, driving forces, gaps, success and challenges of the non-formal education programs implemented by Help without Frontiers;
- 3.) Migrant Education and Health Promotion integration in the country of origin Prepared by Khun Chansuay Chanpheng, the report analyses the situation of health practices in migrant learning centres, depicting teachers as crucial factors for improving health and wellbeing of children, and includes recommendations for informing the policy of the Thai and Myanmar Ministries of Health and Education.

Following a 25% cut in the budget from the back donors, Help without Frontiers was forced to reduce the funding of the schools and uncertainty over the funding situation remains a major challenge. The teachers feel insecure about the future of their schools and fear for their own personal security as well. Some teachers are not eligible for obtaining work permits thus increasing the likelihood of being arrested by authorities. The parents of the students are mostly migrant workers and many of them have experienced or fear arrest and evacuation, and end up hiding during the breakdowns in the communities. Most of the times, children are forced to follow their parents and leave the country and drop out from school.

Year 2018 has therefore been a challenging year for the team to achieve the goals and overcome a difficult situation. I would like to express my full gratitude to all volunteers who have put their strength and skills to serve the cause of migrant education. Only with strength, we could overcome all obstacles and problems with positive energy that can be found in the beneficiaries of the projects, in children, youth, teachers, volunteers, parents and communities. Thank you to all the supporters who still see the benefits of our work and continue supporting us. Thank you to the board committee who have encouraged, listened to problems and sought solutions throughout the past period.

Thank you very much. A ray of hope,

Siraporn Kaewsombat Director

#### Education Overview

For Eva-Maria (Education Programme Manager) and the team, 2018 was both challenging,

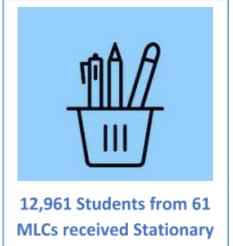
in terms of funding, with a 20% cut, and promising in terms of success in alternative education and enrolment projects.

Supported 14 Migrant Learning centres (MLC) with 2,700 students. This is one less than previous year due to the contract for emergency funding coming to an end and various issues between the head teacher and local community.

We also support four Boarding Houses with the food, supplies and carer stipend.







We ran a Teacher Orientation workshop with 146 teachers in the beginning of the school year and teachers from 16 MLC (13 from HWF) trained on Early Childhood Care & Development, in cooperation with Save the Children.

We ran trainings on Positive Discipline in four MLC, with the teachers, caregivers and parents, using a UNESCO curriculum. We also had teachers go on the following training – Mentoring; New Teacher training; Thai language as a second language.

We also supported 25 teachers being trained by the Myanmar Ministry of Education in the new Myanmar government curriculum. This allowed them to teach students to sit the Myanmar board exams. We had 140 students sat the two pre-tests and the final exam (100% passed) for 2017/18.

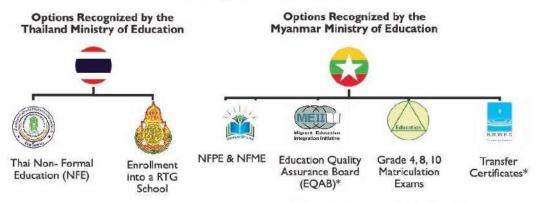
Ten of the MLCs are running their own income generation projects, such as raising chickens and growing mushrooms.

We completed financial audits in all 14 MLC with an external consultant in all 14 MLCs.

One of the successes for the year was that a previous head teacher at one of our MLCs, **Saw Lar Bar Tun**, became the Alternative Education Coordinator, having previously been an NFE manager at their township.

The Non-Formal Primary Education (NFPE) programme started in 2014 and the Non-Formal Middle Education (NFME) programme in 2017. These two programmes come under out **Alternative Education** programme, where 11 of our MLCs are participating.

## 6 Recognized Basic Educational Pathways for Migrant Children in Tak Province on the Thai-Myanmar Border



\* Recognized by State-Level Ministry of Education

Under the NFPE project, we had 729 students enrolled, and 506 sat the final exam, of which 405 passed the final exam. This is an area we have started to work more on, preparing the students for the tests and exam.

The NFME programme is usually a 3-year timetable, but we have managed to condense the learning for the 21 students, into just two years since the implementation in Thailand got a later start.

We also ran a Further Education Orientations with 353 students, who were in Grade 6 or above, on their options, including vocational.

The Enrolment Project is to assist children's pathways into Thai schools, through a community based approach. We are working on two main projects here, STEP into Education supported by IOM and REACT (Reaching Education for All Children in Thailand) in cooperation with Save the Children, and it is an



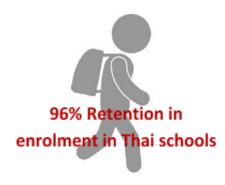
area we have become a lot more involved in, and as such our relationship with the Thai Ministry of Education has become much stronger. We organised a conference with teachers from Thai government schools in Tak Province on the rights of non-Thai children to enrol in Thai schools and what their role was in supporting them enrol. That continues this year, with visits to those schools in the five Districts around Mae Sot, to help reinforce enrolment.



Two stories of children's pathway to education can be seen in these links

<u>Thi Day Aye - 14 years old girl</u> <u>Ya Ya Kha - 14 years old boy</u>

We are supporting 547 students under REACT project with 443 of them are enrolled in Thai government schools, and the remainder are either enrolled in Myanmar government schools or a local foundation running a pathway to Thai school project. We support the children with uniforms, stationery and transport, as well as providing some teaching supplies to those Thai schools.



Under the STEP project, which looks to get Muslim children in to schools, we worked with 700 children and had a retention rate of 96% after one year.

The Education Quality Framework (EQF) looks at child protection, school management, parent involvement, student recognition and teacher quality. Working in partnership with several local partners and the Ministry of Education, we completed the third of these assessments, improving the tools and assessment methods, and assessed 51 MLCs. The overall score was 70%, up 3% from the previous year. Assessment results <a href="here">here</a>.

We also participated in a survey (International Development and Early Learning Assessment - IDELA) run by Mahidol University and Save the Children, looking at the situation facing migrant children aged 3-5 years old.

**Challenges** - an ongoing challenge is the safety and security of teachers and students to remain in Thailand. Teachers need to have ID and work permits, and we supported 86 teachers to obtain these.

Among the several challenges facing MLCs this year, one emergency we faced was the outbreak of measles in one MLC where we supported 72 students with hospital expenses, including vaccinations and nutrition.

#### RAY OF YOUTH (ROY) OVERVIEW

**Joli** (Programme Manager) has been in charge of the ROY programme since it started back in 2009, working mostly with 13-18 year olds. We will look to register in Myanmar this coming year, which will allow us to complete far more activities.

#### THAILAND PROGRAMME REVIEW

We ran a variety of campaigns and events under our **Community Awareness Raising** project. We ran a Drama workshop with the main theme being 'safe migration', with 122 youth and they then ran 15 drama projects in their schools.

We had a variety of campaigns – Children's day, Teenager Carnival, Anti-trafficking and a Thai-Myanmar Friendship festival, where the main themes covered safe migration, sexual reproductive health and gender equality. These had 1,989 participants.



We ran a National Youth day event with 375 students from MLCs. We also ran a National Youth day event with 375 students from MLCs.





We ran two Media Production workshops, one with 30 students and the other with 27 teachers, and the teachers and students in each MLC then combined to make their own film project about their learning centre.

There are 16 students working on the **Music project.** During the year be ran 16 training sessions, as well as a summer camp. The students also went out to 6 MLCs in the Phop Phra area, to teach other 57 children, basic guitar skills.

Through our **Project Collaboration** we worked together with other local partners supporting youth activities, through a network working group, which met every two months.



Twenty-two peer youth in group 3 of the Leadership Programme graduated in 2018, and they themselves trained 1,091 students in a variety of activities.

We did a study tour to Ta Aye Say village in Karen state, where the students learnt more about the issues facing the village and its community. The group also ran 4 mini projects in local MLCs, where they were able to deliver message to the students and worked well with the teachers. It was also a good learning for the youth in needing to develop skills in controlling children and limitations of time and space.

The programme also ran home visits, a summer camp, a workshop on gender issues and environmental awareness.



#### MYANMAR PROGRAMME REVIEW

A great example of the success of our Leadership Programme, is that **Lwe Paw**, a graduate of our first group on the programme, now leads the team of six staff in Myanmar.

The Community Awareness Raising programme has grown as we work in more areas, working with government and monastic schools, students from NFPE and youth aged 17-25 years old.



The change from the previous year, was before we used to run campaigns and in 2018, we used local community members to help disseminate information through theatre, tools and media. An example is through our using Drama to Communicate workshop.

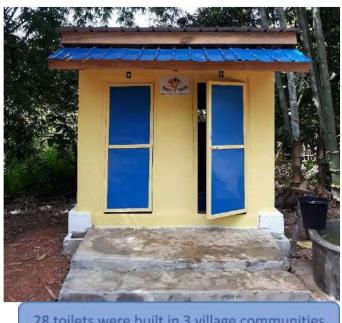


The impact of empowering the village members, is that they have been able to also manage issues, such as speaking to parents of children who want to leave school, to ensure the child finishes their education.





Through the Toilet project we have gained access into communities, especially with the



28 toilets were built in 3 village communities

leaders and committee members. It started with data collection with X communities to then involving the community to then build a toilet building appropriate for the village size and in a safe location.

Tied to this we delivered basic hygiene training to 1,273 students, nearly double the number we planned. We also conducted both a Basic Hygiene & Toilet Sanitation workshops, initially with 24 villagers who will become trainers in their own areas and then with 716 villagers. Some of the trainers were from future potential villages to work

with, to improve their participation.

The main challenge we had was that we had to delay the construction until after the end of the rainy season, as several villages flooded.

Our Project Collaboration was increased from last year to now work with partners in 5 states (Rakhine, Mon, Shan, Kayah and Karen). We facilitated two meetings with our CSO partners. As part of this work, we started to develop the modules for Youth Leadership project to be run in Myanmar.

We also ran a Safe Migration workshop with our partners – 44 participants.

#### CHILD PROTECTION REVIEW

For **Na** (Child Protection Coordinator), 2018 was a busy year of continuing to improve and reinforce the understanding of what child protection is.

The Child Safeguarding Policy was again reinforced in all HWF MLCs and training of various parts of child protection and their rights, was delivered to 234 participants (students, new teachers and some community members). A new approach was taken in 2018 to now have a Child Protection Focal Points (27 in



total) nominated and trained for each MLC. The Focal Points are also working with parents and community members.

**Teacher training** was previously delivered by HWF learning centre by learning centre. A different approach was taken to train the Focal Points to then train the rest of the teachers and staff in their MLC. This has had the effect of more teachers being involved and more cases being reported.

In September we surveyed and trained 22 students in our four **Dormitories**, who would graduate over the next few years, to advise them on their options. A follow up will be completed in early 2019 to see which choices they are considering.

We cooperated with partner organisations that provide physical, mental, social and legal assistance to affected children, as part of our Case Management for new (31) and existing (7) cases.

HWF also participated in a joint report on the Movement of Children in Mae Sot and the findings can be found (Thai version) <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>.

The main challenge this year was in the growing detention of some children by the Thai authorities and working with them to safeguard children.

#### HEALTH REVIEW

The **Nutrition** programme continued to deliver milk to 1,719 students in 14 MLCs. This was followed up with collecting data on each child's height & weight, every

semester.





The Saw Saw Programme run by Thai Public Health has focused on running school health assessments. Tuu (Health Project Coordinator) joined the committee in 2018, made up with members from Mae Tao Clinic, Suwannimit Foundation and Mae Sot General Hospital. Seven of the fifteen schools assessed were under HWF. From them, three MLCs got recognised with gold award and two with bronze.



**Sexual & Reproductive Health training** is delivered 14-18 years in six MLCs through sex education curriculum, and in communities through campaigns, run by the ROY team and 36 youth leaders, reaching 424 people.

Water tank, sanitation, hygiene products, medication and clothing provided for fifty-three students and fifteen households in Mae La Refugee camp after flood emergency situation.

Project for better life quality in older person in urban community or ForOldy Project the project focus on working with age society in improving the quality of life of the elderly in the urban community. The project working in collaboration with partner and stakeholder to promote volunteer caregiver in community to take care of valuable elderly, to enable the elderly to carry out daily life with quality and vulnerable / weak elderly people receive proper care, appropriateness and thoroughness, as well as access to various benefits from the Government. Under the motto "elegant old age Hurt comfortably, die peacefully ". The project targeting in 9 communities in slum community in BKK. The successful of the project in year 2018, able to recruited and train new 320 volunteer caregivers. The main activities are 1) Promoting the integration of the elderly in the urban community, 2) Volunteers take care of the elderly at home "Friend Friend Care", 3) Peace of mind for cremation fund, 4) Promote the activities of the elderly and volunteers to take care of the elderly, 5) Network for the elderly community in the urban / elderly power group.





#### Fundraising & Advocacy

Our new <u>website</u> was launched at the end of 2017 but is now also available in Thai and Burmese. We also continue to send out a monthly newsletter in Thai and English. <u>Facebook</u> is our main social media platform, and we are maintaining the English version. ROY also have their own Facebook pages.

We had two main 'events' this year to both raise awareness and funds – our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 'Run for Education' and a Burmese music 'Concert for Education', both held in Mae Sot.

The run was reported in several media outlets, including a national papers, <u>The Nation</u>. The Music Concert was reported in Burmese media.

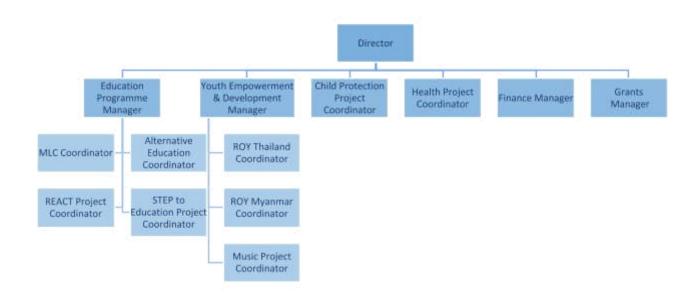
We ran online fundraising appeals for both of these, as well as for a flood in Mae La camp in June.

**Ann** (Director) was appointed to be part of the sub-committee on improving access to education for non-Thai children MoE Bangkok. Improve the manual for use in all Thai government and private schools, for all levels of education. From this, Ann ran a workshop for school directors and administrators, for schools in Tak Province on understanding of the manual.



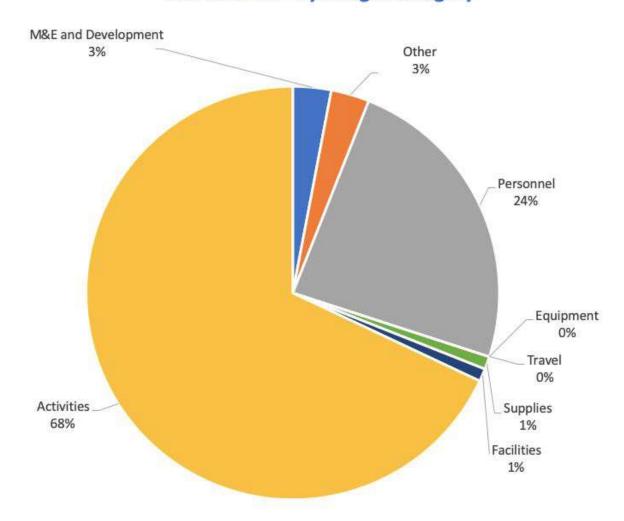
Ann gave the key-note address at the launch of the Global Education Monitoring Report Summary – 'Migrant, displacement and education: building bridges not walls'.

We also hosted a research being done by the International Institute for Child Rights and Development (IICRD), from Canada, looking at the activities of the ROY programme. The findings of the research will be published as a White Paper titled "Strengthening Migrant Youth Leadership through Personal Well-Being and Community Compassion" in 2019.

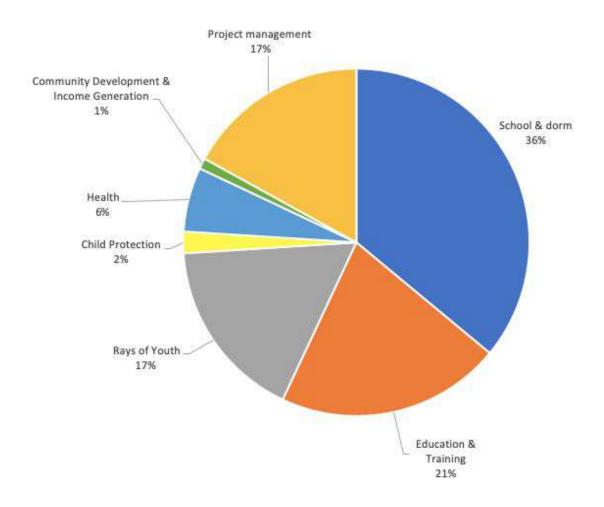


HWF Staffing Diversity					
Position	Male	Female	International	Burmese	Thai
Director / Managers	0	5	2	1	2
Coordinators	4	4		4	4
Officer	6	9		8	7
Volunteer	1	3		4	
Total	11	21	2	17	13

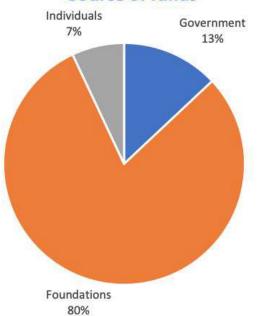
# **Use of funds - By Budget Category**



# Use of funds - By Programme







A full Statement of Activities and Accounts can be obtained by request to <a href="mailto:info@helpwithoutfrontiers.org">info@helpwithoutfrontiers.org</a>

#### Donors

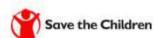
We are very appreciative of everyone who supported us, to enable us to run our various programmes. Our key donors are























Mr. Steinkeller















#### LIST OF NEWS / MEDIA

- Bangkok post/UNESCO Migrant kids get chance to blossom
- Bangkok Post/IOM A glimmer of Hope

#### MAKE A DIFFERENCI

There are many ways you can make a difference and contribute to creating a world where help can be provided to the most vulnerable and marginalised populations without discrimination, without exclusion and without borders. You can go to our <u>website</u> to see more.











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