

**Chiang Mai, Thailand** 

## 'Rights to Every Child'

Our mission is to secure the rights of vulnerable and disadvantaged children to survival, protection, development, and participation in accordance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.





Through capacity-building and sustainable programming, we ensure that community members (parents, teachers, local government officials, etc.) continue to monitor and support children in the remote areas of upper Northern Thailand long after TLSDF terminates its work, creating a lasting impact.

#### TLSDF PROGRAM AREAS

- Early Childhood Care and Development
- Child Protection
- Life Skills Based and Intercultural Education
- Elimination of Physical and Humiliating Punishment
- Cardiac Health
- Children's Involvement in Promotion of Child Rights
- Enhancement of ServicesAvailable to Migrant Workers



### **ECCD PROJECT LOCATION**



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- Pai and Pang Mapha Districts
  - Home to 7 indigenous and ethnic minority groups: Shan, Pa'o, Lisu, Red and Black Lahu, Hmong, and Karen
  - Small, rural, hard-to-reach villages
  - Primary occupation: farming
  - High rates of poverty, HIV/AIDS, statelessness
  - High rates of malnutrition, tooth decay
  - Many children not attending day care
  - Limited training for day caregivers & kindergarten teachers
  - Parents have limited access to scientific knowledge of child rearing and development

### PROJECT APPROACH

- Holistic ECCD program based on community collaboration
- Three levels
  - 1) Community: Parenting Volunteers
  - 2) School: Day Caregivers & Kindergarten Teachers
  - 3) Government: Local Government Officials





# COMMUNITY: PARENTING VOLUNTEERS

- Experts on their communities
- Parenting volunteers trained on holistic child development, child rights, pre- and post-natal care, nutrition, dental hygiene, & educating fellow parents
- Visit homes of pregnant mothers and children 0 6 years old
- Identify children needing further support







# SCHOOL: DAY CAREGIVERS & KINDERGARTEN TEACHERS

- Day caregiver and kindergarten teacher training on child rights, development, & experiential learning techniques
- Child-friendly renovations to day cares and kindergarten classrooms
- Establishing new day cares & hand over to local government







## GOVERNMENT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

- Closely collaborate with the government at each stage
- Advocate for the importance of ECCD
- Work towards sustainability







### **OUTCOMES**

- Parents more aware of the importance of pre- and postnatal care, parental supervision, and supporting child development
- Children able to attend day care
- Increased quality of care at day care and kindergartens, and better facilities

Year	Children 0-2	Children 2-4	Children 4-6	Total
2005 - 2007	412	503	535	1,450
2008 - 2010	449	457	420	1,326
2011 - 2013	462	415	423	1,300
2014 - 2016	653	366	359	1,378
Total	1,698	1,690	1,686	5,454

### **OUTCOMES**

- Long-term change
  - Passionate parenting volunteers, day caregivers& kindergarten teachers
  - More knowledgeable parents
  - Local governments embrace ECCD









### LESSONS LEARNED

- It is sometimes necessary to respectfully push back against cultural traditions
- Training on self-esteem, teamwork and teaching strategies important for volunteers
- Collaborating with local governments is hard and slow, but important
- Biggest challenge:
  Collaboration with local governments



### **QUESTIONS?**





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