



**Foundation for
Education and
Development**



Annual Report 2010

IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT...



Letter from Executive Director	1
Mission Statement	3
Background	4
Who we are	5
10 years of FED	6
Our Work in Education	7
Our Work in Migrant Development	13
Our Work in Health	18
Our Work in Women Empowerment	24
Children's Rights Program	29
IIC Moken Project	30
Peace Building	31
Temporary Shelter	32
FED Volunteers	33
Development Director's Report	35

LETTER FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

It has been 10 years since the formation of the Foundation for Education and Development (FED); this past year has been one of many important milestones for FED. The intense and emotional debate on migration currently being waged is having a great influence on what we are trying to accomplish. We have seen instances where anti-migrant backlash has led to situations of increased abuse and suppression to the Burmese migrant community.

- The use of lethal force by the various Thai authorities (police, border police, army) against undocumented migrants;
- Human rights violations against migrants deported from Thailand to Myanmar;
- The government's crackdown order to suppress, arrest and prosecute migrant workers;
- In addition to the already drastic cases of human rights violation faced by the Burmese migrant community.

In this environment, FED has balanced the need to respond and act on the above issues as well as provide unprecedented services to the Burmese community. On the latter front, in 2011 through the tremendous effort by both staff and volunteers, FED's accomplishments include but are not limited to the following:

- Provided education opportunities and health care to 595 children of migrant workers;
- Enabled the integration of 45 Burmese children into Thai schools.
- Raised awareness among migrant communities in 9 districts.
- Provided medical care for migrant communities in 9 districts.
- Provided 301 migrants with legal assistance.
- 206 community leaders and migrant communities in 9 districts received human rights education.
- Assisted over 20,000 migrants with work permits and the National Verification Process.
- Carried out women's empowerment activities and migrant development projects.

It has been a great year full of both rewarding achievement as well as some considerable difficulties. Due to a massive slump in the value of the Euro and the dollar in 2010, which coincided with a strengthening of the Thai Baht, we experienced massive unexpected exchange rate loss, which impacted our ability to properly run the projected activities in all our programs. As a result of this exchange loss, we were forced to decrease 5% of our organizational budget. In Addition, FED realizes that as funding for NGOs across the board is being reduced, it is vital to explore other sources of financing. With this in mind, several internal developments at FED will help work towards this goal:

- Hired a Development Officer;
- Successfully transitioned key staff;
- Developed a strategic fundraising plan for 2011 - 2013
- Planning a high profile, signature fundraising event.

We have faced these financial losses with some concern but are confident that with thorough and strategic planning, we will overcome this and secure the funding needed to continue providing the much needed services by the Burmese migrant community in Thailand.

As you can see, 2010 was a successful and eventful year. I am pleased to be able to present you all with our successes and where we need to be going forward. On behalf of the Board of Directors, our staff and the Burmese community I would like to thank our supporters who have enable us to achieve so much this last year, and to extend a warm welcome to those who are reading about our work for the first time. Thank you for your support and I look forward to having an even more fruitful 2011.

Sincerely,

Htoo Chit
Executive Director



French Ambassador to Thailand awarded special mention to FED of the French Republic's Human Rights Prize 2010. Presenting the award he said FED was *'one of the most outstanding NGO's in the world.'*



Mission Statement

To provide a safe and equitable environment for underprivileged workers, whilst promoting education and development opportunities for children and adults.





BACKGROUND

On 26th December 2004 a Tsunami wave destroyed thousands of lives along the coastal region of Southern Thailand. The disaster took human lives indiscriminately, killing people of many races, color and religion. However, despite all the negative consequences, like seeing the light of a candle when all around is darkness, the Tsunami has brought about one positive consequence.

Long before the Tsunami focused so much attention and compassion to this part of the world, Burmese men, women and children were fleeing the persecution and repression in their homeland and seeking safety and economic opportunities in Thailand. Decades of misgovernance and violent conflicts have resulted in poor educational facilities, a weak health care system, underdeveloped infrastructure and a faltering economy. For ordinary citizens it has become increasingly difficult to make ends meet and to provide a safe, stable environment for one's family.

While the Burmese government's expenditure on defense is around 20 percent of the national budget, less than 7 percent is allocated to health, education and social welfare combined. (4.57 percent to the Ministry of Education, 1.31 percent to the Ministry of Health and 0.26 percent to the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement). Current government spending in education, as a share of national income is among the lowest in the world.



WHO WE ARE

The Foundation for Education and Development (FED) was founded in 2000 in Sankalaburi, Kanchanaburi province under the name Grassroots Human Rights Education & Development (GHRE). Soon after the 2004 Tsunami the organization relocated to Phang Nga province to offer emergency assistance to Tsunami-affected Burmese migrants whose needs had been largely ignored by the Thai government and NGO's. Since then FED has been addressing the long term needs of marginalized Burmese migrant workers and their families, they have worked towards building trust among the disaffected Burmese community. Our staff members work very closely with several Burmese communities living in rubber plantations or fisheries so we never lose sight of issues that are directly affecting them on a day-to-day basis. Our staff members are predominately of Burmese origin and have come to Thailand through similar circumstances, this has enable FED to reach the migrant population on a more personal and intimate level, something larger NGOs are able to do.

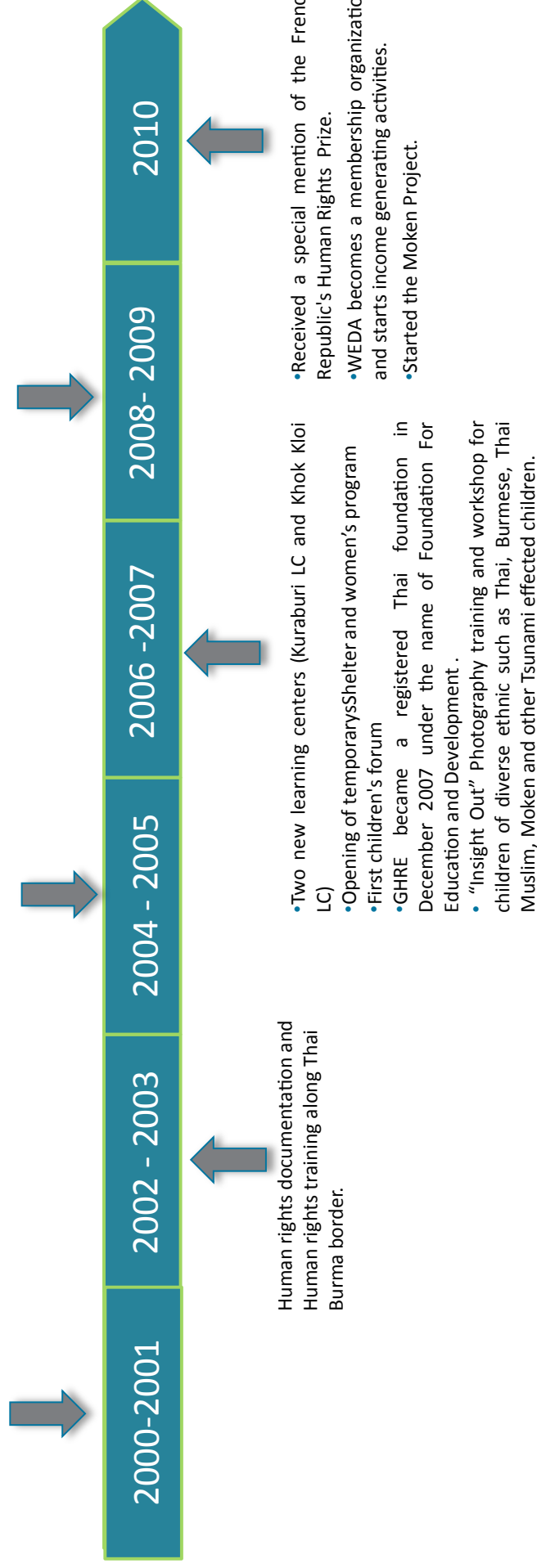
We aim to achieve our mission statement by carrying out the following 7 objectives;

- Provide education to the children of Burmese migrant workers in southern Thailand.
- Promoting job opportunities and foster a safe and lawful environment for Burmese migrant workers in Southern Thailand.
- Provide migrant children with a safe and happy environment.
- Build bridges between Thai and Burmese communities.
- Bring justice and social security to Burmese migrant workers in Southern Thailand
- Educate Burmese migrant communities on Human Rights, Economic, Social and Culture Rights.
- Empower Burmese migrant women to improve their situation.

Following the initial period of disaster relief, FED continues to work with these communities, shifting its focus and expanding the scope of operations to look at the wider and long term challenges faced by migrants in Phang Nga Province. The long term goal to this day remains changing the hopes and realistic prospects for thousands of Burmese workers and their families—hopes for a future free from illiteracy, poverty, instability and fear. As with so many populations of displaced peoples around the globe, the real impact of FED's work will be felt mostly by future generations.

10 Years Working for the Burmese Migrant Community

- GHRE was established in Kanchanaburi Province on December 10th 2000. Human rights documentation and Human rights training along Thai Burma border.
- On December 29th 2004 GHRE moved its offices Phang Nga Province to provide emergency relief to Burmese migrants after the Tsunami.
- Opening of 3 Learning Centers (Ban Nieng LC, Pakarang LC and Parkweep LC) with 150 children.
- Started Operations of 2 nurseries.
- Migrant Development, Peace building, Legal Aid , Health Programs are created.
- E.D. Htoo Chit is selected as Ashoka Fellow as well as a member of the steering committee in the Mekong Migration Network.
- 50 children from Ban Wan Mobile LC integrated to Ban Wan Thai School.
- Opening of Youth Outreach Program.
- FED performs human rights monitoring and emergency aid response in Cyclone Nargis affected area.
- Started the Migrant Radio program in Burmese.
- Mae Sot office opens



EDUCATION



OUR COMMITMENT ...

- Provide a structured education to children of Burmese migrant workers in Southern Thailand.
- Advocate the integration of Burmese children to Thai schools to gain them a recognized standard of education and qualifications.
- To provide a safe environment for children so they do not have to work and so their parents are free to work.

OUR WORK IN EDUCATION

"Education is a human right with immense power to transform. On its foundation rest the cornerstones of freedom, democracy and sustainable human development." (Kofi Annan)



The Issue...

Access to education for the children of Burmese migrant workers in Southern Thailand is very difficult for a number of reasons: such as poverty, inability to speak the Thai language, fear of discrimination and a very basic educational level. Despite the governmental policy that states that all children have the right to education in Thailand, it is very difficult for Burmese children to attend school in Southern Thailand. The principal reason is that many Burmese children are unable to read or write in Thai, so they cannot keep up with the lessons at school. Another obstacle is that legal Burmese migrants are unaware of the fact their children can attend school. Thai schools also fail to reach out to Burmese communities due to the language barrier and lack of resources. In addition, migrants usually are unable to afford the school tuition fees, transportation fees, uniform costs and other continuous costs.





Commitment to Action...

As the need for emergency relief began to subside, FED turned their attention to the longer term needs of Burmese migrants in South Thailand. FED realized that before the Tsunami Burmese children had not attended any kind of educational facilities. Discrimination, unaffordable school and uniform fees, lack of transportation, general low levels of education and a lack of ability in the Thai language prevented migrant children from attending Thai schools, and there were no migrant learning centers in the area. Instead, children worked as child laborers or wasted their day playing in dangerous work sites such as rubber plantations, construction sites and fisheries. Parents were unable to supervise their children properly while they worked and there were no alternative safe space for the children to play or study.

Results...

Learning Centers

In 2010, FED operated **8** learning centers for migrant children in the coastal areas of Khuraburi District, Takua Pa District, Khok Kloi and Thai Muang District in Phang Nga Province in southern Thailand. In 2010, these eight centers provided education for **486** students. The school curriculum followed the standard Burmese curriculum for Burmese, mathematics, and social studies. A new English language curriculum was introduced in 2010 to our learning centers as well. It is a much more child friendly and interactive curriculum. In addition, students learn at least one hour of Thai language every day.

Nurseries

In 2010 FED operated **2** nurseries for **83** children up to 5 years old. The children played and learned essential socializing skills in a safe and clean environment, under the constant supervision of qualified staff that have been trained in Child rights and child protection. The FED nursery project prepares the young children for entering into more formal education at our learning centers or in Burma. The nursery children are taught the Thai, Burmese and English alphabets and are involved in activities designed to stimulate the development of the children's and social capacities. The children also grow accustomed to discipline and institutional education.

Youth Outreach

The Youth Outreach provided **22** of our brightest and most determined students who have graduated from our learning centers aged 12-13, with an opportunity to continue their studies for 3 more years to a higher level than that which is provided at FED learning centers. The students continue to study English, Thai, Burmese, math and social sciences and continue to study some of the Burmese curriculum however, they are also introduced to a range of new and more in depth topics.

School Integration

As part of a concerted effort to facilitate the integration of Burmese children to Thai schools, FED acts as a liaison among Burmese communities, Thai schools, the Thai Ministry of Education, and other organizations such as UNICEF. In 2010, FED assisted the integration of **45** children to **5** Thai schools. In addition, FED continued to monitor the progress of **40** previously integrated. All **85** of these students also attend after-school Burmese classes, provided by FED, in order to further develop their ability to read and write in Burmese language.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

Annika Linden
Foundation.

Khao Lak Community
Appeal.

Oxfam Novib

Hussman Foundation

Euro Burma Office

ChildTRAC

Art Action

Save the Children UK

Wicked Diving

Andaman Discoveries

Global Giving

Act Now Children's Fund

American School of The
Hague (ASH)

Fun4kids

- Student elections were held in 2010 as in previous years at each learning center to model the processes of democracy and freedom. Two children from each Learning Center were elected to the children's forum. Each month the elected gathered to speak on behalf of the children of the Learning Center they represent, while gaining leadership skills. At the forum each representative can report and discuss the needs of the school and any issues that the students may have. During this forum, the representatives learn how to solve the problems, the weaknesses/strengths of learning in their school, and share information with each other through activities or games. Someday these Burmese children will return to Myanmar, and they will have the necessary skills to improve their communities.
- During the school holidays, FED organized for 22 students between the ages of 8 to 13 from all Learning Centers to join in computer training for five (5) days. FED taught a basic computer course, typing methods, painting and introduction to the Internet from 9:00 AM to 15:00 PM. They practiced/applied what they learned for the whole day from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. The training was conducted by two trainers and one assistant trainer.
- FED has always viewed education as intertwined with human rights. We work to defend human rights for everyone in the community. Our child protection program monitors the welfare of children living in difficult situations. We assign a case manager to monitor the child, ensure their access to health care, and to counsel parents and the community on how best to improve the child's situation. In 2010, FED's Child Protection team monitored 15 cases. Currently, 8 children living in Htokemein, in a special house for children who are orphans or cannot live with their families for various reason.



FED EDUCATES ...

Sports Enthusiasts...

FED organized a sports day and gave awards to Burmese migrant students from the school integration program at Thai government schools, who were honored for their excellence among all district peers. On that day, the students from eight learning centers and 3 Thai government schools (about 250 students) participated in eight categories of competitions.

Environmentalists ...

On November 29th, 22 Youth Outreach students joined Thai local authorities to preserve the environment and to plant different types of trees and plants in honor of the King's Birthday. These activities took place at Kho Kho Kao Island, Ban Nam Kham sub district and Takuapa district. The students joined a movement headed by Thai locals to protect a beautifully forested watershed from logging.

Health Conscious Individuals...

Two days per month are dedicated in all learning centers to health education and training. The aim is to stimulate cleanliness increase general health knowledge and to provide guidance with regards to matters of personal hygiene and self medication.

From the Youth Outreach Program:

The first youth-centered secondary learning institution for Burmese migrant youth in southern Thailand is in its third year. The senior class is moving into its third and final year, and the Juniors into their second. The 2010-2011 academic year saw 22 of 25 Burmese migrant youth between the ages of 13 and 19 demonstrate satisfactory to excellent progress in their studies. Youth Outreach students and teachers build upon foundations in Thai, Burmese, English languages, and mathematics begun in the learning centers. Additionally, lesson on the scientific method, social sciences, information technology, democracy, and the human-environment relationship were issues critically engaged in and through real world observation and application.

Flexible and individualized teaching benefits Youth Outreach students. Students and teachers establish goals and criteria for desired student outcomes with a high degree of student input. Assessment is thus a form of self awareness, which motivates students. Formal exams were given regularly by teachers insofar as they instill a degree of self discipline, study habits, and test-taking skills. They have proven limited in assessing all forms of intelligence and learner types in teaching and curricula that must be adaptive to tradition, culture, and the individual talent.

The establishment of a culture of learning is important to many migrants and also to many Thais and authorities. This belief from the larger community is, to FED and Youth Outreach, reflective of good "outreach", indeed. Students and communities identify with YO as an institution, and value their school deeply. It's remarkable how this new school's contributors thus far have set in motion sustainable and positive social changes in the greater society here in Phang Nga and beyond.



FED's drive for providing an education to Burmese migrants is so that education can be used as a tool to break the cycle of poverty that afflicts these children and their parents. Most of the families of migrant children have themselves received little or no education, and as such, it is extremely difficult for them to find any work other than low paid, unskilled labor/jobs. The jobs that migrants tend to do in Thailand are referred to as the 3 D's; Dirty, Dangerous, and Difficult. These worksites usually include rubber plantations, construction sites, fisheries and sawmills. Providing a learning space for the children not only improves their future prospects, but it also keeps them safe from harm by removing them from dangerous worksite environments. This also offers peace of mind to busy working parents.

Without education this cycle of poverty will continue. Providing Burmese migrant children with an education also means that the time at which they enter the labor force is delayed, and when they do begin to work, we hope that a good education will provide them with the skills to demand better job opportunities and a decent living wage.

Transportation

Students receive free transportation services to and from school. 95% of the students require pick up and drop off from the learning to their houses and vice versa. The Students live in remote areas due to their parent's employment and would not be able to get to school on their own. Most of them are from the rubber plantations, construction sites, and fisheries.

Nutrition

The provision of food for the lunch and nutrition program was initiated in the 2 nursery schools to enrich the health of the children. This effort was done with the assistance of Act Now (FEE), Child-Trac and The Annika Linden Foundation (ALF)



MIGRANT DEVELOPMENT



OUR COMMITMENT ...

- To advocate and promote Economic, Social and Culture Rights (ESCR) of Thai and Burmese migrants communities living in Thailand.
- To raise public awareness of Human Rights and Economic, Social and Culture Rights through educational outreach and workshops among migrants worker communities.
- To strengthen mutual understanding and support among Thai and Burmese communities.
- To support emergency relief for migrant workers in the period of claiming their ESCR rights from employers.
- To empower migrant communities to lead and organize themselves effectively.
- To increase knowledge and understanding among migrants about labor laws and rights.

OUR WORK IN MIGRANT DEVELOPMENT

*"Please use your freedom to promote ours."
Aung San Suu Kyi*



The Issue...

According to the IOM there are an estimated 2 million Burmese migrants in Thailand, and an estimated 157,000 of them currently in Thailand have been trafficked. Those migrants who have reached Thailand without being trafficked are also in a highly vulnerable position. Around 80% of all migrants in Thailand are Burmese and most of them remain undocumented 'illegal' workers. As a result of their desperate financial situation and illegal status, it is not uncommon for employers to exploit their workers by paying them lower than the minimum wage, holding back payment, and forcing them to work long hours, often in very unsafe working conditions. Employers have also been known to willingly use child labor. Female workers, particularly domestic servants who are isolated and difficult to reach, are also extremely vulnerable to sexually motivated attacks and rape. Many migrants both male and female have also experienced discrimination and racially motivated violence or attempted murder, which has on occasion been proven to be instigated by their employers. Migrant, human, and labor rights are being abused on a daily basis, but too often 'illegal' migrants are too scared to seek help -- help which is almost impossible for them to access.



Commitment to Action...

FED recognizes that it is not enough to simply work to change the hearts and minds of employers and government policy makers. Until migrants own and manage their own systems of protection and welfare they will not be able to demand justice and change for themselves and will either leave rights abuses to go unreported and unpunished, or they will depend upon NGOs for assistance. Migrant workers will rarely turn to the Thai authorities or institutions, despite the fact that they often in a better position to help immediately.

In order to address the abuse issues, the Burmese migrant community needs outreach and education. Migrants cannot exercise rights that they do not know they possess. Building capacity among migrant communities is essential in empowering them to sow the seed for positive change. Empowering migrants with skills, improved leadership, and organization will allow them to have a more active and vocal role in the decision-making processes affecting them.

Results...

Emergency Assistance

In 2010 our emergency assistance offered **609** migrants a “safety net” and supported **69** with other emergencies they face in their daily lives. Migrants are often victims of rape, violent vigilante attacks, domestic violence and labor rights violations. The Emergency Assistance Project provides assistance to migrants who cannot access Thai services during sickness and unemployment; in 2010 we provided the following assistance:

60 migrants received funds for funeral expenses

216 migrants received assistance with food.

24 migrants received legal aid assistance due to labor rights issues.

84 migrants received transportation services.

Legal Aid

The legal aid project provided legal advice and representation to **20,556**, negotiated with employers on behalf of affected labor rights victims and provided basic legal aid to migrants. Additionally, the legal aid project provided training to communities on information-gathering. This training capacitated volunteers in different migrant communities on how to gather legal evidence necessary for a legal case and how to conduct interviews with witnesses. In addition to legal advice, FED staff offered migrants other support in the form of:

240 received translation services to overcome language barriers.

15 migrants were able to maintain contact with their family members inside Burma.

126 migrant workers requested assistance from the Legal Clinics

170 migrants sought legal advice from our legal aid team members.

5 migrants who received legal aid and advocacy in national renown cases. (see details on next page)

20,000 migrants received assistance in processing their Work Permit and National Verification Process.

Throughout the year FED Hotline received 90 phone calls per month from the different migrant worker communities.

PARTNERS IN MIGRANT DEVELOPMENT

CCFD - Terre Solidaire -
Comité Catholique
Contre Le Faim Et Pour
Le Developpement

American Friends Service
Committee

Open Society Institute

Terre Des Hommes -
France



Legal and Advocacy Case 1

The shooting at a military check-point of a truck transporting undocumented Burmese migrant workers. Three Burmese workers, including two children, died on the spot and seven Burmese were injured and hospitalized. FED immediately reported the case to the National Human Right Commission and other Human Right organizations in Bangkok. FED and partner organizations collectively lobbied to the government and this way managed to get compensation for the victims and injured Burmese workers because the act of the soldiers was recognized as extra-judiciary killing.

Legal and Advocacy Case 1

Two sisters of Burmese workers drowned while the police was conducting a crackdown on a Burmese migrant community in Phuket. The legal aid team from FED collected first-hand information from community members, eye-witnessed, and relatives of the victims. FED analyzed and consolidated this information and wrote an initial report. It was then sent to the National Human Right Commission (NHRC) and MAP Foundation, which is working for legal affair of Burmese migrant workers and based in Chiang Mai, northern Thailand. The NHRC legal team and MAP foundation in partnership with FED legal team sent a formal request letter to Phuket Hospital and Police Station in order to follow the case and to bring the perpetrators to the court. The case could not be prosecuted in court, nonetheless NHRC made some recommendations for the government on their annual report citing this case as precedent.

Other Activities...

During 2010 FED organized training sessions in different migrant communities to increase their self-help capacity and organizational skills. Trainings focused on 4 themes: Labor laws, rights and trade unions; Leadership and Community organizing.

- **131** migrant community leaders attended the Thai Labor Laws Training. The training focused on empowering migrants to improve their working conditions through increased awareness and understanding of Thai labor laws, labor rights and the role that workers associations and trade unions can play in achieving improved working conditions.
- **160** migrants attended the Leadership Training. This training provided a space for networking at the same time that participants were able to improve existing leadership skills in order to become more effective in leading and managing the issues of their community.
- **75** migrants attended the Community Organizing Training. Participants gained skills in basic ESC rights, different methods to rally their community members into mass action and increase community participation, methods and techniques of communication and basic community management skills.



FED's Migrant Development program focused in the Phang Nga and Mae Sot areas, targeting different segment of migrant communities women, youth, community leaders, and community activists amongst others. The Project activities empower and encourage migrant communities to reflect on their rights and explore how they may enjoy greater realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR) while living in Thailand. The project seeks to educate, organize, and mobilize migrant communities living in Thailand around ESCR issues. Unique to FED's goals, is our intent to strengthen migrant communities not only internally, but externally as well, building and encouraging positive engagement with Thai civil society along the way.

Due to the importance for migrants to have an avenue to exercise their social and cultural rights, without fear of arrest or harassment, FED facilitated trainings in Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR). These training focused on increasing awareness of ESCR among the Burmese communities.

90 Thai NGO workers attended ESCR Trainings.

947 individuals received ESCR community training; 857 Burmese migrant workers and 90 Thai workers were trained in ESCR.

15 migrants received Advanced/TOT ESCR training.

Radio

FED continued operating the FM radio broadcasting service two times a week. In 2010, we were on the air for a total of 96 hours. Every Saturday and Sunday the FED broadcast covers subjects such as but not limited to:

- Labor Rights.
- Gender issues.
- Human trafficking.
- Thai migrant policies.
- Rights and responsibilities of migrants.
- Education
- Natural Disaster preparedness.
- Work permit and national registration.
- Health education
- Fed Activities.



HEALTH

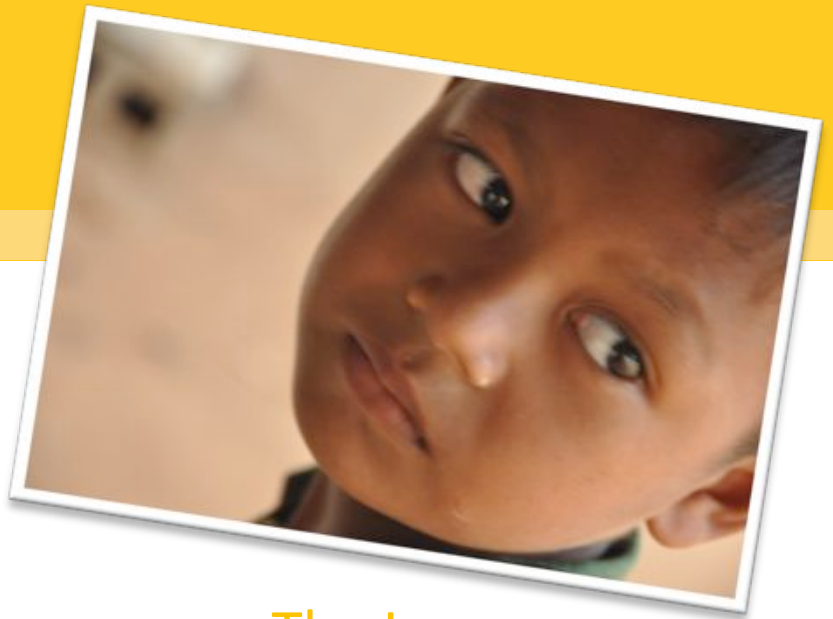


OUR COMMITMENT ...

- To provide health checkups at learning centers and nurseries as well as in Burmese migrant communities.
- To provide health education once a week to students at learning centers and nurseries operated by FED.
- To run health education workshops for the staff and teachers at learning centers and nurseries as well as with community members.
- To provide health education amongst family members of the students and migrant communities visited by mobile teaching groups.
- To provide emergency medical assistance to the students at the learning centers and nurseries as well as to Burmese communities.
- To provide family planning and pre natal education to pregnant migrant women.

OUR WORK IN HEALTH

"If access to health care is considered a human right, who is considered human enough to have that right?" Paul Farmer



The Issue...

Access to health care is a major concern for Burmese migrant workers in Thailand. Although there are some systems in place to help registered migrants gain access to the country's health care system, those who are undocumented or who live in isolated areas depend on FED and other NGOs, whose healthcare teams are already stretched thin.

The rate of mortality from preventable and treatable diseases (such as Dengue fever, malaria, TB) among the migrant population is substantially higher than that for the rest of the Thai population. The FED health team is also often called to assist migrants who have been injured at work. Chemical burns, lacerations, and broken bones caused by accidents on construction sites are all common. Recently, there has been a spate of attacks on Burmese people, including knife attacks, beatings and rape. In addition, HIV infections are increasing among the migrant population in Thailand. People living with HIV/AIDS are often unaware of their status until they become very ill.





Results...

In the Community...

Medical Assistance...

Medical emergencies occur commonly at schools, nurseries, in the communities and in the workplace. In 2010 FED provided first aid to **1394** migrants with minor injuries. In serious cases **68** FED provided emergency transportation/referral to one of the local hospitals. In **6** cases migrants were financially assisted in special cases, for which they were not able to cover the full cost of their treatment. **40** migrants were fully assisted by FED in Takua Pa, Bang Sai, Phang Nga and Thai Muang Hospitals. They received advocacy, interpretation, assistance with health card registration, and with other specific situations requiring communication and representation for Burmese migrants before the Thai hospital staff.

Training...

With a firm focus on education, our health team conducted training sessions with many groups of migrants on health and safety training and first aid training. In addition, In order to provide health care for the migrant workers at any time, health workers have been trained by FED medic, Dr Thiha Mg, Khin Nyo Lin, Aye Ho, two employees from the Thai Government local clinic and the Ban Nang Khem Disaster Management Team. The training lasted one month. **14** basic health workers successfully completed the course. The training was aimed at training community leaders to be able to disseminate more accurate knowledge among communities, where health issues are not well known.

FED also provided health education, disease prevention, personal hygiene and first aid training to **200** communities to **2021** migrants. These communities included migrants living in rubber plantations, fisheries, construction sites and sawmills. There are many accidents that happen at these worksites due to poor safety standards. Often the injuries are minor but without proper care these injuries can quickly become more serious, affecting the migrants ability to work and earn a living. Many are too afraid to access healthcare and for minor injuries they often do not believe that seeking help is necessary. As a result, FED provided first aid training in many of the most dangerous worksites, such as construction sites and saw mills, as well as provided First Aid kits.

Commitment to Action...

FED's dedicated team of health workers supports the migrant community within the limits of its resources and skill. The team is always "on call" to assist migrants and provide long term care to those with chronic health problems such as TB and HIV. The medics provide monthly health checks to all students at the Learning Centers and nurseries. They work alongside staff from MSF at Takuapa Hospital to track and help finance hospitalizations for migrant workers when they do occur. They also disseminate information to local migrant populations on health, hygiene and disease prevention.

The FED resident medic conducts community trainings on first aid, personal hygiene, anatomy, reproductive health, family planning and the proper use of condoms.

PARTNERS IN HEALTH

Annika Linden
Foundation.

Khao Lak Community
Appeal.

American Jewish World
Services.

Japanese Volunteer
Center

Our Learning Centers...

In 2010, our health team provided health education and health check ups twice a month for all our learning centre students. **676** children received periodical Medical Checkups at the Learning Centers. Our check-ups revealed the following main health issues among migrant children:

- Dental caries are among the most pervasive health problems
- Upper respiratory illness.
- Signs of malnutrition.
- Skin infections: rashes, worms, fungus infection, and eczema.

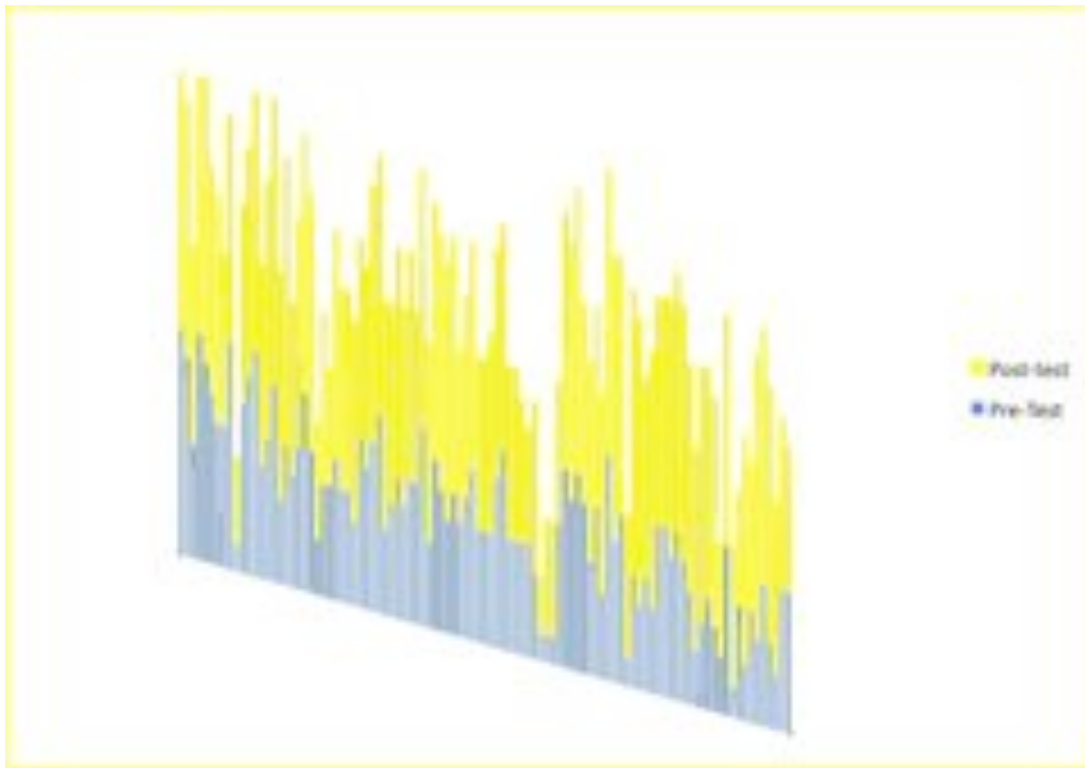
In 2010, FED supplied each learning center with first aid medical kits, each kit contained medicines and supplies to treat minor injuries and illnesses for the entire year, including pain medications, antibiotics and first aid items.

In 2010, the Health team created and systematized a computer program that contains a medical record for each student in our learning centers. These records include but are not limited to: demographics and personal circumstances of each patient, prior diseases, sickness and growth landmarks as well as allergies, immunization history and preferences. As a result of this system we are able assess the information collected through our health checkups. The Impact of the health check-ups and first aid programs on the health of children enrolled at the learning centers and nurseries, as reflected in data drawn from children's medical records. In addition the health team had started to monitor pre and post test scores of the personal and dental hygiene classes.

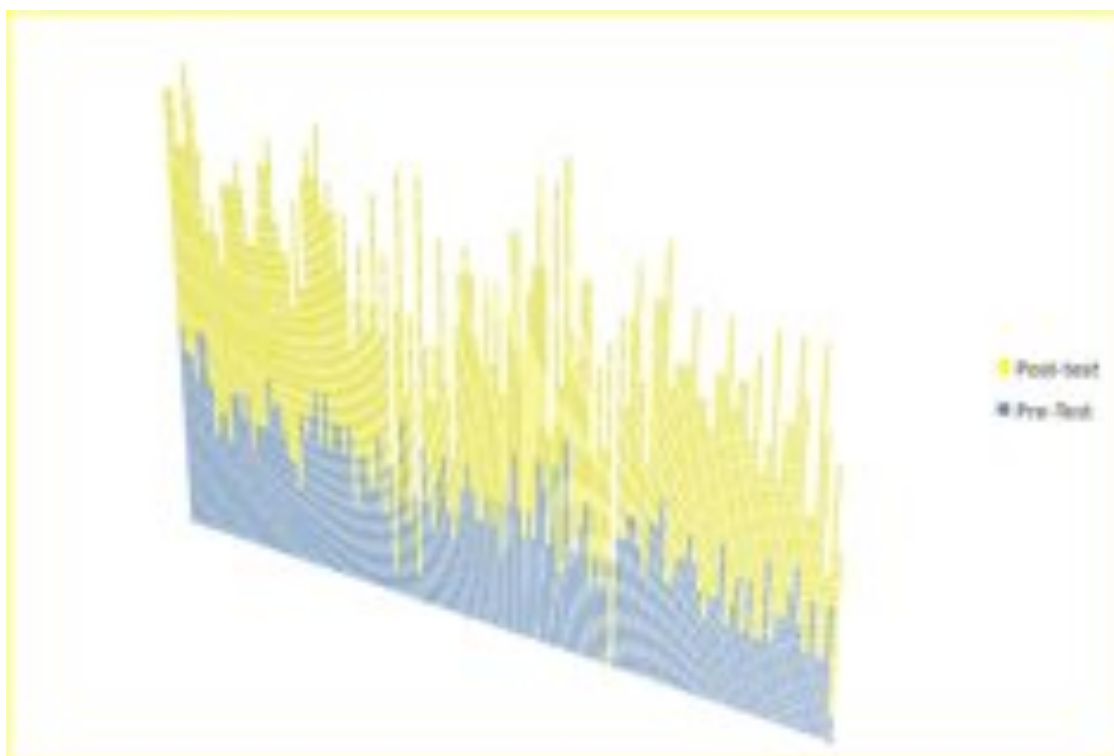


The health team provided training to the students at the 9 learning centers. Each learning center received one education session every 2 weeks. The ages of these students range from 5 -16. The topics were diverse each session and after the sessions, the health team conducted an evaluation of the students' improvement with pre - and post training tests.

Pre and Post Test Results of Personal Hygiene Classes



Pre and Post Test Results of Dental Hygiene Classes





Since 2005, the Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has been addressing the short and long term health needs of Burmese migrant families in Phang Nga province. Most Burmese migrants are afraid to go to Thai hospitals or clinics for fear of discrimination, sub-standard care, arrest and deportation. For others, it is simply not financially feasible. The vast majority of migrants do not get regular health-checkups and some do not even go to the hospital in life threatening situations. In order to combat these problems, FED has created a comprehensive health program that runs a number of projects striving to answer to the needs of the Burmese community. These efforts are not completely responding to the vast need; it is for this reason that FED plans to expand its efforts to reach, assist and educate a greater percentage of the migrant population as to their legal rights concerning health care and important medical issues such as vaccinations, women's health, STD's.

Other Activities

FED also educated teachers and parents at the learning centers regarding health topics appropriate for school children during monthly teacher meetings and twice a term parents' meetings. Some of the topics included dental hygiene, personal hygiene, disease prevention and first aid.

HIV/AIDS patients and other community members attended 2 training sessions aiming to increase their knowledge about different communicable diseases in relation with HIV/AIDS infection as well as methods for prevention of the virus.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION



OUR COMMITMENT ...

- To provide assistance to Burmese migrant women in the Phang Nga region in becoming more financially self-reliant.
- To assist the empowerment of Burmese migrant woman by providing the means for greater stability and a safer means of income.
- To assist community development by giving community members the means to earn an income and decide how profits are spent between their respective community and families.

OUR WORK IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

"The empowerment process encompasses several mutually reinforcing components but begins with and supported by economic independence". (Ranjana Kumari)



The Issue...

Many women left Burma following their husbands to escape extreme poverty, civil wars and human rights abuses in their country. The countrywide economic crisis has driven women and girls throughout Burma into migrant labor. They come looking for work in Thailand, with the aim to send money back to Burma to support their parents and children who may still live there. Yet once in Thailand, most of the women cannot work legally and the only jobs they can have access to involve unsafe and hazardous conditions.

A lot of Burmese migrant women are unaware of their rights and lack crucial information on the services they could have access to. Their vulnerabilities are twofold, first as migrants and then as women. As most of them don't speak the Thai language, their employers or the people they turn to for help can easily abuse them. In addition, as women, they face even greater challenges than male migrant workers. They are generally paid less than men and more vulnerable to domestic violence, sexual exploitation, and trafficking.

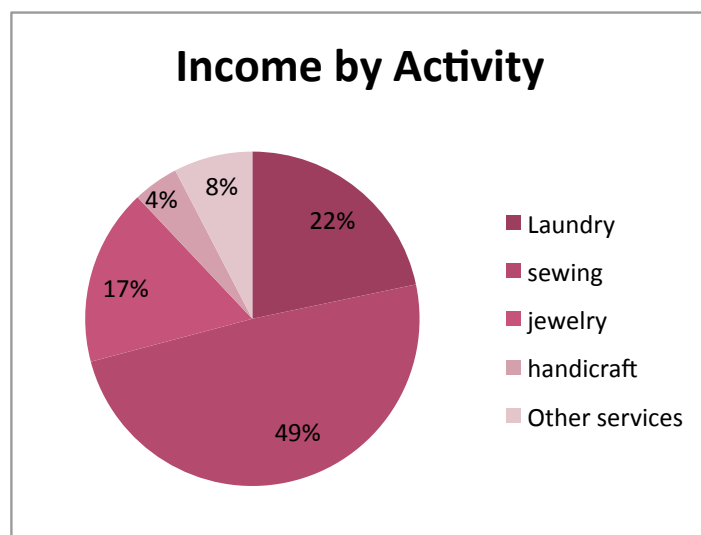
Commitment to Action...



In 2006, FED established the Women's Empowerment and Development Association (WEDA). WEDA has become a focal point among the Burmese women of the area, offering counsel and support and organizing different activities to promote women's empowerment. WEDA organizes workshops about health education, family planning, domestic violence, and women's rights. In addition, WEDA offers different types of vocational training courses, which not only give the women more employable skills, but it also offers the women a safer, more reliable alternative means to earning an income to support their families. Once women learn these working skills, they can work on these activities at home or at the center. These income-generating activities also serve to maintain the center so that WEDA can continue to operate as a self-sustained association.

Results:

- Laundry and ironing: the center has been providing laundry services for **12** customers on average per month. This service represented **22%** of its income in 2010.
- Tailoring and sewing services: in 2010, this service was mainly aimed at the Burmese community. WEDA was also in charge of sewing all the learning centers' uniforms, which represents **25%** of the sewing activities income. Sewing represented 49 % of the center's income in 2010.
- The hand making of jewelry and handicrafts: mostly sold to tourists. The profit from the products are shared 1/3 for the women who made it & 2/3 for WEDA (WEDA provides material and trainings). Jewelry sales represent **21%** of the income of the center (17% for jewelry and 4% for handicrafts).
- Others services: includes food catering for events, festivities, wedding organization, or clothes rental. It only represented 8% of the center's income.



PARTNERS IN WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

MEMBERS

Wai Phyo

Thanda Maung Maung

Ma Let

Ma Lat

Ma Myint

Ma Let Let

In Gin May

Ni Wan

Moe Thi Dar Pyae

Moe Moe Ei

Daw Hla Myint

Wai Hnin Po

Ni Lar Win

Aye Ho

Women empowerment workshops & trainings:

The frequency of these courses depends on the number of women interested in them and on the cost of organizing them. Frequently, the main obstacle for the trainings to take place is the cost of women transportation from their communities to the center.

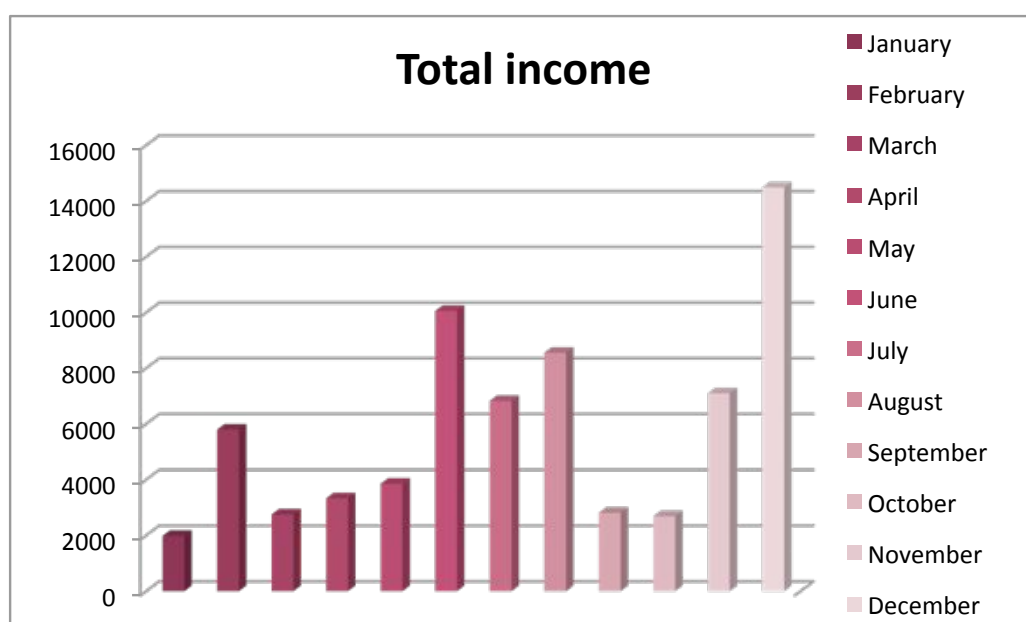
- Sewing training: As this training is expensive and time-consuming, it requires funding support from external organizations. None have been done in 2010 (one in 2006 and one in 2008 with 20 women each time).
- Jewelry training: two groups of women were trained to make jewelry in 2010. One to one training skills was also carried out at the center all year long.
- Training to make small handicrafts and bags took place continuously at the center. 5 women followed it in 2010.
- Training to make happy dolls was offered for the first time in November 2010, and 9 women attended it.
- Foreigner jewelry training: 8 foreign volunteers attended the jewelry training in December 2010.

Workshops covering topics such as women health education, family planning, women rights and domestic violence were also set up at the Center and within the communities. In July 2010, two (2) workshops were organized, one in Bang Niang and one in Pakarang, with 20 women each time.





As of December 2010, there are twenty-eight women in the Phang Nga province that are members of WEDA. From all the members, only 5 women work full time in the center, managing the center, and coordinating and conducting the income generation activities of WEDA. One of these women also lives in the center. The rest of the women participate in the center's life according to their time availability and necessities. For many of the women, the center is just a meeting point to share experiences and look for advice, and they only come when they need help or to offer their support to other women. For other women, such as widows, women with babies or women suffering serious diseases, WEDA is the only place they can go to work and get financial support for their children. Through the years, many of the women that belong to WEDA move to other regions in Thailand or go back to Burma after receiving different trainings, taking with them new skills that will help them in their future lives.



Income 93,375 bahts
 Expenses 65,460 bahts
Profit 29,833.00 bahts

Other achievements:

- WEDA was part of the organizing committee for International Women Day (2010), Violence Against Women Day and Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's Birthday (2010).
- WEDA also set up its own website (www.wedacares.org) and Facebook page.
- WEDA carried out a survey in 5 different surrounding communities to assess Burmese

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROGRAM

"There is no trust more sacred than the one the world holds with children. There is no duty more important than ensuring that their rights are respected, that their welfare is protected, that their lives are free from fear and want and that they can grow up in peace." Kofi Annan



Child Protection

As a reflection of our priority to respect and promote child rights, FED has planned and implemented a number of essential child protection measures. FED looks to protect the children of Burmese migrants facing abuse from within their families or from people in the area in which they live. FED provides measures for both immediate physical protection, as well as measures for long-term protection of the children's developmental needs. By supplying these children with an education we may serve to protect them in the future.

The Child Protection team was formed to look after the children that are currently under protection cases and to visit the targeted areas for monitoring activities. The Child Protection team conducts regular visits to the migrant communities to detect, monitor and provide case management on cases of abused children.

In 2010, the Child Protection team handled **48** cases in migrant communities. The child protection measures have also been implemented in the FED Learning Centers in order to monitor and report on the children who are studying at Learning Centers. Currently there are **23** cases of children under case management.



Community Child Care Center (CCCC)

Under the Child Rights program, FED set up a Community Child Care Center to assist orphans, as well as children whose parents are not financially equipped to care for them, and for those children who would have difficulty reaching any of the educational centers because of their parent's remote locations.

Some relatives and community members request that FED care for some of the children from their communities and ask that FED provide them with an education. In 2010, the CCCC hosted 8 Children.

Children residing at the CCCC are supplied with food, shelter, clothes, school fees, and basic health care.

Partner - Heart Healing Angle (H2A)



IIC MOKEN PROJECT

A world in which all children realize their full potential in societies that respect people's rights and dignity.

In October 2010, FED became the local facilitators of Plan International's Isolated and Indigenous Children in Asia (IIC) campaign. Over five years, FED will be working in nineteen (19) Moken communities throughout Phang Nga province, using a child-centered community development approach to enable children, families and communities to address Moken children's needs and rights and to help youngsters realize their potential.

FED's IIC Moken project focuses on four key areas: education, health, capacity-building and child rights. The project is working closely with the women of Phang Nga's Moken communities and will concentrate particularly on preserving indigenous Moken culture and knowledge-systems, which remain under threat as Moken communities integrate rapidly into Thai society.

Partner – Plan Thailand

"The Moken are born, live, and die on their boats, and the umbilical cords of their children plunge into the sea..." Moken Epic

In 2010, the IIC Moken project focused on forming close links with local Moken youth. Project activities such as youth training in data collection and grant proposal writing are aiming to develop the capacity of the regional Moken Youth Network, encourage youth participation and a sense of ownership in development activities and to empower younger Moken generations to confront fast-paced changes in their communities and society.





PEACE BUILDING PROJECT

In 2010, the peace building project included different activities aimed at increasing interactions and mutual understanding between the different groups with the long term aim of increasing mutual respect, increasing participation and inclusion, and reducing conflict and abuses between Thais and Burmese as well as Muslim and Moken communities.

In 2010 F.E.D organized religious and cultural events for the Burmese Migrant community. These events were but not limited to Songkran, Dama Se Kja, Swan Gyi Loune, Labor Day event, Anniversary of Saffron Revolution, International Migrant Day, Ka Thein, Tsunami Memorial Day, International Women Day, and Christmas Day. These events reached approximately **10,000** migrants.

Organized football tournaments both for the Queen's Birthday as well as the king's birthday. For these tournaments, FED arranges teams from both Thai and Burmese communities. This space has served as a vehicle to facilitate the integration of migrants into Thai society.



F.E.D hosted an internship program this year for the Thai youth population and Thai university students. F.E.D hosted five (5) two interns for three (3) months. From this internship program, F.E.D hopes the younger Thai generation will gain a better understanding about the situation of Burmese migrants workers and their lives. This particular instance was valuable since the interns gained substantial knowledge about the situation of Burmese migrants in Thailand, information they had never been exposed to by their Thai education, they also gained insight on the misconceptions currently in existence about Burmese migrants. As important as Thai students gaining insight to the situation is, the real value came from their dissemination of the information they had acquired through social media sites. This outreach done by the student's raised FED's number of followers on such social media sites.

TEMPORARY SHELTER



FED's temporary shelter provides safeguard to unemployed migrant families, women who have suffered domestic violence, and other people who are facing grave difficulties. The shelter also presents a secure space for those who have no legal status to remain in Thailand. Occasionally some migrants, especially women, are persecuted and fall into a situation that puts them and their children in danger. The temporary shelter provides a safe haven for those victims to stay in a safe environment.

During 2010, a total of 300 Burmese migrants took refuge at our temporary shelter. People who are allowed to stay in the temporary shelter are new arrivals from Burma, the unemployed, severely sick migrants, injured people who are unable to work, and victims who have suffered human rights violations. Normally, the residents are allowed to stay for one week, but this can be extended depending on their situation or if we find it necessary for them to stay longer.

In the temporary shelter, FED provides clothes, food, some basic kitchen goods and health care for sick people and pregnant women. In some cases employers do not allow injured or sick migrant workers to stay at their construction sites so these migrants ask FED for emergency temporary shelter. The temporary shelter has 20 rooms. At the end of 2010, 22 migrants including 12 men, 6 women, and 4 children were taking refuge at the temporary shelter. The occupants also gain the opportunity to have a small piece of land and are provided with seeds for growing vegetables for their daily diet.



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the driving force behind FED's work to promote education and development opportunities for the Burmese community. In 2010 volunteers contributed **9,904** hours of their time. The lives of Burmese migrants are truly changed because of the energy, skills and commitment of our volunteers.



As a retired Accountant with over 40 years in the workforce I was looking for an NGO in Asia where I could use my experience to assist in the area of finance and fundraising. Volunteering is not new to me having had very rewarding volunteer experiences in Nepal and Thailand.

The process to find an effective NGO resulted in reviewing websites, both volunteer based and NGO specific. My first review of FED's most informative website had me eager to further explore this option. I then sought advice of two trusted friends both of whom had worked with effective NGO's in post Tsunami Thailand. They both spoke highly of FED. Where I initially thought I would be imparting knowledge accumulated over many years it was I who learnt far more than I imparted. My brief time with FED was one of the most enriching experiences in my life.

Like most Westerners I have some knowledge of the struggles of the Burmese people but learnt so much and was privileged to hear their stories, struggles plus their hopes and dreams for a free Burma. FED is an outstanding Burmese led NGO working in a holistic way with Burmese migrants in Southern Thailand. I can highly recommend them as a place to volunteer with or if you can't volunteer you can donate to them instead. They are doing an amazing job with minimal funding. Should you make it to FED I can guarantee you will be the one who will be both challenged and enriched by the experience.

Alan Ashmore

"Working with FED has simply been a great experience for me. I was used to work in bigger western organisations, but I learned so much more in this community-based organisation. The people who are working in FED are all really welcoming and eager to do their job as good as possible. They have strong values, and it was so enriching for me to work in this environment. I felt every morning that I was useful for something. FED is doing something really important for Burmese people and for Thailand as well, and for the encounter of peoples. Apart from FED's team, the experience with the children has been great, and so moving. They are so willing to learn, so interested and smart. Even teenagers were showing signs of strong democratic values and a will to fight for education and change in their country. I really think that volunteering with FED is a really rich experience, even for people not knowing at first about Burma. Myself I knew some things but I was not so into Asian issues. In the end, after just a few months, I found myself so involved, and when I was back to France, I was already looking for the means to help more from abroad. I hope many more volunteers, from all ages and origins, will go there, because they will never forget. And Burmese people, wherever they are, need to be remembered."

Berengere Ruet





Few volunteer assignments can possibly be as rewarding as working with the extraordinary Executive Director and staff of GHRE. From the moment we arrived, we felt welcomed, appreciated and collegial. I wrote proposals, web materials, letters, and worked with staff and interns on personal essays, writing skills and progress reports to funders. Seeing the many programs, meeting and socializing with teachers and doing a little teaching with older students was great fun. People isolated in rural areas especially appreciate volunteers showing up, caring, eating with them, chatting, where possible, and enjoying time together. While the lasting impact of any single volunteer may be minimal, the experience has lasting effects on the volunteer and creates life-long memories of gratitude and affection for the people of GHRE in their struggle for dignity and human rights as well as their agonizing hopes to return to their homeland and their families in Burma when the military junta is out of power and democracy is restored to the birthplace they so sincerely long for.

Terry Holzman



The extent of FED's work is impressive. They have a multitude of projects covering many aspects of Burmese migrants' lives. The staff and people volunteering all have the same goals and interests at heart. Personally, volunteering at GHRE was a very rewarding experience. Everyone that I interacted with was genuinely friendly. After working for only a week, I felt like I had been here for months. I am sad to leave FED and so many new friends. I hope to have a chance to come back!

Raphael Tremblay



My volunteering at FED has been a unique and very rewarding experience. I collaborated with the Women's Program for three months and interacted closely with the women working at the women's center (WEDA), whom I feel proud to call my friends. I got very impressed with these women. They had to leave their country and are living in hard conditions in Thailand, but they still keep a big smile, a high spirit, and keep fighting to help other women like them in the Burmese communities. I am very grateful to them because they accepted me and made me feel like one more of them. We worked hard together, but also enjoyed very good moments that I won't ever forget.

Laura Palomo



It was my first work experience in a NGO and I do not regret my choice to do my internship with FED. It was so enriching because I worked in close contact with Burmese migrants who shared me their experiences in Thailand.

Pauline Heritier

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Social Media

One of the easiest and most popular ways to help us raise awareness of our cause is by following our activities and spreading the word.

Website

<http://www.ghre.org>

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/GHREFED>

"Like" or donate your status by using it to raise awareness amongst your friends thereby motivating others to support FED.

Twitter

@GHREFED

Blog: Tumblr

<http://ghre-fed.tumblr.com/>

Youtube

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ghrefed>

I hope that this annual report has given you a greater sense of the work and the accomplishments of the Foundation for Education and Development in 2010. These results could have not been achieved without the support of individuals, foundations, corporations, and governments from around the world. Your support has helped us provide a safer and more equitable environment for underprivileged Burmese workers whilst providing education and development opportunities for children and adults. Your assistance grants critical ongoing support for Burmese migrants and their families by promoting human rights and by helping Burmese migrant families access basic services such as healthcare, education and legal aid in Thailand. On behalf of the Foundation for Education and Development and the Burmese community, I would like to thank you - our supporters - for your generous contributions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandra Arboleda". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sandra Arboleda
Development Director



WHY MAKE A DONATION?

The Tsunami—the horrific disaster that rallied the attention, compassion and philanthropic generosity of people and organizations around the world—is over. Much of the outflow of extraordinary financial support has dried up. Much of the world’s sympathies have turned elsewhere. But the challenges of daily life for migrants in Thailand persist. Unwelcoming conditions, poor employment opportunities and minimal access to education and healthcare remain, furthering the uncertainties of their children’s future.

Our programs have an expense. When you make a donation to FED, you are directly supporting our programs. With your donation, FED will be able to continue to support migrant children's education, comprehensive health care for children and migrant communities, women's empowerment and the promotion of human rights among migrant communities.

Ways to Donate...

There are many ways you can make a donation to support the work of the Foundation for Education and Development. Our Board, staff and the Burmese community will be greatly thankful for your kindness.

Online

Contribute securely online at <http://www.ghre.org/en/>

Bank Transfer

If you would like to make your contribution to FED call US: 1(646) 470-1889 or Thailand (66) 822767140.

Globalgiving

<http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/burmese-migrant-children-go-to-school/>

<http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/transport-for-mobility-restricted-burmese-migrants/>



BE AN AGENT OF CHANGE...

We are grateful for what we have been able to accomplish this year for the Burmese migrant community, but we know that we have much more to do, and we cannot do it without your help.

\$50,000 could build a new learning center to reach isolated communities where lack of educational opportunities have left children at risk for child labor.

\$30,000 could provide an entire year of Human Rights training to 8 (approximately 30,000 migrants) Burmese Communities.

\$25,000 could provide the salaries for 6 teachers for an entire year.

\$10,000 could prevent 100 children from becoming child laborers by providing summer camp activities during the school holidays.

\$5,000 could provide a six months salary for an attorney to provide free legal aid to the entire Burmese community in Phang Nga Province.

\$1,000 could provide lunch for one entire learning center (72 children) for 6 weeks.

\$500 could provide transportation and food for 10 women to participate in the education rights training for 3 months.

\$100 could provide shelter and food for 1 Burmese woman and her children at WEDA's shelter for one month.

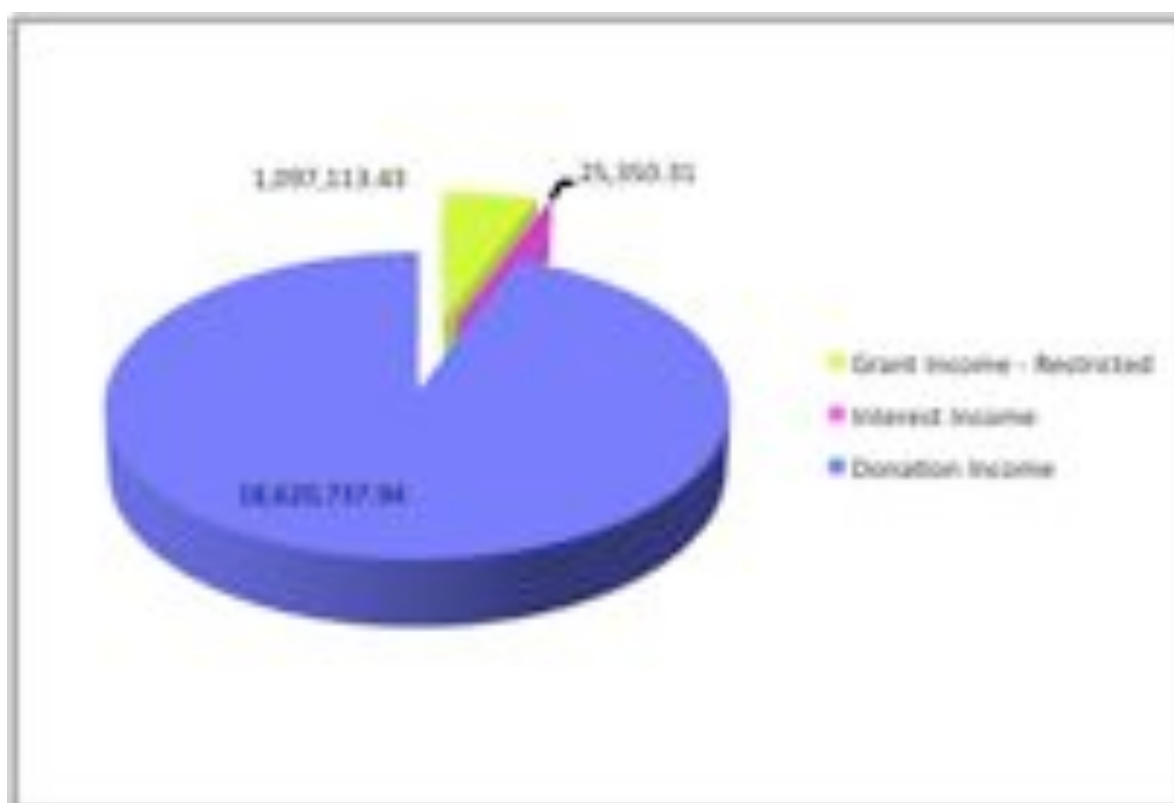
\$80 could provide transportation for the health team to visit 1 community and provide services for one day.

\$50 could provide education, transportation and nutrition for 1 child for one month.

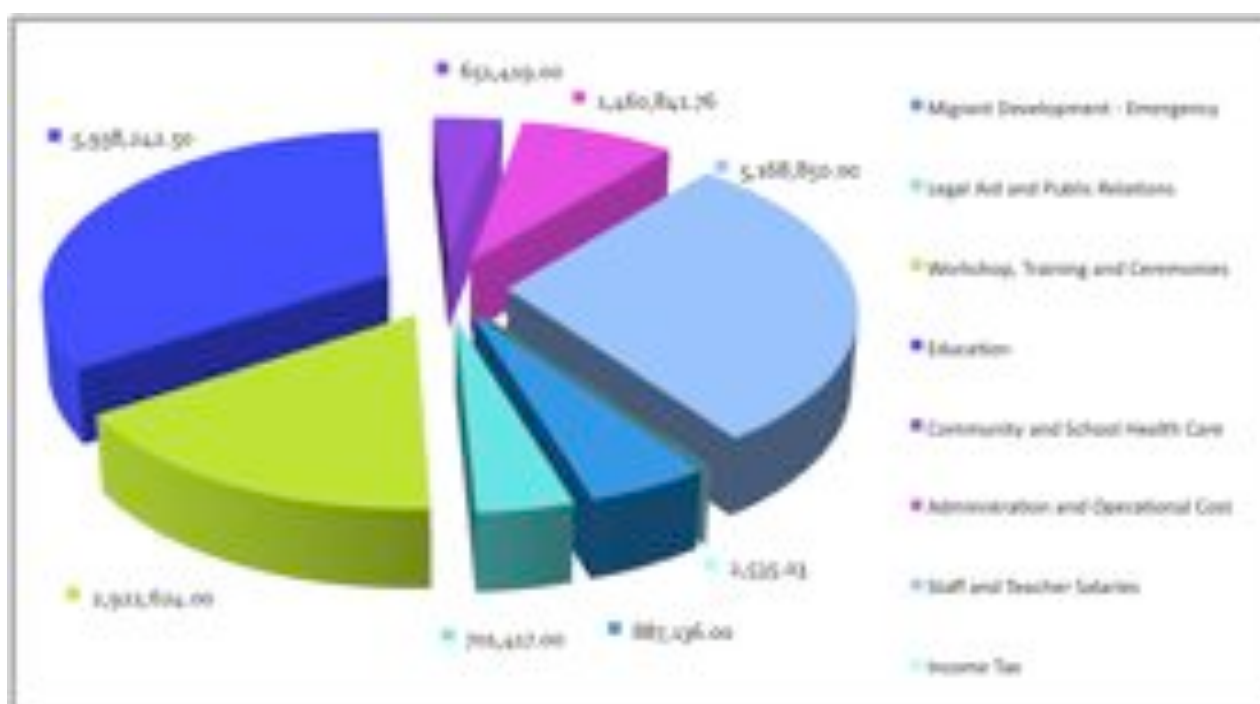
\$30 could provide stationary set for 1 child for one year, which would include textbooks, notebooks, stationary, an umbrella and an FED backpack.

2010 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

REVENUE



EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAM



Thank You!

Funders

Act Now Children's Fund
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish World Services.
American School of The Hague (ASH)
Andaman Discoveries
Annika Linden Foundation.
Art Action
CCFD - Terre Solidaire - Comité Catholique Contre Le Faim Et Pour Le Developpement
ChildTRAC
Euro Burma Office
Fun4kids
GlobalGiving – GlobalGiving Supporters
Hussman Foundation
Japanese Volunteer Center
Khao Lak Community Appeal.
Open Society Institute
Oxfam Novib
Plan - Thailand
Save the Children UK
Terre Des Hommes – France
Wicked Diving

Volunteers

Alan Ashmore
Anna Isaksson
Anne Bitner
Berengere Ruet
Brtiney Speyrer
Cécile Pentori
Connie Hum
Daniel Murphy
Gina Bourne
Inga Gruss
James Duncan
Janice Train
Jessica De Lafargue
Karina Sand Sorensen
kevin Conelly
Kim Anya
Laura Dlugolecki

Linda Hagstrom
Linette Escobar
Lucie Wable
Maele Rigo
Maeve Cook-Deegan
Mark A Scurrah
Mark Kennith Ellis
Mathilde Moulinou
Melanie kunaprayoon
Michael R. Allwesiss
Stefanie Allweiss
Laura Palomo
Pauline Heritier Laffargue
Raphael Tremblay
Susanne Burgstaller
Valerie Van Ballaer
Victoria Lynn Lawn

Published by:
The Foundation for Education and Development (FED)

Supported by:
CCFD - Terre Solidaire –
Comité Catholique Contre La Faim Et Pour Le Developpement (CCFD)





Foundation for Education and Development (FED)
20 Moo 4 Khuk Khak, Takuapa
Phang Nga, 82190 Thailand
www.ghre.org