



ศูนย์พัฒนาการศึกษาเพื่อลูกหญิงและชุมชน

ตู้ ป.ณ. 10 แม่สาย เชียงราย 57130 ☎(053) 733-186 📠 (053)642-415

Development and Education Programme for Daughters and Communities Centre

P.O. Box 10 Mae Sai, Chiang Rai 57130, Thailand ☎+66 (53) 733-186 📠+66 (53) 642-415

✉ info@depdc.org 🌐 www.depdc.org

20 Year Anniversary of DEPDC

Between the years of 1988 and 1989, Mr. Sompop Jantraka and Japanese journalist Ms. Michiho Inagaki conducted extensive research in to the South East Asian sex industry. From this research, Sompop realized that he can prevent vulnerable girls from being forced in to this industry by providing free education and support. With this in mind, Sompop Jantraka with the help of a small team of dedicated volunteers established the “Daughters Education Program” (DEP) in October 1989, later to become the “Development and Education Program for Daughters and Communities Centre” (DEPDC). This was aided and funded by the “Asian Children’s Fund” (ACF) in Japan.

Through out its 20 years, DEPDC has been committed to its mission of protecting and improving the lives of children and young people who are at risk of or have been rescued from exploitation or dangerous living conditions. These range from children living in poverty or are subject to abuse, to children who are at risk of being (or already have been) sold for prostitution and labor. Due to the issue of poverty, social crisis etc, children and young people often have low esteem and problem behavior, thus affecting their social status within the community. This social status often acts as a significant negative pressure, making them more vulnerable to being exploited in to the industries of sex work and labor. In light of this, DEPDC recognized the urgent need and importance of protecting and developing these generations of children before it is too late.

All the staff at DEPDC, past and present, share Sompop’s belief that education and creative development is the key to the success of DEPDC’s mission. Many of the children in our care have previously been unable to attend school for various reasons, such as not being able to afford the fees or inability to travel as they do not have an ID card. At DEPDC, these circumstances prove to be no problem for the children.

We understand that the education provided must comply with the conditions and needs of each target group. To ensure this, the staff at DEPDC has perfected a variety of educational formats designed to suit each target group of children. These formats teach academia to the standard of government schools, as well as life skills training, local cultural training, training on various religions and additional education such as hair styling, massage, cooking, sports, handicraft etc.

In addition, the curriculum also includes training on personal health/hygiene, sexual education, awareness training on child labor and trafficking as well as learning about the requirements and accessibility of future career prospects. This curriculum is also offered to the children’s parents and the local community free of charge.

DEPDC’s staff even provides leisure activities during the holiday periods where children can go trekking to learn about the environment, participate in sports activities such as football and swimming among many other activities. All of this education encourages freedom of thought and speech which opens the door to a higher form of intellect and makes their studies more successful. This also enables them to learn many more skills needed to enhance their job opportunities once they are ready to graduate from the centre, which in turn will allow them to have a good quality of life.

In 2002, it was discovered that a consistent increase in the number of women and children were being trafficked from neighboring countries to Thailand. As a result, the Mekong Regional Indigenous Child Right Home (MRICRH) was established in aim of providing a half way home and protection to women and children who unfortunately fell victim to human trafficking in and around the Mekong Sub Region.

MRICRH began working with DEPDC and the “Hill Tribe Development Centre”, Chiang Rai, with DEPDC being the head advisory organization. This partnership works with children, parents and communities to give victims a shelter so they can be protected as well as being rehabilitated with the special care and attention required.

This partnership was officially recognized by the Thai government in October 2006 with certification given to DEPDC for the protection and prevention of women and children entering trafficking. The partnership has established itself to be the first true model for its type of work in Thailand with similar organizations being developed following by its example.

During the last 20-years, DEPDC has developed as a successful prevention and protection model for women and children. This success is grateful to the shared collection of information and lessons learned from our prevention and rehabilitation programs and research projects over the years. We now look to broadcast our growing knowledge and experience further throughout the various networks we are in contact with, including academic, non-governmental, governmental, and community based networks. These in turn share in our learning and development to improve our work to suit each specific target group we work with.

DEPDC's 20 year anniversary will be held on December 11, 2009. We look forward to welcoming experts in our educational and social community to address and hold an open forum on development in education. This will focus on development in Thailand and surrounding countries as well as encouraging open minds to embrace various educational strategies. We know this will add to our knowledge base and our success and we hope to further understand social change in accordance with the society represented at our celebration. This forum will be broadcasted through our Child Voice TV channel (CVTV) and Child Voice Radio (CVR).

Our Objectives are:

1. To present and share our knowledge and development programs (past, present and future) with individuals and groups including businesses, academic institutions, NGO's and GO's, and those within our own and surrounding communities.
2. To present an open forum that includes children and young people that have been involved in DEPDC during its 20 years.
3. To promote and encourage our relationships with corporate networks, public and private institutions, and all of whom who work to support the operations of DEPDC.
4. To broadcast the event through our operations centre.

Date:

Friday, December 11th, 2009.

6:30am – 10:00pm

Location:

186 Moo 4
Wiang Pang Kam
Mae Sai
Chiang Rai
57130
Thailand

Phone: 053-733186, 053-732168

Program:

Morning

- Celebratory chant with 99 Buddhist Monks.
- Keynote speech: "Politics and its effects on Individuals, Families and Communities".

Afternoon

- Open forum on education and development.
- Presentation of cultural films and slides made by members of MY.
- Access to CRTV and CVR broadcasting.
- Slideshow of DEPDC's 20 years.

Evening

- Enjoy the musical talents of Thailand's Chi Suvichan, Juiy Su Boon Leang and Ketanchalee.

All Day Exhibitions

- An exhibition featuring the work of each of DEPDC's projects.
- An exhibition of our knowledge and lessons learned through our work since 1989.

We look forward to the following outcomes:

1. DEPDC to share its knowledge and the updated "Lesson Learned" since 1989 to all our guests.
2. Past and present members of DEPDC and their families will meet to share their stories and experiences with guests, along with how they intend to support DEPDC in the future.
3. The social workers, academic members, community members, charity organizations and government agencies will have the opportunity to build deeper connections and good relationships.
4. DEPDC will attempt its first broadcast of CVR and CVTV under the support of the MYUTC.

Schedule

Celebrating 20 years of the 'Development Education Program for Daughters and Communities'

Time	Activities
7:00am – 8:00am	Buddhist opening ceremony begins with celebratory chant.
8:30am – 9:30am	99 Buddhist Monks to perform blessing for all affiliated with DEPDC.
9:45am – 10:20am	DEPDC's 20 year anniversary officially opens.
10:20am – 12:00pm	Keynote speaker to address: "Politics and its effects on Individuals, Families and Communities".
12:00pm – 1:00pm	Lunch, exhibition opens.
1:00pm – 3:30pm	Open forum: "Education for Human Development".
4:00pm – 5:20pm	Cultural Films and Experimental Broadcast of CVTV and CVR by MYUTC.
5:20pm – 7:20pm	Slideshow and vegetarian dinner.
6:00pm – 9:30pm	Evening program

Note:

We would like to stress that attendees of this celebration include DEPDC children who are currently being raised to be respectful members of society. With this in mind, we would be grateful if the following rules are respected:

- No drinking alcohol
- Do not bring none vegetarian food to the centre
- No irresponsible behavior
- No smoking
- No carrying weapons of any kind
- Respectful attire to be worn (women should cover their shoulders and knees and let no item be transparent)
- Use mobile phones only when necessary