## ChaldFund International®

# Overview of **Thailand**

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### Languages

Thai, English, ethnic and regional dialects

**Under-five Mortality Rate:** 13 per 1,000 live births. Thailand ranks 130 in the world.

Human Development Index (HDI) for 2011: 0.682 (ranked 103 out of 187, indicating medium human development).

## Brief History of ChildFund in Thailand

ChildFund came to Thailand: 1957

Number of provinces etc.: 77 provinces

Number of beneficiaries (FY12): 321,023

Number of enrolled children (FY12): 9,241

CCF (Community Children Fund) Foundation in Thailand started its work in helping disadvantaged children in 1957 through Christian Children's Fund's Hong Kong Office. It was registered as a legal Thai foundation on July 15, 1975. Later on February 26, 1994, HRH Princess Jaha Chakri Sirindhorn graciously accepted CCF Foundation in Thailand to be under her Royal Patronage.

## Brief History of ChildFund in Thailand (continued)

Our mission is to promote child development programs that enable disadvantaged children to grow up and become change agents in the society and to create a society that promotes child protection and child rights.

Our vision is:

- Needy children have access to protection and development that is appropriate to their age and receive opportunities to build their capacity to be "SMART, GOOD, AND HAPPY."
- Families, communities, and local agencies participate in child protection and promote child rights.
- Build partnerships in various sectors to mobilize child development work and promote child rights.

## Brief Program Overview

#### Early Childhood Care & Development Program

- Parental education
- Training and supporting child daycare centers
- Toys and books for children

#### Nutrition/Health & Sanitation Program

- Provision of supplement food (rice, eggs, milk) to malnourished children
- Breakfast for Kids
- Clean water and latrine
- Health Kits
- Hygiene, disease prevention and medical check ups

#### **Education Program**

- School uniforms, learning materials, and transportation from home to school
- Renovation of school buildings, dormitory, library, dining hall, first aid room, sports field, student desks and chairs, musical instruments, latrines, water tanks, water filters
- Computers, books
- Teacher training
- Students' extra-curricular activities (e.g., school radio announcing, wall newspaper, day camps, arts and culture functions)
- School gardening

#### Child Empowerment and Youth Leadership Program

- Family camp
- EQ & life skills development
- Alcohol, cigarette and violence prevention
- Youth leadership training

#### Livelihood Development Program

- Cow bank, pigs and fish rearing, organic farm
- Young Sufficiency Economy Promoters
- Household and business bookkeeping training
- Backyard gardening
- Child and youth saving groups

## 2012 Program Achievements

**Infants** The Foundation provided hygiene kits, books, food, and milk for under five year old children and held parental education for their parents. The Foundation supported mattress and toys to 43 Child Day Care Centers.

**Children and Youth** In FY12, 384 schools received assistance from the Foundation in the form of infrastructure renovation as well as teacher training and student academic and recreational camps.

Our National Priority Programs in 2012 were:

- 1. **Reading promotion**—Every child received two books (fiction, comic, literature) which suited their age.
- 2. **Hygiene comes first**—Provided hygienic sets to all children (shampoo, soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, nail cutter, towel, and talcum powder).
- 3. **Breakfast for Kids**-Helped 5,496 school children who did not eat breakfast because their caregivers had to go to work pretty early in the morning. In some places, community volunteers sacrificed their time and energy to prepare breakfast. In other areas, teachers selected food stall hawkers at school to serve special breakfast for these children. All children were given a safe lunch box.
- 4. **Youth Unite for Healthy Thailand!** An action campaign run by 220 youth in 19 provinces. They were inculcated with volunteerism and trained to do good things for themselves, the community, and the country. They held 45 sensitizing campaigns in their own communities in four themes: Morality, Unity, Democracy and Non-violence. There were 9,800 indirect beneficiaries.
- 5. **Young Sufficiency Economy Promoter**—This project promoted HM the King's Sufficiency Economy philosophy. 539 youth were trained in the Sufficiency Economy philosophy, household bookkeeping and farming techniques. After the training, each youth was provided with a set of small animals (fish, pig, chicken, duck), vegetable seeds, and farming tools to start their backyard farm at home.
- 6. **Happy Saturday Program** A monthly age appropriate group activity that aimed to promote child expression, letter writing, friendly interaction, program planning and individual development. The program helped improve the child's listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Often these activities were conducted together with arts activity, contests and games to encourage teamwork, analytical thinking, self confidence and leadership. This program was run in 35 projects every two to three months.

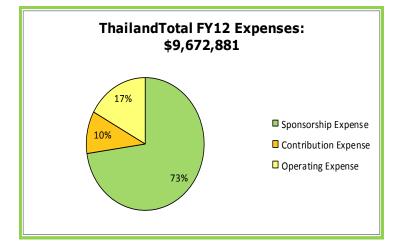
## 2012 Program Achievements

7. **Open the world to Kids** — Enabled 4,880 children and youth from 20 projects to have an exposure visit to environmental conservation places. Environment study helped children learn the importance of the environment and how they could apply the knowledge in daily life. In addition, children learned life skills techniques so they could live safely in the changing world and deny inappropriate things.

**Societies** When Thailand was hit by the big flood in 2011, many areas where CCF families lived were strongly affected. The Foundation ran an Emergency Program in many places as follows:

- In Bangkok, a special project "*Kids Fight Flood*" was developed with the aim to build volunteerism among CCF youth and transform them from Recipients to Givers. These youth helped distribute relief packs to victims, conducted performance and fun activities at evacuation camps, and cleaned communities after the flood.
- In other provinces, the Foundation implemented three stages:
  - a. Immediate relief: provided rice, clean water, blankets, mosquito nets, and other consumption goods for 2,500 families in Maehongson and Uttradit provinces.
  - b. Recovery: provided school uniforms, school supplies, playground and water purifiers for 700 students who suffered from the mud slide.
  - c. Rehabilitation: provided rice seeds, fertilizer, agricultural tools and water containers for 1,475 CCF families who lost their rice harvest and farm animals during the flood.

## **Financial Report**



Thailand FY12		
Sponsorship Expense	7,030,838	73%
Contribution Expense	998,543	10%
Operating Expense	1,643,500	17%
Total Expense	9,672,881	100%

## Challenges

The Thai economy grows very fast but millions of children still live in poverty. These children live in poor living conditions, are raised by elderly people, as their parents migrated away. A lot of children under the care of the Foundation are disabled or suffer from birth illnesses. Teenagers are being faced with drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, violence and early unsafe sex. The crisis in the southern part of Thailand made thousands of children orphans as their parents or relatives were murdered. The government programs to support these needy children cannot cover all poor children. The Foundation's mission, to help the children break free from poverty, is therefore very challenging.

The number of donors is still limited as compared with the growing needs of poor children and the complexity of the problems children face. Lately, the expenses of the child development program increased as fast as the rising cost of living, but donations from the public remain small.

## Why Sponsorship is Important

Through child sponsorship, needy children have sufficient food, better health, gain larger access to quality education and are better protected. For half a century, CCF Foundation has helped thousands of sponsored children reach graduation and become teachers, doctors, nurses, engineers, local leaders, social workers, and other professionals.