

Autumn Newsletter

Keeping
Children
Safe



What we have achieved...

Safe Child Thailand's Care Reform journey has made significant headway over the past three years.

Here is a snapshot of what we have achieved so far:

✓ Our research findings: At least 120,000 children live in residential care and of those children, 50% are in Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai Provinces.

✓ Our National Conference: The Royal Thai Government is supportive of our research and committed to developing alternative care for children in Thailand.

✓ Care Reform Matters Conference: Residential care practitioners agreed on a collective working platform to share best practice and developments to reform their care settings.

✓ Our flagship Child's Voice project established youth led forums within residential care homes in Mae Sot, empowering young people to play an active role in decision-making processes that affect their lives.

✓ We are working with our in-country partner in Chiang Mai to support the transition of an orphanage to a family support centre. The scope of a transition is vast and we have recognised that it will take a further three years of our support for a full transition to take place.



Looking to the future

Keeping families together is such an important part of our work. We are heartened by the current momentum to provide alternative care for children, away from residential care. This process forms an important part of care reform activities in Thailand.

Over the next three years, we will work hard to keep families together; providing family-centred care and support, reuniting separated children with their families, enhancing child protection measures, and shifting the focus from residential to family-based care, whilst building strong networks with partners across Thailand to drive change for children.

Our new programme will focus on:



The change we want to see

- ➡ Alternative care support options for children in place
- ➡ A functioning workforce supporting national child protection measures
- ➡ A strong network of care reform practitioners sharing best practice for enhanced learning

Thank you for your support, it makes all the difference.

Following Teht's Journey

For the last three years, Safe Child Thailand has been supporting a former orphanage to transition to a family support centre and place the children living there into kinship care.

Teht used to reside there and now has transitioned back to living with his family.

Teht has completed his schooling and is able to live with his father now. We have helped them to build a small pond to raise fish and frogs which they sell at the market.

Helping the two of them to be self-sustainable with a source of income for the future has been a big boost for them.

We continue to visit and supplement their food while they learn how to grow their business.



Childs Voice

Safe Child Thailand's Child's Voice project was launched in 2022, where a peer-to-peer support model is used to raise the voices of children currently living in residential care.

With over 120,000 children still living in residential care in Thailand, Child's Voice ensures that these children are empowered to make changes in their facility and are safe from abuse, neglect and exploitation.



Before becoming a Child's Voice Future Leader, Pai preferred solitude, felt inferior, feared public places, and lacked confidence speaking in front of others. However, through the project, he acquired essential skills to conquer these hurdles. Patience, building rapport, offering support, and fostering trust became his valuable tools. Understanding the responsibilities of a Child's Voice Leader, he supported

and motivated peers while communicating their concerns to teachers and facilitators. Since joining, he formed strong connections, enhanced communication skills, and gained immense confidence. He relishes social interactions, speaks confidently, and actively listens to peers. He even encourages others to join the project, emphasising the joy, comfort, and personal growth it offers.

