

When I return home



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A package providing information on social support and other specialized services available for returning Thais suspected of having been victims of trafficking in Australia
2009



Australian Government
AusAID



IOM International Organization for Migration

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) created this information package, which is based on the Regional Pilot Project for Returning Victims of Trafficking from Australia to Thailand (2007). To obtain updated data, please contact Bureau of Anti-Trafficking in Women and Children (BATWC) at the contacts below:

Bureau of Anti-Trafficking in Women and Children
Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Krung Kasem Road, Bangkok 10100
Thailand

Tel: +66 2 659 6161-9

Fax: +66 2 281 5030

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Introduction

Hello! *When I return home* is an information package that has been produced in the form of a handbook. It was created for all Thais who have been exploited in Australia but have decided to return home to begin a new life in Thailand.

If you need any assistance to make your return easier, this handbook contains information on numerous professional agencies that provide a range of services to help ease your return to Thai society. If you cannot think of anything right now, you can take your time until you are ready to contact any of these organizations.

These services can be tailored to meet your individual needs and may include the following: educational support, vocational training, job placement, medical care, psycho-social assistance, legal advice and assistance, emergency support and other forms of reintegration support. If you would like to access any of the services described herein, you may discuss your needs with your care provider now, or, if it would make you feel more comfortable, you may contact any of the agencies directly upon your return to Thailand.

In order to make your search easier, please note that the resources have been divided into two groups separated by colour. The first section with blue highlights represents the government departments and divisions that provide support services; the second section with orange highlights represents non-governmental organizations. For more assistance, please turn to the section entitled “How do I use this book?” on page 3, which will guide you in the use of this handbook.

Good luck with your search through these resources. We hope they will help you in your return to Thailand. In case you have any questions about the services provided or would like additional information, please discuss these aspects with your current care provider.

What is human trafficking . . . ?

Human trafficking is when one person or a group of people recruit another person, who may be a boy, girl, woman or man, by making false promises, using coercion, deception or force, to go to another place for the purpose of exploitation. The trafficker may arrange your transportation to the destination by legal or illegal means. Once you arrive, you are forced to work or perform services, such as forced labour, prostitution, slavery or practices similar to slavery, or are forced into marriage or even the removal of some of your organs. If you refuse to follow orders of traffickers, they often threaten to harm you and your family.

Sample of trafficking situations

1. May was working as a masseuse at a traditional Thai massage parlor in Bangkok when she was asked by a friend of her boss if she would like to work in Australia as a masseuse and earn a salary of more than 40,000 baht per month. Her boss's friend said she would arrange everything, including obtaining the necessary visa and travel tickets. May readily agreed, and soon traveled to Australia. On arrival, however, she was forced to work in a brothel, providing sex for many men every day, but she did not receive any money. Her passport and travel documents were confiscated and she was not allowed to go out alone.

2. Tongdee applied to work as a labourer in the Middle East. The employment agent told him that he would have to work 10 hours a day and he would earn about 100,000 baht a month, but he would first have to pay 50,000 baht for his travel expenses. With the dream of building a house in mind, he agreed to these conditions. Since he didn't have the money necessary, he had to borrow it from his neighbour. Then, when he arrived in the new country, he found the situation to be very different from what he had been promised. He was forced to work more than 15 hours a day, ate only two meals a day, and never received any wages to send back home.

If you think you have been a part of a human trafficking operation, you can receive assistance from the government agencies and non-governmental organizations described in this handbook.

How do I use this handbook?



First of all, you have to ask yourself what you would really like to do when you go back to Thailand. For example, you might want to continue studying or own a business, receive proper medication, etc. It is all right, too, if you have nothing in mind now. You can use this guide to help you to find out what would suit you.

That's right! When you know what you want to do after going back to Thailand, then you can go to the "Matrix" on page 10 to find which organization provides the services that you are looking for.

But if you haven't got any idea what you would like to do yet, you can read through this guide; it may give you some good ideas. In case you have any doubts while waiting for your return home, the FAQ section on page 5 may help you, too.



The way back home

Now you are in a safe place. While waiting for the proper travel documents and flight arrangements to be made, your care provider will help you find accommodation and help you with any other needs you might have. You may also have an opportunity to provide additional information about what happened to you. This process will take some time, depending on your situation. During this time, please use this handbook to begin planning for your return home to Thailand.

When the return date is confirmed, your care provider will inform you of all the details of your travel and also accompany you to the airport if you have asked for assistance. After arriving in Thailand, you may be welcomed home by an officer from the Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW), a Thai Immigration officer and an Australian Federal Police officer who may assist you to get home safely.



1
Now you are in a safe place.



2
While waiting for the proper travel documents and flight arrangements, your care provider will help you find accommodation and help you with any other needs you might have.



3
Returning to Thailand



4
You may be welcomed by a Department of Social Development and Welfare officer, an Immigration officer, and an Australian Federal Police officer.

Frequently asked questions

1. Q: Do you want to know when you can go back home?

A: As soon as possible. Normally, it will take some time for all related agencies to finalize the details of your return. For more details, please turn to the section entitled “The way back home” on page 4.

2. Q: Do you want to know what will happen when you arrive back in Thailand?

A: If you have asked for assistance in returning home and provided informed consent, you will be assisted by DSDW and Australian Federal Police officers at the airport. In some cases, Thai police and Immigration officers may show up as well to ensure your safe arrival. If this is something you would like, please discuss this with your care provider.

3. Q: Are you worried about confidentiality when you return to Thailand?

A: Your story will be treated confidentially. Only if you give permission will it be shared with the individual who will be assisting you upon your return to Thailand. If you apply for assistance from any of the organizations listed in this handbook, those organizations might ask you to provide more details. It is your choice what information you want to share with them.

4. Q: Do you want to talk about HIV, AIDS or other health issues?

A: While waiting for your travel arrangements, you can ask for a test or a medical check-up, or you can wait until you are back in Thailand. This is something we recommend that you discuss further with your care provider.

5. Q: Do you have any concerns about your safety?

A: If you have concerns about your immediate safety in Australia, you should contact the Australian police by dialing telephone number “000” immediately. Upon returning to Thailand, if you have concerns about your immediate safety you may wish to contact the Royal Thai Police immediately at telephone number “191”.

6. Q: Do you wish to file a complaint against the person who trafficked you?

A: If you feel comfortable doing so, you can inform the responsible staff currently caring for you, or do so once you arrive back in Thailand. The staff will arrange for you to speak

with the police about what happened and discuss what options are available with respect to providing information to the police. There may also be legal support available for you. Please refer to the Matrix section on page 10.

7. Q: Do you want to know what will happen if you do not have a passport?

A: You will still be able to travel home, but it will take a somewhat longer time to issue you a Certificate of Identification, or CI.

8. Q: Do you want to know why you can't go back home right now?

A: It will take some time to make arrangements for your travel. While waiting for this process to be completed, a safe place has been secured for you to stay until everything has been prepared for your return home.

9. Q: Do you know what you want to do when you return home?

A: There will be options for you when you go back to Thailand. Think about what you would really like to do, what you are interested in, and what you are good at. This information handbook may also give you some good ideas.

10. Q: Do you want to contact your family?

A: If you'd like to contact your family, you can ask the care provider to help you contact them via telephone or e-mail if they have such services where they live.

11. Q: Are you considering staying in Australia or returning to a country other than Thailand?

Being able to stay in Australia or a country other than Thailand will depend on the national laws of the other country and your individual situation. If you have further questions relating to this issue, please discuss them with your care provider.

12. Q: Do you have any concerns about being arrested when returning to Thailand?

A: There may be an investigation if you left Thailand using false documents. However, you will not be punished if you are identified as a victim of trafficking, not a criminal.

13. Q: Do you have any questions about the food here?

A: In some places Thai food will be available, but it may not be the same as what you usually eat in Thailand. Because being in good health is very important for the journey back home, please be patient and try to eat the nourishing food you are given.

Key words for general communication

Thai	Pronunciation	English	Pronunciation
Health and nutrition			
กินข้าว	gin-kao	eat	อึ๊ท
คุมกำเนิด	koom-gam-nert	birth control	เบียร์ธ คอขทโอรล
ตรวจเลือด	dtruat-leuat	blood test	บลัด เทสท์
ท้อง/ตั้งครรภ์	tong/dtang-kan	pregnancy	เพรกา-งั๊น-จี่
ประจำเดือน	bpra-jam-deuan	period/menstruation	พี-เรียด/เมม-สตรู-เอจัน
ปวดท้อง	bpuat-tong	stomachache	สไต-มัค-เอค
ปวดหัว	bpuat-hua	headache	เฮด-เอค
เป็นไข้	bpen-kai	have a fever	แฮฟ อะ พี-เว้อร์
ไม่สบาย/ป่วย	mai-sa-baai/bpuay	sick	ซิก
ยา	yaa	medicine	เม-ดี-ซิน
ยาคุม	yaa-koom	contraceptive pill	คอข-ตรา-เซป-พิล
โรคเอดส์	rohk-AIDS	AIDS	เอดส์
หิว	hiw	hungry	ฮัง-กรี่
หิวน้ำ	hiw-naam	thirsty	เทอส์-ตี้
หนาว	naao	cold	โคลด์
หาหมอ	haa-mor	see a doctor	ซี อะ ดีอก-เตอร์
สุขภาพดี	sook-ka-paap-dee	good health	กู๊ด เฮลธ์
Legal			
ดำเนินคดี	dam-nern-ka-dee	prosecute	พรอส-ซี-คิวท์
ตำรวจ	dtam-ruat	police	โพลี-สิส

Thai	Pronunciation	English	Pronunciation
อยู่เกินกำหนด	yoo-ger-n-gam-not	overstay	โอ-เวอร์-สະ-เตย์
ให้การ	hai-gaan	testimony	เทส-ตี-โม-นีย์
ถูกจับ	took-jap	arrested	อะ-เรส-เต็ด
ปลอม	bplom	false	ฟอลส์
นายหน้า	naai-naa	trafficker	ทราฟ-ฟีก-เกอริ์
ความจริง	kwaam-jing	the truth	เดอะ ทรูธ
สอบสวน	sop-suan	investigate	อิน-เวส-ตี-เกต
Shelter			
เข้าห้องน้ำ	kao-hong-naam	go to the bathroom	โก ทู เดอะ บาธ-รูม
เจ้าหน้าที่	jao-naa-tee	staff/officer	สตัฟ/ออฟ-ฟิซ-เซอริ์
โทรศัพท์	to-ra-sab	telephone	เท-เล-โฟน
นอน	non	sleep	สลีป
ผ้าห่ม	paa-hom	blanket	แบปลิง-เค็ด
ปลอดภัย	bplot-pai	safe	เซฟ
ข้อห้าม	kor-haam	prohibit	โพร-ฮิ-บิท
พักผ่อน	pak-pon	rest	เรสท์
Travel			
กลับบ้าน	glap-baan	go home	โก โฮม
เดินทาง	dern-taang	travel	ทรา-เวล
ไปถึง	bpai-teung	arrive	อะ-ไรฟ
หนังสือเดินทาง	nang-seu-dern-taang	passport	พาส-ปอร์ต
ติดต่อ	dtit-dtor	contact	คอน-แทค
มารับ	maa-rap	pick up	พิก อัป
ไปส่ง	bpai-song	drop off / send	ดรอพ ออฟ / เซนด์
ไปด้วยกัน	bpai-duay-gan	go together	โก ทู-เก-เธอริ์
กระเป๋า	gra-bpao	bag	แบก

ภาษาไทย	อ่านว่า	ภาษาอังกฤษ	อ่านว่า
Others			
กองทุนช่วยเหลือ กลับบ้าน	gong-toon-chuay- leua-meua-gláp-baan	reintegration fund	รี-อิน-ทิ-เกร-ชั่น ฟันด์
ครอบครัว	krop-krua	family	แฟม-ลี
คิดถึง	kit-teung	miss	มิส
เงิน	ngern	money	มัน-นี่
ช่วยเหลือ	chuay-leua	help	เฮลป์
ต้องการ	dtong-gaan	want	วัตท์
ทำงาน	tam-ngaan	work	เวิร์ค
พ่อแม่	por-mae	parents	แพ-เร้นท์ส
มี	mee	have	แฮฟ
ฉันไม่มี	chan-mai-mee	I don't have	ไอ ดันท์ แฮฟ
ฉันไม่ยาก / ไม่ต้องการ	chan-mai-yaak/ mai-dtong-gaan	I don't want	ไอ ดันท์ วัตท์
ยินยอม	yin-yom	consent	คอน-เซ้นท์
เรียน	rian	study	สตีดี-ดี
ลูกชาย	look-chaai	son	ซัน
ลูกสาว	look-sao	daughter	ดอ-เตอธอร์
หลานชาย	laan-chaai	nephew	เนฟ-ฟิว
หลานสาว	laan-saao	niece	นีซ
สงสัย	song-sai	doubt	เด้าบท์
สมัครใจ	sa-mak-jai	voluntarily	วา-ลูนฺ-ทาร์-ลี

Matrix: who does what and where can I find this information?

No.	Name of organization	Psychosocial assistance	Medical care	Education/ job placement	Legal assistance	Emergency support	Reintegration
1.	Chiangmai Home for Boys	Page 13	Page 13	-	Page 13	Page 13	-
2.	Department of Employment	-	-	Page 14	Page 14	-	-
3.	Department of Social Development and Welfare	Page 15	Page 15	Page 15	Page 16	Page 16	Page 16
4.	Department of Skills Development	-	-	Page 18	-	-	-
5.	Kredtrakarn Protection and Occupational Development Centre	Page 19	Page 19	Page 19	Page 20	Page 20	Page 20
6.	Naresawat Protection and Occupational Development Centre	Page 21	Page 21	Page 21	-	Page 21	Page 21
7.	Police contacts in Thailand	-	-	-	Page 22	-	-
8.	The Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division	-	-	-	-	Page 23	-
9.	Songkwae Protection and Occupational Development Centre	Page 24	Page 24	Page 24	Page 24	Page 24	Page 24
10.	Srisurat Protection and Occupational Development Centre	Page 25	Page 25	Page 25	Page 26	Page 26	Page 26
11.	Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women	-	Page 27	Page 27	-	-	-

Matrix:Matrix: who does what and where can I find this information?

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1.	AIDS Access Foundation	Page 29	Page 29	-	-	-	-
2.	Ban Saeng Mai	Page 30	-	Page 30	Page 30	Page 30	Page 30
3.	Community Theatre Project	-	-	Page 31	-	-	-
4.	Fight Against Child Exploitation Foundation	Page 32	-	-	Page 32	Page 32	-
5.	Foundation for Child Development	Page 33	-	Page 33	Page 33	Page 33	Page 33
6.	Foundation for Women	Page 34	Page 34	Page 34	Page 34	-	Page 34
7.	Friends of Women Foundation	Page 35	-	Page 35	Page 35	Page 35	-
8.	Harbor House Foundation	Page 36	Page 36	Page 36	Page 36	Page 36	Page 36
9.	Hospitality House	Page 37	Page 37	Page 37	Page 37	Page 37	-
10.	International Labour Organization	Page 38	Page 38	Page 38	Page 38	-	-
11.	International Organization for Migration	Page 39	Page 39	Page 39	-	-	Page 39
12.	Missing Persons Information Center for Anti-Trafficking in Persons	Page 40	-	-	Page 40	-	Page 40
13.	New Life Center Foundation	-	-	Page 41	Page 41	Page 41	Page 41
14.	Rahab Ministries Thailand	Page 42	-	Page 42	-	Page 42	-
15.	Self Empowerment Program of Migrant Women	Page 43	Page 43	Page 43	Page 43	-	-
16.	Thai Red Cross Society Anonymous Clinic	Page 44	Page 44	-	-	-	-

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Chiang Mai Home for Boys

Chiang Mai Home for Boys was established to help in the development of boys between 6 and 18 years old who live with different types of social problems. The home houses boys from 17 provinces in the northern part of the country. It also offers assistance to girls and women who have been involved in a trafficking situation.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Psychiatric counselling by social welfare experts and a multidisciplinary task force

2. Medical care

- Health assessment and recovery

3. Legal assistance

- Legal counselling by multidisciplinary task force

4. Emergency support

- Basic needs
- Protection on behalf of the beneficiary

Address: Chiangmai Home for Boys
Maerim
Chiangmai 50180, Thailand
Telephone: +66 53 121157-9
Fax: +66 53 121160
E-mails: c_mboyshome1@hotmail.com

Department of Employment

The Department of Employment provides several services in the areas of employment and job-seeker assistance, and it analyses labour-market situations and trends. It also serves as a labour-market information centre for persons seeking employment. Moreover, because it improves and supports a management system of employment, it enables people to get jobs relevant to their knowledge, capabilities and aptitudes, as well as to obtain adequate and fair benefits, free from deception by any agency or broker. The services can be rendered at any Provincial Employment Office; they are located in every province of Thailand, mostly in city halls. In Bangkok alone there are 10 offices.

Services available:

1. Education and job placement support

- Providing domestic employment services free of charge
- Providing overseas employment services and distributing the “Overseas Employment Manual” by Office of Overseas Employment Administration
- Providing vocational guidance and career promotion
- Arranging job fairs in provinces throughout Thailand

2. Legal assistance

- Monitoring private recruitment agencies, also receiving grievances about domestic and overseas employment
- Providing workers with pre-departure training before they go overseas to work
- Protecting the rights and benefits of overseas workers in accordance with the provisions of Thai laws and those of the destination countries



Photo <http://www.doe.go.th/jobfair.asp>

Address: Department of Employment
Ministry of Labour
Mitra-Maitri Rd., Din Daeng
Bangkok 10400, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 247 9423, +66 2 248 4743

Fax: +66 2 248 4743

Website: www.doe.go.th

Hotline: 1694 and 1506

Department of Social Development and Welfare

The Department of Social Development and Welfare (DSDW) works as the main coordinator in assisting and protecting children and women who have suffered in a trafficking situation. This is the core governmental organization working on human trafficking cases, for which there is no other responsible agency. It provides protection and vocational training for Thai returnees, and works to improve the standard of living of women who have been sexually exploited. It cooperates with other governmental and non-governmental organizations on prevention, and assists in finding solutions to prostitution in Thailand. It works in every province in the country; its target groups are girls, women and hill tribes.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Consultation provided by professional social workers and psychologists. When you are in trouble, or have any problems, DSDW has someone trustworthy with whom you can talk, and share your thoughts and worries.

2. Medical care

- Coordination of medical service networks to help take care of any illness you may have. If needed, you will be referred to a government hospital which charges less than private hospitals or does not charge at all in some cases.
- In case you need continuous care, DSDW will help in finding funds to cover your expenses (on a case-by-case basis).

3. Education and job placement support

- Offering vocational training to those who are at risk of getting into a trafficking situation.
- Providing financial support for further education or vocational training.

4. Legal assistance

- Giving necessary information about prosecution, investigation and protection
- Coordinating compensation claims
- Providing protection for witnesses

5. Emergency support

- Providing shelter for short and long periods

6. Reintegration

- Family tracing
- Making arrangements for your return home
- Following up individual cases

If you live outside Bangkok, you can access these services at your provincial DSDW office using the contact information below:

Central Region

Ang Thong	+66 35 611998
Chai Nat	+66 56 412348
Kamphangphetch	+66 55 710030-1
Lop Buri	+66 36 411222
Nakhon Nayok	+66 37 311480
Nakhon Pathom	+66 34 340015-7
Nakhon Sawan	+66 56 222607
Nonthaburi	+66 2 580 0737-8
Pathum Thani	+66 2 581 6043
Phetchabun	+66 56 721574
Phichit	+66 56 615513
Phitsanulok	+66 55 241040
Pranakon Sri Ayutthaya	+66 35 336551
Samut Prakan	+66 2 395 4136
Samut Sakhon	+66 34 411041
Samut Songkhram	+66 34 712614
Saraburi	+66 36 312815
Sing Buri	+66 36 507162-3

Sukhothai	+66 55 611234
Suphan Buri	+66 35 535386-7
Uthai Thani	+66 56 513758

Northern Region

Chiang Rai	+66 53 600888
Chiang Mai	+66 53 111719
Lampang	+66 54 265044 Ext. 17
Lamphun	+66 53 511188
Mae Hong Son	+66 53 615009
Nan	+66 54 710220
Phayao	+66 54 411146-7
Phrae	+66 54 511572
Tak	+66 55 511452
Uttaradit	+66 55 411983

Eastern Region

Chachoengsao	+66 38 516117
Chantaburi	+66 39 312552, +66 39 328191

Chonburi	+66 38 277877
Prachinburi	+66 37 454024
Rayong	+66 38 694073-5
Sa Kaeo	+66 37 425068-9
Trat	+66 39 511588

Western Region

Kanchanaburi	+66 34 511775
Phetchaburi	+66 32 423783
Prachuab Kiri Khan	+66 32 611349
Ratchaburi	+66 32 337620

Northeastern Region

Amnat Charoen	+66 45 451979
Buri Ram	+66 44 614418
Chaiyaphum	+66 44 811033-4
Kalasin	+66 34 511775
Khon Kaen	+66 43 236621, +66 47 003729
Loei	+66 42 815363
Maharakham	+66 43 777121
Mukdahan	+66 42 611442
Nakhonphanom	+66 42 511022
Nakhon Ratchasima	+66 44 251777
Nongbua Lamphu	+66 42 312030
Nongkhai	+66 42 411027
Roi Et	+66 43 511166
Sakon Nakhon	+66 42 711439-40
Srisaket	+66 45 622039
Surin	+66 44 511424
Ubonratchathani	+66 45 254107
Udon Thani	+66 42 221773
Yasothon	+66 45 711579

Southern Region

Chumphon	+66 77 511710
Krabi	+66 75 611044
Nakhon Si Thammarat	+66 72 655421
Narathiwat	+66 73 532106
Phangnga	+66 76 412179
Phatthalung	+66 74 613289
Pattani	+66 73 348310
Phuket	+66 76 212726
Ranong	+66 77 823248
Satun	+66 74 711375
Songkhla	+66 74 311188
Suratthani	+66 77 355080-1
Trang	+66 75 218366
Yala	+66 73 212961

Address: Department of Social
Development and Welfare,
Krungkasem, Pomprab
Bangkok 10100, Thailand

Phone: +66 2 659 6161-9

Fax: +66 2 281 5030

E-mail: thaitwc@loxinfo.co.th

Website: www.dsdw.co.th

Hot Lines: 1300

Department of Skills Development

The Department of Skills Development works to develop international standards regarding the minimum labour skills required for employment, as well as to set international employment policy for Thailand. There are offices located all over the country.

Services available:

1. Education and job placement support

- Preparing people to start working and developing basic skills related to each career (more than 280 hours); improving labour skills for people's current career path (more than 6 hours); providing vocational training for application in free-lance fields (more than 21 hours); providing additional skills training to enable people to generate other sources of income (more than 6 hours)
- Testing and grading labour skills
- Skill Development Promotion Act B.E. 2545 (A.D. 2002)



Photos from www.dsd.go.th

Address: Department of Skills Development
Ministry of Labour
Mittra Mitree Rd., Din Daeng
Bangkok 10400, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 247 6606, +66 2 245 1707,
+66 2 245 4317

Fax: +66 2 274 6606

Website: www.dsd.go.th

Kredtrakarn Protection and Occupational Development Centre

Called *Baan Kredtrakarn* in Thai, the centre functions as a central home for helping girls and women who are facing social problems, including those who are victims of human-trafficking incidents. The centre collaborates with a variety of social alliances.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Psychiatric counselling
- Preparation for the beneficiary to return to her family

2. Medical care

- Free medical examination for residents

3. Education and job placement support

- Providing vocational training for people who are at risk. There are options to apply for various careers, such as foot massage therapy, handicraft-making and cooking, among others
- Helping beneficiaries to pursue further education



Photos from www.kredtrakarnhome.com

4. Legal assistance

- Protection for the beneficiary
- Assistance for the beneficiary throughout the prosecution process
- Assistance in claiming compensation

5. Emergency support

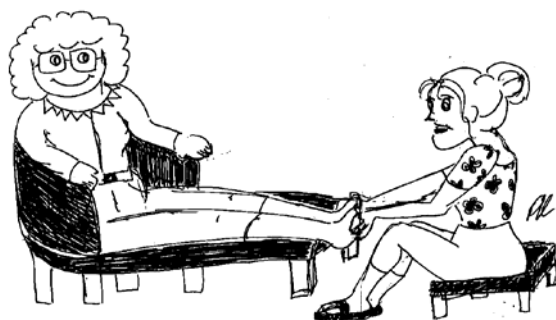
- Providing urgent shelter for short and long periods

6. Reintegration

- Preparation for returning home
- Assessment of the security of the beneficiary's family
- Coordinating with other local governmental networks to get the beneficiary back home
- Follow-up after the beneficiary's return to her community



Photos from www.kredtrakarnhome.com



Address: 34/1 M.2 Kohkred, Pakkred
Nonthaburi 1120, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 584 5115

Fax: +66 2 584 5116

E-mail: kredtrakarn@hotmail.com

Website: www.kredtrakarnhome.com

Nareesawat Protection and Occupational Development Centre

Known in Thai as *Baan Nareesawat*, this is the main centre in the northeastern region of Thailand providing assistance to all girls and women who have suffered from any social crisis.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Psychologists and social workers are available to help the beneficiary recover from her trauma

2. Medical care

- Health examination in the centre

3. Education and job placement support

- Seven vocational training choices are available: dress-making, hair-styling for women and men, cooking, handicrafts, household service, nutrition and weaving skills
- Fundamental education and further education at the wish of the beneficiary, including attendance at vocational schools and job placement
- Financial support for starting a business, especially for those with AIDS

4. Emergency support

- Accommodation for destitute women and children

5. Reintegration

- Transferring the beneficiary to her home
- Follow-up and assistance, if needed



Photos from Nareesawat's brochure

Address: 1422 Suranarai Rd., Naimuang
Nakhon Ratchasima 30000
Thailand
Telephone: +66 44 242724, +66 44 255271
Fax: +66 44 230368 ext. 19
E-mail: bannaree@hotmail.com
Website: www.bannaree.org

Police contacts in Thailand

The Children Juveniles and Women Division of the Royal Thai Police works to suppress criminal acts domestically and internationally under the sections of the Criminal Code relating to social order and offences against children, youth, women and labourers.

Address: Pahonyotin Rd., Jompon, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900, Thailand

Tel: +66 2 513 3213, +66 2 513 7117

Website: www.cwd.go.th

The Royal Thai Police

Address: Rama I, Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330, Thailand

Tel: +66 2 205 1534, +66 2 252 8151

Hotline: 191 (inside Thailand only)

The Australian Federal Police, Bangkok

Address: Australian Embassy, 37 South Sathorn Rd., Bangkok 10120, Thailand

Tel: +66 2 344 6300 (the Australian Embassy switch)

Website: www.afp.gov.au

The Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division

Department of Consular Affairs

The Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division, Department of Consular Affairs, collaborates with the Children Juveniles and Women Division, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security and Royal Thai embassies/consulates around the world.

Service available:

1. Emergency support

- Aid for Thai nationals living or travelling abroad, assisting them with any complications or problems they might encounter
- Assistance to Thai labour migrants who may have been exploited when working in foreign countries, as well as help for Thai fishermen recovered from the sea in foreign territories

Address: The Protection of Thai Nationals Abroad Division
Department of Consular Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
123 Chaengwattana Road, Lak-si
Bangkok 10210, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 575 1046, +66 2 575 1050

Fax: +66 2 575 1052

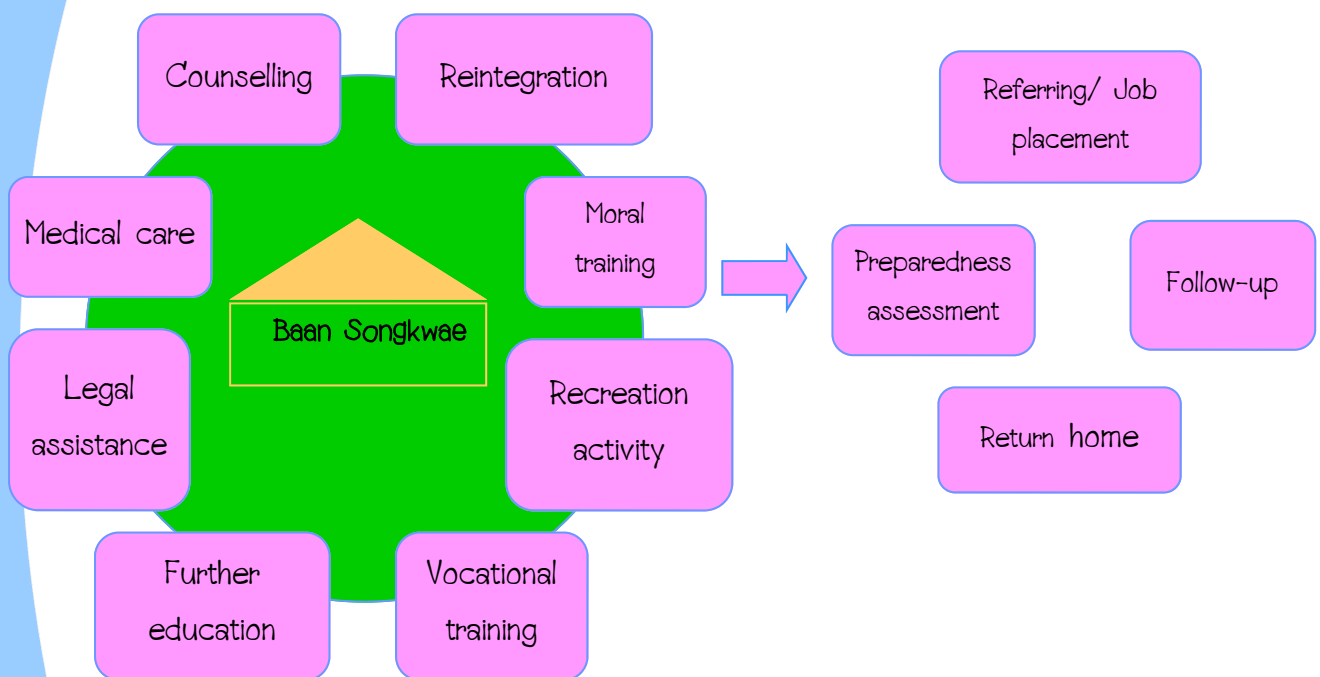
E-mail: consular@mfa.go.th

Websites: www.mfa.go.th; www.consular.go.th

Songkwae Protection and Occupational Development Centre

Baan Songkwae, as it is referred to in Thai, is the main centre in the northern part of Thailand to provide assistance to girls and women who have suffered from emotional and social problems.

Services available:



Photos from Songkwae's brochure



Address: 492/4 M. 17
Nongkula Bangrakam
Phitsanulok 65140, Thailand

Telephone: +66 55 981240,
+66 55 981241

Fax: +66 55 981240-1

Website: www.songkhawehome.com

Srisurat Protection and Occupational Development Centre

Called *Baan Srisurat* in Thai, this is the main centre in the southern part of Thailand for providing assistance to girls and women of any national origin who have confronted emotional or social problems. It also offers assistance to girls and women who have been involved in a “trafficking-in-persons” situation. Its services are free of cost to those in need.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Mental and social counselling

2. Medical care

- Providing 24-hour medical care. If the beneficiary is seriously injured, she will be transferred to an appropriate hospital

3. Education and job placement support

- Non-formal education at every level
- Vocational training classes including dress-making, cosmetology, handicrafts and cooking
- Job placement for beneficiaries and provision of some interest-free loans



4. Legal Assistance

- Providing the beneficiary with assistance if she chooses to prosecute her traffickers. The Centre prepares the beneficiary so that she is ready for the legal process. It also provides a social worker, a psychologist or a care provider to accompany the beneficiary to court for her security and safety throughout the legal process.

5. Emergency support

- Shelter with basic needs
- Nursery care

6. Reintegration

- Helping the beneficiary adjust to normal life before going back to her family
- Accompanying the beneficiary on her return home
- Working with local agencies to follow up on the beneficiary after she has left the centre



Photos from Srisurat's brochure

Address: 39 Moo 1, Soi Piset
Surat-Nasan Rd.
Khunthalee
Suratthani 84100
Thailand

Telephone: +66 77 355540-1

Fax: +66 77 355540

E-mail: bansrisurat@hotmail.com

Website: www.baansrisurat.org

Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women

The Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, which works under DSDW and the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, opened this training centre for women who lack the skills needed for employment. Its focus is helping women to take care of themselves. There are eight offices located in various parts of the country:

- Chiangrai Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 53 958055
- Central Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 2 583 8350
- Northeastern Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 45 614002
- Southern Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 74 388006
- Northern Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 54 227795
- Rattanaapa Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women, Tel. +66 43 243350
- Foundation of the Centre in Honour of Her Majesty the Queen's 72nd Birthday Anniversary, Tel. +66 53 520420
- Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women in Celebration of H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri, Tel. +66 38 241072



Services available:

1. Medical care

- Free medical examination

2. Education and job placement support

- Various types of vocational training
- Free-of-charge accommodation for the beneficiary



Photos from www.vtcw.org

Address: Central Welfare and Vocational Training Centre for Women
78/3 Moo 1 Tiwanon Rd.
Bangtalad, Pakkred
Nonthaburi 1120, Thailand

Telephones: +66 2 961 1882
+66 2 583 9335
+66 2 583 8350

Fax: +66 2 583 8350

E-mail: Training@vtcw.org

Website: www.vtcw.org

NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANIZATIONS
AND
INTERNATIONAL
AGENCIES

AIDS Access Foundation

The AIDS Access Foundation provides counselling for people and their families who have any question about HIV/AIDS; for people who have used drugs and their families; and homosexual individuals and their families. There are three offices at which beneficiaries can receive assistance: in Bangkok, Kanchanaburi and Chiang Rai.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling services, directly at the office, or through the daily call centre (tel. +66 2 372 2222 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.), are anonymous. The foundation is staffed by some 30 trained volunteers

2. Medical care

- Clinic for health assessment; beneficiaries are transferred to the hospital, if necessary
- Home-based care service, including counselling, is integrated only if a client makes a request for assistance. These types of visits also provide an opportunity to deliver basic health care and medicines
- The service itself has an established referral system, which has been found to be highly effective as a method to reduce risk behaviours and to access accurate information about HIV/AIDS

Address:

Bangkok office: 48/282 Centerplace, Ramkamhaeng Rd., Sapansoong, Bangkok 10240, Thailand

Tel: +66 2 372 2113-4 **Fax:** +66 2 372 2116

Kanchanaburi office: 64/3 Saengchootoe Rd., Pakpraek, Kanchanaburi 71000, Thailand

Tel: +66 34 512972 , +66 34 623776

Chiang Rai office: 293 Moo 2 Narkai Rd., Robvieng, Chiang Rai 57000, Thailand

Tel: +66 53 716212 , +66 53 717897

E-mail: access@aidsaccess.com

Website: www.aidsaccess.com

Ban Saeng Mai

Ban Saeng Mai works to provide consultants and to protect children and women, especially those belonging to ethnic groups in the northern region of Thailand who have suffered in a human trafficking incident. A highlight of this programme is that it provides interpretation in various minority languages, legal assistance, reintegration and follow-up to prevent re-trafficking.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Psychiatric counselling by phone and in person by well-trained experts
- Organizing activities to reduce the beneficiary's stress

2. Education and job placement support

- Short-term vocational training

3. Legal assistance

- Preparing the beneficiary to understand the legal process
- Coordinating with the responsible officer during the legal process
- Arranging for a lawyer to help the beneficiary to prosecute

4. Emergency support

- Providing safe accommodation and items necessary for living

5. Reintegration

- Preparing the beneficiary, family and community so that they are ready for the person's return
- Follow-up on individual cases



Photos from Ban Saeng Mai



Address: 258 Moo 5 Robvieng
Chiang Rai 57000, Thailand
Telephone: +66 53 714772, +66 81 706 2092
Fax: +66 53 717098
E-mail: bansaengmai@yahoo.co.th

Community Theatre Project (Gabfai Theatre Group)

Gabfai is a word in the northern Thai dialect which means “matches”. The Gabfai Theatre Group aims to raise awareness of trafficking among persons in the northern part of Thailand. This project has a mobile theatre group, which performs in various locations, including Vieng-hare, Fai and Mae-eye districts in Chiang Mai Province and Maesai District in Chiang Rai Province.

The target audiences are children, teachers, community members and tourists who travel around the area. The objective of the group is to:

1. Build the capacity of the target audiences through the conduct of community plays
2. Encourage the community to create and use plays as a communication tool
3. Produce materials providing useful information

Services available:

1. Education and job placement support

- Beneficiaries with an interest in theatre can receive theatrical training. The group is always open to anyone who has faith in the fight against human trafficking.

Contact	Mr. Amarin Plengratsamee
Address:	30/1 Ratchpruek Rd. Changpuak Chiang Mai 50300, Thailand
Telephones:	+66 53 404582
Fax:	+66 53 404582
E-mail:	gabfai@cm.ksc.co.th

Fight Against Child Exploitation Foundation

FACE helps work on the legal cases of children sexually abused by foreign abusers, and on the cases of trafficking victims.

Services available:

1. Legal assistance

- Monitoring the legal cases for both criminal and civil/labour cases
- Providing assistance for demanding compensation and/or wages

2. Emergency support

- Helping refer cases to appropriate shelters run by government agencies or non-governmental organizations, and provide support as needed

Address: P.O. Box 178
Klongchan
Bangkok 10240, Thailand
Telephone: +66 2 509 5782
Fax: +66 2 519 2794
E-mail: face@internet.ksc.net.th
Website: www.facefoundation.or.th

Foundation for Child Development

Working on issues relating to child labour and child's rights, especially in Bangkok, in Aranyaprathet, Sa Kaeo Province, and Kukan, Posuwan District in Srisaket Province, the Foundation offers a number of services.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling, providing a space where beneficiaries can feel there is a friend who is listening to them

2. Education and job placement support

3. Legal assistance

- Protection for the beneficiary and witnesses



Picture from www.iamchild.org

- Coordination with lawyers

4. Emergency support

- A "Hot Line" centre for reporting/ seeking help for children in crisis situations, and when they have been trapped in exploitive labour
- Financial support for transportation, food and personal items

5. Reintegration

- Family tracing and assessment
- Sending the beneficiary home safely
- Monitoring and follow-up

Address: 143/109-111 Pinklaopattana Village
Soi Wat Suwankeeree
Boromratchachonnee Rd., Arunamarin
Bangkoknoi, Bangkok 10700, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 4336292, +66 2 8846603

Fax: +66 2 4355281

E-mail: iamchild2004@hotmail.com

Website: www.iamchild.org

Hot Lines: +66 2 435 5281

Foundation for Women

The Foundation for Women works for gender equality and social justice by providing women with both information and direct assistance. Its services are open to women of any nationality, with emphasis on young women, women workers and migrants, victims of domestic and sexual violence, and women and children who are vulnerable to forced prostitution and trafficking. The Foundation also advocates for the passage of fair laws and for the formulation of related policies.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling for beneficiaries; peer group support for trafficked women; and referrals for further psychological care

2. Medical care

- Facilitation of referrals and transport to service providers, financial help so that victims can receive medical care

3. Education and job placement support

- Scholarships for children's education. Loans to enable women to enroll in skills training courses or to develop their own livelihood

4. Legal assistance

- Counselling about legal rights for victims of violence or trafficking. Support and assistance for plaintiffs at all steps of the prosecution process

Address: P.O. Box 47 Bangkoknoi
Bangkok 10700
Thailand

Telephones: +66 2 433 5149, +66 2 4351246

Fax: +66 2 4346774

E-mail: info@womenthai.org

Website: www.womenthai.org

Friends of Women Foundation

The main role of the Friends of Women Foundation is to protect the rights of women and assist women in crisis situations, such as sexual abuse, unwanted pregnancy, domestic violence, abandonment, unfair dismissal from work, discrimination based on sex, and sexual exploitation. The foundation is run by lawyers, social workers and volunteers with direct experience in working against trafficking in persons. Its focal working points are located in Bangkok, Samut Prakan and the northeastern, northern and southern regions of Thailand.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial support

- Counselling for issues such as making adjustments for returning to home communities

2. Education and job placement support

- Financial support for vocational training

3. Legal support

- Assisting in the prosecution process

4. Emergency support

- Coordination points are located in four regions of the country where beneficiaries can request urgent aid and assistance in gaining referrals to governmental support agencies



Picture from www.friendsofwomen.net/

Address: 386/61-62 Soi Ratchadapisek 42
Ratchadapisek Rd., Latyao
Chatuchak
Bangkok 10900, Thailand

Telephone: Bangkok +66 2 513 1001, +66 2 513 2780
Northeast +66 42 632382
North +66 53 808683
South +66 74 422836
Samut Prakan +66 2 464 3969

Fax: +66 2 513 1929

E-mail: fow@mozart.inet.co.th

Website: www.friendsofwomen.or.th

Harbor House Foundation

Harbor House Foundation works to prevent human trafficking and provides vocational training, capacity-building and a better quality of life for children who reside in its shelter. It also works to create positive attitudes towards children, women, housewives and community members. The major working areas are Mae Sai in Chiang Rai and in neighbouring provinces.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling before the beneficiary's return to family
- Art therapy and moral training

2. Medical care

3. Education and job placement support

- Life skills development for youth, with a focus on fundamental formal and informal education, social values and attitudes

4. Legal assistance

- Protecting the beneficiary
- Assisting the beneficiary during the prosecution process
- Case follow-up by coordinating with lawyers and a multidisciplinary task force in Chiang Rai Province

5. Emergency support

- A "Hot Line" centre to help people who are in crisis situations
- Shelter

6. Reintegration

- Family assessment
- Financial support/coordination with the agencies concerned in conducting family visits
- Monitoring and follow-up

Address: 61 Moo 7 Baantasala
Srimuangchum Maesai
Chiang Rai 57130
Thailand

Telephone: +66 53 668063

Fax: +66 53 668063

E-mail: reunromyen@yahoo.com
tawanamphai@yahoo.com

Hot Line: +66 81 595 0520

Hospitality House

Hospitality House provides temporary shelter for migrant labourers and victims of trafficking who need to stay in Bangkok, but have problems finding accommodation. Hospitality House, in conjunction with the Department of Labour, can provide employment advice to beneficiaries applying for jobs in order to prevent deception by employers. Offices are located in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Loei, Udon Thani, Nong Khai, Phuket and Songkhla.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial Support Counselling

- Job search counselling

2. Medical care

- HIV prevention

3. Education and job placement

- Providing advice to job seekers both inside and outside Thailand
- Orientation before making a decision/accepting a job offer in order to prevent deception by employers

4. Legal support

- Education concerning the Thai labour law

5. Emergency support

- Short-term shelter for urgent cases



Photo from Hospitality House's brochure

Address: 343/22-24 The soi beside the Thai Farmers' Bank, Sapanmai Branch
Pahonyothin Rd., Bangkok
Bangkok 10220, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 972 4992

Fax: +66 2 972 4993

E-mail: welcomehbkk@hotmail.com

International Labour Organization

The “feminization of migration” has increased the employment opportunities available to many women, but it also holds the potential for human rights abuses and labour exploitation. Migrants have been lured by promises of overseas employment, but have ended up in exploitative situations, such as forced labour, sexual exploitation and human trafficking. Migrants returning home from such exploitative conditions often face a myriad of difficulties. Aside from the trauma they suffer and the stigma attached to being exploited, returned migrants, including victims of trafficking, have to cope with reintegration problems with their families and communities.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has initiated a new project focusing on the economic and social empowerment of returned victims of trafficking. Its purpose is to contribute to the reduction of trafficking in children and women for labour and sexual exploitation in Asia through support for a humane reintegration process for returned victims of trafficking.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Social support and empowerment through peer groups, psychosocial counselling and creating awareness of people’s rights

2. Medical care

- Medical support

3. Education and job placement support

- Income-generation and livelihood options, including education, skills training and job placement

4. Legal support

- Legal support and complaint mechanisms

Address: International Labour Organization
10th Floor, United Nations Bldg.
Ratchadamnoen Nok Ave.
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Telephones: +66 2 288 1354

Fax: +66 2 288 1019

E-mail: ticwcr@loxinfo.co.com

Website: www.childtrafficking.net

International Organization for Migration

IOM works against human trafficking in various ways. IOM has a project supporting Thai trafficked victims returning home. Those who consent to being in an IOM programme will be assisted by IOM offices in the destination country; once they arrive in Thailand, they will be assisted by IOM Bangkok through a government agency.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Consulting on the reintegration process and coordinating with a DSDW social worker

2. Medical care

- Support in paying for medication expenses (on case-by-case basis)

3. Education and job placement support

- Financial support for the beneficiary's further education, or in starting a business and for others needs.

4. Reintegration

- Financial support for returning to Thailand and reception at the airport
- Travel arrangements (domestic) for beneficiaries who request to return home
- Follow-up through provincial DSDW officers

Address: 183 Rajanakarn Bldg.
18th Floor
South Sathorn Rd., Yannawa
Bangkok 10120, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 343 9300

Fax: +66 2 343 9399, +66 2 286 1818

E-mail: ctbkk_thaireturn@iom.int
iombkk@iom.int

Websites: www.iom.int
www.iom-seasia.org



Missing Persons Information Center for Anti-Trafficking in Persons (The Mirror Foundation)



ภาพจาก www.backtohome.org

This NGO has some programmes against human trafficking :

The centre for anti-trafficking coordinates with relevant agencies to consult and assist persons in all kinds of trafficking situations, such as child-begging, forced labour and the sexual exploitation of children. The organization can also assist with the prosecution of traffickers. Assistance is provided throughout Thailand.

The centre for missing persons and anti-trafficking coordinates with related organizations to help find missing persons.

The prevention programme against the exploitation of migrant children and women in the sex industry focuses on monitoring and educating the community and raising awareness about all kinds of exploitation that can affect migrant children and women. The working areas are Tambon Mae Yao, Muang District, Chiang Rai.

Services available:

1. **Psychosocial**
 - Psychiatric counselling
2. **Legal assistance**
 - Legal counselling and coordinating with legal network agencies
3. **Reintegration**

Address: 41 Lertpanya Bldg. Room #907
Soi Lertpanya, Sri Ayuttaya Rd.
Ratchtewee
Bangkok 10440, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 642 7991-2

Fax: +66 2 642 7991-2

E-mail: info@backtohome.org

Websites: www.backtohome.org
www.notforsale.in.th
www.mirror.or.th

New Life Center Foundation

The New Life Center works with ethnic minority women and girls throughout northern Thailand and neighbouring countries who are at risk for, or have been victims of, labour exploitation, human trafficking and sexual abuse. It empowers and equips women through education and training to build resiliency and increase their vocational options.

Services available:

1. Education and job placement support

- Formal and non-formal elementary education programmes
- Vocational training. Current residents are studying in the fields of tailoring, food preparation, nursing assistance, accounting and care for the elderly
- Life skills development

2. Legal assistance

- Citizenship advocacy, including interpretation

3. Emergency support

- Emergency shelter

4. Reintegration

- Community education campaigns
- Support and therapeutic activities for beneficiaries
- Community follow-up



Photos from New Life Center



Address: New Life Center Foundation
P.O. Box 29
Chiang Mai 50000, Thailand

Telephone: +66 (0) 53351312

Fax: +66 53 380871

E-mail: newlife@pobox.com

Website: www.newlifecenterfoundation.org

Rahab Ministries Thailand

This organization focuses on aiding female victims of trafficking, especially in the sex industry, to start a new life. It encourages women to come to the centre for friendship, support, practical assistance, relaxation and recreation. The majority of assistance is carried out in Bangkok and various provinces in northeastern Thailand.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling on practical matters such as safe sex, AIDS and child care

2. Education and job placement support

- Training in hair-dressing, handicrafts and card making
- Financial support for further education and alternative employment

3. Emergency support

- Short-term shelter



Photos from www.rahabministriesthailand.org



Address: P.O. Box 57
Patpong Post Office
Bangkok 10506, Thailand

Telephone: +66 2 236 9270

Fax: +66 2 236 9270

E-mail: rahab@anet.net.th
rahabministries@gmail.com

Website: www.rahabministriesthailand.org

Self Empowerment Program of Migrant Women

This programme, known as SEPOM for short, was established by women who had earlier returned from Japan who wanted to help other women returning from working in that country. This programme is aimed at aiding in the recovery and development of such women, and assisting Thai-Japanese children who face related issues. The area of Thailand covered in its work is Chiang Rai.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Counselling by staff and peer-to-peer support
- Preparing returnees and sharing experiences when beneficiaries return home, discussing positive and negative expectations



2. Medical care

- Health counselling and transfer to related agencies

3. Education and job placement support

- Vocational training depending on the beneficiary's interest
- Providing informal education

4. Legal assistance

- Legal counselling on divorce, nationality, visas and general advice



Picture from the SEPOM brochure

Address: 120 Moo 15 Robvieng
Chiang Rai 57000, Thailand
Telephone: +66 53 756411
Fax: +66 53 756411
E-mail: sepom2002@yahoo.com

The Thai Red Cross Anonymous Clinic

At the Thai Red Cross Anonymous Clinic, the beneficiary has no need to reveal his or her real name in order to receive assistance.

Services available:

1. Psychosocial

- Information about the prevention of and care for people living with HIV and sexually transmitted diseases
- Pre-test and post-test HIV counseling

2. Medical care

- Anti-HIV test, CD4 examination and viral load tests
- AIDS drugs supplied free of cost to HIV-infected pregnant women in order to prevent the transmission of HIV from mothers to children
- Care for and treatment of people living with HIV/AIDS
- Volunteers to support adherence to treatment and care, including home visits if needed.



Address:

- Bangkok-104 Ratchdamri Rd., Pathumwan
Bangkok 10330, Thailand
Telephone: +66 2 252 2568 press 1, +66 2 256 4107-9
Fax: +66 2 254 7577
- Red Cross Office, Chiang Mai Province: +66 53 234669
- Red Cross Office, Surin Province: +66 44 719237-8
- Sirinthorn Red Cross Office, Thungsong, Nakhon Si Thammarat office: +66 75 420704

Website: www.trcarc.org

Things to know if you want to work abroad

Here are some things to be aware of:

1. To help in your employment search, the Department of Employment keeps a list of job vacancies that are available abroad. If you are interested, you may register with the Department of Employment in your province. There are five main channels through which you can go in order to work abroad:
 - Private overseas recruitment agencies
 - The Department of Employment
 - Self-arranged overseas employment
 - Local employers who send their employees to work overseas
 - Local employers who dispatch their employees to be trained abroad
2. Gather as much information as possible about:
 - The country in which you are going to work. For example, have some knowledge of the main language spoken there, establish some emergency contacts and determine the cost of living (compare what you will earn with what you will have to spend in terms of living expenses; you might not have much left over).
 - Legal processes that you may need to go through in order to work there legally. For example, getting an employment contract from your employer, getting the right type of visa and work permit from the embassy or the Department of Employment (depending on which channel you go through to get employed). You can get more details on this from the Department of Employment.
 - Your rights when working abroad; for example, the minimum wage in the country, information on which is available from the Thailand Overseas Employment Administration Office, and the labour laws in the country, information about which you can obtain either from the embassy of that country or the Thai Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Then compare this information with what you have been told by your agency. Is there any difference between the information from these sources? You may obtain these data from places like the embassy of each particular country, travel agencies, websites, friends who have been there and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

3. If you are recruited by a private overseas recruitment agency, there are some conditions that you should be aware of:
 - All advance payments that you make should be verified with credible receipts and they cannot be collected legally more than 30 days in advance.
 - All workers must be examined by the Department of Skills Development.
 - When leaving Thailand, you must leave at the Labour Checkpoint, not the Immigration Checkpoint.

4. In case someone personally hires you to work for him or her, that person must send a request to the Department of Employment. You can check the status of your future employer at the Department of Employment. You can also ask whether your employer has permission to employ a foreigner to work for him/her by checking with the embassy of the country where you plan to be working.

5. No matter how you have been contracted to work abroad, either through an agency or on your own, you should have a written agreement/contract between you and your employer which mentions the following conditions:
 - Type of work
 - Period of work
 - Welfare, food, and accommodation
 - Airfare
 - Medical care
 - Wage/salary (not lower than the minimum set by the Department of Employment)
 - Life insurance

For more information contact:
Overseas Employment Administration Office
Department of Employment

3rd Floor, Ministry of Labour, Mitra-Maitri Road, Bangkok 10400, Thailand.

Tel. +66 2 272 2903, +66 2 272 2907, +66 2 272 2912, +66 2 272-2911

References

Books

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