

# KIDS ARK FOUNDATION

## Annual Report 2020

### Introduction

Kids Ark Foundation's goal is to help disadvantaged children whose lives have been affected by poverty, and to better the quality of life of those children through long-term and comprehensive efforts. As many children are vulnerable and their parents lack knowledge about human rights Kids Ark's aim is to strengthen them with the opportunity to grow in safe and nurturing surroundings. Our ambition is to optimize the children's health, increase educational options and empower them with knowledge for the future.

Kids Ark has been able to continue the projects initiated in previous years due to various generous donors, one of whom has been working tirelessly in fund raising for Kids Ark Thailand. This special donor is "Kids Ark USA".

### 1. Houses of Hope

**The Houses of Hope** have functioned well during the year. Children taking part in the activities come from poor households and live under difficult circumstances.

The activities at the Houses of Hope are designed to give the children continuity, love, security and support for them to be able to grow up to become independent individuals. They get help with homework, nutritious food, computer classes, information about nutrition, hygiene (including reproductive health) and educational games.

#### **1.1 House of Hope 1 and 3:**

There were 50 children altogether from the Sansai district; *30 children at the House of Hope 1 and 20 children at the House of Hope 3.*

#### **Funding:**

Balance b/fwd from 2019	THB 593,227.70
The Lilian Holofcener Charitable Foundation	THB 400,000.00
Kids Future	THB 29,000.00
Bank interest	<u>THB 2,336.32</u>
Total	THB 1,024,564.02
<b>Expenditures</b>	<u>THB (604,339.50)</u>
<b>Balance to be carried forward to 2021</b>	<u>THB 420,224.52</u>

## 1.2 House of Hope 4:

There were 45 children at Ban Hauypoo school in Mae Ai district.

### Funding:

Transferred from 2019	THB	99,795.70
From Kids Ark USA	THB	450,000.00
Bank interest	THB	<u>1,024.81</u>
	Total	THB 5 50,820.51
<b>Expenditure 2020</b>		<b><u>THB (403,543.95)</u></b>
<b>Balance to be carried forward to 2021</b>	<b>THB</b>	<b>147,276.56</b>

## 2. Day Care Center

In Ban Huay Muang Nai village 30 children ages between 3 and 11 years attended the Center.

### Funding:

Transferred from 2019	THB	168,726.15
Transferred from Jochnick Foundation	THB	174,300.00
Kids Ark Foundation	THB	55,535.00
Bank interest	THB	<u>739.47</u>
	Total	THB <u>399,300.62</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		<b><u>THB (44,292.01)</u></b>
<b>Balance to be carried forward to 2021</b>	<b>THB</b>	<b>44,292.01</b>

## 3. Village Recycling and Sanitation Project in the Huay Muang Nai Village

The budget for this project came from the Proposal of the Health Promotion Office 6  
With the project period of 10 months starting from 1st July 2020 to 1st May 2021.

**Purpose:** To provide knowledge, create the right attitude and practice.

1. The community can reduce garbage by 50% of the total waste which comes from 75 households. Photos are to be used for comparison between before and after the project launch.
2. At least 40% of people in this community can separate and make use of garbage.
3. To have at least 10 people from the village who lead the project and work together as a group to reduce the amount of garbage.
4. Organizing community group to discuss with the local government administration on regular basis.
5. To provide opportunity for a home visits to evaluate and maintain the understanding of the villagers.

There were 30 villagers from Huaymuangnai attended the workshop given by an expert from the Southeast Asia Foundation for Culture and Environment. The workshop provided the opportunity to the villagers to learn about the damages caused by plastic wastes to the environment. They learnt about the different kinds of plastic, how they are made, from what kinds of materials and how long it takes for the plastics to disintegrate after it was discarded. Alternative materials to use instead of plastic were discussed and how the plastic wastes from the village can be recycled.

#### **4. Child Sponsorship Program**

There are 37 students under this sponsorship programme (27 and 10 sponsorships are from Sweden and USA respectively).

- 8 students in elementary schools;
- 12 students in grade 7-9;
- 5 students in high schools;
- 3 students in vocational schools;
- 9 students in universities

#### **5. Kids Ark USA**

##### **Funding:**

Transferred from 2019	THB 6,022,438.44
Transferred in 2020	THB 3,000.00
Bank interest	<u>THB 16,743.07</u>
Total	THB 6,042,181.51

##### **Expenditure**

THB (1,044,465.00)

Note: Program expenses i.e. field work (food, lodging and petrol)

- Children support
- House of Hope 1/3
- House of Hope 4
- Administration

**Balance to be carried forward to 2021**

**THB 4,997,716.51**

#### **6. Rights Now Foundation**

Rights Now Foundation is supporting a student at a University level.

## **7. New Projects in 2020**

### **7.1 Robin's Dream: Robins House of Hope**

At Haay Wai Village, Kids Ark started as a Thai foundation with largely Swedish support, which provides the backdrop for the following story. Swedes help in supporting Kids Ark, just as Americans do. One such Swedish lady brought her two teenage sons to Thailand a couple of times and Robin her 15-year-old dreamt of living in Thailand to assist the disadvantaged children he met there.

Robin also wanted to work to change the violence he saw in Stockholm, to give youth there a better future. He did not see "Swedes" and "Thais," he just saw young people with little opportunity and thus falling into despair. Whether in the urban confines of Stockholm, or the rural villages of Thailand, he just saw other kids yearning for a better life, and he wanted to make a difference.

Unfortunately, Robin became a victim of the very violence he sought to change. He and his brother were shot in Stockholm, killing Robin, and putting his brother in a wheelchair for life. His family wanted to work with Kids Ark to provide a living memorial to Robin's short life. In conjunction with Kids Ark, we are naming our next House of Hope "Robin's Dream" as a tribute to Robin's aspirational dream of assisting other youth to rise out of poverty through education.

### **7.2 Rugby Program**

A fun outing for the children from House of Hope 1&3 was to learn how to play rugby every Saturday with the Lanna Rugby Club Team. The children got donated shoes and socks to allow them to play Rugby.

### **Kids Ark New Office**

To save the money, since our old office was a larger space than we needed Kids Ark moved to a new location which has better visibility and is easier to find. Mailing address is the same. New office address is:

**52/20 Singharat Road, Sripum, Muang Chiang Mai 50200**

### **Distribution food for children and families**

Covid 19 (Corona Virus) has affected people's lives all around the world such as many business sectors have had to close down, and many people are now unfortunately unemployed. Currently, the virus is still having outbreaks around the world that does not seem to disappear in which we humans must find a solution and continue to cope with this disease and stay safe and strong.

Thailand was in lock down for a few months and during such period we distributed food for the children and their families. Thai children are required to do online study with TV, electronic

devices, computer, tablet and or mobile phone but it is not live classes it is pre-recorded schoolwork. Some parents and caregivers want their children to take part in studying online but some have no internet. Most of the children at House of Hope do not have a mobile phone /internet some of them do not even have a TV at home so they have to go to their friends or a neighbor to learn from the TV but only if they are in the same class, especially at the Daycare Center most of the parents/caregivers do not have TV at home, mobile phone or internet.

On behalf of the Kids Ark Foundation the representatives of Parents and children we are really grateful, thankful and appreciate all the fundraising and donations from everyone involved for helping in so many different ways during the outbreak of the Covid 19. Because of all your supports we have been able to distribute food to all affected parents and children whom are under the Kids Ark sponsorship, they are really grateful and would like to express their gratitude to all of the Foundation staffs.

Our House of Hope 1, 3, 4 and the Daycare Center are now re-opened under continuing efforts to protect everyone by wearing masks and washing hands regularly.

### **Other Donations**

We received face masks , alcohol gel and soaps from UNICEF. All of these items were already distributed to children and their families.

**Kids Future** provided the total fund of THB 1,080,941.53 for the following activities:

	<b>Amount Kr.</b>	<b>Amount THB</b>
Food Packages for children and families# Covid	29,427.00 kr	106,591.53
school bus	1,000.00 kr	฿3,700.00
Child sponsorship	100,900.00 kr	365,560.00
Robins House of Hope	151,460.49 kr	548,740.00
Rugby	7,355.00 kr	26,650.00
sales	8,200.00 kr	29,700.00
<b>Total amount transferred</b>	<b>298,342.49 kr</b>	<b>1,080,941.53</b>

## **News from Kids Future**

### **1. Robins House of Hope**

As you all know Robins HoH was opened in January 2021. We are so happy that Kids Ark US is also raising fund for Robins HoH. This collaboration is a wonderful gesture between various countries and continents.

We would like to thank you Annie for her incredible flexibility and hardwork which was made possible to have the inauguration on Robins 20th birthday. We found out it was his birthday just a couple of days beforehand and still Annie together with the villager had managed to get everything done on the actual date. We hope that we will continue this cooperation between three continents.

### **2. Rugby.**

It is wonderful to see the kids at House of Hope playing rugby and they seem to really enjoy it. We hope this also will be a cooperation between countries. This summer Kids Future will organize a Rugby camp for kids between 12 and 15 in a suburb of Stockholm.

It will be in cooperation with a Rugby Club and a place organizing school activities (leisure house?) just like House of Hope. The kids will not only be taught the game of Rugby they will have workshops as well where we invite the local police, fire force and politicians (whom all have agreed to come) who will play Rugby with the kids and afterwards workshops where discussions about what kind of society we want to have and how we all can contribute to this. We sincerely hope we will be able to get funding for a bigger rugby project. The project is called "Tackle Life" and we will utilise the wonderful core values of rugby – passion, integrity, solidarity, discipline and respect. We would love this to become a collaboration between countries as well.

Maybe having rugby camps in Sweden and Thailand. Would Kids Ark be interested in this? If yes, we will include Kids Ark in the fundraising for this specific project.

### **3. Yoga**

We will start cooperation with yoga-teachers in Sweden. They will agree on having one yoga-event per year. The incomes from the events will go to Kids Future. At the moment we have 3 yoga teachers who are interested and we hope to have more! Maybe this could be done in Thailand as well?

Kids Ark Foundation

March 2021