



Health Programmes

Behavior Change Communication for Infectious Disease Prevention

Save the Children and its local partners have developed models of referral systems and mechanisms that facilitate prevention and ensure access to medical care. We work with vulnerable cross-border migrant children and families to facilitate initiatives that help promote survival of infants and mothers. We also help develop community-based health programs for migrant communities.

The objective of health programs implemented Save the Children's Thailand Programme Office is to ensure migrant children and their families in target communities gain sustainable access to health care services that promote their complete physical, mental, and social well-being.

Our current health programs focus on two key areas: *Behavior Change Communication for Infectious Disease Prevention* working with HIV infected MSM populations (men who have sex with men) and TG (transgendered) groups; and *Promoting Migrant Children and Families' Health & Rights in Workplace and Destination* where we help promote health rights to healthcare and development for families in remote areas that lack access to government services.

We work with migrant children and families in target areas of Chiang Mai and Tak provinces in the north where most of the targeted migrant populations work in the agricultural sector or factories across Samutprakarn province.

As of fiscal year 2013, we initially aimed to reach approximately 1,000 vulnerable children and women, primarily migrants from Myanmar and Cambodia, including 100 Thai and non-Thai MSM and TG groups. To date, the total beneficiaries reached through promoting migrant children and families' health is 1,151 migrants, exceeding the original target.

In the course of the project cycle the programme has provided training of trainers to health volunteers. This includes maternal and child care, occupational health care and first aid training. Moreover, we provided direct services in childcare centres for children in orange and rose plantations. Models of alternative care for vulnerable children were also put in place, where local healthcare committees are able to refer cases to public health clinics and hospitals. Mobile healthcare teams are also present to monitor health situations as community needs arise.

Over the course of the project, the programme will continue to reach out to vulnerable populations to train youth leaders in promoting health care and referral activities in target areas, along with provision of health care support to migrant children.