Life Skills Development Foundation: presentation

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Phase 1: (Feb - July 2016)

Training and Needs Assessment

- Assess where there are gaps in service provision for Shan migrant workers and what their needs are
- Provide skills training to the MWG on volunteer recruitment, migrant rights, baseline surveys, and program management

Phase 2: (Aug - Nov 2016)

Initial Service Provision at HQ

- Establish Hotline Response Team (RT) and Career Advancement Center (CAC) at main district center in Sarapee
- Survey 4 other districts for primary service needs and areas requiring the most aid
- Establish and begin apprenticeship program.
Phase 3: (Dec 2016 - March 2017)

Full Service Roll Out and Implementation

- Begin RT and CAC programs in 4 other districts of Chiang Mai

- Support core team apprenticeship members to transfer knowledge with MWF staff and support regular meetings to facilitate discussion and trainings

Phase 4: (April - July 2017)

External Collaboration and Sustainability Support

- Strengthen MWF’s relationships with similar organizations and help develop partnerships.

- Encourage community inclusiveness to decrease stigmas associated with migrants
Key Successes

1. Successfully appointed Project Operation Manager and POM Assistant, and 4 district coordinators

2. MWF members showed dedication to and understanding of the project, and increased compassion for migrant issues.

3. With the MWF, provided direct aid to 7 cases of urgent assistance

4. MWF members were able to express their concerns about migration and be heard

5. Developed a baseline survey

Baseline Survey Results

- July 8th: 6 respondents
  Goal: Get feedback on survey, collect preliminary example results

Baseline survey topics: service provision, labor experience, migration experience

Hard-to-reach Services

Thailand:
- Health insurance
- Acquiring driver's license, marriage license, work permit, business permit, filing work complaints, birth registration, applying for citizenship
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Thailand:
- Health insurance
- Acquiring driver’s license
- Marriage license
- Work permit
- Business permit
- Filing work complaints
- Birth registration
- Applying for citizenship

Myanmar:
- Emergency care
- Emergency sick care
- Filing work complaints
- Acquiring driver’s license

Main Challenges While Living in Thailand

- **No sense of belonging** in the community
  - Lack of **desirable** job opportunities
  - Lack of education opportunities
- Discrimination based on legal status and **ethnicity** (all answers said ethnicity)
  - Difficulty with **Thai literacy** and speaking/literacy in English

Work Abuses in TH
- Paid late (3)
Work Abuses in TH
- Paid late (3)
- Didn't receive full paycheck (2)
- No days off (4)
- Discrimination based on ethnicity (4) and legal status (3)
- Verbal harassment (2)
- Paid under minimum wage (2)
- Fired without pay (1)
- Asked to pay fines with no explanation (1)
- No breaks during the day (1)
- Threatened with decreased pay (1)
- Threatened with being fired (1)

Main Reasons for Leaving Myanmar
- Had family and friends in Thailand (3)
- Heard that TH had a better quality of life (3)
- Couldn't financially support myself (3)
- Couldn't grow enough food to feed my family (3)

Conditions in Myanmar
- Physical danger: medium (1), immediately life-threatening (1)
- Job opportunities: okay (2), no opportunities
- Education opportunities: okay (2), low access, no opportunities
- Farming: high importance (2), not important
Key Challenges

1. Recruiting Shan volunteers who can commit to the project and conduct necessary responsibilities
2. Working with Shan migrants with complicated work schedules and who do not feel committed to the project
3. Collaborating with Thai language barriers
4. How to maintain interest from MWF

Lessons Learned

1. Must have better communication between TLDSTF staff when starting projects, especially with scheduling.
2. Staff should spend more time with all relevant stakeholders at the same time to ensure mutual understanding.
3. Clarify roles of all stakeholders and workers as soon as possible.

Phase 2 Plan

1. Service Provision:
   - Coordinate with relevant agencies and organizations to support the RSE project
   - Send officers to district centers and recruit 2-3 volunteers per center
   - Conduct the baseline survey
New Phase 2 (and more) Action Plan

To accommodate the challenges faced, we have adjusted our original plan and timeline.

Main Goal: Help build the capacity of the MWF and address the gaps in service provision for migrant workers and set up RT and CAC centers in 5 districts.

Key Service Activities

There will be 4 main service activities in each of the five districts:

- Case response assistance
- Language Learning
- CACs (supplementary income generation and skill building)
- Hotline RT
Phase 2 Plan

1. Service Provision:
   - Coordinate with relevant agencies and organizations to support the RISE project
   - Find offices for 4 district centers and recruit 3-5 volunteers per center
   - Conduct the baseline survey

2. Capacity building
   - Trainings on language, human rights, case response, documentation, project management, hotline operation, income generating activities and career advancement skills
   - Apprenticeship program

3. Pilot CAC and RT in main HQ.
Phase 3 and 4 Plans

**Phase 3:** Expand to four other districts *(roll out)*

**Phase 4:** External collaboration and sustainability *(transition)*