Asia Survivor Care: The Round Home, Love146

The Love146 Round Home is uniquely built and designed to facilitate the restoration and holistic health of every child entering its doors. The approach to running the home is attuned to the needs of the exploited and traumatized child, which include both the needs of ordinary children as well as children who have been wounded in many ways, lack hope, are broken, lack opportunities and self-worth. The Round Home endeavors to keep the child safe and well provided for, instill hope, effect healing and restoration, promote growth and development, facilitate the release of potentials, and enable the child to come full circle, liberated from her traumas and sufferings, to realize her innate worth. The physical structure of the Round Home is intended to promote reflectiveness, a sense of peace, freedom, dignity and self-esteem, as well as playfulness so that children can simply be children again. The Round Home also aims to be a safe base from which the girls could derive the strength and courage to later tackle the world outside.

Volume
Children directly impacted
• 51 clients and 9 babies since Love146 began partnership / funding
• 17 clients this year (12 currently in the RH, 16 have been reintegrated)

Depth
Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:
• The interventions at the Round Home, which include education, agriculture, counseling, beautiful surroundings, adequate provisions, discipline, group dynamics and art therapy have contributed to the amazing changes in the lives of Love146 clients such as growth in self-esteem and connection to faith as well as love for other living things, especially animals. At the Round Home, fish raising, goat raising, chicken raising, quail raising, mushroom production, gardening, and salted duck and chicken egg production have encouraged the girls to develop creativity, a sense of achievement, love and respect for oneself, caring for other creatures, earning money, and entrepreneurship. Lastly, reaching out to typhoon victims as a form of therapy further empowered clients to develop compassion for others.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:
• The lives of immediate and extended family members are positively impacted, resilience increased, and futures changed through our psychosocial, physical and economic interventions. Additionally, the local economy is stimulated by the clients’ entrepreneurship efforts such as card marking, selling agricultural goods, and establishing savings accounts.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:
“I feel blessed. You have taught me to be responsible and be a leader to other girls at the Round Home. I go to school and that is something that I should be grateful for and proud of.”
I have changed a lot. I have become patient and compassionate to other people, especially to children. I study hard because it is my way of thanking all those who have helped me and who have taken me out of the dark. I believe that I am here at the Round Home to change and preach how good God is.” ~Jinny *

“My two classmates had a fight one time. They hit each other. I told them that what they did is not right. I told them that they should have talked and they should understand each other. The Round Home has taught me that I should not hit nor bully other children. Instead, I should be good to them and treat them as if they were my siblings.” ~Claudia *

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:
The Round Home maintains good relationships with schools. Full scholarships for some girls were obtained from Angelicum College, where ordinary students pay $1000+ a month. There is also close collaboration with teachers in public schools on the progress of each of the Round Home girls going to such schools. There is also partnership with providers of medical care, such as the hospitals, doctors, nutritionists, and dentists; documentation of their input is maintained.

There is constant dialogue with local village officials and law enforcement about safety, security, laws and decrees that bind as well as protect the staff, clients, and property of the Round Home.

Constant updating is maintained with referring agencies, such as the IJM and DSWD.

Contact is also maintained with the girls’ families in the community. A parent said, “I am at peace that my daughters are in the Round Home.” Other parents from the community ask that their daughters also be admitted to the Round Home.

“Love146 is a big help to the work of the DSWD” – DSWD official

*Name changed to protect identity of child.
Asia Survivor Care: The Boys Shelter, Love146

The Love146 Boys Shelter used to be a home in the heart of the red light district in Manila, where exploited boys were rehabilitated and given holistic care. This project began as an occasional feeding center called the Round Table, which served the street community where the boys came from. Its purpose was to intervene in the sexual exploitation of other street children and facilitate the positive transformation of the community. For security reasons, the Boys Shelter was moved to another location, close to the Round Home. Thus, the Boys Shelter/feeding center has metamorphosed into a true boys' home, now called the White Home, with better facilities more conducive to the boys’ restoration.

Volume
Children directly impacted
• 18 clients this year (12 currently in the Boys Shelter)

Depth
Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:
• The boys in the White Home are now healthy, well nourished, going to school, and manifesting personality development. They have accomplished a number of academic achievements and are pursuing vocational courses during school breaks. The boys, if they choose to, can also work in the Round Home farm and earn decent income.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:
• Seeing how the boys have grown, the community has embraced them as positive role models, giving them the opportunity to influence the community to strive for development, including better treatment of children and ending child exploitation. The link between the White Home and the community where it originated is palpable in that many parents in the community ask that their children be admitted to the White Home or the Round Home.
• Some of the boys come from Cebu, where they have court cases and have to be protected from the reach of perpetrators. The White Home is not only a place of refuge and holistic restoration for the boys but also a resource for partner agencies in Cebu like IJM and DSWD, both who have sought protective shelter for the boys they rescued while the cases are ongoing.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:
"I am happy because I belong to top 10 outstanding pupils in the class. I am happy because I go to school and I can study well. I am happy because the staff are all kind and they take good care of me." ~Hugo*

"I am very lucky because the Round Table (Boys Shelter) has taken me away from the plaza, an unsafe place. The Round Table has taught me how to build my dreams and work hard to make them come true. The Round Table has given me hope and inspiration. The Round Table has inspired me that even a street child like me can be successful someday if he will just exert
effort to reach for his dreams. The Round Table has made me understand that poverty is not really a hindrance to one’s success. Thank you for sending me to school and for taking care of me.” ~Jerry*

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:
As with the Round Home, the White Home maintains good relationships with schools. Full scholarships for some boys were obtained from Angelicum College, where ordinary students pay $1000+ a month. There is also close collaboration with teachers in public schools on the progress of each of the White Home boys going to such schools. There is also partnership with providers of medical care, such as the hospitals, doctors, nutritionists, and dentists; documentation of their input is maintained.

There is constant dialogue with local village officials and law enforcement about safety, security, and laws and decrees that bind as well as protect the staff, clients, and property of the White Home.

Constant updating is maintained with referring agencies, such as the IJM and DSWD.

Contact is also maintained with the boys’ families in the urban community as well as in Cebu through calls and home visits.

“Love146 is a Godsend” – IJM Director of Aftercare in Cebu, during a case conference between Love146 and IJM, August 29, 2014

*Name changed to protect identity of child.
Asia Aftercare: CTPA(A), Love146

Trained caregivers are essential in the restoration of exploited children. Love146 runs a one-week intensive training for local caregivers aspiring or already working with exploited children. The CTPA seeks to empower caregivers with the knowledge and skills that will enable them to provide children with specialized care in the restoration of survivors. The program provides a certified qualification through an on-site training course and post course evaluation. The CTPA with Advocacy (CTPAA) facilitates the trainees’ production of information and advocacy materials for youth victims and potential victims, as well as evaluation of the effects of these materials on the target groups.

Volume

Individuals trained in this project:
• 15 this year, in Palawan, Philippines

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:
• The first CTPA(A) was held in Palawan on March 24-April 1, 2014. The training was intended to be a CTPA plus advocacy, wherein the trainees would produce information materials that they could then disseminate among target groups. The research component was the interview of the recipients in order to determine their baseline awareness, as well as the effects of the materials on them. Because of their rapport building skills acquired during the training, some trainees were able to facilitate disclosures by some respondents during the interview, which provided an opportunity for the trainees to inform the respondents what they could do, thus empowering them, giving them hope and direction, and healing some feelings:
  “I had a respondent who disclosed that she was a victim of trafficking. She has not told anyone because she thought nobody could help her. She was relieved to know that she could go to DSWD and there are people like me who are willing to listen and help. I got her phone number and I am willing to follow her up.”

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:
• A number of participants identified the need for additional trainings of this nature and have encouraged Love146 to continue the CTPA(A) program to further increase awareness of trafficking as well as inform best practices in aftercare throughout the Philippines.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:
“For me as a social worker, it is important to know the effects of abuse and exploitation on a victim so that we could be sensitive in dealing with the victim. At the same time, my level of awareness about human trafficking was increased.”

“As one of the participants, it is a privilege to be part of this training. Thank you very much to the people in this organization [and] to Dr. Velazco and all who comprise the team; I salute you for promoting and facilitating this advocacy. I hope that you will train many more like us who will facilitate change and abolish this kind of crime, which is spreading in our society. Thank you very, very much.”

5
U.S. Prevention Education: Connecticut, Maryland, and Texas

The Love146 U.S. Prevention Education program provides education and resources to help protect and empower at-risk and exploited youth. Through youth workshops and adult trainings, youth and the adults that interact with them are better equipped to protect themselves from and respond to exploitation in the commercial sex industry. Children that have been trafficked often do not recognize themselves as victims of a crime. The manipulation strategies set in place by their traffickers are successful in normalizing the abuse and/or convincing them that they are at fault. As a result, fear and trauma bonding – as well as a society’s general perception and response to ‘prostitutes’ – reduce self-identification.

Deficits in awareness and understanding among peers, professionals that work with at-risk children and the community at large contribute to low identification of children trafficked in the commercial sex industry. Teachers, social workers, law enforcement officers, and others interact with victims without intervention - often because they do not know what to look for or the right questions to ask - and may not be equipped to respond when disclosures are made.

Through three levels of programming – Prevention 101, Tell Your Friends (TYF) and My Life My Choice (MLMC) – Love146’s staff teach youth in schools, group homes and other community settings to recognize common recruitment tactics, signs of exploitation, and where they can receive help. Love146 also provides targeted, comprehensive trainings for adults in contact with at-risk children to equip them to identify and prevent domestic minor sex trafficking and to intervene appropriately should victims be identified.

Volume
Children directly impacted:
- 13,084 youth have been educated since the program began in 2010
- 6,352 youth reached this year (184% increase from the previous year)
- 3,039 social workers, law enforcement, and community members have been educated since the program began in 2010
- 231 adults trained this year

Depth
Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:
- We met *Alyssa at a residential substance abuse treatment facility. At the beginning of the group she was pleasant and participated a little, but later she left the room and sat outside crying. She shared that she had been trafficked since she was 13 years old. Now, at 19, she was in a drug treatment program and was terrified that her violent pimp may find her. After meeting with her several times, Alyssa agreed to speak with a case manager from a domestic violence and sexual assault center that we have partnered with.
- As another group member started to share some of her experiences with trafficking, another individual, *Tammy, started to ask questions about what to say to someone who is in a trafficking situation. Eventually, she shared that she had been through ‘similar stuff,’ but did not elaborate. Tammy became very emotional toward the end of the group and started to cry. The other participants were cautiously supporting and did not push her to share her story. After the group, we spoke with her privately. She shared that the last time she ran away, there was a man who would wait for her as if he knew when she was low on money and food. She had not previously shared this
experience with anyone. It wasn’t until the TYF group discussion that she began to realize what happened to her was not her fault.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- **Impact on the community through adult trainings:**
  - “[I will] be open minded/non-judgmental. Listen and look for red flags with new knowledge.”
  - “[I will] use motivational interviewing strategies.”
  - “I will help advocate and help girls who show red flags and educate people around me (raise awareness).”  ~Practitioner, Connecticut

- **Impact on school communities:**
  - “Your presence and message was powerful. You grabbed the student’s attention and opened their eyes to the real life sadness and tragedies that exist all around them. The students are still asking questions about many of the things that were discussed in class; and that is a good thing.”  ~Teacher, Connecticut

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

When asked about how TYFs impacted her, one student responded, “I feel this session was an eye opener. It made me self-evaluate the ways that I help contribute to the very problem I want to fight – consciously or unconsciously.” She then went on to say that she would “Tell Her Friends” that they should be “purposely sensitive” when interacting with people that they might want to judge because they don’t know really know the whole story of their situation.  ~TYF, Texas

“I wish you were allowed to come to the group home more often, but thanks again for informing us on this information. You have helped me see that there is more to life!”  ~MLMC, Connecticut

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

- **The Universities of New Hampshire and New Haven:** Both Universities have provided significant support and critical expertise for program theory, evaluation, and curriculum development.

- **CT Coalition Against Trafficking, CT Department of Children and Families HART Team, CT Permanent Commission on the Status of Women’s Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Council, Houston LGBTQ Homeless Initiative, and Houston ISD Community Partners Group:** The team’s participation in the delineated coalitions and collaboratives have continued to provide a positive opportunity to understand the work of local stakeholders, gaps in service, and their experiences with identifying and working with survivors. It has also provided an opportunity to collaborate on prevention education, and share our expertise in order to improve programs and policy.

- **Individual and Organizational Engagement/Collaboration:** There has been significant relational development and engagement with a variety of individuals and organizations such as Twitter, NEST Educators, Do Now!, the Montrose Center, the U.S. Department of Education, My Life My Choice, FAIR Girls, the A21 Campaign, Abeni, and Stephen Procopio.
U.S. Survivor Care: Connecticut

In 2013, Love146 conducted a comprehensive environmental scan of the service needs and resources available to youth at-risk for and confirmed survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) in Connecticut. In response, Love146 piloted a Survivor Care Program, providing and connecting survivors to trauma-informed, individualized, and comprehensive services that contribute to their overall recovery and restoration. Love146’s Connecticut Survivor Care Program is unique in that each child’s care plan is developed to meet their personal needs and support them in their home communities. Working closely with state agencies and other community providers, Love146 helps ensure children are enrolled in school, advocates if special education and medical services are needed, and works to identify and build the capacity of trauma-informed therapists who can provide individualized and family therapy. Children who have been trafficked are at high-risk for further exploitation. Thus, one of the first things we tell a child is, “We go, where you go. That means if you move placements, or foster homes, or run away and come back, we will always be there.” Never closing a case, Love146 is committed to always being a safe space and support for the children we serve.

In addition to providing long term trauma-informed, intensive wraparound services, the Love146 Connecticut Survivor Care program offers one time “Rapid Response” information and safety-planning meetings for at-risk youth. During a Rapid Response, Love146 gives at-risk youth information on human trafficking, the grooming process, internet safety, and healthy relationships. Love146 also provides youth with printed resources materials that have national hotline numbers youth can call in cases of emergency. Each youth is given a Rapid Response Backpack, filled with generously donated items including a blanket, an emergency phone, a journal, a rain poncho, a teddy bear, toiletries, a stress ball, and other supplies both youth and service providers identified as being critical for this population. Lastly, Love146 offers case consultations, working closely with state agencies and other providers serving cases of human trafficking. Through this process, Love146 helps providers identify appropriate and available resources to meet the unique needs of individual human trafficking survivors. Love146 also helps providers better understand the dynamics of human trafficking, the grooming process, and unique considerations for effectively serving these survivors.

Volume
Children directly impacted:
- 3 clients received ongoing support services
- 3 received “rapid response” one-time meetings
- 4 case consultations

Depth
Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:
- All children that are receiving ongoing support services have passed onto the next grade level in school, including one who is now college-bound. Program participants also received mentorship, tutoring, and summer camp services as part of their individualized care plans.
Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- In an effort to better inform practitioners and create a community response to trafficking, Love146 regularly participated in human trafficking related coalitions and stakeholder meetings including the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team (HART), the DCF Girls Provider Network, the New Haven Multi-Disciplinary Team, and the Connecticut Coalition Against Trafficking.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- Due to the limited number of cases, the sensitive nature of this program, and the need to protect client confidentiality, anecdotes of individuals serviced through the survivor care program cannot be provided.

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

- DCF Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team, the DCF Girls Provider Network, the New Haven Multi-Disciplinary Team, and the Connecticut Coalition Against Trafficking: The team’s participation in the delineated coalitions and collaboratives has provided a positive opportunity to understand the work of local stakeholders, gaps in service and their experiences with identifying and working with survivors. It has also provided an opportunity to collaborate on survivor care, and share our expertise in order to improve programs and policy.
Empowering Movement: Asia Capacity Building

The Asia Capacity Building Program works to decrease the incidence of child and young adult sexual exploitation and trafficking by building capacity in local organizations / individuals through training, mentoring, organizational development and academic support; research; and, financial support. Love146 empowers partners who work in high risk and sometimes invisible communities where little abolition work is being done, especially with boys, transgender youth, and those addressing demand. We research best practices in prevention and aftercare as a basis for training, equipping of practitioners, and ultimately affecting change in children’s lives. Additionally, during the 2013-14 fiscal year, the ACB program provided funding for the following organizations/projects:

- Cambodian Prevention – Kone Kmeng
- Exploited Boys Housing Alternative – Urban Light
- Research into the Effectiveness of Reintegration Efforts – Butterfly Longitudinal Research Project
- Exploited Transgender Youth – Dton Naam
- A Movement for Men in the Church (Addressing Demand) - Boroh La-or Pit
- Male Tour Guide Vocational Program – Hard Places Community

Volume

Individuals/organizations directly impacted:

- 172 youth were impacted through financial partnership with Love146
- Built capacity with 15 official non-funded partners and impacted a total of 55 organizations and individuals
- Trained 392 practitioners in Cambodia and Thailand with the Good Touch Bad Touch flipchart, which could directly impact 4,640 children
- Provided 200 adult service providers with additional professional training in Cambodia

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child’s life:

“I am Seth*. I am the youngest of four children in my family. My house is about 40 kilometers away from high school. After I passed the exam for grade 9 in the secondary school, I have to go to high school education; however, it is no hope for me because the school is far away. So, without hope and support for my study, one time I just sat down and cried alone because of too much thinking of wanting to go to high school. One day I heard about the high school dormitory and the opportunity of accommodation for studying in high school.”

“A week after the meeting, my parents agreed to let me stay and finally I came to stay at the SC [Save the Children] high school dorm. Living at the dorm, I have learnt a lot of things like how to cook, study the bible, grow mushrooms, and to be responsible for the assigned tasks as well. And now, I have improved a lot on the quality of my study which shows good results every monthly exam. I am so happy and excited to live at the high school dorm. I would like to give thanks to the dorm leader, Pastor Phirum, Kone Kmeng’s director, (and) especially the donors who always give support to the students here. With your help, I have the opportunity to pursue higher education and my dream.”

*Name changed to protect identity of child.
Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:
Through research, partnership, and capacity building: The Urban Light and Love146 research team had the privilege of meeting with Marc Miller, the Political Economic Officer of the U.S. Consulate in Chiang Mai along with Khun Abhijat Buddhawongsa, the Political Assistant at the U.S. Consulate Chiang Mai. The annual Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report that is produced by the State Department is a result of data and information collected by on-the-ground personnel in the designated country offices. In the case of Thailand, Mr. Miller is the key person responsible for sharing information related to trafficking and exploitation with the TIP office in Bangkok. The information and trends of male exploitation that is highlighted in Urban Light and Love146’s research has been severely under recognized in previous TIP reports. By including these findings in a publication as widely distributed as the TIP report, practitioners working to restore survivors and abolish exploitation would be better equipped to understand the vulnerabilities and needs of this specific population:

“I am encouraged in the response and feedback given to our research team by the U.S. Consulate. The questions, mutual concern and dialogue that followed the research presentation were a starting-off point for more discussions related to this topic. I am confident based on the feedback provided by the Consulate team that more will be mentioned in the 2014 TIP report regarding male exploitation--Success!” ~Alemandra Russell, Founder of Urban Light

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:
“The research undertaken by Love 146 gives BLP valuable information on the nature of Cambodian men’s motivation to use girls. BLP seeks to address men’s damaged and damaging behavior and change their values and motivations. Thus, we produce materials that will help BLP staff and men’s leaders, as they interact with men in meetings, workshops and other events, to knowledgeably address such issues. BLP highly values Glenn’s role as advisor and mentor as he supports us and also introduces us to other interested parties.” ~ Zoran Sulc, Advisor to Boroh La-or Pit

“With the help from Love 146 to support the high school dorm and operating costs, we were able to accomplish so many great things in Kone Kmeng as a whole. It helps to reduce the work migration among these young people when they are in school. Furthermore, while they are in high school dorm, they have learnt the bible and Christian lifestyle. Moreover, we also get support from Dr. Glenn Miles, Asia Community Building Facilitator in term of advisory, mentoring, prayer and training. All this support is such a weapon to empower us to do even more great things in Cambodia in term of providing protection and safety for children from trafficking and exploitation” ~ Pang Sophany, Kone Kmeng’s Director/Co-Founder