

Love146 Program Impact Report – Web Version

July 2014- June 2015

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 can derive the strength and courage to later tackle the world outside.

Volume

Children directly impacted

- 13 clients currently in the home, 10 which were new clients
- 6 clients have been reintegrated this year
- 54 clients in total and 9 babies (of clients) since Love146 began partnership / funding

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child's life:

- Within the year, every single girl has gained weight to equal the normal weight for her age. All their health issues have either been resolved or are being resolved.
- One little girl who showed signs of fear and would cry whenever her diaper was changed or whenever she was taken to the bedroom does not exhibit those behaviors anymore. Like the other girls, she is now very playful, laughs a lot, and happily participates in all activities.
- All girls of school-going age are either in public schools or home study program. One girl in the home study program who used to fail her subjects has now passed all of them.
- Problematic behaviors among children, like fighting, cussing, shouting, taking things without permission, and disobedience to staff have significantly lessened or completely disappeared among many of them.
- The girls have become more aware of themselves, their strengths, their potentials, and their plans for their future, as they reflect and find analogy in music that they learn to play, animals on the farm that they care for, and plants in the garden that they grow. One girl said, "I'm glad to discover that I have talent in playing the guitar." Another girl said, "When I leave the Round Home someday, my family and I can also engage in business and raise quails for a living. I now have the skills." Another girl said, "I think of myself whenever I look at that little chick. I was always hungry on the street before, but I survived like that little chick that survived the storm and now continues to live." Another girl said, "It feels good to be able to grow vegetables that can add to our food in the kitchen. It is like earning decent income."

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- The Round Home girls' experiences on the street where they were first trafficked pointed us in the direction of the street. Our operations on the street with homeless street families then enabled us to establish a relationship with them and provide some livelihood assistance, send some of the street children to school, raise the community's awareness of issues on children, admit some victimized girls from the street into the Round Home, and even facilitated the quest for justice of some of the girls. Our street operations also gave rise to a safe home for boys. Some of the boys have been reintegrated back into the community, and we continue to assist them with livelihood and schooling. Our credibility with this urban street community and local officials has been established due to the continuous effort to help toward the abolition of child exploitation in this community.
- Some girls from the Round Home who have been reintegrated with their families and are now part of their community continue to be monitored and given livelihood, schooling, referral, or counseling assistance in order to be more viable in their communities. As a result of their training in the Round Home and this continuous support from the Round Home staff, they are now self-respecting and productive members of their community, rather than the at-risk children they used to be.
- Most of the employees in the Round Home come from the rural community where the Round Home is located. Thus, the Round Home has generated jobs for these rural people.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- "I used to live with my grandmother. She would bring me to the street with her, so she could look after me while she was working. She earned very little, so I decided to help her by begging in churches and streets.... Sometimes, white men would approach us. One time, when I was begging in the streets, and white men were around, a concerned citizen referred me to a shelter for safety purposes. At the shelter, we were provided with our basic needs, but the problem there is, I was always into fights with some children because they were always bullying me. They always took my things without asking permission from me and I always ended up crying. Now, I am happy to be here in the Round Home. I have plenty of food to eat and the people here are kind. I don't have to get into fights because no one bullies me. I also have so many playmates, and an opportunity to go to school.... Some day, I would like to become a singer, because I like to sing." *Mindy (pseudonym), 7 years old*

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

- We have implemented a multidisciplinary approach in caring for the girls. They are regularly brought to partner psychiatrists for evaluation, monitoring, and intervention. They are also brought to partner medical doctors and dentists for health concerns, whenever the need arises. A professional dietician approves the monthly menu. There is regular communication with their schoolteachers to discuss progress and any problems.
- We have maintained close collaboration with the concerned officers of the Department of Social Welfare and Development on issues that pertain to the girls' families and placement.
- We established cooperation with the Department of Justice, including the courts and the National Bureau of Investigation regarding some of the girls' legal cases.
- We have agreement with the local officials of the village where the Round Home is located that they would be ready to assist us whenever the need arises.

Asia Survivor Care: The Boys Shelter, Love146

The Love146 Boys Shelter (BS) 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

- 9 clients in the WH, 6 which were new clients this year
- 8 clients reintegrated this year
- 23 clients in total since the shelter began operating

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child's life:

- All of the boys were trafficked because they come from very poor families and often, there was nothing to eat at home. They belonged to the marginalized sector of society who were not in school, did not have birth certificates, bonded to pimps, and with health issues unattended. Now, they are physically cared for, are counseled regularly, are in school, have birth certificates that ensure their identity and rights as citizens, are earning money through gardening, and are discovering their potentials in arts, music, or academics.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- Some of the boys have been reintegrated and Love146 is still helping them with schooling. They model to the community a picture of perseverance despite the odds.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- Among those that we have reintegrated, none have gone back to a life of exploitation.

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

- We have implemented a multidisciplinary approach in caring for the boys. They are regularly brought to partner psychiatrists for evaluation, monitoring, and intervention. They are brought to partner medical doctors and dentists for health concerns, as needed. A professional dietician approves the monthly menu. Constant communication with their schoolteachers is done to discuss progress and problems.
- We have maintained close collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and Development on issues that pertain to the boys' families and placement.
- We have coordination with partner agencies regarding their legal cases.
- We have agreement with the local officials of the village where the White Home is located that they would be ready to assist us whenever the need arises.

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:

- Due to a lack of finances no trainings have taken place this year.

U.S. Prevention Education: Connecticut and Texas

As with most criminal networks and activities, child trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children in the United States is inherently complex and difficult to measure; however the need for a targeted, comprehensive response intensifies as scrutiny increases and layers of exploitation are revealed. Traffickers and others who determine to exploit youth are strategic, organized, and committed in their efforts. At Love146, we believe that our approach must be more so.

Love146's U.S. Prevention Education program has four key goals:

- Decrease youth's risk for exploitation: *Not a #Number*, a multi-level prevention curriculum designed to teach youth how to protect themselves from human trafficking and exploitation through information, critical thinking, and skill development, is the anchor of the program. *Not a #Number* integrates a holistic view of the issue by focusing on respect, empathy, individual strengths, and the relationship between personal and societal pressures that create or increase vulnerabilities.
- Support a comprehensive, whole-school or entire-system, response to human trafficking and exploitation: *Not a #Number* includes information to support a whole-school or entire-system response and has been designed to reinforce and integrate with other prevention efforts being facilitated to increase youth health and safety and improve school, agency, or organizational climate.
- Develop and maintain a strong, evidence-based approach to prevention: *Not a #Number* has been developed by experts in the field of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation and is designed to address the evolving tactics used to recruit and exploit youth. The curriculum is grounded in empirical literature and incorporates best practices in the field of prevention education. In order to continually evaluate the extent to which the materials in this curriculum are meeting its intended goals, curriculum developers worked with experts from the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire to design measurable skill-based learning objectives. Based on these learning objectives, the Crimes Against Children Research Center assisted in developing research-based assessment tools to facilitate immediate and long-term outcome evaluation efforts.
- Support a coordinated response to human trafficking and exploitation in Greater Houston: Through participation in human trafficking and CSE related coalitions and stakeholder

meetings, the U.S. programs team is actively engaged in collaborative efforts in the Greater Houston area. In an effort to increase community providers' knowledge and capacity to prevent and identify human trafficking and exploitation, Love146 also provides training and technical assistance to key community providers working with at-risk and exploited youth.

Volume

Children directly impacted:

- 3,922 youth received prevention education;
- 592 professionals and community members received training; and,
- 41 professionals were certified to facilitate *Not a #Number*.

Children directly impacted since the program began in 2010:

- 17,006 youth received prevention education; and,
- 3,631 professionals and community members received training.

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child's life:

- The stories in *Not a #Number* allowed youth to talk about things they might not have otherwise—because they were talking about someone else. Once comfortable, a lot of students began to follow-up and pinpoint specific personal experiences, particularly around labor trafficking and exploitation. – *Not a #Number* Facilitator Observations
- A male client said, “When I go home, my drug dealer could manipulate me.” He was able to apply the information to his life and situation. The skills developed in the curriculum are applicable to far more situations that increase a young person's vulnerability. – *Not a #Number* Facilitator Observation
- Survivors in the group, “took in a lot of the information, internalized it, and shared how they were able to use it right away.” Two survivors indicated that they recognized red flags, as well as their vulnerabilities in certain situations, and were able to apply safety-planning skills. “(They) scanned surroundings and were able to pick up some of the hidden mask intentions, and questioned why people were giving certain things.” – *Not a #Number* Facilitator Observation

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- “Because of your lesson I had the courage to talk to someone in my class a couple of times to make sure she was okay. Although, based on what you taught us, I am on the healthy side, I knew she wasn't. We are opposites. But I am glad we talked. She felt that I helped her lower her stress. Thank you for helping me see that even though we are different, I could care for her. I enjoyed all the lessons because they were all meaningful to me.” – *Not a #Number* participant

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- A youth came forward after the last session of *Not a #Number* and said his friend told him something and he wants to protect her and keep her safe. He shared that she had told him her stepdad had sexually abused her when she was younger and would invite his friends over to do the same. She then told him that she cuts and showed him her cuts on her upper thigh and how she had carved Death into her leg. She also reported to him that her boyfriend gives her something to drink and she doesn't remember things that happen. He

said his friends saw her and her boyfriend at a party with other boys and they were doing inappropriate things. The youth said he hopes she won't be mad at him, but he wants to make sure she is ok. This information was reported to the appropriate agency, and this child is now receiving support.

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, Mayor's Houston Area Anti Trafficking 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 other organization's experiences with identifying and working with survivors. It has also provided an opportunity to collaborate on prevention education, as well as 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, the Montrose Center, the U.S. Department of Education, My Life My Choice, 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 who were confirmed and suspected survivors of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation (HT/CSE) in Connecticut. Recognizing a significant gap in services for this population, Love146 responded by piloting a Survivor Care Program. Love146's Survivor Care Program is designed to provide and connect confirmed and suspected 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 it develops a care plan for each youth designed to best meet youth's personal needs and support them in their home communities. Working closely with state agencies and other community providers, Love146 helps ensure that youth are enrolled in school, advocates if special education and medical services are needed, and works to identify and build the capacity of caregivers (biological/foster/adoptive parents and kin caregivers) and service providers so that they can better support survivors as they reintegrate into their home communities.

Youth who have been trafficked are at high-risk for further exploitation; thus, one of the first things we tell a youth 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 youth 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 confirmed and suspected survivors. During a Rapid Response, Love146 gives youth information on HT/CSE, 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 also 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. Following all Rapid Responses, Love146 offers caregivers and providers individualized recommendations for future services that can support youth as they continue their recovery and restoration.

Lastly, Love146 offers case consultations, working closely with state agencies and other providers serving confirmed and suspected survivors of HT/CSE. Through this process, Love146 helps providers identify appropriate and available resources to meet the unique needs of individual youth. Love146 also helps providers better understand the dynamics of HT/CSE, the grooming process, and unique considerations for effectively serving this population.

Volume

Youth directly impacted:

- 5 clients received ongoing support services
- 43 received “rapid response” one-time meetings
- 19 case consultations

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a youth’s life:

Below are quotes from two youth who have received long-term services within the last year through Love146:

- “I have benefited from this program immensely...I consider [Love146] one of my biggest supports. Without [my Love146 case worker] I would have kept [running away] from my group homes and been more at risk. [My Love146 case worker] is someone I can talk to when I have those feelings of wanting to do something I know I shouldn’t and she has supported me throughout the last year...I am proud to say that since I’ve met [my Love146 case worker], I have not [run away] once, because she convinces me not to and always reminds me of the dangers of doing so. Suffice to say, I am grateful that [Love146] is in my life.”
- “[Love146] taught me the meaning of self-respect and [Love146] helped me understand that I am very much capable of anything I put my mind to. Not once did [my caseworker] judge me; as a matter of fact, she didn’t even allow me to judge myself...Who would have thought my whole life would change just by being told that I am more than just a body? [My Love146 case worker] did and I would like to give her special thanks for having faith in me. I would have never found myself if you weren’t part of my life.”

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- Through Love146’s participation on the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team, Love146 has helped to develop a process for credentialing therapists specialized to work with victims of HT/CSE. As part of this process, Love146 helped to create an exam that all therapists will need to pass prior to receiving their credentialing certificate. This credentialing process will be instrumental in ensuring that all children identified as confirmed or suspected survivors of HT/CSE are able

to access therapeutic services from trained providers with a specialized understanding of HT/CSE.

- Through participation in the New Haven Multidisciplinary Team, Love146 has provided ongoing training and professional development services to law enforcement, forensic interviewers, child welfare staff, and community service providers. These efforts have helped raise the consciousness of human trafficking among first responders and have facilitated a collaborative approach to addressing cases of human trafficking. Love146 has also provided similar services to providers when participating in related case meetings for specific youth.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- The Survivor Care team has provided quality long-term services to five youth in Connecticut, helping them to exit exploitative situations, identify and access needed services, better understand their victimization, gain new skills, succeed in school, and increase their overall resiliency. Love146 has also helped to increase the capacity of caregivers and practitioners in supporting youth through direct intervention and case consultation.
- Due to the overwhelming demand for survivor care services and Love146's limited capacity, most of the youth referred to the Connecticut Survivor Care Program this year were provided information and safety planning through Rapid Response services.
- In addition to direct services, Love146 provided professional trainings to direct service staff.

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

Love146 participates in the following coalitions:

- The Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) Human Anti-Trafficking Response Team
- The DCF Girls Provider Network
- The Connecticut Coalition Against Trafficking
- The Connecticut Trafficking in Persons Counsel

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.

In October 2014, the Asia Capacity Building Program was shut down. However, Love146 continued to stay in contact and fund some of the partner projects, which included the following:

- Exploited Boys Housing Alternative – Urban Light
- Exploited Transgender Youth – Dton Naam
- Research into the Vulnerabilities of Street Working Children in Chiang Mai and Bangkok

- Research into the Effectiveness of Reintegration Efforts – Butterfly Longitudinal Research Project
- Open Arms – employing one social worker, to work with vulnerable women and children

Volume

Individuals/organizations directly impacted:

- Urban Light – 18 re: Housing and 300+ direct services through the Center
- Street Working Children Research - 80
- Butterfly Longitudinal Research Project – 128 survivors and 13 organizations
- Open Arms – 105 direct beneficiaries

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child's life:

Dton Naam, April 2015

- We were delighted that three boys finished this semester with great results. The first one got GPA 3.32 and teachers have sent him to baking competitions already. His courage and confidence has grown, so he applied to a new cooking institution called “Le Cordon Bleu Dusit Culinary School”. The second student also finished his term well with good grades, completing his first full year of college. The third one passed his second semester with great fun and new friendships at the weekend school. He has another semester left to graduate high school, and is already brainstorming and considering what he really wants to pursue through his studies in the future.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

Urban Light, June 2015

- Urban Light has been a key player and contributor in the Chiang Mai anti-trafficking community. Urban Light has steadily grown over the past five years allowing us the time and patience to learn about the needs, resources and services that were lacking for at-risk boys in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Our key services of health, housing, education + employment and outreach were all overwhelmingly successful in reaching our target population. As Urban Light continues being the only organization in Chiang Mai addressing the needs of boys we must stay committed to learning and expanding our knowledge base so that our services in aftercare can expand and grow. In addition to on-site aftercare for at-risk boys via our Urban Light Youth Center, our outreach team was able to provide diligent and consistent care to boys living and working on the streets of Chiang Mai. Urban Light identified over a dozen ‘hotspot’ areas where our teams would go weekly to provide health kits, health consultations and information regarding Urban Light services. As a result of this effort our aftercare services were able to expand and highlight some of the city’s most vulnerable boys.

Research: Street-involved Children, June 2015

- The outreach team mentioned above had significant involvement in the research project conducted in Chiang Mai. This project finished in June. After data collection had been completed, the Urban Light Director noted the strong positive impact that involvement in this project had had on the team, as well as him personally. He and the team cite this being a timely project, not only with respect to the newly-evolving street-involved

groups with which they work, but also with regard to their evolving team. It had been more than two years since the previous research was completed with the Urban Light team. Participation in the interview process, as well as in the expanded fieldwork, proved to be a strongly developmental experience for the UL team.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

Open Arms

- Our Open Arms social worker assists women's leaders at Alabaster, a large space in a rented building. Female sex workers come on a daily basis, with over 200 women coming monthly. Most of these women live on the streets. They come to do their washing, have a meal, bathe and sleep. We work with these women, helping them to access the needs of their families in the Alabaster area.
- On Wednesdays, our social worker assists with Children's Day. Approximately 50 children come. In the mornings they have a shampoo and are deloused if they need it. In the afternoon they have the Children's Club.

U.K. Survivor Care: Thousand Miles Home

In the UK, there is a lack of safe accommodation to safeguard children and young people who are trafficked from abroad. They go missing from local authority care when placed in unsafe accommodation and over 95% are not found. The Thousand Miles Home was opened to meet this need for child victims of trafficking. It is located in an identified area that enhances the safety network for the young people. The home is purposively small (four bedrooms) in order to ensure a sense of security and belonging. The program works within a model that addresses risk assessment in three stages, with the first two stages being completed at the Thousand Miles Home. Each stage has a system of ongoing monitoring and evaluation.

Volume

Children directly impacted

- 2 boys from September 16, 2014 to May 27, 2015

Depth

Evidence of significant transformation in a child's life:

- Our second client was frightened, volatile and unpredictable when he entered our safe accommodation program at the end of September. He was desperate to leave the home, and during the next month, made many threats to the staff, if he was not allowed to leave. In reality, he knew he could leave, but that the police would immediately pick him up and return him to the Thousand Miles Home. He was enrolled in school, and began to make friends with other boys who were also learning English. He received medical and dental care. After nearly three months, he began to trust that we had his best interests in mind and he began to relax and accept our care. In one of the meetings with his social worker, he stated that he had gained trust with the Love146 staff and did not want to leave the safe accommodation. This was in sharp contrast to his attitude when he first came into our care. For us, it was evidence that our program was working. His care had been child-centred and everyone involved in his care and in the child protection process had pursued child-centred working, recognising him as an

individual with individual rights, including his right to participation in decisions about himself.

Evidence that this project benefits the community beyond direct involvement:

- Love146 drew up a safety grid for the Foster Carer. An outreach package was drawn up and shared with the Social Worker and Foster Carer. The staff supported the client, Social Worker and Foster Carer in the transition and has now disengaged.

First hand evidence that this project benefits the target constituents:

- Love146 had built a stable and trusting relationship with both youth. They did not want to leave the Thousand Mile Home. One of the boys was asked what would help him to continue to feel safe when he has moved from Love146 safe accommodation. He stated that he wanted Love146 to continue to work with him and support his move to the Foster placement. He feels he has a voice and will be supported in communicating his wishes and feelings to his Social Worker. The staff enabled him to be part of his intervention plan and his outreach package. He understood that Love146 would continue to journey with him and would be the constant in his life as long as he needed us to be there for him. For trafficked young people, involving them in this way can help them regain a sense of control over their lives. It can also help to build the relationships that can form a protective factor, reducing the risk of the young person going missing. Love146 will continue to work with this youth and journey with him as long as the need is there.

Evidence of collaboration and partnership:

- Children's Services wanted to move one of our clients to a Foster placement. The carer had experience in caring for asylum seeking young people but not trafficked young people. Love146 staff worked with the carers and the Social Worker to enable a safe transition for this youth. The staff visited him regularly and supported the carer as well.