มูลนิธิทักษะเพื่อชีวิต

SKILLS FOR LIFE FOUNDATION



We aim to fill the academic and social void that orphaned teenagers often face due to a lack of education and family support, thus breaking the cycle of vulnerability and exploitation.

skills4life-asia.org

We are a result-driven NGO empowering orphaned youth for an independent future.

Established in 2014, we focus on providing vocational training and job opportunities for underprivileged, orphaned Hill Tribe youth from around Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Orphaned teenagers face a desperate reality.

Once the youth complete Grade 9 (M3), the orphanages relinquish their responsibility and release the teenagers from their care.

The Hill Tribe orphans face the terrifying reality of suddenly being disenfranchised and left to fend for themselves.

They don't have any family or institutional support system to turn to for help, and neither do they have a place to call home.



We provide a solid foundation that gives orphaned teenagers the life skills they need to confidently lead self-sufficient lives and become contributing members of society.

DO WHAT YOU *love* WHAT YOU DO

We enrol up to 30 Hill Tribe youth with 9th-grade schooling in our programme at any one time.

They live in three townhouses at the foundation in the heart of Chiang Mai, where we provide them with a safe and nurturing haven where they can thrive.

Skills 4 Life covers all their expenses; from vocational fees and rent to food and healthcare.

Furthermore, we diligently pursue legalising the status of those who do not have an ID card; a difficult process necessary for future employment and integration into society.



Knowledge is power and we encourage our students to study subjects and trades which they enjoy and want to pursue professionally.



We are proud of the ongoing enrolments at Senior High School, Vocational School for Home Economics, Agricultural College, Faculty of Management, Chiang Mai University and Polytechnic College.

Creating a SAFE haven and providing the tools for an INDEPENDENT future.



'I feel like we are all part of one big family at Skills 4 Life. Anchana and Dominique both feel like mothers to me, and I can speak to them about anything.'

Dok Mai
22 years old, Studying Business Management at Rajamangala University of Technology Lanna, Chiang Mai

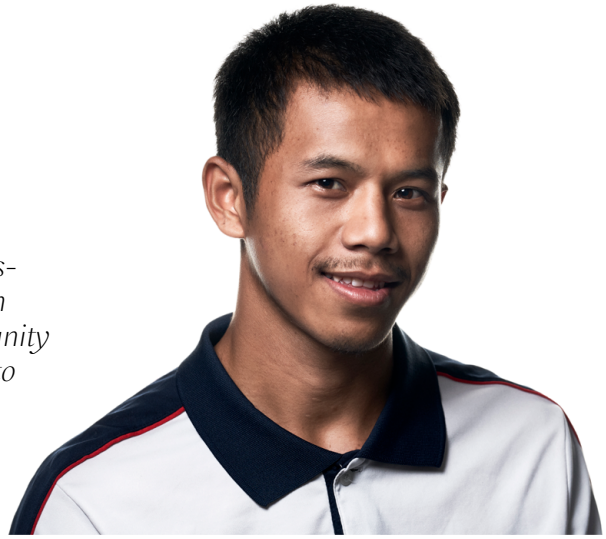


'Being part of Skills 4 Life allows me to improve my own life so I can help others. I enjoy studying human psychology and want to go on to do a Masters Degree so that hopefully one day I can help children and their development.'

Aemon
22 years old, Studying Organisation Psychology Chiang Mai Rajabhat University

'I have been doing odd jobs in construction since I was eleven, and am happy that I now have the opportunity to study what I love. My dream is to own my own company one day.'

Ker
18 years old, studying Construction Management at Chiang Mai Technical College



We offer several extra-curricular in-house projects across different fields, allowing our students to flourish not only academically, but also socially and personally.



Pak Ping Café @ Skills 4 Life

Also on the grounds is our own coffee shop – Pak Ping Café, named by our students and meaning 'shelter' – where we sell our home-made pastries as well as fresh smoothies and juices. Here the students can obtain work experience and earn an income, while additional revenue goes towards funding their living and education costs.

The Bakery Project

At our bakery, our students learn how to bake a variety of pastries. These can be made to order; the European cookies are especially popular during Christmas. All produce from the bakery is sold through our coffee shop.





'I would like to thank Skills 4 Life for giving me the opportunity to study and have a good life. This is the dream all orpheaned children have but many don't get this chance. We are like a family with many brothers and sisters and being here has taught me many life skills from cooking to business management.'

Jimmy
22 years old, studying Business Management of Modern Trade at Institute of Management Panyapiwat



We also hold technical workshops in conjunction with the Faculty of Arts at Chiang Mai University and host workshops for our students to develop their arts and crafts skills.

BOTLIGHTS

The highlight of this collaboration has been the creation of the eclectic 'botlights' – recycled glass bottles repurposed into trendy lamps. The beautiful pieces have in fact been so popular that they are now available to buy via our café.













We can't do this WITHOUT YOU!

Sponsoring

One way of helping the foundation is by sponsoring a student via a monthly donation. The total cost per student equals 5,500BHT each month, which includes their education, rent, utilities, food, and all other expenses. However big or small, monthly sponsoring makes a huge difference to making our work possible.

Every little helps and your contribution will go directly towards financing these costs. Contact us to find out more.

Volunteering

Volunteers who want to contribute to the development of our students are also highly welcome. There are various ways in which you can volunteer: from sharing your professional skills within a focused workshop to a more permanent position. Please inquire for more details.

Partnerships & placements

We also continually look for partners who can help us place our candidates in legitimate employment positions after they graduate. This is a tremendously crucial stepping stone to help them kickstart their new careers and lives. If you can help, we would love to hear from you.

Donations

Donations are always welcome and help finance the studies, living costs, healthcare and other expenses of our youth. If you wish to donate, please see below for details:

Bangkok Bank Public Company Limited
Branch: Airport Plaza Chiang Mai
Account number: 613-029646-7
Account name: Skills for Life Foundation
Routing Number: 026 008 691
SWIFT Code: BKKBTHBK



To make it all happen, we rely on the support of people like you who are passionate about our mission and want to make a difference.

'It always warms my heart to see how many individuals help the foundation in one way or another, all with one common goal: supporting our students so they have a fair chance in life.

Witnessing the students transform from helpless teenagers into independent young adults with the skills and confidence to pursue their ambitions is extremely rewarding and touching. This is why we do what we do.'

Dominique Leutwiler
Founder



A huge THANK YOU!

We are grateful to our corporate sponsors for their on-going support.

Contact us to find out how various forms of corporate sponsorships can make a crucial difference in fulfilling our mission.

Be part of our journey

We started in 2014 with 5 students living in 1 townhouse.

Today, we have 30 students enrolled in our programme, living in three townhouses.

Students typically stay with Skills 4 Life for the duration of their vocational training, usually between 3 to 5 years.

Following completion of their training, all students receive a government recognised certificate, and some even continue to pursue a Diploma/Degree depending on their chosen studies.

Help empower orphaned youth for an independent future

Other ways you can support us are by sharing your income-generating ideas whilst having a coffee at Pak Ping, and even buying a botlight or two.

Find out more & donate:

W: skills4life-asia.org

Follow us:

@skills4lifeasia | @pakpingcoffeeshop

Vist us at Pak Ping Café:

Right next to ITM Massage School
Chang Phuak Soi 4 Cho Road,
Si Phum, Chiang Mai 50200, Thailand