



2018

Annual report

At Center for Girls,

we envision a world
where women and
children are safe and
live their lives with
equality, dignity, and
humanity.



CFG is located and operates in the Chiang Rai province in Northern Thailand. Chiang Khong is a border town situated along the Mekong River in the infamous Golden Triangle area, where Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand meet.

Above: Members of CFG's community sit alongside the bank of the Mekong River.

Mission: Center for Girls' mission is to work within the Chiang Rai Province to empower women and children, reduce instances of gender-based violence (GBV), and educate the populace about human trafficking issues. CFG seeks to prevent the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) and all forms of abuse against children. We are committed to creating sustainable, participatory projects that equip people in the surrounding communities with the necessary life skills to become independent

leaders who strive towards human rights for all, regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, or socioeconomic status.

Founded in 1997, Center for Girls has made a profound, positive impact on the lives of hundreds of women and girls. CFG remains deeply rooted in the communities we serve, and through our participatory approach and our strong partnerships and networks we strive to continue this impact for another twenty years to come.

Each year, working on our Annual Report allows us an opportunity to reflect back on our work, the valuable new partnerships formed, the existing relationships strengthened, challenges we overcame, and the overall success of our programs. It requires an important pause, to analyze impact and effectiveness in a quantitative way in order to place the numbers on these pages; but behind each number is an individual's story – one that all too often begins with fear, hardship, and pain but grows into strength, empowerment, knowledge, advocacy, and pride.

In our day-to-day work at Center for Girls, we see this firsthand. We encourage Women for Change participants as they run for office in their villages – and win! We watch and support women as they emerge as leaders within their communities, stand up, and speak out against gender-based violence. We know our community is positively impacted by our work because we have a front row seat, but how do we calculate empowerment? How do we measure safety for women?

For over two decades, CFG has been fighting for the rights of women and children. Our community knows we are a safe, judgement-free space where they can seek help and refer other to.

We can easily point to the number of emergency cases we respond to; the number of women and children whom we support. But how can we accurately quantify this impact beyond the number of people served?

A large part of CFG's mission is to eliminate human trafficking in northern Thailand. The 2018 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report recognizes Thailand as a source, transit, and destination country, where men, women, and children can be subjected to forced labour and commercial sexual exploitation. We campaign in schools and markets, and strengthen ties with local police and immigration officers,

government officials, business owners, and teachers. We believe in equal rights for all workers, regardless of gender, ethnicity, nationality or citizenship, age, and sociocultural status. We prevent trafficking through education of employers, employees, and job-seekers, the promotion of resources, strong networks, key partnerships, and vigilant community watchdogs. But measuring what you have prevented is nearly impossible – how do we successfully measure the absence of an issue?

To pause and further analyze these questions during our Annual Report process is of great value. We welcome the tough questions, because we know it makes us stronger as an organization – it challenges us, and keeps us ever-improving.

When working to shift cultural attitudes, results are often not immediately seen. While women rising to power in local communities and collaboration with global organizations like UN Women serve as examples of our hard work and thoughtful, effective, community-based programming coming to fruition, the results of today's efforts can be challenging to pinpoint and quantify. CFG has remained dedicated to fighting for the rights of women and children for more than twenty years, and we are so proud to be a part of this growth.

Our ultimate aim is to make the work we do obsolete and at CFG, we often measure success in terms of the things that do not happen. Success is: fewer and fewer instances of gender-based violence, a reduction in emergency cases, a decrease in the number of trafficked persons; and the absence of all forms of abuse against women and children. Behind the numbers on these pages are individual women and children whose lives have been impacted because our donors, supporters, and partners believe in CFG's mission, share our values, and every day, help us to fight on and continue this work. For that, we are so incredibly grateful.

Nunnaree Luangmoi

Founder and Director, Center for Girls



CFG's founder, Nunnaree campaigning to end human trafficking and all forms of violence against women on 25 November 2018, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Our Impact

In 2018, Center for Girls started and continued to build upon a number of impactful projects and programs benefitting women, children, and entire communities in Northern Thailand with the generous support of our monumental partners and donors.



Top left: CFG's Founder, Nunnaree conducts a participatory workshop for primary school children to inform them about their rights

Top right: Tuk-tuk drivers in Chiang Khong actively campaign to end human trafficking within their community at an event put on by CFG.

Program for the Prevention of Child Trafficking and Child Abuse

Kindernothilfe

Goal | To raise awareness and educate our community on human trafficking and prevent child trafficking, abuse, and exploitation in Chiang Khong.

Project | In 2018, CFG held 15 workshops, trainings, and meetings, inviting local transportation operators and owners of high-risk business sectors to attend and equip

them with the knowledge and skills needed to prevent, identify, and report cases of trafficking and CSEC in the workplace. CFG campaigned at the Jampong market ten times, distributing 700+ leaflets, flyers, and stickers to the community. Additional campaigns were held at the Ta Kam - Si Don Chai temple, and also in tuk-tuks throughout Chiang Khong.

Impact | Police, immigration, healthcare professionals, and NGO workers have increased understanding and knowledge about human trafficking and CSEC, and are empowered to prevent it; business owners across Chiang Khong have come together to form a network that now has more than 50 members who are strong partners and agents of change.

Empowering Communities to Eliminate Human Trafficking

UN Women

Goal | To educate communities in Chiang Khong about their rights, how to recognize the warning signs of human trafficking, and the resources available to them within our community.

Project | In partnership with UN Women, Center for Girls is working with women and children in Chiang Khong and the surrounding areas who are at-risk of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), child labor,

human trafficking, and other forms of abuse. Through this new project, we are establishing Child and Women Protection Communities at the district level, and an interdisciplinary Human Trafficking Protection network consisting of local Immigration Officers, Chiang Khong Police, and NGOs in Chiang Khong.

Impact | Through two participatory workshops, CFG partnered with 15 female leaders

to develop a training handbook on trafficking and held trainings in two districts to help improve knowledge and bolster female community leader's ability to identify and respond to cases of trafficking. CFG led a large campaign on November 25, 2018, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, where we enjoyed interacting with the community and distributing campaign materials.

Emergency Cases

<https://tinyurl.com/CFGdonate>

Goal | To raise flexible funding that is available when urgently needed, enabling Center for Girls to be prepared to respond quickly to emergency cases, and aid and empower individuals and families in need of immediate assistance.

Project | Raising funds to support emergency cases is

always difficult, but through crowdfunding efforts, private donations, and support from our funders, CFG is able to assist families and individuals facing immediate and serious danger or issues.

Impact | In 2018, 42 emergency cases were reported to CFG.

These cases included CFG providing support for survivors of GBV, including drug and alcohol-related violence, rape, forced and child marriage, and cases of child abuse and neglect. CFG takes these emergency case reports extremely seriously and responds swiftly, acting with compassion and empathy.



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Top: Salinee Suwannet, Women for Change participant and Village Leader leads an exercise focused on finding your voice and women's empowerment during a Women for Change workshop
Bottom: Students learn to identify, express, and discuss their emotions with other students during a CFG-conducted workshop

Women for Change

Diakonia

Goal | In partnership with Diakonia, CFG works to educate and empower local women to recognize and eradicate gender-based violence, and become confident, vocal leaders within their families and communities.

Project | In 2018, CFG conducted 30 trainings/workshops across all districts we serve. Workshop

topics included public speaking, confidence and skill building activities, learning about local and national laws, enhancing the awareness of gender-based violence, and available resources.

Impact | Women for Change (WFC) participants are engaged members of the WFC Network, which has grown to include 128

women. These women act as role models and advocates and many have gone on to take on leadership positions in their villages and within the network. WFC participants have begun and continue various mini projects, which increase their financial resources, including raising pigs and making and selling soap and washing liquids.

Partnership with Girl Rising

Girl Rising

Goal | To empower girls through story telling and to encourage them to find their strongest voices and participate in school.

Project | Center For Girls and Girl Rising are excited to begin this

partnership and work together to empower girls to tell their stories through film and media.

Impact | During the pilot, CFG worked with four teachers from Baan Phan Wittaya school, two

from Wiang Mok school, and two community members to establish necessary groundwork to ensure future programmatic success. We look forward to continuing this new film-making work into 2019 and beyond!

Child Protection in Schools

Global Fund for Children

Goal | With crucial support from Global Fund for Children, CFG promotes children's rights by implementing participatory, effective activities that resonate with students and teachers alike.

Project | In 2018, 293 students from Ban Pot Wittaya, Thung Na

Noi, and Mae Or benefitted from curriculum focused on internet safety, protection from violence and sexual abuse, and child rights. CFG worked closely with 9 teachers in Chiang Khong/Wiang Kaen and 16 teachers in Mae Or to identify, discuss, and combat common issues students face.

Impact | Last year, teachers selected 35 student leaders to act as watchdogs in their schools but we are very excited that 109 students involved in the program committed to this role. Students provided opinions on important and timely topics they would like to discuss.



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A Year in Review

jan

CFG welcomes **UN Women's** Regional Director for Asia Pacific, Ms. Miwa Panholzer Kato and her team to discuss **best practices** and share ideas on how to **empower women and girls** in Northern Thailand

feb

CFG shares resources and information about human trafficking with market-goers at Jam Pong market, a perfect place to **raise awareness** about **safe & legal migration**

mar

On March 8, **International Women's Day**, CFG promotes women's rights by campaigning in Chiang Khong to create **a more just and equal society for women and girls** in Thailand

apr

Thailand celebrates **Songkran**, or Thai New Year, and CFG looks forward to all that is to come in our 21st year as an organization, including **achieving Foundation status**, a coveted distinction allowing us greater fundraising opportunity within Thailand

may

CFG welcomes the team from **Girl Rising**, and is excited to partner with them in 2018 to **empower girls** through education, using storytelling to help them **find and amplify their voices**

jun

ECPAT presents an award to Center for Girls, acknowledging CFG's commitment to **ending and preventing human trafficking**

jul

On July 30, **World Day Against Human Trafficking** CFG raises awareness of trafficking warning signs and provides information about what resources are available to the community and how to access them

aug

With the support of **Diakonia**, CFG conducts two **Women for Change** workshops, continuing to **engage and empower** women in Chiang Khong with knowledge about their rights

sep

CFG enters the **Girl Rising Creative Challenge**, and becomes one of 40 selected from a pool of 900 submissions from 100+ countries

oct

Longtime partner **KNH** visits CFG to discuss the **elimination of human trafficking** with the goal to 'exchange, learn, and develop social change'

nov

CFG and **UN Women** launch our new partnership on November 25, the **International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women** with a district-wide campaign

dec

CFG and women in the community continue to **fight gender-based violence** and **human trafficking** through **educational awareness** campaigns in villages throughout Chiang Khong



In partnership with UN Women, CFG organized Chiang Khong-wide campaign activities in November, on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women



Stories



POL. CAPT. WERAWUT PHUMPHAIJIT
IMMIGRATION OFFICER

We have now worked with Center for Girls (CFG) for 3 to 4 years. CFG is a local organization that seriously works closely with communities, aiming to build and develop knowledge for people within communities, and also working to protect them from any kind of violence, including child abuse, violence against women, and human trafficking in Chiang Khong and Wieng-Kaen districts. CFG is also supporting communities to develop knowledge on the topic of human rights, to empower villagers to become part of CFG's network and their village's leadership. CFG has trained us on the process of working with other organizations and government branches which will help our future work in these areas as well.



MELISSA WEAKLEY
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

I began working with Center for Girls in early 2016 and continue to be so impressed with not only the tremendous impact the organization has on its community through Center for Girls' programs, but also with the graceful, compassionate, and tireless way in which they do it. I have watched the way Ploy Sai interacts with students in the Global Fund for Children program, creating a safe, comfortable space for children to learn and discuss difficult and sometimes very sensitive topics. I have seen Nunnaree answer the phone

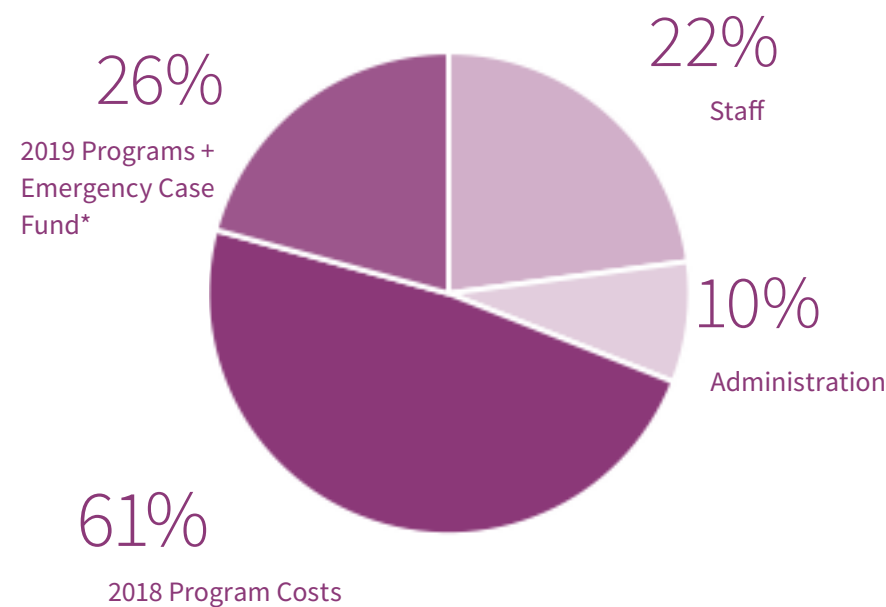


MS. SALINEE SUWANNET
WOMEN FOR CHANGE PARTICIPANT & VILLAGE LEADER

Working with CFG has completely changed my vision. First, I thought women and men are different; men are more powerful than women because my traditions and culture shaped this view. Joining CFG's Women for Change project changed my thoughts to understand that all men and women have the same rights and are equal. The reason I decided to join CFG's project was because I saw that women's voices in my villages weren't accepted and heard by men. I felt that every time women needed or tried to share their opinions with men, it could only be done at a drinking party and our opinions were not seriously considered or listened to. By joining CFG's Women for Change project, I became more confident in my knowledge and my role within my community. I realized I could become a female representative in my community - to call for women's rights. I have gained more confidence in my own knowledge and have developed skills including the ability to work on documents and with the computer, and I now also receive support from my family too.

in the middle of the night and rush to the hospital to provide support and guidance for women who need her during emergency cases. Working in the international development space, we often hear the terms 'participatory development' and 'human-centered approach' used but rarely have I seen these practices so interwoven into the fabric of an organization and its team that it is second nature. Nunnaree and Ploy Sai are the hardest working, most empowering, and inspiring women I have ever had the privilege to work with.

Thanks to your support...



Center for Girls continues to reach thousands of men, women, and children each year through our campaigns, projects, and activities. Your support allows us to identify, develop, and implement participatory, community-based solutions that empower and serve the most vulnerable populations in Chiang Rai. Our pledge to you is to continue to fight for positive change and equality within our communities. Center for Girls may be a small organization, but thanks to YOU and your support, we continue to make a significant impact in people's lives.

See how your contributions made an impact in 2018:

This year, CFG's total income was (THB)
3,323,731.34*

and total expenditure was (THB)
2,663,640.25

*This year's income was noticeably higher than its expenditure due to funding received in 2018 for a project that will be implemented across 2018 and 2019, and Emergency Case Funds that will be available and used as emergency cases are referred and supported.

I need to say thank you to CFG and their donors who have supported local people working against human trafficking in their own communities. When CFG came to my village, they helped me to develop knowledge and abilities to help other villagers as a human rights defender ... I think now parents and other villagers have a greater understanding of this issue which is definitely a helpful and important step.

Jalu Kulao,
Assistant Village Head of
Song Pi Nong village

Before, I used to be shy and have no confidence to speak out and do activities with others. Being part of CFG's project, I have a role to give positive advice to other children in my community and have learned more responsibility, leadership, and working skills. CFG also works with our parents which helps some adults to change their minds on certain issues. For example, some parents now take more seriously the need to support their children to continue school and their education, rather than marry like in the past.

Piyachat Srikham
Youth Leader

I am very glad Women for Change has come into our community and raised awareness for women. It would be great if the program continues long term so that women can continue to gain confidence and awareness. I have learned so many things about GBV and will further share this information with others so they know women have the same rights as men.

Nongluck
Women for Change
Participant



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Take Action



donate

Make a donation TODAY to help families in desperate need.



Volunteer

Consider volunteering at Center for Girls – motivated, enthusiastic individuals willing to learn and help are always welcome!



educate

Educate yourself and others on issues like human trafficking and gender-based violence that millions of people around the world face on a daily basis.

<http://center4girls.org>

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