



2017 Annual Report



Heal Families, Strengthen Families, Keep Families Together

Protecting children is at the heart of everything we do. We work hard to support families in crisis because it is the best way to combat the root causes of human trafficking and institutionalization of children. Every thing we do is in service to this central mission.

The year 2017 was an exciting time of growth for The Charis Project. Just before the close of the year we launched our Village Savings and Loan program, as part of the work of empowering families to gain independence. At it's heart is the idea that even those on a very meager income can save for the future, especially if they organize as a community and help each other through times of financial crisis and invest in each other as entrepreneurs and business owners. Already, families in the program have been saved from having to borrow from loan sharks to get through a crisis, and they can move forward without the burden of crippling debts.

One of our special projects was to establish an official Thai foundation as a partner organization to The Charis Project. **Shade Tree Foundation** is key to our continued work with migrant families in crisis on the Thai/Myanmar border. It opens doors for cooperation with local government and other organizations to provide even more effectively for the needs of vulnerable migrant families.

We continue to show up every week for families in crisis, food supplies in hand, and with the time and care to listen to, encourage, and strengthen struggling parents. We aim to be there for the most vulnerable and difficult moments in a family's life; when the mother is pregnant or breastfeeding a new baby, when they are struggling to care for a child with a disability, or when one of the provider parents is seriously ill or injured and unable to work.

We are so thankful to you, our donors. Your faithful and generous partnership has equipped us to be able to provide struggling families with tools that give them a fighting chance.



Family Support

6895^{kg}
vegetables

given to mothers
& children.

1379
home visits

to support families
in crisis.

16,548
eggs

given to hungry families.



65
families
supported



35
babies born

100% born healthy

Supporting Families Keeps Them Together

He had been sick for months already, laying on a mat on the floor, wasting away. Without the strength to go to the clinic, and no one to drive him, he stayed, huddled on that mat, getting thinner, and weaker. His wife picked vegetables from the ditches to eat and sell. **The \$1.50USD she brought home every day bought a little bit of rice, and kept starvation away for her and her small daughter.**

Her sister told her to come home, to **leave him to die and come home** to Myanmar. She would send money.

But loyally, she stuck by him, and refused to abandon the man who had for so many years cared for her, and their children.

When our Family Support team heard about this family, and their situation we went to their house right away. **The first thing we did was help the sick man into the truck and drive him to the clinic.**

He had parasites! The medicine for parasites is very inexpensive, and effective. But he had gone for 4 months without treatment, because he was too weak.

A few days later the tests came back positive for TB as well. He had to stay at the clinic for several months as they worked to help him get stronger. **It was a long road to recovery for him, because he waited so long to get treatment.** We supported his family with food until he was well enough to go back to work.

Without intervention it's very likely that this man would have died and left his children fatherless and vulnerable.



Children's Transitional Care Home



Some times children need a safe place to stay while their families are in transition or encountering difficulty. The transitional care home up on the mountain is a place where children can stay, attend school, and be loved and cared for during these transitions. Our ultimate goal is always to reunify the family, or find a permanent alternate solution in a family setting.

Family Education



157
families
impacted through
education programs

Research and Teaching Farm

published

study on affordable
seed saving
methods

20 households
Trained

in improved organic
rice cultivation

Other Projects

These include:

- Our new Family Enterprise Program, helping families build financial stability and independence.
- Youth empowerment projects in the slum communities of Bangkok
- Emergency support for displaced families in Myanmar.
- An Addiction Recovery Center for men in need of friendship and community.



SPECIAL PROJECT - Shade Tree Foundation

Investing in the Team

Shade Tree Foundation is how we operate legally in Thailand. It's the support structure behind and underneath every thing we do. Shade Tree:

- Provides work permits for our migrant staff and their families so they don't have to hide from police checkpoints and raids like the other families.
- Provides visas to our western volunteers
- Provides the ability to cooperate with local government initiatives toward safety for women and children and trafficking prevention
- Provides opportunities to partner with other NGOs, both local and international.



Shade Tree foundation

Supported by



HEAL FAMILIES

STRENGTHEN FAMILIES

KEEP FAMILIES TOGETHER

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

สานสัมพันธ์

We have found that while the food support is vital at the critical stage of crisis for families in extreme poverty the supportive, encouraging friendship is the main healing factor. Aaron John Blue

*การช่วยเหลือเป็นสิ่งที่สำคัญในช่วงเวลาวิกฤต... การช่วยเหลือที่เป็นมิตรและเป็นกำลังใจเป็นสิ่งจำเป็นที่จะช่วยให้ครอบครัวสามารถก้าวข้ามช่วงเวลาที่ยากลำบากไปได้



เราเชื่อว่า... ความยุติธรรมสูงสุดสำหรับเด็กคือการได้เติบโตขึ้นในครอบครัวอบอุ่นเข้มแข็ง
เกรียง เจริญวงศ์ เสริมสร้าง และปกป้องครอบครัวให้ได้อยู่ร่วมกัน

FAMILY EDUCATION

สร้างองค์ความรู้

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Nelson Mandela

*การศึกษาเป็นอาวุธที่ทรงพลังที่สุดที่เราสามารถใช้เพื่อเปลี่ยนแปลงโลกนี้ (เนลสัน แมนเดลา)

Family Education is crucial for strengthening families.

การเสริมสร้างความรู้ให้กับครอบครัวมีความสำคัญต่อการเสริมสร้างความเข้มแข็งของครอบครัว



FAMILY ENTERPRISE

เสริมศักยภาพ

Family Enterprise helps families to be strong and stay together long into the future with training in saving and managing money and succeeding in entrepreneurial businesses.

การเสริมศักยภาพทางการเงินและการจัดการเงินและประสบความสำเร็จในธุรกิจขนาดเล็กช่วยให้ครอบครัวสามารถอยู่รอดและเติบโตได้ในระยะยาว



Our vision is for every child to be in a strong healthy family.

วิสัยทัศน์ของเราคือเด็กทุกคนได้อยู่ในครอบครัวอบอุ่นเข้มแข็ง



SPECIAL PROJECT - Conference



Statement of Financial Activities

Total Income: \$171,819

Expenses:

Programs \$153,375

Administration \$16,690

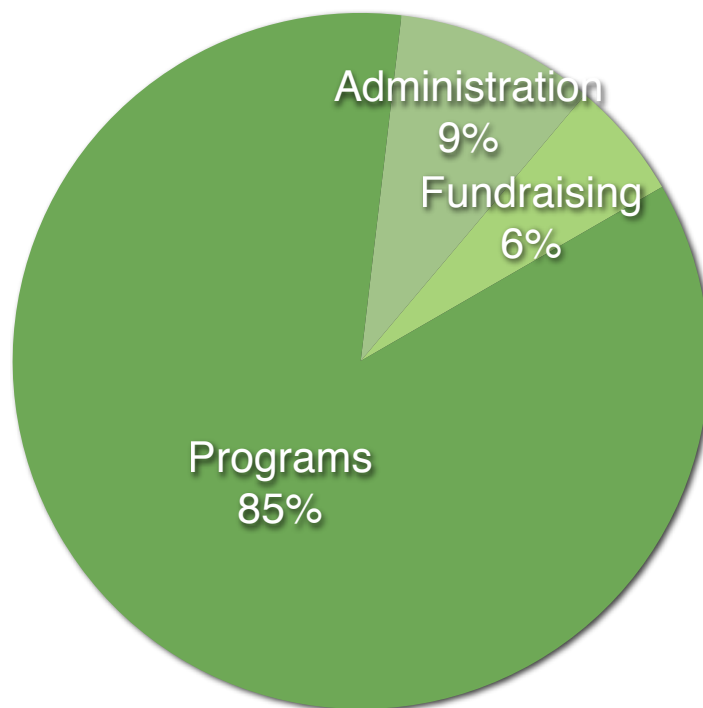
Fundraising \$9,948

Total Expenses: \$180,013

2017 Use of Funds: \$8,122

Total Net Assets: \$8,760

Break Down of Expenses



● Programs

● Administration

● Fundraising

All amounts stated are in US dollars. Net Assets as of December 31, 2017 consist of cash on hand. In 2017 The Charis Project board voted to divest all assets held in Thailand to Shade Tree Foundation.

thecharisproject.org

The Charis Project

306-N West El Norte Pkwy. #314,
Escondido, CA 92026
USA

Shade Tree Foundation

31/25 Soi Ruamreang
63110 Amphoe Mae Sot, Tak,
Thailand