VILLAGE FOCUS INTERNATIONAL’S HOME OF DREAMS

PROVIDING REFUGE AND TRAINING FOR VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND AT-RISK YOUTH
Village Focus International (VFI) started operating in Laos in 2000 as “an international NGO with an exclusively local mission”. VFI operates two human trafficking shelters, a border transit centre for trafficking survivors, and a 40-hectare agricultural training facility for local farmers.

There are only three shelters in Laos for trafficking survivors and at-risk girls and young women, and VFI operates two of them in Vientiane and Pakse. They have a combined capacity of 60 residents. Each resident’s circumstances and needs are assessed by a social worker to develop a case management plan, and all residents are provided safe accommodation, food, healthcare, vocational training, and other daily necessities for their rehabilitation, empowerment, and successful reintegration into society.

Potential residents are referred to VFI through a network of partners throughout the country.
HOME OF DREAMS PROJECT

Home of Dreams (HoD), the shelter located in Pakse, was established in 2008 as a residential vocational training and educational centre.

This project seeks to improve the quality of life of vulnerable girls and young women in southern Laos, by offering a safe environment where residents are provided with quality health services, vocational training, and access to information about the dangers associated with human trafficking.

Child’s Dream seeks your support for the running costs of the HoD shelter.
HOME OF DREAMS ACTIVITIES:

- Formal counselling service to ensure psychological and social support;
- Safe accommodation at HoD including food and personal items;
- Non-formal education including Lao language and math;
- Vocational training based on interests and community needs;
- Life skills training, including nutrition, sexually transmitted infections, and human rights;
- Agricultural skills training, including raising chickens and growing mushrooms;
- Business training to learn how to manage the finances of a small business; and
- Social integration through small grants and equipment based on needs.
BENEFICIARIES

The target beneficiaries are girls and young women from poor families who live in or come from remote villages in southern Laos, and who are identified as particularly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. HoD expects an annual intake of 40 girls and young women. Since their inception, VFI’s two shelters have provided safety and services to over 500 girls and young women.

OBJECTIVES

- Vulnerable girls and young women are protected and provided with professional assistance for recovery and healing through integrated health services;
- Vulnerable girls and young women have improved education and vocational skills to enhance quality of life for themselves and their families; and
- A social enterprise initiative – VFI’s Dream Weaver shop – is developed to increase financial sustainability and enable social change for young women.
HoD’s budget is USD 50,220 for the period of June 2019 to June 2020. Transfers from Child’s Dream to VFI are made in four instalments (quarterly) during the financial year.
MONITORING AND REPORTING

We receive regular progress and financial reports.

Feedback is collected directly during regular site visits by our local team.

Visits can easily be arranged anytime.

We report to donors twice a year.