

# VOLUNTEERING WITH CHILD'S DREAM

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I have been looking for an internship or a volunteering position in Asia to expand my horizon, gain work experience and learn new skills. After doing an internship in Switzerland I felt like this would round up my gap year perfectly before going back to University for my Master. When I found a job description on my Universities job board of a volunteering position in Chiang Mai, the city where I partly grew up in, I was super excited and applied straight away. Few weeks later everything was arranged and I planned my stay in Thailand.

While working at Child's Dream in Chiang Mai, I experienced a unique working environment and enjoyed working with people with different nationalities. With every donor report that you write, you understand what you and everyone else at the office is working for a little bit better. During my time at CD I learned more about the Mekong Sub region and how a well-organized NGO operates. Towards the end of my volunteering period I also participated in the annual CD workshop in Doi Saket where I got to know the people from the Myanmar and Cambodian field office. Together we got a better grasp on CD strategy and the current situations and issues of the countries we work in.





As this volunteering position is based in the head quarter in Chiang Mai, I was very happy to live in this great city. There are many things to do in your free time and it's an excellent location to explore the north of Thailand on the weekends.

## Exposure Trip

As every volunteer gets to go on an exposure trip to visit the projects, I had the opportunity to go to Mae Sariang, Thailand and around with Land and Wahn. Together we visited workshops at different schools and had meetings with teachers and other persons of interest. It was great to see a project being implemented at schools which I read about in the office. Here some impressions of my trip:



*Hanging out at Mae Sariang*



*Walking street*



*Exploring the school area with Land*



*Observing a workshop at a school*



*Talking to the school principle*



*One more school visit*



*Exploring the beautiful area of Mae Hong Son*



*Sleeping in a classroom*



*Land is cooking dinner for everyone*



*Thank you Child's Dream for this great opportunity! If you are interested in volunteering with CD and have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me: [stephanie.kuster@gmx.ch](mailto:stephanie.kuster@gmx.ch)*