



ANNUAL
PERFORMANCE REPORT

Reporting period: **June 2019 - March 2020**

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The Andaman Center For Migrant Education (ACME) background

In 2007, Foundation for Education and Development (FED) started working with the Myanmar migrant community in the Kuraburi district of Phang Nga, which is located along the Andaman coast about 3 hours north of the popular tourist destination of Phuket. It comprises rural fishing villages, shrimp farms, and rubber and palm oil plantations. Migrants employed in these sectors often face difficult, dirty, and dangerous working and living conditions, rights exploitation, and very low wages. Human trafficking, child labor, and prostitution are all prevalent issues in the community.

ACME is run by FED under The Kuraburi Migrant Community Stabilization program to provide the migrant community, including Myanmar Muslims, with the necessary tools, knowledge, and support to overcome their

vulnerability to human and labor rights violations and empower them to achieve safe and equitable living experiences while in Thailand.

Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME), formally the Kuraburi Learning Center (KLC)/ Burmese Learning Center (BLC) is located in the heart of the Kuraburi community and is the foundation of our community outreach program in the area. It offers the only reputable education opportunity for the thousands of Myanmar migrants living in the district. FED's school management experience and relationships with the Thai and Myanmar Ministries of Education and local authorities allow for smooth operation of the learning center and enables students to easily transfer into Thai or Myanmar schools, if their family situations force them to uproot and relocate.

FED strives to provide quality education for 60-70 migrant children each year aged nursery to the 6th grade. Our program offers core courses structured around Myanmar and Thai curriculums as well as extra-curricular activities for community engagement such as cultural festivals, the hosting of international student exchange groups, vocational training for migrant women, and community healthcare services provided by the FED health team.

In recent years our ability to keep the The Kuraburi Migrant Community Stabilization program alive has diminished due to a decline in financial support which threatens to permanently close the school and reduce community outreach activities. The acquisition of additional funding will ensure the school and program activities are continued as well as offers the possibility to expand community activities and increase student enrollment at ACME.

With the great support provided by the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN) we could continue providing education for Burmese migrant children in Kuraburi and we are trying to do our best for the migrant children to obtain quality education while staying with their parents in Thailand.

ACME Partnerships

The Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) is a partnership between the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN) and the Foundation for Education and Development (FED).

An MOU was signed on 29th June 2017 that contains specific provisions governing the purpose of the support, the use of funds, reporting requirements, and other terms and conditions of the support.

1. Purpose of the Agreement

The purpose of this agreement is to grant fund to FED for the purpose of supporting Education Program for Burmese Immigrants at Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME), Kuraburi District, Phang Nga.

2. Responsibilities of the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN)

- a) NAN will fundraise to the best of its ability for the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME).
- b) Funds will transfer to FED at the beginning of each semester after receiving projected budget from FED.
- c) In the event that NAN is unable to provide sufficient funding to keep the school open, FED will be notified at least 4 months in advance.

3. Responsibilities of FED

- a) FED agrees to use funds provided by NAN only for Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME).
- b) In the event that FED is unable to provide management and oversight of the school, NAN will be notified at least 4 months in advance.
- c) Financial Records: FED agrees to maintain accurate records and accounting documenting all receipts and expenditures of the fund. Files containing all supporting documentation for these accounts should be maintained in good order. FED agrees to make available to NAN and its auditors and consultants all records and accounting books relating to this fund at any time, given 5 working days from the day of request.
- d) Reporting requirements: FED agrees to furnish narrative and financial reports to NAN within one month of the end of each semester in English.

4. This agreement hereto set forth the entire Agreement and understanding of both parties related to the subject matter contained herein and merge all prior discussions between them, and neither party shall refer to, rely upon or be bound by any representation other than that as expressly stated in this Agreement.

Partner: The North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN)

NAN's role in ACME is land ownership, financial support/fundraising, operating and strategic advice. The North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN) works in cooperation with communities along the North Andaman Coast of Ranong and Phang Nga provinces in Thailand. NAN is a collective of committed locals, activists, and development experts with over a decade of grassroots experience including tsunami relief, conservation, and community based tourism, education, and human rights. By empowering partners who understand global issues and their impacts on local communities, we are inspiring a sense of confidence and preparedness in how to adapt to changing climates. NAN projects are developed with the community to encourage new ideas and inspire positive and sustainable change. The focus of NAN's work spans from education and training to cultural and environmental conservation. The area where we live and work offers unaltered natural environments and traditional lifestyles that live in harmony with nature. These communities are under threat from changing natural, social and economic environments.

Partnership: Andaman Discoveries (AD)

AD's Role in ACME is to provide volunteers to teach English, provide study and service groups to assist with grounds maintenance and upkeep and to provide financial support. AD's mission is to be the bridge between respectful guests that are striving to travel in a sustainable way and community based tourism programs that contribute to community capacity development, education, conservation, sustainability and cultural empowerment.

An overview of Foundation for Education and Development

FED's Vision

Help marginalized Burmese people living at home and abroad to achieve their basic rights.

FED's Mission in Thailand

To empower Burmese migrants and their families in Thailand to achieve greater recognition of their rights by providing education, social services, and advocacy.

Education Program Goal

Help marginalized Burmese migrant children gain access to educational opportunities in Thailand

Objectives

- Provide a quality education for vulnerable children at FED migrant learning centers
- Open the door to educational opportunities beyond migrant learning centers
- Strengthen relationships and networks among key actors from the Thai and Myanmar Ministries of Education, migrant learning centers, and Thai schools to improve education policies and education quality for migrant children
- Improve the qualification and skills of migrant teachers through accredited training programs
- Protect the children from becoming child laborers.
- Create a safe and reliable environment for the children, and in doing so, sustaining the only educational opportunity for many of these children.
- Collaborate with Thai government schools and learning centers to integrate Burmese migrant students.
- Collaborate with the Thailand Ministry of Education to improve Burmese migrant children's educational opportunities.
- Encourage peace building between Burmese migrants and Thai citizens.

1) Project Impact Highlights regarding migrant workers, education activities during the reporting period and information concern with improvement and stability of the attendance rates

At the beginning of the 2019- 2020 academic year, **78** students registered at The Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). And meanwhile, at the beginning of the 1st quarter, the average attendance rate was **63.17(80.98)** students per day. As of the end of quarter 4, enrollment numbers were at **72** with a daily attendance rate of **58.46(81.19)** students per school day.

Migrant workers from Myanmar have to pay higher costs for visa extensions and they also have difficulties in obtaining official documents and social security. A lot of Burmese migrant workers have to extend their visa next year (2020) and they have to change their status to MOU after the Thai and Myanmar governments signed a memorandum of understanding and since then have introduced a number of schemes to improve the documentation process for those working in Thailand unofficially.

Many Myanmar migrants who had been working in Thailand for decades were unable to travel from one province to another until the government began issuing temporary Myanmar passports in 2009. Then, in 2013, migrants had to apply for regular passports which are valid for five years. Currently, migrants who have had a national verification (Certificate of Identification) need to change an ordinary passport. This will cause a small unstable student enrollment as some migrants need to apply for a new ordinary passport.

The Royal Thai Government has campaigned to ensure that migrant workers wishing to work in Thailand are recruited through legal channels and possess legal work permits. Any employer who hires illegal migrant workers shall be charged and subject to a fine from 10,000 to 100,000 Thai Baht for each migrant worker. If the offense is repeated, the employer will be imprisoned for no more than one year, with a fine ranging from 50,000 to 200,000 Thai Baht for each migrant worker, and will also be prohibited from employing migrant workers for 3 years. This is to ensure that the protection of migrant workers' rights is in line with the international standard. This process is being carried out and some migrant workers need to renew/extend their documents in time and some of them go back to Myanmar for good. But this process does not impact our enrollment and stability of the attendance.

The Ministry of Labour Thailand has opened the One-Stop Service Center (OSSC) across the country on January 9th, for the migrant workers whose work permits are to expire between March and June 2020. The ministry has assured a speedy and convenient process for about 4 million migrant workers from Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar working in Thailand. According to the spokesman from the Labour Minister, there would be 42 OSSC around Thailand to provide service for nearly 4 million migrant workers until March 31st. Almost all of the migrant workers have prepared for the renewal of their visa and work permit. We are convinced that this process could not impact our enrollment and stability of the attendance.

We are using a Workplace (application) by Facebook that connects employees to improve communication and collaboration. All staff from the Foundation for Education and Development (FED) can communicate about their day to day work to get things done together. Meanwhile, it also helps to connect many brains to seize opportunities and solve programs and project problems. For using a Workplace, all education staff can share their daily classroom activity, difficulties, and other education-related information in the post or chatbox. It is also good for our staff to send some files or statistics via this app, so our communication sector is getting better than the past.

FED's Education Program has continued to improve with the Student Admin System (SAS) as it is one of the key systems for facilitating the management and development of the entire program. The purpose of creating SAS is to save the database and every information in the digital system. SAS automates every single task and plays a key role in defining student success. It is also developing a better relationship between students and teachers and offers additional teaching support to children. The SAS helps track individuals improvement, attendance, needs and other information that is necessary for the implementation.

We are always trying to improve and update our digital Student Admin System(SAS) as the education program and school administrative staff will find the management and monitoring of their programs and students' performance to be less strenuous. On the other hand, investments in the student records/admin system will reduce the volume of manual effort and rework currently associated with all stages of the student lifecycle. Our IT has been trying to create and add some new tabs such as attendance sheets and digital grade books. We are encouraging and supporting our teachers to improve their computer skills to start managing student attendance and grades. As the SAS expands

and will be able to automate live quarterly statistics, our time spent on reporting will reduce and it will give a better insight into student, class, teacher and school and performance.

FED's Education Program has been providing education for Burmese migrant children since 2005 in Southern Thailand and we would like to spread/reveal the number of Burmese migrant children that we have been supporting since 2005 till now. The statistic includes students from Formal-education and Nonformal education. Please click the link to see the details.

<http://bit.ly/2OKIC4w>

Activities implemented to encourage children to attend

Through FED's social media channels, updated information regarding migrant children's education has been releasing and broadcasting regularly. Apart from that, FED's field staff from Health and Migrant Development Program assist in sharing information concerns with the education process that FED has provided for the migrant children. Migrants have access to get the latest information via FED's media channels; <http://bit.do/eMqgu> (Youtube) <http://bit.do/eMqhd> (Facebook) <http://www.ghre.org> (Web page) <https://bit.ly/2FmeGV3> (Radio)

According to "Education for All" and "No One Left Behind" policies, imposed by the Thai and Myanmar Education Ministry, FED's Education Program staff always encourage parents of migrant children to send their children to the nearest schools. FED's Integration Project assists Burmese migrant children to get access to enroll at the Thai government schools in (6) districts located in Phang Nga Province. Apart from assisting migrant children for school admission, Integration staff also conduct home visits to make sure the condition of their studies in Thai government schools and meet with school principals to find out the student's improvement in studying. Either way, Integration Project has preparation classes for the youth those working at hotels, restaurants, shops, and other sectors, to continue their studying at the Thai Non-Formal Education Program (Kor Sor Nor) system. Kor Sor Nor students are taught basic Thai (reading, writing, speaking and listening), English and computer during their classes every Sunday.

According to the education program's academic year activity plan, a parent and teacher meeting is needed to be organized (3) times during the academic year. These meetings give us a great chance to discuss openly between teachers and parents. Parents are given detailed information about our program and we could exchange viewpoints on the current education system that we are providing for migrant children and youth. To obtain a better opportunity for connection, communication and collaboration we regularly conduct a home visit to our students' houses. For having a teacher travel to the student's house, parents voice their concerns, speak candidly, and let the teacher into their lives. It also assists teachers to get on not only with the students but also with the parents and community. Apart from that, FED's MDT and Health Team also delivered updated information concerns with education and encouraged parents to send their children to school. They assist the education program to be known more and more in migrant communities by sharing information and distributing education pamphlets. FED distributes its newsletters quarterly to inform projects' highlights for the stakeholders and please click the link to get information.

<http://bit.ly/2LTsRVE>

FED's Education Program regularly spreads/provides educational related information through the website, facebook page, monthly newsletter and Migrant Times journal. This helps migrants to get information regarding our program's activities, educational opportunities, and existing Myanmar and Thai education policies for migrant children and youth. Moreover, we regularly visit the parents of our students to strengthen our relationship and encourage them to get more involved in their children's education. At the same time, we can also observe our students' condition at home and it helps our teachers to know more about their students, and how to deal with their students in the classrooms. Meanwhile, for having regular home visits, students also get on with their teachers and they could reveal something uncomfortable to their class teachers to make things better. This strengthens a good relationship between teachers and students and it helps a lot in improving the teaching environment.

We have been improving our collaboration with relevant education officers both from Myanmar and Thailand. Currently, FED's Integration Project works with 37 Thai government schools in 7 districts located in Phang Nga, Southern Thailand. The Integration Project staff regularly organized parent and teacher meetings, stakeholder meetings and home visits. During the meetings and home visits, they provided education-related information and made parents understand more about education opportunities for migrant children studying in the Thai government schools. In the same way, we strengthen a good relationship with the Ministry of Education Myanmar to collaborate in the transfer process, education staff capacity building, new curriculum, and database of the migrant students studying in different migrant learning centers in Thailand. Since the last two years, officers from the Ministry of

Education Myanmar actively get involved in education progress for migrant children and are willing to assist the migrant education program.

We organize regular parent and teacher meetings (3) times during the academic year to have a more transparent and open discussion for the children's education. We always provide accurate and detailed information regarding the education process for the migrant children, student exchange programs supported by international schools, accredited transfer certificates issued by FED and other education-related information during the parent and teacher meetings. As a direct consequence of organizing a parent and teacher meeting, parents gain more trust in our program's implementation and they have expressed a desire to send their children more in the coming year. FED's education staff frequently make home visits to the students' house for obtaining good communication and understanding between teachers and parents. Our staff could make a clear explanation and encourage parents on the importance of education for their children. We are convinced that this activity is a trust-building exercise that improves exchanging points of view between teachers and parents. Some FED's field staff (from Migrant Development Team and Health Team) assist our program by providing an education program's pamphlets and spreading the Thai education policy for the children in Thailand. Thus, parents could be aware of the rights of children and their rights to study. Meanwhile, FED has been distributing newsletters and the Migrant Time's journal that inform the program's highlights for the stakeholders.

FED usually provides educational, health and migrant related information through its Facebook page, website, monthly newsletter, radio channels and the Migrant Times journal. Parents could easily get the information especially on education opportunities for the migrant children, Myanmar and Thai education policies for the children, thus they could choose the proper education pathway for their children. To describe details and updated educational related information we frequently distribute education pamphlets to the parents and it convinces them about the essence of the education for the children.

For having many community leaders, an organization can work effectively and the more people become leaders the more problems we will solve. Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has many community leaders in different places that assist FED's staff in community health training, migrant related awareness training, student outreach, and education awareness training. They always help us to inform meeting points to parents who could not attend the parent and teacher meetings and encourage parents to keep sending their children to schools. Apart from that, they also lend their hands for our program implementation such as prize awarding ceremony, religious ceremony, and school-related activities and these contributions assist to get the great achievement of the program.

Changes/improvements to the curriculum

Myanmar's basic education curriculum is about 30 years old, with the last amendment made in 1985. Widely considered to be out-of-date, Myanmar's education system is left behind compared with the international community. Therefore, the Department of Education Research Bureau under the Education Department started drawing up a new curriculum in 2012. After three years, a new syllabus – the KG standard – was introduced in the 2016-17 academic year. In the 2017- 2018 academic year, a new curriculum for Grade 1 was introduced and in 2018- 2019 academic year a new curriculum for Grade 2 was introduced in accordance with the new education policy. A new curriculum for Grade 3 and 6 has been lecturing since the beginning of the 2019- 2020 academic year. These curricula were designed by the Basic Education Department (BED) under the Ministry of Education Myanmar and intended to approach the student-centered teaching methods. The MOE Myanmar has been changing its education system from memorization to empirical-based lessons. Civic and Good Citizenship, Music and Art (Drawing) have been determined as the main subjects. The Myanmar Ministry Of Education has planned to change the curriculum for the rest grades thoroughly.

During the new academic year (2019- 2020), FED's Health team has begun to implement a comprehensive, multi-year health curriculum for students. The students are separated into 2 groups. Young students from Kindergarden to grade 4, receive fun monthly lessons from the team on topics such as toothbrushing/dental care, hand washing/personal hygiene, and healthy vs unhealthy foods. Older students, receive weekly classes. The first year of the new curriculum, which will become the grade 5 curriculum in the future, involves basic anatomy/physiology, nutrition, hygiene, and exercise with current health topics throughout. For example, this year has seen a large number of dengue fever cases in the area, and we have taken the opportunity to create awareness of mosquito-borne disease. Next year, the curriculum will advance as grade 6-8 students into new subject areas and deepen their understanding of previously taught material.

We are improving our relationship with Thai healthcare systems this year. Our students are receiving more services, and local Thai officials are learning about our students and their situation. From August to November 2019, more

than 100 students have received vaccinations from our local sub-district clinics. Over the same period, the clinics also brought teams of doctors and nurses to give all of our students basic health-checks. No major issues were found with our students, luckily, but dental problems and head lice were found to be common issues.

2) Description of External Activities relevant to the Project's Objectives undertaken during the Reporting Period

General activities at The Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME)

The first day of 2019- 2020 Academic Year was started on *4th June 2019*. The same as the previous year, the admission/registration process had been extended for weeks due to having some difficulties and different reasons for parents to bring their children during (admission) specified periods. FED's education staff had made an announcement in advance for the migrant communities that parents needed to bring a transfer certificate issued by the head of the relevant school for students who came/transferred from Myanmar. The transfer certificates (TC) and academic transcript (AT) provide access to track the academic progress of the student.

A 1st Parent and Teacher Meeting was held at The Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) on *12 July* with the purpose of sharing information regarding previous progressive activities and achievement of the education program, and talk about personal things about their child, because each child is different. Without the parent's supportive involvement, we believe that we could not evaluate and improve the education quality for the migrant children. Thus, we scheduled parent and teacher meetings 3 times a year in our yearly activity plan. At the meeting, we made parents clearly understand our education pathway for the migrant children and let them discuss/speak out their view of points on our services. More than that, we encouraged them to provide recommendations regarding improving our service quality. Some questions raised by the parents were answered or given feedback from our senior teachers. From the meeting, we could also find out some ways to improve our service quality and the needs to be fulfilled. The meeting was attended by parents, teachers, and staff from the North Andaman Network Foundation and Foundation for Education and Development (FED).

According to the FED's Education Program objective number 4 "Improve the qualification and skills of migrant teachers through accredited training programs", **New Curriculum Training** was organized for the teachers under FED's Education Program from *15th to 17th June 2019*. The training was aimed to improve the new curriculum teaching skills and outcomes of the teachers using the new curriculum, implemented by the Ministry of Education Myanmar in accordance with the new education policy. The training was provided by experienced provincial-level education officers, who have been serving for the Ministry of Education Myanmar.

We commemorate the 1947 assassinations of General Aung San and seven leaders of the pre-independence interim government, and bodyguard Ko Htwe. **Myanmar Martyr Day** is special to the citizens of Myanmar where they remember the people that have fought for our independence. On *19th July*, at The Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) students held a special ceremony to honor this (72nd Ar Zar Ni) day. The ceremony started at 09:00 to 11:00 am and was attended by teachers and students. ACME students laid condolence wreaths and the assistant principal shared a brief history of martyrs to the students in a question and answer form. Then the martyr's song was sung by participants and all saluted the national flag as well as the martyrs. Thus we ended the celebration with joyful hearts. After the celebration buns were distributed to all the participants.

Buddhist Lent Day (Wan Khao Phansa) is celebrated in Thailand every year during the rainy season, the time where monks are required to remain in the temple to avoid harming the growing plants and insects. On 15 August 2019, teachers and students from the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) organized the Buddhist Lent Day activity starting from 10:00 am to 11:00 am at the assembly hall. More than that, the almsgiving ceremony (offering food to the monks) and the parading of the Buddhist Lent Candle within the school also included in the program with the intention to pass the Thai tradition and experience to students.

The North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN) **arranged to donate some shoes and sandals**, that were sent from the International Organization for Migration (IOM), for students at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) on 28 August 2019. Teachers assisted in providing those shoes and made sure everyone got the right size. This made students happy and their parents could save some money for buying sandals for their children.

Intending to share knowledge regards with protecting the environment and for the health and safety of the population, the International Organization for Migration staff provided waste **management training** for the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) students on *6th September 2019*. The one day long training prepared students to effectively manage waste and made students more understanding on reducing the volume of the solid waste stream through the implementation of waste reduction and recycling programs. The IOM will keep providing this kind of training in the future for our children at ACME.

Intending to promote and protect the rights of migrant workers, and sharing updated migrant related information, FED's Migrant Development Team staff organized a **basic training regarding labor rights** for parents and students at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) on *8th September*. Participants of the training gained knowledge concerned with their rights and knew complaint channels to report if their rights are violated.

Elementary school students have many questions about the human body and students are required to have an understanding of the systems of the human body. Providing knowledge about the human body and their skeletal system will allow them to have a better understanding of how their bodies work, function, grow, and develop. On *10th September 2019*, FED's Health Team provided **fun and curious lessons about the human skeleton** for students at Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). Students got to know more about how their bones are structured and function of each bone. FED's health team provides regular health classes at partnered schools located in Phuket, Phang Nga, and Ranong with aim of improving students' knowledge concerning basic health.

Members of Yaung Tin Se (a community-based charity society formed by fisheries workers from Kuraburi Pier) **provided a nutritious lunch** for ACME students on *13th September 2019*. They have been providing some necessary assistance to the center such as doing small school renovation, supporting stationery to the students, and lunch. In the past, we had a nutrition program (lunch) for the students but due to having no financial assistance from donors, we stopped providing lunch there.

A school is a place where students spend most of their time within a day. It is a special environment that exists to improve the learning process of children. The importance of cleanliness in school is to provide a healthy and safe environment for students. With the help of teachers, students from the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) **cleaned the whole school** on *27th September 2019*. This practice convinces students more about the value of having a clean environment and understanding why it is important to keep the campus always clean.

A World Teacher Day for 2019 was celebrated on *4th October* at Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) to honor teachers around the globe and their commitment to children and teaching. Teachers play an important role in our life to become successful in career and business. A good teacher helps us to become a good human being in society and a good citizen of the country. Teachers know that students are the future of any nation. At first, the Education Program Coordinators made an opening speech and introduced the aim of celebrating the ceremony to the students. After that, ACME's principal and teachers delivered messages from UNESCO about World Teachers Day and encouraged students to acknowledge the passion of the teachers, and their kindness. Finally, students passed and shared their love for teachers by singing songs, reading poets, and saying thank you quotes for teachers. Foundation for Education and Development (FED) and the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN) would like to take this opportunity to thank teachers for their contribution and inputs into children's education.

In collaboration with Kuraburi District Public Health Department staff, FED's Health Team staff **provided basic health education** on malaria, dengue fever, and chikungunya disease on *31 October 2019* at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). The training was provided for the students at ACME with the purpose of understanding the risks of the disease and primary prevention methods. We will closely collaborate with the staff from the district public health department to conduct basic health training for our students as this could effectively help to combat those dangerous diseases.

Students shouldn't miss valuable school time just because they have head lice or nits (louse eggs). Head lice can be annoying and difficult to get rid of, but they aren't dangerous and they don't spread disease. On *7 November 2019*, Health Team staff from the Foundation for Education and Development (FED) taught ACME's students to try to avoid head-to-head contact at school and while playing at home with other children. Staff also taught students not to share combs and other personal stuff/personal care items with anyone else, whether they may have lice or not. On the same day, the health team staff conducted **clean lice activity** by applying/spraying lice repellent powder/spray on some student's head, that suffered some lice.

To develop students' achievements progressively through a range of skills which employ physical and associated

mental abilities, and discovering abilities which lead to craft attainment, teacher Sukolar took one day for teaching **paper handicraft** for students on *8th November*, at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). For having this kind of fun learning, students feel more relaxed and they can also ease tension of daily studying.

A 2nd Parent and Teacher Meeting for the 2019- 2020 academic year was held at Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) on *14th November* with the purpose of sharing information regarding previous progressive activities and achievement of the education, and talk about personal things about their child because each child is different. Without the parent's supportive involvement, we believe that we could not evaluate and improve the education quality for the migrant children. Thus, we scheduled parent and teacher meetings 3 times a year in our yearly activity plan. At the meeting, we made parents clearly understand our education pathway for the migrant children and let them discuss/speak out their view of points on our services. More than that, we encourage parents to provide recommendations regarding improving our service quality. Some questions raised by the parents were answered or given feedback from our teachers. From the meeting, we could also find out some ways to improve our service quality and the needs to be fulfilled.

Students from the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) are always encouraged to get involved in cleaning classrooms, school compounds and public roads. It helps to promote a student's understanding of life skills such as personal responsibility. To honor King's birthday, which was fallen on 5th December 2019, **ACME's students helped clean the road** that connects school and the main road on *6th December* 2019. The activity was led by the headmistress and teachers, and it took about 2 hours to collect some trash on the street. We are deeply convinced that students participating in public activities could improve interactive collaboration between the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN), Foundation for Education and Development (FED) and Thai residences/community.

Children are the future of a country, and in Thailand, they are considered the most valuable resource of the nation. Intending to raise awareness and support children's welfare, the Unified Learning Center (ULC) celebrated **Thai National Children Day** at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education's assembly ground on *10th January*. As usual, students were explained about the importance of the day and background history of the day. Sports and games were held for the students as it was a very special day for them to celebrate their day in their way. Parents of the students donated some food and drinks for that event and seemed they were much in the mood to support their children's education.

The Health Program of Foundation for Education and Development (FED) has been providing different topics of health education and monthly health checks to all students at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). To empower and increase the awareness of students about HIV/AIDS, its impact, management and availability of support systems, the health team organized a half day long HIV/AIDS awareness training on *22nd January 2020*. This short training provided **knowledge regarding HIV/AIDS** and important prevention ways to the students. FED's Health Program assists migrant workers' concerns with health care service and provides long term care to those with chronic health problems such as TB and HIV.

Prize Awarding Ceremony on *7th February 2020*, at Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). The ceremony was attended by students, parents, and the community charity society, and staff from FED and NAN. Opening and welcoming speeches were made by both staff from NAN and FED, and community leaders from Kuraburi pier. Afterwards, 2018 - 2019 academic year prizes for the outstanding students were given by relevant staff. Following that, students entertained the audiences with Burmese traditional dances, modern dances and model cat walking shows. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all participants for gathering at today's ceremony and for their kind donation for this ceremony.

The ceremony of the **73rd Anniversary of the Union Day of Myanmar** was celebrated on the *12th February* at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME). At the beginning of the ceremony, the State Flag, General Aung San, and the martyrs were saluted and then an 8 seconds silence observed in memory of the monks, people, and students who lost their lives in the democratic revolution. Sayama Yin Mon Myint (teacher in-charge) of the ACME, acted as the chairman of the ceremony and delivered the opening speech. It was followed by Saya Sukolar reading out the message from the State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and encouraging students to have a spirit of unity, and helping to build democratization for their own country when they grew up. The ceremony was attended by some teachers and students from ULC.

Students from the International School of Hilversum **assisted in making a concrete platform** from the classroom to the toilet at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) on *18th February 2019*. This helps students to

protect themselves from getting wet and sickness from the rain. They also built a cement ramp so that the school bus can pull in and out of the school. Hilversum does fundraising each year before they arrive. This year they raised 290,000 THB that was donated directly to ACME. Our appreciation goes to those who lend their hands for fulfilling the needs of students at ACME.

Each person is responsible for keeping the Earth clean, including children in any degree to the brain. It's never too early to talk to children about environmental issues such as pollution, recycling products, or littering. The Health Team of Foundation for Education and Development (FED) provided proper **handwashing** and how to properly dispose of garbage on *19th February 2020* at the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME).

Students from the Andaman Center for Migrant Education (ACME) **received stationery and clothes** that were donated on *19th February 2020*, by the North Andaman Network Foundation (NAN). Students at ACME frequently receive some donations from the foundation and other foreign donors and visitors. Our appreciation goes to those generously donating the needs of our children at ACME

As people around the world are taking precautions to protect themselves, their families and their communities from coronavirus disease (COVID-19) it's also important that children can continue to learn, and that they can do so in an environment that is welcoming, respectful, inclusive, and supportive to all. Schools and teachers play a vital role in this. Sharing accurate information and science-based facts about COVID-19 will help diminish students' fears and anxieties around the disease and support their ability to cope with any secondary impacts in their lives. On *11th March 2019*, FED's Health Team staff shared the risk and an impact of the coronavirus (Covid-19) that had caused lots of casualties and sickness around the world. Health team staff **provided some important information** that students need to know and important instructions that students need to follow to protect themselves.

4) Issues/Challenges encountered during the Reporting Period and steps taken to manage them

Due to heavy rain in the monsoon season, our students got sick and were absent for days. In collaboration with FED's Health Team, we continuously provide health information and suggest parents to not send their children to school and let them stay at home under care, if they have a fever or are not feeling well.

For this academic year, some teachers have to teach their own subjects and other subjects like music, arts, and civic as Myanmar has continuously changed the education system.

In August 2019, 31 teachers from Ranong Thani Migrant Learning Centers were arrested by the Thai royal army, police force, employment department, and for having no legal documents teaching at that LC. They were deported to Kawthaung after being penalized for working illegally in Thailand. Currently, we are working closely with the HR department to update education staff documents and start changing job titles (category) for teachers. According to the Thai Ministry of Education, in Thailand, Burmese migrant workers are not allowed to work as teachers.

According to the Thai labor act, Myanmar migrant workers are not allowed to work as teaching staff (teachers) and they are strictly ordered to not teach at any kind of school in Thailand. Thus, the Education Program is trying to start changing the status or title of their work permit. Our Human Resource officer is dealing closely with some officers from the Employment Department, in accordance with Thai labor acts for migrant workers. We have already prepared necessary documents for our staff to submit to the Employment Department under the Ministry of Labor Thailand.

According to the Thai Ministry of Labor, all migrant workers working in Thailand have to change to the MOU system. The Thai government has attached great emphasis on reducing people's vulnerability to labor trafficking by encouraging the employment of migrant workers through MOUs with Myanmar, Lao PDR, and Cambodia. This will also tackle labor exploiting and human trafficking. However, the ultimate aim is not only to put an end to labor exploiting and human trafficking, but also to ensure that migrant workers receive their rights, decent working environment, work safety, social protection, and welfare. Thailand has the policy to bring illegal migrant workers

into the labor system by registering them to ensure that they would be protected according to human rights principles. Meanwhile, some education staff need to go back to Myanmar to change their documents for continuing work. It will take sometimes and there will be some absence from teaching.

During the reporting period, we have been under threat of Coronavirus COVID- 19 widespread after the WHO Director-General declared the novel coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak a public health emergency of international concern. We collaborate more closely with local authorities to get instructions and/or information to be aware of. Updated information about the situation and future plans of the education program will be informed to you in another email.

5) Budget Update – Budget versus actual spending

Please click link below to see the finance information:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ki31XA4ahHCNT8IbYyIxt4AXwQzvOBTad33II9_Yn0/edit?usp=sharing

6) Performance Table Updates (Table provided in Excel format)

Please click link below to see performance table update:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1op0qmUaJ_B5x1BRp8hmd-mg0epkUqn59mL_EwCII0p0/edit?usp=sharing

7) Photo link

Please click link below to view activity photos:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/is4EanYeiniKrMAE7>