



2017

**IMPACT
REPORT**



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ทนาย

DID YOU KNOW?
There are 45 million victims of human trafficking across the world.
30% of victims are male.
(Global Slavery Index.org)
(Sustainable Development Goals)

10
MILLION
children
work before the age of 20

TEAM

we're



ALEZANDRA RUSSELL
Founder



NAN KHIN
House Manager



DR. MATILDA
Healthcare Provider



MONTICHA PUTHAWONG
Social Worker



YUTTAPONG TIUMSUK
Outreach Worker



ALISA SUWEE
Case Manager



CARMELA RESUMA
M&E Specialist



PARINYA JONGPAIJITSAKUL
Project Coordinator



SOMYOT TON CHANNA
Accountant



KAMPON BOP MAIJANDEE
Counselor



NARONG RONG KHAMJOY
Outreach Worker



PIYAWAN TU PEANGMON
Community Outreach Worker



URBAN LIGHT BOARD MEMBERS

ALEZANDRA RUSSELL | Urban Light Founder

ZIAD RESLAN | Chair

PETER SARGANT | Vice-Chair

BRUCE SCHUMAN | Treasurer

AMELIA MAKIN | Secretary

TILL LEMBKE | Board Member

SALLY SHIN | Board Member

JARROD BERNSTEIN | Board Member

DAVE DYER | Board Member

LORI GADOLA | Board Member

JOCELYN "JO" KMET | Board Member

URBAN LIGHT THAILAND BOARD MEMBERS

KHUN MONTICHA PUTHAWONG | Board Member

DR. SERI MAICHAN | Board Member

DR. PRASIT WANGPAKAWATTANAWONG | Board Member

KHUN ATJAREE SAIMEE | Board Member

TESTIMONIAL FROM PETER SARGANT / BOARD MEMBER

For many of us there's an assumption that the young boys in our family will grow up in a safe, secure, warm and nurturing environment, where the choices they make are theirs and they have some control over what they do with their lives, their bodies and of the direction their life journey takes.

For the boys of Urban Light that's not always the case and every one of them has a difficult and sometimes horrific story to tell. From a very young age many of our boys have had to fend for themselves. Many as undocumented and unrecognised immigrants, many of them homeless, most separated from their families; living rough on the streets and victims to all sorts of abuses and deprived of the most basic of comforts that we in our families take for granted.

I have been traveling and working in Thailand for many years and for me it's always been a magical kingdom, steeped in a rich and intriguing history, with a strong sense of its own cultural identity and a place that's proud of its people. So it was shocking when I first realised the extent of the abuse to which many of our Urban Light boys have been exposed and of course once you've seen something like this it can't be unseen or forgotten. From kids hanging about down by the river, to those playing in the streets, I'll forever worry about their safety and security.

Yet, on visiting Urban Light I am immediately filled with hope. On any given day the centre is typically

full of kids just being kids. They are there for the safety, comfort and food that we provide, but also for the language training, the health and safety support and the broader access to healthcare and a formal education that Urban Light affords these young men.

They come also to see their friends and to catch up with the community that Urban Light has created. It's a joyous place, with many of the boys in their school uniform and other older boys dressed for work as a security guard, a tuktuk driver, or a concierge in a 5 star hotel - examples to everyone of Urban Light's more successful vocational training projects.

At Urban Light we provide a safety net and hopefully a choice of a brighter future for these young vulnerable boys, that often have so little else and so few people that they can truly count on to be there for them and to look after them in the way that we might nurture the boys in our own families. To these boys Urban Light is that family and I hope that as you read this, you too are able to see the promise of a brighter future for these young boys and are able to lend your support to the work that we do.

-Peter Sargant





2017 FINANACIALS:
EXPENSES // \$208,933
SUPPORT // \$216,867

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Athletic Greens, USA | Safe Child Thailand, UK
US State Department, USA | ITO, Japan
Highland Church, USA | INTERACT, Sweden
PMU, Sweden | Up! International, Switzerland
Soap Box Soaps | Manifesto Agency

LOCAL PARTNERS


Chiang Mai Tuk Tuk Association | Le Meridien Hotel
Riverside Restaurant | The Dukes Restaurant
Chiang Mai University

VIP DONORS

Hank Keegan | Elliot Glotfelty | Justine Musk | Tammy Funk
Grace Lee | Joshua Phelps | Tiga-Rose NERCESSIAN
Samantha Dawkins | Christy Phillips
Leonard Paper | Russell Saldi

LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERS

Matilda Henriksson | Ryan Binkley | Lauren Dekleva
Chloe Yetter | Zuzu | Stina Holmquist | Sara Ask | John Briggs



2017

SERVICES OVERVIEW



IMPACT NUMBERS

of Boys who received services in 2017: **1,150**

of Boys who received services
during Urban Light Outreach: **742**

of visits Boys made to the Urban Light Youth Center: **1,799**

of Hot + Healthy meals provided to
UL Boys (Funded by Athletic Greens): **5,946**

of time spent providing 1-on-1 case
management to UL Boys: **7,020 MINUTES**

of Urban Light staff members: **THAI (10) FOREIGN (2)**

HEALTH

- # of time spend on medical case-management first-aid, pharmacy visits, HIV Screening: **7,100 MINUTES**
- # of Boys who receive medical check-ups: **236**
- # of time spent providing health education to UL Boys: **3,420 MINUTES**
- # of Boys who received HIV & STI screenings: **16**
- # of Boys who received health screenings for other illnesses: **144**
- # of on-site health clinics @ the Urban Light Youth Center: **51**

EDUCATION

- # of time spent providing education-based services including English, Life Skills, Professional Development: **2,160 MINUTES**
- # of Boys enrolled in alternative education: **11**
- # of Boys enrolled in formal education: **8**

EMPLOYMENT

- # of Boys who started their own small business: **3**
- # of Boys who participated in the Urban Light Alternative employment program: **12**
- # of Boys UL found jobs for outside the sex-trade: **30**



HOUSING

of Boys who entered the Transitional Housing Program: **22**

of Boys who received emergency housing: **15**

OUTREACH

of time spent conducting outreach: **11,896 MINUTES**

of condoms distributed: **12,712**

of boys reached during outreach: **742**

of outreach locations: **22**

of health kits distributed during outreach: **725**

PREVENTION/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Youth participating in youth programs: **366**

Community & Village chats/trainings: **22**

Elders/parents participating in community chats: **125**

AWARENESS & ADVOCACY

Urban Light speaking engagements: **64**

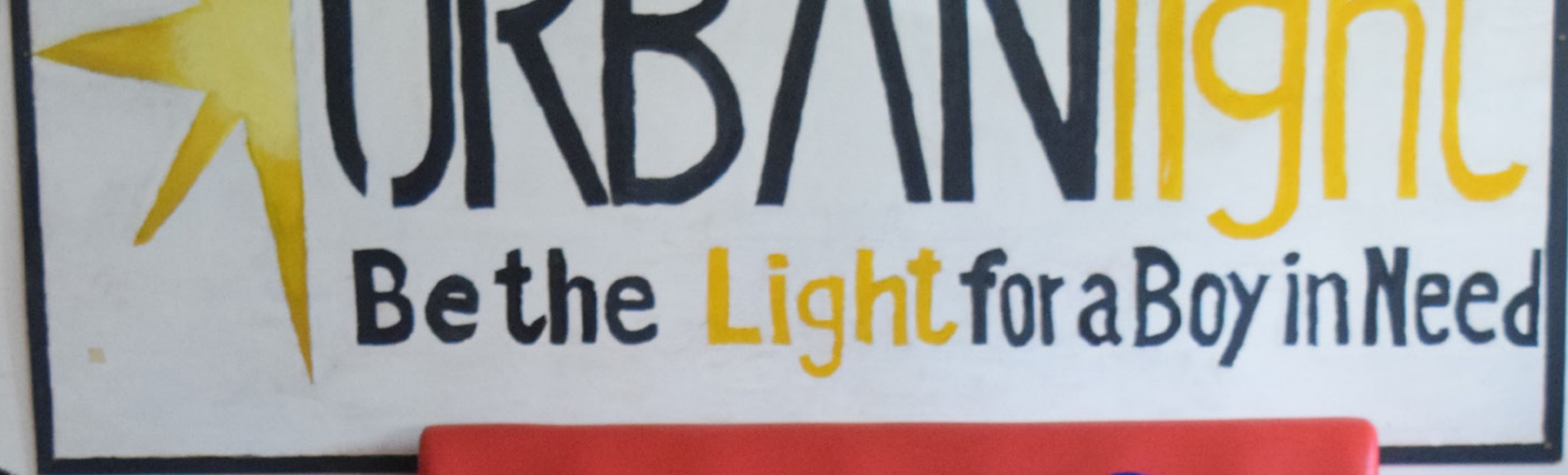
of people reached via speaking engagements: **3,480**

of clicks reached via social media: **31,200**

of Awareness events: **4**

of flashmobs: **1**





2017

HIGHLIGHTS





Chai first came to Urban Light when he was 19. He had a severe throat infection, which was treated with antibiotics. He returned later with a different infection, and then another after that.

ชัยเข้ามาที่ Urban Light ตอนเขาอายุ 19 ปี เขามีอาการลำคอติดเชื้ออย่างร้ายแรง จึงต้องรักษาด้วยยาปฏิชีวนะ เขากลับมาอีกครั้งด้วยอีกโรคหนึ่งและอีกหลายครั้งหลังจากนั้น

JANUARY

- DC Dinner Salon hosted by Jocelyn and Brian Kmet / Washington, DC
- Founder & Director of Operations meet with US partners and donors / Washington, DC
- Founder attends + speaks at the Nexus Sundance Event / Deer Valley, Utah
- Urban Light receives funding from INTERACT, Sweden

FEBRUARY

- Urban Light receives funding from PMU, Sweden

MARCH

- Urban Light celebrates our 7th Year Anniversary
- Urban Light receives funding from Safe Child Thailand, UK

APRIL

- Joint meeting with 15 Government Organization for the prevention plan of human Trafficking in area Ton Pao / Chiang Mai
- Bruce Schuman, (Intel) formally joins the Urban Light Board as Treasurer / USA
- Community Presentation: Working with At-Risk Males / Chiang Mai

JUNE

- Urban Light Launches the UL Barbershop in high-risk trafficking community / Chiang Mai
- Community round table with local businesses, police officers & local citizens / Chiang Mai
- Urban Light Picnic at the Lake funded by Thai DJ Mendy Indigo & Damian & Cris Johnston / Chiang Mai



JULY

- UL Strategic Planning Session for FY 2017/2018 / Chiang Mai
- Peter Sargent of SCB International formally joins the Urban Light Board as Vice Chair / Hong Kong

AUGUST

- Urban Light M&E Consultant, Carmela Resuma joins the UL team / Chiang Mai
- Urban Light receives funding from the ITO Foundation, Japan
- Urban Light receives funding from Highland Church, USA

SEPTEMBER

- Founder & Mike Stogg present the "What Makes You Human" Photo Exhibit / Washington, DC + LA + Portland
- Annual Board Meeting / Portland, Oregon
- Founder attends + speaks at the Safe Child Thailand fundraising event / UK

OCTOBER

- Urban Light receives funding from Up! International, Switzerland

NOVEMBER

- Founder attends + speaks at the #HumanDignityFestival / Hong Kong
- Urban Light receives funding from KNH, Germany

DECEMBER

- FreedomIs Flashmob / Chiang Mai
- Urban Light is formally recognized by the Governor of Chiang Mai as an Anti-Trafficking Organization and invited to participate in Official City Hall meetings / Chiang Mai
- Al Jazeera Article about Urban Light is published

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

LAUREN DEKLEVA // VOLUNTEER

When I first walked into the Urban Light Youth Center in July of 2017, I had no idea what the next six months would hold. Though I'd spent much of my time in college learning and working within the anti-trafficking movement, it had only been a year since I'd learned that this was an issue that affected more than just the young women I'd encountered: all across the world, young boys were routinely exploited for sex.

Uniquely positioned as one of the only organizations to work specifically with these young men, Urban Light stands in the gap for our Boys, protecting them, caring for them and showing them the way to stepping into freedom. As a volunteer and intern, I got to witness firsthand the way Urban Light impacts the lives of these Boys, many of whom have nowhere else to turn.

Though it took some time, a stack of Thai language flashcards and many rounds of UNO, I was able to earn the boys' trust and build incredibly meaningful relationships with them. I saw their struggles, heard about their families, met their girlfriends and witnessed their talents. I heard their songs, cheered them on as they played soccer and ping-pong, saw their artwork and learned their stories. Even now, it's hard to find the words to express how deeply these boys have impacted me. So, let me tell a story:

When I first arrived at Urban Light, there was a boy named *Tao who suffered from active tuberculosis. He was working with our staff doctor to treat his illness, but it was a long and rigorous process and he was very sick. To prevent the disease from spreading, he had to wear a face mask at all times and could only be in certain areas of the center. It was clear that he was depressed as well, and had little energy to engage with me or the other boys. It absolutely broke my heart, but I didn't know him as anything other than very ill.

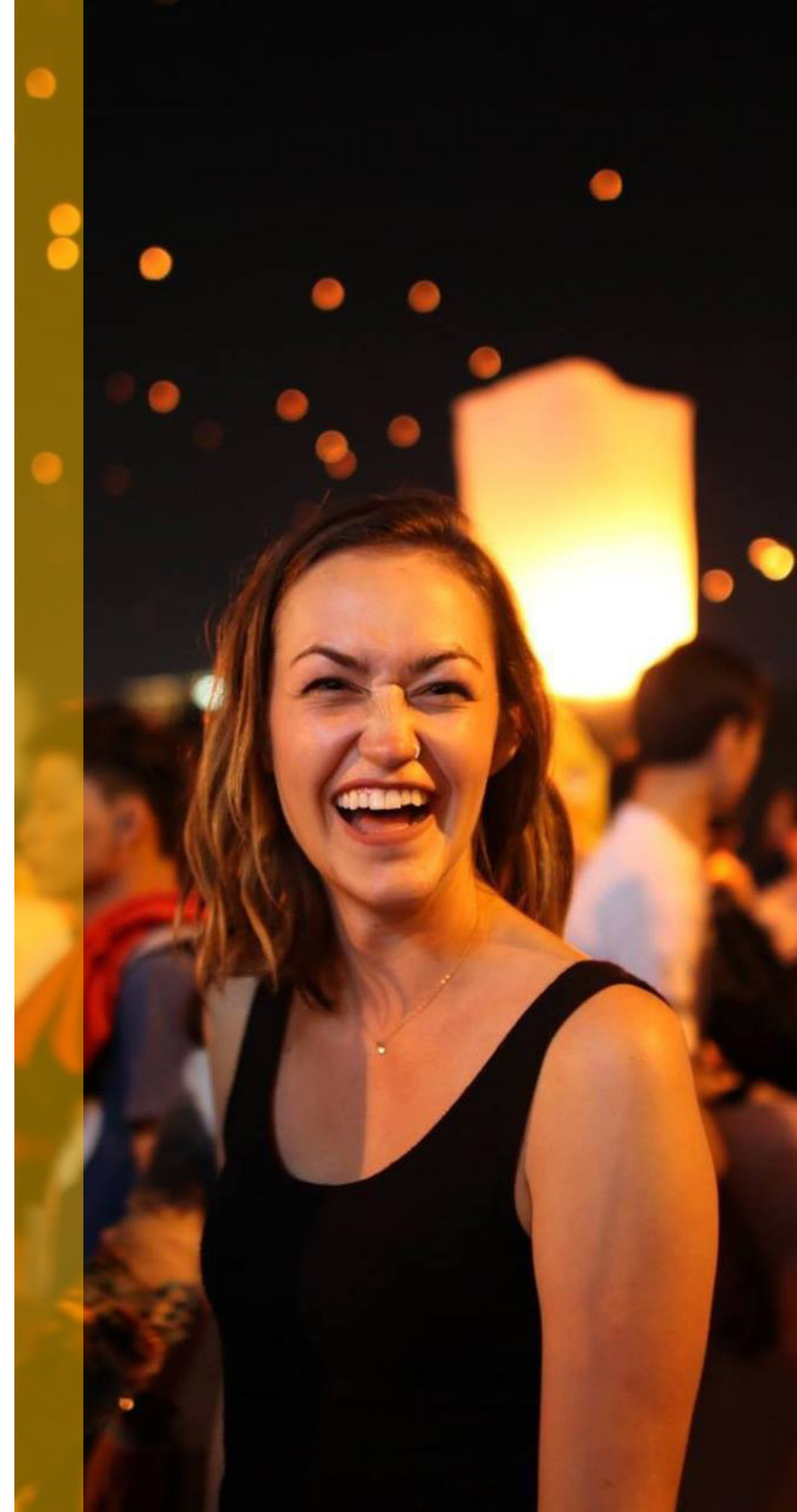
But as time passed, Tao grew stronger, gained weight and soon enough, was able to walk around freely without a mask. As he recovered, I watched an entirely new boy emerge - the sweetest person on the planet, who loves being photographed flashing peace signs and helping me learn Thai. It was a complete transformation...

... which brings me to this photo. Near the end of my placement, Tao wandered into the center, walked up to my game of UNO and abruptly put this newfound friend of his right on the table. The poor turtle didn't know what to do, and frankly, neither did I! But Tao did. He had me pet the turtle and hold the turtle. He even took my phone and posed me for this photo! I was dying of laughter the entire time.

And that's the thing. If you had told me six months ago that I'd be sharing this particular moment with Tao, I'm not sure I would have believed you. But that's the beauty of this job, and this organization: to get to be a part of the boys' stories, in whatever chapter they're in. Sometimes, it looks like victory over illness. It looks like breakthroughs and laughter and transformation. Other times, it looks like struggle and injustice and heartbreak. Sometimes it means you don't get to say goodbye to a boy you've gotten to know because he's jailed for being in the wrong place at the wrong time. Sometimes, it's hard.

But the staff at Urban Light are the most incredible examples of perseverance. Every day, they work tirelessly on behalf of these boys, accepting them for exactly who they are at that exact moment, and I have learned so much just by watching them. But in some ways, it's no wonder - once you meet these boys, you can't help but love them.

Lauren Dekleva





@BeTheLightUL



@UrbanLightThailand



Urban Light

stay social



[URBAN-LIGHT.ORG](https://urban-light.org)

TAKE ACTION

We protect the identity and privacy of all Urban Light Boys as set out in the Urban Light Child Protection Policy which is strictly enforced and must be followed by all staff, visitors and partners.