

2018  
*impact*



2018 IMPACT REPORT

# our TEAM MEMBERS

Alezandra Russell  
FOUNDER + EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**Maia Mounsher**  
THAILAND DIRECTOR



**Parinya "Paan" Jongpajitsakul**  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

## // URBAN LIGHT TEAM MEMBERS



**Piangta "Pepo" Leepatanaku**  
SURVIVOR CARE COORDINATOR



**Aroonded "Mon" Chermue**  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS



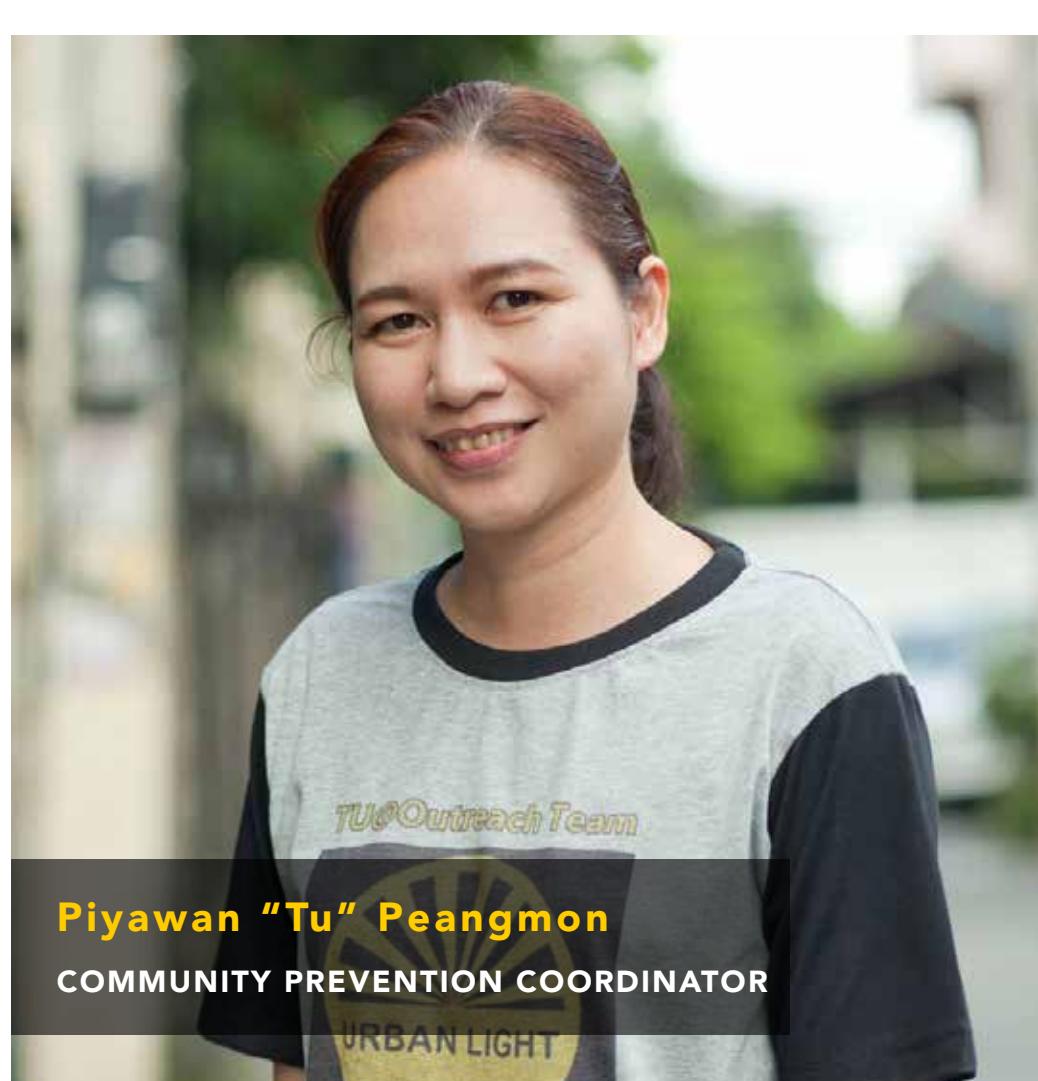
**Alisa "Imp" Suwee**  
CASE MANAGER



**Nan Khin**  
HOUSE MANAGER



**Kampon "Bop" Maijandee**  
COUNSELOR



**Piyawan "Tu" Peangmon**  
COMMUNITY PREVENTION COORDINATOR

## // URBAN LIGHT TEAM MEMBERS



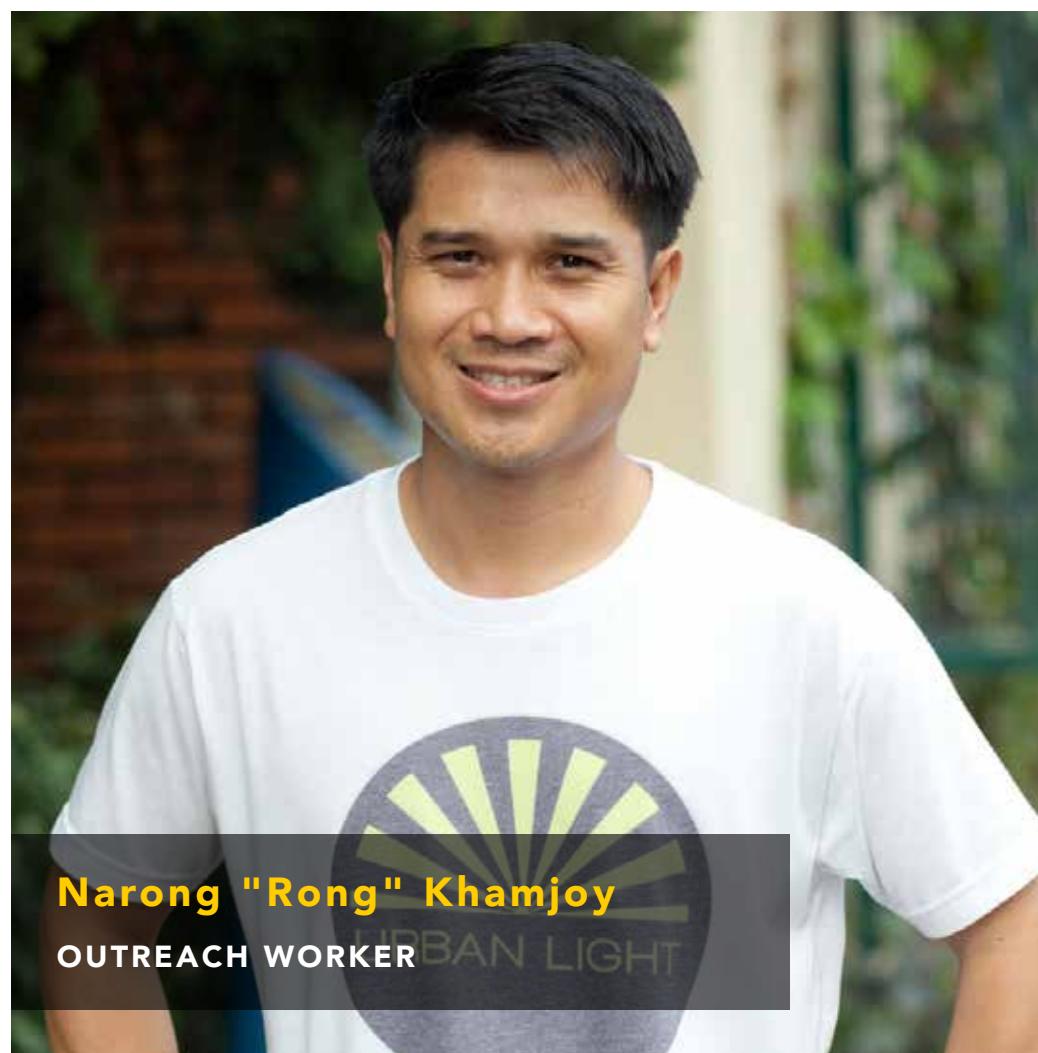
**Dr. Matilda**  
HEALTHCARE PROVIDER



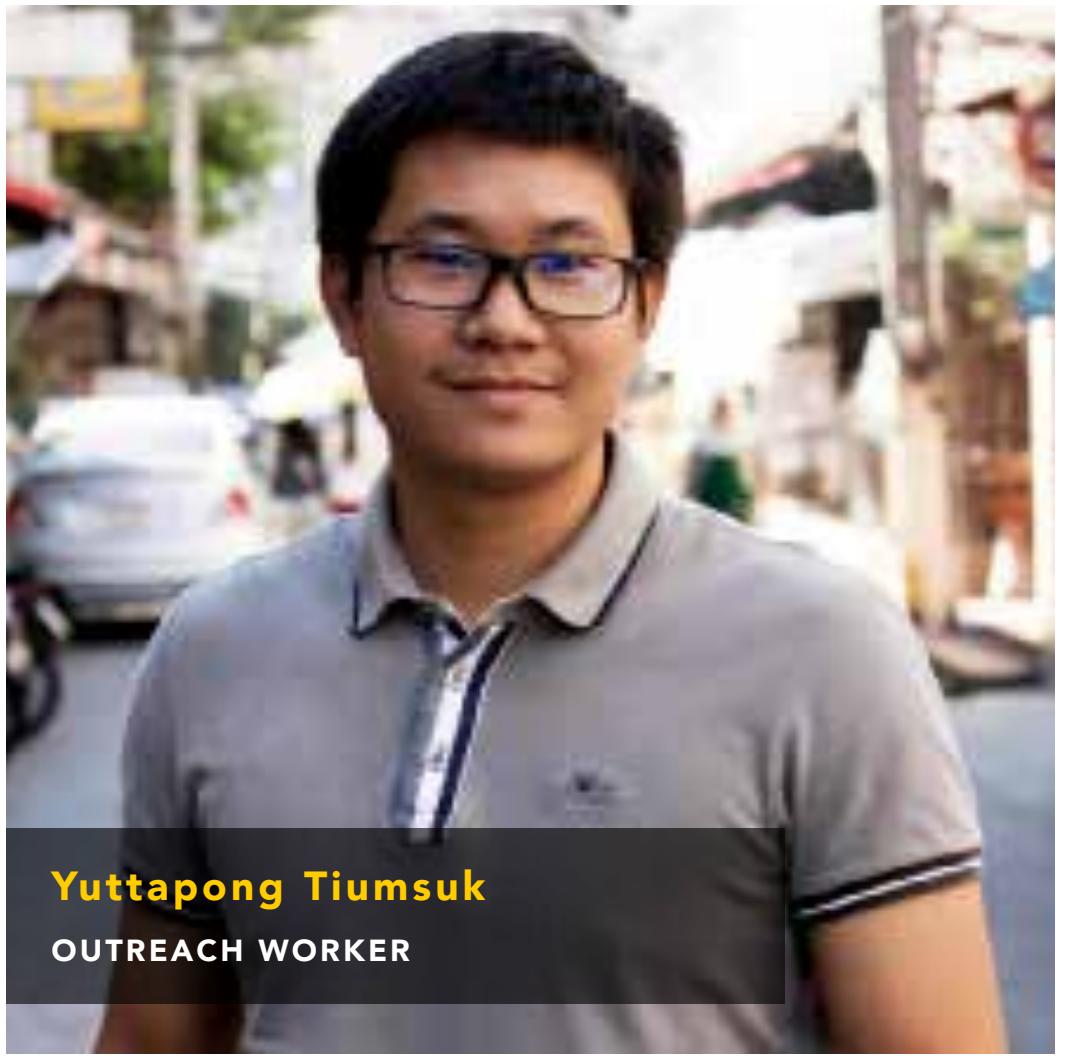
**Monticha Puthawong**  
SOCIAL WORKER



**Somyot "Ton" Channa**  
ACCOUNTANT



**Narong "Rong" Khamjoy**  
OUTREACH WORKER



**Yuttapong Tiumsuk**  
OUTREACH WORKER



**Pon**  
CENTER COOK + HOUSEKEEPING

## // URBAN LIGHT TEAM MEMBERS



**Camela Resuma**  
M&E SPECIALIST



## URBAN LIGHT BOARD MEMBERS

Alezandra Russell | Urban Light Founder, Thailand

Ziad Reslan | Chair, USA

Peter Sargent | Vice-Chair, Hong Kong

Bruce Schuman | Treasurer, USA

Till Lembke | Board Member, Hong Kong

Dave Dyer | Board Member, USA

Lori Gadola | Board Member, USA

## URBAN LIGHT THAILAND BOARD MEMBERS

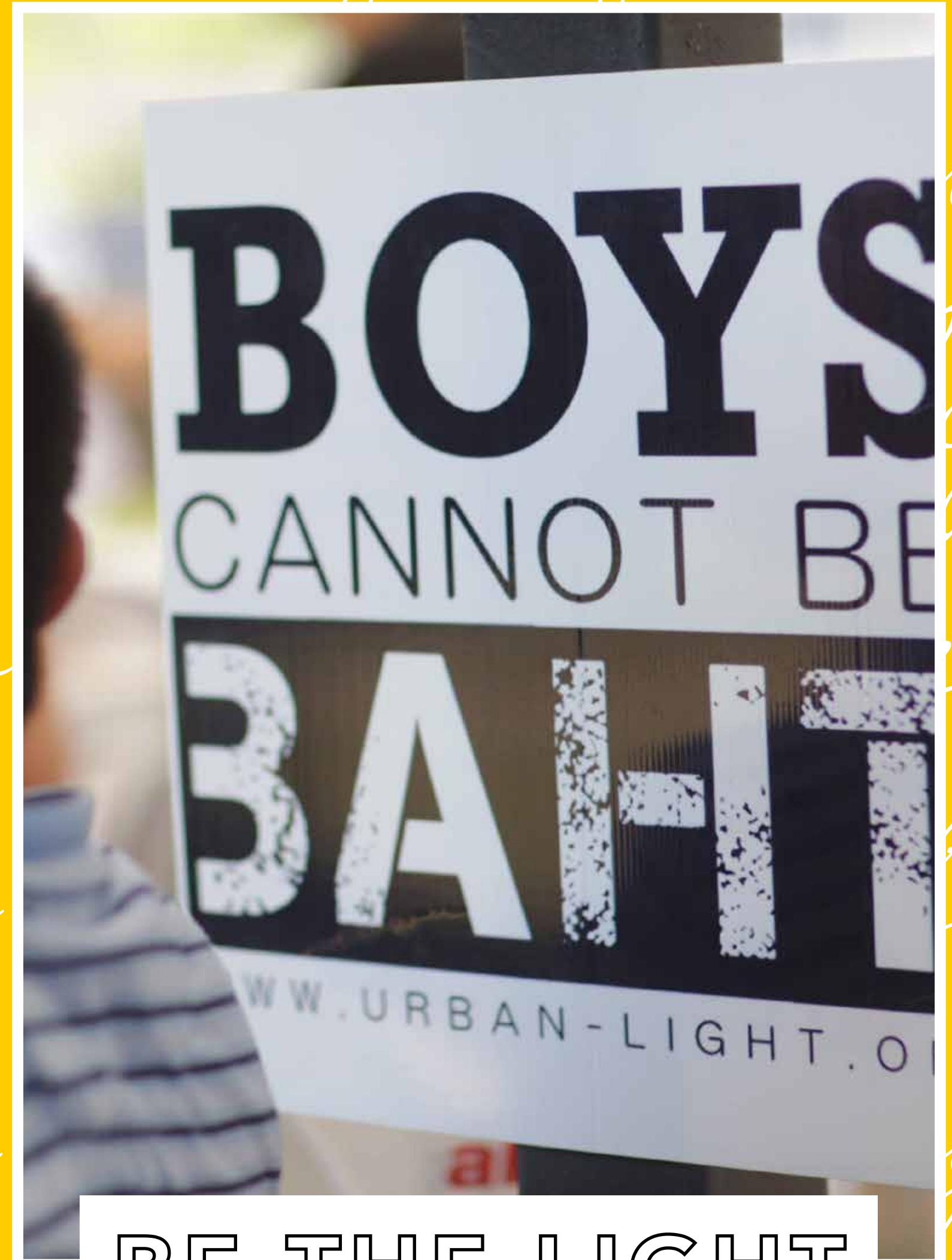
Dr. Seri Maichan | President

Dr. Prasit Wangpakawattanawong | Vice President

Khun Monticha Puthawong | Secretary + Treasurer

Khun Atjaree Saimee | Board Member

be the light for a ho



BE THE LIGHT

# khàawp-khun



THANK YOU  
TO OUR DONORS

THANK YOU

## PARTNER DONORS

US State Department | Disney | YouTube | Global Health Force  
UP! International | KNH | Interact | PMU | Highland Church | Athletic Greens  
The Ask Family | New England International Donors | Safe Child Thailand  
Shelly Vander Molen Faucett

## LOCAL & GLOBAL SPONSORS

Suan Sati | Freckle & Hazel Photography | SkinArt Tattoo Shop | Le Meridien  
Chiang Mai | Electric Valley | Bond Women's Festival | Rustic & Blue | Jai Thep  
Health Natural Thai Life | Pasta & Basta | Babo Bamboo Straws | Manifesto Agency

## PARTNERS // WORKING TOGETHER

FRIENDS International | CAREMAT | Mplus+ | Direction4Life | Ruks Thai  
Zoe International | Child Rights Coalition | Liberty Asia | Mekong Club | A21

## GOVERNMENT

Juvenile Detention Center | Informal School of Chiang Mai | Chiang Mai Police  
Region 5 Police | MSDHS | US Consulate Chiang Mai | UK Consul General Ben Svasti

## LONG-TERM VOLUNTEERS

Ryan Binkley | Matilda Henrickson | Josefina Stenerson | Nadina Sommer  
Ployphan Chumchua | Chloe Yetter | John Briggs | Madeline Stenerson

## INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Russ Saldi | Tammy Funk | Lori Gadola | Grace Lee | Anthony Yu  
Mariska Van Der Linden | Josh Phelps | Andrea Law | Elizabeth Loring  
Suk Yan | Marianne Wedmore | Elisabeth Ovit | Bronwyn Ambrogetti  
Mariya Owens | Glenda Fu

“

The work we do is not just  
an opportunity, but an obligation  
we wholeheartedly dedicate  
our lives to on the daily.

”

Alezandra Russell

Alezandra Russell, Founder

+ Executive Director





CANNOT BE BAHT

# MAKING AN IMPACT

**BOYS WHO RECEIVED SERVICES IN 2018: 795**

**# of Boys who received services during Urban Light Outreach: 677**

**# of visits where services were received during Outreach & Community Outreach: 4,468**

**# of visits from Boys that made it to the Urban Light Youth Center: 3,331**

**# of new Boys who received services at the Youth Center: 56**

**# of hours providing 1-on-1 case management to UL Boys: 108 hrs**

**# of hot + healthy meals provided to UL Boys: 8,866 + 2,033 = 10,899**

Hot meals served at the Urban Light Youth Center: 4,973

Hot meals served at Outreach: 3,893

Snacks/meals served at Prevention/Community Development: 2,033

**# of Urban Light staff members:**  
**THAI (8) Foreign (4)**

# TESTIMONIAL

Till Lembke // Board Member

Utter revulsion.

Powerlessness in the  
face of societal inequality.

Those were the overwhelming sentiments I felt when I was first confronted with the monstrous side of the global sex tourism industry, when I first witnessed a young boy being “bought” in the dingy bars in Chiang Mai’s red light district.

He is not alone – with a look at the cold numbers makes for disturbing reading. Over 40 million modern slaves, of which over a fifth are sexually exploited. Approximately USD 99 billion of profit derived from sexual exploitation, with another USD 51 billion from forced economic exploitation. Tackling this nefarious, multi-billion industry seems to be a sheer impossible task.

Yet, Urban Light proves every day that it is possible. That you can bring light into darkness. When I visited Urban Light last year, I saw a house full of laughter and brimming with that special energy and excitement that comes

from a voracious appetite for life. I met Urban Light’s staff and was deeply impressed by their professionalism and absolute dedication. I participated in workshops, met some of the boys coming in for help, healthcare, games and many of the other services provided, and shared meals with everyone.

Throughout it, I was immensely touched by everything I witnessed: at Urban Light, the human behind the statistics becomes center-point, with all his ups and downs, his joys and sorrows, his tragedies but also his infinite hope. I was left in awe by the work that goes into providing a safe space for boys and men to be able to take a break, and to regain their own sense of strength and ambitions for the time to come. Seeing the work in action has motivated me further to contribute as an international board member, from raising awareness beyond Thai borders to assisting with fundraising and planning for the future.

Only recently, a week filled with meetings, training sessions, fundraising dinners and a drinks & photography fundraising event was

organized in Hong Kong to spread the word about Urban Light. I look forward to many more such initiatives and partnerships with like-minded organizations across the globe.

Now, when I think of my visit to Chiang Mai and the work and dedication that Urban Light and its staff and supporters put into helping vulnerable boys and men, it is not utter revulsion and powerlessness that pervades it all; on the contrary, I feel hope, optimism, and a sentiment of deep pride and care for everyone who is touched by Urban Light’s efforts and who, through the assistance provided by Urban Light, has regained confidence in their own dignity. I am honored to be part of Urban Light, look forward to many more initiatives and Urban Light’s future growth, and am confident that Urban Light and its supporters will continue to be the light for those in need.

*Till Lembke*

Till Lembke



# TESTIMONIAL

**Maia Mounsher // Thailand Director**

I joined the Urban Light Team in June of 2018, and to say "I was impressed" is an understatement!

I joined a team of highly qualified and dedicated professionals that the Founder, Alezandra, had meticulously built up over the years --a legacy I was and remain determined to uphold in my position as Thailand Director.

Urban Light distinguishes itself not only through the unique services it provides, but, also through the sincerity, integrity and dedication of its team members; each and everyone is truly here for the boys and men whom UL serves. Whether a client is a teenager coming in with a wound, a young man battling mental health issues, or the fathers who are seeking to support their sons, Urban Light addresses it all by attending to injuries, providing counseling services, and offering emergency housing just to name a few of our services. Not to mention Urban Light's achievements in carrying out night outreach

and facilitating the many unsung projects which are happening in local communities, in partnership with the Government sector and with local businesses or the invaluable support we obtain from bilateral donors, local experts and even tourists. Sometimes there are so many plates spinning that it can feel overwhelming – but we are tackling a truly overwhelming task – to overcome human trafficking, to end modern slavery and to put a stop to all other forms of exploitation.

My vision for Urban Light is to see these amazing services expanded, replicated, and evolving with the invaluable input of the clients we serve. I studied my undergraduate degree at Sussex University, a trailblazer in the field of participatory development. I have also spent the last several years of my life learning to read, write and speak in Thai, so that I can facilitate this ambitious process. I would love to see Urban Light expand to other locations in Thailand, to reach more vulnerable, at-risk boys and men – and even to expand to other countries, as the need exists beyond Thai borders. I want to put the most vulnerable

boys, men, and communities in the driver seat empowering them to fight for their rights and for their futures and their children's futures.

Raising awareness alone may not be enough, but it is crucial in order to get things going. Having worked in Asia for almost 7 years, here's what I can tell you: human trafficking is still happening. It is happening to men. It is happening to boys. It is certainly happening to women and girls, too – I have personally seen it all – but with over 40 million victims of human trafficking globally, and an estimated 29% of those being male, boys and men make up a significant minority that can no longer be overlooked.

We need organizations like Urban Light, which refuse to shut their doors on people who are 'too much trouble', 'too old', 'too difficult' or for whatever reason fall outside our society's embrace. They need a second chance, and they deserve protection and rehabilitation from these horrible crimes. They need community solutions. They need whole societies and international efforts to come together.

That starts with raising awareness and continues with the efforts of not just charities, but governments, businesses, and individuals like yourself.

So please, keep on fighting. Find ways to start conversations, get involved, give your support to victims and the vulnerable, and overcome human trafficking and modern day slavery

*Cheers, Maia*

Maia Mounsher



# TESTIMONIAL

## Parinya "Paan" Jongpajitsakul // Director of Programs

I started working at Urban Light in 2015 and looking back I can say it has been four of the most exciting years of my life filled with great change and inspiring challenges.

When I first started working with UL I had the opportunity to work with the PACT project (Project Access, Care, and Treatment) – a project that provided support, counseling and protection to improve the lives of male substance users in Chiang Mai. This unique work matched my passion and desire to help my community while allowing me the opportunity to learn, work and receive mentorship from international development experts Mr. Mark Moser, Ms. Jude Fiss and the entire Up! International team.

I have always held a deep belief that to merge fun and education is an ideal formula for raising awareness. An example of our creative initiatives was last year's UL Flash Mob campaign. On a Sunday evening more than 100 passionate

people came together to raise awareness about UL and about the issue of trafficking in persons, with a unique focus on boys and men.

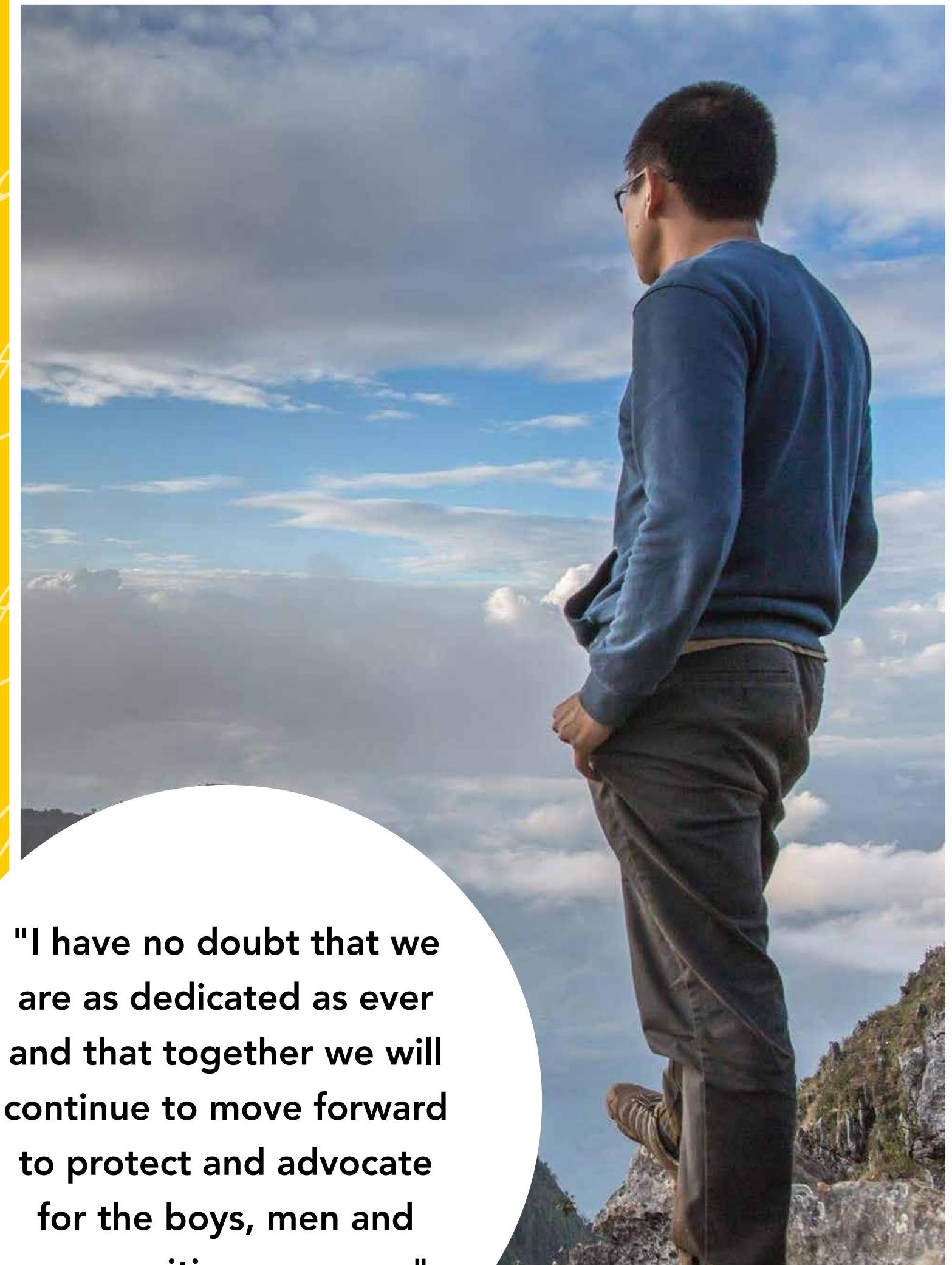
Tapping into our client's love of soccer, this year UL held our first Annual UL Soccer Cup, bringing together different communities in the form of teams competing in a friendly soccer match.

Thrillingly, it was a successful collaboration between UL, other NGOs, and local government institutions, further strengthening our ties within the wider community.

I've always believed that any work we do must take place in cooperation with other organizations if we are to achieve success for our clients and community. I'm deeply encouraged and impressed with the tremendous success UL has achieved over the years and look forward to the continued impact our programs and growth will have on the Chiang Mai community.

Sincerely, Paan

Parinya "Paan" Jongpajitsakul



**"I have no doubt that we are as dedicated as ever and that together we will continue to move forward to protect and advocate for the boys, men and communities we serve."**



“

**Fortune favors the bold. We must be bold in the pursuit of freedom for our Boys.**

”

Alezandra Russell  
Alezandra Russell, Founder + Executive Director

support



educate

+ ENROLL

## EDUCATION

# of hours spent providing education-based services including English, life skills, Professional Development: 159 hrs

# of Boys enrolled in alternative education: 14



of Boys enrolled in formal education: 8

# support

## HEALTH

- # of hours spent on medical case-management first-aid, pharmacy visits and HIV Screening: 261 hrs
- # of Boys who received medical check-ups: 78
- # of Boys who received HIV & STI screenings: 45
- # of Boys who received health screenings for other illnesses: 101
- # of Boys who received mental health service: 24
- # of on-site health clinics at the UL Youth Center: 19



# of hours  
spent providing  
health  
education to  
UL Boys:  
104 hrs



# care

## PROVIDE + EDUCATE

# support



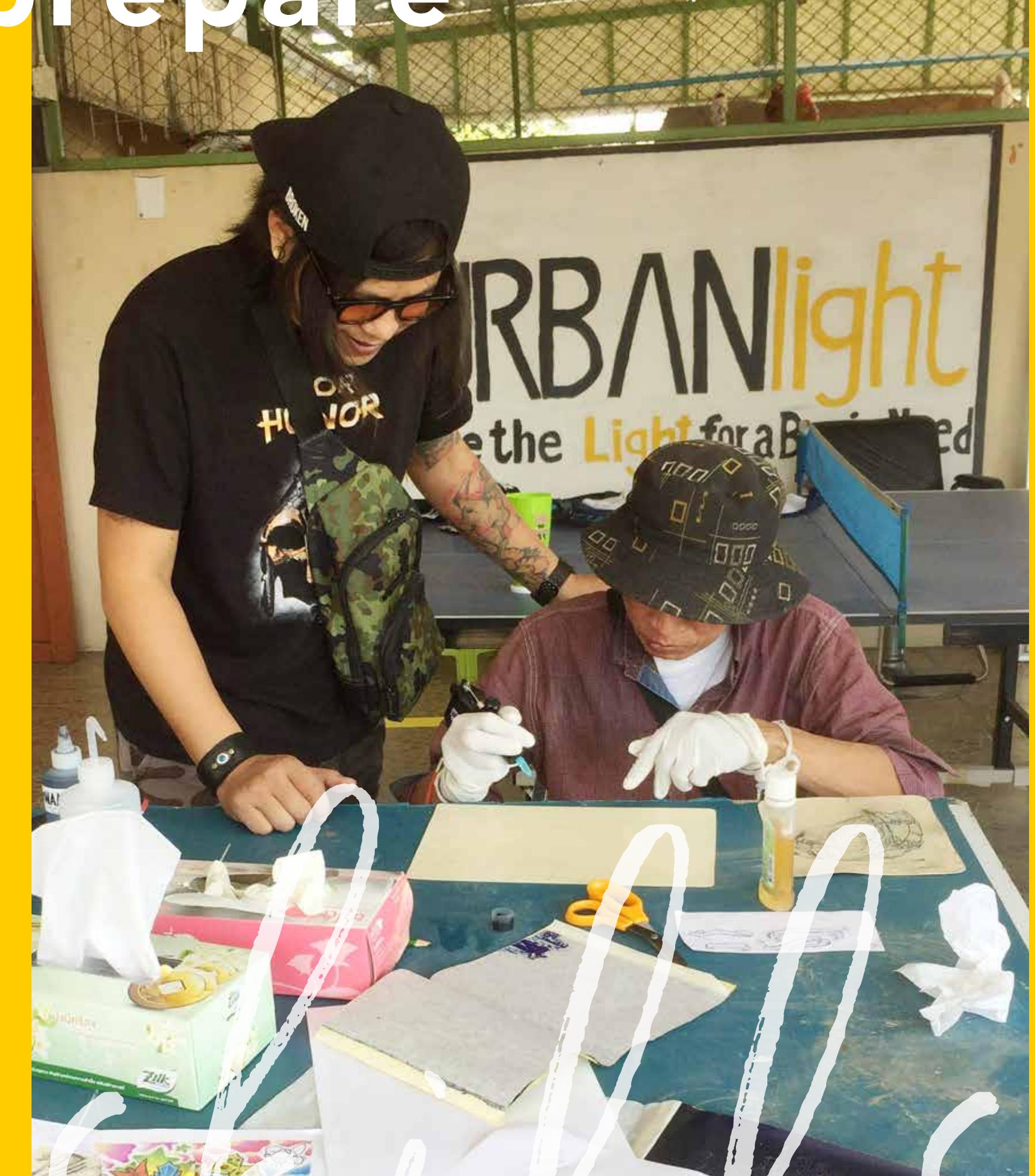
+ EMPOWER

## HOUSING

- # Boys who entered the UL Transitional Housing Program (ULTHP): 14
- # Boys who received emergency Housing: 5



# prepare



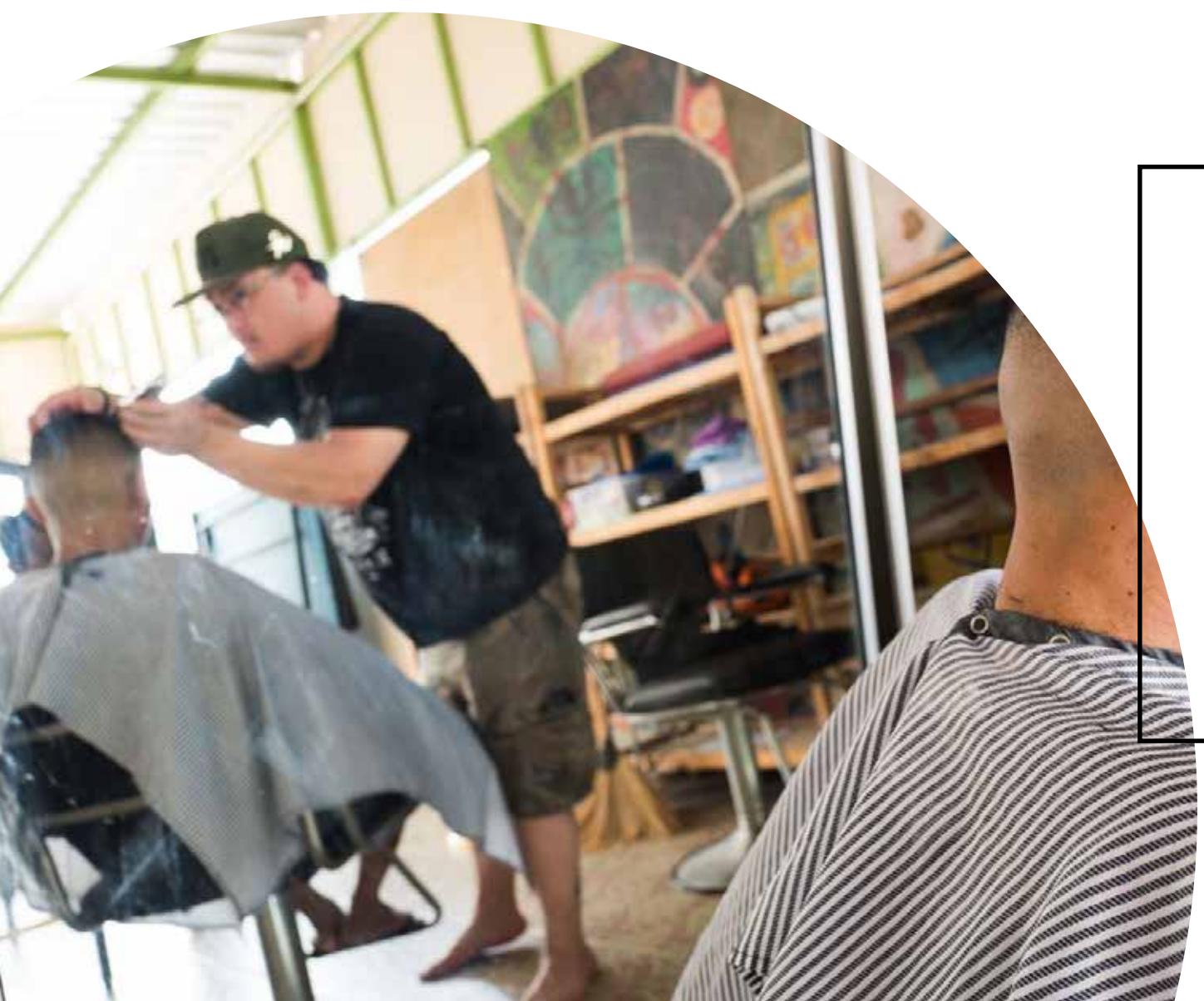
# skills

+ TRAINING

## EMPLOYMENT

# of Boys that received life skills training: 286

# of Boys that received vocational training: 51



# of Boys that  
got a  
job: 12

# identify

# outreach

+ PROVIDE



## OUTREACH

- # of outreach locations: 12
- # of hours spent conducting outreach: 732 hrs
- # of Boys reached during outreach: 677
- # of Boys who were referred out to other services: 14
- # of condoms distributed: 13,564
- # of health kits distributed during outreach: 503
- # of visits to Jail, juvenile detention: 7



# of hot meals served at outreach: 3,893

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- # of UL satellite centers: 2
- # of life skills workshops provided during community outreach in 2018: 46
- # of children, ages 0 to 14, that received services in 2018: 63



# of families  
that received  
services in  
2018: 46



+ SUPPORT

# educate



# prevent

+ IGNITE CONVERSATION

## PREVENTION / COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- # of community & village chats/trainings: 35
- # of elders + parents that participated in community chats: 598



# of youth that participated in youth programs: 1,142

**AWARENESS**

**+**

**ADVOCACY**

# of Thailand speaking engagements: 37

# of Global speaking engagements: 6

# of Travel & Tourism Trainings on  
Child Protection: 7

# of followers reached on social media: 32,000



# of people  
reached via  
speaking  
engagements:  
3,980

**educate**



*advocate*

**+ BRING ATTENTION**



**“**  
**We don't need to see  
the entire staircase just  
the first step and that  
was the mantra I chose  
to live by when starting  
Urban Light in 2009.  
”**

Alezandra Russell

Alezandra Russell, Founder + Executive Director

# OF  
AWARNESS  
EVENTS: 7

1

World Day  
Against  
Trafficking  
in Persons



NGO Booth at ISDI

2



A21  
Walk for  
Freedom,  
Bangkok



3

## Run for Justice



5

4

**Beyond Awareness:  
The Next Step  
in Fighting  
Human  
Trafficking**



## UL Soccer Cup

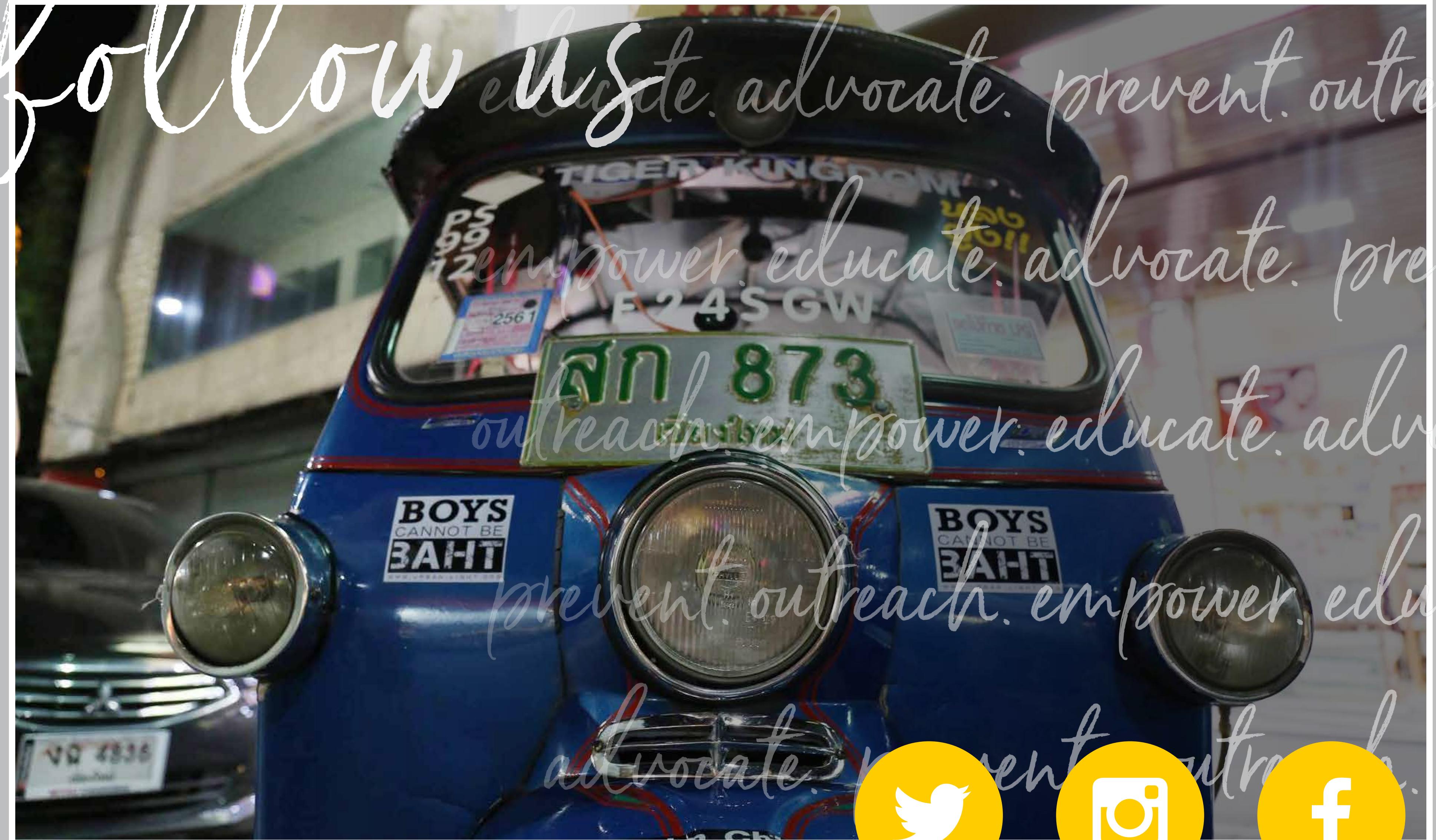
6



**Light Up  
The Night:  
Tuk Tuk  
Campaign**

7







**URBAN-LIGHT.ORG**

**TAKE ACTION**

The identity and privacy of all Urban Light Boys is strictly enforced by the Urban Light Child Protection Policy which is strictly enforced and followed by all staff, visitors and partners. The word "Boy(s)" is used to describe our male clients. Urban Light also serves adult men who are included in these numbers.