



2016 — IMPACT REPORT



TEAM MEMBERS



ALEZANDRA RUSSELL
Founder



NAN KHIN
House Manager



DR. MATILDA
Healthcare Provider



MONTICHA PUTHAWONG
Social Worker



YUTTAPONG TIUMSUK
Outreach Worker



ALISA SUWEE
Case Manager



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

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TILL LEMBKE | Board Member

SALLY SHIN | Board Member

AMELIA MAKIN | Secretary

ALEZANDRA RUSSELL | Urban Light Founder

JARROD BERNSTEIN | Board Member

DAVE DYER | Board Member

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JULALUCK AMART (JUNE) | Vice President

MONTICHA PUTHAWONG (DEAR) | Secretary + Treasurer

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KHUN MONTICHA PUTHAWONG | Board Member

DR. SERI MAICHAN | Board Member

DR. PRASIT WANGPAKAWATTANAWONG | Board Member

KHUN ATJAREE SAIMEE | Board Member

MARK J. MOSER // SWITZERLAND

Father, Husband, Professor, Wisdom-Sharer,
Traveler, Global Citizen & **URBAN LIGHT HERO**.

Urban Light Founder, Alezandra Russell, had the unexpected privilege of meeting Mark Moser 4 years ago while in Chiang Mai during what turned out to be a training that would forever transform the way Urban Light viewed social change and impact.

A story-teller like no one I have ever met, Mark shares with such intensity the battles, adventures and hardships he has experienced over the course of his decade(S)-long track record working with the most shunned people and within communities facing the most severe forms of adversity and hardship.

Despite the most remote locations, the most inhospitable weather and bearing witness to the most un-Godly injustices known to man, still Mark walks. Still Mark holds the hand of the leper, teaches the enemy and fights for the justice of the unloved. For these simple reasons and a lifetime of others, it is my honor and greatest privilege to award our first ever Urban Light Global Citizen Award to my friend, my mentor and most importantly my teacher.

May your words, teachings and wisdom continue to resonate beyond borders and oceans to those walking in your footsteps living a life dedicated to social justice.



URBAN LIGHT HERO



DAVE DYER TESTIMONIAL // BOARD MEMBER

The first time I heard Alexandra share her story I was enraptured. Intently as we sat around a ember-laden fire-ring on a chilly night in Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains, Alex shared the hardships, the struggles, and triumphs of the young men that she has poured her life out for.

Trafficking and exploitation was a known quantity in my mind - ever reminded of this reality from living in Portland which is often cited as having the highest juvenile sex trafficking per capita in the US. However I was not aware of the extent and prolific nature of the sex tourism industry in Thailand and how this has built a culture of exploitation. As a husband and father of two boys, it honestly made my blood boil.

Having been to Chiang Mai before and being captured by the bright colors, the warm and welcoming people, crowded markets, and delicious food I was no stranger to Thai culture. But I had never seen the other side that lies just below the surface in a city that draws millions of tourists from around the world. Elephant treks, waterfalls, and tuk tuk rides stand out as the obvious reasons to travel to Chiang Mai - not the exploitation of boys.

Last year I had the opportunity to return to Chiang Mai and see the Urban Light Drop in Center first hand. We had worked with Urban Light on a brand refresh and new website and I had imagined the space and team long before we ever met. As I twisted my way through a corridor of tangled streets near the Thai Boxing stadium I came upon an open door - a dozen or more pairs of slip on sandals greeted meet just outside the door. As I stepped inside I could see bright hope-filled paintings and art projects adorning the walls. Someone buzzed in the kitchen with meal preparation and I cautiously walked up the stairs nodding to sheepish hello to a few playful boys busy in conversation while others lounged or slept in cots nearby. Smiles were exchanged, there was laughter nearby, and a serious ping-pong match was ensuing upstairs. This was a place of respite. A place of peace. Of hope.

That night I had we walked the streets of Chiang Mai - I was not a tourist this time. This was an immersion trip. I had been on the Urban Light board for a short time and wanted to really see and understand the side of Chiang Mai that lies below the surface for many who visit. As we walked the streets we met boys who knew the Urban Light outreach staff well. In plazas, parks, outside bars, and in poorly-lit doorways many of these boys waited. My stomach grew ill at the thought of men traveling from across the globe to come here with an intent to exploit young men. As we walked and talked I began to better understand, and empathize with the culture pressures that exist for these young men; the financial snares that pull them in, and the vicious cycle that keeps them in this constant state of confusion and loss of identity. Many of these boys had girlfriends, dreamed of getting married and having children of their own one day. They were just like any other boys with the same dreams and ambitions.

Where others might objectify these young men Urban Light gives them a voice and a platform for hope. Hope of a career outside the bars, hope of safety, hope of a life without exploitation, and above all, a hope of freedom, self worth, and purpose.





THANK YOU TO OUR VIP DONORS & GLOBAL PARTNERS

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Athletic Greens

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Hong Kong Gay And Lesbian Association (HKGALA)

INTERACT

GERALD AND JANET CARRUS FOUNDATION

Global Health Force

Le Meridien Hotel, Chiang Mai

LOVE146

Manifesto Agency

Republique Et Canton De Geneve

Up! International

U.S State Department Office *to monitor
and combat trafficking*

What Makes You Human

VIP DONORS

Tammy Funk | Natalie Chase | Katie Benson | Nico Iglesias

Grace Lee | Justine Musk | Anthony Yu

Romke Eduardo de Haan | Joshua Phelps

VOLUNTEERS

Elliot Glotfelty | Maggy Elsousou | Jacob Bennett



2016 **SERVICES** **OVERVIEW**



IMPACT NUMBERS

of Boys who received services in 2016: **831**

of Boys who received services
during Urban Light Outreach: **717**

of visits Boys made to the Urban Light Youth Center: **1,780**

of Hot + Healthy meals provided to
UL Boys (Funded by Athletic Greens): **7,657**

of time spent providing 1-on-1 case
management to UL Boys: **23,940 MINUTES**

of Urban Light staff members: **Thai (9) Foreign (2)**

HEALTH

of time spend on medical case-management first-aid, pharmacy visits, HIV Screening: **15,180 MINUTES**

of Boys who receive medical check-ups: **89**

of time spend providing health education to UL Boys: **5,460 MINUTES**

of Boys who received HIV & STI screenings: **10**

of Boys who received health screenings for other illnesses: **20**

of on-site health clinics @ the Urban Light Youth Center: **28**

EDUCATION

of time spent providing education-based services including English, Life Skills, Professional Development: **5,070 MINUTES**

of Boys enrolled in alternative education: **11**

of Boys enrolled in formal education: **1**

EMPLOYMENT

of Boys UL found jobs for outside the sex-trade: **13**

HOUSING

of Boys who entered the Transitional Housing Program: **11**

of Boys who received emergency housing: **5**

LEGAL SERVICES

of individuals who were facilitated to achieve citizenship, social welfare, health care, driving license, ID card and etc: **10**



OUTREACH

of time spent conducting outreach in
Massage Parlors, Sex Bars, Internet Café's
and street-based locations: **47,665 MINUTES**

of Boys who received direct services during outreach: **717**

of Boys who received health
consultations during outreach: **338**

of home, jail & juvenile detention visits by UL staff: **18**

AWARENESS

of individuals who visited Urban Light: **121**

of stickers, flyers, UL materials shared with public: **3,500**

of individuals reached via speaking
engagements & Campus Tours: **760**

COUNSELING

of individuals who participated in peer group
counseling and life skill training: **15**

time spent on peer group counseling
and life skill training: **570 MINUTES**

of individuals who received individual counseling: **18**

time spent on individual counseling: **4,530 MINUTES**

HARM REDUCTION

of UL Health'CARE' Kits distributed to at-risk Boys: **692**

of condoms distributed to at-risk Boys: **19,251**





2016

HIGHLIGHTS



JANUARY

- Founder attends Sundance Film Festival to promote upcoming short documentary being produced by Jacqueline Romaro and Tabatha Mudra.

FEBRUARY

- "What Makes You Human" Creator + Crew visits UL
- Blindfold Magazine Editor-In-Chief visits UL to film documentary

MARCH

- UL celebrates our 6th Year Anniversary

MAY

- Ton joins UL team as Accountant
- Tu joins UL team as Project Coordinator
- Rong joins the UL team as Outreach Worker
- Start of the Project Access, Care & Treatment (PACT) Program funded by Up! International

JUNE

- Start of the Male Empowerment Program (MEP) funded by the U.S. State Department's Trafficking in Persons Office

JULY

- Pop joins the UL team as Counselor



AUGUST

- Annual UL Thai Board Meeting
- Barber Training Program begins

SEPTEMBER

- Child Safe Training with Friends International

OCTOBER

- Received Funding from INTERACT
- Site Visit from US Department of State Trafficking in Person's Office
- Site Visit from Up! International
- Ping-pong Tournament & Halloween Party

NOVEMBER

- Annual Thanksgiving Bake Sale with Shelly Faucett

DECEMBER

- Annual UL Board Meeting
- UL Annual Staff Retreat funded by Le Meridien Hotel
- UL Annual Holiday Party
- Snap Back Merchandise Project funded by Intern Luiza Bicalho Vianna



DR. MATILDA // TESTIMONIAL

Thinking back on 2016 we had one particularly severe medical case at our Youth Center, which I would like to share with you. This case is about a typical Urban Light beneficiary. Let us call him Boy. He is in his upper teens and has been working in the sex industry for many years. Just like many of our beneficiaries his mother is also a sex worker.

Boy first came to me because he had a sore throat. The throat infection was treated, but he kept coming back with one infection after the other; like tonsillitis, yeast infections and shingles. The infections became more and more severe and I soon realized that there was something wrong with Boy's immune system. Knowing our population I strongly suspected that he had HIV and that the infection had already progressed into AIDS. Boy however refused to take the HIV tests that we offered. Helplessly we had to watch him become more and more sick until he was so weak that he could not refuse further help anymore.

Urban Light then helped Boy to get admitted to a hospital to get treatment for his many infectious diseases. At the hospital our suspicions about HIV and AIDS were sadly confirmed. The fact that Boy already had developed AIDS means that he was most probably infected with HIV before he was 10 years old...

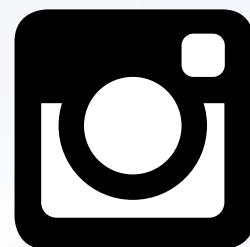
When a person has HIV you measure the CD4 count in their blood to assess how severe the disease is. CD4 cells are a type of white blood cells that play a major role in protecting your body from infections. The higher the CD4 count, the better able you are to fight HIV and other infections. In a normal healthy adult the CD4 count is usually above 1,000. A CD4 count lower than 200 is considered to be very low and is one of the qualifications for the diagnosis AIDS. When Boy was admitted to the hospital his CD4 count was only 4! This means that his condition was really life threatening and he had to stay at the hospital for several months before he could be discharged.

Boy is now on antiretroviral drugs and has regained his strength and health. By the help of Urban Light he has an employment outside of the red light district and his future looks bright!





@BeTheLightUL



@UrbanLightThailand



Urban Light





URBAN-LIGHT.ORG

TAKE ACTION

Thank you to photographer Jack Morris for the pictures included in this report. www.doyoutravel.com

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.