

# Thailand 2022

Ages: 16+ • Length: 12 days • Service Hours: 40

Fundraising Goal: \$2,895 + Self Managed Airfare

May 5, 2022 - May 16, 2022

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While in Thailand, you will have the opportunity to be a tangible part of making a difference in the lives of children that need a future that is free of the pain that many of them have experienced. We will work with a children's home in Chiang Saen called Buddies Along the Roadside. Most of the children who reside there have been rescued out of very exploitative situations. Our team will be working daily at their compound doing home improvements, organizing summer camp activities, and experiencing field trips with the children. We will work alongside their staff and learn from them as they teach us about their culture and how they care for vulnerable people. We will also have the opportunity to spend time at their street drop-in center at the Myanmar border.

Live Different has been supporting and working with Buddies Along the Roadside since 2007. Together we have helped to construct homes, an office and clinic space, worked on their water treatment center, improved their garden space, and helped to build a safe playground for the children.

Thank you for your interest in Live Different Builds! Please read through all the following information and feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions.

## Minimum Fundraising Requirements:

- \*Must be 16 years old or older to participate on this Build.
- **\$2,895** - This is the minimum amount each volunteer has been asked to fundraise/contribute in order to join this Live Different Build, with **\$300** due within 2 weeks of registration.
- **\$2,595** - Balance due 6 weeks before this Build starts. Please contact Live Different if you have any questions or concerns about this deadline.

**\*\*If you are planning a personal vacation in SE Asia, please plan for your stay to be after your Build experience.\*\***

## What's Included

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- All transportation needs during the Build days.
- All accommodations during the Build days.
- All meals during the Build days.
- Translators
- Donations towards building projects.
- Local contractors to work along side the teams and help facilitate the work being done.
- General hosting, supervision, debriefing sessions and evening activities and a fun day with the children!

## What's Not Included

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- Flights to and from Chiang Mai, Thailand
  - Any immunizations or testing required for travel (please consult your family physician or local travel clinic)
  - Airport shuttles to and from the hotel **if** arriving before the Build starts or leaving after the Build ends
  - Entrance or visa fee needed to enter or exit Thailand
  - Emergency Travel Medical Insurance with Covid-19 coverage **(required)**
  - Trip Cancellation and Interruption Insurance.
  - Excursion: Cost to be determined (optional)
  - Personal spending money
- **Please Note: Live Different is not responsible for flight delays or cancellations.**

# Itinerary

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## Day 1

Team meets in Chiang Mai (CNX). A staff member will meet you as you leave security and bring you to our accommodations in Chiang Mai.

Orientation and meet the staff/team.

## Day 2

Drive to Chiang Saen in the morning and meet the staff and children at Buddies Along the Roadside.

Spend the afternoon getting to know the children and experience their warm welcome!

## Day 3 - 9

During these days we will be participating in the following activities

- Awareness tour, which will include the Hall of Opium, in introduction to the Golden Triangle and a history of the area.
- Building Projects: In the past, Live Different has helped to fund and work on a water treatment facility, a staff office building, rebuild the main kitchen, a greenhouse and also provided a sound system for the home to do presentations in markets. Details of this Build's project will be shared approximately 6 weeks before departure.
- Hang out with the children! There are about 90 children currently living in the home. They range in age from 3-19, and most have been rescued from many different forms of exploitation and abuse. Together, we have visited elephant sanctuaries, swam in natural pools in the mountains, hunted for Easter eggs, played games and sang songs, and experienced much laughter and tears.
- English and Summer Camps: English is a widely used language in Thailand, and knowledge of English helps to equip these children with a wider range of education and job opportunities. We have also helped with an arts training camp for painting, photography, videography and storytelling. Please come prepared with a willingness to have fun with English, and with possible activity ideas!
- Visit Drop-In Centre on the Myanmar border. Meet some of the families whose lives have been changed by the projects, hear their stories and meet the people who work directly with children who are currently living on the streets. There is also a safe international shopping area across the border in Myanmar, and if our participants choose to experience it, they will receive a day visa and be allowed to cross the bridge into the shopping district in Tachileik, Myanmar. (The trip to Myanmar is not a mandatory event, and volunteers under the age of 18 must have permission to join from a parent/guardian.)

## Day 10

Drive to Chiang Mai

Final Debriefing

Visit the Chiang Mai Night Bazaar

## **Day 11**

Excursion Day in Chiang Mai to visit the Doi Suthep temple high in the mountains and experience the Chiang Mai Sunday Night Market

## **Day 12**

Please arrange for flights back to Canada on this day.