



COVID-19 and HIV: Adapting community-based HIV services during a pandemic



28 May 2020



Community Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic and Impacts on Sex Workers in Thailand

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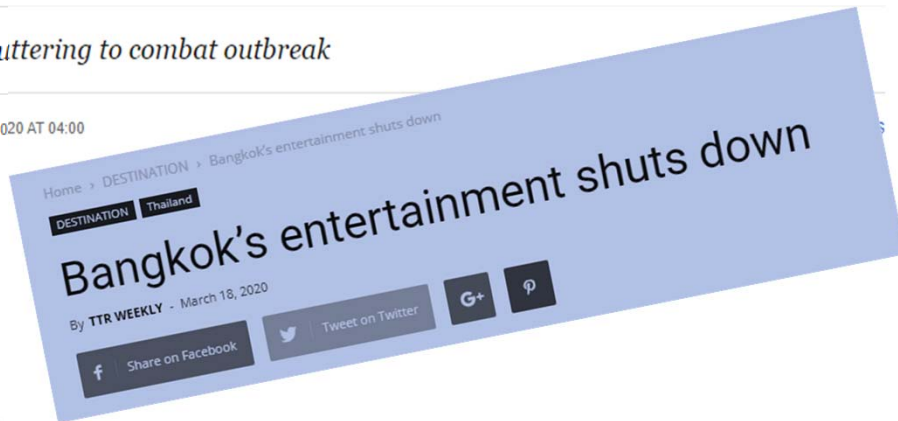


THAILAND | GENERAL

Entertainment closures to go nationwide

Two-week shuttering to combat outbreak

PUBLISHED : 21 MAR 2020 AT 04:00



A few days after the closure of entertainment places nationwide, SWING got phone calls from our sex worker member asking for helps, especially food for them just to survive

CORONAVIRUS CANCELLATIONS

Greater Bangkok must close bars, entertainment venues



Published 2 months ago on 17-03-2020
By Jack Burton



PHOTO - File photo



Humanitarian help can't wait

- SWING started searching for SWs in need of helps in Bangkok and Pattaya and providing foods for them and their families just to survive.
- More SWs founded in difficulties, SWING decided to call for donations and set up the **“Funds for Sex Workers”** to pay for daily food, and essentials stuff for SWs in needed


Sex Workers lost their job and income because of COVID-19 pandemic. Many are not able to survive the social distancing measures.


Urgent Need
for Donation

COVID-19 Fund for **For Sex Workers**
SEX WORKERS for food and bare essentials in time of pandemic.


US\$2 per day per person

#SWING
#FundforSexWorkers


Service Workers in Group Foundation



Bangkok Bank
บัญชีออมทรัพย์
Account Number: 031-025695-3
Account Name: Service Worker IN Group Foundation

 Go to paypal.me/thidarat1982
And type in the amount



Humanitarian help can't wait



Every Monday, Wednesday and Fridays, our staff prepare 250-300 food boxes and distribute to sex workers in Bangkok and Pattaya.





Humanitarian help can't wait



A lot of SWs were found homeless during COVID19 situation. SWING helped them moved to safe shelters, while some who wanted to go back to their hometown would be helped to do so





Then, we've got more supporters



When hates faded, we can provide more helps to sex workers



Donation increased, well and transparently managed



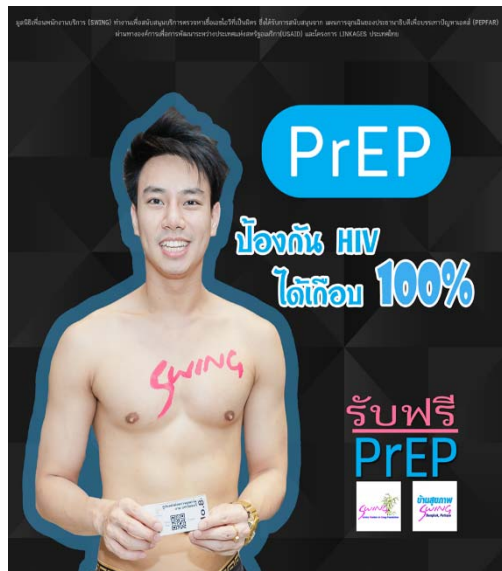
ว/ศ/ป/	รายการ	รายรับ	รายจ่าย
12/04/2563	รับเงินบริจาค พัทยา	24,500.00	
	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม โรงบอจางระนอง		3,929.00
	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม รพ.สนามนครราชสีมา		5,039.00
13/04/2563	ซื้อข้าวสาร + ซ้อนส้ม		4,638.00
13/04/2563	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม รพ.สนามนครราชสีมา		5,021.50
15/04/2563	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม		6,788.75
16/04/2563	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม		2,086.00
	ค่าอาหารแห้ง		7,020.00
17/04/2563	รับเงินบริจาค กรุงเทพฯ 11-15/4/2563	262,748.24	
	รับเงินบริจาค กรุงเทพฯ 16/4/2563	51,971.28	
	รับเงินบริจาค กรุงเทพฯ 17/4/2563	12,205.00	
13/04/2563	ซื้ออุปกรณ์เครื่องครัวต่าง ๆ		10,047.50
13/04/2563	ซื้อมันพิซ + ไข่ไก่ + ผลไม้		829.50
15/04/2563	ค่าอาหาร + อาหารแห้ง		9,064.00
	ค่าเครื่องใช้ส่วนตัว (สบู่ + ผ้าอนามัย + อีเสฟีน + อื่น ๆ)		13,113.00
17/04/2563	ค่าอาหาร + เครื่องดื่ม		7,254.25
	ตุ๋นไก่		1,005.00
	สรุปยอดรวม	351,424.52	75,835.50
			275,589.02



SWING keeps posted on our Facebook on how we the donations for SWs. From April 11 to 22 May 2020, SWING received almost 2 million THB ($\approx 62,500$ USD) from individuals and various industries



In the meantime, HIV services can't stop



SWING keeps HIV services – including PrEP, HIV testing – provided at our clinics in Bangkok and Pattaya as well as mobile clinics, while ensure the protection COVID-19 transmission for both our staff and our clients.

Over 800 SWs living with HIV in Bangkok and over 700 in Pattaya have been contacted to ensure their accessibility and adherence to ARV treatment. Home delivery of ARV are managed.



TG หัวหลกกับหัวโปกจกตา EP.2 รู้
ใหม่ HIV นอกจากตรวจด้วยเลือด...

สริงพทยา was live
April 3 · 914 Views

▶ 58:57

Online communication is essential in this situation



Plus immediate responses to COVID19



COVID Screening for SWs in Bangkok and Pattaya as well as all SWING staff



Distributing alcohol gel and face masks



Plus immediate responses to COVID19

Community-led Rapid assessment of COVID19 Impact on Sex workers

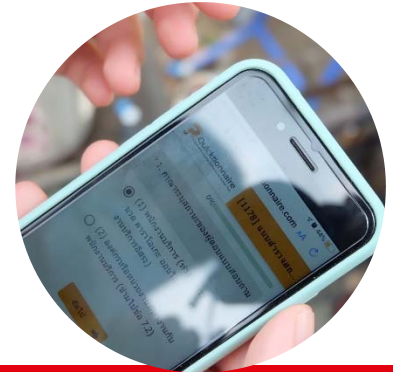
(supported by UNAIDS)



- 91%** Becoming unemployed and lost their income
- 16%** No place to stay
- 42%** Cannot go back hometown
- 75%** Do not have money for daily living



SWING has call for help from government and changes in law that make SWs become ineligible for any government's help





What we learned

- Responses to other situations affected by key populations need to be quick
- KPs could become more vulnerable as they could be left-behind or not accessible to government remedies
- Ending AIDS measure should consider means to recover KPs from impact of COVID
- Anyway, problems could turn to be opportunities – like this COVID19 that helps us see the changes in social attitudes towards sex workers. We may be able to do more things during or after this COVID19

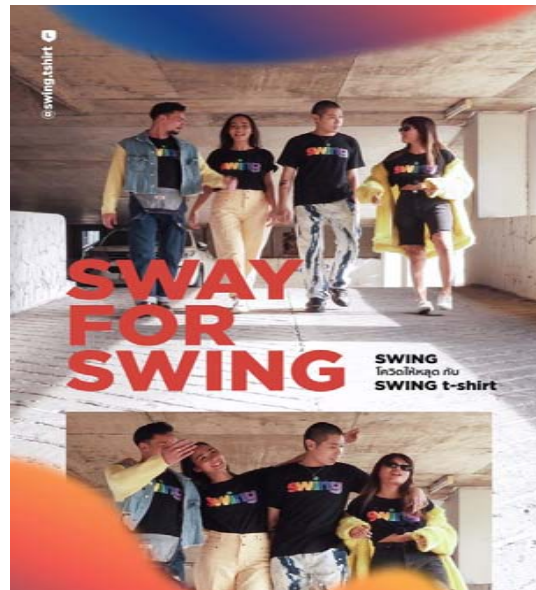


Our plan and next steps

Fund raising activities to continue the **Fund for SWs** to help those who may have some long term impact.

In addition, we need **plan B** for many SWs who cannot work during this COVID-19 lock down situation.

Bluebird Jazz Bar Live on FB to raise fund for SWING



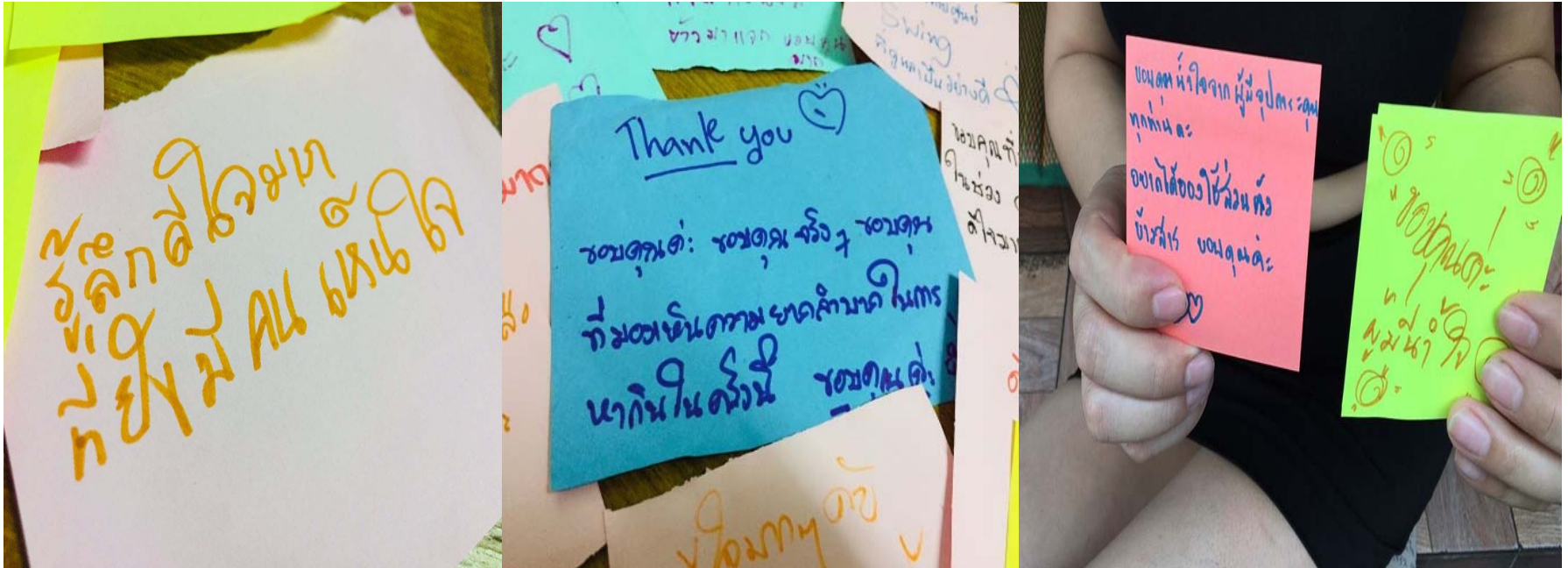
SWING T-Shirts for SW Fund



Owner of Meat & Bone restaurant discussing how to create jobs for SWs



Thank you



*Thank you for not leaving **SEX WORKERS** behind*



<https://www.facebook.com/swing.thailand.1/>

<https://www.facebook.com/PATTAYA.SWING/>

