

Support the Thai Drug Users Network

The Thai Drug Users' Network is a group of individuals who use or have used drugs. They came together to respond to the deplorable health and human rights situation of drug users in Thailand, and in particular the current climate of fear caused by the extra judicial killing of people allegedly involved with drugs.

The HIV and hepatitis epidemics in the drug using communities in Thailand are out of control, yet the public health response has been negligible. Many people have died because of lack of information about health, or the denial of care and treatment. Drug users are rejected by families and friends and discriminated against in the legal system.

To quote members of the Network "Society treats us as criminals, not human beings. The lack of accurate information about drugs in the media and elsewhere leads to severe misunderstanding amongst the public and ultimately to debilitating stigmatisation. We reject the idea that our lives are worthless and that drug users are disposable.

We believe in the power of the people, and are committed to putting our energy and experience together to start to address the needs of our community, and to push the government and non-government agencies to confront the barriers to equal rights for drug users."

For more information contact Michael Linnell at www.lifeline.org.uk or Neil Hunt at neil.hunt@ukhra.org

To be able to support the Thai Drug Users' Network, the (Methadone) Alliance, NDUDA, UKHRA, Lifeline, SMMGP and the International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) along with many drug user activists are asking you to not only support the International Day of Action on June 12th 2003 but to make a on-going financial commitment to help support and develop the network.

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Please complete below and give or send to Mark Birtwistle, SMMGP, c/o Trafford SMS, 1-3 Ashton Lane, Sale Manchester M33 6WT

Title:.....Forename:.....Surname:.....

Address of service or person willing to make the contribution:.....

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Tel no:Fax No:.....

E-mail:.....

I / we are willing to financially support the Thai Drug Users' Network and the amount (e.g. £10-20 / month or £240/year) I / we are willing to commit is:.....

Other offers of support:.....