**The Cooperation with Network Partners in Returning Good Citizens to Society**

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**Introduction**

Kamphaengphet Central Prison requires cooperation from networks from the social sector to participate in the process of inmate treatment, including vocational skill training. This is due to the fact that rehabilitating inmates to reform themselves into good citizens is accepted by the community. However, these processes cannot be implemented successfully by the prison alone. Therefore, relevant agencies from public, private, local, and people sectors are required to support experts to provide knowledge of vocational skills and health and sanitation services and also support various resources. This is to allow inmates who are considered socially disadvantaged people to reform themselves to be good citizens so that they can support themselves and family and not reoffend. The objectives are **t**o create operating networks to provide care and assistance for inmates in accordance with the law and government’s policy. Also, it aims to create understanding for people to accept and provide opportunities when inmate reintegrate into society and improve the efficiency of the treatment of inmates and reduce recidivism

**Cooperation with Public Agencies, Private Sectors and Community**

In returning good citizens to society, the Kamphaengphet Central Prison requires cooperation from network agencies to participate in providing activities/projects and training for inmates such as vocational training so that inmates will have the knowledge and vocational skills to apply these skills to make a living when they are released. Additionally, there are pre-release training such as;

- Kamphaeng Phet Provincial Public Health Office provides lecturers for female inmates in traditional Thai massage training.

- In Kamphaeng Phet Office for Skill Development provides lecturers for male inmates in vocational training in air conditioning maintenance.

- Kamphang Phet Technical College provides lecturers in vocational training in Thai dessert, vegetable and fruit carving, and banana leaf handwork.

- Kamphang Phet Provincial Employment Office provides lecturers in the training of professional knowledge and funding sources for inmates’ pre-release.

- The volunteer group names “teacher practicing” which is people with agricultural knowledge and experience of “Kok Nong Na” provides support by providing lecturers of “Khok Nong Na of Kindness and Hope, Department of Corrections”

When inmates are released from Kamphaeng Phet Central Prison, the Center for Assistance to Reintegration and Employment (CARE) monitors released inmates’ lives to give advice on life after prison, monitors the application of knowledge obtained from vocational training, and provides various assistance as appropriate in order to reduce recidivism with the following monitoring approaches;

1. Submitting information to Kamphaeng Phet Provincial Royalist Volunteers Center to assign 904 Royal Volunteers to monitor and visit released inmates who live in Kamphaeng Phet (in case of those who have undergone the royal project of His Majesty King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua “Khok Nong Na of Kindness and Hope, Department of Corrections”)

2. Officers of the Center for Assistance to Reintegration and Employment monitor inmates by phone and home visiting.

3. Monitoring is done by coordinating with agencies of local administrative organizations and provincial networks of released inmates.

**Case Study of Inmates after Release**

In the previous implementation of monitoring released inmates’ living, the Kamphaeng Phet Central Prison received good cooperation from network agencies. For example, in monitoring released inmates who have undergone the project “Khok Nong Na of Kindness and Hope, Department of Corrections”, after being released, 3 inmates are willing to apply knowledge obtained from training after being released so that they can support themselves.

**Case 1**

The first released inmate used to be a farmer with his family. He had his own land but lacked the budget to adjust his land into “Kok Nong Na” and wanted to study more about “Kok Nong Na”. For this reason, prison officers coordinated with the lecturer to educate how to implement “Kok Nong Na”. The released inmate also received assistance from the lecturer by being transferred to participate in the project Household Lab Model for quality of life, “Kok Nong Na Model” (Household Lab Model) in Phitsanulok for additional knowledge. Then, the Lan Krabue District Community Development Office was coordinated to provide financial support for area improvement and support of seedling and animal breeding. This released inmate was supported by being selected to participate in the project on Household Lab Model for quality of life, “Kok Nong Na Model”. The second activity of the Household Lab Model for quality of life (HLM) at the household level was implemented in the 3-Rai area, supported in adjusting land plots, digging a swamp and intestinal canal, with a budget of 104,000 Baht, and supported in fish species such as Clarias, Nile tilapia, and Snakeskin gourami, a total 3,000 fish, and plants such as banana, bamboo, lime, mango, Neem trees, Siamese Rosewood, Burmese Rosewood, with the budget of about 20,000 Baht. This is integrated farming, including a swamp and intestinal canal for providing enough water in the area, fish farming in ponds for sale within the community, a bamboo water tank according to the model of Mab Aung Natural Agriculture Center for reserving water in agricultural, and perennial plants supported by Kamphaeng Phet Plant Cultivation Center to be more planted in areas. Consequently, this released inmate can support himself and have enough income to support the family with good quality of life, live happily, and be accepted by society.

**Case 2**

The second released inmate used to be a farmer before being sentenced. He had an interest in the “Kok Nong Na Model” and therefore applied to participate in the project “Kok Nong Na Model” organized by Kamphaeng Phet Provincial Administrative Organization at Mab Aung Natural Agriculture Center, Chonburi. Then, he applied for training in the project on household Lab Model for quality of life, “Kok Nong Na Model” in Phitsanulok. He was supported by the Khlong Lan District Community Development Office and selected to participate in the project on the Household Lab Model for quality of life (HLM) “Kok Nong Na Model”. The second activity of the Household Lab Model for quality of life (HLM) at the household level was implemented in the 3-Rai area. Then, he and his family members established a community enterprise of non-pesticide vegetables at Village No. 28, Ban Khlong Duan by applying the knowledge obtained from the training, starting with planting non-pesticide vegetables for consumption and herbs along with studying to find more information. In 2018, “the community enterprise of non-pesticide vegetables, Village No. 28, Ban Khlong Duan” was registered that his sister was the group's president. Then, he became an inmate in the Kamphaeng Phet Central Prison and participated in the project “Khok Nong Na of Kindness and Hope, Department of Corrections”. When he was released, he got back to helping his family to supervise “the community enterprise of non-pesticide vegetables, Village No. 28, Ban Khlong Duan” constantly. Moreover, he received support from various network agencies participating in promoting the community enterprise as follows;

- Office for Agriculture and Cooperatives Kamphaeng Phet provided the budget for making herbal plots for 50,000 Baht.

- Kamphaeng Phet Plant Cultivation Center provided perennial plants.

- Kamphaeng Phet Provincial Community Development Office provided knowledge of packaging development.

- Kamphaeng Phet Rajabhat University provided an herb drying building and vacuum sealer.

- Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives, Kamphaeng Phet provided seedlings, Bhutan Phoenix Oyster Mushroom, layer chickens, and fish species.

After receiving support from various network agencies, the community enterprise has become stronger and able to process herbs into various products for sale, such as soap, massage oil, skin cream, tea for drinking, dried herbs, etc., along with creating public relations of activities and selling processed herb products through the Facebook page “สมุนไพรเคดี 28” which generates incomes for members. Consequently, he can support himself and build a reputation for himself and also the community. They also disseminate the knowledge to outsiders who have interests by opening learning spaces for agencies and general people.

**Case 3**

The third released inmate used to be a farmer. He had his own land but lacked funding for agriculture after he was released. This was due to the fact that he lived alone. His parents and two older siblings passed away. He had a wife but both of them were divorced. Currently, his brother and sister-in-law who are his relatives and live in the same village assist him constantly. This released inmate was willing to have a legal job. The officer of Kamphaeng Phet Central Prison, therefore, went down to the area to monitor the inmate so as to gather information to submit to the foundation under the Department of Corrections to consider granting financial support for making a living. The released inmate received financial support of 11,500 Baht from the Foundation for the Promotion of Good Citizens, Department of Corrections for fish farming. The officer also coordinated with the Kamphaeng Phet Plant Cultivation Center for providing eucalyptus plants so that the released inmate could earn money by plating these plants in the future. Furthermore, there was cooperation from the community leader for guidance and encouragement in living. Currently, the released inmate can support himself and have enough income and is accepted by members of the community.

From the aforesaid, network agencies are extremely important to the process of returning good citizens to society, ranging from during imprisonment to post-monitoring. Even though all 3 released inmates have been already released, prison officers and officers from network agencies still go down areas to monitor released inmates constantly so as to monitor inmates’ lives and needs of assistance, and provide suggestions on other additional matters. Therefore, released inmates can support themselves, have enough income to support their families, have a good quality of life, and are accepted by society. Furthermore, they are aware of their self-esteem and skills. They are proud of themselves and do not reoffend.

**Conclusion**

Even though network agencies participate with the prison in returning good citizens to society from providing vocational training for inmates during their imprisonment to post-monitoring in order to help released inmates be able to support themselves, members of the society may have negative attitudes towards released inmates. For this reason, these people have no opportunity to pursue a career and are not accepted as they should be. Therefore, the prison provides skill development processes for released inmates in order that they will have hope in their life and be ready to develop thinking processes and live their future lives appropriately. There is public relation of the released inmates who are successful in life in order to promote positive attitudes for outsiders to accept and give opportunities to released inmates to reform themselves. Moreover, there is cooperation from network agencies from the social sector to participate in providing assistance for released inmates as appropriate so as to support released inmates to reform themselves into good citizens of society accordingly.