**Chan Mya Aye**

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**SUMMARY**

I am a professional Burmese-English translator and interpreter with over eight years of experience in the medical field and refugee resettlement process, including working with refugee populations in the United States and Thailand. I am a native Burmese speaker from a family with a strong background in Education (my father was a teacher in Burma), and have extensive experience interpreting and translating Burmese, as well as a deep understanding of Burma’s culture, society, and politics.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Voice of Witness September 2013 – Present**

* Translating a book of oral history narrative of former political prisoners and refugees from Burma. Editing and proofreading.

**Edgewood Center for Children and Families                         2011-Present**
**Interpreter/Translator (Burmese-English/ English-Burmese)**

* Translate and interpret for mentally challenged children and their families, as an integral team member consisting of counselors, doctors, social workers, and behavioral coaches.

**Berlitz Language Services**

**Burmese Instructor January 2012 - September 2012**

I taught spoken and written Burmese at Berlitz Language Services (800 hours, 6 hours per day) to a government employee scheduled to transfer to the US Embassy in Rangoon in the summer of 2012.  I was chosen over numerous candidates for this position due to my strong background in education and translation.

**War on Want Project, Thailand 2010**

**Country Researcher**

* Interviewed, transcribed and translated information from female Burmese migrant garment workers in Thai factories. Analyzed data, wrote and presented written reports.
* Co-wrote final report on economic impact of female Burmese migrant workers in Thailand, Malaysia, and Cambodia

**Language Bridge and TransFluenci, Springfield, MA and Connecticut**                  **2008-2010**
**Freelance Interpreter and Translator**

* Translated documents including legal cases for clients for the Office for Refugees and Immigrants.
* Served as interpreter for clients at Bay State Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Springfield Court and other social services on an as-needed basis.

**Jewish Family Services of Western Mass, Springfield, MA                2008-2010
Community Support Counselors and Refugee Resettlement Manager**

* Provided in-depth orientation to newly arrived refugees regarding US system for employment, housing, health care, education and training. Managed referrals and acted as contact liaison for client base of 10-15 families.
* Partnered with employment coordinator in designing employment plans for clients. Implemented successful transition to employment for clients.
* Trainer for Healthy Marriage Program, aiding and supporting clients in their cultural transition to self-sufficiency. During my tenure, I was successful in transitioning all of my case families, from social service benefits to self-sufficiency.
* Coordinated arrival of new refugee families. Arranged housing and provided ongoing, in-depth orientation to US systems.
* Maintained detailed case files; coordinated with colleagues to implement client plans; ensured that SSI, food stamp and related benefits were received by clients.
* Supervised two social work student interns, mentoring them to develop effective client skills.

**Library, Smith College, Northampton, MA                         2006-2008**
**Circulation Desk Technician**

* Assisted patrons with accessing library materials and provided guidance with research needs.

**Migrant Assistance Program Foundation (MAP), Chiang Mai, Thailand           Summer 2006**
**Intern**

* Assisted MAP’s Occupational Health and Safety team with translation from English to Burmese language and vice versa; worked with MAP to provide ARM (Automatic Response Mechanism) training to female migrant workers who had experienced violence or abuse; organized and supervised bi-monthly Women Exchange program for women migrant workers in Mae Sot.

**International Republican Institute, Washington, DC                                    Summer 2005**
**Special Intern**

* Assisted Asia Department Program Officer in developing and evaluating project plans in Thai-Burma border areas; conducted research on East Timor; translated a document called “Democracy and Buddhism” into the Burmese script language.

**The Irrawaddy News Magazine                                                1998-2001**
**Staff Writer** ([www.irrawaddy.org](http://www.irrawaddy.org/))

* Contributed numerous articles to the Irrawaddy Online Magazine; conducted research about migrant workers, refugees, and ethnic minorities on the Thai-Burma border.

**EDUCATION**

**Bachelor of Arts,** Anthropology
Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts

**Basic Human Service Skills for Paraprofessionals Certificate**Western New England College, Springfield, MA

**Interpreter and Translator Certificate**Refugee Immigration Ministry, Springfield, MA
(Read/write /speak English and Burmese fluently)

**Associate’s Degree**, Liberal Studies
Community College of Vermont, Brattleboro, Vermont