



# MIGRANT CHILDREN MATTER

At PathFinders, we believe every migrant child born in Hong Kong should have a fair start in life. We empower their mothers to make informed life decisions and find a dignified path toward a safe, legal and sustainable future.

**Children born to migrant women are among the most deprived children born in Hong Kong**

They fall through the cracks of Hong Kong's social and legal safety nets, grow up in environments that are often detrimental to their future and are without access to critical services such as birth certificates, immunizations, medical care and education.

# The Challenge

More than 6,000 vulnerable migrant pregnant women, mothers and children are living in dire conditions in Hong Kong. Once migrant women become pregnant, they are often unlawfully terminated by their employers. Afraid and unsure of their options, these mothers-to-be end up in situations that endanger their well-being and the well-being of their children.

- They may contemplate self-induced abortion and even suicide.
- They become easy prey to predators, easily exploited and in most cases end up overstaying their visas and go into hiding.

# Our Mission

- Remove mothers and children from immediate danger and provide them with access to critical services and support networks;
- Provide the tools to understand their rights and to meet their legal obligations, which can involve guiding them through pregnancy, their return home, changes in their visa status so they can legally remain in Hong Kong or choosing adoption for their child;
- Build their confidence through educational and skills training programs so that they can make long-term, sustainable plans for themselves and their children.

## Of the children we assisted in 2013



**45%** became Hong Kong residents



**48%** returned home with their mothers



**7%** have been adopted in Hong Kong



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