

Delayed developmental children are recognized as having an impairment in aspects of development and various skills leading to the disability to carry out everyday tasks. Therefore, caregivers need to provide continuous care for them. This prolonged caring might affect the caregiver's well-being.

The purpose of this study was to compare the well-being of caregivers of children staying at the center and those of children receiving day-care treatment. The subjects were recruited by purposive sampling, and consisted in total of 64 caregivers: 30 caregivers of children staying at the center, and 34 caregivers of children receiving only day-care treatment at the Northern Child Development Center, Chiang Mai province, from January 2002 to March 2002. The instrument used in this study was a questionnaire consisted of 2 parts: 1) Personal Information Questionnaire developed by the investigator, and 2) Dupuy's General Well-Being Questionnaire translated into Thai by Somjit Hanujareankul and associates (2532). The reliability

of the instrument was confirmed. Data were analyzed by using descriptive statistics. The comparison between the two groups was analyzed by using t-test.

The results showed that the well-being scores of caregivers of children staying at the center was at a low level (66.67 %). The well-being scores of caregivers of children receiving day-care treatment was at a moderate level (47.06 %). Comparing the scores between the two groups by controlling the demographic factors including the mean age of caregivers, the caregiving length, and the family income, the well-being scores of caregivers of children staying at the center differed significantly from those of children who received day-care treatment ( $p < 0.05$ ). The mean score of the caregivers of children staying at the center ( $\bar{X} = 57.80$ ,  $SD = 14.25$ ) lower than that of the caregivers of children who received day-care treatment ( $\bar{X} = 65.12$ ,  $SD = 13.64$ ).

The results of this study could be a preliminary data in planning for appropriate service for children and caregivers in order to enhance their well-being and effective care.