



# DUANG PRATEEP FOUNDATION

Slum kindergartens Education sponsorship Child nutrition Educating hearing impaired children  
Children's art club Helping abused children Rehabilitating young drug addicts Youth groups  
Nithan Caravan puppets Senior citizens group Support for the disabled Slum fire brigade  
Community development Aids project Credit union Disaster relief Outreach to rural areas

To whom it may concern,

September 2009

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Duang Prateep Foundation (DPF) is a registered Thai non-government organisation. Since 1978 the DPF has been working to help the disadvantaged in Thai society. The primary target group for the DPF is the urban poor with a particular focus on children and their education.

On December 26 2004 the Indian Ocean tsunami smashed into coastlines around the Indian ocean. In Thailand the worst affected area was in Phang-nga Province along the coast near the fishing village of Ban Nam Khem and the tourist destination of Khao Lak beach.

Volunteer fire-fighters from the DPF were helping in Phang-nga Province by dawn on the day after the disaster. They were immediately joined by youngsters from the New Life Project and social workers. The DPF quickly established play and activity tents so that children were cared for while adults tried to organise their lives amidst the devastation. Over the months following the disaster, the DPF play centres were very popular with numerous children. The DPF also helped with income generation, housing construction and youth activity programmes.

It soon became clear that there were many tsunami-affected children who had no long-term carer and needed help. As a result the DPF built an orphanage which was opened in 2006. In January 2009 a second building was opened alongside. The two buildings are now home to 65 children who are supported in achieving their education goals. Not all the children at the orphanage are actually orphans, but they are all victims of the social chaos caused by the tsunami disaster.

DPF staff also arrange activities for children in the wider community, not just the orphans in full time care. All the children in the tsunami affected area were victims of the disaster, they all lost family members and friends as well as being traumatized by their experiences of the tragedy.



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In April 2005 Willie Gregg from Coleraine in Northern Ireland visited the affected area and witnessed just how bad things were for the orphans of the Tsunami living in tents with practically no help what so ever except for the efforts of the DPF who were caring for orphans in tents with very little facilities. This made him realise that the money he had raised in N. Ireland since the disaster in December, over £11,500, would be well spent providing safety, shelter and an education for these fantastic children After his first contact with the DPF work to help tsunami victims, Willie became a regular supporter. Willie's commitment to helping the child victims of the tsunami in Thailand, led to him registering Willie's Orphans Fund as a UK charity, in 2006.

Willie's Orphans Fund is helping support the education and welfare of over 60 young victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami and is supporting many projects at the orphanage. Willie's Orphans Fund is also supporting an after school and weekend activity centre for children which the DPF organises at Baan iTV, a new village built after the tsunami

The tsunami disaster caused destruction within minutes. The consequences of that event will last for generations. The DPF is committed to supporting the child victims of the tragedy for as long as they need help. As founder and chairperson of the Duang Prateep Foundation, I know that we can only achieve our goals to help the tsunami victims thanks to the commitment of people like Willie Gregg and everyone who supports Willie's Orphans Fund. Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Prateep Ungsongtham Hata  
Chairperson