



ANNUAL
REPORT
2008

Looking back, looking forward

Dear Kids Home Partner,

2008 was a great year for Kids Home. "Our" children continue to thrive and several new kids have joined our programs. We now support more than 70 children in the province of Chiang Mai (Thailand). We are still a small organization, proud of our "start up mentality", but our partners' involvement is growing and so do our responsibilities. The challenge is to keep growing steadily while making sure we remain loyal to the 2 key rules that make Kids Home unique:

1. Donations are used entirely for our projects in Thailand. We have no paid staff nor office in Europe. 100% of the donations we receive are spent for the kids, in Thailand.

2. We are flexible and targeted. We know each of the children individually and we adapt our support to meet each child's specific needs.

This short report provides you with a snapshot of each of the 4 programs through which we support the children. On the last page we offer information on our 2008 budget and how we spent the donations we received. For more detailed information please check out our web site, or come to Chiang Mai!

www.kids-home.org

On behalf of the kids, let me thank you, once more, for all that you have done and all that you will do...



Nicola Crosta, Chairman - Kids Home

The Kids Home

The Kids Home has now been open for 5 years. There are 11 full-time "residents". Thanks to a "family-like" environment and to the great job that our staff is doing, the kids do better and better every day.

It is challenging and fascinating at the same time to see how their personalities are evolving as some face the "adventure" of teenage hood. We are working hard to make sure we are there to give all that is needed to help them overcome their difficulties and fully realize their potential.

New challenges are arising for the year to come. These include increasing our capacity for psychological support to kids experiencing behavior troubles, further developing - when possible - the links between kids and their original families and planning a good "exit strategy" for the kids who start preparing for the job market...

One more thing: both the kids and the staff were proud and joyful for the visits of some the Kids Home Partners during 2008. This is your home as well: keep coming!



The Smile Project

During 2008, 35 children have been participating to our after-school program. These are kids, selected in cooperation with the local school, who suffer from particularly difficult family situations.

Children benefit from English and arts lessons as well as sports activities. They are coached by our staff along with great volunteers (thank you!). During the last year, we have started to offer "homework supervision" to support those having particular difficulties at school. We have also introduced a special, intense one month training before key school examinations: it works!

During 2009 we wish to continue the analysis of the kids' background and family financial and social characteristics, and to complete a full data base and monitoring system to increase our impact on the whole family environment.

The Individual Support Program

This program currently supports 14 kids experiencing serious socioeconomic difficulties by providing them with schooling as well as fulfilling their basic needs for food, clothing and safety. This is not a large scale "distance adoption program".

We have chosen to keep it small enough to tailor our support to each specific situation and thus maximize impact. Those of you who visited these families could see the encouraging results achieved on these kids' lives as well as on their relatives'.

We wish the families to become self-sustained so next year we will focus on counseling along with material support. We also plan to admit more kids to the program during 2009.

New! The Tchin Tcho Project

A newcomer this year: the Tchin Tcho nursery! It means "gecko" in Thai. Don't ask us why everybody thought it was a great name! With the key support of Aibitrophy (grazie!), we could finally open a nursery in response to an emerging need to help kids in pre-schooling age.

The project started in June 2008 and as so far welcomed 14 children, aged 1 to 3 years old. Every morning of the week, the Smile Project English classroom turns itself into a nursery, so the Kids Home now runs at its full capacity. A professional nurse is assisted by one of the children's mother who can thereby gain a professional experience.

We provide good meals, hygiene and educational material in a safe, colorful environment. We also offer the kids transportation to and from their houses so their parents can have more opportunities to earn a living and start saving for their children future school fees. These kids smiles' are just overwhelming... The Kids Home staff and grown ups are big fans of the Tchin Tcho project...



Kids Home's flexible approach: a success story!

Early last year, Tom, a 13 years old boy attending our Smile project, asked for our help. Tom's family, migrants from Burma, were living in disastrous conditions and despite all their efforts (his father was working 20 hours a day) they could not afford to send him to school. His mother was taking care of his baby sister in a extremely poor conditions. We first decided to include Tom in our Individual Support Programme. Result: he goes to school. When the Tchin Tcho Nursery opened, the baby girl started to attend and her mother was hired as an assistant nurse. However, it became quickly obvious that she was suffering from serious health problems. Through our little "Emergency Fund", Kids Home helped her getting properly diagnosed (she suffers from chronic tonsillitis) and treated: she was able to resume working. Having finally two incomes, the family moved last month to a more spacious, cleaner house. They even have hot water! We have great hopes this family will soon be sustainable and thus no longer need our support.



Kids Home Partners

Nicoletta Alessi

Giovanna & Toni Belloni

Erin Byrne Haddock

Fausto Broggian

Valeria & Gabriele Ciccognani

Andrea Crosta

Claudio Crosta

Magali & Nicola Crosta

Edouard du Parc

Guido Giannuzzi

Lorenzo Guidi

Andrea Gragnani

Claudio D'Agostino

Laura & Michele Locatelli

Allegra & Stanislao Lucheschi

Mariuccia & Danilo Maffini

Valeria & Niccolò Magnoni

Silvia Poli

Gino Provasoli

Eugenio Radice Fossati

Sonia & Philippe Rousseau

Francesca Sutti

Andrea Tavecchio



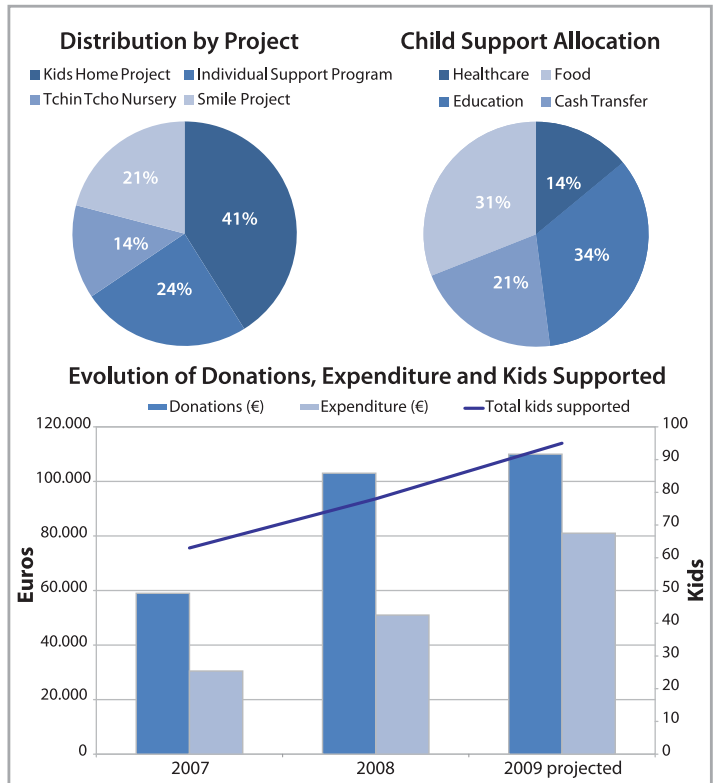
2008 Financial Highlights

Total donations: 103.000 €

Kids directly supported: 63

Total expenses: 52.000 €

Total kids supported: 78



Our accounts are audited by a certified accounting firm.
For more information please visit:

www.kids-home.org