



Kids International  
Development Society

## **2008 Annual Report**

## **Our Mission**

*To create better futures for children and families living in third world and developing countries.*

## **Our Goals**

- To focus projects directly on helping children and families.
- To create a community of caring, committed and informed donors that are directly involved in bettering the lives of children and families.
- To raise awareness about poverty and the needs of children and families living in developing and third world countries.
- To raise funds and ensure that 100% of the funds go directly towards helping children and families.
- To stay flexible and open to the needs of children, families and communities and develop projects on the assessment of needs.

## **Introduction and History**

After the tragic loss of their beloved daughter, Danielle, Rick Lennert and Adrienne Dartnall decided to spend 3 months each year traveling to S. E. Asia to assist children and families living in poverty. For the past nine years they have volunteered in India, Burma, Cambodia, Vietnam and on the Burma/Thailand border, helping to create better lives for children and families. The pain and suffering they saw inspired them to make a difference in children's lives. By raising funds from friends and family they were able to purchase supplies, medicine and educational materials for children and families, as well as support local grass root organizations working tirelessly to provide health, education and housing for children living without families.

In 2004 Kids International Development Society (K.I.D.S.) was formed. Since then K.I.D.S. has raised over \$100,000.00. Through the generosity of others we have been able to expand our scope to improve the lives of children and families by providing: housing, schools, clean drinking water, education, medicine, small business grants and support to local hospitals, orphanages, clinics and children's shelters

It is our belief that we must work in partnership with each community, family and organization to assess their needs from their own view point and reality. We can then provide the necessary resources, materials and support that can improve their quality of life. The work we are able to do is only possible because of the dedicated individuals we work with in these communities and the incredible generosity of our donors.

## Message From the President

This past year was another year of creating hope and providing much needed programs, projects and materials for children living in Cambodia and on the Burma border. As we travel through different cities, communities and villages in S.E. Asia it is always heartbreaking to see the number of children that live in desperate poverty. Most children face malnutrition, a lack of education, poor drinking water, disease and terrible living conditions. Many families are trying to survive on as little as \$1.00 a day.

It is a rewarding feeling to be able to enter these villages and communities and ease the plight of some of these children and families by providing them with the basic necessities of life. Working through K.I.D.S we feel very fortunate to extend the support of hundreds of donors who have given so generously over this past year and are changing the futures and the lives of so many. This year we were again able to work alongside some excellent local organizations and some amazing individuals who dedicate their lives to improving the situation for their people. It would not be possible to do the work we do if it were not for the support, knowledge and assistance of these inspiring people and dedicated organizations.

I would also like to thank our dedicated board of directors who continue to provide us with support, vision, direction, and who are deeply committed to the mission and vision of K.I.D.S.

Most of all I would like to thank all our donors for your ongoing support and invaluable contribution. Together we all work in partnership and friendship to secure a healthier and happier future for less fortunate children and their families.

Sincerely  
Rick Lennert  
President

## Projects and Programs

### **Girls Home, Cambodia.**

This year we started a Girls Home for seven girls ages 3 to 15. The children live in a warm family atmosphere, complete with two dogs. The girls receive a good education, medical care, cultural dance lessons, and are taught life skills.

### **School in Stung Treng, Cambodia**

We are pleased to report that we were able to complete the construction of the free school in Srey Po Village, a small community in a rural area of Stung Treng province. In addition to the school we provided a well, bathroom and bathing facilities. The school provides education for 50 children ages 3 to 10 years old; previously none of these children had access to an education due to living in extreme poverty. We were also able to hire two very enthusiastic permanent teachers, who are committed to teaching, not only, academics but also music, hygiene and respect. A daily snack is also available for each child. We are hoping to provide a hot lunch program next year.



### **Agape School and Orphanage, Mae Sot, Thailand**

After visiting this very poor school/orphanage on the Burma border we were moved by the dedication of the founder, his wife and the staff, all of which volunteer their time and lives to help refugee children. We supported them by purchasing educational material, clothing, rice and school uniforms. This program is run by a very dedicated couple who are refugees from Burma and now dedicate their lives to assisting children fleeing Burma and living in intolerable conditions on a riverbank. We are hoping to buy a piece of property and build a school/orphanage for these children in the next year.

### **Mae Tao Clinic, Thailand/Burma Border**

This small but amazing clinic serves thousands of refugees fleeing Burma and migrant workers living in poverty in Thailand. The clinic offers free medical care and training for backpack doctors that travel into Burma at great risk to assist those living in the jungle areas of Burma. We were able to bring over \$5,000.00 worth of medicine, kindly donated by a Canadian Doctor. We also helped other programs affiliated with the clinic, such as: children's boarding houses, free schools, and sewing programs. We provided materials and equipment for these programs.

### **Street Children's Shelter, Siem Reap, Cambodia**

For the past seven years we have been assisting this small street children's shelter in the heart of Siem Reap. This year we continued to supply clothing, uniforms, bicycles, rice, school uniforms and educational supplies. We also painted the shelter and renovated the kitchen area and bathroom area.



### **Youth Education Sponsorship Program, Phnom Penh, Cambodia**

We firmly believe that education is the key to reducing poverty. This year we sponsored 10 children and young adults for various levels of education, from primary school to second year University. All these children love to learn and are very grateful to have the opportunity to go to school.

## **The Lake Clinic (T.L.C.), Tonle Sap Lake, Cambodia**

This is a new Cambodian NGO that will serve the residents of the Tonle Sap Lake in central Cambodia. TLC will provide basic health care to a very isolated and severely underserved region of the country. The person who founded TLC, Jon Morgan, is an extremely dedicated man who has spent years living in Cambodia and fighting for the health of the Cambodian people. Previously he was the director of the Angkor Children's Hospital in Siem Reap. We assisted TLC with navigational equipment and an engine for the vessel that will bring help to those living in this extremely poor area.



## **Stung Treng Women's Development Centre, Cambodia**

We have been working in partnership with the Women's Weaving Centre for 3 years now. We continue to support the small on site school/daycare so the weavers can bring their children to work. As part of our ongoing infrastructure assistance for SWDC this year we supplied them with a water tower and tank for the Seri Culture program (the rearing of silkworms), and office equipment. We also provided a new roof over the kitchen, showroom and eating area. This humanitarian based Cambodian NGO focuses on developing life skills that assist breaking the cycle of poverty and illiteracy for vulnerable women and their children.

## **Angkor Hospital for Children, Siem Reap, Cambodia**

For many years we have been assisting this great Children's Hospital in the center of Siem Reap. Over the years we have brought medical supplies from Canada and helped them with building laundry facilities and other structures that were needed. This past year we continued to assist the staff and families by putting in a concrete floor in the laundry drying sheds. The staff was very pleased, as in the rainy season parents and staff have to hang the laundry while standing in the mud. We also bought some needed equipment for the maintenance department to help keep things running smoothly at the hospital.

## **Family Support**

This past year we supported a number of individual families throughout Cambodia with basic necessities such as: rice, livestock, clothing, business grants and equipment.



### **Annual Picnic, Siem Reap, Cambodia**

Each year we load up several vehicles with underprivileged children and take them on a yearly family-style picnic to the reservoir. Although most of the funding we receive goes towards basic necessities, this outing is just about pure fun, which so many of these children do not have an opportunity to experience. For one afternoon a year they are able to swim, eat great food and play.



## Our Board of Directors

Rick Lennert, President  
Self-Employed Contractor

Adrienne Dartnall, Vice-President  
Counselling and Communication  
Trainer

Carol Matthews, Secretary  
Writer, Consultant, Retired Dean of Human Services,  
Vancouver Island University

Frank Mazzei, Treasurer  
Owner of Mazzei Electric Company

Rita Douglas  
General Manager of Community Services  
and International Development  
YMCA  
Vancouver

Pam Botteril  
Assistant to Dean of Continuing Studies  
Vancouver Island University

Tasha Dreger  
Royal Bank of Canada Investments  
Administrative Associate

## **Fundraising Events**

### **Pauline Haarer School**

One of our goals is to raise awareness about poverty and the needs of children living in third world and developing countries. Thanks to some innovative and committed parents and children, Pauline Haarer School did a fundraiser for children in Cambodia. We were able to bring back photos and pictures drawn by Cambodian children to thank the children in Nanaimo for giving generously to help less fortunate children.

### **Silent and Live Auction**

Over 120 people came together to participate in a silent and live auction. Businesses and individuals open their hearts and donated many incredible items to raise money for K.I.D.S. The evening was a great success thanks to the many volunteers who supported the event and to the generosity of those who participated in the auction.

# Financial Report

Attached under 2008 financials



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