EDUCATING HOMELESS GIRLS AND POOR CHILDREN AT RISK OF SCHOOL DROP-OUT AND HOMELESSNESS (BANDUNG 2011)

SUMMARY

Indonesia is home to 5.4 million abandoned children. In the last ten years in Bandung alone, between 3,000 and 11,000 children were on the streets. Unprotected, these children are vulnerable to mental trauma, addictions, sexual diseases and HIV infection. They receive no education and have little chance of ever living a better life. Homeless girls are especially at risk. The few support services there are in Indonesia face major challenges. Funding largely depends on foreign donors and private initiatives.

Rotary Club Bandung Braga Metropolitan has initiated a project that aims to make a change in the lives of 20 homeless girls and in those of 60 poor children at risk of school drop-out and homelessness. The homeless girls will be given a loving home, social and health care and an education. The poor children will be provided with social support, health care and an education. By strengthening their educational and self-reliance skills, we aim to prevent school drop-out and homelessness and decrease the risk of exposure to drug abuse, HIV infection and pregnancies.

Program components are in line with the Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations Child Status Index tool will be applied to the assessment and individual development plan of the children.

During the initial stages of the project, contact was made with existing agencies SEMAK, a children outreach service, and SOS Children’s Villages Indonesia. SEMAK is eager to cooperate with the project and is willing to provide support and outreach staff, who will be trained and supported by money raised in the program. The children in the program will be housed in the SOS Children's Village in Lembang, which means they will automatically be part of the loving SOS Village community. The children will be treated as any other child in the Village and will therefore be able to make use of all the facilities on offer there, such as a library, playground, social center and sports fields and the services of the support staff. With the money raised in the program, SOS Children’s Villages will provide the children with housing, support, guidance, nutrition and health care. They will also take care of the organization of their formal education.

All the children covered by the program will receive formal education. The budget for their formal education for a period of five years is roughly half the total budget required for each child. If they so desire, sponsors may donate funds specifically for the purposes of formal education.
Budget summary

Please note: the costs for Program Management are not included in the budgets outlined below. We hope to source a highly qualified Program Manager and to find appropriate funding for the costs related with program management.

Part 1 (A loving home, care and education for 20 homeless girls)
- Costs for formal education: 49,500 euros (495 euros per girl per year.)
- Other costs: 45,466 euros (455 euros per girl per year)
- Total costs: 94,966 euros (950 euros per girl per year)

Part 2 (Preventing 60 poor children from dropping out of school and becoming homeless)
- Costs for formal education: 40,633 euros (135 euros per child per year.)
- Other costs: 56,773 euros (190 euros per child per year)
- Total costs: 97,436 euros (325 euros per child per year)

An amount of Rp 72 million (about 6,000 euros) has already been raised by private donations, Rotary Club Boxtel Oirschot & Haaren, Rotary Club Amsterdam Nachtwacht and the Doctors for Homeless Foundation Amsterdam, all from the Netherlands.

It is hoped that Rotary Clubs, NGOs, public and private partners around the world will be inspired to support the often overlooked homeless children in low resource and transitional countries. Homeless children need us most and every child deserves a loving home.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

For an in-depth presentation of the project, please see the full project proposal “Educating homeless girls and poor children at risk of school drop-out and homelessness”. It details not only the intended set-up of the project, but also the expected outcome and the capacity and budget needed to execute the project.

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