



## Charity Review

## Thailand Hilltribes Education Projects "THEP"

Review Date

Apr-15

Reviewer

Terrence "Terry" P. Weir, Giving Back Association Founder

Charity Head

Susan Race, Apichart Intra, Usa Intra and Poolsak Jitsawang

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### **Charity Purpose:**

The Government Education budget often constrains development in hilltribe schools therefore THEP is committed to improving the educational facilities for children in Mae Hong Son Province, Thailand. THEP does this by providing boarding houses, canteens, school equipment and furniture etc. THEP also has four scholarship programs that currently support over 180 children in full time education. All THEP team members are volunteers, and THEP expenses are 100% paid for by THEP volunteer officers or other donors, such that 100% of the donations are paid for the student's scholarships and directly related student expenses such as student travel.

Donated funds for projects are paid directly by the donor to the school. THEP is a private unincorporated organization, which also operates in conjunction with the International Support Group Foundation "ISGF". Donations for scholarships directly to THEP are not tax deductible in Thailand. However, donations for scholarships and projects made through ISGF are tax deductible.

### **Review Process:**

Helen Weir, wife of Terry Weir, has known Susan Race for over 15 years and has sponsored THEP student scholarships for over 10 years. Terry and Helen Weir met with Susan Race in April 2015 to learn more about the background, current activities, challenges and future direction for THEP.

### **Background:**

Since 1991 THEP has worked with the Education Department to assist most of the village schools in Mae Hong Son. THEP has provided support for multiple projects in approximately 80 village schools and donated portable libraries to 220 schools. THEP has supported around 250 students with education scholarships

### **Description of Activities and Programs:**

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

THEP aims to promote development within village schools and thus equip the students themselves with the skills necessary for their future with the specific objectives as follows:

- The promotion of education opportunity for hilltribe children
- The promotion of self- sufficiency and self- reliance
- To support and conserve the cultures and traditions of hilltribe people

The project has been activated in response to its objectives through various activity programs such as provision of water supply systems to promote hygiene, construction of boarding houses, ,

canteens, kindergartens and libraries, and the support of agricultural and craft projects.

THEP has funded projects through various fund raising channels such as direct request through the foundation members, close friends, embassies, business entities as well as other NGO organizations.

### **SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

THEP receives many scholarship applications and profiles from teachers who identify those disadvantaged hilltribe students who have demonstrated need and conviction in pursuing their studies. THEP does its best to find sponsors for these children. THEP awards scholarships to students, aged from 15 years up, whose families cannot afford to support their education and THEP is very keen to encourage sponsors of higher education scholarships for students aged 18+ applying for university or advanced vocational courses. As opposed to one time scholarship handout, THEP hopes that sponsors will become part of a child's educational experience, in its entirety. Funding will usually begin at M4 or PWC1 until he/she graduates from university or college. This is to address the troubling issue of intermittent and unstable schooling that afflicts most hilltribe children.

The THEP team travels to various northern provinces to interview scholarship students personally with expenses paid by the volunteers themselves. All donations go directly to the students.

THEP has four scholarship programs that currently support over 180 children in full time education:

- Senior High School: 6,000 Baht per year. Levels \*M4- M6
- Vocational College: 8,000B per year to encourage those students who are less academically inclined. Levels \*PWC 1- 3 (equiv. M4- M6)
- Advanced Vocational Education: 15,000B per year (\*PWS 1-2)
- University scholarships: 25,000 Baht per year.

\*Mattayom (M) is the term for high school level and \*PWC and \*PWS are terms for vocational courses in the Thai education system.

The relationship between students and sponsors is maintained through personal letters from the students and grade reports from their academic institutions. Reports are sent out twice a year and demonstrate the success of this program.

Attached as **Appendix 1**, is an example of a report sent to each donor twice a year. Also attached to each report is the student's transcript, a letter from the student and evidence of payment of the donation to the student's bank account.

### **Value and Transparency**

All donations for the scholarships are used 100% for the student's scholarships and related student expenses. Susan Race keeps a detailed record of all of the donors and payments to the students. Donors can gain additional comfort as Susan pays for all expenses for herself and THEP "team". i.e. Flights to and from Chiang Mai (about 4- 5 times per year) hotels, food, van hire as well as transport and refreshments for students at interview.

**Financials****Charity:****Thailand Hilltribes Education Projects "THEP"**

Not including those scholarships managed in co-operation with ISGF &amp; Soroptomists

Thai Baht

	<u>Audited</u>	<u>Notional</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Students</u>
	<u>2014</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>31/12/14</u>
	<u>THB</u>	<u>Donations-in-kind</u>	<u>THB</u>	
<b>Current Asset</b>				
Cash and Cash equivalent	-		-	
	-		-	
<b>Receipts and Outgoings</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
Donations	741,088		741,088	
Donation in-kind		1,560,000	1,560,000	
Notional Volunteer Value		40,000	40,000	
Total	<u>741,088</u>	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>2,341,088</u>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
<b>Scholarships</b>				
Primary School *	24,031 3%		24,031	5
High School	335,022 45%		335,022	64
Vocational	21,000 3%		21,000	4
Advanced Vocational	12,000 2%		12,000	1
University	349,035 47%		349,035	24
Transportation and hotels	0%	40,000	40,000	
Salary	0%	1,560,000	1,560,000	
	<u>741,088</u> 100%	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>2,341,088</u>	<u>98</u>
<b>Administration</b>				
Staff expenses	0%		-	
Administrative	0%		-	
Depreciation	0%		-	
	- 0%	-	-	
Total Expenses	<u>741,088</u> 100%	<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>2,341,088</u>	
Less Notional donation value		40,000	40,000	
Less Notional Volunteer value		1,560,000	1,560,000	
Total less Notional Value		<u>1,600,000</u>	<u>1,600,000</u>	
Cash Surplus (Deficit)	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	
% of Operation expenses	100%		100%	
% of Overhead	0%		0%	

\* No new scholarships offered for primary school level

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# THEP

Thailand Hilltribe Education Sponsorship Programme

Supporting secondary, vocational and university students

## STUDENT REPORT TERM 2, 2014-2015

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**Student:** Somkid S

**Date of birth:** 27/11/2540 (17 yrs)

**Sex:** Male

**Province:** Mae Hong Son

**School:** Huay Sing School

Mae Sariang

**Level:** M5

P= Primary, M= Secondary

PWC=Vocational High

PWS=Vocational College

U= University

**THEP Student#:** HS23

**THEP Education Program**

JHP, Junior High School

Program

6,000 Baht per year

Year 2014/2015



**Update of Student Situation:** Interview: 22/11/14

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### Family situation:

Somkid's father deserted the family a long time ago. The mother was left to work in the fields and bring up her 3 children. She lives in Ban Mae La Maa, which is in Sob Moey district a long way from all her children and the poorest part of Mae Hong Son province. She is determined to have her children educated. Somkid has a younger brother who is studying at a temple school in Chiang Mai, which is free, and a younger sister who is now boarding at Mae La Noi School. No change.

### Personal background and ambition:

Somkid is living in the school dormitory but struggling to make ends meet. During his holiday he worked in the fields, earning 120 Baht per day. He uses any money for clothing and school necessities. He continues to worry about his mother. He is a lovely boy, quiet and polite. He plays football and footsaw at school and likes to read in his spare time.

### Study progress:

Somkid's grade has dropped considerably although it is still above average. He missed one exam subject which lowered his grade. He wants to continue his education and be a teacher in the mountains one day. His favourite subjects are always Mathematics and Science.

**Study results Term 2, 2013: 3.79 - Term 1, 2014: 2.68**

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### Sponsor:

Ms H

Soi Nichada Thani,  
Samakee Road,  
Pakkred, Nonthaburi,  
Bangkok 11120

THEP SPONSOR #: SP7

Mob:

HOME:

Email:

*(Please advise if these details are incorrect)*