



# *After The Wave*

## **Mission Statement**

**A**fter The Wave is a Thailand-based non-profit charity founded in 2004 by teachers and associates at the International School Bangkok (ISB). Our mission is to bring prosperity, happiness, and self-sufficiency to children devastated by the 2004 tsunami plus any other disadvantaged children by supporting their educational needs. To this aim, the organization initially identified the R-35 School of Khao Lak, plus other schools in Phang Nga province. Through ATW, students (some of whom were orphaned by the 2004 tsunami) are provided day-to-day essentials such as shoes, clothing, school supplies, and toiletries. Additionally, special projects are funded on a case-by-case basis, such as medical and dental needs, school equipment, university scholarship, and other such support.

## **Background & Current Project Status**

**T**he R-35 school, located in the village of Bang Sak about 100 km north of Phuket, was devastated by the 2004 tsunami. The school buildings were destroyed, a number of children and parents died, and many were left homeless. Rescuing the school and community became a massive endeavor. The International School Bangkok community raised funds and rebuilt the school to create a learning environment well beyond the one that previously existed. At the same time, faculty and other associates recognized the need for long-term continuous support of the students. To this aim, ATW was founded.

Many of the children at the school are orphans as a result of the tsunami, and ATW currently sponsors ninety students between the ages of four and eighteen. ATW's role has been to liaise with school faculty to identify students requiring support, establish sponsorships, provide the necessary funds, maintain an information database, provide friendship visits to Bang Sak by ISB students, and to monitor expenditures. As the school has grown, however, so has the project. The school now has 600 students. Further growth is expected as economic recovery in the area has been slow. New children are continually being included in the project. ATW is poised for expansion, both in terms of student need and sponsorship.



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## **Our Vision for the Future**

**A**TW is growing. In the next few years we expect to see the organization gain taxation foundation status and the funding of a corporate partner and/or NGO. We expect to offer sponsorship to any and all students that require it, right through to their graduation and post-secondary enrollment. The ESL program will continue and will grow with the population of the school. The organization will employ at least one salaried person in order to manage and direct the work currently falling on the twenty or so volunteers. A key belief of ATW is that it be controlled and directed by Thai people, and our success to date is largely due to the efforts of our Thai volunteers and organizers.

The ATW volunteers are excited about the opportunity of working with others who are interested in continuing the groundwork that has been set. If your organization or corporation is looking to establish or expand its corporate responsibility profile then please contact us at the address below.