



HANDS LEGACY HEROES

LEAVING A LASTING
LEGACY

Your guide to leaving a gift to
Hands Across the Water
in your Will

COMPASSION, EDUCATION, and EMPOWERMENT, will be your lasting **LEGACY**



On behalf of the team at Hands Across the Water, thank you so much for considering a gift in your Will to Hands Across the Water (Hands).

I cannot think of a more meaningful way you could contribute to creating a life of choice, not chance for the kids of Hands.

There are many reasons why you may have chosen to consider supporting Hands in this way. You may have completed one of our many bike rides and met our kids in person, you may be sponsoring one of our children, or you may just want to provide a fair chance to the children of Hands to afford them better opportunities for their future.

Whatever your reason, leaving a gift in your Will, however big or small, is a powerful way to leave a lasting and meaningful legacy.

We believe that all children deserve the chance to build a future full of possibilities, opportunities, and dreams. Just as important as filling their bellies with healthy food, our role is to help them see the opportunities that lie before them. Your support will enable us to continue this life-changing work.

I am so thankful that you are considering supporting Hands in this way. Your foresight and commitment to making a difference to the children of Hands is deeply appreciated and will have a lasting impact on the work we do.

Kind regards,


CLAIRE BAINES
CEO
Hands Group



Our Impact

The difference we make at Hands is not measured in numbers of homes built, dollars raised or spent, kilometers ridden or the even the number of children we care for. The impact of Hands is measured in the choice we create for the kids when it comes time for them to leave our homes. By investing in their education whilst they are with us and then continuing that support when they leave, we are able to have the greatest impact upon their lives. If we only focus on their immediate needs and don't have an eye to the future, then we are not serving them as well as we possibly could.



We fund seven homes across Thailand



We have 350+ kids in our care that will live a life of choice thanks to the generous support of our donors



Each night over 350+ children will sleep in a comfortable bed waking up safe



In one year we provide 380,000+ meals to the children and communities we support



We have raised over AU\$30 million



Running our homes costs AU\$1.8m per year



We currently have 23 students at University



85% of donations go to the children and communities we support



Our bike riders have ridden a combined distance of more than 600,000km



We have had 1,000+ people ride with us



Tong Kla's Story

We don't choose the life that we were born into.

Little Tong Kla didn't choose the life he was born into.

This little fighter arrived in the world a little too early - 3 months premature.

He spent the first 6 months growing inside his mother's belly with a twin brother. Sadly his twin brother didn't survive the birth.

There is very little information about Tong Kla, all we know is that Mum was a university student who was too young and afraid to tell her parents she had a baby. When he arrived into the world early and sick, Mum disappeared. A young Mum with no family support, she must have felt the only option was to run.

Tong Kla now finds himself with no mother or father, no siblings, and no known relatives to care for him.

As if the world hadn't already dealt him enough cruel blows, Tong Kla was not a well boy. Born premature, his brain was not developed, he was struggling in ICU and sadly the doctors gave up on him too.

The "last resort" was a phone call to Mae Thiew, the Director of Baan Home Hug, to see if she could take care of this baby and nurse him through his final days.

She collected Tong Kla and held him in her arms like it was the first time she had held a child.

Love oozed for this little boy and Mae Thiew made a commitment to give him the best life that he deserved regardless of how long that would be.

It hasn't been easy. She has nursed him back to life on more than one occasion, but one thing is for certain, Tong Kla will never experience someone giving up on him again. Mae Thiew and his new family at Home Hug will walk beside him and whatever time he has on this planet, he will know that he is loved, and that is how it should be.

Tong Kla arrived at Home Hug in March 2020. Thanks to the support of our community and the love from his Home Hug family, Tong Kla is still with us and is thriving as a cheeky 3 year old boy. He might have a challenging road ahead but we're here to provide him with all that he needs to live a full life.

You will be giving generations of children the gift of choice, not chance

Your gift has the power to change the future of the underprivileged, disadvantaged and often orphaned children in our homes. It allows you to support a cause that's important to you, giving future generations the gift of choice, not chance.

A bequest to Hands is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact on the lives of so many. Every bequest received by Hands allows us a considerable degree of flexibility and security in planning for the future so we can continue to support our kids.

By including a gift in your Will to Hands, you are joining a family of honoured supporters that we call Hands Legacy Heroes. Our Hands Legacy Heroes share a common bond: they want a future where all children are given an equal opportunity to live their best life. They want a future where every child has the gift of choice, not chance.



How will your gift in Will make a difference?

The kids who come to live in a Hands home are there because they have no choice. This is often the result of one of three heartbreaking situations:

- They have no known family to care for them.
- They have a family member who is known to them but is unable to care for them.
- They are living in an unsafe environment and have been placed in our care by the police or government.

The difference we make at Hands is not measured in numbers of homes built, dollars raised or spent, kilometers ridden or the even the number of children we care for. The impact of Hands is measured in the choice we create for the kids when it comes time for them to leave our homes. By investing in their education whilst they are with us and then continuing that support when they leave, we are able to have the greatest impact upon their lives. If we only focus on their immediate needs and don't have an eye to the future, then we are not serving them as well as we possibly could.

The money raised and entrusted to Hands to bring about change is used to provide the life-saving necessities for those in our homes and importantly it supports many families in an outreach program to keep kids out of our homes. We know the best place for kids when all things are equal is in a family. When that doesn't exist, we provide a home for those kids, which really is just one big family.

We believe that all children deserve the chance to build a future full of possibilities, opportunities, and dreams. Just as important as filling their bellies with healthy food, our role is to help them to see the opportunities that lie before them.

Every gift is important to Hands and can have a direct impact in so many ways:



NECESSITIES

food, clothing, shelter, and basic human rights for every child in our care



HOMES

Safe, and loving home without abuse, neglect, or exploitation



EDUCATION

Quality education in a supportive, and positive environment



FUTURE PATHWAYS

Providing career opportunities and showing them what's possible



Pepe's Story

Pepe will never know his biological mother. She passed away during his birth. He will grow up without a father. He passed away due to illness.

In addition to losing his parents, Pepe was born unwell. He spent the first 10 months of his life living in the hospital where he was born. With no known family members to take care of him and a life sentence due to his inherited illness, his chance at a good and long life was looking pretty grim. The government contacted Mae Thiew who welcomed him into Baan Home Hug where he would grow up in a safe and loving environment.

Pepe was a very sick boy. Prior to Hands Across the Water stepping in to support Home Hug, Mae Thiew was faced with the daily challenge: to feed the children or provide medicine to the children to manage the illnesses that had been passed on by their parents. She had buried 1027 children over the course of 25 years – something that still weighs heavy on her heart today.

In 2010, Peter Baines met Mae Thiew and agreed to provide financial support for the children at Home Hug. Spirits were lifted, hopes were restored, and something amazing happened... the children stopped dying. There was enough money for food, medicine and a future for the children.

Pepe would get worse before he would get better though. In 2011, he was unable to make a scheduled trip with all of the children because he was fighting through some of his darkest days. He was in a fight for his life.

But he won.

Today, Pepe is a delightful individual who brings joy to everyone at Home Hug. With the medical and emotional support received from his family at Home Hug and the support of Hands Across the Water, he no longer lives with a death sentence, but instead has the opportunity to live the life he dreams of.

Your support will continue to ensure the children of Hands continue to gain the best care possible, and best of all... they no longer die unnecessarily.



You will join an amazing group of **HANDS LEGACY HEROES**

Leaving a gift in your Will is a generous act of compassion. It is so important to us that we honour and celebrate you for this life-changing contribution.

By including Hands in your Will, you are joining a family of inspiring supporters that we call Hands Legacy Heroes. This group of amazing people share a common bond: They want a future where every child is given the gift of choice, not chance.

As an honoured member of Hands Legacy Heroes, you will receive a certificate of appreciation, a hands pin, and updates and breaking news to give you in-depth knowledge of all Hands has achieved through our monthly newsletter, 'The Goods'.

You will be invited to exclusive events to meet the Staff of Hands, Board members, like-minded supporters, and if you find yourself in Thailand, either for personal travel, or participating in one of our shared experiences, you may even get the opportunity to meet the kids you are so generously helping.

Your name will also be recorded on our Hands Legacy Heroes Honour Roll in our Annual Report. Of course, if you prefer to remain anonymous, this will be respected.

**“I want to ensure that all the kids
at our home get the same
opportunity as me”**

With a smile that lights up a room and a heart with a lot of love to give, Aom is one remarkable human being. She came to Baan Tharn Namchai (BTN) after her parents abandoned her when she was young.

Due to her circumstances, Aom did not get the start to her education that other young women her age did and so she was years behind where she should be. However, with the support of Hands Across the Water, Aom was able to overcome this adversity and is now in her second year of university studying design at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences with a GPA of 2.94.

Aom is very shy and expresses herself through painting and art. She loves to paint landscapes and pop art. This love of painting has opened Aom's eyes up to graphic design and she has a dream of working as a graphic designer when she completes her degree.

Continued funding to see Aom through the rest of her studies would bring her one step closer to achieving this dream. We are currently working with some valued partners to identify opportunities for Aom to explore her passion for graphic design.

This is what we do at Hands because every child in our home matters. Every child in our home deserves the opportunity to reach for the stars.

Your support will ensure all the children in our homes gain access to greater opportunities, and a better life.





GETTING STARTED:

How to leave a gift in your Will

Thank you. A gift in your Will to Hands is a profound and important way to support the work we do.

A gift in your Will can be included when you first make your Will, or added to your existing Will as a codicil, a short legal amendment.

If you do not have a Will and wish to create one, we recommend that you seek advice from a solicitor or the Public Trustee office in your state. Writing a Will is usually straightforward but having the help of a solicitor will ensure all requirements are fulfilled so your Will is valid.

If you already have a Will you can simply add a codicil – a short legal amendment – to your existing Will. Again, your solicitor or Public Trustee can assist, and you won't need to rewrite your entire Will.

TALK TO YOUR FAMILY

We know that family members and loved ones come first. We encourage you to discuss your decision to leave a gift in your Will to Hands with them before you proceed. By talking to them about your intentions, they will be better placed to fulfil your wishes.

CHOOSING A GIFT TO LEAVE IN YOUR WILL

There are a number of ways in which you can leave a gift in your Will. Please discuss these options with your family and your solicitor to work out what is best for you. We have outlined these below.

A RESIDUAL GIFT

This is the most effective way to leave a gift in Will. With this type of gift, Hands will receive the balance of the estate after those specifically named in the Will have been provided for.

A PERCENTAGE GIFT

Leaving a percentage of your estate allows you to decide what proportion of your estate you would like to provide as a gift in Will. Giving this way enables you to share your estate among several people or organisations without specifying the property or amounts. It is the best way to make sure both your loved ones and the causes you care about are looked after in accordance with your wishes.

A PECUNIARY GIFT

This is a fixed sum of money to be bequeathed to Hands.

A SPECIFIC GIFT

This type of gift enables you to leave a specified cash amount, property, stocks and shares or other items of value to Hands.

WORDING FOR YOUR WILL

If you have decided to leave a gift in Will to Hands, thank you! We suggest that you provide your solicitor or the Public Trustee with the following wording:

"I give and bequeath to Hands Across the Water, 1800 Glen Davis Road, CAPERTEE NSW 2846, ABN: 40 124 112 983: (a percentage), or (a specific sum or piece of property), or (my whole estate), or (the residue of my estate) to be used for it's [general purposes] or [a specific program/home] and I further direct that the said bequest shall be paid free of all taxes and duties and for which the receipt of the Treasurer or other officer shall be sufficient discharge to my Executor."

If you have left a gift in your Will to Hands, please do let us and your family know. Telling us about your decision to leave a gift in your Will to Hands allows us to enrol you in our Hands Heroes legacy program and helps us to keep you informed about our work.

This does not alter your right to change or update your wishes if circumstances change, but it does help us to recognise your support, plan for the future, and ensure that your wishes are carried out.

PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO CONTACT US FOR A FRIENDLY CONFIDENTIAL CHAT.

To learn more about the work we do at Hands, please visit our website at
www.handsacrosstthewater.org.au

You can contact the Hands team via email on team@handsgroup.org.au with any questions you may have regarding leaving a gift in your Will – we're here to help, and we'd love to have a chat.



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