

the organizers



Kids to Kids is organized by The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles, a volunteer organization that coordinates the procurement and distribution of educational and medical supplies, children's toys and other aid to hospitals, orphanages, schools and other local groups worldwide.



▲ *Children receiving hand-made books created by American children.*

Working with partners such as the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund and Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, we have sent thousands of Kids to Kids friendship packages to over 50 countries.

The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles was founded by spiritual leader, writer and humanitarian, Sri Chinmoy in 1991. The Oneness-Heart-Tears and Smiles has no paid staff, but only volunteers striving to express their hopes for a better world in a practical, inspiring way.



*Sri Chinmoy
founder*

The Oneness-Heart -Tears and Smiles
Worldwide Humanitarian Service

85-65 151 Street • Jamaica, NY 11432 USA

cell: 1-646-752-1078

email: kritagyata27@zoho.com

www.kidstokids-international.org

www.onenessheart.org



Kids to Kids gives schoolchildren around the world the opportunity to reach out to children from other cultures so they all become better international citizens.



Young students are exposed to the problems and hardships kids face elsewhere and are encouraged to get involved – by offering some gift from the heart or message of support.

Children who give feel their oneness with their less fortunate counterparts and learn that they can make a difference. Those who receive realize that kids from other cultures know of their plight and care about them.



▲ *Children from Europe prepare packages for youngsters uprooted by the 2005 earthquake in Pakistan.*

In this way, Kids to Kids creates a dialogue of understanding and concern among children from different countries, helping them grow up into caring, globally-minded adults.

making it happen



▲ ***Students in Kazakhstan make dolls for little girls in Africa who have never had any.***



Kids to Kids volunteers play the role of ambassadors, encouraging an exchange of friendship and inspiration across geopolitical boundaries. We also organize the process, assuring that gifts and messages get to their intended recipients. And we send back a visual report from the field so the children can see the fruits of their effort.

Our team of educators designs visual presentations about the lives of children in a different part of the world – often in areas suffering from war, natural disaster or extreme poverty. After watching these presentations, students in participating



◀ ***Kids to Kids presentations in Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Switzerland (by Kenyan Olympic athlete Tegla Laroupe)***

schools are invited to do something that will touch the lives of those they have just learned about. The children are encouraged to send not only a personal message but also something practical – anything from a simple notebook or pen to a package of soap, depending on need.

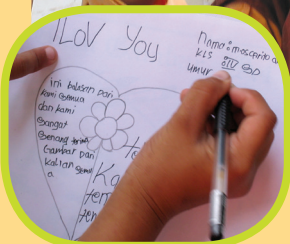


► ***A typical Kids pack usually includes toys, school supplies, hygienic goods and a personal message.***





◀ Children from more than thirty countries sent their love and encouragement to kids in Indonesia who lost their homes and families in the 2004 tsunami disaster.



We collect, ship and distribute the packages to children in the target area, often with the help of local partner agencies. The young recipients are told about the children thousands of miles away who sent these gifts – and the spirit in which they sent them – and then invited to respond with messages or drawings of their own.

Kids to Kids has enabled tens of thousands of children worldwide to send a small piece of themselves to kids from other cultures and backgrounds – leaving a deep impression on the minds and hearts of everyone participating.

**Real giving is self-offering.
Real receiving is self-expansion.
— Sri Chinmoy**

▶ **Items sent by kids can have practical as well as emotional value—for many children around the world, even a simple toy or a pen can be important.**

