

Are you interested in becoming a Member?

Need more information? Here's how to contact us.

The aim of the Australian Karen Foundation is to achieve better outcomes for the Karen people in Thailand, Burma and Australia.

The Annual Membership Fee is \$30,
(download form from website)

You may also subscribe to AKF's email service.

For information about projects, membership or our activities visit our website:

www.australiankarenfoundation.org.au

or mail this form to: AKF, P.O. Box 7149, Upper Ferntree Gully, Victoria 3156, or fax: (03) 9758 7206

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

How would you like to be involved with AKF?

I would like to:

- Become a Member of AKF
- Be informed by email
- Donate to AKF Funds
- Donate regularly by Direct Debit
(we will send you a form)

Payments can be sent by mail or transferred to:

Australian Karen Foundation

ANZ Bank: BSB: 013 457

Account Number: 4949 58912

Include your name in the transaction information.

Australian Karen Foundation Incorporated

Reg Vic A0048265A



Australian Karen Foundation

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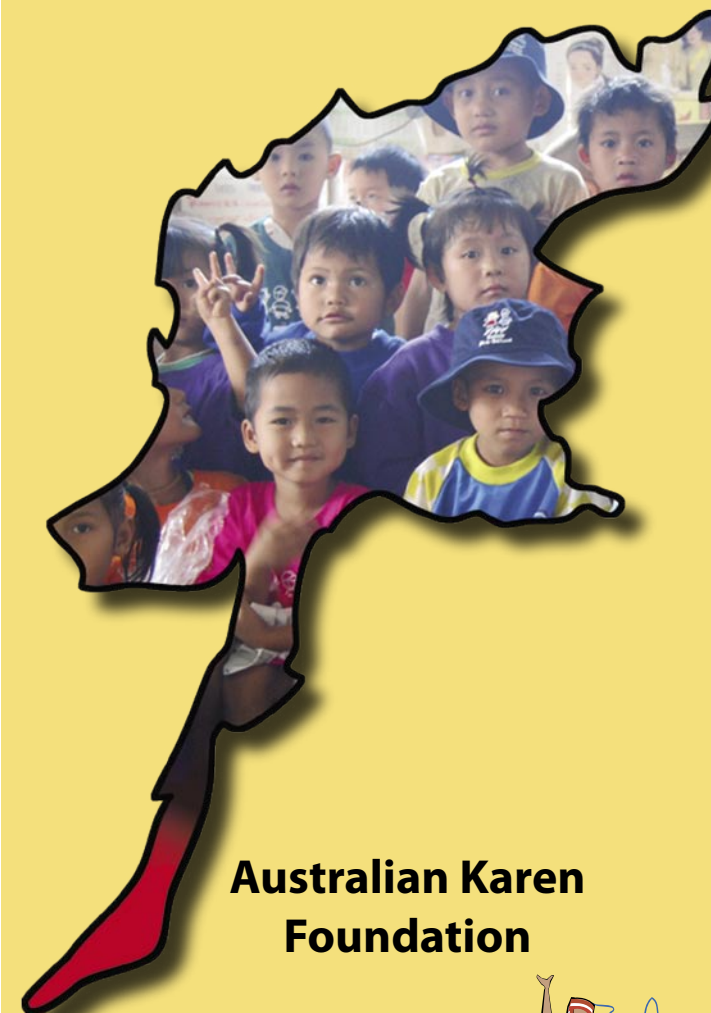
www.australiankarenfoundation.org.au

You can also contact us via email:
akfinfo@westnet.com.au

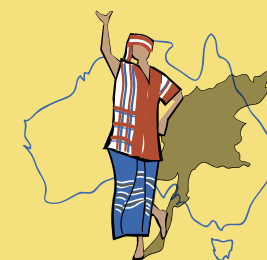
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Australian Karen Foundation



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Australian Karen Foundation is committed to working with Karen people on the Burma border and in Australia



Above: Young refugee students at AKF sponsored arts workshop.

Right: Refugee camp buildings



Below: Staff and Students with visitors at AKF learning centre in Mae La Refugee Camp.



The Karen People are a large ethnic group within Burma ...now one of the world's poorest countries.

The destruction of villages, land and infrastructure by the oppressive military regime have resulted in homelessness, disease and hunger. The Burmese military tactics have included maiming and killing many civilian people. Some live in displaced peoples camps in Burma, and 150,000 refugees are housed in Refugee camps in Thailand along the border with Burma. Since the late '90s Karen families have resettled in other countries including Australia. AKF reaches out to internally displaced people in Burma, to those in refugee camps and to those who have settled in Australia.

The Purposes Of AKF Are To....

Assist and support displaced and refugee people on the Thai-Burma border and inside Burma through educational and vocational projects. Support Karen refugees as they relocate to refugee camps or come to in Australia. Provide a forum for expressions of concern, to speak up about the plight of the Karen and to extend concern to other Burmese ethnic groups.

Membership Of The Australian Karen Foundation

Australian Karen Foundation members and donors demonstrate that they care about those who are confined and stateless in refugee camps. AKF members support education and training initiatives and provide practical support for orphans and impoverished families. They have the opportunity to visit and encourage those in need.

Projects on the Burma Border

Learning Centre - Mae La Camp gives young refugees with limited education, the opportunity to prepare for a brighter future. With over 50,000 refugees Mae La is the largest camp on the Thai-Burma border. The Centre provides English classes, computer training and art and drama workshops for post year 10 students.

Men's Weaving Project provides looms to enable men to gain skills to produce cloth for sale in and outside Mae La camp.

Home for Refugee Orphans is located in a small refugee camp called Tham Hin. Here AKF funds basic needs including food and bedding to allow 50 children to have an opportunity to study to at least year 10.

Solar Lights enables refugee students to study at night replacing the dim light of expensive and dangerous candles and kerosene lights.



Strengthening food security through the Karen Environment and Social Action Network (KESAN). An important initiative that helps displaced families inside Burma to survive.

Visiting and study programs provide opportunities for increasing awareness about the situation of the Karen people.

Projects In Australia

Material Assistance for newly arrived Karen refugees. **Airfare Assistance** for refugees accepted to settle in Australia.

Raising Awareness through the website, emails, talks and forums.