



AustinLovesTheWorld has researched the following organizations and finds them to be actually helping on the ground in the tsunami stricken areas:

Indonesia

IDEP Sumatran Relief Program

<http://www.idepfoundation.org/>

(Indonesian Development of Education and Permaculture)

IDEP, a non profit non-governmental organization, was formed by deeply caring and very talented people to cope with the horrendous disaster of the Bali bombing a few years ago. They are integrated into Indonesian society, speak the language, and are culturally sensitive to the many various unique cultures that make up Indonesia. They have shown great strength under difficult times and have a way with taking a few dollars and turning it into real help for people. Since the bombing in Bali IDEP has been preparing for any disaster and educating communities on how to care for themselves in such an event. Now they are in Aceh helping on every level of humanitarian support.

IDEP is committed to developing self-sustainability and directly empowering local communities to improve their own situations. They believe that permanent results can be achieved through local empowerment.

Tax Deductible Donations can be made as follows;

online donations:

<http://www.idepfoundation.org/>

or

Go to www.paypal.com

2. If you do not have a PayPal account set up, click "Sign Up" or "Join Now".
3. Follow all of the instructions for signing up with PayPal (they can be tedious, so be patient).
4. When you are signed up, you are ready to send money.
5. Click "Send Money".
6. Follow instructions to send money, to acehaid@tides.org
7. Note: When you try to make your first payment, you will see beside the "amount" line, that you need to click there to "Verify Credit Limit" first, before you can make a payment.

checks made payable to:

Tides Foundation

note: IDEP/Aceh

Maitl to:

Byron Miranda
c/o Tides Foundation
The Presidio
PO Box 29903
San Francisco, CA 94129

contact person in US is Catalina Ruiz-Healey 415-561-6345

Thailand

Thai Red Cross Society

<http://www.redcross.or.th/english/home/>

Independent of the American Red Cross the Thai Red cross efficiently delivers disaster relief through a variety of services; Relief Items and Basic Necessities, Mobile Medical Teams, First Aid, Medicine, Medical Supplies, and Vehicles. They are integrated directly with the local infrastructure and know the ways to best help the Thai people.

online donations:

<http://www.redcross.or.th/english/home/>

checks made payable to:

Thai Red Cross Society

note: tsunami relief

mail to:

Relief Bureau
Thai Red Cross Society
1871 Henry Dunant Road
Patumwan,
Bangkok 10330.

India

AIDIndia

<http://www.aidindia.org/CMS/>

AID is a secular organization, and promotes pluralistic principles of harmonious coexistence and inclusiveness among people from various ethnic, religious, cultural, linguistic or gender identities. AID opposes communalism of all kinds and seeks to work only with non-sectarian organizations, as part of its mission to serve the underprivileged. AID has low administrative overheads. 95% of AID funds directly support our project efforts in India (based on 2002 findings). They are a 4 star rated charity by Charity Navigator.

In the US AID is a 100% volunteer run group and has no paid staff. Members of every AID chapter are individuals from its local community.

AID has mobilized efforts in the face of natural disasters faced by India in the past. For both the Orissa Cyclone and Gujarat Earthquake, AID worked on immediate relief and more importantly on long-term rehabilitation work that continues to this day, well after the media attention had moved on. AID is also currently working on the Assam Bihar flood relief efforts. For example, in all areas, we invested in R&D for the use of low-cost, locally found material coupled with cutting edge architecture and engineering that would make the homes in the area weather such calamities in the future.

AID volunteers in the US have direct contact with the work in India. Each volunteer has the opportunity to introduce and recommend new projects, visit projects when in India, become the project lead, and play a pivotal role in the interactions between AID, the people affected by the projects and the NGOs. Since 1991 when AID was founded in the US, we have developed a strong ground presence in various parts of India. We have Jeevan Saathi's (life-time volunteers) who have committed to do AID's work in the field. AID has built, in some cases, over a decade long relationship with reputable NGOs and peoples movements in India.

AID's approach from the beginning has been one that looks at development holistically. They aim to tackle all angles of an issues with their partners: education, income generation, health, women's empowerment, agricultural enhancement, increased use of technology, land and water rights are just some of the issues that AID address.

AID's three pillars of Seva (selfless service or personal committment), Nirman (constructive meaningful development) and Sangharsh (just and non-violent struggle for

rights) evolved over the years: our experience has shown that working closely with people in India we must stand by them in their struggles and efforts to find sustainable solutions to their multi-faceted problems.

online donations:

<https://www.aidindia.org/aidadmin/OneforIndiaDonate.jsp>

checks made payable to:

AID

note: tsunami relief

Mail to:

AIDIndia

PO Box "F"

College Park, MD 20741-3005

1-888-TALK2AID

info@oneforindia.org

Vibha

<http://austin.vibha.org/>

Vibha, a non-profit organization with a vision of a brighter future for underprivileged children, has been personally touched by the calamity. Several of Vibha's projects in South India support thousands of under-privileged children that have been severely affected. Further, as the poorest of the poor were the worst hit, many have lost all their belongings and livelihoods as well.

Vibha has been working with great fervor on the Tsunami Disaster Relief Program, a national fund-raising campaign, that is focused on the distribution of aid to support short-term relief, medium-term rehabilitation and long-term development in the affected regions. For more information on Vibha's Tsunami Disaster Relief Program, please see <http://www.vibha.org/emergencyrelief>.

online donations:

<http://www.vibha.org/>

make checks payable to:

Vibha

note: tsunami relief

mail to:

Vibha

1030 E El Camino Real, #424

Sunnyvale, CA 94087

408-997-9992

Sri Lanka

Aid Lanka Kids Foundation

<http://aidlankakids.org/>

More than 4,000 children in Sri Lanka lost one or more parents as a result of the tsunami disaster. Many of them have sustained injuries that will leave them with life-long disabilities. These children have been left stranded without a permanent or stable support system in place to care for their immediate or long-term needs. Aid Lanka Kids' mission is to offer enduring professional care to support the physical and mental well-being of these children.

Aid Lanka Kids' primary focus is to provide for those children with physical disabilities. These children are the most difficult to place through adoptions or foster care and therefore are expected to require a longer time commitment and greater resources to help them become independent adults. Aid Lanka Kids is dedicated to providing them with whatever help they require for any length of time to accomplish this goal. They are the future of Sri Lanka.

Aid Lanka Kids' operates in the United States on a 100 percent volunteer and donation basis. No money will be withheld for administrative purposes. This allows us to assure you that 100 percent of your donation will be sent to Sri Lanka to help the children.

Tax Deductible Donations can be made as follows;

online donations:

aidlankakids.org

checks made payable to:

Aid Lanka Kids Foundation

mail to:

Aid Lanka Kids Foundation
8229 Shoal Creek Blvd. Suite 107
Austin, Texas 78757
(512) 627-3621