



# shades4aids Day

**Friday, 4th September 2009**

On **Shades 4 AIDS Day**, students of all ages will join in a fun day at their school to raise the awareness of the plight of children in developing countries that are affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Students will gain a greater understanding of the discrimination, poverty, diseases and lost opportunities for HIV+ children. Students will learn that they can make a difference by supporting organisations that care for HIV+ children and actively work to prevent the transmission of HIV from mother to child. For just \$250 a children can be saved from contracting HIV.

**Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation (HfCC)** is an organisation that aims to give a future to children whose lives have been affected by the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and seeks to provide support, healthcare and education to children and families. Most of the agencies operating in Cambodia test children for HIV as part of their admission criteria. If the children are found to be HIV+, they are not admitted. HfCC, however, positively discriminates in favour of children and families affected by HIV as well as engaging in extensive AIDS education and prevention programs in Cambodia.

**hope** for Cambodian Children Foundation

# How to Get Involved

## schools

Schools get involved by selecting a day to run the **Shades 4 AIDS Day** at their school. We are suggesting September 4<sup>th</sup>, but the school can select any day that best suits their calendar.

Schools promote the day to the students and parents by giving permission for the students to wear sunglasses for a day, even in class. On or close to the day, the school schedules classes to increase the awareness of HIV/AIDS. There are lessons, quizzes and information packs available from our website. The education packs cover issues of discrimination, poverty and health of children with HIV. It covers basic facts such as: **Is it safe to share a toothbrush with a HIV+ child?** As well as prevention and treatment. It does not include sex education.

A video is available that shows what the Hope for Cambodia Children Foundation is doing for children affected by AIDS. Many of these children were living on the street or on the fringes of villages, rejected by their communities. It is positive uplifting film that shows these children are now attending school, live in cottages like a family and interacting with their community.

The first step is to go to [www.shades4aids.org](http://www.shades4aids.org) and register your school.

## students

Students bring a gold coin to donate to Hope for Cambodian Children Foundation in exchange for wearing sunglasses for the day. Students will increase their awareness of the problems facing children in communities affected by the AIDS pandemic. The focus is particularly on Cambodia as it has the highest incidence of AIDS in Asia.

Students will learn about age appropriate facts about HIV, particularly **preventative measures to reduce the incidence of HIV in children**, such as how to prevent a child from contracting HIV from their mother.

## parents

Parents will be encouraged to get involved by helping their children raise donations for the school. They can also go onto the **Hope for Cambodian Children** website and purchase a gift or sponsor a child.

Parents can also run a Shades 4 AIDS day at work, put a Hope for Cambodian Children donation box in their office or shop or help their child door knock their neighbourhood.



**Dina**

In 2006, Dina's mother died from HIV/AIDS in Battambang Hospital, Cambodia. At the age of five and with no one to care for him, Dina wandered the hospital halls begging and stealing. After nearly a month, a concerned hospital worker paid a motorcycle driver \$1 to drive him to the Hope for Cambodian Children centre. Dina was frightened and extremely upset. This traumatic experience hindered his social development. However, after one year in the centre and with fulltime care from housemothers, Dina is healthy and happy. He has just begun studying at school.



**Tola**

Tola, 7 years old, has been living on the street or in institutions since she was a baby. The village she was living in refused to care for her after the death of her parents because she was HIV+ and perceived her as a risk of infecting others. Tola suffered discrimination and isolation because of her status and was not allowed to study or sleep in the same room as other children. In 2007, Tola came to Hope for Cambodian Children. From long-term stigma and isolation Tola suffers from social disorders and abandonment issues. All she has ever asked for is acceptance and the opportunity to go to school and have friends like other children.

**Save a Child from HIV and a lifetime of AIDS**