

GIVING DONATIONS TO THE ORPHANAGES

All supplies, donations, gifts, etc. for the orphanages need to be given to the Project Directors to inventory and determine the best place for them to be donated to and if they're appropriate. If you want, and it's acceptable, you can be given back the items you brought so you can take them to the orphanage yourself. Nothing should be taken to any of the orphanages without it first being cleared through the Project Directors. Any donation of any kind needs to be cleared through OSSO leadership and the orphanage involved. If something is needed at a particular orphanage, permission may be sought to use OSSO funds to provide this. Anything we have in Distribution (at the OSSO house) may be donated but first needs to be approved by OSSO leadership and the orphanage involved. Even if you want to spend your own money, the donation still needs to be approved through OSSO leadership and the orphanage involved. No promises are to be made to any orphanage for any request unless given directly from OSSO leadership.

There are MANY reasons for this policy, some being that certain orphanages must inventory and give a "receipt" for all donations received; certain orphanages have restrictions on what can be donated; some orphanages feel that our volunteers tend to spoil the children and we're not to give them anything that isn't approved; other times it can create a great deal of conflict or jealousy for one child to have something the others do not; sometimes our giving things to each child tempts them to steal another child's gift when theirs breaks or is ruined, etc.; in some orphanages there's a problem of theft by some of the staff of supplies that are donated; certain supplies are needed at certain places and not at others, etc.

There's a history to each orphanage that you're most likely not aware of. This is why everything must go through OSSO's Project Directors first thing. Sometimes certain donations can do more harm than good, and even though this might not make sense to you, please abide by this policy. Also, be aware that some volunteers in the past have been victims of con artists (not in the orphanages) and have given significant donations to con artists.