



FAQ for Sponsor-A-Child

Why sponsor a child and how sponsorship works?

Our child sponsorship program is one way of connecting a compassionate person like you with one child in need. It's about giving hope and promising love. Because of your kindness, your sponsored child will have what every child deserves ... a future, a chance to grow up healthy, educated and safe. Your sponsorship has the power to build a relationship that changes not only the course of the child's life but yours too.

1. You can make a difference with just a mere RM2 a day
2. You'll receive a welcome kit, with a photo and other related info of the child you are sponsoring
3. Watch your child's life change. You will soon experience the true joy of helping transform a child's life and future as we keep you informed and inspired with regular updates on his/her progress.

How much does it cost to maintain a child in Shelter?

It can cost up to RM1100 or more a month to care for a child. This includes food, school and educational development expenses (such as tuition, music classes, etc.), visits to the doctor (and dentist), transport, and clothing. In SHELTER, because some food items and clothing are donated and there are volunteers who help tutor the children, we estimate that it can cost up to RM720 a month per child.

How many types of sponsorship are available?

There are two types of sponsorship program available :

Program 1 - Full Sponsorship

For RM720 a month for a period of 12 months

Program 2 - Partial Sponsorship

A minimum of RM60 a month for a period of 12 months.

You have an option to pay monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually via credit card, cheque or telegraphic transfer.

What happens when I am a Part-Sponsor of a child?

Your monthly support will be combined with the support of other Partial Sponsors to help the sponsored child.

What will my sponsorship cover?

100% of your sponsorship goes straight to our mission. It will cover mostly the education needs which includes school fee, tuition fee, school uniforms and shoes, transportation fees, workbooks plus other school materials and also medical including dental, lodging, meals, pocket money and other basic needs.

Does the money I give go only to the child I am sponsoring?

Yes, it does.

Does the part of the monthly amount go towards an allowance for the child?

The children are given pocket money if they have to stay back in school for an activity, etc. Otherwise, all the children in SHELTER are treated equally and no child gets extra money because he/she has a sponsor.

Can I make special requests regarding the child that I want to sponsor?

Yes, you can choose the gender and age group of the child you wish to sponsor and SHELTER will try to pair you with a child. SHELTER handles the pairing-up to give each child a fair chance of having a sponsor.

RM60 seems like a small amount in view of all the expenses that go into running the SHELTER Homes.

How can RM60 a month help? Can a child have more than one sponsor?

Even a seemingly small amount of money helps! The money that is provided by a sponsor offsets SHELTER's expenditure, thus enabling money to be channelled to other needy expenses, which are many.

However, if a sponsor decides to give RM60 a month for a year i.e. the minimum amount of RM720 for the sponsored child, we will combine other partial sponsors for the same child – each child can thus have more than one sponsor.

Can anybody be a sponsor?

Yes! We've had parents who have encouraged their little children to sponsor the children; retirees who find it difficult to volunteer at SHELTER but want to help in this way; adhoc groups who had a little extra money which they wanted to use in the most appropriate way; religious groups wanting to instil a caring attitude amongst their students; and socially concerned companies who want their employees to be aware and involved in some way with the disadvantaged community.

We do not have any restrictions about age, race, sex or religion of the intended sponsor.

Will I be able to visit the child, celebrate birthdays, give gifts or money and take him/her on outings? How can I have contact with the child?

You can visit the child in the home and you can write to the child too – but it is not an obligation or requirement of the Sponsor-A-Child Programme. Visiting or writing to the sponsored child is a way for you to get acquainted with the child. You can give gifts but with the permission and knowledge of the manager of the home so that they can advise you on the suitability, amount and timing of the gift. The children all have bank accounts and gift of money (such as “ang paws” during Chinese New Year or birthdays) meant specially for the child, is deposited into their individual accounts.

SHELTER has strict rules about sponsors taking the children out. This is because some of the children in SHELTER have been sexually abused and we are obligated to protect the child, thus, not all can go out.

Will I get a receipt or tax exemption for my contribution to SHELTER?

Yes, your contribution to SHELTER is considered a donation. SHELTER will send you a tax exempt receipt once your contribution has been received.