



Warwick Second Grader Named 'Kid Hero'

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As a holiday initiative, GoFundMe launched a program celebrating "Kid Heroes" who are making positive difference in the world and turning compassion into action. One of these kids highlighted by GoFundMe as a "Kid Hero" is Ira Faraoni, 7, a second grader from St. Stephen-St. Edward's School in Warwick.

As a "Kid Hero," Ira's campaign called Ira's Helping Hands is featured on a special homepage called "GoFundMe Kid Heroes" and is eligible to receive an exciting donation giveaway from GoFundMe.

Ira started Ira's Helping Hands in January of this year with a mission to provide backpacks, school supplies and snacks to less fortunate children in a remote mountain province in Davao, Philippines. It all started when Ira visited the Philippines when he was five years old and saw children walking to school barefoot while carrying plastic bags with notebooks in them.

When Ira asked if that didn't hurt their feet, it was then explained to him by his mother that they don't have a school bus and can't afford flip flops and backpacks but that doesn't stop them going to school because they believe that education is an effective route out of poverty. Ira then realized that he wanted to do something to help these children attend the school year.

Ira loves helping others and wanted to also share his diverse experience to his classmates. When he was in the first grade, his class also participated in Ira's Helping Hands. The class had a letter writing activity and each sent a small school supply with the letter that students wrote to the recipients of their gifts. The recipients of their gifts also sent back thank you letters.

Ira's parents, Robert and Ia Faraoni, couldn't be more proud when Nicole from GoFundMe emailed them that Ira is one of the Kid Heroes and also said, "What a special person Ira is! We are so excited that he is doing such amazing work, and also has a GoFundMe to supplement what he is doing."

Ira recently started the GoFundMe campaign for his upcoming 2018 mission trip, where he will be handing out bags, school supplies, and snacks again and this time he also wants to add flip flops to give to at least 300 children so they will not have to walk barefoot to school.

“It feels good to help and it makes me happy to see these kids smile. They don’t take things for granted and neither should we,” Ira said in his GoFundMe campaign.

Ira’s Helping Hands campaign can be viewed by visiting the GoFundMe Kid Heroes homepage.

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