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**LOS ANGELES-BASED NGO DEPARTS FOR 14<sup>th</sup> VISIT TO DARFURI REFUGEE CAMPS  
i-ACT to set up early childhood education for Darfur children**

**LOS ANGELES, CA - NOVEMBER 21, 2012** - Monday, i-ACT departed to Chad for their 14<sup>th</sup> expedition. Joining the Director of i-ACT, Gabriel Stauring, is Jennifer Tang, Project Coordinator for Little Ripples, an early childhood education program. The need for preschool education was originally voiced by the refugee community in the camps. After almost two years of exploring the options and dreaming of what could be, their hard work is turning into a reality. The focus of this trip will be to establish the framework of Little Ripples and collect stories of those who living in the camps.

When asked what they hope to accomplish, Tang responded, "This trip is so important for creating a strong foundation for the Little Ripples Program. We want to ensure that all aspects, from the location, to the curriculum, to the teachers, are shaped by the feedback and input from the refugee community."

Little Ripples' objective is to provide preschool education for the 7,300 refugee children ages 2-6 years old in Darfuri refugee camps Djabal and Goz Amer. This effort will be started by building and implementing a cluster of 6 classrooms in Goz Amer, and then expand to provide preschool education for all children in both camps. In an effort to keep their families alive, parents often leave their children at home without supervision and education. The project will not only promote early childhood development, but will also create a safe environment for children to learn, grow, and heal from trauma.

Stauring and Tang will be visiting Goz Amer to discuss Little Ripples which will be built in partnership with Jesuit Refugee Services and the UN Refugee Agency. Their goals include, but are not limited to: meeting with and about prospective teacher candidates, creating a committee of refugee advisors, and building a schedule for after-school use of Little Ripples space.

To support Little Ripples through i-ACT you can visit their project's website, [www.littleripples.org](http://www.littleripples.org), Facebook page [www.facebook.com/iactRipples](http://www.facebook.com/iactRipples), or follow them on Twitter @iactripple to learn more and follow their trips. Individuals can also donate or become a Sponsor. Your sponsorship will provide a student with an education (teacher salaries, school supplies, books), daily nourishments and psychosocial support.

Stauring and Tang are available for interviews from Eastern Chad.

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i-ACT empowers individuals within communities, institutions, and governments to take personal responsibility to act on behalf of those affected by genocide, mass atrocities, and crimes against humanity. i-ACT is global team dedicated to putting a face on the numbers of the dead, dying, and displaced while creating mutually enriching relationships between those in danger and those willing and able to act, fostering a new culture of participation. Visit [www.iactivism.org](http://www.iactivism.org) and [www.littleripples.com](http://www.littleripples.com) for more information.