



Room to Read®

World Change Starts With
Educated Children™



Room to Read is an innovative global non-profit which seeks to transform the lives of millions of children in **10 developing countries** in Asia and Africa by focusing on **literacy and gender equality in education**. Since it was founded in 2000, Room to Read has built more than **1600 schools**, established over **15,000 libraries**, published nearly **900 new children's books** in 22 local languages, and supported over **20,000 girls** in its Girls' Education Program. Nearly **8 million children** have benefited from increased access to educational opportunities.

Susanne Gervay OAM

Ambassador for Room to Read



► Creator of anti-school bullying series *I Am Jack*, YA novels including *Butterflies*, and picture books including *Gracie and Josh*.

► Awarded an Order of Australia Medal for Services to Children's Literature

www.sgervay.com

Since launching our fundraising presence in Australia in early 2009, writers have helped to extend the organisation's reach into schools and also built connections to publishers, booksellers, bookclubs and literary festivals. They make perfect ambassadors for Room to Read. There is no one better able than a writer to understand the importance of reading.

As Susanne says, *'Through education and books, Room to Read gives disenfranchised children a precious gift, so they can move out of poverty to be all they can be. It changes their lives and the world.'*

Room to Read, through its award-winning local language publishing program, aims to open the world of books to millions of children throughout Asia and Africa—to teach them to develop the habit of reading, to become lifelong readers.

We need your help to extend our reach even further.

Room to Read has chapters in six Australian cities as well as in New Zealand. If, like Susanne, you would like to become involved, please contact

Jennie Orchard:
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