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PRESS RELEASE

STREET KIDS INTERNATIONAL FIGHTING THE STIGMA OF AIDS IN YOUNG WOMEN

A GRASSROOTS INITIATIVE COMBATTING AIDS IN KENYA SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Toronto, Canada (July, 2006) This month, Street Kids International is launching a new program that will seek to address the severe gap in HIV/AIDS prevention programming for young women in developing nations. The program will be funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) as one of a number of grants awarded to NGOs focused on addressing HIV/AIDS in developing countries through grassroots partnerships.

Street Kids International received the grant for their work in partnership with a local Kenyan organization. Street Kids International has built its reputation on a series of award winning animated videos including Karate Kids that transcend cultural specificity and language barriers to address the issue of HIV/AIDS in young people. Building on this expertise and a well developed network of experts, a series of resource materials which highlight the voice and ideas of youth will be created and tested. The project will directly address the particular challenges of HIV/AIDS among young women.

The grant that will enable Street Kids International to complete this work is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and will be administered on their behalf by the Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) and the Interagency Coalition on AIDS and Development (ICAD). Street Kids International is proud to have received this grant for this critical work and fully supports the bringing together the Canadian Government, several Canadian-based NGOs, as well as local NGOs to most effectively address the pandemic of HIV/AIDS facing the world's young people.

Over the next 24 months, Street Kids International will provide additional information and results on its efforts combating HIV/AIDS among the adolescent girl population in Kenya through its newsletter and on its website.

About Street Kids International

Street Kids International is a non-profit agency founded in Canada that is a global leader in developing and disseminating the strategies and tools needed to give street kids around the world the choices, skills, and opportunities to make a better life for themselves. We team with youth workers to develop locally relevant, innovative workshops using award winning animations that engage kids about sexual health, drug use and youth entrepreneurship. Having reached more than 2 million street kids in over 60 countries Street Kids International has been recognized by the United Nations as a Global Best practice leader in youth work.

About CSIH

The Canadian Society for International Health (CSIH) is a national non-governmental organization with members committed to the promotion of international health and development. CSIH members offer a solid network of experts and experience with the Canadian government, international agencies, non-governmental organizations and academia.

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