

thank you Air Canada.



Street Kids International extends a special thank you to Air Canada which selected us as one of the charities being recognized through their joint donation with West Jet of \$10 million for the benefit of children. Air Canada has supported Street Kids International since 2003 through its Kids Horizons program that offers us free flights so that they can help make dreams come true. We couldn't reach as many kids living in poverty as we do without Air Canada - Thanks!

deception: a masquerade ball.

This past spring, a group of enthusiastic volunteers held a Black and White Masquerade Ball at the



Shannon Kang and Andria Gillis of Leonard Chocolates help fundraise at the Gladstone.

Gladstone Hotel. It was a fabulous night of intrigue, music, food and masks raising funds for Street Kids International. Thanks to all who joined us for this great night, and we look forward to seeing you again this year.

street talk: register now!

Register through our website www.streetkids.org or contact us at info@streetkids.org

November 30, 2006 | 12 noon EST

Second Learning Event: Lena Vinogradova of Kazakhstan speaks about effective responses for supporting the rights of street youth as they face the challenges of migration and accessing the informal economy in the Former Soviet Union.

January 18, 2007 | 12 noon EST

Third Learning Event: Ivan Unzueta of Bolivia, a former actor-turned youth educator, discusses entrepreneurship, livelihood and effective savings and loans programmes for youth.

February 15, 2007 | 12 noon EST

Fourth Learning Event: Brent MacKinnon, a Canadian community worker dedicated to youth, connects the challenges that street youth in Canada face with those in developing countries.



In early November, Street Kids International hosted the very successful Mumbai Hold'em Tournament to raise funds for our program in India.

Children living and working on the streets, railway stations and young girls at risk for trafficking in India are now going to be reached by the launch of our entrepreneurship program, the Street Business Toolkit. With our partner, an Indo-Bangladesh Child Protection organization, we will provide small business training so street kids can generate income. With income, these kids will be given a chance to survive and defend themselves.

honouring Dr. John Frid.



Chris Snyder honorary board member, and Jane Gibson, past chair of the board, each gave tributes to Dr. John Frid (centre)

In October, Street Kids International held a lunch to honour long time board member, supporter and exceptional philanthropist, Dr. John Frid. It was a pleasure to join with other friends and supporters of Street Kids International to

remember the important successes and landmark moments in Street Kids history in which Dr. Frid was instrumental. We express our deepest appreciation for all he has done to make Street Kids what it is today. After the event Dr Frid said "My whole Street Kids experience has been enjoyable, insightful and an opportunity for me to contribute what I can. I look forward to continuing to contribute."



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work of Street Kids International validated by nobel prize.

by Street Kids International board member Ted Matthews



Accordion player in Latin America earns money by busking. Photo by Nigel Biggar, Grameen Bank

Congratulations to this year's worthy winner: Grameen Bank of Bangladesh!

For Grameen Bank, enterprise - not aid - is the real answer to global poverty. Grameen believes that charity creates dependency - so the "micro-credit" lender loans tiny

amounts of money to Bangladeshi village dwellers to start businesses. More than 6 million people have borrowed from Grameen. Most have created successful enterprises, pulling themselves and their families out of extreme poverty and hardship.

As it happens, Grameen Bank espouses the very same philosophy that for 20 years has been the focus of Street Kids International - the Canadian-based, small but mighty organization that gives the world's street youth a chance by turning them on to business. These children are forced into the streets by abject poverty

fighting the stigma of AIDS with Kenyan girls.

Street Kids International's success with our innovative HIV/AIDS training has led to our expansion into Kenya. This fall, we have begun



Bill Okaka, left, and Dr. Caroline Nyansi-Kisia, centre, of AfriAfya, Street Kids International lead partner in Kenya.

working with a Kenyan national network, AfriAfya, to modify our tools to specifically address HIV/AIDS education among young women. According to the World Health Organization, 60%

and its many contributing factors, like AIDS and war. The work of Street Kids International is to "train the trainers" - the on-the-ground social workers - to break through to the kids. The social workers' message is about avoiding the hazards of the sex and drug trades and teaching the principles and mechanics of running legitimate entrepreneurial businesses.

Street Kids International has taught thousands of social workers, who've in turn helped over 2 million youth pull themselves up from virtually nothing.

The awarding of the Nobel Prize to Grameen Bank is at last an extraordinary vindication of the truth that enterprise, not aid, is the real answer to eradicating poverty. It also serves to dramatically illustrate the mistake that many well-intentioned donors and charity organizations make with handouts to the poor.

With special thanks to Alvaro Vargas Llosa writing in the *Globe and Mail*.

Ted Matthews is a brand coach and managing partner with *Instinct Brand Equity Coaches Inc.* He challenges and supports senior executives to understand and maximize the power of their brand. Ted joined Street Kids International's Board of Directors in 2003.

of the Kenyan population lives in poverty and 33% of adolescent girls are HIV positive by the time they reach 19 years old - 4 times more than adolescent boys. We are going to address this challenge by working at the grassroots level to reach these young women in a new way.

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

Kenya continued from page 1



will be created and tested. Through these resources, we will ensure that HIV/AIDS programming recognizes the difficult challenges faced by young women in trying to protect themselves against HIV/AIDS.

Street Kids and AfriAfy launched this important project in November 2006 in Nairobi. An overwhelming 45 youth and health workers attended the first workshop and shared their stories. Young girls

“This training has enhanced my level and approach to youth work and through this program I am sure that I will be able to access more youth”.

do not have a voice in relationships and are often powerless to their partners, and family decisions. This project seeks to bring a voice to these young women and support them to take control of their lives and their bodies. After completing the first days of Street

Kids International's Street Health program Hassan Musa a youth worker from the Kenyan Red Cross said “This training has enhanced my level and approach to youth work and through this program I am sure that I will be able to access more youth”.

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.

new canadian program: linking youth poverty solutions.

Street Kids International works locally to fight youth poverty and homelessness



Emma Rooney, program advisor, and Brent MacKinnon, Canadian Program Manager

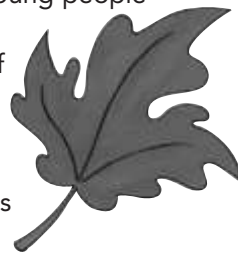
In Canada, Street Kids International is currently piloting a new program: Linking Youth Poverty Solutions. This three-year project is being piloted in York Region with core funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation that

identified it as a demonstration site for addressing the growing problem of youth poverty at the grassroots level. Poverty and homelessness has only recently been recognized as a critical issue within York Region. However, it is a very real problem with youth making up 54% of the homeless population, and 1 and 10 residents lives in poverty.

Street Kids International, as well as local experts in York Region, have both identified that agencies working with youth at risk would be more effective if there was an increased collaboration across sectors. Having reached more than 2 million kids in over 60 countries globally and more than 5000 youth in York Region,

Street Kids has developed an expertise for connecting youth workers and youth. According to Mayor Don Cousens from the Town of Markham: “The Town of Markham acknowledges the dedication of Street Kids International in engaging our young people on issues of poverty and empowering them to be part of the process of working towards local solutions.”

Through this project, Street Kids International will create a region-wide network of front line workers focused on youth poverty and homelessness. The network made up of local partner organizations will include such groups as York Region District School Board, York Region Parks and Recreation, Faculty of Health at York University, Canadian Mental Health Association, the Alliance to End Homelessness, and Pathways Homebase who will work together to increase access to more effective programming for youth living in poverty. Street Kids will concentrate on building the skills and expertise of youth workers and jointly develop tools that will ensure program effectiveness for a long term positive impact on youth living in poverty.



street talk: connecting Canadians with youth poverty.



Edith Ng'oma with Nepalese youth participants in the Street Business Toolkit

Street Kids International launched its inaugural Street Talk learning event on October 27, 2006. Street Talk is a series of audio conferences or learning events are an opportunity to discuss important themes concerning youth living in poverty both here in Canada and around the globe.

The first event on how HIV/AIDS affects youth in Zambia, was a discussion between Jeffrey Baikowitz, Street Kids International's past Chair and Edith Ng'oma, a Zambian youth educator and long time colleague of Street Kids. The conversation was extremely informative and provided valuable insight into how HIV/AIDS is having a direct impact of the lives of marginalized youth. Edith shared unique stories about youth workers applying tools such as Street Kids' animations and programming plans to give youth a new start. One such example is the young boy who found himself on the streets at the age of 8. Over the years he has kicked his street habits and become a youth leader. Now he advises other youth to stay off drugs. These stories and others are recorded in the interview which is available to listen to on our website at www.streetkids.org. More details on back page.



postcard from the field.

by Natasha Cassinath, Street Kids International Program Manager



Natasha, 2nd from left, with some of the Street Banking Toolkit participants in Tanzania.

The difference between hearing about Street Kids International training programs and seeing them live is the difference between intellectually accepting that the tools were well conceived and witnessing the powerful learning youth experience when these tools are put into practice. As Street Kids International's newest program manager, I participated in the delivery of the Street Banking Toolkit, a concept foreign to me as well as to the 11 young Tanzanian girls.

We played a market based role-playing game. The girls were to act as vendors selling various paper products, while other participants were clients, bankers, loan sharks, friends and suppliers. At first, the girls seemed a bit confused and struggled to understand what they were to do with the paper planes and boats. They ran to the bank to get more credit and convinced clients that their paper planes flew the best. They were laughing at times, and at others, losing money and getting frustrated. When the game ended, their facilitator asked them, “What did you learn?” To my surprise, they all raised

their hands and shuffled in their seats hoping to be asked to share their answers. They shouted, “if you have savings, you are protected if something bad happens!”, “to make a good quality product!”, “your product should be different from others”, “it is safer to save with your friends than go into business alone”, “getting money from the bank is better than the moneylender”, “money from a friend is less expensive than the bank, but she has less money!” I was amazed to see how quickly they were able to identify the lessons, articulate them, and eventually, incorporate them into their future planning.

By the end of the course, several of the girls were already planning to work together to build a credit circle, or “solidarity group”. These girls had already experienced the Street Kids' Business Toolkit Program and told me that their businesses had made more money as a result. They were able to promote themselves more efficiently and had learned the value of selling quality items.

I will return to Tanzania this winter to follow up. I am excited to meet up with some of the girls to see what progress they have made since June on their journey to earning a living in a safe and healthy way.