

Street Kids setting sights on new projects.

by David Pell, Executive Director

With 20 years of experience to draw upon, Street Kids International is venturing to new territory with a number of projects in the development phase to reach more youth with valuable entrepreneurship training.

The official launch of Street Kids International UK, for one, will allow us to grow our ranks of supporters and reach more street youth in developing countries through new partnership opportunities. Street Kids UK will deliver a pilot of the Street Business Toolkit for youth in Mumbai, India with hopes of extending it to a longer term program.

Street Kids International continues to work collaboratively with partners around the world in new ways to reach more street youth. Through a new collaboration with Save the Children US, Street Kids is delivering the Street Business Toolkit in Egypt to assist school children hone entrepreneurial strengths and work readiness. A new project in Ethiopia, meanwhile, will see our Street Business and Banking Toolkits expanded upon to include peer mentorship, among

other new components. With no lack of demand for the trainings we deliver, we are also exploring new opportunities in Malawi and Haiti.



Street Kids will build upon its workshops in Ethiopia later this year.

In Canada, we're entering the final year of our Streetjibe program, which will culminate in the production of a toolkit for youth workers in York Region. Through a new initiative called Street World, we are also working to engage high school students on the issues facing street youth. With increased knowledge and support, the momentum we have gained will grow to the benefit of larger numbers of youth around the world.

an unwavering commitment to street youth.

As the world currently faces considerable economic concerns, the importance of Street Kids' work does not waver. In fact, difficult times are the most important times to assist people who are very disadvantaged. More than 230 million young people in the world survive on just \$1 per day. At Street Kids, our commitment to help these young people realize their full potential holds strong.

It costs about \$75 for one street youth to successfully

complete our Street Business or Banking training. This equips them with the business knowledge and practical know-how to generate income in safe, rewarding ways. In addition, they are able to contribute to their communities and take pride in the work they're doing. The continued support of donors is essential in order for us to respond to the demand for these programs in ways that don't compromise their quality. Even in these difficult times, your donation contributes to an effective response to global poverty.

Streetjibe strengthening collaborative response to youth poverty.

by Brent MacKinnon, Canadian Programme Manager

With more than 12 workshops in the past eight months, Streetjibe is creating a learning community comprised of workers and organizations committed to addressing youth poverty in York Region. We've conducted practical interactive workshops and facilitated an online website on a variety of topics impacting youth.

At the end of our first year, participants strongly recommended we dedicate more time to networking and relationship building in our workshops. We met this challenge by organizing networking lunches and fun knowledge-sharing activities at each workshop. The response has been very positive - instead of just trading business cards, workers have been discussing how they can resolve barriers that limit youth access to services.

Nicky DeRito from the York Catholic District School Board, Community Outreach - Alternative Learning Communities Program has attended three Streetjibe workshops and says she gets the most value from our networking activities.

For example, at one workshop, Nicky met Heather Dick, who led a portion of the workshop addressing the impact of non-verbal communication on youth engagement. Nicky was so impressed with Heather's approach to learning, they established a partnership to deliver a 10 week curriculum course at some schools. Students not only learn how to communicate more confidently and effectively, they earn a credit for completing the workshop series.



Streetjibe participants discuss stigma that limits youth development.

Nicky's story is now on the Streetjibe blog so it can be part of the ongoing conversation about workers sharing and learning together in York Region.

postcard from the field.

by Alice Hong, Street Kids International Intern



Alice will next deliver the mentorship manual in Kenya and Egypt.

Tanzania is a land of vivid greens and vibrant reds. Bustling sounds emerge from everyday street scenes of women selling goods at the market, men yelling from minibuses, boys selling newspapers at busy street corners and honking from cars jamming the road. Amidst the bustle, street kids try to find their place in an environment of apparent chaos.

During my time in Tanzania, I helped develop the **Street Business Mentorship Manual**. By linking trained youth with business mentors in the community, additional guidance is provided to youth while encouraging businesses to be responsible, active members of the community.

In developing this manual, I consulted with three East African NGOs about their existing mentorship

programs, and they offered me valuable insights. In working with Street Kids' partner, Mkombozi, a manual was developed in which both street youth and their business mentors go through a short workshop to acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to develop a successful relationship together.

It became evident that it was not only the street youth that needed their business mentors, but vice versa! Business mentors provide youth with business expertise and much needed friendship, while youth provide invaluable fresh eyes and enthusiasm in return.

My internship in Tanzania is full of lessons learned, but what stands out most is the undeniable resiliency of street youth. Even with the burdens that many of them bear, strong will and fiery spirits enable them to find their place in an environment that can all at once, be both suppressing and uplifting. Their energy is contagious - an inspiration I will always carry with me.

cooperation key to success in Central Asia.

by Paula Mackinnon, Programme Manager

When Yelena Vinogradova first became involved with Street Kids International in Kazakhstan, she was sceptical of foreign organizations who did not consider the local culture and context in their work. With time, she saw Street Kids had a different approach that matched her way of thinking, and helped to see our workshops delivered throughout Central Asia.

"Street Kids International didn't come in like an expert, but helped to create an environment for individuals and organizations to recognize their strengths and potential," Yelena says.

The director of Accord, a community development centre in Almaty, Kazakhstan, Yelena first collaborated with Street Kids in 2000 with a program on HIV/AIDS and drug prevention. After delivering several workshops in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan, Accord began to adapt them further for Central Asia.

In 2002, Accord decided the Street Business Toolkit would be a natural progression for marginalized youth based on the strong link between HIV/AIDS prevention, drug prevention and access to financial resources. The first Street Business Toolkit training was launched in Tajikistan in 2003 and was subsequently delivered in more than 10 communities throughout Central Asia over the next four



Yelena Vinogradova has helped adapt our street work program in Central Asia.

years. The Tajik government also integrated the Street Business Toolkit into all vocational training programs across the country.

As a result of these workshops, youth began to make money and support themselves through sewing, carpentry, selling vegetables, ice cream, and improvement of various family businesses.

"The best part about the Street Kids International materials is that they are adaptable to so many different contexts," says Yelena. "They are general enough for people to build on with their own ideas."

speaking up for street kids at the International AIDS Conference.

by Kristy Vanderplas, Programme Coordinator

Street Kids International's presence at the XVII International AIDS Conference in Mexico City in August provided the opportunity to emphasize the rights of street kids. We moderated a session at the pre-conference which brought an urgent call to collective action on behalf of children affected by AIDS. This two-day conference hosted HIV/AIDS experts from around the world, including Stephen Lewis and Elizabeth Mataka, the current UN Special Envoy for AIDS in Africa.

We also presented a session with two dynamic youth workers from Rwanda and Tanzania, who shared their specialized programs for street kids living with HIV/AIDS. Though this was the only session dedicated

to street kids, we were encouraged by a commitment made to increase street kids' visibility at conferences in the future.



After the pre-conference, more than 22,000 people attended the XVII International AIDS Conference, which focused on universal access to HIV and AIDS prevention, treatment and care. Street Kids joined the Consortium for Street Children from the UK to advocate on behalf of street kids as the excluded face of HIV/AIDS. Together we spoke up and pushed for street kids to become a larger part of the agenda with the hope that street kids will have the voice they deserve at the next conference.

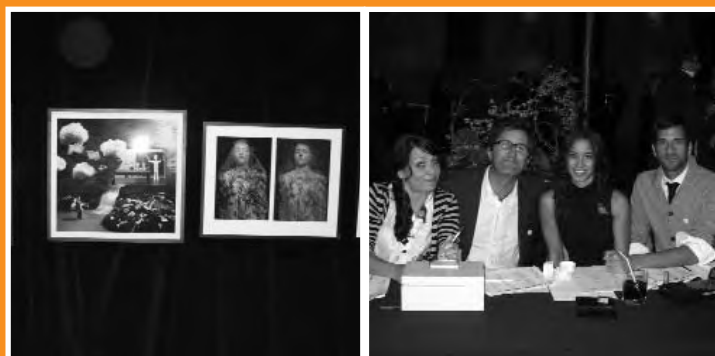
20th anniversary celebration.

Our 20th anniversary celebration in April brought donors, partners and other supporters together for an evening of multicultural food and entertainment in Toronto. Mary Walsh, formerly of This Hour Has 22 Minutes, served as master of ceremonies for the evening, which honoured long-term and major donors.



drawn to develop.

In Spring 2008, Street Kids collected drawings from the young people we work with to inspire a photography exhibit from some of Canada's top photographers. The unique prints were auctioned off at **Drawn To Develop**, a gala event in October featuring live music.



community world cup.

Normally home to the Toronto FC, BMO Field hosted 11 teams of all skill levels in September for a one-day soccer tournament to raise funds for Street Kids and the Toronto Police Service's "For K.I.C.K.S." program. Toronto FC's Danny Dichio participated in a celebrity game as the Honourary Chair of this year's second annual event.



mumbai charity poker.

Our third annual Mumbai charity event at M Lounge in Toronto proved to be a great success in October, raising money for our projects in Nepal and India.

cues for kids.

Our second annual celebrity pool tournament in Toronto is set to take place November 20, 2008. Top fundraising teams have the chance to play alongside local celebs like Donovan Bailey, Much Music's Matte Babel and Chef Robert Rainford of the Food Network, among other stars.

you can plan an event too.

Many people become overwhelmed when they think about raising money, or feel they don't have enough to give. One creative way to help fundraise for Street Kids International is to throw a small event. Individuals, schools and other groups can help fundraise by donating the proceeds from events like bake sales, dances and craft sales to Street Kids.

Paula Coutinho is a long-term supporter of Street Kids, who for seven years has raised money through holiday dinners at her house. Paula gets food donated from local markets and prepares a delicious meal for family, friends and neighbours. Guests are asked to make a donation at the end

of the evening, with the proceeds going to Street Kids. "People have seemed to really enjoy it," she says. "It's like we're raising money, and also raising community."

King's-Edgehill School in Nova Scotia, meanwhile, has contributed to Street Kids for more than 11 years by selling t-shirts students can wear on a special "dress down" day, combined with a bake sale.

For more information on planning your own event for Street Kids, and how we can help, please contact please contact Breanna Ross at breanna@streetkids.org, or 416-504-8994 ext. 28.

ECCO walkathons.

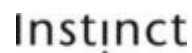
ECCO Walkathons took place August through October in eight European cities. The fun-filled family event raised money for Street Kids International as part of our three-year partnership with the shoe company.



thank you to our event sponsors.



thank you.



Tim travels the world for Street Kids.



Tim shows students in Japan his vehicle.

Tim Dennis from Scotland has been traveling the world since June in a modified 4 x 4 to promote Street Kids International and raise funds for Street Kids UK. His expedition has seen him successfully cross

Eastern Europe and Siberia. He has spoken to students in Japan, media in Russia, and locals throughout his travels. Tim's next stop is Vancouver, Canada. He plans to visit Alaska and the Arctic Ocean before heading east to Street Kids International's offices in Toronto in early 2009.

For more information visit our website or log on to ramblingrat.com.

here to here update.



C.J. and Dylan Wilkins traveled halfway around the world for Street Kids.

In May, C.J. and Dylan Wilkins embarked on a motorcycle tour with the goal of traveling around the world to raise awareness and funds for Street Kids International. The brothers

started in their hometown of Calgary, traveled east to Halifax, then flew across the Atlantic to start the European leg of their trip.

Unfortunately, halfway through the journey C.J. became ill, and the brothers had to cancel the remainder of the tour so he could recuperate. They had traveled almost halfway around the world, ending their journey in Kharkiv, Ukraine, and raised \$21,000 for Street Kids International in the process.

We thank C.J. and Dylan for their efforts through their remarkable and ambitious journey.

correction.

In our 2007-2008 annual report, a story was incorrectly attributed to Streetjibe member Kelly Towsley, which was actually written by Rebecka Roes. We apologize for the error, and have posted a corrected version of the report on our website.

check us out on Facebook.

Street Kids International's Facebook group is active with updates on events, youth stories and photos. Join now to stay in the know and contribute your thoughts. Search "Street Kids International" on Facebook, or visit streetkids.org and click on the Facebook link.

leave a lasting legacy.

Street Kids International has been successfully helping the over 100 million street kids worldwide for more than 20 years and we will continue this mission as long as we are needed. By including Street Kids International in your will, your legacy can help us provide more kids with the opportunity to live safe and healthy lives. Street Kids International would be honoured to be named as a beneficiary in your will. If you would like to discuss leaving a legacy, please contact David Pell at dpell@streetkids.org.

prefer email?

If you'd prefer to receive your copy of our newsletter by email, contact us at streetscenes@streetkids.org.

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