

annual report
2006 / 2007

catalyst for better lives.



letter from robert.



By sharing the stories of the kids whose lives are positively affected by Street Kids International, I am not only reminded of the inadequate conditions that more than 100 million kids experience daily, but also of the potential within each one of them. My

favourite example of this from the past year is one that is typical of Street Kids International, in that it represents the constant effort put forth on a daily basis by our local youth workers to improve the lives of street kids everywhere.

When we decided to launch our Street Banking Toolkit in Tanzania, we recruited one of our master trainers from Bolivia, Nelson, to lead the training session. Imagine the look of hope and inspiration on the faces of the kids and youth workers participating - Nelson was not from the northern hemisphere, he was from the "south". I am sure a few of the kids were thinking, "He is one of us and he is doing the training. I wonder if I can do this in Bolivia some day". Most organisations would never attempt this, but we did. I think it shows our commitment to building a worldwide network of partners who are willing to co-develop innovative tools and to work together to reach street kids around the world.

Of course this is not the only story of success this year. One of the most exciting initiatives is our new partnership with the innovative company ECCO. Headquartered in Denmark, ECCO is the world's fifth largest shoe company and one of the world's most inventive philanthropists. We look forward to working with ECCO on a series of exciting walkathons and

street festivals leading to the delivery of our Street Work program in both Poland and Kenya.

To support our work, we need to continue to develop new ways to fund our programs. I am pleased to announce the creation of the Street Kids International Endowment Fund. As it grows, the Fund will guarantee our commitment to serving the millions of street kids around the world. Look for more about the Endowment Fund in 2008 as we celebrate our 20th anniversary.

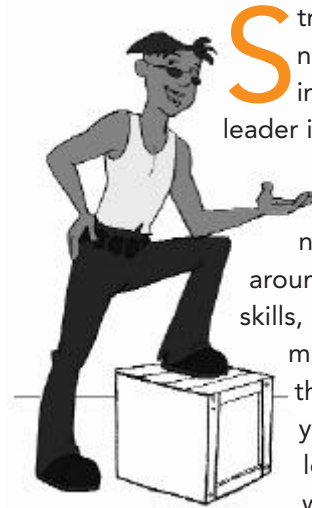
We are also pleased to let you know that we have expanded into the United Kingdom, where a keen and experienced group of volunteers has established the Street Kids International UK Foundation. This group will work alongside us in Canada to secure the future of street kids everywhere.

As our impact continues to grow, there is one factor that remains constant - the tireless effort of our staff, led by our Executive Director David Pell, driven by the support of our volunteers, donors and partners. It has been my pleasure to serve as Chair of the board for the past two years. I look forward to hearing about, and participating in the future successes as I hand the reins over to Bill Richardson, who has been a Board Director and active fundraiser for Street Kids since 1999.

Thank you for supporting us and I encourage you to read through this compilation of stories that demonstrate the resilience of street kids everywhere and the opportunities that are only a Toolkit away.

Robert Barnard
Chair of the Board

who we are.



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.

we are needed.

There are over 100 million street kids world wide. They are boys and girls living in rich and poor countries. Poverty and global issues such as war, AIDS and political instability have led these youth to be orphaned, abused and forced them to the street to become primary income earners.

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major achievements 2006-07.

- Established a 3 year partnership with ECCO shoes. The partnership will support the development of Street Work programmes in Poland and Kenya reaching over 2500 street kids. Street Kids International will also be profiled as ECCO's charity for ECCO walkathons in 6 countries worldwide including several European countries and Canada.
- Recipient of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters and Canadian International Development Agency Special Recognition Award for Long-Term Commitment to International Cooperation at the 15th Annual Canadian Awards for International Cooperation.
- Shortlisted for the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Award 2007 which honors a charitable organization that has made extraordinary contributions toward alleviating human suffering.
- We are now a registered charitable organization in the UK and have joined the Consortium for Street Children which consists of 50 UK organizations dedicated to the welfare and rights of street living and working children.
- Launched the first year of Streetjibe, our York based program funded by the Ontario Trillium Foundation created to ensure that young people find their place in their community.
- We are in 3 new countries: Ethiopia, Poland and Kenya.

where we work.



We are currently active in 10 countries but have reached over 60 countries since our inception.

bolivia

Karin's story.



Bolivia has high unemployment rates and a growing informal economy which deeply affected Karin. The only girl in a family of five children, Karin was living in extreme poverty until her neighbour and Street Kids International Bolivian trainer, Ivan, invited her to attend the Street Business Toolkit.

By learning key business concepts such as capital costs and creating a product that's in demand, Karin has been successful at opening and operating a fried chicken stand with her sister-in-law. After deducting their operational costs, they make \$35 a week - almost half of the national monthly salary.

"I've learned that you have to depend on yourself to achieve things - even doing little things can help us get ahead." By becoming a peer educator for future training programs, Karin hopes to help others discover the power of self-determination.

nepal

Deepak and Raju's story.

Deepak, 17, and Raju, 20, were forced onto the streets due to complete family breakdown caused by impoverished living conditions. The rough conditions led the boys to one of our partner organisations, SathSath, who introduced them to the Street Business Toolkit.

The financial management and livelihood training Deepak and Raju received helped launch their MOMO business, a popular street food. By selling MOMO's, the two boys earned \$4 a day for eight hours of work. Nine months later, Deepak and Raju have paid back the small loan they received and have both been hired to work for a restaurant that sells MOMO's. Deepak has also reconnected with his family.



ecuador

Diana's story.



Diana is a young single mother of two living in Esmeraldas, Ecuador. The lack of work available caused her basic living costs to exceed her monthly earnings and forced Diana into a desperate situation; until the Street Business Toolkit. Learning how to properly start, run and manage a business allowed Diana to open her own, successful, vegetable stand. Diana also developed the skills and confidence to develop a larger business proposal that qualified her for a commercial loan.

Now Diana owns her own store that sells cellular phones and packages. Learning how to maximize profit and use her resources wisely, Diana's business has nearly tripled, she has paid back her loan and both of her children are in school. Diana credits Street Kids International for her success.

poland



street work seeks to empower street kids to develop safe and more productive ways to earn a living. street work addresses these requirements through its **Street Business** and **Street Banking Toolkits** which are entrepreneurship and financial education courses designed for front-line workers to use directly with street kids.

tanzania

Alex's story.

"I want to be a famous business man" is the response given by Alex when asked about his future aspirations. At 18, Alex is an orphan living in a children's home in Tanzania.

At KIWOHEDE, a Street Kids International partner, Alex was training in tailoring and batik making when he participated in the Street Business and Street Banking training programs. Not knowing how he was going to get started, Alex became attracted to the concept of solidarity circles taught in the Banking program. Solidarity circles are credit groups where youth join together to start a savings and loan support system. Alex immediately started a credit group with 11 of his friends. They now sell handmade shirts and bake bread in order to save for when they must leave the centre.



canada

Katrina's story.



I am an educator at Stouffville Secondary School, an advocator for the prevention of youth poverty and homelessness and a member of Streetjibe. I am actively engaged with my students, especially those who are at risk. I've witnessed their pain, heard their stories and gave them a shoulder to cry on. I understand their emotions, how they interact with each other and with authority, and have seen, first hand, how stressful situations can impact their daily lives.

By working alongside these youth, I've come to realize how important it is to understand where they're coming from in order to help them get where they're going. That's why I joined **Streetjibe** - to be a part of a learning community where professionals with a common interest, to reduce poverty and homelessness in York Region, share and expand upon their knowledge in order to assist at risk youth. With a network of concerned individuals I'm hoping to use my job to put policy into action and use this opportunity, to benefit both the school and the community. **Streetjibe** is the start of something great and the end to an ugly epidemic. It inspires while educating and opening up doors that were once bolted shut.

haiti

Wilky's story.

Since he was just 10 years old, Wilky started working as a domestic worker to support himself. Endless chores consumed his days; he was mistreated, tired, and unhappy. Fleeing for his safety, Wilky moved from youth center to center eventually stumbling upon a hidden talent, crochet. He developed a business selling products that he'd sew together.

Last year, Wilky participated in the Street Business Toolkit. He felt empowered by his own ability to develop a comprehensive business plan. "Before, I never thought of making money. I just thought of recovering my losses." By re-pricing his items from \$4 to \$10 to reflect his hours of labour per item and his needs, he was able to triple his profits. Wilky is now making enough money to feed and clothe himself. He has also participated in two craft expositions, receives custom orders, and is making a reputation for himself in the community where he resides.



india

thank you to our volunteers.

Jennifer Barbarie (UK)
Mark Beaudet
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John Brimmer
Christopher Bunting (UK)
Jonathan Cheshire (UK)
Paula Coutinho
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thank you to our donors.

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Youth Challenge International
Zuka Interactive

“ We aim to be the go-to world leader in building street kids' ability, knowledge and community. We advocate and deliver innovative programs so effective that they are spontaneously adopted, adapted and shared by our worldwide partners. ”

streetkids
international 

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