

**Organization:** Street Kids International  
**Presenter:** David Grant and Aruna Aysola  
**Sponsor:** David Grant

**Project:** Employment preparation training for slum youth in India and developing nations.

**Background and Aim of the Organization:**

Founded in 1988, Street Kids International is a Canadian non-profit agency that is a leader in providing marginalized youth around the world with the choices, skills, and opportunities to make a better life for themselves. Having reached more than 2.5 million street kids, Street Kids International has been recognized by the United Nations as a Global best practice leader in youth work.

**Project:** *'Street Source' Pilot*

Although India is booming, 'slum youth' are not able to compete for entry level jobs due to discrimination and socio-cultural barriers. Currently in Pune, there are over 300,000 young people living in poverty who can participate in the workforce. The **Street Source** employment preparation pilot in Pune, India addresses this challenge demonstrating how the barriers experienced by 'slum youth' can be overcome, leading to stable employment opportunities. Street Source is designed to be financially self-sustaining and replicable in communities across India and other developing countries.

In 2010, Street Kids International, in partnership with Project Concern International (PCI) and local companies, established the three phase Street Source pilot. In phase one, 23 highly marginalized youth were trained to develop skills in communication, financial literacy, problem solving and team work. Graduates applied for positions with partner companies and were provided with an adult mentor to transition them from life in the slums to having a full time job and an income. Once securely employed, youth are required to cover the cost of their training (300 CAD) through payments over a 5 year period. This introduces the youth to the practice of saving, lending and repayment. PCI will reinvest the payments towards a new group of youth.

**Success Year 1: 100% of the youth in the first year of the pilot have successfully completed the program and are now employed.** Many are earning wages that have doubled their household income. The youth have demonstrated increased confidence and developed the hard and soft skills required for stable employment.

**Request for Support:**

Our goal for 2011/2012 is to train 80 young people. A grant from the Cummins Foundation and seed investment by Street Kids is being used to cover the cost of training 60 youth. To accurately demonstrate the pilot to future funders, and ensure the program's success, we must scale up our trainings to help the remaining 20 youth. **Street Kids International is seeking a minimum of \$10,550** which will be utilized to **recruit, train, mentor and place 20 additional youth.**

The **Street Source** model has the potential to make a valuable contribution to the reduction of youth poverty. Our findings indicate that ‘slum youth’ can be productive employees and role models for others in their neighbourhoods. This self-sustaining model can be accomplished for a modest cost, not requiring large grants from external organizations.

Given the increased demand for our training, a contribution in excess of \$10,550 would enable Street Kids to expand phase two of the **Street Source** pilot and help additional youth.

**Budget:**

Recruitment, Training, Placement (20 youth)	5,250
Recruitment and Training Mentors	500
Recruitment of Employers	625
Program Materials	125
Transportation for youth	50
Project Assistant (Intern)	3,750
Administration	<u>250</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,550</b>

\*Notes to budget

Cummins (India) is providing additional support assisting with financial services for youth and fundraising. Street Kids staff time is donated.

Project Concern International Executive Director’s time donated.

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