



One! International 2009 Annual Report



Our Mission, Vision, Values and Goals

Mission

To teach literacy skills to children living in the slums of Mumbai, India, so that they are better prepared through gaining the confidence, knowledge and skills needed, to achieve their potential and become responsible members of society.

Our Vision

- Improve the future of impoverished children and youth in Mumbai.
- Establish programs that aim to strengthen families and prevent the abandonment of children.
- Provide children with basic living needs through trust, respect, integrity, commitment, and caring.
- Help children recognize and express their abilities, interests and talents.

Our Values

We believe that education is an inherent right and the key to freedom through breaking the cycle of poverty. We believe in peace, non-violence, frugality, simplicity, honesty.

Our Goal

Maximize the benefits for the street children of Mumbai while minimizing administrative spending.



Message from the Founder



2009 was a year of great accomplishments and great partnerships. Our largest partnership was with Children's Hope India (CHI). It expanded and grew. CHI visited our school in Nallasopara and agreed to sponsor the whole project. The project has been named "Ek Asha" – One! Hope. The Nallasopara School grew every month; at the end of the year there were over 150 children studying at the school. We concentrate on education and social work only, but plan on extending to other services in 2010.

Our Indian team has grown and blossomed at a magnificent rate. Vinita Singh had her 5 year anniversary with us in March and has proven to be dedicated and loyal. The dream of One! is hers now too. Vinita has helped to train our staff of teachers to not only teach but to be aware of social issues and help the children face challenging situations daily. We finished off 2009 with a committed staff 11 strong.

A fantastic success gauge was broken this year when we were able to hire five past students as basic teachers. The client staff (students and or moms who have gained employment with the organization) prove that the cycle of poverty can be broken. They have become literate, and have learned valuable skills such as: work ethic, punctuality, communication skills and confidence.

We are always lucky every year with the wide range of age, culture and talent represented by our international volunteers in India. 2009 was no exception. All volunteers deserve mention, but one family in particular paved the way for others to follow in their footsteps. The Wall/Davis family (Perry-Dad, Wendy-Mom, Taya-12 and Harper-10) took the chance of a lifetime and it paid off. They were invaluable as volunteers and as role models – proving that kids are kids no matter what situation they are born into.

A true team of volunteers is coming together in Canada and Julie Hawkins is at the helm. She has proven her dedication and energy – both qualities become infectious as she spreads the word of One! and recruits more enthusiastic souls. Julie's first brainchild was our first Gala Fundraiser. 300 people came out to support One! in a big way – it was beyond my wildest imagination. What a way to start 2009, I can only foresee this continuing in a positive direction in 2010.

When first hearing what I do, most people say 'oh what a sacrifice'. I never understood what they meant. I felt that I was the 'lucky' one, that I was given so much each and every day with the children's smiles and my own happiness; satisfaction and being able to see the small successes along the way. I still feel this, but when my father had a heart attack and my mother had a serious fall in October 2009... I understood what they meant. It **IS** a sacrifice to be so far away from family; those were very difficult days. Dad has recovered as well as possible and is better than new – just with a little metal inside!

Mom is still recovering from whiplash and concussion, but it eases with each passing day. Family is everything. I am so lucky to have the family I have – supportive, loving and generous in every way. Thank you for being you, without you I wouldn't be me. My extended family of One! continues to grow every year – children, families, volunteers, donors, friends.

Thank you for believing in the dream and remembering...

One step at a time we will make a difference.

Tania Spilchen,
Founder and President

Out Board

The Board of Directors and Management Team is maintained to ensure that the direction of One! International remains focused and positive for improving the future of the children, women, and families in Mumbai, India.

The Board is the 'voice' of all the donors and financial supporters. All major decisions, in terms of the administration of One! (accommodation, transportation, communication, advertising, public relations) are passed to the Board and must be accepted by the majority of members. The hope is to maintain the 'human factor' and the credibility of the organization through the people that are represented by the Board.

The Board is a working Board, responsible for overall guidance of the organization. The legal responsibilities of the Board are to ensure that all activities of One! International comply with the rules and regulations pertinent to charitable activities in the province of Alberta, Canada and India.



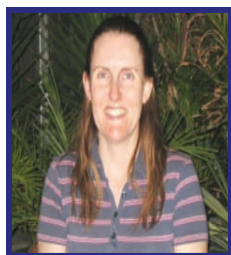
Tania Spilchen
President / Founder, Director



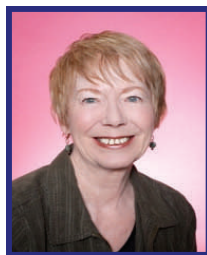
Gordon Sustrik.
Legal / Secretary, Director



Colleen Woltjen, Director



Lisbeth Overheu
Chair, Director



Marilyn Spilchen
Manager, Finance & Administration



Julie Hawkins
Manager, Programs & Events

Who We Are and What We Do

One! International is a volunteer organization working toward the betterment of impoverished children and youth in Mumbai (Bombay), India. It is a non-governmental (non-profit), non-sectarian registered charity that depends on financial support primarily from individuals as well as businesses and other organizations.

While education is the main goal, basic needs such as nutrition, housing, medical attention, social assistance and womens' health are all supported by *One!*

One! targets the street children and their families in the central Mumbai area called Khar Dhanda and in the northern suburb of Mumbai called Nallasopara, where there are no public schools.

In 2009, *One!* supported 250 children and their families, with five permanent employees and nine part time employees in India, numerous volunteers in India and in Canada, a Board of Directors/Management Team, and an active Fundraising/Marketing Committee.

One! International has a long term goal of educating/informing Canadian children about another country, India, and children in Mumbai. By connecting with *One!* International, Canadian students can begin to understand the aims and aspirations of people from other countries, develop a sense of appreciation for what they have in Canada, and satisfaction that they have an opportunity to help a child in India.

What We Do - Education

Education enlightens a person to choices, and is the key to a better life for street children. *One!* teaches all ages - from pre-Balwadi (pre-kindergarten) to adulthood. In addition to the basics of Hindi and Mathematics, English is taught once Hindi has been mastered.

One! International also has a skills development program which teaches sewing, woodworking, cooking, housekeeping and teacher aide.

Having attained the basics, younger children may be able to progress to regular schools in India, while older children may gain knowledge and skills which will give them more options for employment. Children who show the aptitude for higher learning are tutored to prepare them for taking Government Grade 10 exams. Those who pass the exams will be able to gain admittance into college.

Health and Social Assistance

One! International works with the families in the areas of health, hygiene and cleanliness. If the children attend classes regularly, they have access to health related products and services as required. Bandages, medication and hygiene products are supplied as required. Dentistry and optometry programs have been implemented.

The organization has enforced the rule that all children must bathe and keep clean to attend school and take part in any *One!* activities such as Saturday field trips. These hygiene practices are carried over to the school room where the children wash their hands and brush their teeth every day. Cleanliness has spread into everyday life and there is a noticeable healthier lifestyle and decreased in sickness amongst the families.

Field Trips

One! International volunteers and staff take the children and sometimes their parents on regular fieldtrips, including the movies, the beach, the fair or to a volunteer's home. Annually, the children are taken on an out-of-town field trip. Every field trip involves an educational component, a full meal at a local restaurant and a lot of smiles.

One! children have the opportunity to participate in activities that they would not otherwise be able to afford. They learn to conduct themselves appropriately in social settings and realize that learning can be fun. Fieldtrips continue to be a reward for attendance at school, and as an incentive for continued learning.



Art & Drama

Each year in November the children give a concert for their parents and supporters of *One!* International. The children prepare for weeks for their roles in the plays and the dances; they help with the costumes and prepare the art work for the stage. All of the children enjoy their regular art classes and extra art projects; they usually prepare posters for volunteers when they leave and for other special occasions.

Housing

Families living in temporary huts by the side of the road find it difficult to afford the costs of getting into permanent dwellings. "Permanent" means that the homes have walls and a roof made out of wood, have access to electricity and water, and will not be torn down for road repairs. *One!* provides some support to families as they make the transition from temporary to permanent homes. Renting a permanent dwelling is a huge commitment for the families and involves a great desire to want to make a stable future for their children.

Life Skills Development

During cooking class, the students prepare lunch for the entire school. They learn to purchase food, and prepare it in a healthy and safe manner.

Sewing and woodworking skills development programs are producing incredible results. Students build tables, chairs and cupboards and sew backpacks. They are motivated to work hard as they are paid for the quality of their products. Hard work and motivation are excellent life lessons for the children to learn and understand.

Mothers who show a commitment to and whose children are regular attendees are given the opportunity to work for the organization as cleaners, child care providers or a teacher's aide. Older students are also trained to be teacher's aides and any other duties that are appropriate.



The Year in Review

We could go on for pages and pages about all of the amazing events and activities that took place over the last year. We know you are busy so we have outlined a few highlights for you. More information can be found on our website at one-international.com.

School News

Khar Danda Report

In June, the American School of Mumbai Grade 2 classes brought in over 45 backpacks filled with school supplies and goodies for our children. On the first day of the school year, the Khar School students received a backpack each. The children were all smiles and wouldn't let their bags out of their sight.

More than 400 people attended this year's Annual Program on November 29, 2009. The hall was packed with good energy and great performances by the children. Throughout the month of November, the students forgot about their studies and took to the arts. Every class prepared an English Play, an English Song, a Hindi Play, a Hindi Song, and a Dance. They then performed their best three items in front of their parents, family and friends. The parents' pride for their children was evident.

Nallasopara Report

The school year with a bang on June 15th - registration day. More than 243 children registered. With re-painted boxes, and new school supplies, the children were excited about starting school.

One! has 4 apartments with 7 classrooms, a pre-step room (kindergarten), a kitchen and an office in Nallasopara. With 6 permanent staff and 2 volunteers every day, we have 9 steps in the morning and 5 steps in the afternoon. We also moved from a 4.5 day schedule to a full 5.5 day schedule, with basic meals and snacks.

The Nallasopara project is sponsored by Children's Hope India out of New York. The project is named 'Ek Asha' which means 'One! Hope'. The name is perfect for the Nallasopara environment and will constantly remind us of our values, bringing us back to the fact that every step counts and every step gives hope.

New Staff

Three new members of the staff were added to the family. Museum, a young, newly-wed Bengali girl, has a gentle manner and brings a lot to the children. Chetana is doing her Master's Degree. She brings fresh ideas, much energy and lots of laughter to the children. Leena is positive and loving. The children instantly took to her.

Fundraising

Fundraising

We held our first Gala Fundraiser on January 23, 2009 in Edmonton, Canada. It was a huge success, with over 300 people joining the One! family. There was music, dance, excellent food, and the focus on One! children, \$14,000 was raised to support the organization. Satwinder Sran, a Sherwood Park Yoga for Today instructor, has started a 6:00 a.m. Sadhana class on the first Sunday of each month. Class attendees make a financial donation to *One!* International.

Yoga For Today Studio hosted a *One!* fundraiser on April 26, 2009. The Wall/Davis family, parents Wendy and Perry and daughters Taya and Harper, shared their One! stories, perceptions, pictures and videos with a captive audience. Tina and her team provided an enhanced version of a typical meal the children in India would eat at lunch. There was a silent auction, sales table, dancing by the young students of Sharara, and a very special display of the children still waiting to be sponsored through our Give-a-Child-a-Chance Program. Nine children were sponsored as a result of this event.

School News

Loan Program

It was a fantastic couple months for our micro-loan program; not only has the repayment percentage increased ten-fold since the program began, but a couple of our members managed to repay their loans fully.

Program for Orphans

Parvati, and her brother Malesh moved in to the upstairs room at the Khar school. Parvati no longer needs oxygen, and her health is improving. Malesh helps out around the building and really appreciates what he has been given. This spurred us on to start a new nutrition program for our orphan children. Deepak, an orphan himself, is the cook. He makes breakfast before school starts, cleans up before anyone arrives and makes dinner in the evenings. Deepak, Malesh, Parvati and our fourth orphan student, Ramesh, dine together and have created a little family of their own.

Outings and Fun

Educational Excursions

One! traveled with 23 students, volunteers and staff to Aurangabad, the hub city in India. Everyone enjoyed the historic caves of Ajanta and Ellora, and a climb up the ruins of Fortress Dallahabad. The students showed a remarkable sense of camaraderie and looked after each other.

On a separate trip, 10 students were permitted by their parents to go on our Annual Trip to Mysore. After a long 24 hour train journey, the children spent two days in Mysore and loved the tour of the palace climbed the 1000 steps to the temple/monument on the hill. The Annual Trip is not only an opportunity for the children to have a holiday, but to learn more about their country, experience a different lifestyle (3 meals a day, electricity, running water), build confidence, and get to know their teachers/volunteers as role models.

Sports Day

We finished our scheduled events before time and were able to add some entertaining and fun staff/volunteer races too. It was great to see students, volunteers and teachers all competing together through sportsmanship and love, with great community spirit. A day trip to a resort in Virar (only one stop away from Nallasopara) was made. It was equipped with two pools, plenty of slides, popcorn, cotton candy, great meals, and great weather! The children who were already confident in the water were all smiles as soon as they jumped in. The non-swimmers became swimmers by the end of the day, and didn't want to get out!

Integration with American School

9 children in total from our Step 1, 2 and 3 program were chosen for an amazing experience in front of an audience of over 500 people. They danced to the hit song 'Jai Ho', from Slumdog Millionaire, at the American School of Bombay fundraiser for the flooding victims in

Children's Hope Meeting

Tania met with Children's Hope Trustees in Newark, USA, in August and provided an update on our joint project - Nallasopara Ek Asha (One Hope) project.

Partnerships in Alberta

Wes Hosford Elementary School in Sherwood Park which holds an annual fundraiser collecting supplies and money for the children in India.

Savannah School and **Garneau Elementary School** in Edmonton raised money for the *One!* schools in India. Both schools learned about India, the city of Mumbai, and about the children and families that *One!* International supports. The young people are always surprised to learn about the living conditions of their peers in other parts of the world.

Through **Grant MacEwan Community University** and the Global Education Fund grant, funds were provided to purchase computers and printers. This will help bring computer literacy to the teachers, staff and students in the two schools.

Stollery Children's Hospital is very generous in sharing books, toys and other items with *One!*

Yoga Studios in Alberta and British Columbia

- **Yoga Passage** sponsors eight children
- **Yoga Within** sponsors a table at our annual gala
- **Ashtanga Yoga** sponsors a child
- **Yoga For Today** sponsors one child and does an annual fundraising evening in February
- **Yoga Lounge** sponsors two children and carries out other fundraising activities

Edmonton Business and Charity Partnerships provide great community support with many businesses, as well we have partnerships with other charities.



Make a Difference

Give a Child-a-Chance Program (GCC)

The GCC program provides weekly meals, sporting activities, private education, counseling for families and the children, encouragement to improve life circumstances, and support as required. Donations for sponsored children are used to provide nutrition, clothing, medical necessities and the start of an education for a child. Most of all, the child will be given love and hope - a chance for a better future!

One! provides sponsors with the child's history: name, birth date, family, strengths, weaknesses, likes, dislikes and dreams. Every six months sponsors receive their child's update, with two new pictures, art work, schoolwork or exams, report card, and *One!* news.

In 2009, we are pleased to announce that there were 67 children sponsored for part or all of the year through the GCC program.

Donations continue to come from: Give-a-Child-a-Chance (GCC) Program, general monetary donations, and gifts in kind. Several people have taken advantage of CanadaHelps.Org to donate by credit card or direct debit. <http://www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=s79287>

Volunteer Program

One! International has been very fortunate to attract volunteers from all over the world who have gone to India to work with the children from varying periods of time. In 2009 volunteers came to us from: USA, England, Canada, Australia, Poland, Holland, Finland, India and France.

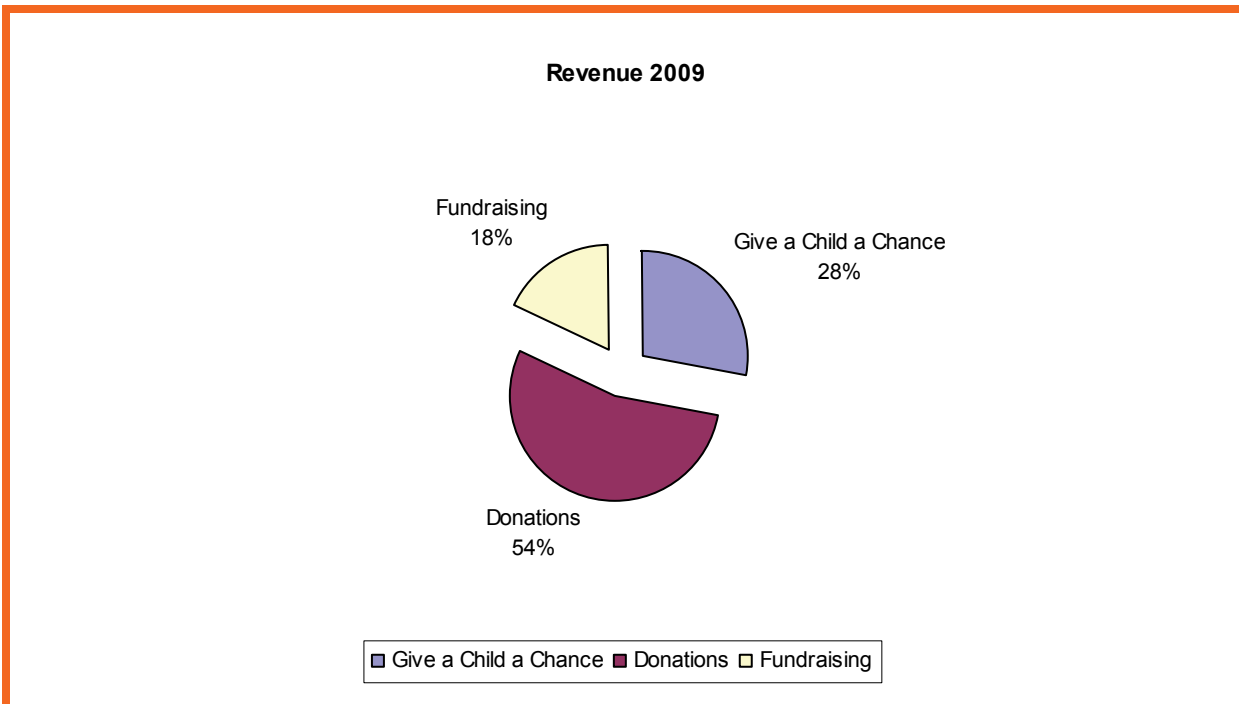


Statement of Financial Position

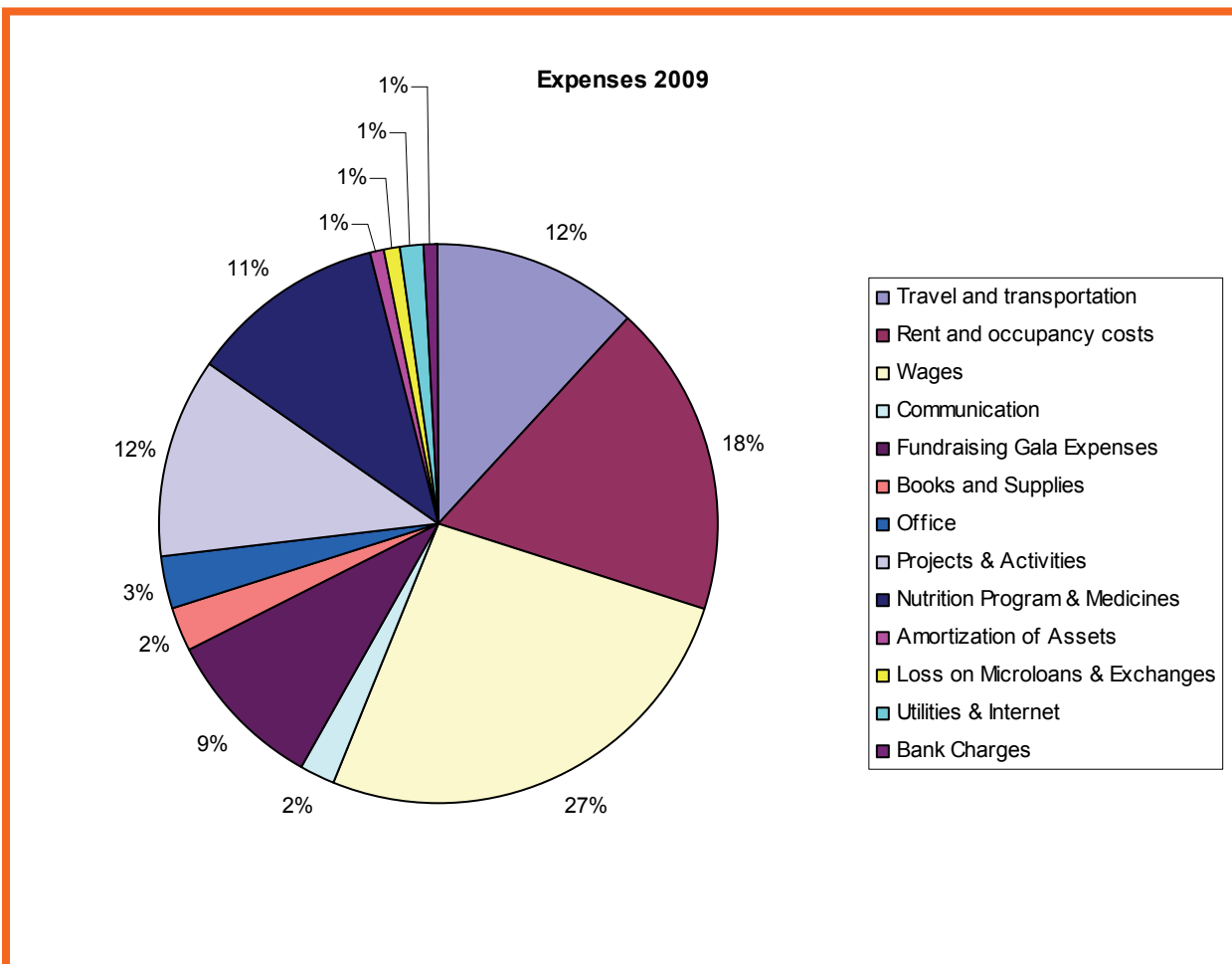
	2009	2008
ASSETS		
CASH IN HAND	11,286	17,417
Staff Advances	680	-
Micro Loans Receivable	3,486	3,529
Prepaid Expenses	750	-
Total Current Assets	32,207	26,543
Net Equipment	2,280	1,410
	<u>34,487</u>	<u>27,953</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	4,321	0
Unearned Revenue	3,640	0
	<u>7,961</u>	<u>0</u>
EQUITY		
Net Assets invested in equipment	2,280	1,410
Unrestricted net assets	24,246	26,543
Total Equity	26,526	27,953
	<u>34,487</u>	<u>27,953</u>



Statement of Operation



85% of revenues spent on charitable program in India. 15% of revenues spent on management and administration. There are **no** paid staff in Canada.



Volunteer Profile - Julie Hawkins

Once you have travelled to India, you understand how it can profoundly change you. What tugged at my heart the most in India, was all of the children. After my own personal adventure to India in 2005, I met Erica V, a recent volunteer at the school and she invited me to attend an annual fundraiser for One! International. I have been actively involved with One! since that fundraiser and in 2008, I was invited to be the Manager of Programs & Events.

My volunteer work takes place in Edmonton and I manage a team of extraordinary women and men who are enthusiastic, determined and severely dedicated. It is our role to ensure that enough funds are raised to support the operational costs, while maintaining the mission and core values of One!. We are a creative bunch and it is a privilege to work alongside such amazingly generous and thoughtful people.

My adventure in India had a rather profound affect on me personally. My father had passed away almost a year after I went to India. At the time I left, I was struggling to fill the void left in my life and resolve the anger that was consuming me. My feet were not on Indian soil for that long before spiritual and emotional changes started to happen. You can not go to India and not be profoundly moved by all the sites, sounds and smells. You suddenly feel very microscopic and so do any worries or burdens you are carrying around with you. I felt my father's presence with me, every single step I took. I knew...I needed to give back...I just didn't know then, that it would be with One! International.

My involvement with One! reminds me every single day, how blessed and fortunate I am to live this life. I am humbled every time I am able to have quiet moment with Tania. We can laugh together like school girls over some trashy reality show, and we can have deep insightful discussions about what she faces on a daily bases with the children and families in India. You cannot help but look at life differently after that.

In the near future it is my hope to return to India, only this time, to visit the schools, meet the children in person, hold their hands and to see first hand, what we all work so endlessly for. To see Tania in her element and to feel the change that I know, I have had a hand in making.

It is my absolute honor to be part of the One! family, it holds a very special place in my heart and I look forward to our future, together.



Our Thanks!

One! International would not have had the success it has had without the support and assistance of numerous individuals and organizations, both Canadian and world-wide.

Assistance and support has come in many ways:

- Give-A-Child-A-Chance Program
- Corporate and School Partners
- Fundraising activities such as: fundraising dinners, annual gala, silent auctions;
- Monetary donors
- Donations of school supplies, hygiene products, toys, books, gently used children's clothing, saris and numerous other items
- Legal and accounting services
- Organization management services
- Volunteer Board
- Staff and Volunteers in India
- Volunteers in Canada and other parts of the world
- Marketing strategies (newspaper, radio, TV)
- Moral support from family, friends and strangers
- Support from the Yoga Community

Respectfully submitted by,

Tania Spilchen
President/Founder of *One!* International Poverty Relief

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