

# One! International 2011 Annual Report



**Annual Trip to the Taj Mahal** 

#### Out 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.



I am the luckiest person alive. For 10 years I have not only had a job that gives me joy and satisfaction, but I have been surrounded by amazing people every step of the way.

Sponsors new and old giving not only financially but giving their hearts; sponsors who truly believe in the human spirit. Over 150 volunteers in India from more than 20 countries, sharing their energy and ideas towards achieving the same goal; being a catalyst for change. Over 40 Indian staff members giving beyond their wage and truly believing in One!. Canadian volunteers giving endlessly of their time and energy; tough work that often doesn't see immediate results.

Over 800 children, parents and others, who have shared a part of their lives with me. They have helped me to be a better person. Their perseverance, compassion and openness to learn, grow and change is what carries the dream forward and brings hope to each new day. Helping them through their tears and struggles and rejoicing in their smiles and successes are the essence of One!.

A new Emergency Medical Fund was born from a tragic situation. Kokila (14), one of the first 8 children that One! started with in 2001 was burned in a home stove accident and burned over 60% of her body. Had it not been for the generous support of the One! family, there is no doubt that Kokila would have died. Within 24 hours, the love that was shared for a young girl on the other side of the world was overwhelming. With the Emergency Medical Fund, we are ready to save many more children's lives.

One thing is for certain, my mantra "Every day is a new day!" will continue to be true. Every day is different and our One! family (both in India and in Canada and around the globe) will always amaze, shock and inspire us to press on in reaching our goals. Here's to another 10 years of success and fulfilment in knowing that we are doing what we can to truly make a difference in this beautiful and ever-changing world.



Tania Spilchen, Founder and President

#### Out Board and Management Team

The Board of Directors/ Management Team is maintained to ensure that the direction of One! International remains focused and positive, improving the future of children, women, and families in Mumbai, India. The Board is the 'voice' of all the donors and financial supporters. All major One! administrative decisions are reviewed and accepted by majority vote of the Board members.

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.

In January 2011, the Board, together with a volunteer group. Developed a new organizational structure to help with future planning and sustainability of the organization. An organizational structure, short and long term priorities approved by the board, are living documents forming the basis for the organization in India and Canada.

We are pleased to introduce you to our Board and Management Team.



Tania Spilchen
President / Founder, Director



Gordon Sustrik. Legal / Secretary, Director



Colleen Woltjen, Director



Lisbeth Overheu Chair, Director



Marilyn Spilchen Manager, Corporate Support



Julie Hawkins Manager, Canadian Operations

One! International is a volunteer organization working toward the betterment of impoverished street children and youth in Mumbai (Bombay), India. One! 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 women's' health are all supported by One!

One! International operates two schools, one in Khar Dhanda and one in Nallasopara. In 2011, One! assisted over 350 children and their families, with the help of 10 full time permanent employees and 10 part time employees in India; numerous volunteers living in India, and from countries all over the world; a volunteer Board of Directors/ Management Team in Canada; and an active volunteer Fundraising/ Marketing Committee in Canada. One! International does not have any paid staff working in Canada.

Through school/community presentations, One! International has a long term goal of educating/informing Canadian children about another country, India, and the One! children in Mumbai. By connecting with One! International, Canadian students can begin to understand the aims and aspirations of children from another country, develop a sense of appreciation for their own life in Canada, and gain satisfaction that they have an opportunity to help a peer in India.

# What We Do - Education Education

One! teaches all ages - from pre-Step (crèche group) to Step 10 (adulthood). Pre-Step children are taught play skills, pre-learning concepts, basic oral English and Hindi, hand-eye coordination, etc. Without this program, many of our older girls would not be able to attend school.

Older children are taught in Steps from 1 to 9, subjects such as Hindi, Mathematics, English, Geography, History, Science, Exercise, Ecological issues, and skills such as music, drama, painting, sewing, woodworking, cooking, and housekeeping. Full day classes are provided five days per week.

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 give them more options for employment. Children who show the aptitude for higher learning are tutored to prepare them for taking the Government Grade 10 exams. Young people who are successful in passing these exams will be able to gain admittance to college. One of our students has passed 4 out of the 5 necessary Grade 10 exams for graduation.

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#### Nutrition

The children in the crèche group get milk. All day students receive a banana in the morning if they are on time, biscuits at 12:00 and then a meal if they wish. The students pay Rs.1 for khichdi (lentils and rice mixed together), served twice a week, and Rs.2 for a dhal (lentils), rice, and vegetable dish, served three times a week. One! provides students with samosa pay on Saturdays.

The students are charged a fee for the food to teach them the importance of money and respect for the food. There are 3 families that are exempt from this fee as their parents are not able to support the children. Approximately 45 children take advantage of the daily meals.

#### Medical

Two senior experienced nurses from Canada completed a Health Needs Assessment of 216 children and 71 adults in the two One! International schools in Mumbai. Most of the assessments were done in Nallasopara, a community with very little access to any health services. The families were excited to have nurses helping them in the community. The nurses gave One! health and family history information and identified the major areas of concern that require follow-up or monitoring. What a fantastic opportunity for One! and its clients.

We are fortunate to have nurse volunteers going over to India from Canada on a fairly regular basis. The nurses will take on an identified health need to concentrate on during each trip. This program is coordinated by a long term volunteer nurse.

#### **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 a decrease in sickness amongst the families. Social work counseling is provided to the families in all areas of need. Referrals are made for any health related issues that the staff is unable to deal with.

#### Housing

One! provides some support and personal financial micro loans to families as they make the transition from temporary huts by the side of the road to permanent homes with walls and a roof made out of wood, access to electricity and water. Renting a permanent dwelling is a huge commitment for the families and involves a great desire to want to make the future more stable for their children.

#### 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.





#### Life Skills Development

During cooking class, a few of the older 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 have students building tables, chairs and cupboards and sewing backpacks. They are motivated to work hard as they are paid for the quality of their products.

Some of the older students are taught the basics of photography. One of the oldest boys took driving lessons. He was able to drive for the school and has a skill for future employment. Mothers who show a commitment to One! International, and whose children are regular attendees at school are given work for the organization as cleaners, child care providers, and teacher's aides. Older students are also trained to be teacher's aides, helpers at the school, and any other duties appropriate. Hard work and motivation are excellent life lessons for the children to learn and understand.

Sports activities are very important and are held multiple times throughout the year. They enhance team work, individual strength, and work ethic.

#### **Field Trips**

One! International volunteers and staff take the children and sometimes their parents on regular fieldtrips to the movies, the beach, the fair, a local park, or even just down the street to play games and have fun. Every field trip involves an educational component, a full meal at a local restaurant and a lot of smiles. The children learn to conduct themselves appropriately in social settings. Fieldtrips continue to be a reward for attendance at school, and an incentive for continued learning. Once a year, children who have shown commitment to learning are taken on an out-of-town field trip.

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

#### Kar Danda Report (Ek (One!)

Number of Children Registered - 85 Number of Children attending - 65-75 Overall attendance percentage - 80% Number of parents involved - 48

Of the children attending, half of them have a near perfect attendance record. The other half attend irregularly depending on weather conditions and festivals. We also have children under school age and over school age that we provide medical attention and counselling too. We are currently caring for over 120 children.

May and November are 'art' months where the children have a chance to learn acting, singing, dancing and art. All areas are taught in both Hindi and English, so not only is it a lot of fun, it is a great opportunity to work on the children's diction and pronunciation. The children also gain confidence from a performance of what they have prepared that occurs at the end of each month.

#### Volunteer experience:

"On my first day at Khar school I was really nervous, would the children like me? Would the teachers like me? Would I be good enough at teaching the subjects? Would anyone understand me? It turned out my teaching abilities surprised me, I felt like although I was not there for very long I definitely noticed improvements in the children's English language and even in the teacher's! The children are the funniest, liveliest, most loving children I have ever met. Despite making my job difficult at times (like any children/teenagers) having strops and getting frustrated, most of the time they were so excited about learning it warmed my heart and made me even more determined to leave my mark on the school. I'm not sure now that I did do that but I hope the children look back and if they do remember me that they remember me fondly as I do of them." -- Lu

# Nallasopara Report Ek Asha (One! Hope), Partnership with Children's Hope (India) Inc.

Number of Children Registered: 225 Number of Children Attending: 190 Overall Attendance Percentage: 75% Number of parents involved - 80 Number of staff - 8

Number of staff - 8 Number of client staff - 5

We have three groups of students in Nallasopara:

- 1. Students who attend our school in the morning and go to another school in the afternoon.
- 2. Students who only attend our school.
- 3. Students who go to another school in the morning and attend our school in the afternoon.

The morning session is divided into PreStep plus 8 Steps and the afternoon session is divided into PreStep plus 7 steps. On any given day, approximately 90 children attend in the morning session and 95 in the afternoon session.

Currently we have 8 teaching rooms, a PreStep Room, an Exercise room, an Office and a Kitchen.

We started a new health class with Step 5, 6, 7 & 8 afternoon students. The morning students already had health in their schedule. Our health classes are formatted like a discussion so the students feel free to engage and ask questions about personal issues.

We have been offering full day school for the students that study only at our school. We now have 15 students attending full day.

Three of our students are being trained for the Government Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination (Grade 10). We have added more practical experiments to every topic in our Science syllabus, and we find our students more creative and attentive in their practical studies.

#### Volunteer experience:

"I am at loss of words from the brief volunteering I did. The memories and the gratitude will last a life time. I still marvel at the genuine affection and intelligence of the children who became not only my students but also my friends and companions who were there to help and offer encouragement at any time. One of the things I appreciated the most about this trip was that I felt that I learned more than I thought. More than the Math and the English I taught, the perseverance and the genuine happiness they shared with me taught me something I could never learn from any teacher, parent, or even a chemistry test. I would really like to thank you for this once in a lifetime opportunity. You have opened my eyes unlike any other thing I have witnessed before. I look forward to working and sharing that wondrous experience again in the near future." — Anjan

Before Manda joined One! in 2001, she was a very distant little girl and quite shy. She didn't seem confident in herself and was greatly influenced by her older brothers. Once she joined One!, Manda worked very hard. She wrote very diligently and spent the time to get things right. She wouldn't give up until she understood, and accomplished what she sets out to do. She was the first to be able to recognize and write all of the Devangari script (the script for the national language Hindi). She was the first to finish her workbook - much to the chagrin of her best friends. Manda had great potential if she was determined and stayed positive.

In 2010 after Manda was married and moved to village, Manda continued to come and go, back and forth between the village and Mumbai. Every time she went to the village, it wouldn't be long before her parents received a phone call from her - crying and clearly unhappy. For the first few times they ran to take care of their daughter, but later they became slightly detached. They wanted Manda to make a choice and a clear decision. Family abuse is still all too common in the villages of India.

When she visited Mumbai, Manda attended school to watch movies, hang out with her friend and help out wherever she could. Manda has certainly matured in the last year and seemed more stable. Manda gave birth to a little girl - Tejal - at the end of May 2010. All accounts show that Manda is a good mother. She brought her daughter to the One! school at Kar to meet her One! family.

Manda obtained basic literacy, and learned how to cook and clean for herself and a family. We think that Manda also learned about options for change and the importance of education. We think that Manda will have great expectations of her daughter's education when the time comes, and that she will celebrate her daughter's accomplishments, just as we celebrate the woman Manda has become.

#### **Accolades**

Excerpts from an article "One! International turns 10" in the January 28, 2011 Sherwood Park News http://www.sherwoodparknews.com/2011/01/27/one-international-turns-10

"Ten years ago, a Sherwood Park resident went out into the world with hopes of helping India's youth, and now, a decade worth of accomplishments are being celebrated.

Saturday, One! International's 10-year Anniversary will be celebrated through an elaborate gala which will include a dinner, presentations, Indian entertainment, and more."

Congratulations to One! International on the 10th anniversary of 'one' heart helping 'one' hand, working toward 'one' world 'one' step at a time.

#### Children's Hope (India) Inc. http://www.childrenshopeindia.org

Children's Hope (India) Inc. (CHI) is a New York-based organization of professional women which supports the cause of underprivileged children both in India and the U.S. One! has entered into a partnership with CHI to support and fund the Nallasopara school - Ek Asha.

#### **Schools**

One! International has an ongoing partnership with Wes Hosford Elementary School, Sherwood Park, Alberta, which holds an annual fundraiser collecting supplies and money for the children in India.

The Westfield Primary School in Radstock, England, has entered into an ongoing partnership with One! International to improve the understanding, on both sides, of the respective schools and cultures.

#### Grant MacEwan Community University - http://www.macewan.ca

The Global Education Fund granted money to help bring computer literacy to the teachers, staff and students in our two schools. Computers and printers have been purchased for both schools

#### Yoga Studios in Alberta and British Columbia

We have a great partnership with various Yoga Studios - Sherwood Park, Edmonton, Calgary, Canmore, and Vancouver.

- Yoga Passage sponsors eight children.
- Yoga Within sponsors a table at our annual gala. One of the teachers donated proceeds from a special event, Age of Aquarius, to One! International.
- Ashtanga Yoga http://www.ashtangayoga.ca/ sponsors a child through Give-a-Child-a-Chance.
- Yoga For Today sponsors one child and sponsors a table at the gala.
- Yoga Lounge sponsors two children and carries out other fundraising activities.
- Moksha Yoga sponsored a Karma day.
- K. Richardson Yoga in Whistler sponsored a Karma day.

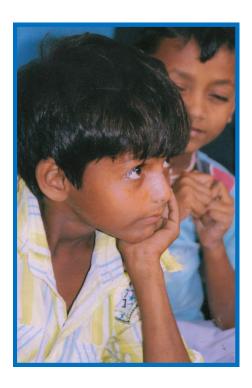
#### CanadaHelps.Org - http://www.canadahelps.org

CanadaHelps is a non-profit organization that helps other grassroots and larger charities in Canada receive donations via Credit Card. One! is ecstatic to ease the process for its supporters who can now donate over the web through the fantastic work of CanadaHelps.

**Mahatma Gandhi Foundation For World Peace** – Edmonton http://www.gandhi.ca This organization donated dollars for art supplies and sponsored an art contest for the students in India who drew pictures of what world peace meant to them. They always support the annual Gala by buying a table.

Livia Stoyke Foundation - http://www.livia.ca/new/index.aspx?aspxerrorpath=/Index.aspx
This Edmonton based foundation formed to honour Livia Stoyke, supports Women and Children's Issues, Arts, Environment, and Outdoor activities. The Foundation agreed to sponsor a Prenatal/Health Program.

British Columbia Model United Nations
Association - http://www.bcmun.ca/
British Columbia Model United Nations or
BCMUN was founded in 2009 by a high school student, Anjan Katta, in British Columbia,
Canada, in the hopes of providing Model United Nations opportunities to all the youth of BC.
Anjan Katta was the author of one of the volunteer quotes used above. This organization raised over \$6,000 for One! International to be used for teachers salaries in India.



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

#### Give a Child-a-Chance Program (GCC)

The GCC program helps to provide weekly meals, sporting activities, tutoring education, counseling for families and the children, encouragement to improve life circumstances, and support as required. Donations for sponsored children are used to provide for the needs of all the children of One! International. Most of all, the children are given love and hope - a chance for a better future!

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

Giving a chance to a child is only \$30 (CDN) or the equivalent thereof. In 2011, we are pleased to announce that there were 87 children who were sponsored for part or all of the year through the GCC program. Donations may be sent online through http://one-international.com/programs/gcc

#### Buy A Brick- Build the Future Campaign

One! International currently teaches 220 children in a rented Nallasopara School, and there is scope to grow exponentially every year. With landlords exploiting tenants and not providing the required maintenance and upgrades, One! constantly struggles to balance the needs of the children, the rising costs and the need for adequate teaching space. One! International has chosen to build a future for the children.

With your generous assistance, in its 10th anniversary year, One! International would like to purchase 2000 sq. ft. of land and build a 1000 sq. ft. school – to meet immediate needs, and with ample room for expansion. It is estimated that the cost of the land and school will be approximately \$50,000, which is the goal of One! International's "Buy a Brick - Build the Future" Campaign.

Through generous donations from people at the 2011 Gala, One! was able to raise just over \$10,000 towards the goal.

#### **Step Sponsorship Program**

The Step Sponsorship Program provides operational funding for the One! International school in Khar Danda, Mumbai. Current annual operational costs for the school, rent and the staff's salary are \$15,636, which works out to approximately \$1,500 per step. The school functions on a 10-step program, where a step is a grade. With the Step Sponsorship Program, corporate donations help to cover the operational costs of a single step classroom.

An annual contribution of \$1,500 per step establishes a connection between two incredibly different worlds and creates a foundation for a relationship - not just a donation. Step Program sponsors will receive recognition on the One! Website and an engraved plaque with a photograph from the children.

One of the Kar steps was sponsored in this new program in 2011. For information contact: stepsponsorship@one-international.com

#### **Operational Support**

Operating costs are expenses incurred in carrying out our day-to-day activities. Operating expenses include such items as: food, medicine, teacher's salaries, rent, transportation, sports activities, and travel. The program asks for a commitment of \$50 per month.

#### **Emergency Medical Relief**

Dedicated to providing urgently needed medical attention/supplies whenever they are required to help reduce death and suffering. This program was started in 2011 following a tragic situation in late 2010 when one of One! International's first children was badly burned in a propane accident. The One! International family of sponsors were incredibly generous in providing additional support and money. This young lady's life was saved. It was decided to maintain the program as a sponsorship fund.

#### Make a Difference

#### **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 2011 volunteers came to us from: Canada, United States, England, Norway, Germany, Sweden, and Malaysia.

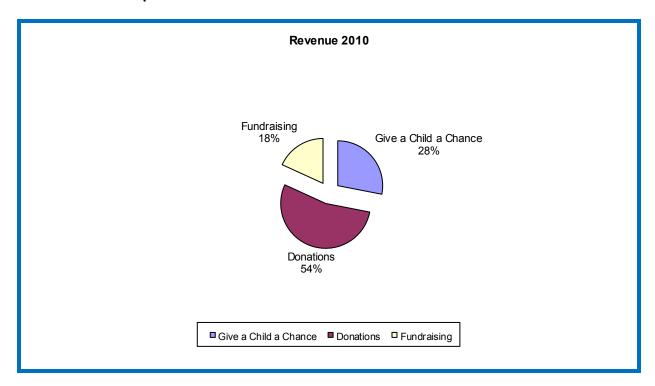
Volunteers in India are responsible for assisting the children to grow academically, as well as in areas of personal health, sporting activities, creative play, and learning about future opportunities for themselves and their families. Typical duties of a volunteer include teaching classes – usually to the younger children (basic hygiene, basic English, Mathematics, how to play, share and prepare properly for tasks). Volunteers also help with organizational duties, activities such as drama, art, meals, field trips, and other duties as required.

Applications for volunteering in India have continued to be received on a regular basis. Although not all volunteer/organization relationships are completely positive, the greater majority of the volunteers become very committed to the work being done by the organization, and to the children. Many volunteer for a second or third time, and many continue to support in financial ways for years following their experience.

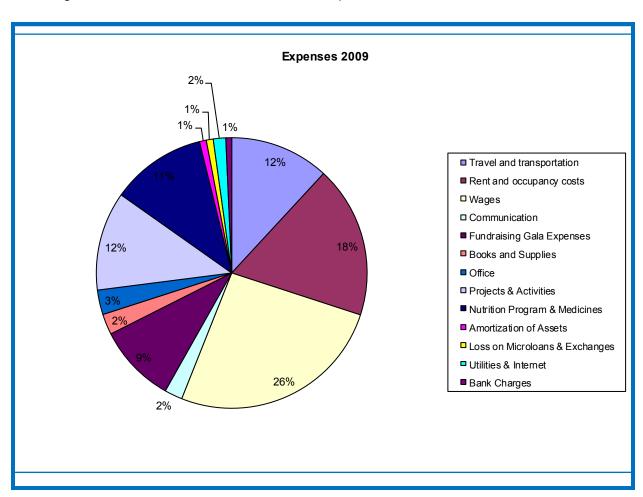


Our Emergency Medical Relief fund saved her life!

	2044 (4)	2242 (4)
	2011 (\$)	2010 (\$)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash	33,366	19,472
Staff advances	2,313	1,245
Loans and notes receivable (Note: 4)	2,605	2,828
Prepaid expenses (Note: 3)	<u>13,426</u>	<u>9,957</u>
Total Current Assets	51,710	33,502
Property and equipment, net of accumulated amortization (Note: 2b, 3a)(Note 2), (Note b), (Note 4) and (Note a)	2,210	1,509
Total Assets	53,920	35,011
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Deferred revenue (Note: 5)	5,549	9,920
Total Current Liabilities	5,549	11,570
Total Liabilities	5,549	11,570
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets	2,210	1,509
Operating funds	46,161	21,932
Total Net Assets	48,371	23,441
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	53,920	35,011



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



## Statement of Financial Position

	2011 (\$)	2010(\$)
Revenue		
Donations	75,572	45,716
Fundraising	35,836	19,140
Give a child a chance - sponsorship program	18,478	27,034
Grants	2,381	-
Total revenue	132,267	91,890
Operating expenses		
Amortization of tangible assets	656	771
Children's Nutrition Program	6,817	7,475
Electricity	744	1,021
Fundraising expenses	13,527	12,823
Interest and bank charges	1,746	1,292
Medical expenses	18,479	1,623
Micro loan losses & exchange	823	681
Office expenses	3,323	1,800
Rent	16,404	18,314
Salaries and wages	23,173	23,381
Supplies	11,674	13,113
Telecommunications	886	1,591
Travel expenses	9,085	11,090
Total operating expenses	107,337	94,975
Excess (deficiency) of Revenue over Expenses	24,930	(3,085)

## Statement of Financial Position

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	2011 (\$)	2010 (\$)
Net Assets - Beginning of the year	21,932	24,246
Invested in capital assets	2,210	1,509
Transfer into capital assets	(701)	772
Net income (loss)	24,930	(3,086)
Net Assets - End of the Year	\$ 48,371	\$ 23,441



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.

Here are some unique ways that people have supported *One!* International:

- Local Edmonton artist Mavis Wilkinson volunteered to give *One!* International one half of her sales at the Just (Justice at Christmas) Christmas 2011.
- Grade Three from Wes Hosford Elementary School in Sherwood Park raised money for One! by selling cupcakes at school. They also gathered over 400 tooth-care products for One!
- Children from two different families in Vancouver joined children from families in Ottawa, Edmonton and Sherwood Park, to donate money (or product) to One! in lieu of receiving birthday gifts.

Assistance and support has come to *One!* International in many ways:

- Volunteer Board
- Staff and Volunteers in India
- Volunteers in Canada and other parts of the world
- Give-A-Child-A-Chance donors
- Corporate and School Partners
- Supporters of fundraising dinners, annual gala, silent auctions
- Monetary donors
- · Gifts in kind
- Legal and accounting services
- Organization management services
- Marketing strategies (newspaper, radio, TV)
- Support from the Yoga Community
- Moral support from family, friends and strangers

Thank you for giving One! your love and support throughout the year. Together we can make a difference in this world – 'one' step at a time.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tania Spilchen
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