

Partnership Foundation Newsletter — May 2010

The ambition of the Partnership Foundation is to improve the living environment and future prospects of street children (girls) in India. The Rainbow Home program offers them permanent accommodation in existing school buildings, food, clothing, medical care, guardianship, education, recreation and help with reintegration.

News in brief

1. In Hyderabad, with the cooperation of the government, 8 Rainbow Homes have now opened, offering 350 former street children a new start in life.
2. There are currently 16 Rainbow Homes: 6 in Calcutta, 2 in New Delhi and 8 in Hyderabad, with a total of 1500 children. We hope by the end of 2010 to have 20 Rainbow Homes with 2000 children.
3. Sacha de Boer visited the Rainbow Homes in New Delhi and Calcutta, accompanied by, amongst others, WE Fashion CEO, Wouter Kolk. She's made a wonderful photo reportage that you can preview at www.partnershipfoundation.nl/nl under 'news'
4. Harsh Mander, our partner and the driving force behind the growth in the number of Rainbow Homes in New Delhi and Hyderabad, has been invited by Sonia Gandhi to join the prestigious National Advisory Council, which currently has 10 members. This committee, unofficially referred to by many as the 'shadow government', has the task of making things happen around the legislative reforms concerning poverty, street children, hunger, medical care and other social issues.
5. The total amount raised from collection points at Schiphol Airport for Partnership Foundation's Rainbow Home project was announced in January at €115,000. Our heartfelt thanks to the Schiphol Group!
6. Sponsor Net4kids Aid Foundation, together with fashion company G-Star, visited the Rainbow Homes in Hyderabad last March.
7. Marcel Peijs, director corporate clients at ING Bank, has joined the Partnership Foundation team as financial manager.

We regularly receive questions about the project, so we decided to put together this list of FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

1. Why was it decided to accommodate street children in existing school buildings?

First, this allows in an unforced manner the integration of the street children with more privileged children, because they attend school together. Secondly, it offers the possibility for a large-scale solution for street children: there are countless schools in both large and small towns and cities that — after 2pm, during the evenings, at night, at weekends and during school holidays — stand empty. Costs are low, staff are used to working with children, and most schools have good administrative and reporting systems.

2. How do things work regarding any family members or relatives?

Where (non-destructive) family relationships still exist, the policy is to maintain and improve these where possible. To this end, relatives may visit children in the Rainbow Homes and the children may

spend time with members of their family. We do watch out for any risk of exploitation, such as when children are encouraged by family members to (return to) begging or other work activities not conducive to their well-being or future prospects.

3. How, in such a large-scale operation, do the children get the attention they need?

In every Rainbow Home, there is 24-hour care for all the children from a team of house mothers, who are in turn supervised by a Home Manager. In addition, the older girls look after the youngest, as is the custom in India. In Rainbow Homes with large numbers of children, sub-groups are established, with older girls appointed as 'captains' or 'vice-captains'. They spot when someone is missing, ill, or needing extra help, and tell the staff. Finally, each child has its own file, in which all the details are kept on how they're getting on at school, their health and their personal development. Partnership Foundation receives an annual progress report on each child who has been in a Rainbow Home for more than half a year.

4. How does Partnership Foundation operate in The Netherlands?

Since its founding in 2002, Partnership Foundation has operated as a 100% volunteer organization with a board of directors, management team and advisory board (see below for members' details). The costs therefore remain very low, so that virtually all income is available for the project in India. Fundraising focuses mainly on individuals and foundations, often founded by entrepreneurs or companies. The standard funding proposal is to finance one or more Rainbow Homes over several years. Partnership Foundation provides a detailed budget, individual child assessments, two newsletters a year from each Rainbow Home, and an annual auditor's report from the Indian offices of Deloitte or KPMG. www.partnershipfoundation.nl also keeps those interested up-to-date on developments.

5. What's the Indian government's role in respect of the Rainbow Home program?

In Calcutta, the 6 Rainbow homes are located in private schools, in New Delhi and Hyderabad in (currently 10) public schools. The Indian government allows Rainbow Homes to be set up in these schools, pays a (small) contribution towards each child's educational costs, and in many cases an additional contribution towards making the school suitable for permanent residence. The District Collector in Hyderabad, Navin Mittal, has made huge efforts for the Rainbow Home programme, and as a result it is in Hyderabad we have seen the fastest growth in recent years.

6. What plans does Partnership Foundation have for the Future?

A. The opening of 4 new Rainbow Homes in 2010, of which 1 in Bangalore. By the end of 2011, our aim is to have 25 Rainbow Homes with 2,500 children. By 2018, our goal is 50 Rainbow Homes with 10,000 children on the program, across the 10 largest cities in India.

B. To strengthen the local organization in India, especially the national coordination of the Rainbow Home program. We have made a start with the setting-up of the Rainbow Academy. The most important tasks include: strengthening the quality of education and personal guidance of the children, streamlining the administrative procedures and making a start on fundraising in India itself.

C. To promote the Rainbow Home model as a State Intervention Model for street children in India. Partly to this end, independent research has been launched by the Tata Institute of Social Science in Mumbai, the results of which are expected in early 2011.

D. The gradual transfer of the management of the Rainbow Home program to India. When opportunities arise, to promote the Rainbow Home model in countries outside India.

Who is who at Partnership Foundation NL ?

Board

- Theo Gerritsen, treasurer—financial lawyer, for 30 years partner at Deloitte Tax in Arnhem
- Hans van der Holst, secretary — director of Finles Capital Management
- Prof. Koos van der Velden, board member — Professor of Public Health, Radboud University Nijmegen
- Franci Wessels, board member — marketing specialist, former strategy director, Ogilvy Group
- Ferd van Koolwijk, founder and chair — management consultant in Driebergen

Management Team

- Michiel Steeman, director — director business development at ING Lease
- Marcel Peijs, financial manager — director corporate clients at ING Bank
- Maurice Unck, deputy director — director business- and product development, NS (Dutch Railways)

Ambassadors

- Sacha de Boer — anchorwoman, NOS (Dutch state broadcaster) news, and photographer
- Prof. Gerlach Cerfontaine — until 2009 CEO and President of the Schiphol Group, Professor of Corporate Governance, Maastricht University.
- Paul Rosenmöller — former leader of the Dutch Green Party, program maker for IKON TV

**With best wishes,
Partnership Foundation,**

Ferd van Koolwijk, chair; Michiel Steeman, director; and Maurice Unck, deputy director

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