

We care and we know you do too.



Who are we?

We are SKCV Children's Trust; a registered charity dedicated to helping street children rebuild their lives. SKCV was founded by Matthew Norton, the son of a Cheshire GP. Matthew has been working to ease the desperate plight of India's forgotten street children for almost 20 years. He is now an Indian citizen and is recognised as one of the foremost experts in this field.

SKCV stands for Street Kids' Community Villages because that is what we do; we provide homes for destitute children in a community village. We are based in Vijayawada, a large city in south India where 22,000 children live literally on the streets, railways stations and in shanty towns.

Our work has been recognised by the Indian and UK Governments, the British Overseas Development Agency and international charities such as Water Aid.

We belong to the Consortium for Street Children and the Railway Children Federation. We work with a number of other NGOs to develop new ways of supporting street children and we have published a unique manual to be used by those working with street children anywhere in the world.

www.skcv.org

How can you help?

Donating - clearly our biggest need is for money to pay for our work, and any individual donation is gratefully received. You can send a cheque or postal order direct to SKCV at the address below, or you can make a donation on-line at our UK website: www.skcvuk.plus.com. You can also make a regular donation through payroll giving; contact us for details.

Fundraising - Could you organise an event to raise funds for SKCV? There are many different ways of doing this from boot fairs to gala nights at the local cinema. Many people are not able to make a personal donation, but are able to make a major contribution by volunteering in this way. Contact us if you would like more ideas.

Being a multiplier - share your enthusiasm and concern with others who might be in a position to support us. Could your friends, family, club, pub, work place, church or study group adopt SKCV for a year?

Printer Cartridge Recycling - Save all your inkjet and laser cartridges and send them to us for recycling, we receive hard cash in return. Prepaid envelopes are available from us to facilitate and we can arrange for bulk collection from schools, offices or shops.

For more information on all of these ways of showing that you care, contact our UK Director, Matthew Reed, at the address below. Background information and resources for fundraisers are available on our website.

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SKCV Children's Trust is a registered charity,
number 1038063

WHO CARES?



Street Kids' Community Villages

Reclaiming a childhood - Building a future

How do we operate?

Street children need more than just a roof over their heads and medical care. They need a permanent alternative to the street. That's why we give them not just a home but an education. We want them to have the kinds of choices we would all want for our own children.

Contact is usually made with the children through outreach workers on the railway and bus stations, and in other places where they congregate. Our night shelter provides medical, legal and personal advice, as well as food and safe accommodation. Once they have started to rebuild their lives they can move to our purpose built village community, Prema Vihar. Girls are looked after at our Bala Prema centre.



All children are encouraged to enrol into our school, which has a specially designed informal curriculum, or to join one of our vocational training courses. Our children sit official examinations and receive recognised certificates which help them to find jobs. Several have gone to university and gained degrees.

Some older children start up their own businesses, while others elect to stay with us and help us in our work with children like themselves.



Why should you help us?

We know that we are not a household name. We appreciate that there are many other worth while claims on your time and generosity.

All we say to you is that we are working to make a real, practical difference. Our administration costs are very low because we focus our work closely on the needs of the children, with much of the work done by unpaid volunteers. We promise that we will use your donation, whether money or time, to directly benefit the many thousands of children who so desperately need our help.

We believe that every child is precious, every child has the right to be loved and cared for and with your help, we can pluck many more from poverty and hopelessness.

***With your help
we can offer them a real future.***

Profile of street children

Street children may be orphans or may have been abandoned by cruel or poverty-stricken parents. Many have escaped from violence or abuse, but they may simply have run away to find a better life which they wrongly believe awaits them in the cities.

What does await them is disease and malnutrition. Many become hooked on drugs and drink, while others steal to survive. Some attempt to earn money by picking rags for recycling from the dirty streets and railway stations that serve as their homes. Others act as shoe-shiners, hotel porters or tea-shop boys, fetching and carrying for men who often beat them. Many children are robbed of their paltry wages by unscrupulous employers.

All have learned to distrust adults and are wary of anyone who offers to help them. Ironically, they see life on the streets as safe.

***Winning back the trust of children
like these takes time, patience
and understanding.***

It costs us just 36p to feed an ex-street child for a day.

£14 will pay for all the typical medical costs for one child for a whole year.

For only £200 a month we can provide specialist schooling for 75 children.