

Girls off the Street

Country: Bangladesh

Category: Education—Community

Project number: 98336

Need March 10: \$12,207



The jewellery training day was a huge success!

↓ **This project provides a holistic ministry in Dhaka city for street women, and those involved in the sex trade. This ministry includes a drop-in-centre, training in life skills and character development, and counselling for those with traumatic life experiences. Opportunities for vocational training are also offered. The project provides a safe haven for these young people, including sanitary washing facilities, and affirming educational opportunities, like literacy, in order to build their confidence.**

Note: This project was previously known as the Children's Uplift Programme.

↓ **Update from Project Manager, Beth, April 2010.**

Jasmine, a homeless mum of two, would make beaded jewellery whenever she was able to get hold of the resources. Project staff saw what she had made, started to support Jasmine in making this jewellery and found individuals interested in buying it. Some other mothers became interested and Jasmine, with the help and encouragement, started training them to make jewellery.

For two months there were only three mothers who were regularly making jewellery and a couple others who sometimes showed an interest. When you watch children learning to beg from their mothers and girls following their mothers into the sex industry, the importance of providing mothers with alternative

employment for the wellbeing of their children is very apparent! So we decided to organise a training day for interested mothers. On the 6th October a member of staff and two mothers who regularly make jewellery ran the training day.

Eight mothers were trained, while two other mothers helped look after the children. After months of watching fights and name calling, it was wonderful to see them sitting together, teaching and learning from each other!



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PO Box 42 Penshurst NSW 2222 Tel: (02) 8568 8890
ABN 43 484 030 223

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Contact: Juanita Manahan - Project Promotions Manager simaid@sim.org.au