

Helping

If you believe in our work, the odds are you will have decided to support our work financially – this is amazing, thank you (If you haven't given personally yet and would like to, please visit <http://www.street-child.co.uk/donate.php>).

However, for all of us, however wealthy we may (or may not!) be, there is probably a ceiling to what we feel we can give . . . The good news however, is that our capacity to help is not limited to personally giving – in fact -

THE BIGGEST HELP MOST PEOPLE CAN GIVE, ON TOP OF THEIR OWN GIVING, IS TO INTRODUCE MORE PEOPLE TO STREET CHILD, WHO WILL HOPEFULLY FEEL INSPIRED TO INVEST THEMSELVES – AND THEN EVEN MAY BE INSPIRED TO GET MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED THEMSELVES, AND ON, AND ON . . .

1. The power of your network!

Studies have shown that one of the main reasons people give or get involved with a charity is **because someone they trust or respect has asked** them to . . .

- Who can you spread the word to?
- Who can you forward this web-site to?
- Who can you invite to one of our 'introductory evenings'?
- Could you even hold an event of your own, or co-host it with some friends and tell people about Street Child – or ask Tom or one of the Street Child team down to do the talking for you (any time, any place, to any number – he'll be there!)
- Could you do a little talk at work, at your place of worship, at school or university, or at any club or society you belong to – or again, invite Tom or one of the team to do it for you?

Friends? Family? Colleagues?

2. Institutions that give

It certainly doesn't have to be just individuals, we all know some of the major donors to charities are institutions . . .

Does your work give to charity?

- Many companies do give away a certain level of their profits – and prefer to give to charities staff members have real links with . . .
- Or others agree to match (or part match) donations from staff members
- Or allow for pay-roll giving . . .

Does your school, university, place of worship or society give money away to charity?

- Many do – and again, they often favour

Do you know of any other institution or business which gives money away?

- There are all sorts of public and private foundations out there who like to give money away . . .
- Again many prefer a recommendation from someone close to them; others are just open to a really good idea, others draw up criteria which we just might fit!
- So please have a think!

3. Raise funds

- Sponsored this, sponsored that – it doesn't have to be a marathon! What could you, or you and a group of friends, do to raise money for Street Child?
 - Or do you just know someone doing something impressive who doesn't yet have a charity in mind?
 - Run an event! Why not? It might seem a big ask but rope some friends in, get inspired, do something fun and it will be a blast! And we will help in the office with whatever you want.
 - You could
 - Run a charity auction
 - Just have people round for dinner or drinks
 - Wine-tastings are always popular . . .
 - Think of something more original!
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4. Give time – Specialist skill

- Do you have a professional or specialist skill that would make a difference to our work raising funds and governing a charity in the UK; or working with children in Sierra Leone –
 - For our UK charity work: IT, marketing, promotional, administrative, accountancy . . . all these can improve our work.
 - For our SL children's work: child specialist, medical, planning, development, teaching, sports, audit ... all of these skills can strengthen our work.
 - Take a peep at our UK team page (<http://www.street-child.co.uk/uk.php>) to see how volunteers are using their professional skills to drive our work. We'd love you to join the team!
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5. Give time – generally!

- There are some tasks in life, you need an expert for – and some for which let's face it – you don't really! These range from the seriously basic (envelope stuffing?!) – to the fairly skilled (say cooking at an event – it requires skill, many of us don't have it, but it is pushing the boat out to call it specialist!)
 - There are always loads of these little things – so if you have some time to burn, please get in touch and invest it with us!
 - Just in April 2009 volunteers have:
 - Shaken buckets at the London marathon – time, a smile and a small dose of chutzpah required only.
 - Counted money raised in the buckets . . .
 - Proof-read documents like this one!
 - Prepared canapés, served drinks, washed up or hosted at our launch events
 - Loaned and set up equipment for our launch events
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Finally: Your ideas

The above are only just our ideas. What are your ideas? What could we do different?

Moreover, you know yourself best. You know what you can offer. And you know roughly what we are trying to achieve – so actually the very best person to suggest what might be best for you to do, is quite probably you!

To progress your idea, contact Tom any time.

He will be delighted to hear from you.

Getting people involved and taking the work forwards together, maximising all our talent, time resources is just what this is all about

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