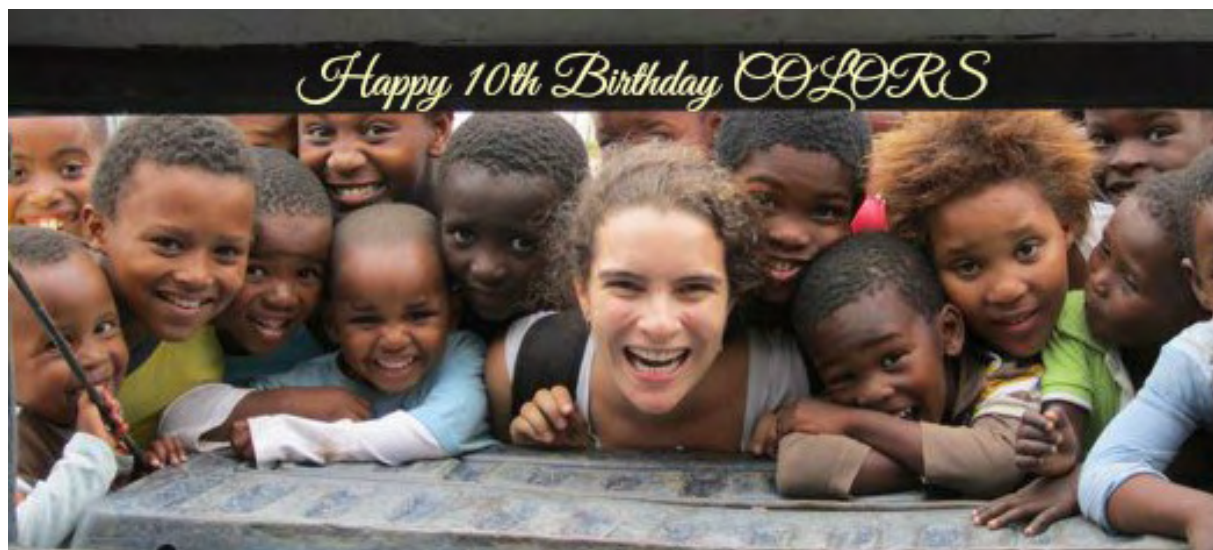




# Project Colors International

~ 2014 A Year in Action ~

## The Project COLORS International Society



### **Project COLORS is proudly celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> birthday**

Project COLORS, (The Children's Overseas Learning Opportunities and Resource Society) has expanded from its humble beginnings, as it now works globally as people from all around the world have contributed and partnered on its projects. In countries like the Dominican Republic, Sri Lanka, Madagascar, Costa Rica and South Africa; pre-schools have been built, youth have been sponsored to fulfil their dreams of education, small businesses have been created, immune boosting nutrition programs have been created for toddlers, as well as shoes and many other necessities delivered. Additionally, first aid kits and educational supplies have been distributed globally to schools and children's homes. Even street dogs have been rescued and found homes throughout the world.

Project COLORS has a board of directors, but its main coordinator and Founding Director is Sunyata Choyce. She has dedicated her last ten years to improving the lives of people globally. She believes in the ability of each of us to make a difference by putting our ideas and thoughts into positive action. Each of us has the ability to make a difference.



## WHO WE ARE

Project COLORS is a small non-profit aid organization committed to uplifting children, families, animals and communities around the globe. We operate by maximizing the reach of your goodwill and donations—no frills, no fluff and no unnecessary organizational overhead, thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers.

## WHAT WE DO

Project COLORS embraces a holistic approach to international aid and development, supporting community-based, grassroots projects, plus directly leading capacity-building efforts to enhance sustainability. We believe that all of us have the power to enable positive change. Whether it's a big or small act of kindness - a nutritional feeding program in a small African community, delivering lifesaving first aid kits to pre-schools and children's homes globally, rescuing a puppy, teaching youth how to start their own NGO or coordinating training workshops for single mothers - it's an effort worth undertaking. We design our projects to "fill in the gap," addressing what's truly needed in each individual situation, while working in partnership with those who really need us. Overall, COLORS strives to inspire all people to become "*agents of change*" in their own communities as well as internationally.

## OUR CORE FOCUS

- **Taking a holistic and practical approach to development:** Project COLORS has helped to guide and grow small community-based projects in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, South Africa, Madagascar and Sri Lanka towards sustainability and prosperity. They have also provided aid supplies through traveling volunteers to over 100 countries and assistance projects in the last 10 years.
- **Healthy Spaces and Learning Minds:** Providing support for struggling independent childcare centre and foster homes not only by renovating their spaces but providing resources targeting: nutrition, medical, dental, hygiene and education.
- **Tiny Tummies Feeding Project:** Provides toddlers with immune building nutrition.
- **Animals and environment:** Helping injured/orphaned wildlife and street dogs plus supporting others that do this work has always been a passion for COLORS. Teaching children and community members to respect animals and the environment through hands-on participation. For example: teaching about recycling, neutering dogs, rehabilitating baby birds and leading by example have all played vital roles in all the communities we have worked in.
- **Youth:** Opportunities for youth to learn how to make a difference in their own countries and abroad-- assisting youth globally with social/professional development through training programs, confidence building workshops, resume and donation letter writing, volunteerships, mentorships and educational sponsorships.
- **Capacity and Skill Building:** Conveying resources and supplies that improve and grow existing projects while bringing together skilled professionals to volunteer and pass on skills.
- **Consulting and Networking:** Teaching youth how to start an NGO, conference presentations, workshops and facilitations.

## SOUTH AFRICA

**Basic Health Care Assistance - First Aid Kit Program:** Distributed first aid kit and basic health information to rural schools and children's homes to use as a vital resource. Local doctors and volunteers Sunyata, Jessie, Stefy and Monika train the grandmothers and childcare staff how to properly use the first aid kits donated to them and teach them how to recognize some of the basic childhood illnesses and issues they may come across in their work such as dehydration, malnutrition, and wound management, signs of TB or HIV.

- First aid kits delivered to small preschools and foster homes.
- Teachers were trained by medical staff.
- We followed this project up with refills for the kits (hand sanitizers, wound sprays, Band-Aids etc.)
- 1<sup>st</sup> aid in a bottle wound spray.

**Dental:** Tooth brushes and tooth paste supplied to 3 preschools every 6 months.

**E'Pap Feeding Program:** Thanks to volunteers Jaco and Mies based on South Africa, our Tiny Tummies program is growing strong as always. 100 children are feed immune boosting breakfast "E'Pap" 5 days a week at our sponsored pre-schools.

The kids now have an "E'Pap" song they sing when volunteer deliver this very important meal. The E'Pap feeding mixture is rich in zinc, iron, protein, calories in addition to vital vitamins, and minerals making it not only good for proper growth and development of the body and mind, but also for the development of a strong immune system. By boosting the immune system, E'Pap helps stop the spread of TB and other common infectious illnesses. The children we work with live in some of the highest TB affected areas of South Africa, making the daily consumption of E'Pap vital to their survival.

## YOUTH & TEACHER SPONSORSHIPS

**Refugee AMP Center: Making it possible for other African youth to go to school in South Africa...training...opportunities...dreams!**

- **Evans:** Evans is a refugee from Zimbabwe who has enrolled and is studying at Kingsway College to study IT. This is facilitated with AMP refugee assistance in Cape Town.
- **Tafa:** Tafa is one of Project COLOR's past refugee mentorship students. He has finished his first year in journalism and going into history studies.

**Verna Marman's:** Trinity College's Performing Arts Program, South Africa - This is Verna's 3<sup>rd</sup> and final year. She has been funded by her COLORS educational sponsorship family. We wish her all the best as she dances into the future!

**Sheila Yoliswa Klaastew (Teacher) - Early Childhood Development Diploma - South Africa:** Sheila is one of Project COLORS' preschool teachers sponsored for training in proper child care. She is in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year of studies



**Nosiphiwo Tawuzeni - Early Childhood Development Diploma - South Africa:** Nosiphiwo is completing her level 4 courses.

**Sandisiwe Kwana - Early Childhood Development Diploma - South Africa:** Sandisiwe is an assistant to Alice and is working hard to complete her first year of studies.

**Monica Bester - Early Childhood Development Diploma - South Africa:** Monica is completing her level 4 courses.

**Alice Namzuko Naduma's (Teacher) - Early Childhood Development National Certificate - South Africa:** Alice is a long-time preschool teacher and community worker for Project COLORS. She has graduated her studies!!!! CONGRATULATIONS ALICE!!!!

## EXTRA OUTREACH

**Graduation Packs:** Sponsored by the annual Christmas Campaign and distributed by volunteers Jaco and Mies, school bags filled with supplies were given to our pre-school toddlers preparing to enter the first grade at the start of the New Year. Project COLORS prides itself in this annual project.

**Playground:** A beautiful playground is being created at Violet's preschool in June/July 2014. It will include a new grass field, swings and painting equipment.

**Flood repairs:** Alice's playground and preschool flooded again. COLORS volunteers made the necessary repairs.

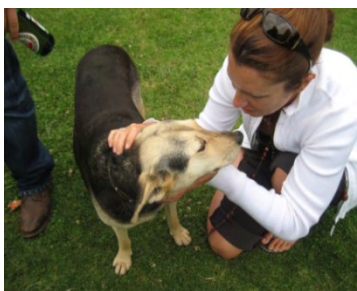
## GLOBAL STREET DOG/ ANIMAL SUPPORT PROJECTS

**South Africa** – Food and basic medical care used for several rescued dogs

**Costa Rica** – Animal first aid kits delivered to 2 wildlife rehabs and 2 street dog projects

**Dominican Republic**- Food and tick and flea medication given to children's home that houses 30 street dogs

**Canada**- Hope for Wildlife education unit for animals created and Marley's Hope received animal first aid kits and donation from card campaign.



## MADAGASCAR PROJECTS

**Sponsorships, Madagascar:** Project COLORS is sponsoring three boys in the seaside community of Fort Dolphin. Currently, the boys are doing well in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of schooling through our funding.



## SRI LANKA PROJECTS

**Children's Homes Supplies, Sri Lanka:** Canadian volunteer Marilyn and her husband Darshan are working to uplift and support two local children's homes. Project COLORS has provided them with donations as well as art supplies, educational supplies, and tool kits to run workshops and art sessions with the children they assist. We already have wonderful photos and feedback from this project.



**Christmas Shoes:** January is the month when the kids in the Children's Homes in Eastern Sri Lanka begin a new school year. This was a great start to 2014 thanks to all of the friends and donors who supported Project COLORS Christmas Sponsorship Card Campaign which provided new school shoes to 40 children at St. John's Boys' Home, Arudpany Girls' Home and Herman's Girls' Home in the region.



**Orphanage living renovations, Sri Lanka:** Through volunteers Mayiln and Darshan, Project COLORS gave funds to help the boys' home revamp their sleeping area with new sheets and cupboards.

**Phase 2 renovations- Boys kitchen roof:** Current project on the go after the boys' kitchen roof started caving in. COLORS found a sponsor for the repairs. They now have a new roof and finished kitchen.



## COSTA RICA PROJECTS

**First aid kit distribution project** – 30 kits delivered to Costa Rican schools all over Costa Rica by volunteers Sunyata, Evan and Amber.

**Street dog and wildlife rehab care kits** – Visited 4 animals care sites and delivered supplies and gave small donation divided from street dog Christmas campaign.

**2 laptops for women's NGO** capacity building in the care of Dona Olgas grupo de la mujures.

**School supplies presented to local schools in the Pital area**

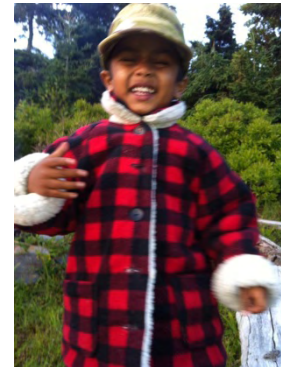


## CANADA BASED PROJECTS

**Winter jackets project:** COLORS team collected 10 bags of winter gear for ISIS and Refugee clinic in Halifax

**Hygiene kits:** 30 Hygiene kits created and supplied to refugee clinic.

**Global health care conference (Toronto):** Networked with many global health care NGOs, doctors, and refugee assistance organizations working within Canada and abroad. Attended workshops led by projects similar to COLORS and gained more of an idea how our first aid kit program can be evolved and expanded.



**Hope for Wildlife:** Sponsored educational unit housing animals used to teach children about being kind to wildlife and why it can't be released back into the wild once domesticated.

**Marley's Hope:** NS dog rescue project, rescuing and rehoming dogs. They received part of the Christmas donation money and a first aid care kit for animals.

**Resume writing support:** Assisting newcomers from Sri Lanka with resume and cover letter writing support.

**Advocating for refugee and new immigrant health care in Canada:** Rally, Media, Promotions



## ADDITIONAL/ FUTURE PROJECTS

**NGO Capacity Building, Sri Lanka:** Marilyn and Darshan wish to create a volunteer program, like Project COLORS, to bring volunteers together with the kids that need it most. COLORS is assisting them with capacity building, marketing, and logistics assessments.

**International first aid kit distribution project:** We hope to expand and develop this project to be a user-friendly model for other NGOs to use. This project can be broken down into two parts:

- A procedure and simple “how to” tool kit needs to be finalized to compile all our resources and expand on how almost any NGO, school or volunteer could take on this project within their own existing overseas projects. Ex. How to train local staff in using the first aid kit and how to recognize some of the basic childhood illnesses and issues they may come across in their work such as dehydration, malnutrition, wound management, signs of TB or HIV. This program can be run on a variety of levels depending on the resources and capacity for the host NGO.
- Create more first aid kits that traveling international volunteers or travelers can take with them to personally deliver to schools, orphanages and community centers overseas on their regular travels.



## **NGO Capacity Building with the COLORS “International Volunteers Activity Toolkit”**

**Manual:** This is one of Project COLORS 5 year, ongoing projects that can be used by any international NGO or aid worker working with children. This quick reference guide is based on all the past projects, programs and activities run by COLORS over the last 10 years. It includes activities pertaining to skill-building, making things from recyclables, toddler care, youth program activities and how to run a dental or first aid program. This document has been worked on by many past volunteers and now needs a final editor to make it as simplistic and user-friendly as possible so the information can be added into an online format so it can be easily accessible globally.

### **Evolving this project to online format! International Volunteers Activity Toolkit online:**

COLORS is in need of a volunteer to create an online resource that this information can be formatted into in a user friendly program. This link, wiki or website will be circulated to other NGOs who take international volunteers to use as a free practical resource.

## **COLORS WISH LIST FOR 2014**



Apart from our 1<sup>st</sup> aid kits, COLORS is no longer sending supplies overseas, so our needs for in-kind donations are less! We strive to spend as little as possible on overhead so we need in-kind support in these areas:

- First aid kit supplies
  - Printer ink: hp93 and hp92
  - Photo printing
  - Stamps
  - 1000 new pamphlets need to be printed
  - Staples Gift Card for printing, paper etc.
- Sponsor for staffing - To grow and spread our aid and assistance we need the support of 1 - 2 paid staff (part time or full time) to assist in the organization and intensive coordination of all projects across 5 countries.

### **Keeping our ongoing projects alive:**

**As Project COLORS receives no annual grants or governmental assistance, your on-going support is greatly appreciated.**

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU FOR BEING APART OF OUR 10 YEAR JOURNEY!

CHEERS TO MANY, MANY MORE YEARS AHEAD..... HEALTH.... HOPE.... & HAPPINESS!

Love, Project COLORS

