



## **FACT SHEET**

### **Contact:**

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### **ABOUT BAAL DAN**

In Hindi, “Baal” means “Child” and “Dan” means “Donation”. Baal Dan Charities, is a Dallas-based, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) charity that helps children in need in India. Based on the simple concept of raising money to help street children, orphans and the organizations that help impoverished children (e.g. orphanages, schools, shelters etc.), the charity raises money to buy things in bulk that children can use immediately like food, clothing, medicines and books. Since 2006, when the charity was founded, more than 1,500 children in India have received aid from Baal Dan. For more information, [visit www.baaldan.com](http://www.baaldan.com).

### **MISSION**

FACT: There are over 18 million street children in India.

(Source: United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report, 1993, New York and Government of India, 1991 Census and Financial Times, April 10, 2006).

Baal Dan is focused on providing aid in the most simple, direct, efficient and transparent way possible. In India there are already many orphanages and projects that are innovative providing excellent care for children in need, however they are often under-funded, understaffed and have low awareness or local support. Baal Dan seeks to fill the gaps in aid for these children by providing necessities like food, clothing, blankets and medicines to help increase the quality of life for impoverished children. In addition, the charity raises money to fund school fees for impoverished children to help break the cycle of poverty through quality education.

### **VISION**

Tanya Pinto, inspired by a quote from Mother Teresa, founded Baal Dan with one concept in mind: “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”

### **HISTORY**

In 2005, Tanya Pinto, an advertising executive in Dallas, took a three-month sabbatical in India to volunteer at Mother Teresa’s orphanage and home for the dying. While in India, a friend gave her \$50 to buy the orphans candy. In India, \$1 equals 43 rupees and this was more than 2000 rupees. After some bargaining at the local markets, Tanya purchased 300 pairs of children’s underwear, 100 notebooks, 100 pencils and two bags of candy with that \$50. Her purchases helped 300 children and inspired her to do more to form her own charity, Baal Dan.

## **QUICK FACTS**

In Hindi, Baal means child and Dan means donation

Tanya Pinto was inspired to start Baal Dan after volunteering at Mother Teresa's orphanage in Calcutta, India

Baal Dan helps orphanages and organizations that care for street children, orphans, impoverished children and

Baal Dan is based on the simple concept of raising money to help street children, and then using that money in places like India where money goes much further

Baal Dan provides food, clothes, medicine, books and toys and school fees

There are more than 18 million street children in India alone – that is the population of the state of Florida (Source: United Nations Development Programme, Human Development Report, 1993, New York and Government of India, 1991 Census, US Population Census, 2006)

The 70% of American households that make charitable contributions give on average \$1,800/year (3.5% of their income) (Source: State Department, February 18, 2005, Data Show Americans Give to Charity, Volunteer; Scholar argues that faith, charity and politics are linked)

Donors are constantly informed on how their donations are being used

For more information, visit [www.baaldan.com](http://www.baaldan.com)

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