"We stayed on top of the house for two days after the flood.

The water got very high and I thought we would die...

I lost my bear – he is in the picture.

This made me very upset."

- Sapna, Seven



## **Beyond Trauma**

Art Therapy for Post-Disaster Recovery





#### The Basic Idea

- We will attempt to heal trauma through community-driven art therapy programmes
- A Pilot, "Test Case", project will be initiated to test the model's viability
- The pilot project is aimed at Primary School children from a small Christchurch Area
  - e.g. Aranui and New Brighton



## What We Propose

# We plan to initiate a pilot programme in Christchurch Primary Schools to:

- Test the effectiveness of an Art Therapy Disaster Relief Model
- Create a transferrable model worldwide
- The emphasis is on expressing images that come from inside the person

## Why Art Therapy?

# The purpose of art therapy is essentially one of healing:

- Art transcends barriers
- Art is expressed with a variety of mediums
- The benefits of Art Therapy are proven
- Art builds social capital



# Pilot Programme Breakdown

Dec 2011

Establishing Networks and Structure

Artistic Collaborations

Design art therapy Programme - collaborate with similar therapy providers

Jan 2012

Produce Art

Raise Funds + Awareness for Art in Action

Feb 2012

Begin Therapy Programme at a primary school in the Aranui area

Children Deal With Trauma Through Art

Evaluate the Success of Pilot Program

Dec 2012

### Raising the Organisational Profile:

Engaging with the Arts

Engage prominent artists - music, visual performance

 They will work with local artists and the affected community to create collaborative art

 Production, sale and dissemination of this work will generate revenue and interest

### Secondary Partnerships for Success

- UNESCO
- JCI New Zealand
- P3 Foundation
- South Brighton
  Primary School
- The Porcelain Institute
- A Teaspoon of Light

- Children's Commission
- Ministry of Youth Development
- Ministry of Health
- Nga Hoa E Wha Marae
- Starship Hospital



### Measuring Success

#### Project success is to be measured by:

- The funds and profiled raised by the project
- Personal evaluation forms by treated children, their families and teachers
- Increase in social capital
- External evaluations of healing outputs by psychiatric researchers at NZ Universities
- The Porcelain Institute to provide an analysis of therapy methods

# Beyond the Pilot: *Global Applications*

- Context-specific programmes
- Targeted and holistic community involvement
- Self-driven community programmes to reduce aid dependency
- Creating skill development and employment opportunities



### Beyond the Pilot:

#### Beyond Disaster

#### Applications beyond natural disasters:

- Victims of
  - Abuse
  - Violent Crimes
  - Conflict
  - Broken homes
  - Post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Relaxation skills workshops
- Integrating the disabled into communities
- establishing and maintaining social support networks
- increasing a sense of security and stability





#### Contact

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