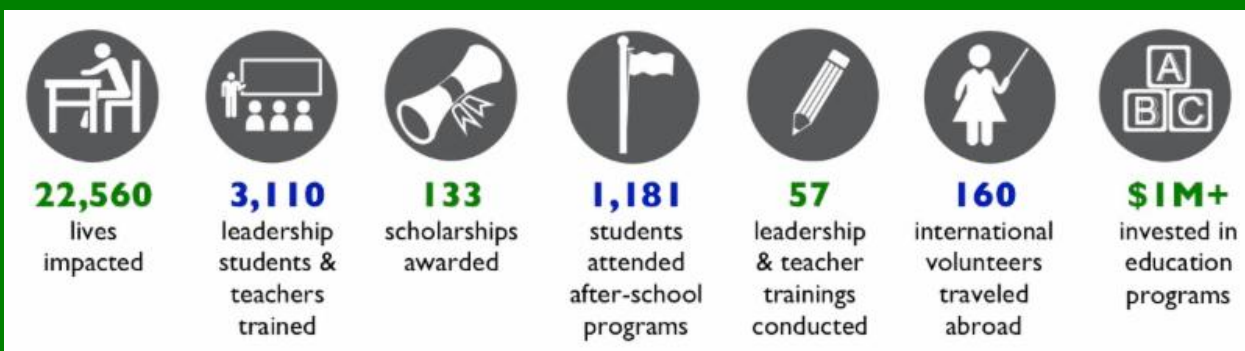




OCTOBER 2015



MARKING A MAJOR MILESTONE: \$1M+ INVESTED!

October '15 Edition
E-Newsletter #28

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Get



This month we officially marked a major milestone in Visions' history...we have now **INVESTED MORE THAN \$1 MILLION** (over the past 12 years) in educational development projects across South Asia and East Africa!!

When we first began doing this work, we could hardly have imagined reaching this point. We owe it all to you! - to everyone who has supported our work and invested in the education of thousands of under-served children across the globe. Thank you for making our work possible, and please keep investing in us!

[INVEST IN VISIONS](#)

In an effort to mark this turning point and a new chapter for Visions, we are also unveiling our **NEW VISIONS LOGO** today, which is at the top of this newsletter. We hope you like it and will continue to join us in our mission to improve the lives of under-served youth globally through education!

LAUNCH OF NEW INDIA MOBILE LEARNING PROGRAM

Connected!

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RAZOO

<http://www.razoo.com/story/Visions-Global-Empowerment>

GUIDESTAR

<http://www.guidestar.org/organizations/26-3386678/visions-global-empowerment.aspx>

Join Our Mailing List!

Upcoming Events

BOSTON

"Film Screening & Happy Hour"

Thursday, Nov. 12th

5:00 - 8:00pm

East End Grille, 118

Broadway, Somerville



Beginning this fall, Visions be launching a very exciting new Mobile Learning Program across 9 schools in India (6 in Tamil Nadu, 2 in Maharashtra, and 1 in Uttarakhand), all of which serve students affected by poverty, caste discrimination, and other hardship.

For the initial phase of the program, we will focus on **English-language** and **Mathematics**. Each school will receive 20-30 tablet devices pre-loaded with customized e-learning content. In later phases, we hope to add further programs focused on Leadership & Life Skills, Health & Hygiene, and General Subjects, some of which we ourselves are concurrently working on developing and digitizing.

Using a cloud-based platform and innovative technology that allows for students to access programs through a self-paced learning method, we anticipate **1,900 students** (from Grades 1-5) will benefit from regular access (with a target of 2-3 hours per week of individual student usage). While students will be able to learn at their own pace and gain valuable exposure to both technology and digital learning programs, teachers will be able to access analytics for tracking student progress as well as managing and customizing content themselves.

The hardware for this program (which is battery-driven and creates its own internal wireless network) has been specifically designed for use in areas with limited access to internet and electricity. Visions is proud to be partnering on this new initiative with Mumbai-based nonprofit **Zaya Learning Labs** (www.zaya.in), driven by the intent of positively impacting academic achievement and enthusiasm for attending school amongst children from disadvantaged backgrounds.

TORONTO

"Film Screening & Happy Hour"

Friday, Nov. 13th

6:30 - 9:30pm

Toronto Public Library, 35 Fairview Mall Dr., Toronto

TORONTO

"Visions Presentation & Service Discussion @ the IMHO Canada Annual Convention"

Saturday, Nov. 14th

Kennedy Convention

Centre Banquet Hall, 1199

Kennedy Road, Toronto

NEW YORK CITY

"Film Screening & Social w/ Bal Daan"

Thursday, Dec. 17th

7:00 - 10:00pm

Location TBD

*Make sure to visit our [Visions Facebook page](#) for details on all of the above events.

Short Film: Visions India Leadership Program

VISIONS SERVICE TRIPS ABROAD - MAKING AN IMPACT



Visions & ALC School Project - India Youth Leadership Program

In this, our final film of a 3-part series documenting Visions' work in India made possible by Joe Hill & Kaytie Nielsen of the [Unexpected Laboratory](#), students and educators from the Tiruvannamalai District of Tamil Nadu share their experiences of empowerment in the face of socioeconomic adversity.

Utilizing Visions' own unique curriculum, the Visions Leadership Program provides training for youth & adults in leadership & life skills, community service, rights education, and personal & professional development. More than 3,000 individuals have been directly trained through this program across Sri Lanka, India, Kenya, and Ethiopia since 2003.

Watch the film
HERE

**OUR CURRENT
NEEDS**



7 India Youth Scholarships:
\$400/each

Tablets for India Leadership Program:
\$100/each

Sri Lanka Leadership Academy:
\$30/youth per month

**To make a contribution of any amount, please visit [our website.](#)*



This summer marked the 13th consecutive year that Visions has led

service-learning trips abroad. Of the **149 individuals** who have joined us, more than **25% have volunteered more than once**. These service-minded individuals have contributed greatly to our ongoing work and helped conduct many special programs, all while experiencing new cultures, making new friends, and having exciting adventures together.

This year we have so far conducted 3 group service trips (2 to Ethiopia and 1 to India) with a 4th trip (also to Ethiopia) scheduled for this December/January. Each group has been driven by different objectives and plans. Through the efforts of our volunteers, we have been able to accomplish so much...

1. SUNY New Paltz - Visions Ethiopia service-learning trip (June 2015): 9 volunteers

- Created 5 short educational films on "Understanding Deafness in Ethiopia"
- Conducted 4 days of educational enrichment activities for Deaf youth across 3 public schools & our Visions Model Regional Deafness Center

2. Visions India service trip (June/July 2015): 5 volunteers

- Conducted a 2-day training for 19 village social workers implementing our Leadership & English Programs
- Conducted a 2-day youth leadership training on "service" for 51 youth in Tiruvannamalai
- Scouted 2 Sri Lankan refugee camps for future projects

3. Visions Ethiopia service trip (August 2015): 11 volunteers

- Provided medical ear check-ups for 35 individuals and hearing testing & counseling for 73 Deaf youth & young adults, of which 27 received hearing aids!
- Delivered lectures and made connections at Bahir Dar Hospital and University
- Conducted our first leadership program in Ethiopia - a 1-day "Introduction to Leadership" training for 36 young adults
- Conducted 3-days worth of educational programs for 60+ Deaf youth

4. Nazareth College service-learning trip (coming this December 2015/January 2016!): 17 volunteers

PLEASE MAKE A CONTRIBUTION:

*Invest in deserving and marginalized youth.
Invest in the leaders of tomorrow. Invest in Visions.*

DONATE HERE

We can only do this important work with your support. Donations are accepted online through our [website](#) OR can be mailed to us. Please make checks out to "Visions". All donations are tax-deductible [tax ID#26-3386678].

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