

All Woman Bakery

By the Poor, For the Poor

Introduction



Slums continue to proliferate across Bangalore. Current statistics indicate there are approximately 500 slums and 1.5 million people, amounting to 15% of the city's population. However, unofficial estimates put this amount at about 25%. Slum dwellers, or the urban poor, live on government,

private, and railway lands. Migrant slum dwellers, who are not counted in statistics, live in makeshift slums near large construction sites. Most slum dwellers work as domestic help, cooks, construction workers, drivers, vegetable and fruit vendors, and watchmen. The most impacted segment of slum dwellers are women and children, who have limited opportunities to improve their situation. Women are marginalized to the role of "housekeeper" for lack of jobs in the vicinity of the slums. Children are deprived of an education, and most often sent to work to make ends meet.

The Project

Premajyothi and Birds Campus, NGOs located in Bangalore, are aiming to combat this problem by creating an **All-Woman Bakery**. Women from urban slums will have the opportunity to learn technical baking and cooking skills, empowering them to develop a culinary craft and use those



skills to earn wages. The baked goods will be provided to three target markets: poor children in local schools at no charge, poor families at cost price, and the general public at market price.

The primary goals of the All-Woman Bakery are to:

- Empower women from slums to be self sufficient
- Impart skills training in preparation of baked goods and confections
- Provide a decent wage for increased confidence and a sense of self-worth
- Provide bread and confections to three target markets:
 - Poor children in local schools at no charge
 - Poor families at cost price
 - General public at market prices

Women's Empowerment is a primary objective of this project. We aim to empower the female urban poor who are unemployed, exploited, marginalized, and oppressed. They lack the confidence to take initiative, have little or no decision-making power in the household, and have virtually no voice. We hope the All-Woman Bakery will begin to change this through economic and social empowerment, vocational training, education, and life-skills training.

As stated by the United Nations, increasing the share of household income controlled by women changes household spending in ways that benefit children and family welfare. All too often, women from slums are subservient to men in their household because they do not earn a sufficient salary. The All-Woman Bakery aims to enable women to be self-reliant, develop interpersonal skills, and improve their self-worth. By empowering women and making them self-sufficient, we believe it will improve the quality of life of the family through education, better nutrition, and accessibility to healthcare facilities.

Benefits

1. Gainful employment to numerous women
2. A stronger household through self-reliant and self-sufficient women
3. Improved quality-of-life of the family
4. Increased income in the home for food, education, and healthcare
5. Free bread to orphans and poor school children
6. Bread at cost price to the poor in slums



Current Team Activities

The Prema Jyothi and Birds Campus Team are currently working on various Women's Empowerment and children's programs. Here are some specific examples:

- Boarding and lodging for 150 orphan children, many who were working at stone quarries. Some of the children are HIV positive and abandoned by their parents.
- Schooling for 450 poor children. Children are allowed to pay whatever they can afford.
- Sponsorship for school, uniforms and books for 50+ children.
- Women's Empowerment for slum dwellers:
 - Car driving classes
 - Sewing classes
 - Computer classes
- Adoption of 32 slums in Bangalore, including food and educational programs
- Outreach Programs - to group homes for the poor and disabled, and senior citizen facilities for the poor.

The Team





Call to Action

Everyday, women in slums are marginalized and treated with disrespect because they are unable to earn a living. Herein lies broken hopes and dreams, causing hardship and strife to them and their families.

The All Woman Bakery is a novel concept that will give life to the dreams and aspirations of slum women and their families. Your contribution will make the All Woman Bakery a reality, which will empower women, provide food to the orphans, and bread to the hungry.

The estimated cost of the bakery is about \$120,000. This includes bakery equipment (e.g. mixers, kneaders, and ovens) and delivery vehicles.

Be a friend of the Bakery at four funding levels and Donate NOW:

1. Bronze Donor - \$100 for purchase of utensils, trays, and work tables
2. Silver Donor - \$250, for purchase of baking equipment like mixers and kneaders
3. Gold Donor - \$500 for purchase of ovens
4. Platinum Donor - \$5,000 for purchase of transportation distribution vans

Join us to breathe life into the All Woman Bakery concept. Your generosity will forever change the lives of families in the slums of Bangalore. Your contributions will make a world of a difference half a world away. [Donate NOW to the Cause.](#)

Appeal: If you would like to support the ***All Woman Bakery initiative***, please contact us via email: support@premajyothi.org. Any level of support is greatly appreciated. Every donation is tax deductible as Prema Jyothi is a 501c-3 non-profit organization, registered in the United States.