



STREET KIDS DIRECT
ANNUAL
REPORT

2018/2019

street
kids
direct.org.uk

Registered Charity Number: 1102894

CONTENT

01	Director's Report About the charity	05 06
02	Vision & Mission Our Commitment	07 08
03	The Trustees Our full-time volunteers	09 10
04	Honduras Report Guatemala Report Nicaragua Report UK Fundraising	19 14 18 21
05	Financial Report inc. Audit Contact Information	22 24



**HOW YOUR SUPPORT
HAS IMPACTED THE LIVES OF
VULNERABLE CHILDREN**

A HIGH-RISK CHILD
HAS A HIGH CONNECTION
TO THE STREETS
AND FOUR OR MORE
RISK FACTORS
& A UNIQUE SET OF SKILLS
THAT HAS KEPT
THEM ALIVE

HIGH-RISK



PROUD TO SERVE FULL-TIME IN GUATEMALA

It is quite incredible to look back over the past year and see all that has been achieved, particularly with the new mentoring programme being launched in Honduras and the opening of the new Protection Home in Guatemala.

Every time I return to the UK and have the privilege of sharing with supporters how their donations have impacted lives, they are greatly encouraged. Being a small volunteer-run charity means we can continue to direct our support at the projects that are making the biggest impact in the lives of at-risk children.

Given that the numbers of children living on the streets of Guatemala has been reduced to zero, we are now focusing our efforts at helping prevent new children considering the streets as their only option. In some instances, new children have been found on the streets this year and almost immediately have been rescued and placed in the care of the government. More and more we are seeing how our investment over the past 10 years in strengthening government institutions and procedures has led to a more robust and coordinated system of protection for children at risk.

Who knows, it may be that in the next 10 years we are not needed at all and we can wind the charity up, or focus our efforts in new regions or the world and offer the programmes, tools, manuals and training programmes to help strengthen developing projects with at-risk children.

It is always hard to put into words every year how grateful I am of your support. I hope that all our supporters feel very much part of the community that is Street Kids Direct, and for those who have come to visit the projects know very well how every penny donated is used to impact the lives of the most vulnerable and so we are committed to delivering this for the coming year.

Thank you for your support and I hope this report is of great encouragement to you.

Duncan Dyason MBE
Charity Director

ABOUT US



ABOUT US

STREET KIDS DIRECT was founded in 2001 with the simple vision to ensure that 100% of all donations go directly to the projects that impact the lives of the most vulnerable children in Latin America.

Our roots are in the commuter town of Amersham, Buckinghamshire, in the United Kingdom, where Duncan Dyason received a call to give up his comfortable life and move out to Guatemala in 1992 after watching a harrowing TV documentary called 'They Shoot Children Don't They'.

THE ONLY THING
NECESSARY
FOR THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL
IS FOR GOOD PEOPLE
TO DO NOTHING

EDMUND BURKE
AUTHOR AND PHILOSOPHER

HOW WE WORK

PARTNERSHIP

Street Kids Direct works in partnership with local organisations in Central America that target the most vulnerable children in their community.

OUR VISION & MISSION

To see a world where children and young people do not need to depend upon the streets in order to survive.

Our mission is therefore to work in partnership with children and young people to help them reach their full potential and enjoy life in all its fullness.

This is achieved by:

- demonstrating God's love by standing alongside them, wherever and wherever they are;
- providing an environment where it is safe for them to be challenged and to explore an positive future;
- encouraging each of them to develop a unique personality;
- enabling each of them to mature and become a truly fulfilled individual.



1,600+
AND COUNTING

CHILDREN & YOUTH living on the streets, on rubbish dumps and at high-risk have been helped since the charity was started in 2001.

OUR COMMITMENT

The founder, Duncan Dyason MBE, had spent nearly 30 years in the charity sector and had been involved with numerous charities as well as setting up four charities himself.

One day Duncan was asking himself the question as to how charity could be done differently. His question came from bitter experience of seeing thousands of pounds poured into offices, staff salaries, publicity and the like and wishing that more of that money given by the public could get to the children who so desperately needed it.

We make a promise that 100% of all donations go directly to the projects we partner with and we are able to do so because the charity is internet-based.

We have no offices, no staff and spend not one penny of our donations here in the UK on those costs. All of us are volunteers and pay for our own costs should we visit the projects the charity supports and cover any costs ourselves of running the charity.



**WE GUARANTEE THAT
100% OF YOUR
SUPPORT GOES DIRECTLY
TO THE MOST VULNERABLE
CHILDREN**

CHARITY TRUSTEES

Street Kids Direct has three founding trustees who continue to offer their time to volunteering with the charity.



MATT LEVETT

Matt Levett is the Diocesan Youth Work Coordinator for Suffolk and has worked with high-risk children and youth for over 20 years and visits the projects in Central America each year.



JOANNA SODEN

Joanna Soden is a busy working mother from Amersham and is committed to the work in Central America and two of her sons now live and work with the projects in Guatemala City.



DUNCAN DYASON MBE

Duncan Dyason lives in Guatemala City where he coordinates the work of the charity and works on the streets each week as a volunteer with SKD Guatemala.

OUR VOLUNTEERS

STEVE POULSON

Steve Poulson
Programme Development
Manager, Honduras

Steve supports our partnered projects in Honduras in a range of ways, from donor relations, to training and implementing the child protection policy, in an effort to strengthen and develop them.

Steve also helps coordinate the Honduras mentoring programme in various projects in Honduras with at-risk children and youth.

AZARIA SPENCER

Azaria Spencer
Coordinator of Sponsorship
Programme & Social Media

Azaria is a mission partner with CMS and works with the SKD team in Guatemala City.

Azaria works in the prevention team, working on the streets each week, helps lead the youth work with the teenage boys as well as coordinating the sponsorship programme with Global Care and all social media.

BENJAMIN SODEN

Benjamin Soden,
Street Worker, Guatemala

Benjamin moved out to Guatemala and started as a volunteer street worker in 2017.

Benjamin has experience in youth work in Amersham and is passionate about helping children and young people leave the streets and enter into rehabilitation programmes where he visits them regularly.

Funding for his position finished in 2019 and we are currently exploring how we can best support his work in Guatemala.

MARK & ROSALIE BALFOUR

Mark & Rosalie Balfour
Pastoral Workers, Guatemala

Mark & Rosalie are Mission Partners with the Church Mission Society, seconded to Street Kids Direct.

Mark & Rosalie help to provide pastoral care for staff and overseas volunteers in SKD supported projects in Central America and work with local SKD partners in community outreach in Guatemala City.

HONDURAS

AFE & MANUELITO CHILDREN'S HOME

It was with great sadness that the trustees, after lengthy discussions with both the AFE and Manuelito projects as well as various other supporting organisations and churches, to not continue to financially support these projects.

We are very proud of our support of both the AFE project, working with at-risk children from the rubbish dump and the Manuelito children's home, over the last 11 years and know that hundreds of children have benefitted from the relationship that has developed.

However, there must be a time when our support is better used to impact the lives of the most vulnerable and, taking into consideration the number of other organisations now supporting these projects, the trustees felt that our support could be directed in new areas.

We wish both projects well and hope that what we have invested into them over the years continues to produce great fruit and change many children's lives.



2004

WE STARTED HELPING HONDURAS

MENTORING CHANGES LIVES



Roatan, Honduras

As a charity, we believe that the most effective method of reaching and supporting high-risk children is the Street Kids Direct mentoring programme.

Over the year the programme has expanded greatly in Honduras and is also ready to be launched in Roatan, a small island off the coast of Honduras.

Roatan is 36 miles long and 5 miles wide, with a population of 109,000 and 48% is under the age of 18. It is an idyllic Caribbean island that most would expect to see featured on the front of any travel magazine.

The outstanding natural beauty and golden sandy beaches can easily hide the communities of black indigenous people living in poverty. The history of Roatan is one of pirates, the slave trade and then much later the British and Spanish conquistadors who settled on the island and began to develop it into a retreat for those with the money to enjoy such an island of paradise.

In 1920 Archaeologist Mitchell-Hedges moved to the island and began to explore. He found several pirate chests of gold and silver and snuck them off the island and sold them in England. Many still believe there is treasure to find on the island, but few would consider that the greatest treasure there today are the children.

Steve Poulson and Duncan Dyason were invited to visit the island to help advise a young family - Justin & Ashley Guest and their two boys - who have moved there as missionaries and were keen to explore how the Street Kids Direct mentoring programme could help vulnerable children on the island.

Justin explained how these were the new community leadership group they had helped bring together to look at the various issues the local people felt were their major concerns. With an extremely high level of diabetes, 85% unemployment, youth and children at high social risk, pollution and lack of drinking water, there was certainly a great work to

Advocating for children's rights and exploring ways to keep them safe from violence, abuse and exploitation

be done.

It was increasingly clear that there are many needs in this community and helping the most vulnerable children is what Justin and Ashley are keen to do. Together with the stories of many male abandoned homes and statistics of children living with numerous risk factors (abuse, neglect, violence) in their lives it led to discussions about whether the mentoring programme will be able to change the outcomes for these children. We are all agreed that the programme could be launched there soon and target the most at-risk children.

In Talanga, a small town an hour from the capital, the Street Kids Direct mentoring was launched this year in a bid to help

prevent a growing number of young children taking to the streets. The work began in the streets to identify the most at-risk children and then provide weekly sessions for them, with the hope of leading to the opening of a mentoring centre in the town.

The coordinator of the Talanga project, Julio Arana, was invited to Guatemala to be trained in the programme and see how the SKD Guatemala project has been working for the last 5 years in mentoring vulnerable children.

As the year has progressed we have seen the way the interest in the programme has grown and given birth to at least five new mentoring projects in the country.



100% SUCCESS IN YEAR-END SCHOOL RESULTS

Street Kids Direct funds projects that target the most vulnerable children and provides our mentoring programme as a proven and effective tool to help children make positive life choices, exceed in school and stay off the streets.

GUATEMALA

SKD GUATEMALA

The SKD Guatemala project works in Guatemala City with street-living and high-risk children and youths. The project does this by identifying children who have a high connection to the streets together with an evaluation of the number of risk factors present in their lives. Intervention at this stage is exciting and results are often surprising and rewarding.

The day-to-day street work is often the most challenging area of the work, as volunteers work on the streets to rescue children or engage with children and young people who are starting to begin their journey of street life. Sometimes the work means the team have to confront local police and others who discriminate against those on the streets and help provide alternatives that will keep them safe.

The specialist mentoring programme now reaches 50 children and youth and once a child is accepted into the programme we are able to offer them educational support, counselling, family therapy, access to the mentoring centre and a caring and consistent adult in their lives. Street Kids Direct helps provide each child with the starter kit they need to begin school every year as well as regular medical checks, including hearing and eye tests.

Thanks to the expert training offered by Russell Soden from Giant, the SKD Guatemala team have developed their skills and time and people management that will help improve their efficiency and productivity. Thanks also to Dt Sgt. Sarah Elliott, from Suffolk Police, who came to offer the very latest safeguarding training to the team.

Sarah, thanks to the invitation of the British Embassy in Guatemala City, was able to deliver a day of training for state and voluntary organisations that work with at-risk children in the latest techniques and procedures for supporting children who have been abused.

The training was a great success and those who attended benefited from Sarah's vast experience in child protection and shared with everyone the processes and procedures that Suffolk Police have in place and showed how the police deal with allegations of abuse including photos of the interview and investigative process.



SHORT-TERM PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH AT HIGH-RISK

The charity is so grateful to Darold & Pam Opp who visited Guatemala in 2018 to help officially open the new short-term protection home for at-risk children. Darold & Pam had invested a significant amount of money in the home as well as securing its purchase at the beginning of 2018.

The official opening was attended by Darold and Pam, together with the British Ambassador to Guatemala, Carolyn Davidson, and members of the NGO and Guatemalan Government community.

The home will now be able to offer short-term accommodation for children and families at risk as well as offer help and support to children already in the mentoring programme. Children and, where appropriate, their families can stay up to two weeks in the home while a long-term solution is found for them, or for those in the mentoring programme a safe refuge can be offered for a long weekend or for a whole week while the child is going through crisis or may need extra support and help.





SUMMER CAMPS

One of the highlights of the year was taking two groups of children to Panajachel. The lure of this idyllic beauty spot in Guatemala is the lake that is bounded by volcanoes and verdant mountains. Lake Atitlan is ringed by 12 Mayan towns, named after the disciples of Jesus, and each famous for a local craft, chocolate, coffee and the like. The indigenous people know it as the “belly button of the world” as the lake is a mysterious body of water that still has not been fully explored, according to the National Geographic team that produced a programme from there last year.

It was a natural place for us to consider when we had been offered money to take the girls away on a camping weekend, having already taken a small group of boys there previously. 17 girls aged from 11-14 boarded the large minibus and headed for Panajachel, one of the main towns that access the lake. Camping by the lake is quite an experience, but for the majority of girls on the trip who had never left the city before this would be a truly memorable adventure.

The three days of swimming in the lake, exploring the huge waterfalls and lush rain forest, walking through the eco-park with its monkeys and other animals, playing on the swings and zip lines and then taking our 4-hour boat trip on the lake meant that this would be not just an incredible break for the girls from their lives in La Terminal, in the city, but also a chance for them to see life from a new perspective.

GO GUATEMALA

Go Guatemala works with high-risk children and youth in z18, Guatemala City. It is an area defined by gangs and violence.

Every Saturday a small team of volunteers prepare to welcome up to 120 children to a special activity club. All the children live at high-risk due to the increasing threats to their lives by gang violence and many are enticed into the dangerous Barrio 18 and MS gangs on a regular basis.

The club is run entirely by volunteers and mothers of the children who attend. Street Kids Direct pays for the rent of the building each year and also help support the development of the Go Guatemala programme, which includes child protection training and support.

The club is a fun and safe place for children to play and develop their own unique personality without the threat of being shot or falling prey to those who recruit for gangs.

The Go Guatemala team offer counseling and support to children who have witnessed killings and abuse throughout the week is always an element of the programme that is particularly hard for volunteers to deal with.

Thanks to your support this club can operate each Saturday and it is hoped that during 2018/2019 the club will be open during the week to offer homework support and counseling in the afternoons.



**REACHING CHILDREN IN
GANG-CONTROLLED AREAS**

NICARAGUA

SAN JORGE FEEDING CENTRE

When Duncan started the Camino por Amor walks back in 2016, he passed San Jorge, Nicaragua and came across a small project working with at-risk children. The initial visit led to a subsequent visit and the investment by the charity in a small feeding centre for the children every day together with an afternoon of games and craft activities.

The country has been thrown into political chaos and violence over the year, which has left many dead and many more seriously injured. We are impressed that the feeding centre has continued to offer something to the children each day despite the lack of basic foods now available in the shops.

Some 100 children benefit from our support and we are happy to see how the project is growing and reaching the most vulnerable children in Nicaragua and keeping them from taking to the streets.



Street youths are often targetted by gangs, frustrated members of the public and the police.

90%

**REDUCTION IN
VIOLENCE
FOR STREET YOUTHS**

TRUE STORY

One boy's story or survival

One of the boys in this area of La Terminal is 15-year-old Felipe who had been taking more and more to the streets. His story is not unique but it is deeply sad and the years of neglect and abuse has led him to make a series of decisions that means he spends most of his life now on the streets. We had been informed that he had been shot and feared the worse, but when we found him he was suffering from having been shot by a shotgun in his face and chest. He had gunshot wounds all over and was allowed out of hospital as the wounds were not life-threatening. He will take a time to recover but this is just another traumatic event in his childhood and one wonders what impact this will have on his life in the short and long term.



DIRECTOR'S BLOG

SUCCESS IS OFTEN SLOW

Doña Luisa is leaning over a small charcoal fire that has been made out of an old car wheel, but it seems rather effective and is warming up a cooking pot – it's today's main meal for the family. The younger children hear my voice and come running out to greet me and the smallest two hold up their arms, inviting me to pick them up as they snuggle into my neck and just hang there as I talk with the mother.

Doña Luisa starts work at 5am every day making tortillas and returns home at lunchtime in order for two of her children to go to school. The two oldest girls' study in the morning and the two boys in the afternoon, leaving just the 4-year-old at home under the supervision of whichever siblings are not studying.

I am now invited into their room and the children sit on the bed and ask about the belt I am wearing around my waist. It is a utility belt and holds two first aid kits, a dog repellent spray and a pouch for a couple of games, a torch, a notepad and a pen. We take out a game and begin to play. The oldest girl, who is clearly loving this new game of tossing two small rubber pigs on the ground which determines their score, gets out her school bag and hands me her school results card. I pause the game and we all look at her card and I am just bowled over by her results.

Lucia is 13-years-old and is loving school. She is in grade two, due to the fact that she never had the chance of going to school before she started the mentoring programme. Her results are incredible and as I look down the list of 100% marks and then look at her, she smiles and turns her head to one side, unsure of how to accept praise. She is clearly doing really well and my emotions are stirred and my mind skips back three years ago when Frank, one of our team here in Guatemala, turned up at our newly opened mentoring centre with Lucia and her four younger siblings. She had been wandering around the streets and tells Frank that she spends every day now on the streets as it is not safe to stay in their room when the mum and dad go off to work

Looking over her school report made me think of the day she started the mentoring programme. She has come a long way and is obviously going to go far with her studies. All we need to do is keep her safe, encourage her in school, help with her homework and I know she will do the rest.

It's time for me to go now as the mum wants to feed them all and so I leave them to their evening meal. As I lift up the curtain that separates their room from the dingy corridor I look into the pot to see what is for dinner. My heart breaks and I am overcome with sadness as I place the lid back on the pot and say goodnight and wander out into the street. I lean against the wall outside and try and hold it all together. In the cooking pot, the main meal for a family of six, are 8 tomatoes. The world seems a very unjust and cruel place right now and my determination to make it all right, at least for this family, makes me walk at speed back to the centre to see what we have available to donate to them in the morning.

Duncan Dyason MBE

20%

of girls in Guatemala give birth to two children while they are still children.

UK FUNDRAISING

RADIO CHRISTMAS

The Radio Christmas project celebrated 10 years in December 2018 from makeshift studios in Café Africa, Amersham. We started on the 1st December and ran through until Christmas Eve when Oli O'Neill and Will Hickling attempted a Guinness World Record of the longest non-stop radio broadcast. Sadly, the attempt had to be canceled when Will became ill, but interest in the station and the cause has steadily grown over the years.

COIN RACE

Our annual Coin Race is a fantastic fundraising event held every June in Sycamore Road in Amersham. The usually friendly competition between the boys, on one side of the street, and the girls on the other creates a tremendous buzz as both teams battle to raise more than the other. Around £2,000 is raised each year for the charity through this event.

WALKING TOURS

Street Kids Direct is extremely grateful to Willie Reid for raising £2,775 this past year through his walking tours of High Wycombe. The tours explore the hidden history of the town and include two main tours, a virtual walk and a special one-hour walk for schools. Willie reports that 587 adults and 270 children participated in the walks plus 132 virtual walkers. We thoroughly recommend the tour if you are ever in High Wycombe.

CAMINO POR AMOR

The now annual sponsored walk was a challenge this past year between Team Dyason from Guatemala and Team Poulson from Honduras. The aim of the walk was for each team to start in the other team's capital and walk home in the shortest time possible.

Steve Poulson started his walk in Guatemala City, Guatemala, and Duncan Dyason started his in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The Camino por Amor walk would mean each team having to walk 80km a day for 6 days and on the seventh day walk nearly 120km. With high temperatures, gangs and dangerous roads was quite a challenge and since it was a race - to see who arrives at their destination first.

However, Steve suffered from injuries from the first day and so Duncan and his team had to change plans so that Steve and his team could compete. Both Steve and Duncan returned to their respective countries on the same day and a good deal of money was raised for the charity. Thanks to all those who supported the walkers and those who donated online and sent in messages and videos of support.

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FAITHFUL VOLUNTEERS



FINANCES

AUDIT REPORT

Trevor Nicholas FCCA (Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant)

28 West Street
Ryde, Isle of Wight
PO33 2QQ

To: The Trustees of Street Kids Direct

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Street Kids Direct Charity for the year ended 31st March 2019.

I report on the accounts of the Street Kids Direct Charity for the year ended 31st March 2019, which is set out on one page.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that

would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Trevor Nicholas FCCA (Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant)
28 West Street
Ryde
Isle of Wight
PO33 2QQ

Date 31st December 2019

Street Kids Direct
Financial Report 2018/19

Street Kids Direct is a small charity reliant on voluntary help for its UK operations. It continues to commit itself to its founding principle guaranteeing that 100% of all donation go directly to the projects it supports in Guatemala and Honduras.

Bank Details: General Current Account held with HSBC Bank, Sycamore Road, Amersham, HP6 5EW.

Income

General Donations	£ 50,902.30
Churches	£ 5,300.29
Schools	£ 812.98
Fundraising events	£ 46,121.33
Charity Trust	£ 71,812.83
Other	£ 18,394.45
Total	£ 193,344.18

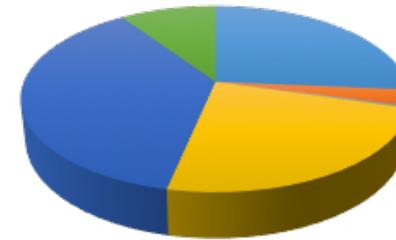
Expenditure

Mi Arca	
Manuelito	
SKD Guatemala	£ 123,447.60
Go Guatemala	£ 5,000.00
Mojoca	£ 1,000.00
SKD Guatemala Street Worker Salary	£ 3,000.00
Puerta de Esperanza	£ 3,000.00
Dyason High-Risk Fund	£ 2,400.00
Protection Home	£ 63,150.00
One Day Revival	£ 4,300.00
Radio Christmas	£ 596.00
San Jorge Feeding Centre	£ 5,000.00
Total	£ 210,893.60

Opening Bank Balance as at 1st April 2018	£41,987.69
Income	£ 193,344.18
Less, Expenditure	-£ 210,893.60
Closing Bank Balance as at 31st March 2019	£24,438.27

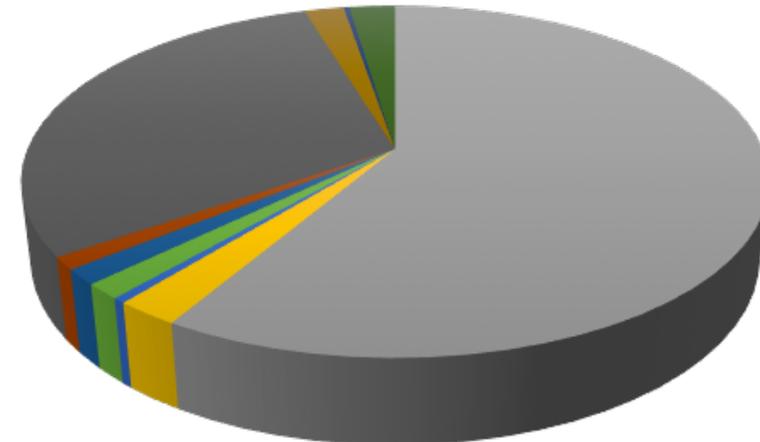
Accounts have been prepared on a cash basis from 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019

Income



■ General Donations ■ Churches ■ Schools ■ Fundraising events ■ Charity Trust ■ Other

Expenditure



■ Mi Arca ■ Manuelito ■ SKD Guatemala ■ SKD Guatemala Street Worker Salary
 ■ Go Guatemala ■ Mojoca ■ Dyason High-Risk Fund ■ Protection Home
 ■ Puerta de Esperanza ■ One Day Revival ■ Radio Christmas ■ San Jorge Feeding Centre



ADDRESS

2 Centenary Way,
Amersham,
Buckinghamshire,
HP6 6UL,
United Kingdom

TELEPHONE

+44 1494 858470
+502 5522 3333

WEB

streetkidsdirect.org.uk
info@streetkidsdirect.org.uk
facebook.com/streetkidsdirect

Registered Charity Number: 1102894