

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



www.projectkandwar.org

LOCAL GROUPS TEAM UP TO HELP THE POOR IN INDIA

MIRARCO's charity of choice for 2009 is Project Kandwar

Sudbury, ON, February 12, 2009— *Project Kandwar (PK)* is pleased to announce that it has been chosen by MIRARCO's staff as the company's charity of choice for 2009. *Project Kandwar* is a Sudbury-based charity organization dedicated to bettering living conditions of impoverished villagers in India.

Narasim Katary, the founder of *PK* said, "The choice by *MIRARCO* shows that despite economic hardship in Canada, people at the institution are desirous of giving a hand up to people who are less fortunate, even though they are half a world away. It is also Sudbury at its best where decency trumps indifference."

MIRARCO will be holding several fundraisers throughout the year and will donate all proceeds to *Project Kandwar*. Last year's Charity of Choice—*The Salvation Army*—received a total of \$3,800 from the year's fundraising events such as silent auctions, prize draws, and a fundraising drive held at the company's 10th Anniversary Gala.

In accepting *MIRARCO*'s cheque for 2008, Major Sterling Snelgrove of *The Salvation Army* said, "*MIRARCO* as an organization with global reach has shown its commitment to the idea that we are all in this together and we at *The Army* would also like to assist *PK* in whatever manner we can. I plan on meeting Narasim in the next two weeks to explore how we can be of help."

Project Kandwar will use the funds raised in 2009 to help the 'poorest of the poor' in Kandavara/Chikballapur Area. The group's focus is health, education, and infrastructure.

In thanking *MIRARCO* for the generous offer, Katary said, "Despite our meager resources, last year we were able to organize two free eye camps where hundreds of people were able to get eye care including cataract surgery thanks to outstanding help from a local business person and the well-known private eye hospital *Narayana Netralaya* in Bangalore, 55 km south of Chikballapur. This year we have submitted to the *State of Karnataka*, a comprehensive Project Report for the *Canadia Institute of Vocational and Industrial Learning (CIVIL)* Centre. We hope the *State* will help create a multi-sectoral, multi-national technical school for the needy."

"*Project Kandwar* is clearly making a difference, *MIRARCO* is happy to be a part of this initiative," said *MIRARCO* President Stephen Hall. "Last year we raised more funds for our

charity of choice than any previous year and we're hoping to make 2009 another notable year in our history of community support."

For more information about *Project Kandwar*, please visit www.projectkandwar.org or contact Narasim Katary (see below)

Project Kandwar- *Project Kandwar (PK)* is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the development of poverty stricken villages into modern communities. Our organizational goal is to mobilize human, material and financial resources, both public and private, from Canada, the world, and India to help the villages of India lift themselves out of poverty. Development will be approached in a comprehensive, collaborative, and concentrated manner.

MIRARCO- *Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation*, founded in 1998, is a not-for-profit applied research and technical service company formed through collaboration between Laurentian University and the private and public sectors. *MIRARCO* is located in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, and serves as an innovation bridge between researchers and industry. Visit www.mirarco.org for more information.

Contact:

Narasim Katary

Project Kandwar

E-mail: onevillage@projectkandwar.org

Tel.: 705-673-2201