

Global Microcredit Summit, Halifax, N.S., Canada: A gr

**We Wish You
A Happy 9th Anniversary
and a long life ahead.**

**Your friends at
Hope Cottage**



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The Global Microcredit Summit held in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada from November 12 - 15, 2006 was a wonderful success and brought many of the 2000+ delegates from 113+ countries together to begin new relationships and make new contacts. And of course new

possibilities for expanding upon all the good work the microcredit movement has achieved thus far.

From my own humble experience, *KIVA* and *Jamii Bora* were the two most inspiring organizations that showed up at the Summit for the 5 day and 5 night conference. These two

groups bookended the two extremes of the Summit, if you could call it that. *KIVA* highlights the high tech, web site-intensive "profiling" aspects of the world of the future, that is the possible future world of this accelerating microphenomenon, along with *KIVA's* side by side social net efforts.

Jamii Bora has mostly worked, on the other hand, with people intensive efforts almost exclusively, that is the much heralded super Ph.D. types who are the social workers receiving their credentials from the streets and from the horrendous circumstances of much suffering in the rural realm. These unsung heroes and heroines were and are constantly striving to reach all who need it in this rapidly expanding microeffort in Kenya. They provide the social development side to the economic program of microcredit, which is required in these Kenyan locales much more than others throughout the various regions and around the world. The social workers minister to the absolutely most desperately, hopelessly destitute, which is a very much grounded effort, with little high tech embellishments nor accoutrements yet with some surprising--no, that's not the right word--*miraculous* success stories to speak about.

Like 70,000 beggars throughout the country, who are beginning to claw their way out of poverty. And other work involving

young and old suffering from HIV-AIDS; also, many success stories dealing with criminals! Some of these success stories tell of small, humble enterprises a little like the *Dawgfather* hot dog stand up by the SUB on the Dalhousie University campus, for example. And even some of the 70,000 beggars have gone on to own and manage whole networks of cooking kiosks and food stands throughout their home region, and beyond, in some cases. These accomplishments are awesome! Huge!

I have written an article about *KIVA* that appeared in our Holiday, 2006 edition, that is, the December, 2006, Volume 9 # 5 issue. Right now I'd like to focus a few sidebar thoughts regarding *Jamii Bora*. One of Dr. Muhammad Yunus's favourites, I think. Actually, Dr. Yunus showed some favouritism to some of the most down and out among the poorest of the poor, who were represented at the Summit conference, this past November, 2006.

You know, of all the gazillions of presenters and showy and quite inspiring public displays that could have been highlighted at the final moments of the Closing Night Dinner, Dr. Yunus seemed to want *Jamii Bora* to get the spotlight. He always seemed to focus on the very poorest of the poorest of the poor, the ones suffering from the most miserable of circumstances, the



The Jesuits of the
Centre of Ignatian Spirituality
(2267 Brunswick Street)
congratulate the workers,
the staff and the leaders of
StreetFeat
on their 9th Anniversary.
Keep up the fine work!

**Adsum House wishes
Happy 9th Anniversary
STREET FEAT.**



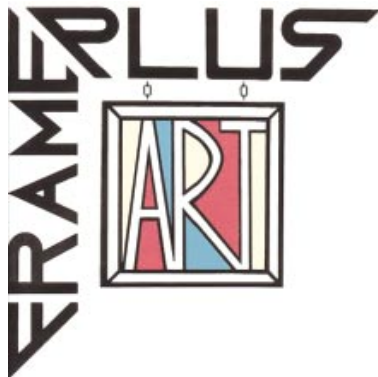
**Adsum House - an emergency shelter
for homeless women and their children**



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Thanks to *Street Feat* newspaper for all the good work you do in the community, on the occasion of your 9th Anniversary.

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Poverty has a negative impact on so many day-to-day issues such as the cost of health care, education, social services and so on. No child should go to school hungry or require medical treatment due to poverty. In this very rich nation, our number one goal should be the eradication of poverty.



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**Happy 9th Birthday to
STREET FEAT
the Voice of the Poor!**



Halifax

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Thank you,
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