

# EndPoverty

# ...Strictly Business

#### CHANGING THE PARADIGM OF THE POVERTY REDUCTION INDUSTRY

A weekly newsletter of the Social Ventures Foundation, a non-profit, non-sectarian organization focused on identifying, promoting and investing in businesses and startups that have developed products, services and/or jobs which sustainably lift the livelihoods of the poor.

# NEWSLETTER

**UPDATE** 



# Jordan Mrvos Editor Social Ventures Foundation

Last week, we began a change in structure to the weekly newsletter that I hope was refreshing for many of you. We decided to feature the University of Pennsylvania under a new banner "End Poverty University".

There are many factors that produce or sustain poverty, especially in a country that shares an income gap almost as extreme as those seen in Russia or China. I have experienced one of those factors personally: Post-Secondary Education.

Education at all levels remains out of reach for most of the world's population. Many startups have been launched to face this boundary head on. However, to continue education in the United States today means facing decades of huge debt managed by programs that offer as much interest as they please.

There are a growing number of universities addressing this problem, especially for first-generation students. We will begin featuring them each week to encourage others (especially private institutions) to follow suit.

CLICK HERE TO SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER

# ENDPOVERTY 2017 BUSINESS SUMMIT NEWS

The Social Ventures Foundation introduces EndPoverty 2017 Strictly Business Virtual Summit - the most important Business Summit of the year, focused on ushering in a new poverty reduction paradigm in response to the proposed Federal cutbacks in national and international poverty programs. The new paradigm focuses on a sustainable alternative to unsustainable charitable and federal donations. This alternative is business.



In many parts of the world, businesses and startups have "stepped up" to the challenge to employ the poor or develop sustainable and affordable products and services within their "wheel houses" that lift the livelihoods of the poor and promote their brand to a population that exceeds 3 to 4 billion people on the planet. Businesses which share this vision will be best positioned to recruit the brightest graduating business and engineering students who see "business with a purpose" as an additional recruitment drawing card. And startups have the world as their oyster given that innovation is key to meet the needs and lift the livelihoods of the 3 to 4 billion people who have been excluded from the free enterprise system.

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE ENDPOVERTY BUSINESS SUMMIT

# THOUGHT LEADER

-STORIES WANTED -

Do you have a personal or enterprise success story that you would like to submit?

We have featured several personal statements explaining why our venture is necessary and important in the world today. These statements have also given insight into similar efforts by the authors to eliminate poverty globally and locally.

Now that precedence has been set, we want to hear your stories! Have you personally risen out of poverty? Has your business done good work to improve the lives of the poor?

If you have a story to tell, and would like to submit it to be featured in a future edition, please contact Jordan@socialventuresfoundation.org.

# ENDPOVERTY BIZ CHALLENGE

Each week we will feature a pressing Business Challenge that addresses a global poverty problem. We invite our readers to sign up to virtually work in teams on a solution to the Challenge. Biz Challenge Teams will present their outcomes at the Summit.

### **Compost-Fueled Water Heating**

The world of social enterprise has been well acquainted with alternative energy concepts. To date, however, emerging markets and impoverished peoples still have rare access to these products - barring cases of unsustainable charitable donations that lead to poorly maintained equipment and wasted materials. A new concept that harnesses heat generated by compost piles has been introduced to elite markets. This product can be adapted anywhere from urban to barren environments, and can easily be developed to lift the lives to the poor in a 'green' way. Will you be the entrepreneur to make it happen?

CLICK HERE TO DONATE TO THE SOCIAL VENTURES FOUNDATION

# ENDPOVERTY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

Each week, we will feature Businesses and Startups that have invested in products, services, and/or jobs that lift the livelihoods of the poor. Each will be asked to present their case studies and the most outstanding will receive the EndPoverty Business 2017 Awards during the Virtual EndPoverty Business Summit on November 17, 2017.

# **ENDPOVERTY LARGE CAP**

#### **Market Basket**



**Problem**: Corporate greed increasing the income gap and eliminating employee control

**Solution**: Market Basket and DeMoulas stores have long been known for providing affordable products to consumers. Three years ago, a company-wide employee strike announced a board decision to dismiss Arthur T. DeMoulas the current CEO who is respected for his upstanding treatment of employees at all levels. After several months of turnmoil, Arthur T. DeMoulas purchased 50.5% of the company's shares, marking a victory for undervalued employees all across the US.

# ENDPOVERTY MID CAP

#### Sobrato



**Problem**: Lack of sustainable and safe low-income housing

Solution: John A. Sobrato has spent decades growing his organization into the California real estate titan it is today. Unlike most entrepreneurs, he has not focused all company efforts on making more money for himself. A recent proposed project, Innovation Place, proves that. The low-income housing units will be constructed out of old shipping containers and will feature security services. The CEO is John M. Sobrato.

CLICK HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS BUSINESS CHALLENGE

#### **ENDPOVERTY BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS**

### **ENDPOVERTY UNIVERSITY**

#### **MIT**



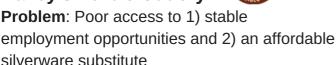
**Problem:** Affordable access to high quality

post-secondary education

Solution: MIT is one of the world's leading academic institutions, but the Legatum Center deserves distinct praise here for its ability to support and foster brilliant student-organized startups with solutions for the poor. They are also nationally ranked as one of the best universities for low-income access to education with a stellar graduation rate to boot. The University President is L. Raphael Reif.

## **ENDPOVERTY EMPLOYER**

#### **Bakey's Edible Cutlery**



**Solution**: Bakey's Edible Cutlery has revolutionized disposable utensils. Made from compressed grains, the forks, spoons, and knives they produce are edible and even come in three flavors depending on intended use. The Founder is Narayana Peesapaty.

# **ENDPOVERTY EMPLOYER**

#### **Ernst and Young**



**Problem**: Immigrant access to employment and legal information/ aid

**Solution**: Ernst and Young employs more than 200,000 people internationally. A good portion of those employees, are immigrants. However, Ernst and Young earned their place on this list for coming to the aid of Starbucks, our first featured employer, to help their immigrants with legal advice to remain employed. The CEO is Mark Weinberger.

### **ENDPOVERTY UNIVERSITY**

#### **Berea College**



**Problem**: Affordable access to high quality post-secondary education

Solution: For the second year, Berea college has ranked number one on Washintgon Monthly's list of best "bang for your buck" colleges in the United States. While they subsidize education for severely low-income students, major, partial discounts and tuition reductions are available for all students. Most who enroll also receive Pell Grants. The President is

## **ENDPOVERTY STARTUPS**

#### **Combat Flip Flops**



**Problem**: Employment for impoverished people in war-torn regions

**Solution**: The founders of Combat Flip Flops are Army Ranger veterans who, over several tours in the Middle East, saw skilled people who didn't want handouts. The company employs these people and makes products to support social ventures, e.g. Hurricane Harvey relief. The CEO is Mattew Griffin.

#### **ENDPOVERTY STARTUPS**

#### **SuprMarkt**



**Problem**: Lack of access to fresh, organic, produce in urban "food deserts"

**Solution**: Suprmarkt was founded a few years ago with the intention of eliminating the pretense that organic produce had to be sold at high prices to an elite market. The food market startup in LA has proven that providing healthy products to impoverished citizens can lift livelihoods and foster community closeness. The founder is Olympia Auset.

#### **ENDPOVERTY MICROCREDIT**

#### **Paypal Working Capital**



Problem: Startup access to small loans with flexible plans and credit leniency

Solution: The successful online payment platform Paypal has expanded their range to support small business owners and startups. Their Working Capital program boasts a low, fixed fee, flexible payment plans, and no credit check (which opens the door to finance for refugees, immigrants, and citizens with no lines of credit). The CEO is Daniel Schulman.

#### **ENDPOVERTY INVESTORS**

A family office, non-profit, institutional investor, or foundation that has made outstanding sustainable investment(s) in the EndPoverty space. THE ECOSYSTEM INTEGRITY FUND

#### EIF

The Ecosystem Integrity Fund is a great example of how variable poverty alleviation efforts can be. Their portfolio focuses exclusively on environmentally sustainable ventures. However, these key ventures are all also working on efficiency and lowering operational cost for clients. Each is making sustainable living more affordable. One partner is James Everett.

# **BIZHARMONY INTERNSHIPS ENDPOVERTY CLASSIFIEDS**

Each week, we offer free classifieds for student interns, and startups or businesses looking for interns who are passionate about sustainably lifting the livelihoods of the poor. We hope to make introductions online and then invite potential partners to meet in person at the EndPoverty Business Summit 2017.

Social Ventures Foundation seeks a volunteer or intern to assist our editor in the preparation of our weekly newsletter. Please email: jordan@socialventuresfoundation.org

> **CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT** AN INTERNSHIP CLASSIFIED.

### ENDPOVERTY MICROCREDIT

#### Zoona



Problem: Women-specific programs poverty alleviation and entrepreneurial support

**Solution**: The KIVA-connected crowdfunding site Zoona was the first company from Southern Africa to be named a part of the B-Corp club. Their effective model of funding women out of poverty has also been recognized by the Unreasonable Group as one of the best companies internationally at achieving this goal. The CEO is Mike Quinn.

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# Community



# **Investment Management**

CIM is the self-proclaimed first firm of its kind in the United States, investing in small businesses for a select group of lenders focused on the technology space, all done with an emphasis on transparency. They are a member of the GIIN, another EndPoverty Investor featured group. One Managing Partner is Jacob Haar.

## **ENDPOVERTY BUSINESS 2017** AWARD NOMINATIONS

We would like you our readers to help us identify and nominate EndPoverty small to large cap businesses, startups, microfinance companies, Investors and employers who have been involved in developing sustainable jobs, products or services which lift the livelihoods of the poor. Once vetted we will place them in this weekly newsletter and invite them to make a case presentation at the EndPoverty 2017 Summit. We very much appreciate your help!

> **CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT A ENDPOVERTY NOMINATION**