



Raquel da Silva Barros

Ms. Raquel Barros da Silva is a psychologist and creator of Lua Nova, an organization that welcomes women in situations of social risk in order to strengthen the relationship between mother and child, always with income generation. This entrepreneurial NGO provides housing, food, education, psychological care and work for all residents. In business centers, Luo Nova makes dolls, gifts, jewelry, cookies and even houses under a collective effort. Its methodology is now public policy in eight cities in Brazil, and more than 3,500 people have benefited since its founding in 2000.

Manjula Pradeep

Ms. Manjula Pradeep is the Executive Director of Navsarjan Trust, one of the largest grassroots organizations in India, which works to increase caste and gender equality in the state of Gujarat, India. Ms. Pradeep has been working with Navsarjan for past 19 years. She is a member of the executive committee of International Dalit Solidarity Network and serves as Secretary of National Center for Advocacy Studies, India. She is also a member in the steering committee for Women in Governance (India). Ms. Pradeep holds a Masters in Social Work and a law degree.

Cynthia Steele

As the Executive Vice President of EMpower, the Emerging Markets Foundation, Ms. Cynthia Steele oversees grant making and programmatic initiatives on young people in emerging market countries with a special focus on strengthening livelihoods programming for young women. She has more than 30 years' experience in programming and evaluation for youth development and women's health and rights in developing countries and has worked in over 45 countries. Ms. Steele currently serves as board chair of Girls for Gender Equity and on multiple advisory boards.

Corinne Whitaker

Dr. Corinne Whitaker, Ph.D. is an international expert with 25 years' experience fostering youth and women's health, economic empowerment and gender equality programming, research, evaluation and advocacy. She conducted a prospective impact evaluation of an early translation of the Group Guaranteed Lending and Savings (GGLS) model into rural Africa, has been advocating for linking health and economic programs since the 1980s, and has written on financial services for entrepreneurship programs. Dr. Whitaker has evaluated proposals for the Nike Foundation's reviews, mapped and identified good practices and guidelines for adolescent girls' livelihoods for the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) as well as for non-standard income generation activities for girls for the Empower Foundation. She has lived and worked in Africa for 15 years.