

## **Message Of Hope Mumbai Funding Report**

Dear Royal Commonwealth Society.

Firstly we would like to once again express our utmost appreciation and gratitude for receiving this funding which subsequently allowed us to complete our project to Mumbai. We would like to also apologise for not being able to supply this report to you sooner but with everything that has been happening over the past few months and finishing our final year at University time has got away from us.

We feel extremely fortunate to have been able to complete our trip to Mumbai, having flown out towards the end of February and returned two weeks later into the beginning of March, we were thankfully not affected by any lockdown regulations. The filming itself was a success and we managed to complete everything that we had intended to film.

Our documentary focuses on the charities The Hair Project and Oasis India, who work together to help victims of human trafficking and child abuse in Mumbai. The project aims to teach these young girls a skill in which they can take forward and turn into a career which can help them escape the troubles they may have previously experienced. Zac from BA1 Hair in Bath has created a full training programme for the young girls which teaches them a full array of hair cutting and styling. The charity also aims to provide each girl with the equipment they need to complete their course - from mannequin heads to the scissors and combs.

The funding that we received from you allowed us to cover the costs of our flights and accommodation for the two weeks we stayed in Mumbai. Without your grant we would not have been able to complete this project and for that we are all extremely thankful.

Over our two weeks we visited various locations that the charity occupies and met most of the staff that work for them. We were invited to attend an opening ceremony for their new salon that they were opening in the city of Naigaon which was also a great experience. The charity staff were extremely welcoming and friendly to us as we filmed. They helped us in any capacity they could and I feel like we've made some very strong friendships that hopefully will allow us to stay in touch into the future.

One of our most memorable days was one that we spent with a charity worker named Rebecca. Our plan for the day of filming was to document her day to day life while working for the charity and navigating the extreme city of Mumbai. We began filming in the morning at her home where she cooked breakfast for her family and set her children off to school. We then travelled with her to Nalla Sopara where we visited a nursery project run by Oasis that helps to educate the local children of the area. We then travelled back to the charity's main hub in Mira Road where we spent the rest of the working day with Rebbeca. In the evening we were invited back to Rebecca's house once again to spend more time with/film her family. We were told that we were

the first foreign visitors to Rebecca's house and felt extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to spend time with her family.

Looking to the future we hope for this film to really showcase the amazing work that these charities carry out and promote them back here in the UK. By editing shorter videos for the charities themselves we hope to focus on specific individuals that all play a role in the greater picture. Hopefully these short videos will allow the charities to showcase their work on their own social media and gain more funding as a subsequent result. We also hope to enter our longer film into national short film competitions with the hope of it being considered for selection into the awards. We hope that if successful we can promote and spread the work further of these amazing charities and once more provide help to the charities.

As a group we have now all finished our studies and graduated from Bath Spa University. We hope to continue in this line of work as we hope to progress and grow our newly formed production company - Onnos Media. The aim for Onnos is split into two sections. Commercial and Documentary. We hope to work closely with businesses around the south west to provide meaningful and professional commercial video content for them to use to promote their businesses and events. The documentary side of our business will primarily focus on creating more films on some amazing charities and organisations that are helping to make a positive change in the world. We understand how important video content can be and by using our business as a means to promote these individuals and groups we hope that we can help govern a positive shift in the way people experience news and film in this modern age. Thanks to your funding we received for our trip to Mumbai, we were able to start on this journey and begin with our first project on Oasis India and The Hair Project.

Many thanks,  
Tom Minty  
Onnos Media

