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***BEST SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURIAL ORGANIZATION***

**Developing Minds Foundation**

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After climbing the corporate ladder for 10 years, Philippe Houdard left his executive position with a successful technology company to pursue his dream of building schools in Latin America. Today, the Developing Minds Foundation helps educate thousands of children in the Southern Hemisphere. The South Florida-based nonprofit organization builds schools and supports education projects in areas of Latin America affected by violence and poverty. Founded in 2006, the Miami Beach group now has 10 projects under way in some of the region's most violent areas, including computer/technology schools that serve 300 students in City of God and 100 students in Rio de Janeiro's Rocinha *favela* (slum), as well as literacy projects in Colombian mountain villages affected by civil conflict. The Developing Minds Foundation employs the best practices of the private sector to ensure maximum results. It believes that by using the same rigor and discipline found in the competitive field of business, the organization provides the greatest return to donors, who are treated like shareholders. In this case, the return is not measured financially, but in human potential — an approach that makes Developing Minds a leading South Florida organization.

