Kevin Prine, President & CEO, joined Outreach International in January 2012. The culmination of a quarter century of his experience in entrepreneurship, business, and nonprofit leadership, Kevin’s life work has always been oriented toward building systems that create significant, sustainable value. Most recently, Kevin was a director and partner at Tradebot Systems and Tradebot Ventures, one of the largest and most successful trading firms in the world. Previously, he served on the faculty at two universities, where he held an endowed chair in business and leadership and built a thriving entrepreneurial center that resulted in a Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) USA national championship. Kevin's work in education received consistent awards for outstanding teaching, and his academic writing has appeared in national and international publications.

Kevin’s search for practical solutions to big problems is consistent throughout his career. Combining his scholarly research and entrepreneurial work in Asia, Central America, and Eastern Europe with his understanding of the principles of Outreach International — he has been a donor since 1991 — he realized that development projects alone do not address the causes of extreme poverty. Charity is most effective when generosity creates a positive ripple that grows beyond the initial beneficiary, and eliminating poverty from the planet requires change that is both viral and permanent. Outreach International, with more than thirty years of fine-tuning a deep community development process, helps forge these lasting changes around the world, each and every day.

Education:
Ph.D., University of Kansas
M.B.A., Baylor University
B.A., Graceland College
WE WORK WITH COMMUNITIES TO CREATE LASTING SOLUTIONS TO POVERTY.

Our mission

Outreach International has provided sustainable solutions to end poverty around the world for almost forty years, reaching hundreds of thousands with our mission to cultivate enduring change.

We believe that giving a gift without educating a community on how to use, repair, or nurture it is no gift at all; instead it delays the hard work of actually resolving a problem.

Projects don’t end poverty. People do.

That’s why our key investment is in the people themselves — women, men, and children with stunning resilience, untapped intelligence, inherent creativity, and undeniable dignity. Together, we work to give our partners a voice to express their concerns, a means to access the materials they need, and the skills to bring themselves and their communities to sustainable levels of income.

By giving impoverished communities the tools they need to maintain and continue their own successes, we change lives for generations to come.

What is Participatory Human Development? (PHD)

Participatory Human Development (PHD) is a participatory, experiential, non-violent, and evolutionary process of problem-solving, consciousness-raising and development of the poor. Participatory Human Development encourages shared action by community members toward the entrepreneurial creation of better lives. Through informational enrichment, political agitation, decision-making, economic and purchasing power, and more, PHD’s application establishes just, humane, and meaningful social relationships and lasting solutions.

As a problem-solving methodology, PHD encourages participants who identify, act, and solve their own personal and community-wide issues, and is proven to be effective and sustainable.

As a consciousness-raising, educational methodology, PHD equips partners with appropriate, necessary knowledge, skills, values, and attitudes to act and manage their own development.

As an organizational and empowerment process, PHD catalyzes the emergence of alternative structures and systems through grass-roots community groups which become the instruments for people to effectively and collectively assert, enforce, and protect their own interests in an unselfish way.

The nine-step process of PHD, pictured above, is the nucleus of Outreach International’s proven, effective approach to creating sustainable resolutions to chronic poverty around the world. PHD is deployed both practically and dynamically, offering flexibility in its application to remain nimble and inclusive to participants’ respective needs and circumstances. Beyond its versatility in addressing traditional poverty-related issues, the methodology behind PHD is regularly applied and measured across many personal and structural issues beyond field development, with equal success.
WHERE WE WORK, WHAT WE DO

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Contact Charlotte Belshe for more information
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When communities use the PHD process and follow its nine steps, they practice action, evaluation, and reflection. Through this experience, people gain confidence, raise their levels of consciousness, and learn skills and tactics. The change is permanent, because the beneficiaries are the ones creating the solution and retaining the knowledge. The work multiplies, because the group members are expanding the project to other people in the community. Finally, the work grows organically because beneficiaries begin helping nearby villages by using the skills they acquired through their own development and PHDP. I am very happy about the work I do, because it gives me a real chance to work with Outreach International methodology (PHDP).

–Rama Chandra Jagaranga,
Human Development Facilitator, India

It is true that without hope, there is no rising out of poverty. And without someone to sow the seeds of hope in the people who are distressed by and immersed in poverty, there would be no transformation. But all of this movement could not be achieved without the financial support and selflessness of those who have money in their bank accounts.

–Melvy Lizett Munoz Rosas,
Bookkeeper, Bolivia

Coming from a financial background, I am most interested in organizations that address the problem of poverty with both financial effectiveness and sound, open financial stewardship of the gifts from their donors. Outreach International excels on both accounts. I have personally seen, in a self-funded site visit to the Bolivian Andes, how donor contributions change the current and future lives of men, women, and children, with dignity and empowerment. I also pay close attention to how funds are being spent on administration, and again, I consistently see personal responsibility and careful management of donations at all levels of the organization. Outreach International is a rare breath of fresh air!

–Rick Lindgren
Outreach Board Member

WOW. I can’t tell you how much the process that Outreach International employs empowers the poor to help themselves make changes in their lives and the life of their community. I just returned from a trip to Malawi, where Outreach is assisting the poorest of the poor villages to learn the skills and take the steps to learn communal decision-making; setting goals and prioritizing, and learning how to submit proposals to many NGOs, as well as to their own government (when applicable). And the process is SO empowering for the women. The difference in the pride, joy and forward-looking spirit in the villages where Outreach has been for 10 years, versus three years, versus a new village, is amazing. The “soft skills” of the in-country, local Outreach staff are phenomenal.

–Ruth Jaycox
Outreach Volunteer

Outreach International is a truly unique organization in the way that it approaches the problem of poverty. Few organizations are patient enough to do it right — to break the cycle of dependence on outsiders that so many of the world’s poor have, and create change within the hearts, minds, and spirits of the poor themselves.

Through Outreach, communities embrace a new life-view — defined by solving problems for themselves, by themselves. Then, as the younger generation in these communities witnesses the success that comes from self-motivated change, they perpetuate the practice until it becomes a part of the culture for the long term.

There is nothing temporary about the impact of Outreach International — the change is lasting, sustainable, and passed down through successive generations in the village.

–Tom Townsend
Outreach Board Member

I was able to travel with Outreach International to the Philippines back in the ’90s, and then to Malawi this past year, and I continue to especially love Outreach because...what is said in print is what really happens with the people! The people are SO proud of what they have achieved because of their work with Outreach. With the support of Outreach facilitators, the people truly do identify their priority issues and then work to increase their sources of and improve their living conditions — and those changes last!

–Kathy Robinson
Former Chair, Outreach Board