

ANNUAL PROJECT REPORT

PROJECT NAME: REHABILITATION OF STREET AND WORKING CHILDREN

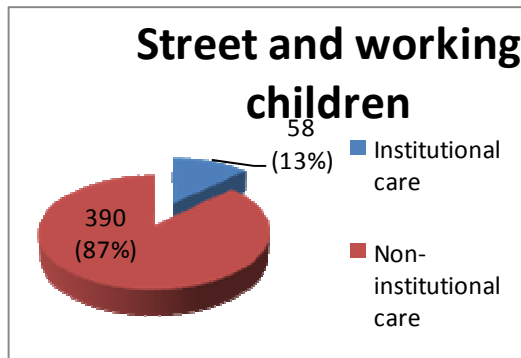
PROJECT NO. 22520

PROJECT LOCATION : SARVA SEVA SANGH, PUNE

REPORTING PERIOD : 1st APRIL 2011 to 31st MARCH 2012

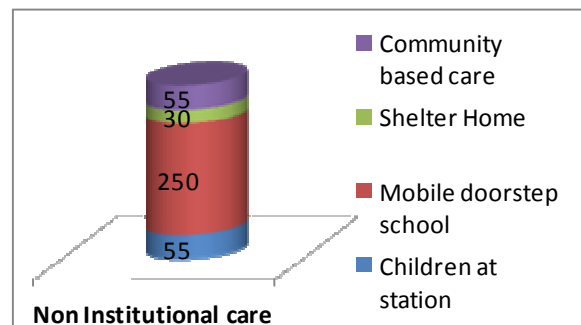
1. Introduction

Pune has been the eight largest metropolis in India and the second largest in the State of Maharashtra after Mumbai. Pune has witnessed an accelerated pace of growth during these years and is emerging as a prominent location for IT and manufacturing companies. But hand in hand with the rapid development and industrialization and also because of these, there is a huge inflow of migrant workers and children from across the country. As the city grows to its outskirts, the poor are pushed to the slums and streets. There is huge contingent of children living at the streets, at railway station and slums and who etch their livelihood through begging, collecting scrapes etc. It is in the context of this ever growing number of street children that Sarva Seva Sangh is trying to make creative interventions for their rehabilitation and development.



There are 448 children in the project including 58 children placed under institutional based care, pursuing their studies staying in 4 hostels and 390 children under non-institutional care. The three hundred and ninety children under non-institutional care includes the children

attending the mobile doorstep school, street children living at the station, children at a nearby community and the children at the shelter home.



The objective of the whole programme was to provide these children a risk free environment to live and study and thus to empower them and to raise the social consciousness about these children's rights and their callous violations.

In addition to the support from HCDI, we have received some financial help from the Society of the Divine Word (Partner's contribution) and through our efforts we have been able to generate some local resources for specific programmes like Bal Mela 2011.

2. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

These are broadly classified in to three different aspects of the project, namely, rehabilitation, empowerment and advocacy.

A. REHABILITATION

1. Non-Institutional care

Visit to the Pune railway station

Sarva Seva Sangh staff has been regularly visiting the Pune railway station on a daily basis and this has helped us to understand and reach out to the nearly Eighty Five children whose life and activities are centered on the Pune railway station and the surrounding areas. Our visits have been primarily to motivate these children to leave the station and pursue alternate ways of earning their livelihood and pursue their education. Priority and special care was given to the identification and rehabilitation of young and new children coming into the street.

Mobile Doorstep School (*Manoranjan Shala*)

The Mobile Doorstep school is a school on wheels, a new way of reaching out to slum and pavement children and children at construction sites. During the last year we were reaching out to 5 contact points catering to 250 children in a bid to introduce them to formal education. The end and aim of this informal education is to inspire both children and parents to enroll their children for formal education. The new mini bus has latest attractions to the children like DVD player and an LCD TV and with the help of these facilities; the classes are made more and more child friendly and interesting. In addition to classes on reading and writing, the mobile school has a variety of activities like singing, dancing, drawing etc. Some nutrition materials are also regularly supplied to these children.

Medical Care and Support

The children who live in the streets, slums and railway platforms often pay very little attention to their health care and hygiene. During the daily visits to the railway station and the other contact points, the SSS staff provides first aid and primary care to anyone who is sick and takes them to the government or private hospitals for further diagnosis and treatment. We conducted two medical camps each at Suryaprakashnagri, Kalyani Nagar and Ramwadi and one camp at Kharadi during the year and 529 persons benefitted from them.

Shelter Home

Shelter home is a sincere effort to offer the children who have ran away from their homes at one point or the other, a home away from their homes. The shelter home at the moment accommodates 28 children ranging from the age of 5 to 17. All the children in the shelter home have been enrolled in the nearby Marathi medium schools for formal education. Besides the classes in the school, shelter home provides regular additional tuition for two hours in the morning and these children live, study, play and work as one family and ample freedom and opportunities are provided for their growth and self-development.

Re-unification

Though Sarva Seva Sangh is committed to provide the street and working children a home away from home, whenever possible, we inspire and help these children to get back to their homes. During the last one year we have been able to get four children among the newly arrived 7 children re-united with their families and four children who were at the shelter home for more than an year were guided to live with their mothers and pursue education from home.

Community based care at Suryaprakashnagri

We have started a few activities in this community for the street and working children, their parents and care takers this year. The community based program is intended for the development of the community and especially children and women. In order to motivate the

parents and children to continue their education we provided school bags and note books to 55 children. Besides this, evening tuitions are held regularly for school going children, which serves as an added incentive for them to continue their formal education. Two training programs were held for unemployed youth and women on candle and perfume making and some women were assisted in these income generation projects. Two women are undergoing tailoring training with our assistance.

2. Institutional care

At present we have 58 children placed in various hostels in and around Pune for formal education. Regular visits are held to these hostels and the needs of these children are attended to. Such visits are also occasions for us to keep track of the progress of these children both in their academics as well as in other fields. Counseling and guidance is given to these children as and when necessary.

B. EMPOWERMENT

Picnic and Outings

SSS is committed to the overall and holistic development of the children and their personality. Picnics and outings constitute an important dimension of their life, as they are always occasions for cheer and entertainment. The street children at the station had two picnics during the year to Bushi Dam, Appughar and Dolphin Water Park. Thirty one Children from Pune station and 28 from Shelter Home were taken to Rambo Circus too. The children who remained at shelter home and in other hostels during the summer vacation was also taken to Appughar and Dolplhin Water Park.

Life skill camps

During the last year we conducted two life skill training program for the Institutional based children and one for the children at the community. Sessions were held on group living, how you should be optimistic in life, growing up gracefully, and sex education. These sessions were guided by Ms. Susan Raj and team. Mr. Suryankant Made and his team from Indian Social Research Institute Pune, guided the sessions during the second camp. The topic for the camp was self development through positive thinking. They spoke on self identification, inner potentials, how to make study interesting, emotional adjustment, positive thinking etc, with a lot of participatory games. A session on sex education and yoga too were held for 24 girls under institutional care.

Study Tour to Aurangabad and Ellora

A study tour was conducted for the high school children under institutional care to historically significant places like Ellora and Aurangabad. They visited Daulatabad Fort, Ellora Caves, Nathsagar Dam across Godavari river, the Paithan garden, Aurangabad University, Paanchakki, Aurangabad Zoo and BE-B-KA- MAKABARA replica of TAJMAHAL.

De addiction and de-toxification camps

Two de-addiction camps were held for 63 street children from Pune railway station by resource persons from Mukangan & Anandwan de-addiction centre. The sessions were participatory and included self introduction, storytelling, sharing etc. and emphasis was laid on stress management i.e, how stress leads to addiction how to cope with it. We also conducted medical checkup for children.

Children's Parliament

Children's parliament was formed both at the shelter home and in the community during the course of the year. 11 ministers were elected. They drafted their roles and responsibilities according to their ministries. Children have taken their roles seriously and the parliament is functioning well.

Bal Mela 2011

Bal Mela 2011 was celebrated with great grandeur by Sarva Seva Sangh, Pune at Stella Maris School Premises, on 10th November 2011. It was inaugurated by Ms. Suvarna Pawar, the District Women and Child Development Officer, Pune. Bal Mela 2011 was intended to offer a day of cheer and entertainment to children living at high risk situations. Over 800 children from both Sarva Seva Sangh and collaborating NGOs participated in the Bal Mela, in addition to over two hundred care takers, and volunteers. One hundred and sixty children from the project attended this programme. Various rides and games stalls were arranged to provide entertainment to the children.

The children enjoyed every bit of the excellent Orchestra by Roxygen in the afternoon. The concluding meeting was presided over by Fr. Lazar Stanislaus, Provincial Superior, Mumbai India Province, and Ms. Madhuri Abhayankar, Director, SOFOSH, Pune gave the keynote address. The hilarious presence and performance of Ms. Vaishnavi MacDonalds from the film world best known for her lead role in 'Sakthiman' added color and gaiety to the celebration. Dr. Naina Atalye, Programme Coordinator, HCDI was also present at the occasion. All the children from the shelter home, Seventy two children from the communities and those under the institutional care participated in the whole programme.

C. ADVOCACY

Even as Sarva Seva Sangh is involved in the rehabilitation of street and working children and their empowerment, every effort is also made to bring to the forefront the issues pertaining to these children to both before the Government and the society. Sarva Seva Sangh has been making consistent efforts to link the clients with the various Government schemes and to help them to receive the benefits available.

Seminar for Hostel wardens and teachers on child rights

As part of our advocacy program we organized three seminars for school teachers on Child Rights, New Education Policy 2010, and child sexual abuse. The sessions were attended by 57 teachers.

Children's Rally

As part of the Children's day celebration, Sarva Seva Sangh organized a rally on 10th of November from Vadgaonsheri to Ramwadi. The objective of the rally was to bring awareness to the general public as well as the children and their parents about child rights.

Women's Day celebration and rally

Sarva Seva Sangh had a meaningful Women's day celebration on 6th March 2012. The public gathering was preceded by a women's rally from Sarva Seva Sangh to St. Arnold's Central school, Sainikwadi. The rally was flagged off by Sr. Lucy, Director of Maher - actively involved in the fight for the rights for women and the girl child with a very inspiring message. The public meeting at St. Arnold's Central School was presided over by Mr. Thomas Rajkumar, Director of HCDI and Mrs. Maya Devre, Asst. Police Inspector, Women's cell, gave the keynote address. During her speech she addressed the issues of violence against women, the family domestic violence act 2005 and its implications. Mr Thomas Rajkumar, Director, HCDI, Pune in his presidential address spoke about the need for further empowerment of women. Two women shared their life stories and the way Sarva Seva Sangh has been an inspiring force behind their lives. This was followed by a street play on female infanticide presented by the students from Wadia College.

D. Success Stories

Sakshi Karde

Sakshi a 9 year old girl from Loni (Pune) was a regular visitor to Pune railway station since last four years. She used to come in the morning to Pune station and she used to beg and was earning more than 250 rupees per day. Sakshi has a younger sister and mother. Her father left her mother and married again because of which her mother left the village and came to Pune. She has a step father who is working as an assistant traffic officer. We approached the girl and she was willing to go to school, she requested us to contact the family. We made home visit to the family and met the mother and motivated her to send the girl to school. We were in the process for three years and were following up the case. And we succeeded in motivating her mother and step father to place her in the hostel. She is studying in the second standard and has adapted well to the new environment.

Hirappa Nagappa Zapnor

Hirappa is a 17 year old boy from Karnataka, who is staying with us in our shelter home for past 8 years. He passed his standard X with 73% marks. He has taken admission for XI commerce and wants to work as accountant with some firms. Eight years ago when he came to us, he was a chronic addict to tobacco and whitener, but had a strong desire to study and become someone in life.

Umesh Ramkishore Baisakhu

Umesh a 18 year old boy, completed his standard X with 63% of marks. He is doing his electrician course from Don Bosco (Chinchwad). After 2 months of training during the campus interview he was selected for Mahindra. Umesh came to Sarva Seva Sangh nine years ago and hails from Shivni (MP). He is an orphan and was reunified with his grandmother in 2006 he found it difficult to adjust in that situation and returned to Shelter Home.

E. Future Plans

Sarva Seva Sangh is committed to enhance the quality of its services and to make new interventions for the welfare and development of these vulnerable children and to work against Child labor and work for the implementation of the right to Education Act. We plan to lay more emphasis on de-addiction programmes and vocational training in addition to supporting a few children for their graduation/professional studies.

Conclusion

I am very happy to present this annual report of our activities and programs oriented to the rehabilitation of the street and working children because we have been able to execute the project as per our planning and much to the satisfaction of our beneficiaries. During this period even as we reached out to the children in need, we too acquired many a new insight and learned new modes of operation through the seminars, other training programs and our daily interaction with our beneficiaries. Networking with other like-minded NGOs was extremely beneficial and at the best interests of our clients.

At this point, as I present this report, I like to register our appreciation and sincere thanks to our funding agencies both KNH and HCDI and the benefactors, for their sustained and continuous support to the project. We hope to carry out the ongoing activities and make further more meaningful, creative and useful interventions in bringing positive changes in the lives of these children during the years to come.

Part II

Specific Aspects

Some of the Special programmes and specific activities during the last year are given below.

Felicitation programme for successful children

Sarva Seva Sangh organized a felicitation programme on 20th August, 2011 to congratulate and felicitate the children who have passed out of the X and XII examinations. This program was held at Ishvani Kendra, Sainikwadi. Dr. Bhagwan Thakur, the Principal of Wadia College gave the keynote address and gave a very inspiring message. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Thomas Rajkumar, the director of HCDI and he congratulated the children for their excellent performance. Dr. Naina, the Program Coordinator, too felicitated the children and urged them to move forward with the same enthusiasm and interest. Four Children had appeared in the X examination and two of them secured First class.

Aptitude test and Career Guidance

Three children who completed their X standard underwent an aptitude test and career guidance at Jnana Prabhodhini Sonshodhan Sanstha on 21st April 2011. They they guided individual to choose their career according to their ability and strength.

Study Tour to Ellora & Aurangabad

This was a new activity of this financial year and we conducted a two-day study tour for children under Institutional care to Historical places like Ellora and Aurangabad etc. to foster better sense of history. All the high school going children, numbering 15 had the privilege to participate in the study tour. The children were taken for the study tour on 30th December and returned on the 31st 2011.

The places they visited included Daulatabad Fort, Ellora Caves, Nathsgar Dam across Godavari river, the Paithan garden, Aurangabad University, Paanchakki, Aurangabad Zoo and BE-B-KA- MAKABARA a replica of TAJMAHAL. They also visited Sidharath Garden at Aurangabad. This was a rare opportunity for all these children to visit such historically significant places.

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Life skill Training programmes

Four life skill training programs were conducted for the children under Institution based care and community based care during the course of the year. One hundred and six children participated in these sessions. The sessions dealt with topics like team building, leadership, sex education, positive thinking, study methods, Yoga training and emotional growth. The resource persons were Mrs. Susanraj and her team, Mr. Suryakant Made & his team, Dr. Neetha Nikkam and Vibha Deshpande.

Children's Parliament

Children's parliament was formed both at the shelter home and at Suryaprakashnagri community during this year. Thirty children from the community elected seven ministers and the parliament sessions are conducted twice a month. Children's parliament members' took initiative and cleaned the area surrounding the community. In the shelter home Eleven ministers were elected and this has brought in better participation in the decision making process and increased sense of self responsibility.

Rally in support of the anti corruption movement

A rally was organized on in solidarity with the anti corruption movement gathering momentum in the country in order to conscientise the public on the issue of corruption that is destroying the very fabric of our democracy. Thirty Three children and parents participated in the rally.

Child right advocacy programme for teachers and wardens

As part of our advocacy program we organized seminars at three different schools for teachers and wardens on child rights in the context of the New Education Policy 2010 and on Child sexual abuse. A total of 57 teachers and wardens participated in the program. Mr Nakul Kate guided the session on the new Education Policy, and the sessions of Child sexual abuse was guided by Mrs. Kranti Agnihotri & her team from AALOCHANA.

World AID's Day & Awareness Programmes

As part of the World AIDS Day celebration, this year we conducted a series of awareness programmes, meetings, street plays and rallies to bring home the message of the serious menace of HIV/AIDS. Nearly 5020 children, teachers and people participated in the weeklong programmes. We had organized awareness

programme with target groups like youth, daily wage laborers, women, college students, adolescents groups, Self help group, domestic workers etc. HIV/AIDS awareness programme was conducted at 12 different places. We have used various teaching methods like Street play, Lecture, Rally, Group dissection, distributing ICE material, Slogans, Banners etc. to bring home the message about the seriousness of the HIV epidemic and to free them from various misconceptions regarding the same.

Capacity Building and Exposure visit for the staff

A two-day training programme was conducted for the staff. Dr. Bino Thomas from Christ University, Bangalore guided the sessions on the emerging challenges in the field of social work, and the ways and means to respond to the multifarious problems of the special children under our care and on Life Skills. Two persons from the department attended the training program organized by the HCDCI, Pune on Non Formal Education at Andheri, Mumbai.

An exposure visit to Hyderabad was organized for the staff. This year the focus was to visit the shelter homes and get to know the kind of activities done, their documentation pattern, and how they plan for the grown up children after their education. We visited Montfort Social Institute, Don Bosco centre, Bethany Karunalayam, Asha Kiran and Rainbow Homes. All these centers are run for street and working children.

Networking

Sarva Seva Sangh has made every effort to network with like-minded NGOs and Government offices during the six months. We do collaborate with NGOs like 'Sathi', Child line, Don Bosco, and with Government centres and offices like the Remand Home, District women and Child Development Office, Sarva Siksha Abhiyan and Railway police in every rehabilitation efforts of these NGOs and the government. Through our networking with the Catholic Syrian Bank, we have been able to open individual saving accounts for many women for the welfare of their children, in our care. We have also been networking with the CSR departments of various companies to raise local scholarships and assistance especially for programmes like Bal Mela 2011.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Planning of the various activities is done at the beginning of every month and during the next month these activities are evaluated with reference to its expected and real outcome. Monitoring and evaluation of the project is done with reference to and in the light of the proposed action plan, output and outcome and clearly spelt out indicators in the annual action plan. The project is also evaluated with reference to the objective and long term outcome. Whenever we have found some intervention ineffective and not producing the expected output and outcome, we have tried to adopt new strategies or revise the mode or quality of the intervention.

Part III

Progress towards intervention logic

Objective	Indicators	Activities & Tasks	Accomplishment	Deviations & reasons	Future interventions
<p><u>Rehabilitation</u> To provide rehabilitation to 58 children under institutional care and 390 children under non-institutional care</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are happy • regular in school attendance • Improved health status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supply of necessary materials for education and stay • Medical camps and assistance to all the children • Nutritional assistance to the mobile doorstep school children and midday meal for those at the Pune railway station 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifty Eight children pursuing formal education staying at hostels, 85 children pursuing formal education staying at the shelter home and community in a risk free environment • Improved health status 		
<p><u>Empowerment</u> To provide psycho social care and to empower the 143 children pursuing formal education, staying with parents/care taker or in an institution/shelter home in a risk free environment</p> <p>To motivate the children to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • good results in the exams • mental well being of children and their mothers and improved self esteem and confidence • Improved relationship with peers • Significant and visible leadership qualities • Some children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monthly visits to the hostel and the children's parliament sessions at the community and the shelter home • Life skill training programmes • Exposure visits/study tour • Bal Mela • Daily visits to the contact points and thus enhanced rapport with the social workers • Motivating children and taking them home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good results/100% success in the exams • Two children with first class in X • Children at leadership roles (Head boy in the school) • Two children's parliaments constituted at shelter home and the community and children are helped to take decisions with responsibility 		

leave the station and get enrolled in formal education, some children are reunified with their parents, and some children get detoxified	<p>leave station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some children are reunified • Some quit addictions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • De-addiction camps • Life skill/de-addiction camps and inputs regarding addictions • Counseling and guidance to move forward in life with a new imagination and confidence 			
<p><u>Advocacy</u> To enhance awareness of children's rights and their violations, and accessibility to entitlements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children demanding their rights • Networking with both GOs and NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rallies and awareness programmes • Sessions for teachers and wardens • Holiday/life skill camps • Children's parliament • Monthly meeting with the children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children demanding their rights • Parents and society respects and take notice of the plight of the children and the blatant violation of their rights • Two children's parliaments constituted and children learn to act as responsible citizens. 		
<p><u>Vocational Guidance</u> To provide vocational guidance and job oriented training to children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children get enrolled in vocational courses and job oriented training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job oriented training in institutions • Placements after training • Support given for Income generating projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One boy after the completion of the course has started working and earning salaries and two girls partly employed after the XII completion of XII 		

– **Fr. Babu Kakkaniyil SVD**

Project Manager



Signature of Project Manager