

Sarva Seva Sangh, Pune reached out to hundreds of children at risk during the project year 2018-2019. Activities and outreach conducted for street and working children and children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS are presented below in detail. We feel great joy and satisfaction with what we were able to achieve during the project year.

## 1. Street And Working Children

### 2. Developments in environment and external conditions with implications on the project

One of the most vulnerable groups of children in India, especially in cities, is street children. They survive in city streets deprived of protection, health care and education. It is estimated that Pune, a large and fast growing city has over 10,000 street children. They can be broadly classified as street living children, street working children and children of street families.

In Pune we find a very high number of children of street families. The street families engage these children in begging and collecting waste materials to sell and earn. Homelessness is the main cause for these children to be on the streets with the family. Such families are on the increase as more and more people are moving to the cities looking for ways to earn money due to lack of livelihood in villages and neglect of rural population by the governments. Concentration on urbanization also brings a lot of labor force, especially construction workers to the cities, displacing their children too with them. The number of children begging as well as selling at traffic lights is on the rise.

Along with the interventions the project is making and by other organizations a lot more needs to be done at various levels in order to address this issue.

### 3. Project Outreach

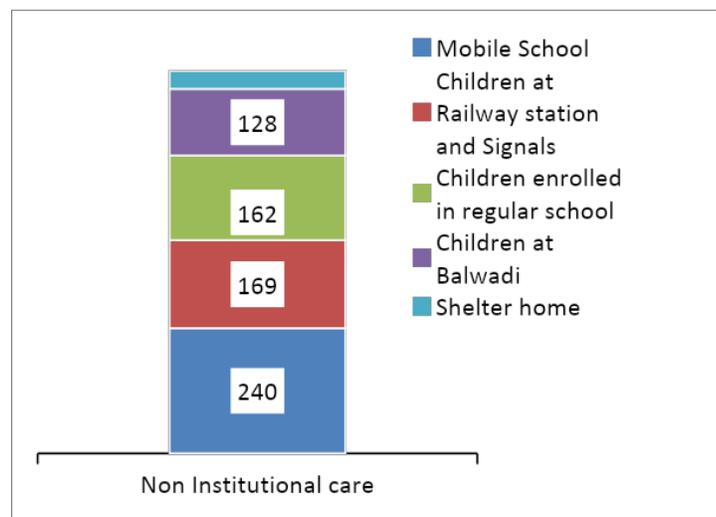
During the project year there were 788 children in the project including 55 children placed under institutional based care, pursuing their studies staying in 4 hostels and 733 children under non-institutional care. The seven hundred and thirty three children under non-institutional care includes the children attending the mobile doorstep school, street children living at the pune railway station and traffic signals, children enrolled in regular school from the mobile school, children attending classes at the balwadi at construction site labor camp and the children at the shelter home.

The objective of the whole programme was to ensure the rights of these children, especially, right to protection and right to development and to raise the social consciousness about these children's rights and their callous violations. The activities conducted for women who are the mothers/care takers of the children in the project too were aimed at achieving these objectives.

#### Progress of the intervention in the reporting period: from activities to objectives

### 3.1 Description of progress on each Sub-Objective<sup>1</sup>

#### a. Rehabilitation



<sup>1</sup> If the project does not have sub-objectives for different components or target groups, please apply this structure once for the project objective.

**A. Sub Objective- To Ensure that children receive timely nutritional and medical support for their physical well being**

**Activities and outputs**

The project staff has been regularly visiting Pune railway station and surrounding areas and traffic signals on a daily basis. During visits to station and traffic signals the staff motivate children and their parents for formal schooling and to provide children safe environment. The children were gradually guided to the mobile doorstep school to begin to learn something and were provide with a well packed meal. Monthly gatherings and picnics for these children were also conducted, so as to get the children familiarized with the staff and the organization. This has helped in building rapport with children and their parents and also with the people in the surroundings who help in tracing new children and about their whereabouts. During the project year we came in contact with one hundred and sixty nine children in and around Pune railway station and traffic signals. The parents are also motivated and guided by the staff. As a result 12 more such children were enrolled in school during the project year and were given safe environment to stay and live a healthy and happy life.

During the year a total of 89 children whose parents live on streets were provided safe and healthy environment either in different hostels or in shelter home. These children are given care and protection in institutions and attend school regularly. Another 162 more children were provided study materials and ensured that they stay safely with parents or care takers and regularly attend school. The project staff also took necessary action whenever the children who were attending mobile school and on street were found unhealthy.

The children from the station and surrounding areas and traffic signals were brought regularly every month to Sarva Seva Sangh or taken to gardens in order to provide them an opportunity to interact with the children who have come out of the street and get themselves motivated to pursue education. Various activities were conducted for them so that they feel attracted to come and develop interest. This helped in building more rapport with these children and children becoming more familiar with the center and the staff in the effort to bring these children out of unsafe situation and get into formal education.

Vaccination camp for children was conducted at KoltePatil construction site. This was done under govt. Indradhanush campaign where the doctors and nurses come to the communities and give the vaccination. Our beneficiaries being illiterate they do not understand the importance of vaccination hence we have to motivate parents to bring children for vaccination. Twenty one children benefited from the program.

Health check up was conducted for parents and children staying on pavements and on the streets and also at a mobile school point. Health talks were conducted for the parents of street children in the project and in a mobile school point to orient them about healthy food practices. Dr. GajananPatil instructed parents how to prevent children from communicable diseases. Dr. Lunkad spoke about cooking healthy food at home with the things available at home. He also taught them the technique of water therapy to maintain their health. All the parents present were convinced.

We have come across children at the dump yard, where we need to intervene too. We need to also evolve better strategy to address the issue of children found at traffic lights.

Progress towards intervention logic			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
<b>Rehabilitation</b>			
1. Children free of communicable diseases	3285	626	2905

2. Children are adequately clothed	3285	626	2905
3. Children look healthy	3285	626	2905

The progress has been rather good. The main reasons for the same are that the project staff has built good rapport with the parents and children gaining their trust. The project team also planned the activities and executed them well. The parents are also receptive and adhere to the instructions given due to the trust built.

**b. Empowerment**

**A. Sub objective: To ensure mental well-being of children through psychological care.**

**Activities and outputs**

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Progress towards intervention logic			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year

Children free from mental ailments/stress.	3285	626	2905
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The progress of the intervention has been good. Most of the children are doing well in school and very few dropout of school. Regular observation and timely interventions are the reasons for the same.

**B. Sub objective: to facilitate children to enter mainstream education.**

**Activities and outputs**

The mobile doorstep school is a school on wheels, reaching out to children in hutments and on pavements and children at construction sites in order to motivate the children for formal education. During the project year we have reached out to 240 children at four contact points regularly. These children have learnt some basics for education. As an outcome of this activity 23 children got enrolled in regular school during the project year and 162 children are currently pursuing formal education in schools.

The purpose of mobile school is to motivate children to pursue formal education. During the year we provided assistance and support to 162 children in communities to pursue education. We also provided additional tuition to many of these children in order to support their studies and to ensure that there is no drop out. Nine children completed class 12 in the past three years including three girls from a community which never allowed girls formal education.

In order to reach out to children of the laborers at the construction sites, with the support and collaboration of the builders, we are running a balwadi at a construction site to provide these children a risk free environment and pre-school education. During the project year 128 children benefitted from this balwadi, all children being in safe environment and some of them learning the basics. Four more children were enrolled in school from this labour camp during the year.

**Study tours:** Smaller children from standard IV to VII, who are enrolled in school from mobile school, were taken to Morachi Chincholi for study tour. There, Twenty eight children had a village experience where they were shown different types of farming, plants, animals, types of houses and also a glance of the Solar System etc. which were very informative.

Children enrolled in school from Mobile school were taken to Jejuri near Saswad. Children visited this ancient temple of Lord Khandoba, which is situated on the a hill top, which has 200 steps to reach sanctorum. A sword competition is held every year on the occasion of Dusshera. Khandoba is considered as the "God of Jejuri" and has a great reverence to Dhanger, one of the oldest tribe of Maharashtra. Twenty six children from standard VIII to X benefitted.

Children from standard VIII to X from institutional based care and shelter home were taken for study tour to Ahmed Nagar. Children visited Wind Mill, Tank Museum, Antique Museum, Ahmed Nagar fort, Mulla Dam and Rahuri sugar factory. Children were very happy to visit these places as some of these are part of their syllabus and when they saw it live they were interested to learn more. Twenty three children participated in this study tour.

Children below standard VIII who are institution based care and shelter home were taken to Gram Sanskruti Udyan (Cultural village), where village life and culture are exhibited, which explained how ancient villages were self sustaining. Forty one children benefitted from this study tour.

These study tours helped children to relate what they learn in classrooms with reality and gain practical knowledge.

**Aptitude test** was conducted for the children who finish their 10<sup>th</sup> standard followed by career counseling. We also conducted a session on career guidance where Mr. Vijay Pardhe spoke about study techniques and how to prepare for exams and choose a career. These helped children to rationally understand and choose for the right stream which in future would help them to opt for the right career. Eleven children underwent aptitude test and eight children attended session on career guidance.

Children are made aware of difficult situations that they can come across. They are prepared to face it through our life skill camps and various personality development classes taken for them.

Mental health activities were conducted for children during the year with the help of experts to equip children to face crisis situations. Surendre Sodi conducted session on personality development for 49 children from the shelter home and from those in institution based care. Children felt very energetic there after. Mental health activities help children to face crisis situations and improve academic performance and improve behaviour.

For the enhancement of the integral development of the children, four life skill training programs were conducted for the children under Institutional care and shelter home, which were participated by 60 children, who were above 3rd standard. These camps were held during the summer and Diwali vacations on the theme, 'Hasa khela aani shisth pala'(laugh and play but be disciplined) and 'Love your Selfie' respectively (positive self image). There was a life skill camp on same topic conducted for children enrolled in schools from mobile school, which was participated by 71 children. Most of the sessions were participative and activity based and the children shared that these camps were much interesting and useful. Life skill camps are also occasions to remind the children about their rights and helpline numbers for their protection. These life skill camps helped the children improve self discipline and self image and they got the idea to grow in freedom.

On 19th of february a half day session was conducted on communication skills for children from two communities. This was for the first time that we had brought viman nagar mobile school point children to the centre. They were happy to come to the centre and attend the session. Forty five children participated in this session, which helped them to learn to communicate better.

**Balmela**, a day of fun and entertainment was organised for children in the project who are enrolled in schools on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Yogesh Mulic, Municipal corporator and Mr. Makraria, Asst. Commissioner RPF was the chief guest of the event. There were several games stalls and rides arranged to cheer the children. Children from shelter home and those in institution based care put up dances and action songs. From the project 224 children participated and enjoyed the event. Children enjoyed the day with lots of fun and were motivated by the messages given by the special guests. Many children also got opportunity to exhibit and improve their talents.

In order to bring the children to mainstream education and sustain we also conducted activities with mothers/care takers. A picnic was organised for mothers in September 2018 to Dehu Temple and Prati shirdi, where 36 women were present. We organised a health checkup camp on Cervical Cancer for mothers at Suryapraksh Nagar, which was benefitted by 33 women. There were also health talks by Dr. Lunkad held at two places for the mothers, which gave them a lot of knowledge on general health and health of children. Deaddiction talks was conducted for the mothers at Pune station and Viman Nagar. We conducted a income generation training for women on phenyle and liquid soap making. Sample of the product was given to them in order to find out whether they could sell in the respective area where they work. Twenty four women learned the skill and got an idea to market the product.

International women's day was celebrated as Mahila Mela 2019 on 8<sup>th</sup> March at Christ the king church premises. Sixty two mothers of children in the project participated in the mela. Mr. Narayan Galande inaugurated the Mela. The women enjoyed variety competitive and fun stalls and games. During the informal meeting in the afternoon, women had prepared some group songs, which, with great confidence they presented. The presence of Fr. Richard Mathias, the Provincial Superior and his team of council encouraged women, who live in trying situations. We have observed that women look forward to this day. Many women (mothers) who live at the railway station also participated. The celebration gave them a day of entertainment and relaxation to these mothers, who are living in trying situations. We can observe that the confidence level of these women have increased in the past few years.

Some years ago only a few women (mothers) used to participate in the activities we conducted for them and many were not insisting their children to go to school. Gradually the numbers increased and at present the women willingly participate and they also motivate women from neighbourhood to attend

certain activities such as health talk, health camps etc. The mothers, especially those in communities, are now well aware of the importance of education and send the children regularly to school.

**Deviation:** Proposal for the year was for two balwadis, however, only one balwadi was functional. The reason was that due to land litigation the laborers from the other site were shifted to the existing site.

Progress towards intervention logic			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Children are resilient & attend school and centers regularly	3285	626	2905
Children have improved performance in the school.	3285	626	2905
Children choose appropriate vocations/career.	50	2	33
Children are able to protect themselves in crisis situation	520	93	585
Improved participation in school activities	1000	188	849

There is considerable progress of the objective. With Improved rapport the project staff is able to make parents understand the importance of education. Hence they ensure that their children are regular to school. children who have either passed 10th or 12th have been send for vocational training of their choise.

**C. Sub Objective: To ensure children’s participation in decision making process through children’s parliament**

**Activities and Outputs**

Two Children’s parliament has been functioning in this project, one at the shelter home and the other at Suryaprakash Nagar community. On 22nd August Personality development session was organised for all the members of the children’s parliament from suryaprakash nagar community. On 18<sup>th</sup> September the ministers from children’s Parliament were taken for an exposure to General post office. The objective of the visit was to make children familiar with the functioning and disseminate the information to other members too. On 24th November we organised a leadership training for the ministers of the parliament where in they were explained about the roles of the ministers and what are the qualities required for leaders. We have observed that as a result of Children’s Parliament, children are becoming more responsible and confident. Children are able to conduct meetings, participate in discussions and make responsible decisions for their development and well being and also take initiatives for the community.

The children’s parliament at Surya Prakash Nagar ensure that no children in the community drop out of the school. The parliament also conduct cleanliness drive. The children of the parliament gave letter to MLA for water supply and as a result three water connections were given in the community. As a whole children have become very alert and if something wrong happens they take note of it, inform and respond.

Progress towards intervention logic
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Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Presence of children's parliaments	02	02	02

The children's parliaments are functioning well. Leaderships emerge from children and the ministers of the parliaments do their duties responsibly. The presence and guidance of the project staff and extra activities conducted also help.

### C. Advocacy

#### **A.Sub Objective- To create awareness about the rights of children and especially of children living in high risk situations, among children and in the civil society**

##### **Activities and outcomes**

Along with our efforts in the rehabilitation of street and working children and their empowerment, effort were also made to bring to the limelight the issues pertaining to these children to both with the Government and the general public. Sarva Seva Sangh has been making consistent efforts to link the beneficiaries with various Government schemes and to help them to receive the benefits available.

Sessions on Child rights and protection were conducted on different days for different group of people. The first one was conducted for Railway Protection Force (RPF) on 20th of August, participated by 41 RPF personnel. This session was the follow up of the previous meeting conducted last year for RPF inspectors in which there was a suggestion to conduct session for the constables who actually are on the field. On 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2018 two sessions were conducted for the city police; one at the Yerwada Police Station, participated by 12 police men and one more at the Deputy Commissioner of Police's (DCP) office (east zone) for senior police inspectors and officers, participated by 14 of them including DCP. The objective of these sessions were to sensitize the police force about the protection and rights of children and to develop pro child attitude among them. The police were active during the sessions and they raised many questions and interacted well with the resource person Mr. Dinesh Mishra. The staff also conducted a session with the wardens and care takers of St. Michael's home, Panch Haud on developing child friendly environment and promoting child rights.

The staff also participated and helped in organising HIV/AIDS awareness rally on the eve of world AIDS day. The rally begun from Rosary school and had a halt at collectors office where the district Collector addressed the children saying "Prevention is the only cure" and appreciated the good work done by sarva seva sangh. On 4th of December a similar rally was carried out in the Rao Saheb Patwardhan Vidyalaya, Dhange chowk with high school children. An awareness program was conducted for Sadhna Junior college children where we spoke of the theme "Know Your Status" and emphasised on their role as youth. This activity helped many children to become aware of the grave violations done to children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and their parents, especially their right against discrimination and right to life.

Progress towards intervention logic			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
<b>Advocacy</b>			
1. Project is invited to participate in programs in schools and NGOs.	12	02	11

As far as public awareness is concerned though there is progress, it is rather slow. Even though the project has made some breakthrough, we found that it is not easy to get permission from many schools and government departments to conduct awareness programs.

**B. Sub Objective- To ensure that abuse of children does not take place within the shelter home, in hostels, schools**

**Activities and outputs**

Child protection policy is implemented in the shelter home. Suggestion box is placed if children or anyone would like to report abuse to the management. Undertaking is taken from the project and organization's staff, visitors and volunteers to follow the child protection policy. Children's parliament is empowered to protect children from abuse and report to concerned persons. For example there are instances where children stopped visitors from taking their photographs.

The project staff conducted one day session for the staff and children of one hostel on child rights and protection, which was participated by 60 high school children and 8 hostel staff members.

**NGO's Network meeting:** The project took an initiative to invite all NGO's working with children in Pune city on 20th february 2019. The objective of the meeting was to bring all like minded NGO's together and work as a pressure group on issues related to children. We organised a half day session on child rights with the help of resource persons Adv. Shinde and Mr. Snehal Rane from Mumbai to talk on child rights. During the meeting while discussing on the problems faced by NGO's it was a felt need that all the organizations come together and form a group. On the same day the date of next meeting was decided. Fourteen NGO's participated in the meeting.

A follow up meeting was organised on 29th March, during which, a core committee was formed of five NGO's and Sarva Seva Sangh is part of the committee. During the meeting certain issues were highlighted and amongst them Shelter home Licence issues and documentation issues were prioritised for which all the concerned Ngo's had to come together and work on. It was also decided that meeting shall continue for a year and if the group sustains after an year a formal structure can be given to it. The next meeting is decided for the first week of July.

Progress towards intervention logic			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Project becomes members of child rights coalition groups	02	00	01
Child protection policy is in place	Yes	No	Yes

The table above indicates that there is gradual progress. This is due to quality time spent by the project team to discuss, plan and conduct programs and strategies and also to monitor and prevent abuses.

**4. Unintended effects**

The total number of children projected for the year was 562. However, 788 could be reached out. The reason for the same is that we found more children at the railway station and traffic signals than expected and more children attended mobile school.

Our primary target group is the children. However, we are also able to make remarkable changes in the entire life of the family and of three communities. People are becoming more aware about health and hygiene. Families and women are becoming more self confident and assertive especially when faced with challenges from the society. Many people, by seeing the change in children in the project, especially those in institutional care and shelter home, contact us for their children to be kept with us, even though, many at

times they don't fall in our target group. Some of the dropped out children have also come back after some time.

## **5. Sustainability**

Empowerment activities and education are basically aimed at sustainability. In Surya Prakash Nagar Community children's parliament is a system which takes up responsibility to sustain the objectives achieved. Vocational trainings have improved the economic conditions of some families. Awareness programs and other trainings given to mothers and life skill trainings to children have empowered women and children to ascertain their rights. People were dependent on the staff to obtain documents like birth certificate, PAN card, ration card etc, now they are able to obtain these on their own. There is also considerable improvement among teachers in school on rights of children. For better sustainability we feel that we need to also make the youth responsible and train them to monitor the progress.

## **6. Project Management**

The project in charge and the project staff continued during the project year and there was no change.

The staff had a series of input sessions and training programmes to enhance the quality of outreach as given below.

On 20<sup>th</sup> August a training programme was organized for the staff on child rights. We invited Mr. Dinesh Mishra who spoke on Juvenile Justice(care and protection) Act. 2015.

On 27<sup>th</sup> August a training programme was organized for the staff on HIV and AIDS. Mr. Mufid Baig and Mr. Kharat from Prayas updated staff on HIV and AIDS, testing, medicines and importance of confidentiality.

On 26<sup>th</sup> February a training programme was organised for the staff on Children's Parliament by Mr. Perter Lasrado. The concept of children's parliament was clarified and its functions, its purpose and formation.

Exposure visit to Indore was organized between 28<sup>th</sup> February to 4<sup>th</sup> of March, where in the staff visited Janvikas society in Indore, who cater to Rag pickers, school dropouts and youth. We also visited Vishwas working on the issue of HIV/AIDS and AAS working on child protection and advocacy and also run Childline in Indore. Such exposure visit are always beneficial as we get to learn new things from others experience. During this visit we appreciated the youth involvement, volunteer mobilization where in they ask for skill donation, felicitation programme for all donors etc. We will try to include these aspects into our program.

On 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of March a training programme was organised for the staff on Record Keeping and documentation. Dr. Ramesh Waghmare and Dr. Prashant Vaidande explained about the importance of documentation and how to systematically maintain the records.

External evaluation of the whole project of the past three and half years was also conducted during the reporting year. Following is the summary of findings:

Despite the fact that street children are one of the most difficult groups to work with, the project could achieve the proposed results of rehabilitation of Street/working children satisfactory, with respect to the quantitative as well as qualitative results. This achievement is also an impact of the long years of interventions of the agency, and the trust developed over the years among the target community. The children addressed through this project have been given ample support and constant accompaniment in completing their studies and pursuing higher studies or job oriented courses. The services are of high quality, and the commitment of management as well as the staff is the driving force for ensuring the same. However, there are certain points which could be improved to make the project more efficient, optimally utilising the resources. This include Result Based Management, Rights Based Approach and more proactive interventions with the families. Also, instead of spreading it thinly, more focussed and in-depth work with the target community is needed. Despite its persistent and wide reaching efforts, the agency have not been able to make a visible impact in the wider issue of street/ working children in the

city due to the lack of combined efforts and network with other organisations in the field of Child Rights, both governmental and non-governmental.

In order to monitor the progress, evaluations were conducted at the end of every month. Account statements were also prepared every month to monitor the flow of funds and availability of funds. Service registers and other documents are maintained to monitor service distributions. Regular visits by the monitoring staff and occasional visits by the project incharge to work areas also make sure that the activities are conducted as per the plans and meet objectives.

The opinion of children and parents/caretakers are gathered from monthly meetings, children's parliaments etc. and are taken note while planning. Feedbacks are also taken during life skill camps and other trainings from children as well as parents/care takers.

SarvaSevaSangh has been closely working with the women and child Development department, Pune Municipal Corporation, Railway police, traffic police, SasoonHospital,childline and NGOs like SAATHI, MAHER, Don Bosco etc.

## **7. Child protection**

Child protection policy is implemented as per the guidelines and directions of KNH. This policy has been communicated, discussed and elaborated with the management, staff, children and their parents/care takers and volunteers. Various measures like CCTV surveillance, redressal committee, suggestion box etc. are in place.

Since children have been made aware of the CPP and its implications for their life in the local area and community, children are alert to ensure that no violations take place in the community and at the centre. If the children sense any threat or violation, they do inform the people concerned. Children have become sensitive and aware about their right to protection. Children question and stop those who try to take their photographs and also bring the same to our notice. Children are also made aware of emergency numbers for protection, namely the police helpline number as well as the child line number.

## **9. Outlook and proposed adjustments of the project**

For the better understanding of the child rights situations of children at high risk and to promote collaborarion with other organizations to further improve the situation, the project has planned for a workshop on children at risk at pune district level for social workers and social activists. The purpose of the workshop is also to explore possibilites to make interventions at policy level.

## **10. Conclusion**

### **Success Stories**

**AkshayBaluChavan**, is a seven years old boy. He has five siblings. His parents are daily wage workers living at Pune railway station. His father is alcoholic, hence, does not go for work regularly. Akshay used to beg in and around Pune railway station. Akshay was led to the mobile school and his parents were motivated to put him for formal schooling for his better future. After two years of our efforts his parents send him to the shelter in June 2018. Initially he was very restless and was not able to concentrate. With continuous motivation, personal attention and counseling by the end of the academic year he was able to read and write and is stable and happy learning and mingling with other children.

**Shabnam Rahim Shaikh**, who came in contact with SarvaSevaSangh 13 years ago, at a point, when she along with her family literally came on street after her father's death. We took her into our project and was placed in a hostel were she completed her standard 10<sup>th</sup> with 72% and pursued science stream as she wanted to be in medical field. She passed her 12<sup>th</sup> with 55% and took asmission for General Nursing in Holy Spirit hospital in Mumbai. In August 2018 she passed her Nursing and got job in the same hospital where she completed the course. Today she is earning 17000/- Rupees a month and is supporting her family financially.

### **Viman Nagar Community**

Sarva Seva Sangh started working in Viman Nagar community in 2017 with mobile doorstep school programme. People in this community are mostly construction workers and the women are into house keeping. A few children were going to school when we entered the community. As the parents were at work during the day, children used to wander without going to school or taking care of their younger siblings. Today almost all the children in the community are part of mobile school. We are slowly trying to inculcate interest and importance of education to the parents and children. We are also trying to empower the mothers through conducting informative sessions on health and hygiene, de-addiction talk, income generation sessions etc.

Sarva Seva Sangh, with the experience gained, is committed to improve the quality of its interventions further to promote and ensure the rights of children at high risk. We have been able to link beneficiaries to other organizations and also gather much local support. We have succeeded in bargaining well with individuals and institutions to access maximum benefits for the children and make the project cost effective. We have certainly improved the quality of our interventions for the children and there is a marked improvement in the progress of the children at all levels.

## **2. Children Living with and affected by HIV/AIDS**

### **4. Developments in environment and external conditions with implications on the project**

India has the third largest HIV Epidemic in the world with 2.1 million people living with HIV. The number of people living with HIV in India has more than halved from 5.1 million in 2003 to 2.1 million in 2016 — partly, because the World Health Organization's revised and enhanced methodology halved HIV estimates for India to 2.5 million in 2007. Although there are reports of decline in HIV prevalence in India, the data shows that every year a considerable number of HIV infected people are being added to the existing numbers. The India government's official data of people living with HIV (PLHIV) in 2015 was 2.18 million with 86,000 new infections. The official data also shows 80,000 new infections in 2016 while new infections increased to 88,000 in 2017. Similarly AIDS related deaths increased from 62000 in 2016 to 69000 in 2017. Maharashtra has the highest number of people living with HIV/AIDS and Pune, with above 0.6 prevalence, has been one of the high prevalent areas of HIV/AIDS in Maharashtra. Most infections occur through heterosexual transmission. Sex workers, MSM (Men having sex with Men), truck drivers and migrant workers are identified with HIV infections along with people who inject drugs.

Due to the reports that HIV is on decline, though the ground reality is not so true, the government has reduced its focus on the epidemic, due to which during the project year year many children faced shortage of free ART supply in government centers, which is a matter of concern. This calls for greater empowerment of affected people and networks to assert their rights, although, stigma continues to be a great barrier for affected people/children to openly demonstrate or assert their rights.

In this context, Sarva Seva Sangh-KNH project reaching out the children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and their families has been significant in their lives.

### **5. Project Outreach**

During the project year the project reached out to and provided services to 812 children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Most of them, 799 children, were under home based care and 13 children were placed under institution based care. These 812 children hail from 526 families spread across the city of Pune. Among these 214 children are living with HIV while 565 children are affected by HIV and Three children are children of women in Prostitution. Among the beneficiaries there are 49 orphans (6.03%) and 362 semi orphans (44.58%), which comprising over half the number of children. Out of the 812 children supported 235 were new enrollments. The project has also conducted activities for women, who are the mother /Grandmother /care takers of these children as an effort to obtain sustainability and promote rights of their children. The objective of the project was to provide these children support and to accompany them in their education and empowerment and raise the social consciousness about these children's rights while making the public aware to prevention of new infections.

**Deviations:** As per the proposal the target was to reach out to 868, however only 812 children were reached out to due to lack of hostels for boys in Pune and late supply of class 10 text books.

## **6. Progress of the intervention in the reporting period: from activities to objectives**

Our interventions are broadly classified into three different aspects of the project, namely, rehabilitation, empowerment and advocacy .while rehabilitation aims at providing a safe and risk free environment for children live and study, the empowerment programs are aimed enhancing the growth and over all development of the children and all the advocacy programs are aimed at raising social awareness and the responsibility of the civil society and the government to address these issues pertaining to the children and people we reach out to and to prevent new infections.

### **6.1 Description of progress on each Sub-Objective<sup>2</sup>**

#### **A. Rehabilitation**

##### **a) Sub-Objective - To provide rehabilitative care to the children placed in hostels and in home based care.**

#### **Activities and outputs**

During the year 13 children were placed in 2 hostels around Pune for formal education. These children were provided with all their requirements. They live and study in a safe environment. Regular visits were held to these hostels and the needs of these children were attended to. Such visits were also occasions for us to monitor the progress of these children both in their academics as well as in other fields. Periodic counseling and guidance were given to these children.

Most of the children in the project are under home based care, since the best place for a child to be is his or her home or extended home. More than half the number of children is taken care by the single parent, care taker; grandparents or extended family members and we accompany these children. Many children suffer lapses in their formal education due to poor health and lack of adequate care. The social workers and the outreach workers regularly interact and meet these children and help them to face their daily hurdles and problems and provide additional medical and nutritional assistance to those who need. Children are helped to access formal education by providing school fees, books, school uniform, school bag, fees for higher education and other school supplies. This year we provided support to twenty children for their higher education (technical/diploma/graduation) among whom three are living with HIV.

One of the outcomes of accompanying these children for the past few years is that during the project year 67 children performed well in in class 12, 5 children passed with distinction,19 children with first class and 43 children passed with B+ grade. Out of 95 children who gave class 10 examination, 12 children passed with distinction, 38 children with first class and 45 children passed with B+ grade. These children face many challenges in life and yet make successes possible with our intervention. Many children living with HIV/AIDS and affected were not enrolled in school due to poor economic situations and lack of guidance. Parents are now made aware of the importance of education and the number of HIV infected school goers have increased. If the CLHA continue to go to school the stigma and discrimination will reduce in the society.

#### **Deviation**

As per plan 870 children were proposed to be supported with study materials, but only 792 children could be supported, because 76 Children completed 12<sup>th</sup> and went out of project and also many children migrated to other places.

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<sup>2</sup> If the project does not have sub-objectives for different components or target groups, please apply this structure once for the project objective.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children reporting improved mental and physical well being and attending school regularly</li> </ul>	4280	866	3468

- Looking at the table, how do you see the progress in regard to the targets of the indicators? What are the reasons for an especially strong or low progress?

The progress has been good in the past four years. Committed project staff and good network with ART centers and other NGOs are the reasons for strong progress.

- Is there need for changes or additional interventions? If yes, please describe.

These interventions need to continue, especially for children living HIV, the orphans and semi orphans, particularly because of the incurable nature of HIV/AIDS

- Are there any changes related to this (sub)-objective which are interesting to share?

**b) Sub- objective - To ensure that children receive timely nutritional and medical support for their physical well being**

**Activities and outputs**

During the year 214 infected children were given nutrition supplements and 10 to 15 affected orphan and most needy children were provided nutrition support, for, balanced nutrition reduces the risk of opportunistic infections. Many school going children are either linked to midday meal scheme or ICDS. However, to bridge the huge gap between the nutrition that is needed and that which is available, sarvasevasangh provides, supplementary nutritional kits prepared as per the recommendations of NARI. One thousand five hundred forty four such nutritional kits were provided primarily to 214 children. All the needy children and whose CD4 count is less and those who lost their parents or have bed riddance parents were given nutritional support.

The government trough ART centers provide ART to HIV infected children, but not for opportunistic infections. The project supported 29 HIV infected children to access medicine for opportunistic infections during the year. Unlike the past years, the patients expernced shortage of ART supply during the reporting year, which is a cause of concern.

During the year the project supported most needy 53 children with school fees, 11 children with additional tuition fees and 10 children with computer training fees.

Home/hospital /school and hostel visits visits were conducted on a regular basis to keep track of children's progress. Such visit is important while accompanying the children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. During such visits we focused on providing psycho social support to children and family and on monitoring the progress.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year

● Children free of opportunistic illness and other diseases	4280	866	3468
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- The progress has been consistently good over the past four years. Commitment from the project staff and good networking with hospitals and ART centers are the reasons for the same.
- The most needy ones, especially the children living with HIV need continued help due to the incurable nature of HIV and loss of immunity.
- We were able to generate some CSR funds towards nutritional assistance.

**c) Sub-objective - To provide Health assistance to the most needy women (Mothers)**

**Activities and outputs**

The women were constantly made aware of the importance of adhering to ART for themselves and the rest of the HIV infected family members during cluster meetings, home visits and other meetings. We conducted an awareness program on cervical cancer on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018 participated by 109 mothers/care takers with the help of Prayas research center. Later, on 14<sup>th</sup> August 2018 free cervical cancer test was conducted by Prayas, from which 90 mothers benefitted. The mothers became aware of the symptoms and causes of cervical cancer and those who were tested positive received free treatment from Prayas. We also conducted a awareness session on vaginal probiotic problems (VPP) and health issues for mothers and care takers on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019, participated by 90 women by National AIDS Research Institute (NARI) and ten women among them who reported problem underwent test and received free treatment from them. The women became aware of the causes of cervical cancer and VPP and precautions they need to take for prevention.

These two activities were conducted for the first time during this project year. Women who needed intervention after test followed it up and benefitted.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Women report improved physical & mental well being	1300	259	1008

The progress has been good. Nevertheless, these women needs continued accompaniment and psychological support to adhere to ART and maintain their health.

We have observed shortage in ART supply during the project year. This requires intervention with the government agencies.

**d) Sub-objective - To provide training and livelihood support to needy women (Mothers)**

**Activities and outputs**

It is very important to make the beneficiaries self-reliant and independent. Therefore, we conducted three training programs during the year, participated by 56 women . The trainings were on best use of old cloths by making bags and pouches, painting and selling diya and on seasonal businesses. We also helped nine women to begin micro enterprise by purchasing sewing machines, grocery items, and wooden handcarts. They have already begun to earn their livelihood and some of them are also saving some money.

During the project year six exposure visits cum outings were organised to organizations working for economic empowerment for women, which were participated by 134 women. This gave them opportunity to get introduced to various vocational training programs. They were also given exposure to police station, where they were explained how to lodge complaints, FIR etc. Later they had some time of fun and relaxation together, which helped the women to ventilate their feelings with each other and build bond with each other. Such occasions have helped these women to build support groups among them over the years.

Mahila mela (Women's Day) was celebrated on 8th march at Dabre hall, Christthe King church. 218 Women (Mothers/caretakers) enjoyed various fun games and put up many activities such as songs, roll plays, mimicry etc. Anchoring too was done by a beneficiary. Fr. Provincial and the council members came in to encourage the women. Women now look forward to this event and over the years we have observed that these women have improved their confidence level and active participation.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Women are able to work and earn their livelihood	60	11	53

The progress has been reasonably good. The familiarity and trust the people are able to build with the staff and the organization has helped in the progress. More such support for micro enterprise and trainings will be helpful.

Some of those who have begun such activities are doing extremely well.

## **B. Empowerment**

A lot of effort was laid on assisting the children in their psycho social and emotional development . In addition to their formal education, many activities were carried out for this purpose during the project year.

### **a) Sub Objective- To improve the mental health of children and regular school attendance**

#### **Activities and outcomes**

Regular home visits and counsellings were undertaken by the outreach workers and other project staff to constantly motivate the children and improve resilience so that they regularly attend school. This also helped children to cope with problems faced at home, in the school and in the society.

Further, in order to improve the mental well being of children Yoga was conducted for children, participated by thirty six children. Secondly, sound therapy was conducted, which was attended by 17 children. These techniques give them relaxation, enhance concentration and mental well being.

Sound therapy was something new introduced during the project year. It was very relaxing and improved concentration.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Children are free from mental ailments/stress	4280	866	3468

Children are resilient and attend school regularly	4280	866	3468
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The progress has been good over the past years. Continuous follow up by the project staff and motivation are the reasons for the same. Due to the family conditions these interventions need to continue.

**b) Sub objective- To Improve Children's performance in school**

**Activities and outputs**

All the children were accompanied through the year by the project staff with motivation and counselling in order to perform well in school. Apart from individual accompaniment the following activities were also conducted.

Twenty three children under home based care studying in XI standard were taken to some historical places and heritages in and around Aurangabad for study tour. Forty four high school children were taken to science park, Chinchwad. Children under institution base care studying in primary classes were taken to Gram sanskruti udyan (Cultural village), Baner. From these tours the children got to see what they learn in text books, which enhance their understanding and performance.

Children who completed class 10 and class 12 in flying colors were felicitated on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Mr. ManojKhandagale senior Police inspector, GRP and Fr.Soni, Principal of Christ College, Pune appreciated the children who performed well despite their hurdles. The children were honored with trophies, certificates and gifts.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Children improved performance in school	4100	818	3253

The progress over the years has been good. Experience of the project staff and timely interventions are the reasons for better progress. Most children need continuous motivation and accompaniment to perform well. More such tours and sessions on study techniques will improve performance further.

**c) Subobjective- To enable children to choose appropriate career/vocations**

**Activities and outputs**

A scientific aptitude test and career counselling were conducted for 22 children who completed class 10 by JnanaPrabhodhiniSanshodhanSanstha in April 2018. This test is very important as most parents/caretakers are not educated and do not know how to guide the children for future education/training. Many children have benefitted from the same. Later, fifty seven children studying in 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> were given a session on goal setting and career guidance by Mr. Vijay Parde, who guided them how to set and achieve goals in life, time management and to choose appropriate career.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year

Children choosing appropriate vocations/careers	150	30	113
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The progress has been reasonably good as many children benefitted and followed the guidance/counselling provided.

Career guidance and goal setting session was conducted during the project year unlike earlier years.

**d) Sub objective- To Capacitate children to face crisis**

**Activities and outputs**

Children were regularly informed about their rights and be watchful about their protection and of their companions, especially during counselling, hostel visits and group activities.

For the enhancement of the integral development of the children, six life skill training programs were conducted. Most of these camps were held during the summer and Diwali vacations on the theme, 'Hasa khela aani shisth pala (laugh and play but be disciplined) and 'Love your Selfie' (positive self image) respectively. Most of the sessions were participative and activity based and the children shared that these camps were much interesting and useful.

One additional residential camp was organized by PrayasSansthaspecially for infected adolescents. These children were given basic information about life skills, sex education, body changes, behavioral changes, reproductive system and self-protection. These life skill camps helped the children improve self discipline and self image and they got the knowledge to grow in freedom.

These were also occasions to remind children about their rights and helpline numbers for their protection.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Children are able to protect themselves in crisis	1000	172	876

The progress of the objective is very much on track. Good planning and implementation by the project team and involvement of children are the reasons. Children learn a lot from such inputs.

**e) Sub Objective- To improve children's participation in school activities and in decision making**

**Activities and outputs**

The staff keep motivating the children and parents individually and provide opportunities during activities to improve their participation especially in activities such as life skill camps and cluster meetings.

Balmela, a day of entertainment and fun for children was organised on 5th November 2018 which also gives opportunity to present their talents. Corporator Mr. Yogesh Mulik inaugurated the event and Mr. B. K. Makraria Asst. Commissioner, RPF was the chief guest and many dignitaries inspired the children. From the project 452 children participated in the event, who enjoyed various rides, fun games, orchestra and dances. Children enjoyed a day of fun and relaxation and returned motivated and with many gifts.

Childrens parliaments provide opportunity for children to improve participation and develop leadership. During the project year there were seven children's parliaments which were functioning. Among these two

were constituted during project year. Twelve to fifteen children between the age group of 12 to 16 years participate in these meeting twice a month, guided by the project staff. Apart from the meetings 31 children's parliament members were given exposure to police station, where the children were explained about the structure and system of police station and the processes. Further, a training on leadership skills was conducted for the ministers of children's parliaments on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019, and 16 child leaders participated and gained knowledge on leadership. Children are learning to conduct meetings and maintain minutes. The children's parliament members of Market Yard organized themselves to meet the municipal corporator asking for a place for them to meet regularly.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Participation in school activities	2500	515	1998
Children's Parliaments in city	8	5	7

There has been good progress. Children's participation is a key aspect for their development, and they must get enough opportunities.

### C. Advocacy

Along with our interventions for the rehabilitation and empowerment of these children, the project puts in a lot of efforts to bring to the forefront the issues pertaining to these children, mothers and care takers before the government as well as the society at large. SarvaSevaSangh has been making consistent efforts to link the beneficiaries with the various government schemes and to help them to receive the benefits available and also promote the cause of these children with various institutions like schools and hospitals.

#### a. Sub Objective- To lobby for Child rights of CLHAs and PLHAs

##### Activities and outputs

The project was part of an NGO network meeting organized by the SarvaSevaSangh of organizations working with children and their rights in February 2019. The project also initiated an NGO network meeting in order to discuss, plan and develop sustainability strategy for families affected by HIV/AIDS. More than 30 social workers and organization heads from 11 organizations participated in the meeting. It was decided to come together once in three months and work together on specific issues. The first issue to be taken up by the network is on the pension scheme for women and children living with HIV.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Members of Child rights coalition groups	3	0	2

The NGO network, which the project initiated during the project year, was a new step. These would be some of the aspects the project will be focusing in future.

**b. Sub objective- To create awareness about the rights of children living in high risk situation, among children and in the civil society**

During the project year we organized two rallies with the help of school children, two poster exhibitions and also conducted awareness sessions in seven schools on HIV/AIDS and the rights of these children. The theme this time was 'Know your status'. The first rally on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018 was flagged off by Mr. Kishor Ram Navale, the Pune district collector. Handbills containing basic information on HIV/AIDS was printed and distributed for public awareness. Hundreds of people and 2160 school children were made aware of HIV/AIDS in general and their rights in particular through these programs.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
The project is invited to participate in programs in schools and other NGOs	18	4	16

The project succeeded in creating a lot of HIV/AIDS awareness and rights of children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS during the year. The project also produced a leaflet containing basic information on HIV/AIDS in Marathi language which became very useful.

**c. To enhance collaboration and networking with various hospitals, NGOs and ART centers for the welfare of CLHAs and PLHAs**

**Activities and Outputs**

Children and parents were directed to hospitals and care centers like SAHARA for better care to save lives.

An awareness session was organized on Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojna on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Two officers from the urban wing as well as rural wing of the scheme were present to give information. Hundred and nine mothers/caretakers received the guidelines and information required. Later, 55 mothers applied for the scheme.

As a result of our advocacy efforts with Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation 15 mothers/caretakers of children living with HIV received annual economic support of Rupees thirty thousand each.

As many as 25 children got school fees concession as a result of advocacy with the school authorities where they study and four children or parents in critical condition were given better treatment at lower cost in hospitals with our intervention.

Progress on Sub-Objective achievement			
Indicators	Target for the end of the project	Baseline <sup>3</sup> at start of the project	Status <sup>4</sup> at the end of this year
Liaising collaboration/Networking with Hospitals/NGOs/ART Centers etc. for HIV prevention and reduction of discrimination	45	36	45

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The progress has been good and the project in the past four years networked or liaised with many organizations in one or the other way. The reasons were that the project outreach was high and secondly the project as such was a unique project for the rehabilitation of children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and their education causing ART centers and others to direct children to the project.

In comparison to earlier years, even though the rapport with the beneficiaries has improved, the cases of discrimination reported are much less. This means that there is considerable improvement in this regard. This indicates that the beneficiaries are becoming more empowered and people in general are becoming gradually aware. The awareness programs also contained this aspect to the general public to treat children and people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS with dignity.

Over the years AIDS related deaths of children have reduced. During the project year 2 children living with HIV died in comparison to 9 last year. However, AIDS related deaths of parents increased from five of previous year to 12 during the project year.

With regard to new infections, the rate has only marginally reduced and there are still a high number of new infections every year. Therefore more interventions will be required.

#### **7. Unintended effects**

Even though children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS are our primary target, while reaching out to the children we were able to make remarkable changes in the entire life of the family. Families and women are becoming more self-confident and assertive, especially when faced with challenges from the society.

Clusters have become support groups where women ventilate and support as they are not able to disclose their status to others due to stigma and discrimination in the society. These women are able to openly share their problems with people attending cluster meetings and find consolation and also support to face challenges of life.

Family saving groups initiated at cluster level has instilled in women a habit of saving and opening bank accounts for the same.

Women in many of these groups also worked together and put up some presentations during Women's day celebration. This indicates the growing unity and trust among the women.

#### **8. Sustainability**

First of all, the primary focus of the project has been education, which is aimed at sustaining the future of children who are in the project. Both the children as well the parents/caretakers are made aware of their rights and are empowered to assert the same. Life skill education and children's parliaments have helped in increasing the confidence level of children.

The clusters have gradually developed into support groups for mothers/caretakers which gives them platform to ventilate and support each other and claim their rights. Leaders are also emerging in clusters. Many mothers have developed confidence to speak in public and express themselves. Many of them are also able to approach the concerned offices to get the documentation and other works done.

Skill trainings and livelihood supports have helped many women to sustain themselves.

Children's parliaments too are ready to take up issues.

The school authorities, to a great extent have become more aware and understanding towards children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Attitudes of govt. officers related to government schemes have become more positive and supportive towards these people. Elected people's representatives are

becoming more approachable. However, health departments, especially ART as well as counselling centers lack capacity to provide sufficient time and services to beneficiaries. ART shortage too was observed during the project year.

We have planned to arrange legal literacy for mothers/caretakers in the new project year. Also in clusters, we will be promoting leadership among mothers/care takers. The cluster saving groups will be formed into a federation and form a micro credit society with which the women can improve their savings and also earn better interest. We have also planned to network with other organizations to claim pension schemes from the municipal corporation for mothers who are widows for the education of children.

## **9. Project Management**

The project incharge continued during the project year. One project staff (Asst. Project Coordinator cum social worker) discontinued and a new person joined the project.

There were a series of input sessions and trainings conducted for the project staff during the year in order to enhance the quality of outreach and interventions as given below.

- On 20<sup>th</sup> August a training programme was organized for the staff on child rights and child protection. Mr. Dinesh Mishra was the trainer who based the sessions on Juvenile Justice(care and protection) Act. 2015.
- A training on HIV and AIDS was organized for the staff on 27th August 2018. Mr. Mufid Baig and Mr. Kharat from Prayas updated the staff on HIV and AIDS in general, testing, medicines and importance of confidentiality.
- Another trainig was conducted on 26th February on Children's Parliament by Mr. Perter Lasrado. The concept of children's parliament was clarified and its functions, its purpose, formation and continuity.
- A staff exposure to a few organizations in Indore was organized between 28th February to 4th of March, where in the staff visited Janvikas society in Indore, who cater to Rag pickers, school dropouts and youth. We also visited Vishwas working on the issue of HIV/AIDS and AAS working on child protection and advocacy and also run Childline in Indore. Such exposure visit are beneficial to learn different interventions from others' experience. During this visit we got the idea of credit society for women, the youth involvement, volunteer mobilization etc. We will explore the possibility of including some of these aspects into our program.
- Further, on 25th and 26th of March a training programme was organised for the staff on Record Keeping and documentation. Dr. Ramesh Waghmare and Dr. Prashant Vaidande explained about the importance of documentation and how to systematically maintain the records.

External evaluation of the whole project of the past four years was also conducted during the reporting year. Following is the overall findings and observations:

1. Well managed project – The execution of the project is good. Seven Staff manage all the programmes and activities of the project and it is accomplished as per the set target and in time. Although it lacks proper systems and mechanisms like clearly written HR policis, manuals, impact register etc. yet things are happening. Good coordination and understanding of tasks and accomplishments.
2. Target beneficiaries have benefitted - The project has really aimed to reach the most poor and neglected children especially those infected and affected by HIV/AIDSs. As per the requirement medical and material help is given to overcome their sickness.
3. The children have been supported to pursue education, nutritional kits are provided to them. And all the necessary help is given to promote and maintain their physical, psychological and mental well being. The women related to children get support for micro enterprises and SSS provides training to manage the same. The benefit of the savings is also given to women.

4. Good networking and collaboration with the local NGOs and Government Organizations - It is very encouraging to note that SSS has good rapport and support of the Government Organizations, Non-Government Organizations and local Civil Society. For programmes and other interventions they are actively involved. These stakeholders too appreciate the works of SSS. On issues they promote alliances and they are addressed. For the proper rendering of goods and services, they do follow up Hospitals, ART Centres and Other concerned departments.
5. Committed & Dedicated Staff - Staff are readily available for any work and at any time. They foresee things and accordingly get prepared. There is a written job description shared with the Staff and not with those in probation. Rapport with each beneficiary is their strength and they become family members to all of them. The emoluments may not be of a standard but they too contribute to the cause and fully involvement themselves.
6. Many stakeholders connected to the project - SSS is not a solo organization. Its strength is that it involves many people and institutions in its ongoing programmes and activities. It does not focus on donation alone but also on the available expertise, good will, capacities and experiences with the individuals and institutions. It creates space for them to get involved. It is very encouraging many individuals visit the project and contribute in some way.
7. Deep rootedness in community – A very good relationship is built with the people at the local community level. Each beneficiary family is tracked and followed up. It is very pleasing to note that in case of problems the children and women freely contact and discuss as if the Staff are their family members and take necessary advise.
8. Project strategy is good of Home based care and Institution based care – It is good that the children and women are rendered rehabilitative services as per their needs and requirements. Most all of them are kept in their families and necessary rehabilitation services is provided to the as home based care and those who are orphans, with single parents and unable to manage the expenses and needs of children are sent to institutions as institution based care.
9. Good Networking of Sarva Seva Sangh with Government (Sasoon Hospital, Cantonment Hospital, Municipal Corporation Hospitals, NARI etc.) and Non-Government (UDAN, Real People Real Life, MAMTA, PRAYAS, Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS) found very strong.  
In order to monitor the progress, evaluations were conducted at the end of every month. Account statements too were prepared every month to monitor the flow as well as availability of funds. Service registers, events registers and other documents are maintained to monitor service distributions. Regular visits by the monitoring staff and occasional visits by the project incharge to clusters and families also make sure that the activities are conducted as per the plans and meet the objectives.

The opinion of children and parents/caretakers are gathered during home visits, from monthly cluster meetings, children's parliaments etc. and are taken note while planning. Feedbacks too are taken during life skill camps and other trainings from children as well as parents/care takers.

The project has been closely working with NACO, NARI, MSAC, DAPCo and all the ART cenerts ICTC centers and PPTCT centers in the city. The project also worked along with NGOs Prayas, NMP Plus, Sahara Alhad, KEM hospital Research unit, Bapu Trust etc.

Some of the recommendations were;

-Prepare people to play leadership roles and undertake strategic plans to pass on responsibilities. The project in the current year has already planned measures for this.

-Prepare people to become more self-reliant. Trainings and micro enterprises are already being carried out. Will prepare them psychologically during the current year.

-Develop continuation mechanism for children's parliament. More training was given to the staff and mechanisms are worked out.

-Reporting and documentation needs improvement. Training was conducted and more registers, especially for impact recording are being maintained.

-Facilitate networking process to promote mutual solidarity and support with likeminded organizations. Already initiated networks and taking leadership role.

## **7. Child protection**

Child protection policy is implemented as per the guidelines and directions of KNH. The policy has been communicated, discussed and elaborated with the management, staff, children and their parents/care takers and volunteers. Various measures like CCTV surveillance, redressal committee, suggestion box etc. are in place.

Since children are made aware of the CPP and its implications for their life in the local area and community, children are alert to ensure that no violations take place in the community and in institutions. If the children sense any threat or violation, they do inform the people concerned. Children have become sensitive and aware about their right to protection. (foreg. One child from the project came to know about the physical abuse experienced by her classmate from her father and called on the childline number to inform about it, who, then conducted inquiry). Children and parents are also made aware of emergency numbers for protection, namely the police helpline number, women's cell number, child line number etc.

There was a case of sexual abuse of a child living in the community by the step-father. The mother gathered up the courage and herself approached the police station to lodge complaint against her husband. But the police did not take it seriously. The project staff spoke to the police and then the police took action. The step-father was arrested under POCSO and is imprisoned for twenty years. The child was helped to overcome the trauma by counselling arranged with Sassoon hospital.

## **8. Additional information**

Some of the children from the project participated in national and state level events and won medals. HritikKhedekar participated in skating at national level. His sister PoojaKhedekar participated in national level Kathak dance competition. OmkarPashte got district level gold medal in kabadi, JyotiBhisure participated in state level cricket and won gold medal, JayeshJivan Mate participate in state level Kabadi competition and won bronze medal and gold medal in the college, Vijay MarutiNikam also got a medal in Karate.

## **Success stories**

***ShravaniRjaramShinde***, a girl child living with HIV, studying in class 8 has attended many life skill camps and activities organised by the project. There was scarcity of drinking water in the area she lives. She tried to organize a rally with the neighbors to the people's representative of the area. But people did not cooperate with her. Then she conducted a signature campaign in the locality and submitted it to the concerned authority. As a result, the authorities began to send water tankers regularly to supply drinking water to the community.

***HarshadaArjunSawant*** has been one of our beneficiaries since her primary school. She is semi orphan. Due to stigma, her mother was driven out of the village with Harshada and her younger sister. They came to Pune and lived in a small room in a slum with no family support and mother struggled to protect and educate the children. With the support of the project she has completed BAMS from BhartiVidyapeeth, Pune and is doing internship with Bharti hospital, Pune.

***KajalLahuGilbile*** has been our beneficiary for the past five years. She is semi orphan and her mother who is HIV infected, is a domestic worker, who struggles to meet the needs of the family. Mother was unable to support her studies financially. She has completed general nursing with the support of the

project and has started working in Addhar hospital, Handevadi, Pune and earn Rs.12000/ per month. She is continuing to study BSc nursing while working.

**RenukaKambale** has been supported by the project in since 2006 in the institution based care program. She was living in a red light area with her grandmother and has no proper information about her father. She was placed in a hostel as she was living in an unsafe place. She has now completed Nursing and has started working in St. Ann's school ,Colaba Mumbai as ICS nurse earning a monthly salary of Rs.23000/-

**SurekhaAnkushWaghmare**, a mother, is a beneficiary of the project through her child since two years. She is living with HIV and has two girl children. Her husband is alcoholic, hence was struggling to meet the needs of the family and children. The project supported her to begin Vegetable vending. Now she earns Rs.4000 to 6000/- in a month from this small business. The husband also has now started helping her.

**SarikaArun Kale**, a widow with four children, a mother beneficiary since two years is working as a bouncer. Due to HIV status she had to leave her village with children. She openly shared about her life and work and her experiences with other women during the cluster meetings. Thus, she motivated other women (mothers) beneficiaries. As a result, currently 18 of them are working as bouncers and earn a salary of Rs. 8000/- a month. Once they started working as bouncers their confidence level increased.

Sarva Seva Sangh, as an organisation committed to the rights of children at high risk, has put in a lots of efforts during the project year, to improve the quality of life of children living with and affected by HIV/AIDS and their parents/caretakers. We have been able to link beneficiaries to government and other organizations and also gather much local support. We have succeeded in bargaining well with individuals and institutions to access maximum benefits for the children and make the project cost effective. And, with the experience gained, we have also improved the quality of our interventions for the children and there is a clear improvement in the progress of the children at all levels.

We are indeed glad to present this annual project report of interventions aimed at the rehabilitation and empowerment of children at risk because we have been able to execute the project as per our plans and much to the satisfaction our beneficiaries. During this period even as we reached out to the children in need, we too acquired new insights and learned new modes of operation through trainings and exposures constant interaction with beneficiaries. Liaisoning and networking with other likeminded NGOs were extremely beneficial and at the best interests of our clients. It is also encouraging to note that the project has been able to bring in a lot of positive impacts in the lives of children, individuals, community, institutions and the society as a whole.

Finally, I would like to sincerely thank and appreciate the funding partners and other donors and well wishers for their continuous support to the project. We are optimistic to carry on with the ongoing interventions and make more meaningful, creative and useful interventions and bring about a lot more positive impacts in the lives of these children in future.