

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

“VIDYARANYA”

(Towards Sustainable Change)

ANNUAL REPORT

2013-2014

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OUR MISSION

To work with marginalized sections of the society to empower them and enable them to evolve a vision of an alternate society that includes alternate models of social and economic relations and alternate development paradigm

OUR VISION

A prosperous, harmonious and peaceful society

OUR ROOTS

Established in the year of 1991, Vidyaranya was founded by Mr. M. C. Ramesh and his friends to serve the sections of the society that needed the most care but usually went unnoticed. They committed themselves to the goal of providing a choice and an opportunity of better living for those who were the most underprivileged. In the 24 years that followed, many more shared their vision and joined them in their mission to make Vidyaranya what it is now, a non-profit organization with the strength of 132 dedicated staff that work 48 hours, on an average, in a week along with the various volunteers to keep the dream alive and thriving.

LOOKING AHEAD

Following are some of the items on Vidyaranya's agenda for the future:-

- Special schools for the mentally challenged and visually impaired which would stand out as model learning centers.
- Make a comfortable home with modern amenities for the group of elders whom we take care of.
- Expansion of rehabilitation centers for troubled women.
- Expansion of rehabilitation centers for victims of trafficked women and children.
- Setting up a fully functional training unit such as washing unit, candle making unit, garment unit, artificial jewelry unit etc. for imparting vocational skills to the focused groups

A note from the General Secretary

The past year has been an active one for our organization. I hope that you will review the statistics we have offered in this annual report.

In addition to the services provided to the target population, our governing council was busy in 2013-14 with efforts to strengthen our organization that included:

- Review and update of by-laws
- Review and update of financial reporting
- Development of an organizational plan

We believe in operating our organization as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Our organization provides services to various sections such as women, children, disabled and aged. We could not do that without the commitment of our staff and volunteers. Volunteers provided more than 2,000 hours of service in 2013-14.

I take this opportunity to thank all the donors and well-wishers for their continuous support to achieve the objectives of the organization.

Last but not the least, I thank my staff who are committed for this noble cause and stand by me always to help the underprivileged groups such as women, children and aged, etc.

Regards,

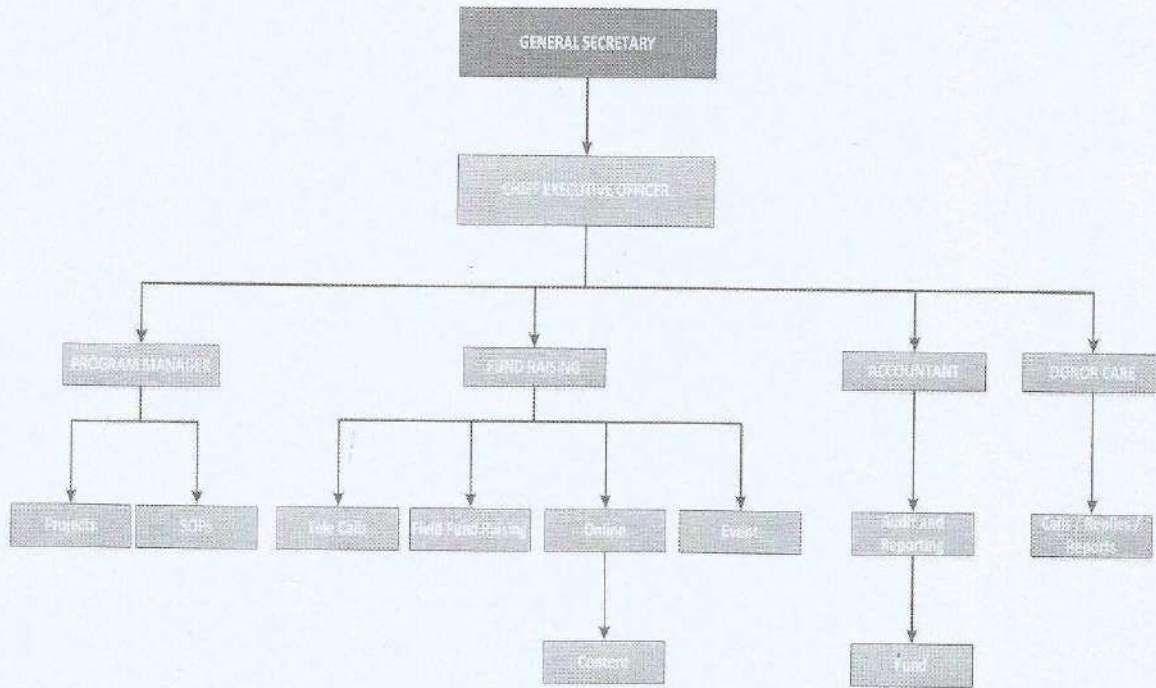


M. C. Rajeev
(General Secretary)

15.6.2014

Organization and Governance chart

The backbone of Vidyaranya that makes the numerous programmes work smoothly and efficiently across locations is presented below. The departments, their representatives and their prime responsibilities are shown in the organization-cum-governance chart.



Detailed Programme Performance

UJJAWAL PROGRAMME

It is one of the most substantive projects of Vidyaranya for victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation that was established on 1st December 2008. This programme is being supported by the Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi. The major achievements of this programme in various areas of dealing with this problem are as follows:-

Prevention

- Promotion of 76 Baliga and Balikiyara Sanghas at educational institutions and community levels
- Promotion of 45 Community Vigilance Groups (CVGs)
- Conducting awareness programmes to build trafficking free communities
- Distribution of 6000 hand bills that contain information on laws that protect the citizens of India from the evil of trafficking
- Conducting 35 workshops for the police departments, education departments etc.
- Organization of 15 street-plays in various places in and around Bangalore to spread awareness regarding protecting oneself from being a victim of trafficking.

Rescue

- 43 women and 24 children were rescued
- Collaboration with Department of Police, SHGs and other agencies to rescue victims
- Participation in Anti-Human trafficking cell meetings

Rehabilitation

- Providing shelter, counseling, food and medical treatment to those who have been rescued
- Vocational training in computer, tailoring and artificial jewels making to the victims
- Assistance in securing a job for the victims

Re-integration

- Reuniting 67 women and 14 children with their families

Follow-up

- 20 women have been placed in various companies and have started to build a new life.

SANJEEVINI AND SAROJINI REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR WOMEN (SWADHAR)

This programme gives dedicated residential care for widows, sexually exploited women, women who are victims of domestic violence and sexual exploitation etc. This project is supported by the Department of Women and Child development, New Delhi. Vidyaranya provides food, shelter, medical support, vocational training and job assistance for those in care. The major objective of this programme is to make these women

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independent and economically self-sufficient. We are proud of the fact Vidyaranya has reached out and improved lives of 100 women and 56 children through this project in the year that went by.

Vidyaranya has been executing a Swadhar programme, better known as Sodari Rehabilitation Centre for Women in Problems, to shelter, nurture and protect 50 depressed women and their 26 children. The project center has recently shifted to a new building in Mandur, Virgonagar (Via) in Bangalore East. Amenities like free lodging, food and medical facilities are provided to the beneficiaries. The center is equipped with TV, VCD for recreation purposes. The inmates are well looked after with basic facilities of cooking vessels, beds, bed sheets, blankets, trunks etc. A dedicated staff of 6 people work on this project full time, they take care of the women and their children. Children are given access to education, nutritious food and medical facilities. Besides that the inmates are being taught several vocational courses such as tailoring and flower making to help them pass their time productively and pave up their way to self-sufficiency. The center is also equipped with a public help-line with operators who work on shift basis to cover most number of hours in a day. Many women call in to make use of this service and find solutions for their problems.

HOSABELAKU HOME FOR MEN

Vidyaranya has set up centers to provide for and take care of the senior citizens, both men and women, especially for those who have no family that can take care of them or those with families who have abandoned them. This program has successfully been running with the support of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. As part of residential care for the elderly we provide free food, accommodation and medical care; we also have a team of doctors, nurses, counselors and social workers to counsel them and to look after their medical needs. 25 men have been benefiting from this project through the years.

GANDHI OLD AGE HOME FOR WOMEN

Vidyaranya has been running an old age home at Channarayapattana Taluk in Hassan District with the support of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. There are 25 aged persons benefiting from this home. The organization provides similar amenities to the beneficiaries as HOSABELAKU initiative along with provision of musical instruments and other such cultural activities that can help them pursue their interests while passing their time in the day.

RAINBOW HOME

Our organization is providing education to female children who are orphans, victims of trafficking, victims of domestic violence and other family problems, slum children etc. We have 60 girl children currently who we look after in the home. We are thankful to Partnership Foundation from Netherlands for their benevolent support to execute this programme in Bangalore. The children are provided with shelter, food, medical care and facilities for other engaging activities like holiday camps, drawing, music, dance etc. Our organization has been collaborating with the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan (SSA) in Bangalore for executing this programme at Government Model Kannada Primary School, Kodihalli, HAL 2nd Stage in Bangalore.

HOME BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMME

An education initiative to support disabled children in the premises of their home has been setup in Hoskote Taluk of Bangalore Rural District. About 20 people have been engaged in this programme. They attend to each of the children individually to engage with them deeply while forming a strong bond with them so that they

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can make the best of this facility being provided to them. Our organization has been collaborating with Department of Education, Government of Karnataka for this initiative.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILDREN

Vidyaranya has been running a residential special school for Visually Impaired children at Channarayapattana, Hassan District. 75 children are receiving the services like shelter, food, medical services etc. round the year and the school is staffed with specially trained teachers and personnel. These children are offered education from 1st to 7th standard with hostel facility for their overall development while taking care of their special needs.

SPURTHI RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Vidyaranya has been running a residential special school for mentally challenged children at Mandur, Bangalore East. 9 trained teachers and 7 supportive staff like Ayahs, cook, helpers, accountant, yoga teacher, a part time doctor and a psychologist are working in this school for the students' convenience. The school has good infrastructure with a nice play-ground to cater to these children. They are provided with shelter, food, uniforms, education, medical facilities etc. At present around 75 children hailing from rural areas are benefiting from this school. This programme is being supported by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi.

VIDYARANYA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Vidyaranya has been running a residential special school for mentally challenged children at Yelahanka New Town, Bangalore. 5 trained teachers and 4 supportive staff like Ayahs, cook, helpers, accountant, yoga teacher, a part time doctor and a psychologist are working in this school. The school has good infrastructure with a nice play-ground to cater to these children. They are provided with shelter, food, uniforms, education, medical facilities etc. At present around 45 children are benefiting from this school. This programme is being supported by the Department of Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bangalore.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN

Another wing of the organization is a residential special school for mentally challenged children with residential facilities at Channarayapattana, Hassan District. 45 children are receiving the benefits through this school. 7 trained teachers, 2 ayas, a cook, a watchman and a peon-cum-sweeper are working in this school. The children are given various services such as education, notebooks, uniforms etc. This programme is being assisted by the Department of Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bangalore.

SABLA PROGRAMME

SABLA is an initiative by Ministry of Women and Child Development and it focuses on empowerment of adolescent girls; it includes a complete nutrition programme for adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18 years. Our organization has been implementing the section of facilitating life skills education under this programme in Bangalore Rural District since two years and enabled self-development of adolescent girls in their health and nutrition status, awareness about health, hygiene, nutrition, adolescent reproductive and sexual health, family and child care. The adolescent girls are also given guidance about the use and

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resourcefulness of the existing public services, such as primary health centers, post offices, banks, police stations and others. 1250 adolescent girls have been trained under this programme.

WELFARE OF WORKING CHILDREN - CARE PROTECTION PROGRAMME

Vidyaranya has been implementing the rehabilitation of the working children at Hassan, Hassan District. The objective is to provide informal education and impart vocational training to the working children to facilitate them to enter the mainstream education / workplaces with the vision to prevent their future exploitation by industries and business. 100 working children are benefiting from this programme. They are provided with a mid-day meal in the center. Besides that they are provided with education and vocational trainings on various trades. Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi is supporting this programme.

OPEN SHELTER PROGRAMME

Open shelter is a unique programme under Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi. It is aimed at building a protective environment for children in difficult circumstances, as well as other vulnerable children Government-Civil Society Partnership.

The center of this programme is located at Yelahanka New Town, Yelahanka Zone, Bangalore Urban District and 25 children are benefiting from it. The open shelter provides preventive, statutory and care and rehabilitation services to any vulnerable children of socially excluded/marginalized groups like migrant families, families living in extreme poverty, socially disadvantaged families, families subjected to or affected by discrimination, minorities, children infected and /or affected by HIV/AIDS, orphans, child drug abusers, children of substance abusers, child beggars, trafficked or sexually exploited children, children of prisoners and street/working children.

The center is equipped with one Coordinator-cum-Counsellor, two bridge educators, three outreach workers and one cook. The children are provided with education, accommodation, medical care etc.

URBAN UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN (CHINNARA TANGUDHAMA) PROJECT

For children who relentlessly scavenge rags; beg on the streets of city and live day after day on leftovers, have no access to bare necessities of food, shelter or even clothing, education our organization has established a transit home at Medahally, South Bangalore with the assistance of Sarya Shiksha Abhiyan, Bangalore Urban District. The children covered by this programme are usually kids of rag pickers, beggars, slum dwellers and sex workers. They are trained for 10 months in the school, till they acquire the minimum competence to be enrolled mainstreamed into government schools. 50 children are benefiting from this programme and they are provided all facilities like education, food, medical care etc. Also the center is equipped with qualified and experienced personnel to take this programme to the next level as well as to look after the needs of the currently benefiting kids.

SUBSIDIARY PROGRAMMES

MOBILE HEALTH CLINIC (MHC)

Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) aims to provide quality primary health care services including referral services as per objectives of the KHSDRP and standards of the GOK and also to contribute to the achievement of improvements in IMR, MMR and CMR and other health MDG goals in the area by reducing the infant and maternal mortality and communicable diseases like malaria, T.B, AIDS, pneumonia, diarrhea and dysentery.

This programme is established at Siddlaghatta Taluk of Chikkaballapur District and covers areas like Pendlivarahalli, Marihalli, Maddegarhalli, Marganaparathi, Tutkachanahalli, S.M.Kondarajanahalli, Bandahalli, Nallacheruvanahalli, Docklathekhalli & Chikkathekhalli villages. The staff includes a medical officer, two nurses, one pharmacist and one assistant. The project is being supported by the Karnataka Health Systems Development & Reform Project (KHSDRP), Bangalore under Phase -V and monitored by the District Health Department, Chikkaballapur.

LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT PROJECT

Vidyaranya is executing Computer, tailoring, housekeeping and candle making training programmes for victims of trafficking and local residents at Medahally, Bangalore-5600489 with the support of United Way, Bengaluru, Bangalore. 160 beneficiaries have undergone training and would be now supported with job placement after successful completion of the training. Currently, 40 women are undergoing training.

GIVE INDIA PROGRAMMES

With the support of Give India, Mumbai and Give Foundation, U.S.A., we were able to reach out to more than 225 children with special needs like that of Vision and Mentally Capability. Also widows, deserted women and others with familial, personal or financial problems, institutional care is being offered. The women and children covered by this programme are provided with shelter, food, education, medical care and vocational trainings.

PANCHAYATH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAMME (URBAN)

Our organization has carried out two workshops on "Prevention of Trafficking and laws related to it" at K.A.S. Officers' Association, Bangalore. 60 P.D.Os were participated in it. We invited legal experts to conduct the programme. It was supported by the Department of Women and Child Development, Bangalore Urban District. It has made the participants understand their roles and responsibilities to curb trafficking of women and children in their respective jurisdiction and community.

PANCHAYATH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER TRAINING PROGRAMME (RURAL)

Our organization has carried out two workshops on "Prevention of Trafficking and laws related to it" at Ashirwad, Bangalore. 60 P.D.Os were participated in it. We invited legal experts to conduct the programme. It was supported by the Department of Women and Child Development, Bangalore Rural District. It has made the participants understand their roles and responsibilities to curb trafficking of women and children in their respective jurisdiction and community.

AWARENESS PROGRAMME OF WOMEN TRAFFICKING

Our organization has carried out an awareness programme on trafficking with the support of Department of Women and Child Development, Bangalore Rural District. Programmes such as rallies, street plays, distribution of flyers, etc. were deployed during the programme. More than 200 school children and SHG members participated in the rally.

EAP AND EDP TRAINING PROGRAMME

Vidyaranya has been executing **Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP)** and **Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP)** in Channapatna, Magadi, and Kanakapura Taluks of Ramanagar District. 153 women of watershed programme were trained on dairy, sheep rearing, petty businesses, ragi flour making, toys making, etc. and 511 women were trained on EAP programmes. We have been collaborating with Department of Watershed Development, Bangalore for this programme.

MISSING CHILDREN BUREAU

Vidyaranya has been working as a premier organization for the "Missing Children Bureau" for Hassan District. It has been supported by the BOSCO, Bangalore. The center is located at the premises of the Department of Women and Child Development, Hassan District, Hassan.

Donors and Funding

Dreams of achieving a just, peaceful and egalitarian society are nurtured by the benevolence of the more privileged amongst us. Vidyaranya owes everything to these exemplary individuals and organizations below who have shown their faith in us and our vision so as to financially support all our endeavors and continue to do so even after so many years. Thanks to these generous entities we have come so far and constantly thrive to reach out to more and more unfortunate citizens in need of our services so that we can help them make a fresh start.

Funding organizations

- Ministry of Women and Child Development, New Delhi
- Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi
- Department of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bangalore
- Department of Women and Child Development, Bangalore
- Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Bangalore
- United way
- Give India

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