

VIDYARANYA

Mandur, (Via) Virgonagar, Bangalore East, Bangalore-560051

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2015-16

ORIGIN

Established in the year of 1991, Vidyaranya was founded by Mr. M. C. Ramesh and his friends to serve the various sections of marginalized people such as women, children, aged and differently abled in our 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.

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

PROGRAMME DETAILS

RAINBOW HOME

Our organization is providing education to vulnerable girl children who are orphans, victims of trafficking, victims of domestic violence and other family problems, slum children etc. We have 67 girl children currently in the home. We are thankful to Partnership Foundation and Rainbow Home Foundation India, Hyderabad 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.

OPEN SHELTERS 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 centers of this programme are located at Ramanagar, Ramanagar District and Devasandra, K.R.Puram, Bangalore, Bangalore Urban District. Each centre is consisting

of 25 street children and totally 300 children are benefiting from it. The centers are equipped with one Coordinators-cum-Counselors, four bridge educators; six outreach workers and two cooks. The children are provided with education, accommodation, medical care etc.

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 150 Baliga and Balikiyara Sanghas at educational institutions and community levels
- Promotion of 125 Community Vigilance Groups (CVGs)
- Conducting awareness programmes to build trafficking free communities
- Distribution of 30,000 hand bills that contain information on laws that protect the citizens of India from the evil of trafficking
- Conducting 84 workshops for the police departments, education departments etc.
- Organization of 88 street-plays in various places in and around Bangalore to spread awareness regarding protecting oneself from being a victim of trafficking.

Rescue

- 150 women and 70 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 150 women and 75 children with their families

Follow –up

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

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, New Delhi. 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.

SANJEEVINI AND SAROJINI REHABILITATION CENTRES FOR WOMEN IN CRISIS (SWADHAR HOME)

This programme gives dedicated residential care for widows, sexually exploited women, women who are victims of domestic violence, deserted, divorced, neglected, and sexual exploitation etc. This project is supported by the Ministry of Women and Child development, New Delhi. Vidyaranya provides food, shelter, medical support, vocational trainings, job assistance and for those in care and also helps them to re-integrate with their families. The major objective of this programme is to make these women independent and economically self-sufficient. We are proud of the fact that Vidyaranya has reached out and improved lives of 150 women and 75 children through this project in the year that went by.

Vidyaranya has been executing two Swadhar homes, better known as Sanjeevini Rehabilitation Centre for Women in Crisis and Sodari Rehabilitation Centre for Women in Crisis in Mandur, Bangalore and Channarayappatana of Hassan District, to shelter, nurture and protect 52 oppressed women and their 28 children. The project centers are provides amenities like shelter, food, and medical facilities to the beneficiaries. These centers are equipped with T.V., 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 12 people work on these projects as a full time, they take care of the women inmates and their children who are below 13 years. 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 to spend their time productively and pave their way up towards self-sufficiency. These centers are also equipped with women help-lines with 6 operators who work on shift basis to reach the women who are in need of support. Many women call in to make use of this service and find solutions for their problems.

TRAINING OF CARE GIVERS FOR THE OLDER PERSONS

Vidyaranya has been running a programme called "Training of Care Givers for older persons" and we have trained 20 care givers represented from various NGOs who are carrying out programmes for older persons and this training helped them to build their capacities for the effective implementation of the services to the marginalized senior citizens in their operational areas. This program has successfully been running with the support of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi.

SPURTHI RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR THE MENTALLY CHALLENGED

Vidyaranya has been running a residential special school for mentally challenged children at Mandur, Bangalore East. 10 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 been equipped with a 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 Department of Empowerment of Disabled and Senior Citizens, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

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, New Delhi. There are 25 aged women benefiting from this home. The organization provides similar amenities to the beneficiaries as Hosabelaku initiative.

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 been furnished with a 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 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. This school is recognized by the Department of Empowerment of Disabled and Senior Citizens, Government of Karnataka, 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.

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 Arab Line, Richmond Town, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560025, with the assistance of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Bangalore Urban District. The children covered by this programme are usually kids of drug abuse, rag pickers, beggars, slum dwellers and sexually abused. 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.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Under this program, vocational training has been provided to women and young girls who were once the victims and now the survivors of human trafficking and domestic violence residing at Rifco shanthi Nikethan layout, Medahalli, Bangalore. During this training program, women are trained in various skills like data entry, tailoring, house keeping, artificial jewel making etc. This project is a success with the help of Deloitte Bangalore and GE Bangalore through United Way. Currently around 600 women completed this training and rejoined their family and also support their family in the best way they can using these achieved skills.

HOSTEL FOR DISABLED WORKING WOMEN AND GIRLS

This is a project to provide safe accommodation provided at Basavanpura, Bangalore, for disabled women and young girls from poor families with the support from Department of empowerment of differently abled and senior citizens

NIGHT SHELTER FOR URBAN HOMELESS

This project is to provide night accommodation to homeless in urban and suburban areas mainly located at Hoodi, Bangalore with the support of BBMP, Bangalore. Cots, beds, blankets and washrooms are provided for around forty people at a time. The facility also has two care takers, security and office assistant to look after the building and inmates.

RAJIV GANDHI CHAITHANYA YOJANA

This program aims to support the unemployed youth of the society by providing bank loans with subsidy from the Government of Karnataka which helps the unemployed youth economically independent and self reliant. This program has been implemented in rural and urban areas of Bangalore, also Magudi Kanakpura Taluks of Ramnagar districts. We have been collaborating with `World bank ` for this program.

MISSION EDUCATION

This program aims the development of physical and mental well being of intellectually challenged children at Mandur, Virgo Nagar, Bangalore. This mission helps to provide nutritious diet includes egg, milk, grains, mid day meals to about 60 children at home which develop their overall health. This program has been supported by `Smile India Foundation, New Delhi` .

INCOME GENERATION PROGRAMME FOR RURAL WOMEN

Vidyaranya has been executing Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme (EAP) and Entrepreneurship Development Programme (EDP) in Channapatna, Magadi, and Kanakapura Taluks of Ramanagar District. We have formed 3600 self help groups for rural women and also they were trained on dairy, sheep rearing, petty businesses, ragi flour making, toys making, etc. Each self help group linked with banks in their village and successfully started self employment with the support of department of Agriculture, Bangalore. This project enabled and empowered rural women to become economically self sufficient.


STEP-E-LEARNING CENTER FOR UN- EMPLOYED YOUTH

STeP providing livelihood opportunities to unemployed youths from poor economic backgrounds, ensuring equal opportunities in the society. The center of this programme located at Rifco shanthi nikenthan layout, Medahalli, Banaglore. The major objective of the project is to train 60 unemployed youths to gain knowledge in Basic English and computer during the period of six months. We further aim to provide, when required, sector based and need based training to suit the employer's requirement. We have been collaborating with Smile Foundation India, New Delhi 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.

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(M. E. Ramesh)
General Secretary

VIDYARANYA (R)
Mandur, (Via) Vergo Nagar
Bangalore East
Bangalore - 560 049