

ANNEXURE 1

AN OVERVIEW OF COMPREHENSIVE REHABILITATION ORGANISATION AND SERVICE SOCIETY ACTIVITIES

Comprehensive Rehabilitation organization And Service Society (CROSS) is an organization registered under the Societies registration Act of 1960 since 1991.

The Society works for the upliftment of the underprivileged in the society. All the programmes of the society are located in some of the neediest areas of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. One of the focus areas of the Society is Child Development. Apart from various other activities, the society runs one home for the special children, one for the deaf and deaf-blind children and three child development centers. As on date 1140 children are being benefitted through the activities of the society. The children are chosen based on the level of poverty irrespective of their caste, creed or religion. All the 1140 children are provided various inputs in the areas of cognitive, physical and socio emotional development with the assistance of Compassion International for the last 25 years. In addition to the 1140 children, their parents and siblings are also benefitted through the programmes that are organized by the society with the support provided by Compassion international.

Two child development centers and one residential home for the deaf and deaf-blind are located at Vellore district Tamil Nadu .Happy home integrated project a residential home for the special children and one child development center is located at Kolar gold fields in Karnataka. The integrated project was started to give hope to the disabled children to lead a dignified life and become self-sufficient, the government of India closed down the Gold mines in Kolar and many children became child laborers, at that juncture a Child development center was started in the year 1998 to educate and support children and families in crisis. In Ambur villages, girl children were not able to go out for studies, hence to educate these children, this center was started, in Vellore many hearing impaired children, children working as bonded laborer, rickshaw pullers quarry workers, were more prevalent in muthumanpdapam slum region, only after this compassion project started here children started to go to school and have reached graduation level in this slum, And also to redeem the bonded labour this home was started. In Vaniyambadi, many of the people are beedi rollers, porters which didn't fetch them enough income to lead their living, hence even the children were into this job and as a result they were addicted to smoking.

92% of the parents of the children work as Daily laborer work, who would get work occasionally and the income would be meager to meet the needs of the family. In addition to this, people are addicted to alcohol and drugs leading to 47% of the families being broken. Around 45% of the children in this area are malnourished.

Under these circumstances, the three child development centers, integrated project and deaf home work with children in the following areas.

Cognitive:

Under cognitive area, we meet the entire educational needs of children such as text books, note books, school stationeries like, pen, pencils, uniforms, sweaters, scarfs, rain coats, umbrellas, school bags, files, K.G.Cardboard, exam boards, Braille slate, stylus, hearing aids, and papers. We also provide unique carrier guidance, personality development programs, study exposure tours, field trips, school and college fees, special tuition for slow learners, multiple intelligence classes, special coaching according to their aptitude, and leadership camp, exam orientation for public exams. Ample opportunities for stage performance in the bimonthly cultural program are provided to interested children.

In the project, we have 246 children attending Primary school, 265 attending high school, 223 attending pre university, 106 attending university , 185 attending diploma courses, 112 attending vocational courses, and 03 master degree courses.

Many of the special children and normal children who were in this program were educated and provided training in their interested fields and made self-sufficient to earn their livelihood and live a dignified life in par with other members of the society. Visually impaired children are well placed as teachers, music teachers, peon in court, physically handicapped child is working as drawing teachers, Manager in IT Company.

Two Orphan children were given educational scholarships Rs. 75,000 for each child to complete their General Nursing and Midwifery course. The stoppage of funds has put a greater burden on the children who are doing their professional courses if the project doesn't pay their fees, they have to discontinue their studies.

Physical:

Under this, we meet the physical needs of children. Children are provided with one time nutritional food in child development centers and three meals with snacks in residential homes according to the directions of dietitians. Entire medical care such as medicine, first aids, surgery, long term treatment, treatments in multispecialty hospitals in the State or outside the state are given to children. Periodical medical checkups like dental, eye and general checkups are conducted in the campus every year. Some of the recent medical interventions are listed below

- Hepatitis 'B' Treatment for child Divya 3, 60,000 was spent.
- P.Benita Praveena's father had a liver problem and advised surgery Rs.30,000 was spent by the project for the surgery
- Child Philip Edison's mother is diagnosed with Cardio vascular disease, Major depression, Hypertension, Diabetes, due to which she is not able to provide for the family, Child's father committed suicide as they were not able to repay the debts. The

project is providing their daily needs, now doctors have advised open heart surgery, but this could not be done due to stoppage of funds.

- Child Stole Noel is a mentally retarded child, Rs. 40,000 was spent for him as he had a fracture of his hand.
- Child Nandhini had lost her vision in one of her eye, she was treated at Nethralaya Bangalore and eye sight was restored.

As part of providing a good environment and living conditions for children at home, Child P.Swapna, parents who are infected with HIV, a house was constructed worth 2,00,000. A house was constructed for an orphan child T.Sandhiya worth 3,50,000 and R.Anjala who is also an orphaned child a house was constructed with house worth 3,50,000. For Child Sindhu a house was constructed worth Rs.1,52,123 and another child Pavithra manoharan a house was constructed worth 1,45,817. Fourteen (14) houses of the children that were damaged due to rains was reconstructed at a cost of Rs 69,390. A total of 12,67,330 was spent for construction of houses.

Special attention and care is given to malnourished children. Therapeutic feeding for severely malnourished children is being given for the last 1 year and will have to continue for next year. If we stop this program children BMI will go down and these children will severely get affected.

In addition to this, Children are trained in good hygiene practices, soft skills, computer skills, good manners

Sports training like hockey, football coaching, badminton, cricket, and indoor games such as chess, carom etc, are given to children. Athletic training and coaching to interested children is given. Some of our children have played at the State level.

Children are also trained in Arts, Music, karate. Children participate in district and state level drawing competitions and win prizes, they learn to play various instruments and learn Baratanatyam by this the rich heritage of our Nation is imbibed in them.

Socio Economic:

Children come from very difficult back grounds like broken families and parents who are addicted to substance abuse, Single mothers, orphaned, semi orphaned, disabled. Hence, to give a hope for their future and support them emotionally and give them care and affection, counsellors and mentors walk through their journey of life guiding, protecting and advocate for these children. And help the child to hold on to the dream and persevere towards realizing it.

Various income generating programs for about 200 families are being initiated such as goat rearing, dog rearing, petty shops, tailoring machines, breakfast shops, iron shops, vegetable shops

CASE STUDIES

Mr. Chellapathy- This child was referred by the police as he was found near the bus stand. He is a profound mentally retarded child. Now the child is trained and performs his ADL, speaks few words, and helps other children.

Mr. Jayavelu is a spastic child, mild mental retardation, orthopedically handicapped. He was not able to walk, or talk, now he uses his wheel chair, goes out independently, talks to some extent, and earns a meager income.

Mr. Mahammed Raffick, a visually impaired boy from his birth is studying II year pre university course.

There are many more such children who with the help of compassion international have reached the Zenith.