

VIDYARANYA

(Towards Sustainable Change)

MANDUR, VIRGONAGAR (VIA), BANGALORE EAST, BANGALORE-560049



(Visit by Shri. Vijay Sampla, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment - The then Cabinet Minister of Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment, New Delhi was seen with our target beneficiaries at Mandur, Bangalore -56049

ANNUAL REPORT -2023-24

A note from the General Secretary

The past year has been an active one for our organization. We 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 2023-24 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 and also on environment. We could not do that without the commitment of our staff and volunteers. Volunteers provided more than 2,000 hours of service in 2023-24.

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 dedicated for this noble cause and stand by me always to help the underprivileged groups such as women, children, differently abled and aged etc.

Regards,



M. C. Ramesh

(General Secretary)

VIDYARANYA (R)

Mandur, (Via) Vergo Nagar

Bangalore East

Bangalore - 560 049

DETAILED PROGRAMME PERFORMANCE

PRELUDE

Established in the year of 1991, Vidyaranya was founded by Mr. M. C. Ramesh and his friends Dr. Shivappa and others 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 34 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 75 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 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 and victims of trafficked women and children.
- Strengthening the 'Namma Mane' (Our Home) concept for vulnerable girl children
- Strengthening the skill training centres and reach the unreached at the community

SWADHAR GREH (SAKTI SADAN) (SANJEEVINI & SANJEEVI CENTRES FOR WOMEN IN CRISIS)

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 140 women and 70 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 Channarayapatana of Hassan District, to shelter, nurture and protect 50 oppressed women and their 26 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 12 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. Besides that the inmates are being taught the vocation trainings such as Computer, tailoring and flower making.

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 67 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 10000 hand bills that contain information on laws that protect the citizens of India from the evil of trafficking
- Conducting 75 workshops for the police departments, education departments etc.
- Organization of 65 street-plays in various places in and around Bangalore to spread awareness regarding protecting oneself from being a victim of trafficking.

Rescue

- 125 women and 50 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 100 women and 50 children with their families

Follow –up

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

GANDHI OLD AGE HOME FOR WOMEN

Vidyaranya has been running an old age home at Channarayapatana Taluk in Hassan District with the support of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. There are 25 aged women benefiting from this home. The organization has been providing free food and accommodation and medical facilities for these beneficiaries. The inmates are happy with beds, mats, blanket, bed sheets, bedspreads, pillows etc.

NAMMA MANE (OUR 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 FICO and Satsangh 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 Higher Primary School, Kodihalli, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore-56008.

REHABILITATION OF BEGGARS

Vidyaranya has been running rehabilitation centres in Channarayapatana, Hassan District and Mysore, Mysore District. The beneficiaries are provided the services including awareness generation, identification, rehabilitation, provision of medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development and sustainable settlement of persons engaged in begging. 40 to 50 beggars are harvesting in each centre. They are provided with shelter, food, medical facilities, counselling, education, skill development and sustainable settlement.

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 centers of this programme are located at Mandur, Banaglore East, Bangalore-560049, Bangalore Urban District. Each centre is consisting of 25 street children and totally 50 children are benefiting from it. The open shelters provide 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 centers are equipped with one Coordinator-cum-Counsellor, four Bridge educators; six Outreach workers and two Cooks. The children are provided with education, accommodation, medical care etc.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING FOR SCHEDULED TRIBE WOMEN & GIRLS

Vidyaranya has focused on the economic empowerment of Scheduled Tribe women and girls in Channarayapattana, Hassan District and trained 50 ST women and Girls in Embroidery, Tailoring etc for 90 days. It has helped them to enhance their income to their families.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT- BAISC COMPUTER TRAINING

Vidyaranya has been concentrating on the empowerment of women and women with disabilities in our operational areas for the past many years. As a developmental process, it has initiated skill training on Basic Computer, Spoken English and Personality training with the support of United Way India, Mumbai. 65 abled differently abled women and girls were trained and another 65 women and girls are undergoing training from 1st March 2024 for 6 months.

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.

AVAKASHA RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN, CHANNARAYAPATTANA, HASSAN DISTRICT

Vidyaranya also running a residential special school for mentally challenged children with residential facilities at Channarayapattana, Hassan District. 65 children are receiving the benefits through this school. 12 trained teachers, 8 ayahs, 2 cook, 1 watchman, 2 peons-cum sweeper are working in this school. The children are provided with 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.

SHELTER FOR THE URBAN HOMELESS

Vidyaranya has been helping the people who are homeless. The homeless people have no place to stay, no identification cards and other documents because of which they can be denied access to even the most basic assistance: food pantries, certain public benefits, and in some cases, emergency shelters. Keeping this in view, our organization has been executing three shelters in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palikhe, 2 shelters in Madavadevapura Zone and 1 shelter in Dasarahalli zone. These projects are supported by Bangalore Mahanagara Palikhe, Bangalore. Everyday 45 to 50 urban homeless are benefiting from each shelter.

SPURTHI RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL FOR MENTALLY RETARDED CHILDREN PROGRAMME

Vidyaranya has been running a residential special school for mentally challenged children at Mandur, Bangalore East. 22 trained teachers and 14 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 105 mentally challenged 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.

SPANDANA HOSTEL FOR DISABLED STUDENTS, TRAINEES and WORKING WOMEN

Vidyaranya has been running a hostel for disabled working women, students and trainees at Mandur, Bangalore, Bangalore Urban District and it reaches 50 disabled working women including students and trainees. This hostel has been furnished with required infrastructure and has been providing shelter, food, medical care etc for the inmates. Besides that they also are offered counselling services to make them self-confidence. Moreover the students are given career guidance services. Furthermore the hostel is equipped with T.V. for the entertainments. We also conduct yoga sessions and bjanas for the inmates to keep them active. This project is supported by the Department for Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMME FOR ALCOHOLIC AND DRUG ABUSERS

Alcohol addiction remains one of the most common substance use disorders in our society, with almost a quarter of the adult population meeting the criteria for an alcohol use disorder (AUD). Fortunately, the amount of treatment options for alcohol addiction has increased significantly in recent years to help assist with this growing concern. Our organization has been rendering its services like Counselling, referring to hospital etc and reached 50 alcoholics/drug addicts/substance users this year.

Date: 18-05-2024

Place: Bangalore


(M.C. Ramesh)
General Secretary

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