



Name of Project: Impart computer literacy to poor children in India

Project Period: Ongoing

Reporting Period: 1st May 2013 to 31st July 2013

Specific Objectives of the Project:

- To improve access to computers
- To increase computer literacy of the children
- To deliver quality computer education

Achievements of the Project:

- Improvements in the grades of the children.
- Innovative teaching methods employed
- One to one individualized attention is given to the students

Number of beneficiaries: 30 beneficiaries

Key Activities:

The two computer centres currently ongoing are in the following homes:

- Chembur Children's Home (CCH), Mankhurd
- David Sassoon Industrial School (DSIS) Matunga

Each center is well equipped with 10 computers. Each batch consists of 15 students. The computer classes are being carried out on all weekdays (Monday to Friday). The total number of beneficiaries is 30 (15 in DSIS and 15 in CCH).



Sahaara believes that every person has a dream, and our work centers around ensuring that marginalized persons are able to articulate and work towards achieving their dream. Children living in Mumbai juvenile homes are one of the most marginalized children in Mumbai. Institutionalized, these children are most often from highly poverty stricken families.

As a part of the holistic intervention therein, Sahaara imparts computer education to the children between fourteen to eighteen years of age in the juvenile homes. Sahaara's in-house computer course delivers a fitting foundation to the children preparing their skills for the technology-driven world outside the homes. The children attending the computer training get a start which will help them break out of the poverty cycle and fulfill their dreams of a stable future.

Below are the stories of some children who have benefited with the help of the computer training carried out by Sahaara personnel.

Alam begins his journey to learn computers!

Alam (name changed) is 15 year old boy, studying in class VIII at the DSIS (David Sassoon Industrial School). Alam lost his parents at a very young age and was left with his younger sister. Both of them were in the care of their uncle and aunt. Once while he was in the train, wandering around, Alam was caught by the police and was brought to the Umerkhadi Observation Home. Since, his uncle and aunt did not want to claim him back, the Child Welfare Committee decided to transfer him to the DSIS at Matunga where children are taken care of up till they reach the age of 18 years.

When he was promoted to Class VIII, he got admission in Sahaara's computer training centre at DSIS, where children from Class VIII to Class X receive computer education. Initially he would not be regular at the centre, but through regular follow-up and counseling by the Sahaara teacher, he was motivated to regularly attend the computer training classes.



Alam looks forward to complete the six-month computer training course and learn computer basics and MS Office. Thereafter, he will be followed by the Sahara staff for further guidance for his career and employment.

Manish desires to be a computer engineer!

15 year old Manish hails from a family in Panvel. His mother is employed as an assistant nurse in a local hospital. His father was a driver who passed away in a road accident in 2004. Since then, they due to financial constraints, his mother decided to send Manish and his brother to the Chembur Children's Home in 2006.

Manish is now in Class VIII and is enrolled into Sahaara's computer training course. Curious by nature, he is showing keen interest in learning computers. At this six-month computer course, Manish is learning the computer basics and MS Office. He is also good at his studies and has various other skills like drawing and painting.

He and his brother visit their mother in holidays and during the vacation period to spend time together. Manish's mother is very happy with his progress. Manish dreams to be a computer engineer someday. Sahaara is guiding Manish and helping him excel in his computer education so that he can get closer to his dream and get better employment opportunities in the future.