



Light of Life Trust

Project Anando

Reinstating/sustaining rural
underprivileged school dropouts and their holistic development
through 3E approach, viz., Educate, Empower
and Equip for Employability



November 2013

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Reinstating / sustaining rural underprivileged school dropouts and their holistic development through 3E approach, viz., Educate, Empower and Equip for Employability.

Project Objective:

To realize the untapped potential of India's rural children and empower them and to recognize them as a major source with the belief that no child should be forced to drop out of school, as the kind of start they will get will determine the foundation for their future.

Introduction

Light of Life Trust, through its Project Anando initiated in 2005, has been working towards uplifting underprivileged rural children by reinstating them in schools and equipping them with skills to become independent and productive citizens. The goal is not just literacy but complete all round development of each child through a 3E Approach, i.e. Educate, Empower and Equip for employability, thus empowering the beneficiaries to take life changing decisions by choosing appropriate career paths.

Light of Life Trust was the only NGO to initiate such a programme to reinstate school dropouts in the age-group of 11 -18 years in the rural areas and have thus established as pioneers in this field. The success of Project Anando is seen in the emerging new generation of confident, high aspiring and motivated young rural citizens, the commendable result of our continuous efforts with them.

Light of life Trust through its holistic development approach supports and strengthens capacities of its beneficiaries to break out of the vicious generational cycle of poverty prevalent in rural India. The result - building a generation of youth who are literate, confident and knowledgeable and who are able to make effective career choices that would lead them to gainful means of livelihood and make them and their families financially independent and stable.

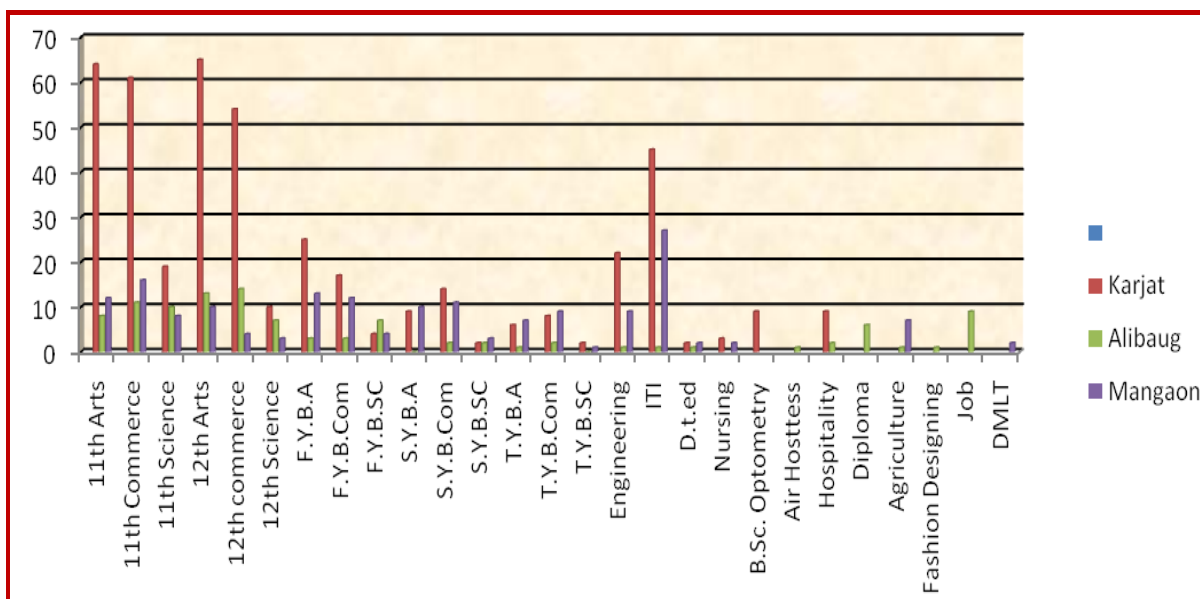
The Anando Module was designed by the Founder, Mrs. Villy Doctor, Former Head of Department (Psychology), Sophia College, affiliated to Mumbai University. Over the last 7 years, the Anando model has been tested, suitably modified and experimented with and has thus evolved in the current form as a totally robust and replicable model.

Currently, through Project Anando, Light of Life Trust is reaching out to over 3500 beneficiaries from 426 villages across 5 districts in the state of Maharashtra besides touching the lives of their immediate and extended families, local community members, school teachers and concerned authorities to ensure that our efforts bring a marked difference in their lives.

The year 2013 has seen the first batch of nine Anando beneficiaries successfully completing their Bachelors Degree - a movement of great pride for the organization as the beneficiaries have successfully created new pathways for themselves very different from the situation they were in five years ago.

Many more of our beneficiaries are in the process of attaining professional training in various fields which could be ascertained from the chart given hereunder.

Project Anando Impact - 2013



Project Anando – Rationale

India has the largest number of out of school children in the world with approximately 5.55 crore of whom (i.e. 36%) drop out between the age group 11-18 years, of which, 4.65 crore are from rural India (The data is based on NSS round 62nd) who are not the focus of the Indian Governments intervention in the field of Education nor are they given due encouragement or support from their families who are struggling to make ends meet for their survival.

In rural India the highest percentage of out of school children is in the age group 11 years to 18 years which increases as they grow older due to various reasons like – looking after their younger siblings and their homes, as parents are daily wage earners, earning an extra income for the family, no access to secondary schools, etc. The future of a young country like India is in the hands of this age group and hence the need to address the alarming issue of dropouts at the secondary school level becomes the key to the development of young India.

The issue of out of school children has raised some major concerns for secondary school education, as in comparison, enrolment percentages are relatively higher in primary schools. Secondary education is given less importance today, in terms of no special programs dedicated to it like the Sarva Siksha Abhiyan. Secondary Education is a link between elementary and higher education, also it is an important step towards vocational education and empowerment.

In spite of the school dropout rates being higher in the rural areas there are only **a few NGOs currently working** towards addressing the needs of this critical segment. **Looking at the abject state of this segment of children especially in rural India, Light of Life Trust decided to focus its interventions with students at the secondary school level in rural districts of the State of Maharashtra with a vision to reach out and positively impact the entire nation in a planned and phased manner.**

First generation learners need support and guidance to break out of this vicious cycle of poverty and illiteracy.

The organization works towards uplifting underprivileged rural children by reinstating them in schools and equipping them with skills to live in mainstream society. Our goal is not just literacy but complete all round development of each child through our 3E Approach leading to our beneficiaries taking life changing decisions by choosing appropriate career paths further leading to their becoming responsible citizens of our country. The organization supports deserving children to take a decision post state level exams on the career they want to take up. Students desirous of pursuing higher education are also supported to seek admissions to colleges in their fields of interest. **Career opportunities are enhanced by networking with vocational guidance and training institutes as well as corporates and entrepreneurs to enable student placements.**

Light of life Trust through its holistic development approach is looking at supporting and strengthening capacities of its beneficiaries to break out of the vicious generational cycle of poverty that rural India is reeling under. Through its ongoing efforts the organization is looking at building a generation of youth who are literate, confident and knowledgeable of the world in which they live and who are able to make effective career choices that would lead them to gainful means of livelihood and make them and their families financial independent and stable.

In order to ensure children receive school education Light of Life Trust has initiated a new programme for school teachers – **School Quality Education Programme in Anjar Tehsil, Kutch District, State of Gujarat**, with the aim to enhance and strengthen school teachers in interactive classroom processes, effective modes of parent & community interactions which would all lead towards increasing involvement and participation of all the key stakeholders in a child's life to ensure they are sustained in school to complete atleast their basic education.

Project Anando - Objectives

- Develop a will to learn and get educated.
- Develop an ability to study despite lack of continuous backing
- Build capacity and the quality to face and withstand competition and develop leadership skills
- Enhance the child's personality.
- To ensure that the beneficiaries are suitably equipped for employability that will enable them to lead a life of self sufficiency and dignity.
- To help beneficiaries assess their own strengths and weakness, explore their potential and pursue higher education as per their interest or choose a vocational training programme.
- Involvement of parents, community & teachers in the childs growth and development

Project Anando - Methodology

The holistic development of the CHILD, being the raison d'être for Project Anando, is the centre of all programmes under the project. As the key stakeholder the child plays an active part in his/her development and is an involved member throughout the process rather than being just a passive recipient. The child's family, school teachers, peer groups and the community are significant contributors to



the child's development as a responsible individual and hence all major influencers in the child's life are significant groups with whom a number of intensive and ongoing programmes are conducted.

Project Anando has adopted the three "E" holistic approach to achieve overall development of the child, namely

1. **Educate** - The first step is to identify drop outs and potential drop outs from the community and schools respectively. With the support of ongoing counseling sessions, in-depth work with the parents & teachers and provision of the required education linked material support helps reinstating some of them back into schools. A continuous interaction with parents and teacher is maintained to understand the child's issues & to jointly find solutions, has reaped positive results for the children under the project.
 - a. **Education Linked Material** is provided to every child to ensure that the child has the basic required materials to successfully complete the required education.

Educational Material	Text Books, Notebooks, Guides, School Bag
Clothing	Uniforms.
Health	Nutritious Food and need based medical support.

- b. **Student Friendly Supplementary Education Programme: (SFSEP)** Over the years though a marked positive difference was observed among the Anando beneficiaries, it was clear that children were finding it difficult to perform better academically due to a high % of failure in two subjects – English and Mathematics. In 2007 to address this issue of immense concern the Student Friendly Supplementary Education programme (SFSEP) was launched by the Light of Life Trust. The programme in the first year itself showed extremely encouraging results as 92 % children in Anando cleared their exams.

The SFSEP programme is currently being run in all 35 centres under Project Anando and in addition reach out to approximately 550 non Anando beneficiaries with the support of 60 part time teachers.

2. **Empower** – Project Anando's goal is not just literacy but the complete all round development of each child. The organization firmly believes that along with education holistic personality development and skill development is critical to a child to stride ahead in life. Through two specially designed programmes focused on the process of empowering the child, Project Anando looks at developing the all round personality of the children and building their capacities to look a bright future confidentially.
 - a. **Weekend Workshops:** Every Saturday and Sunday interactive empowerment focussed workshops are organized by trained social worker on different aspects of academics, self awareness and personality development for the Anando children. A typical workshop starts with a Meditation Session, necessary for a balanced physical, mental and emotional state of mind.

Impact: The week end workshop aims to :

- Enhance the child's personality.
- Helps them to set their goals.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase involvement & Increase confidence.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance Leadership quality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop effective communication skill.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop concepts of cleanliness, self discipline in workshop, Time Management.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase concentration due to meditation.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To firmly state their opinions in different situations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead to more involvement and confident participation in all activities and programmes in school and outside as well.

b. Parent/ Guardians Awareness & Involvement Programmes

Parents/ Guardians being the most significant stakeholders in the child's world are the chief influencers in how each child moulds and develops as an individual. All programmes at Light of life Trust are undertaken with the involvement and support of our parents as the Trust believes in involving them in all decisions regarding their wards life.

During the year the following programmes are organized with the parents in addition to maintaining regular contact with them through the home visits made by the LOLT team as part of the Anando programme:

- **First parent meeting & follow up monthly meetings with parents** - A parent meeting is organized as soon as the selection process of the children is completed. At the very first meeting itself it is made very clear that Anando parents need to be involved in their wards development and growth. Regular monthly meetings are organized for the parents to provide inputs to parents and also address various emerging regular needs of both parents and their children which impact family relationships. Parents are encouraged to be open and free in the sharing of various moments in their day to day life so as joint solutions could be found.
- **Parent training Programmes** - Each centre organizes various training programmes with parents. The areas covered include sessions on child rearing practices, ways to pay attention to the child's study, issue of child marriages and its detrimental effects on the child, establishing self help groups, workshops on topics of parental interest such as modernization techniques in agriculture, etc
- **Parent Representatives** - A few parents are selected as representative parents for the entire parent group in each centre and they are assigned various leadership roles during the year. Special training programmes are also organized for them in the year to enrich their existing skills and abilities.
- **'Ekhach Divas Amcha BAHARNYACHA'** - Once a year a day is dedicated to our parents and a **Parent Melava** is planned and organized fully by them with support from the Light of life trust team. Over the years parents have become one of the major pillars of support in the programme and this one day gives them the opportunity to show case their talents and skills as also take a break from the stress of life to enjoy an entire day only for themselves.

- c. **Anant:** With the belief that music has the capacity to calm the mind and direct all energies to creative results the Anant programme was initiated for the children. Through the learning of the tabla and undergoing vocal training from trained teachers have seen many blossoming into well adjusted children.

The objectives of Anant programme are as under:

- To improve students overall life with the help of music.
- To search hidden talent in students.
- To educate students about how they can be more efficient on several fronts with the help of music.
- To give them platform who are holding some potential regarding music.
- To empower students by teaching them the art of performance, art of singing, and art of playing an instrument. etc.

3. **Employability** – Secondary school education is a basic necessity for children in preparation for higher education through college or vocational training courses. Unless students complete good quality higher education and enter into respectable profession or service the cycle of their development remains incomplete.

- a. **Anando “Plus”** is an initiative under Project Anando to ensure that the beneficiaries are suitably equipped for employability that will enable them to lead a life of self sufficiency and dignity. The initiative helps beneficiaries to assess their own strengths and weakness; explore their potential and then either pursue higher education as per their interest or choose a vocational training programme.

A number of additional programmes are also organized for the participating children to widen their perspective and to provide the right platform to show case their talents.

- i) **Bal Kala Mahotsav:** An annual talent programme organized by Light of Life Trust to support children to explore, discover and showcase their innate talents in singing, dancing, playing musical instruments like *tabla*, short skits, elocution, drawing and essay writing leading to their self growth and increase in their confidence level as they perform on stage and compete with other children. Children from all the neighbouring schools are invited to participate in the various competitions including all Anando children.
- ii) **Rainy Picnic:** An opportunity for children to interact with one another and enjoy their day to the fullest.
- iii) **Mahacharcha:** An interactive session is organized for the students about to appear for their Std. X. board exams where students who have successfully appeared for the same exams come and share their best practices and their experiences. The programme is aimed to motivate the students to perform with confidence for the said exam.
- iv) **Sphurti:** Students are given guidance on ways in which to answer the English paper and seek answers in the question paper itself. They are also shown various quick and easy steps to solve math problem. The outcome of this programme is

to make students gain the confidence of answering their papers well, to resolve maximum number of their difficulties with the help of good resource people present during the programme and students feel highly motivated just before their examinations.

Anando - Methodology:

- **Desk Research** -To understand the existing educational status of the country and the specific region.
- **Field Research** - To visit identified districts and Talukas to gauge level of implementation
- **Identification** of the areas to be included based on the reports of desk and field research.
- **Orientation & Induction** - Orientation & intensive training of new recruited team.
- **Selection of Schools & Children** - Based on the selection criteria already formulated by the organization..
- **Baseline Study** - In order to monitor the impact of the programme.
- **Actual Anando Programme** - As per the implementation Plan.

One social worker is assigned one centre typically comprising of students from 4/5 neighbouring villages. One centre will have maximum 65 numbers of students as beneficiaries.

Project Anando - Appropriateness:

{Growth of number of beneficiaries from 25 in 2005 to over 3,500 in 2013}

Looking at the fact that the secondary education is critical to breaking intergenerational transmission of poverty, LOLT took the initiative and designed the 'Anando' Model and initiated its programme in 2005. During these 8 years, the model has evolved through a natural process. Learning's in different regions enriched the program and success on ground gave courage and inspired LOLT to take this model to more needy children and families to empower them to break the vicious circle of extreme poverty and illiteracy. The model is tested successfully in four different regions with varied socio-eco-geographical background. It is observed that the model is scalable and easily replicable as well economical too.

The Anando Module has been designed by a qualified educationist, our Founder Mrs. Villy Doctor, Head of Department, Psychology, Sophia College affiliated to the Mumbai University.

Over the last 5 years the model has been tested, suitably modified and experimented with and has evolved in the current form as a totally replicable model.

Light of Life Trust is the only NGO to initiate a Programme to reinstate school drop outs between 11 - 18 years in the rural areas and have been the pioneers in this field. The success of our programme is seen in the emerging new generation of confident, high aspiring and motivated young rural citizens is the mark of our continuous efforts with them.

Project Anando works towards accomplishment of our mission as we not only reach out to over 3500 children but to their immediate and extended families, local community members, school teachers and concerned authorities and hence we work with the entire community around the child to ensure they make a difference.

Measurement of Impact

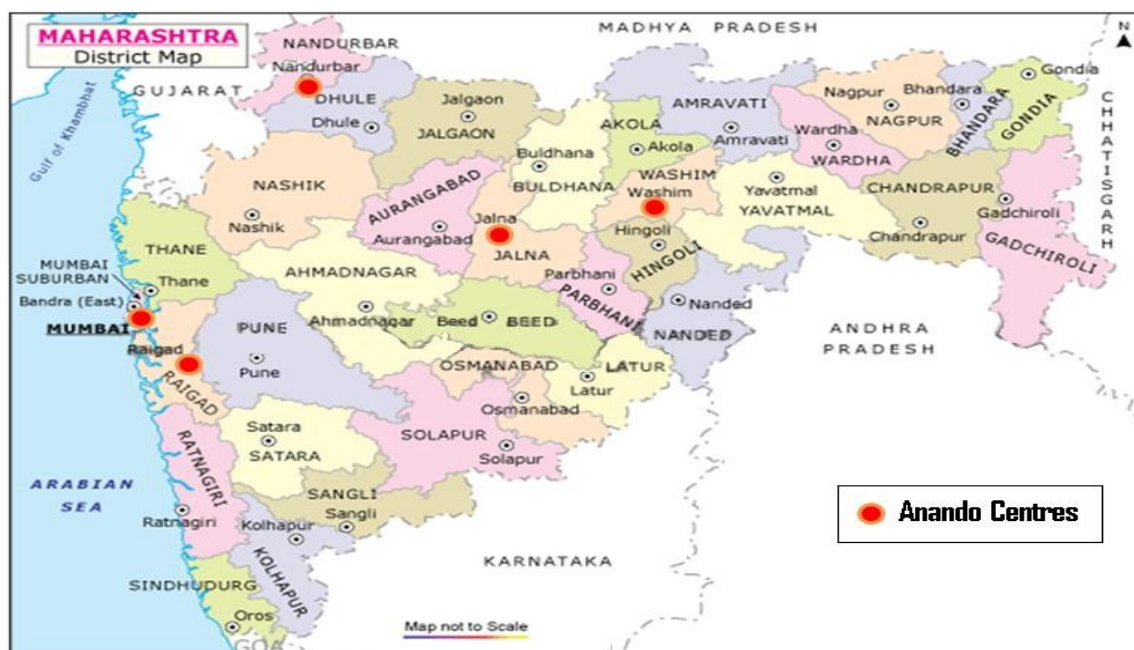
- **Manthan** - The six monthly and annual review with a focus on enhancement of the programme implementation.

- **Assessment Post Test (Student):** The baseline study to monitor impact of the programme in all areas of work.
- **Staff Monitoring:** Performance appraisals of Staff, Regular Monthly & weekly team meetings.
- **Financial Monthly reporting** - quarterly system of reporting is followed by the organization
- **Individual work plan for each staff member**
- **Child's own assessment through "Let us know ourselves" questionnaire**

Project Anando - Outcomes

- Children, who would have dropped out from schools, not by choice but due to poverty, are reinstated.
- Holistic development through project Anando will help them adjust to varied environment.
- They have the guidance to choose careers best suited to them.
- These children will escape child labor and break the vicious circle of poverty and illiteracy.
- A major leap in the employment opportunities available to the children from unskilled labor to either gets skills required for employment or entrepreneurship.
- By intervention with the parents, guardian and community they will understand the value of education and have awareness about various social issues related to their community. Thus, developing more aware and better communities.
- Intervention with the teachers in schools helps support improvement in the overall education.
- Untapped and unrecognized potential in rural India will be identified, developed which will then shine in a way as to contribute in the national development process.
- Children will grow up to be confident, positive, enriched and responsible human beings, capable of contributing to their community and the society at large.

Project Anando Reach:



PROJECT ANANDO									
BENEFICIARY DETAILS 2012-13									
	District								
	Raigad District			Washim District	Nandurbar District	Jalna District	Mumbai		
	Karjat	Alibaug	Mangaon				Worli	Total	
Anando Children	647	200	221	305	140	488	47	2048	
SFSEP Anando	407	104	149	218	107	295	38	Included in Anando Children	
SFSEP Non Anando	278	81	103	0	0	0	0	462	
Anant	143	87	53	0	0	0	0	Included in Anando Children	
Anando Plus	596	70	113	140	11	98	10	1038	
								3548	
TOTAL									3548

Project Anando – Achievements over the years

- * Project Anando initiated with 25 beneficiaries in 2005 has reached out to over 9000 beneficiaries in 2013 in a span of 8 years. The children, who would have dropped out from schools, not only by choice but also due to financial and familial circumstances have been reinstated and sustained to complete basic education and look at a career that would help them to break out of the vicious cycle of generational poverty.
- * Initiated in 5 hamlets of Karjat Taluka, Raigad District in 2005 now reaches out to 426 villages in five districts of Maharashtra State – Raigad, Jalna, Washim, Nandurbar & Mumbai District.
- * Exceptional talent has been identified amongst 280 Anando beneficiaries for music – through the **Anant Programme** through which these selected beneficiaries are being professionally trained in **Vocal classical Indian Music, Tabla and folk dance**. Many of the beneficiaries are now aspiring to pursue careers in different streams of music.
- * **The Student Friendly Supplementary Education Programme** has reaped great benefits for the beneficiaries not only **strengthening their foundations in mathematics & English** subjects but also **enhancing their academic performance**. Some of the beneficiaries who have topped SSC exams in the last few years with the support received are :
 - Year 2009–10: Akshay Thakur ~ 91.64%, Chondhi Centre, Alibaug Taluka.
 - Year 2010–11: Parag Thakur ~ 90.36%, Chondhi Centre, Alibaug Taluka.
 - Year 2011–12: Devanand Jawale ~ 89.45%, Shelu Bazaar Centre, Washim District
 - Year 2012–13: Ms Pooja Agarwal ~ 88.60%, Manora Centre, Washim District

- * **Partnership with local Government Education Department & school authorities** leading to **permissions being granted to hold SFSEP classes & Anando programmes in the school premises** on a daily basis without cost.
- * **Excellent cooperation & support from School management and teachers** to ensure our beneficiaries sustain their efforts. School representatives are always present for all the programmes and activities organized by LOLT in the local areas and express the valuable contribution being made by the Trust in the lives of the beneficiaries in open forums.
- * **Anando beneficiaries post Std X / XII are pursuing different careers as per their interest and aptitude** – many girl students are now enrolling for higher education with the change in mindset of the parents & community. Prime example of this is 5 girls enrolling in the Bachelor of Computer Application Degree Course in Dhapoli which is around 250 kms from their village Khandas, (35 kms from Karjat) with the support and encouragement of the elders of the village who had over three years ago opposed sending the first girl to have completed SSC in the village to college. This change is the direct result of the five years of intervention by the Trust in the village.

- * **Some of the careers being pursued by our beneficiaries are :**

* Rural BPO	* Optometry	* Nursing
* Engineering	* Teaching (D. Ed)	* Computer Application
* Hospitality	* Agriculture	* Fashion Designing

- * **Some of our beneficiaries have come back to the organization as Teachers and Social Workers.**
- * **One of our first beneficiary** is employed with a **corporate house** and is **earning Rs.18000/- per month.** She has initially undertaken training to become an air hostess at the Frankfin Institute in Mumbai
- * **Parents** who initially were reluctant to continue their children's education from Std VIII onwards **are now taking the lead planning ahead for their development** as they have understood the value of Education and want their children to move forward in life.
- * **Parents** are now involved as **active volunteers** and in spite of difficult work pressures participate in all major activities of the organization.
- * One of the parents, **Mr. Laxman Palkar, offered his small piece of unused land to the Trust to build a small community centre which could be used for developmental work for the girls and women of the village.** In 2012, the Mohili Centre completed 5 years of Project Anando intervention and this momentous occasion was celebrated by the beneficiaries, the parents and community on a grand scale. **During the programme the community members offered their services to help build the centre free of cost if material was provided to them.** Looking at the enthusiasm and the involvement of the villagers, (both Anando and non-Anando parents) **Chance of Life – a German organization agreed to support the aptly named 'Lokkruti Project' – a project "of the people, by the people, for the people"**. The Foundation Stone laying ceremony was undertaken in the presence of the Chance of Life Team, the parent donor Mr Laxman Palkar, the Sarpanch of the village, elders of the village, Anando beneficiaries and the

team. The event was covered by the local vernacular press as a pioneering movement in Karjat Taluka.

- * Underprivileged rural children are able to think rationally and depending on their abilities and skills make career choices leading them to break the vicious cycle of rural Indian poverty.
- * Beneficiaries grow up to be confident, positive, enriched and responsible human beings, capable of contributing to their community and the society at large.

Project Anando – A few of our success stories :

- **Bhagyashree Wavare – An Anando beneficiary**

A single parent child Bhagyashree comes from Chondhi village in Alibaug Taluka, Raigad District. She lives with her mother and younger sister. Her mother was struggling to make ends meet and support her small family. She works as a domestic help and sold flowers near the local temple. Bhagyashree was selected as an Anando beneficiary in the year 2007 as her school teachers felt that poverty will drive her mother to put Bhagyashree to work even though she was showing interest in her education. Under the Anando programme over the next three years Bhagyashree slowly but surely emerged from her shell, grew in confidence, and actively started participating in all Anando lead activities. Looking at her daughter turning into a confident individual brought about a vast change in her mother's attitude and aspirations for her children. In Std X Bhagyashree expressed a desire to become an airhostess. She began to set her goals in accordance with her dream and with support from the LOLT team her mother took a bank loan to enrol her in the Frankfinn Air hostess training programme which she cleared with flying colours.



With the aviation industry in recession and no job openings Bhagyashree began looking at second options post her graduation from the training institute. She secured her first job on her own merit as a junior executive at Merchant Gymkhana – managed by Mahalaxmi Foodlinks in Navi Mumbai at a salary of Rs 7000/- a month.

Currently she is working with a reputed company – Welspun as Officer, General affairs at a salary of Rs.18,000/- per month. She has fully taken over the responsibility of paying back the loan taken by her mother as well as supporting her entire family. Bhagyashree has become an icon for all in her village and has not only made her mother proud but has become a beacon of success for Anando. Her achievement would never have been possible without the inputs given to the entire family through the Anando programme.

Vaijayanta Adhav's struggle to study further

Vaijayanta's mother had left the family & her father was working as a daily wage labourer. She was living with her paternal uncle & grandmother, along with her younger brother. The family was entirely dependent on her uncle who was not earning a very high income as well. With the economic crisis in the family & the general attitude of Indian family's to support a boy's education more than a girl's was about to lead to Vaijayanta dropping out of school after Std VIII with preference given to her younger brother.



LOLT's moral & qualitative support, along with complete educational material for Std IX & X, made a major contribution in her life. With the issue of the major expense of education material support was resolved by the organization with the provision of all required educational material, her guardians were willing to permit her to continue with her education. If not for this materialistic support Vaijayanta would have been forced to remain at home and in all probability would have been married immediately.

An extremely bright & active girl from Kadav center, Vaijayanta works hard at her studies and also actively participates in all the various activities/programmes organized under the Anando programme. She completed her Std X with a first class & is now going to junior college and plans to pursue higher education.

Project Anando : Per Child Cost per Annum

Cost Details		Amount	Total	% to Total Cost
(A) Variable Expenses				
Education Material:		2700		
- Text Books / Guides	540			
- Subject Guides	750			
- Exercise Books/Stationery	560			
- Uniforms (1 Pair)	500			
- School Bag	350			
Weekend Workshops - Children		400		
Balkala Mahotsav		125		
Parent Melava		100		
Sphurtti		30		
Mahachurcha		35		
Peer Programme		20		
Home Visits / School visits		150		
Nutritious Food		480		
Parents Meeting & Training Programme:		170		
- Community Awareness Programme	160			
- Teacher Meeting	10			
Study Friendly Supplementary Education Programme (SFSEP)		2400		
Total Variable Expenses			6610	79
(B) Fixed Expenses				
Salaries		1210		
Operation Expenses:		580		
- Office Rent	175			
- Electricity Expenses	110			
- Telephone Charges	85			
- Conveyance Charges	65			
- Stationary	50			
- Staff Welfare	95			
Total Fixed Expenses			1790	21
Total Cost (Per Child Per Annum)			8400	100

Next Steps towards our vision.

Anando National Education Programme

India has the largest number of children out of school in the world today. A number of initiatives have been taken up by the Government of India and a number of positive developments have been observed and recorded under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan especially at the elementary school level. However the fact remains that the schools, especially secondary schools, catering to the masses (Government aided and government recognized aided schools) fall extremely short when it comes to imparting quality education to the children.

Light of Life Trust with its experiences and learnings over the last 8 years on positively impacting the beneficiaries in a holistic manner - the area of academic performance, emotional development, communication with family etc, is now at the stage ready to undertake an integrated school development programme with school authorities and teachers at the national level to ensure quality education to all.

Vision : To ensure that every rural Indian child completes education at least upto Std X.

Objectives:

- To ensure transition of school students from elementary to secondary level
- To create awareness & build interest of children towards education
- To create a cohesive environment at family, school & village community level
- To support academic development of children
- To raise aspiration levels of children to complete Std X & move towards further education
- To support the educators to optimize their contribution in the education process
- To promote our vision through advocacy with concerned agencies

Target Group:

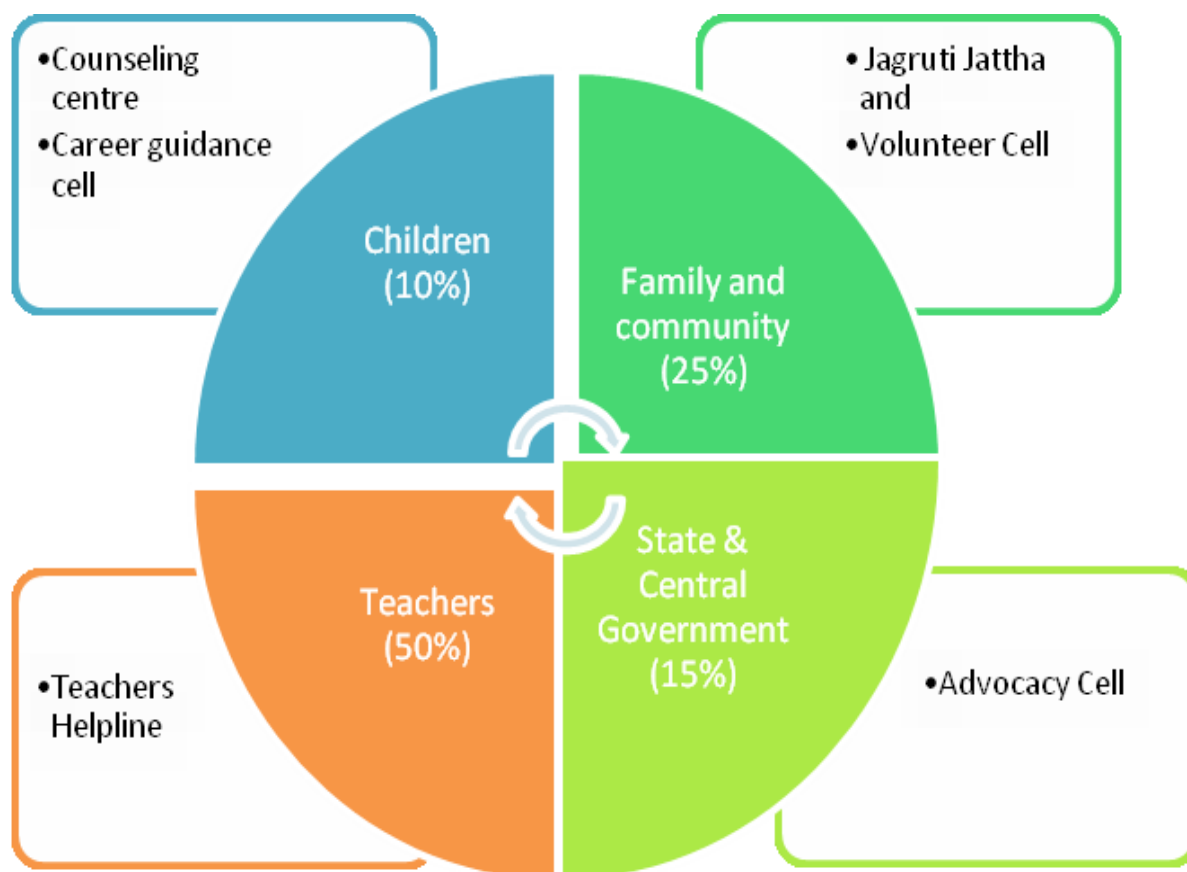
- School going Rural Child from Std VIII onwards
- Secondary School Authorities & Teachers
- Parents / village community
- District, State & Central concerned Government authorities

Selection Criteria of State/ District/ Taluka for Intervention

- High drop-out rate
- Area having less opportunity for economic development
- Less importance given to education
- Less purchasing power
- Less proximity to educational institutes
- **The social environment is not educationally friendly -**
 - Prevalence of Child marriages
 - Prevalence of Child labor practices
 - Gender bias against education
 - Community / caste bias prevalent

The Approach:

A Multi Pronged Developmental Approach in partnership with key stakeholders to meet our vision.



Overall Intervention Strategy:

I. With Key Government Authorities in the Education Sector

Sharing of and buy in from the government authorities in regards to the school development plan formulated taking in their suggestions and experiences as well.

- Advocacy for grants to schools
- Strategy for enrolment in schools
- Strategy for maintaining and increasing retention rate at schools
- Teachers training
- School infrastructural issues

II. With Educational Institutions

A. School Management & Trustees

- Mapping of school will be done with help of tool design by NUEPA for quality management of schools.
- Asking grants for non granted schools (if possible)
- Awareness of linking vocational education with secondary education.

B. School Teachers

- The implementation of the development programme will be done with intensive training of the school teachers. The teacher is seen as the main catalyst of change.
- A systematic and appropriate monitoring and evaluation process will be put into place to ensure the programme remains focused and impact driven.
- The main components of the programme would be:

Developing pedagogy:

The training module to be fine tuned keeping in mind local culture, language, social background of the student population. Based on the results the same will be modified appropriately on a six monthly/yearly basis.

Teaching with Joy:

1. To make the learning process more meaningful and enjoyable to the student community.
2. The process of learning to be clear and concise and not merely undertaken to complete set portions and syllabus.
3. The teacher equipped with basic knowledge of the subjects being taught along with effective techniques of imparting this knowledge to the students.
4. Joyful teaching - to be focused on. Teachers must enjoy teaching in order to effectively impart knowledge to the best of their capacity.
5. Other important aspects to be incorporated in the training module:
 - Class room handling
 - Academic teaching of different subjects
 - Understanding of child psychology
 - Value based education
