

HOME FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN

SATYAKAM & KAJAL BITHI

VSSU has been more than two and half decades in the development sectors as its aim has always been to improve the quality of lives of the poor. "Food", "clothes", "shelter" "education" & "health" being the primary requirements of mankind VSSU has been concerned to cater these services for the better quality of life capitalizing credit and savings programme which reinforces livelihood promotions as well.

In year 2003 VSSU created a separate registered organization Ashok Nilay to facilitate the Community Development Activities. And in order to serve children who are alienated, deprived and marginalized for any reason whatsoever, irrespective of caste, sex or religion, the homes for children 'Satyakam' and 'Kajal Bithi' were established in 2005. 'Satyakam' is intended for the boys whereas 'Kajal Bithi' is meant for the girls. The home aims to develop the children's sense of humanity and community. In the year 2003 when the CEO of the organization Mr Kapilananda Mondal was visiting the Brick



Filed of distant villages was found the children working hard on the brickfield in spite of going school, this heartrending picture of deprived children made him cry and instantly he decided to take care of these children and to provide residential education for a better tomorrow. In the beginning the Founder CEO of The organization started the programme with the remuneration that he used to received from Ashoka Foundation (Mr. Mondal is a Ashoka Fellow of 2003 for innovation in Micro Banking), the Name Ashok Nilay was chosen because of few reasons like " Ashoka" means Sorrow less Place, secondly Ashok was the one of the best eminent and Great and Generous emperor of ancient India ever, thirdly the initial startup was take place by Ashoka Fund later these reason were the Vision and Mission of Ashok Nilay towards our Community Development Initiatives. Now there are 39 orphan /semi orphan poor and deprived children from different villages of South 24 Pgs and they are receiving education for their physical, mental and spiritual development

to be productive, economically self-reliant, and socially responsible. To complement the children's curricular activities there are also provisions for special classes, annual sports, meditation and Vedic recitation classes, singing, dancing, drama performances and yoga. The homes provide an "Ashram-like" environment and houses 39 children and 4 teaching and 3 nonteaching staffs. The total cost of running our destitute children home is Rs.60, 000/- to 70,000/- per month (in average) which VSSU is paying as a part of its Social responsibility out of Micro Finance Operational Surpluses since last 10 years.

For detail info please visit <http://www.vssu.in/home-for-children.php>

Case Study:1

Name: Ananya Biswas

Date of Birth: 26/06/2001

Village: Skimulpur

Admission: 2005



Ananya Biswas joined the Home for Children four years ago (in 2005) and has just turned 8 this past June. Here she stands, smiling with her little ponytails and her flowered dress. She came to the Home for Children when her father left her mother to marry another woman. At that time, her mother encountered a very difficult financial situation, but she wanted to see her child attend school. She brought Ananya here so that she would be able to study without having to bear the burden of education expenses. She feels good here and enjoys better living conditions. She has discovered dancing and singing, but also studying. What she likes most is going to school and receiving the loving care of her di -dibhai (Ashram In-Charge). When we ask her about her dreams, she answers that she wants to be a nurse to serve people and love her mother, sisters and brothers.

Case Study:2

Name: Pabitra Paik

Date of Birth: 01/06/2002

Village: Srinagar

Admission: 2005



Pabitra Paik is a loving and alert little boy of seven years old. He arrived at the Home for Children after the death of his father, who is survived by Pabitra, his mother and his brother. At this time, Pabitra's family has no shelter. His mother is employed as a housekeeper and is not able to take care of him as well as she would like. He is better here, he says, because he can go to school and have good food. He discovered sports, drawing and singing. He feels fortunate to be here enjoying the good care of his didibhai. He also enjoys very much living in the community with the other children. When he grows up, he wants to be an engineer. "I will make car!" he says. Yet, his dream is to be able to look after his mother when she is older.

Case Study: 3



Rahul Shah, with his broad smile and mischievous eyes, arrived at the Home for children in 2007. He is 9 years old. His father has left his family, abandoning his mother with her five children without any financial support. When he speaks about himself, he tells us that he is studying well, obeys his mother and always shares with others when he has some food. He confesses that sometimes it happens to him to tell a lie or not to obey to his Ashram Sisters, or argue with other children. He is like many boys of his age and honest enough to speak about both good and bad sides of his personality and wants to overcome his bad qualities. As for his life in the Home for children, he likes very much noon time when he can have a nice rest after school. He also enjoys watering the plants surrounding the house. When asked about his future he answered that he wants to study well first and ask God to help him in that way. His dream is to keep on loving everyone in Ashram and in his own house. Stories composed

- by Ms. Lea Guillamot, Intern from France

VSSU stands beside those elderly poor people who have lost their potential to work and are abandoned by their families. They are unable to earn money for their food. If VSSU would not have supported them, they risked either to beg or starve. This year, 70 elderly people Received 6 kilos of rice and 1 kilo of pulses with vegetables in every month. This year VSSU's expenses were of Rs. 91,640 for distributing food grains and clothes to the poor people.