**PROJECT FOR EARLY EDUCATION & REHABILITATION OF CHILDREN WITH DEAF/DUMB AND MULTIPLE DISABILITIES**

**The Organization:**

The Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu State is a non- profit making organization working for the comprehensive rehabilitation of the Deaf and Dumb and Multiple Disabilities persons and the disabled persons at Avinashi block, Tirupur District from Tamil Nadu, India. The major activities of Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam includes Community Based Rehabilitation, Integrated Education of disabled children, Prevention of Blindness and Disability, Deaf and Dumb, Low Vision Centre, Deaf blind project and Children with Multiple Disabilities, etc. We are working steadily to empower and to encourage the disabled persons to be self- reliant and to enrich in the field of Human Resource Development.

Registrations

The Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam, Tirupur, Tamil Nadu is registered under the Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act of 1975 in 2003 / Number 096

Website : [www.sabarmathimass.in](http://www.sabarmathimass.in)

Details of activities of Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam**,**

**T**he latest Annual Report of the Organsiation is enclosed which highlights all the activities of Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam Tamil Nadu. Other newsletters are enclosed as annexure.

**The Context:**

The area selected for implementation of this project is the rural& urban parts of the Avinashi block, Tirupur District. The Proposed project is for the rehabilitation of the Children with Deaf/dumb & Multiple Disabilities. At present there is no institution carrying out rehabilitation for the deaf/dumb/MD children in the District or State. The only rehabilitation is the home-based rehabilitation programme by Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam Tamil Nadu. The rural areas of Avinashi block, Tirupur are so remote that the chances of rehabilitation of the disabled children are grim. Though the literacy rate is high the disabled rehabilitation is still in it’s infancy. People have no idea on what kind of intervention can be given to such group of children. Even now the deaf/dumb/MD children are put in either school for the deaf, blind or MR and later terminated from there, due to their dual/multi sensory loss. Because of the ignorance even the professionals and the clinicians are recommending these children to schools for the mentally retarded. But the irony is these children are not mentally retarded but need certain training in communication skills using other residual skills.

The income levels of the families of most of these children are average and most people are dependent on traditional, masonry or coolie work. Due to the time wasted in shuttling their children to various institutions thereby losing their time, these parents are looking out for organizations which would provide all services needed for their children under one roof.

**The Background: the proposal related situation, giving the rationale for the proposed intervention/ activity.**

The Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam Tamil Nadu has the experience of initiating and successfully running home based or community based rehabilitation projects in different districts of the State, through it’s networking with Government, eye hospitals and agencies working for other disabilities, health departments and local agencies.

We are the only organisation in the whole block of Avinashi from Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu providing services to Deaf/dumb children with the support of well wishers, individual donors, corporate sector since 2009. Over the last five years our programme has grown in strength, both in terms of number of children receiving services and the capacity of our organisation to provide technical services to the children. In these years of services some of the children have shown significant change and development functionally leading to greater independence. A child with deaf and dumb is a child who has a combination of both visual and Hearing, which causes severe communication and other development and learning needs. Similarly a child with multiple disabilities is a child who has a combination of more than one disability, which causes severe communication and other development and learning needs The needs and abilities of each of these children are different. These children are educationally isolated because impairments of sight and hearing or physical require thoughtful and unique educational approaches in order to ensure that they have the opportunity to reach their full potential. With our intervention we have successfully integrated 02 deaf & dumb & 2 MD children into normal schools thereby enabling them to get educated along with other normal children. We have also trained some of the mothers as caregivers and they in turn have helped us in identifying more number of such deaf/dumb/blind/Multiple disabled children. Well Wishers and Individual Donors had supported us from 2007 but stopped the support due to their expansion to other areas of need in the country. They are supporting our program only in the technical aspect from 2010 onwards. Our regular donars and well wishers, active social workers from our project villages fighting at Central Level to consider deaf/dumb/MD as a separate category and unique disability by conducting various expert meetings involving State Commissioners for Disabilities.

**Hence we cannot bring a stop to the rehabilitation of these needy children as well as the other newly identified children who have not had any kind of intervention, until the Government makes a decision**. The intervention needs to be continuous and we will have to continue the support for at least another two more years before a full-fledged support is received from the Government. Presently we have identified and are providing services to a total of 20 children who need services . Since the needs of each of these children are different and complex in nature, the number of children has to be limited to 20. More over they also need one to one teaching.

**Objectives**

To continue offering services to the 20 children belonging to economically poor category in their day to day needs such as eating, toileting and bathing, And also to focus in developing the communication skills of these children.

**Proposed Activity:**

* To continue to develop the Child’s present level of functioning in cognitive, speech and language, psychological, motor and self help skills through Primary Education.
* To provide stimulation in the necessary areas and to develop the various functional skills of the child and make him/her independent to whatever capacity he can be.
* To train the mother as caregiver by providing her with necessary skill training to be practiced on the child in day-to-day activities.
* To develop a cadre of trained educators to identify and develop functional curriculum skills of the children with Deaf and Dumb in the Avinashi block of Tirupur from Tamil Nadu.
* Protecting the rights of these children and their parents by ensuring due process, and parental involvement in educational planning.
* The overall goal of intervention is to eliminate or at least reduce the obstacles that might keep these children from full and active participation in school and society
* Networking with other agencies working for deaf and blind persons in the state to train their staff in dealing with such kind of children.
* To include the programme in the District Disabled Rehabiliation Centre, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu State Govt. support schemes.

What has been done till now?

The initial infrastructure and services has already been established with in the geographical region. A fair degree of community sensitisation has been possible and there is greater acceptance of the children and their families by the community. The proposed project will continue to provide support to 20 children in the program .The services to these children will be provided both at their homes and our centre with the help of trained educators. The educators would provide need-based training to these children in his/her day to day activities along with the help and support of the parents and community. The educators will also prepare the child to integrate into mainstream of the society, wherever possible depending on the severity of disability in the children. As of now the Government is not providing any support for these children. Efforts are being made by Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam to sensitize Government and Medical personnel to consider these children uniquely. We will continue to support each child until he reaches some kind of independency and the mother becomes a full- fledged caregiver.

**Role of the Organization**

The Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam will be providing services at the doorstep as well as through our centre for these children with the help of educators who will regularly monitor the progress of the child through various need based skill development services. Various resource persons and experts of the reputed NGOs, Government Organizations have very well trained the educators. These educators have also attended a number of seminars and trainings and are independently capable of handling these children in any situation. They will also be constantly assisted by the Project in Charge who will also monitor the programmes at a holistic level. Though Our Individual regular donors has stopped the assistance, and helps, they continue the relations in terms of manpower development, evaluation, expert visits by their officials, etc. The Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam has a trained resource person in Deaf and Dumb rehabilitation and a trained Special Educators who helps in the functional assessment of these children. This resource person is also a mentor to Regular Individual Donor for mentoring its Deafblind projects, hence the needs of the children will be taken care by experts in this field.

**Services offered in our Centre**

The focus of the center will not only be on the child but also the parents. The centre-based training will not be provided in isolation, as is usually done. But in our project, the training is based on expressed needs of the parents. Accordingly the programme for any child will be planned in partnership with the parents. The parents will observe and many times work hand in hand with the   educators. In the process, the educators and other professionals hand over the skills to the parents. Ultimately the child is a part of the family and is looked after by the parents. And in the true sense, the parents become the equal partners in respect of imparting training to the child. The centre will also provide therapeutic and clinical intervention., with the help of the services of Ophthalmologist, Psychiatrist, Physiotherapist and Speech Therapist.

**Expected outcome(s)**

* Each child in the project will be regularly reviewed to ensure that the she/he is receiving appropriate care and education.
* Training will be given to the mothers and other family members to communicate with these children as well as advice on their care.
* To create awareness generation amongst parents of children with disabilities, school teachers and professionals working in the field.
* Integration of children wherever possible into mainstream education or into special schools
* Forming a family network or support group among the parents for over all well being of their child.
* Advocacy and lobbying with the government, with Ministry of education, health, social welfare etc.. in issuing proper certification for such children, through workshops and sensitization program.
* The health authorities are also being approached in making mandatory rubella vaccination compulsory for girl child which is one of the major causes of Deaf/Dumb/MD in children.

**Process/ Strategy**

The Proposed Project is a continuation of the work which we are already doing hence the identification of the children and the Educators is not required. The Educators will help the children to diagnose properly with the help of a clinician and also help the child and the parents to obtain necessary services in Counseling, various therapies, rehabilitation etc. They will visit the respective houses of the children and help the child in rehabilitation and also help the mother in becoming a caregiver. The programme also provides opportunities for the child and family to attend various training programmes in and out of the State, which will enhance their capacity to render adequate services. The Project offers the services available at the Centre in Thirucherai Village from Avinashi block, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu.

**Location of the project**

The project will continue to give support in the same rural areas of Avinashi block, Tirupur district. Many service institutions that provide interventions for children in terms of behavior management, speech therapy and other therapeutic interventions like Child Care centre etc..are all located in the heart of the city. Hence if we cater to the needs of children in and around the Avinashi block, Tirupur city it will be easier for us to do referrals to the parents to these institutions for any specialized need based interventions, other than what we propose to do.

**Budget**

The estimated cost of the project for two years amounts to Rs.5,75,000/- with detailed break-up is given below.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Sl.No** | **Particulars** | **2013-14** | | **2014-15** | |
| **Per Month(Rs)** | **Year wise Amount (Rs)** | **Per Month(Rs)** | **Year wise Amount (Rs)** |
| 1 | Salary  a)      Educator  b)      Assistant Educator | 5250  4000 | 63,000  48,000 | 5,500  4,250 | 66,000  51,000 |
| 2. | Travelling Allowance  a)      Educator  b)      Assistant Educator | 750  750 | 9,000  9,000 | 850  850 | 10,200  10.200 |
| 3. | Clinical and Functional Assessment |  | 10,000 |  | 10,000 |
| 4. | Aids and appliances |  | 15,000 |  | 15,000 |
| 5. | Family Meetings |  | 10,000 |  | 10,000 |
| 6. | Medical Treatment |  | 5,000 |  | 5,000 |
| 7. | Honorarium to Therapist( Speech & Physio)@Rs.300 per visit each in a month | 2,400 | 28,800 | 2,400 | 28,800 |
| 8. | Capacity building of Educators & Parents (Training/workshops/Seminars etc. |  | 20,000 |  | 20,000 |
| 9. | Picnic to Children and Families |  | 15,000 |  | 15,000 |
| 10 | Educational Toys for developing functional skills of the Children |  | 10,000 |  | 10,000 |
| 11 | Honorarium to the Project in Charge | 2,000 | 24,000 | 2,000 | 24,000 |
| 12 | IEC Materials |  | 1,500 |  | 1,500 |
| 13 | Administration, Field visits for Honorary Staff, etc. |  | 15,000 |  | 15,000 |
|  | Total |  | **2,83,300** |  | **Rs.2,91,700** |

**Grand Total for two years: Rs. 5,75,000/-**

**Rationale of the Budget**

**Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam Contribution**

* The services of the experts working with Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam will be utilized for this project.
* Availing of assistive devices from Government bodies like DDRC and Local Panchayats etc
* Monitoring of the Project at all levels.
* Availing various concessions, which the children and the families are eligible for.
* Celebrating birthdays of these children, which in turn will be a motivating factor for other family members towards the welfare of the children.
* Celebrating religious festivals with the active involvement of families of these children.
* Conducting Family development meeting
* Promoting family members to attend various meetings/workshops across the country which will be useful for their children.
* Offering the Services of the Centre at Ammapalayam Village from Avinashi block, Tirupur
* Include this topic also in all the awareness and Sensitisation programmes of Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam

**Sustainability of the Project**

The expertise and knowledge of the educators have been disseminated among the various programs of Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam, implemented in other blocks of Tirupur District from Tamil Nadu. All these and many other children have demonstrated success of this approach through their outstanding performance, enhancement of skills, and improvement in quality of life. We are confident that if such an innovative approach, through this program is adopted, many more children can be brought in the mainstream of social life – as a matter of their right. Through this project our strategy is to develop our Centre as “Centre of Excellence” by offering services to Multi Sensory Impaired children and other categories of disability in the whole District of Tirupur, State of Tamil Nadu through rehabilitation services and manpower development.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

Kumaraguru, Director, Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam, Tirupur.

To

The Global Giving Team

Sir,

Sub: Project for Early Education & Rehabilitation of Children with Deaf/Dumb and Multiple Disabilities at Avinashi block, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu, – Submission – Regarding.

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Greetings from Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam .

Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam is a non- profit making organization working for the comprehensive rehabilitation with local communities on initiatives linked to their social empowerment and livelihood support. It’s diverse and wide ranging interventions includes, education, child health care, environment protection, health, gender issues and economic empowerment of women. It began its work more than 12 years ago and it is currently spread to over to 82 villages forming part of Avinashi Block of Tirupur District in Tamil Nadu.

Herewith we have pleasure to send Project for Early Education & Rehabilitation of Children with Deaf/Dumb and Multiple Disabilities at Avinashi block, Tirupur District, Tamil Nadu, to your concern for consider the project as positively.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

N. Kumaraguru,

Director – Sabarmathi Social Seva Sangam, Tirupur.

SABARMATHI SOCIAL SEVA SANGAM

B.29- KUMARAN COLONY , AMMAPALAYAM

ANUPARPALAYAM POST

TIRUPUR – 641 652

**SCHEDULED BUDGET FOR 2013-14**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Particulars | Closing balance | |
| Debit | Credit |
| Opening Balance and capital account |  | 827.72 |
| RECEIPT FROM CSWB |  | 1,05,960 |
| Waterloo Project UK | 23,46,500 |  |
| Help your NGO Project | 2,83,300 |  |
| Expenses |  |  |
| Bank balance |  | 33,653 |
| Donation and contribution |  | 5,84,000 |
| EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME |  | 1905359.28 |
| TOTAL | 26,29,800 | 26,29,800 |