EDUCATE & REHABILITATE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN MEGHALAYA, INDIA

PROJECT REPORT: MARCH 2019



By-

Bethany Society, Lady Veronica Lane, Laitumkhrah, Shillong, Meghalaya – 793003, India

SUMMARY

Name of Organization	Bethany Society
Title of Proposed Project	EDUCATE & REHABILITATE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN MEGHALAYA, INDIA
Location of Implementation	Meghalaya, India
Organization Address	Bethany Society, Lady Veronica Lane, Laitumkhrah, Shillong , Meghalaya-793003
Organization URL	www.bethanysociety.org
Contact Person	Mr. Carmo Noronha (Executive Director) Ph.- 9436119808 Email: bethanyngo@rediffmail.com



Summary

Bethany Society aims to provide safe accommodation and opportunity for quality inclusive education and skill-development to 140 children and young persons with disability belonging to marginalized and remote areas of Meghalaya, India where they are deprived of access to education or skill-training. These children come from extremely poor & deprived backgrounds. The goal thus is creating equal access to opportunities for education and employment for these young people with disabilities living in Bethany Society.

MAJOR APPROACHES TO ACHIEVE THE SAME

Inclusive Education in Meghalaya:

Jyoti Sroat School, Shillong (A Unit of Bethany Society) is an inclusive school providing educational and mainstreaming opportunities to vulnerable groups which include children with disabilities, children without disabilities and children from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds. These children study together in the same classroom facilitated by teachers who are specially trained. Established in 1993 as the first school for the visually impaired in Shillong, from 2006 onwards, Jyoti Sroat School is evolving into an inclusive school offering educational opportunities to ALL children.

The school is recognized by **Meghalaya Board of Secondary Education (MBOSE)** and accredited with **National Institute for Open Schooling (NIOS)** and offers services right from Early Education to Senior Secondary (10 + 2) level**. Currently JSS promotes inclusion of 240 children with and without disabilities.**

Learn more about Jyoti Sroat School here
Video: Watch more about Jyoti Sroat School here



Jyoti Sroat School Campus



Early Education Unit

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Multi-Sensory Learning through Innovative Teaching-Learning Materials



Early Intervention Service





Annual Inclusive Sports

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Divine Flame Hostels for Independent Living

The main thrust of the program is to provide hostel facilities for persons with disability from remote rural areas and to some of those from neighbouring states. Students residing in the hostel can avail of educational, vocational and rehabilitation facilities that are available around the hostels, but these are not supported by the project. The hostels are located in Tebrongre, Rongram Block, W. Garo Hills District and Shillong, East Khasi Hills district and there are separate hostels for boys and girls. The program is cross-disability and the clients avail of opportunities that are either on campus or in campuses close to the hostel. On behalf of the Governing Body of Bethany Society a committee headed by a member of the Governing Body looks after the management of the hostels.

- 4 hostels: 2 in Tura & 2 in Shillong for Persons with Disabilities
- Cross-Disability
- PWDS avail of formal and non-formal education programmes and sustainable livelihoods training

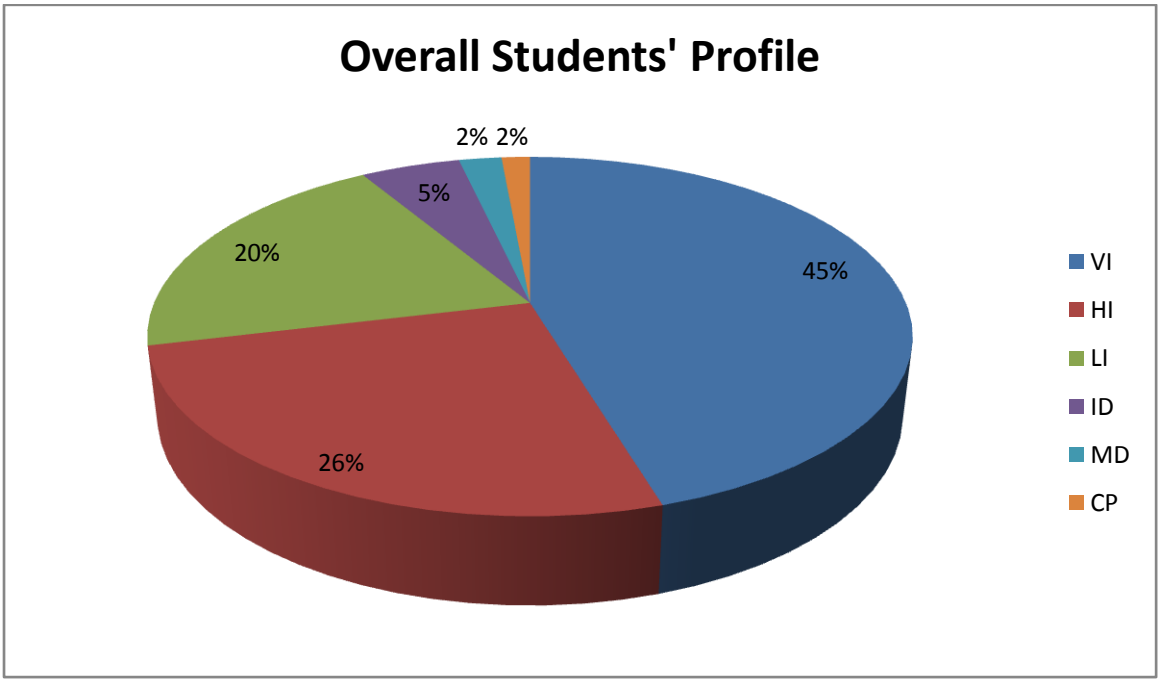




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Overall Details of Students residing in hostels:

S.No.	Disability Type	Male	Female
1.	Visual Impairment (VI)	35	28
2.	Hearing Impairment (HI)	17	19
3.	Locomotor Impairment (LI)	12	16
4.	Intellectual Disability (ID)	03	04
5.	MD	01	02
6.	Cerebral Palsy (CP)	02	
		70	**69**



DIRECT IMPACT [OCTOBER 2018 – MARCH 2019]

- No. of students who received direct individual sponsors (complete or partial support for education and rehabilitation) for six months (October 2018- March 2019): **45 (Both from India and abroad)**

- No. of contributors whose contribution benefitted multiple children for complete support for six months: **2 *(supported 19 children and 6 children respectively)***
- Around 75% of the residents in the hostels are engaged in academic programs (Primary, Secondary and Higher Secondary education in an Inclusive Education setup at Jyoti Sroat Inclusive School, some are studying in special education set-ups while there are others who are pursuing their higher education in mainstream institution in and around Shillong & Tura)
- The remaining 25% are engaged in inclusive skill-development training programs in trades such as Agriculture, Handicrafts, Bakery, Food Processing, Integrated Farming, Office Management, Tailoring, Handmade Paper Production, Value Addition etc.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS/ ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR PROGRAMMES [OCTOBER 2018- MARCH 2019]

- Due to the enabling contributions and well-wishes of our supporters, the current batch of students from Jyoti Sroat School are currently appearing for their HSSLC (Higher Secondary School Leaving Certificate, 10+2) and Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC, 10) examinations, 2019.

Class	Total # students appearing	# Students with disabilities
XII (HSSLC)	11	10
X (SSLC)	17	10



Class XII students of Jyoti Sroat School (A unit of Bethany Society) ready for their exams

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- A two-day training and demonstration on "Inclusive Sports and Recreation Activities" was jointly organized by CBM India and Bethany Society on the 12th & 13th of November 2018 at Jyoti Sroat School. The event was facilitated by Dr. Nagarajan, Senior Manager, Asia Pacific Special Olympics, and Mr.Vijayakant, first National Director for Special Olympics – India, Coordinated by the Principal, staff, and students of Jyoti Sroat School, Shillong. The overall event was empowering, engaging and exciting and resulted in further strengthening of the bond among children and staff alike.

  #Inclusivesports #Socialinclusion





- **Jyoti Sroat School (A unit of Bethany Society)** celebrated its Silver Jubilee commemorating the twenty five years of relentless service to the communities of Meghalaya and Northeast India in the field of education





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- **Success Stories:** Two of our students from Jyoti Sroat School, won the 2nd prize in the **Inter-school science exhibition featuring schools from across Shillong,** held at Shillong Public School, Shillong on the 11th and 12th October 2018. Both students are persons with visual impairment and with the support of their teachers and Bethany Society staff, they created and presented an engaging **"Inclusive 3-D model (low-cost, eco-friendly, made out of cane, bamboo, recycled plastic, electric wire scrap)" explaining the concept of "Structure of an Atom".** Their exhibit was hailed as inspirational and their efforts commendable by both judges and peers alike.



- **Success Stories:** Waikibor, a student with visual impairment (Jyoti Sroat School) who is currently appearing for his SSLC examinations was the **winner of Meghalaya's Got Specially Abled Talent Show Season 1** for his extraordinary Beatboxing abilities.

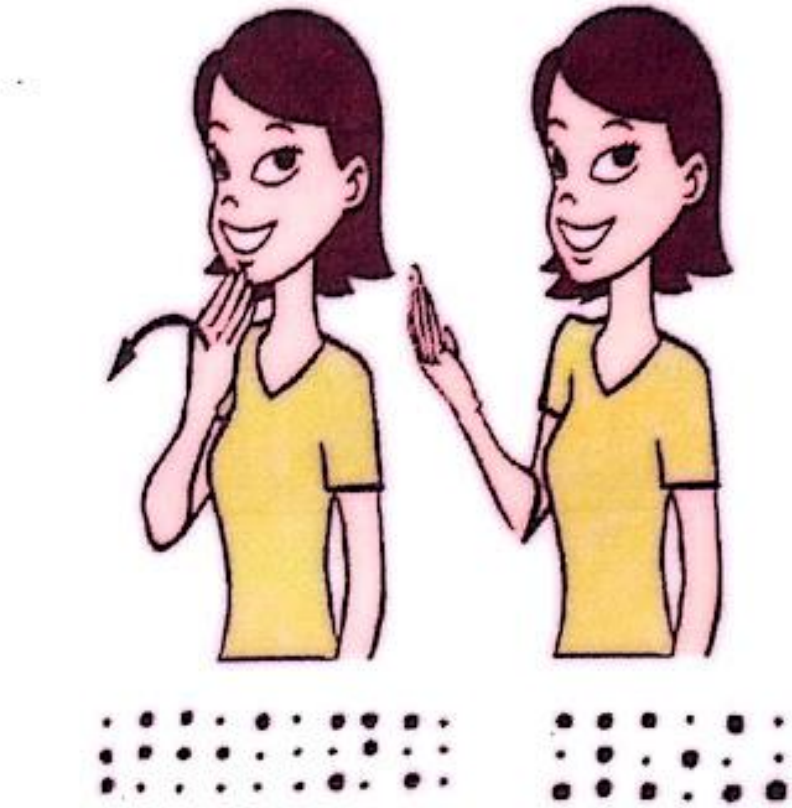


We at Bethany Society are extremely grateful to everyone who supported and continues to support and champion our cause of promoting an inclusive, barrier-free, rights-based society **where everyone enjoys the fullness of being. We strongly believe in multiplying the mission through networks and collaboration and therefore are delighted to have you as part of our network.**

Thanks a ton for turning up as a **Superhero** in the hour of need. We wish to collectively further the cause of several other disadvantaged children and young people by discovering and appealing to more Superheroes like you. We further urge you to perpetuate the aforementioned cause by wielding your heroic influence in your social circle and garner more altruistic beings like you, towards **enabling a child live more amply**.

To share our cause or to continue your support, please visit:
https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/education-rehabilitation-of-110-children-in-india/

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THANK YOU

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