Educate & Rehabilitate Children With Disabilities In Meghalaya, India
Project Report: September 2019



By-

Bethany Society, Lady Veronica Lane,

Laitumkhrah, Shillong, Meghalaya – 793003, India

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of the 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
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Summary

Bethany Society aims to provide safe accommodation and opportunity for quality inclusive education to 110 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 110 young people with disabilities living in Bethany Society.





Divine Flame Hostels for Independent Living (Shillong & Tura)



Jyoti Sroat School for Inclusive Education (Shillong)



Inclusive Skill: Training at Livelihood Academies' (Shillong & Tura)

Jyoti Sroat School for Inclusive Education (Shillong)

- 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.



Half Yearly Academic Assessment From Classes I – X

Classes	No of Students
Primary	80
Upper Primary	51
Secondary	26
Total	157







Divine Flame Hostels (Shillong & Tura)

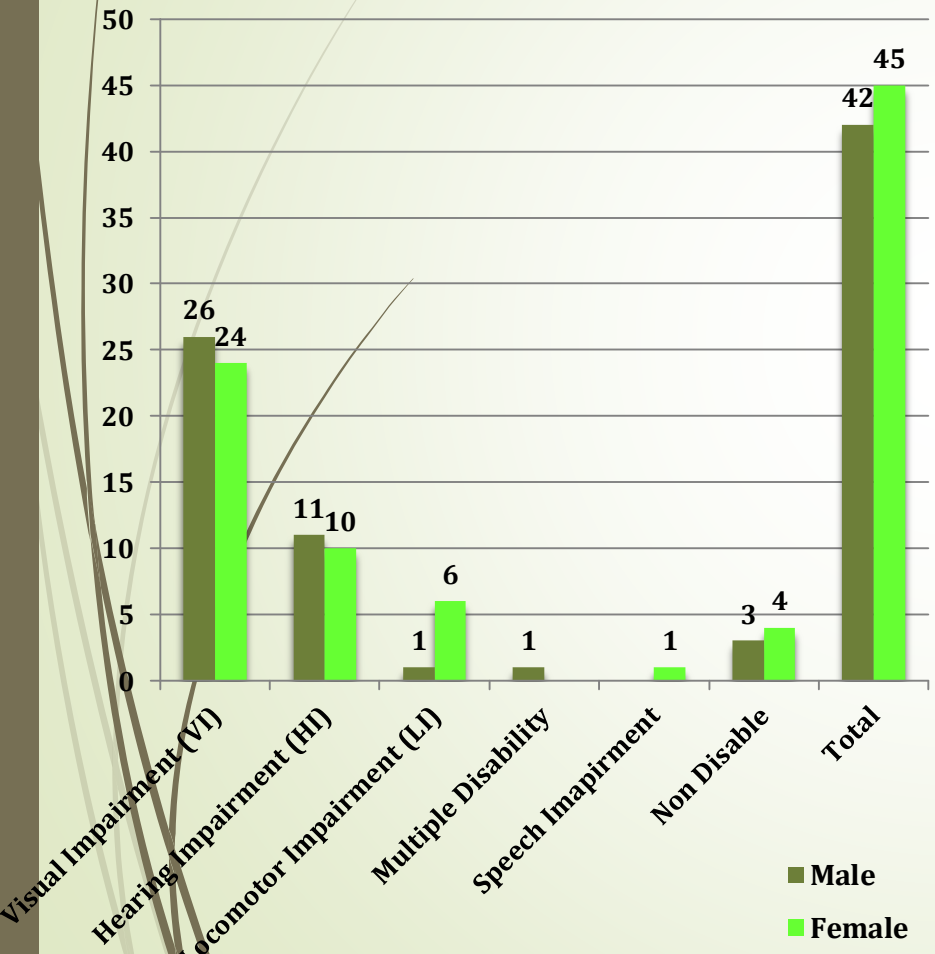


The main thrust of the program is to provide hostel facilities for persons with disability from remote rural areas and to some from neighbouring states. Students residing in the hostel avail education, vocational and rehabilitation facilities that are available around the hostels, but these are not supported 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.

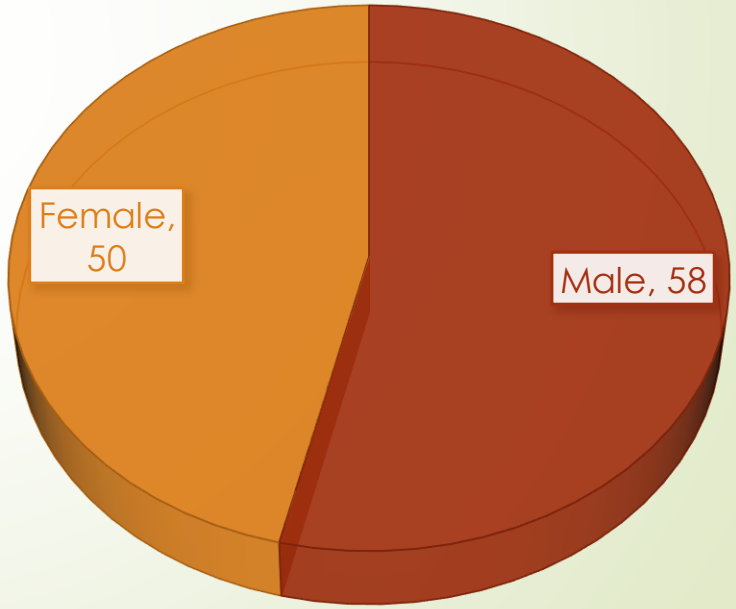
The program is cross-disability and the clients avail of opportunities that are either on campus or in campuses close to the hostel. On behalf of the Governing Body of Bethany Society a committee headed by a member of the Governing Body looks after the management of the hostels.

Statistics

Living in Divine Flame Hostels



Total no. Of PwDs studying at Jyoti Sroat School



Key Highlights During the Quarter

July





June



August



Independence day celebrations at Bethany Society Shillong!

The students and the staff collectively organized and observed the 73rd Independence Day of India. We took a moment to understand what freedom really means to us; "The Right to express what is right", shared one of our students. The students while emphasizing on freedom also realized and emphasized on the associated responsibilities, that one must fulfil to truly respect the spirit and meaning of freedom. Wishing everyone peace, positivity, productivity, health, and all success as we strive for excellence in our respective and collective endeavours.



Visited by Malwari Yuva Manch, a Youth Organization from Shillong that support vulnerable people. The hostellers had an informative interaction with this group where they could learn more of their works.



The hostel students were invited by Mr. Inderjeet Singh to visit the Gurudwara at Happy Valley, Shillong. It was the first time for the students to witness by their own eyes about Gurudwara and to explore their imagination .

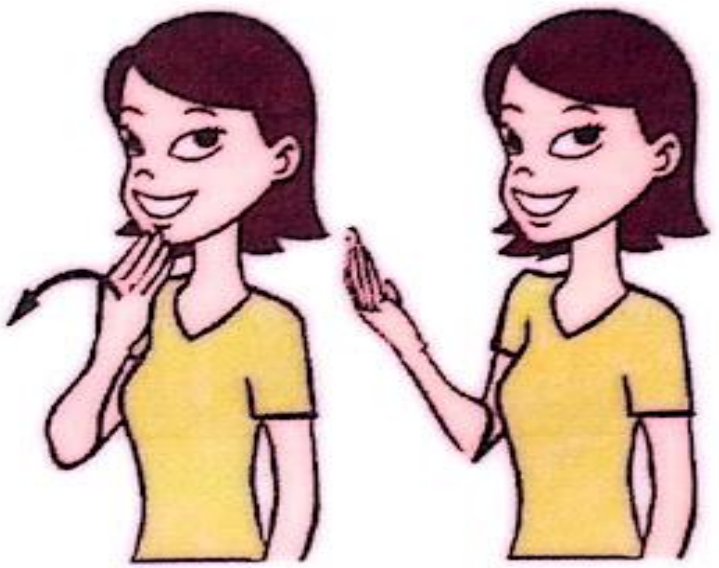
Anne Marak's venture.....

Anne Marak resides in Gasuapara located in South Garo Hills District of Meghalaya. Being a person with a disability she finds it rather challenging to earn a decent livelihood for herself. She tried to get into the knitting business where she would produce knitted products and would sell it to the market but the cost of production and the finished goods does not tally as per the business plan. She would often get back only what she invested and even ran at a loss. It was when she had been admitted at MARIAN CENTER FOR APPROPRIATE TRAINING (MCAT) where she was trained in Bokashi Poultry. She realized the importance of the training and eager to implement the same at her village. She resides in the Hostel for 1 month to master the skill of Bokashi poultry. When she completed the training she took with her the skills, knowledge and the enthusiasm from the center.

At her village, she started to chalk out the plan on when and how to set up the poultry shed. With a little help from the staff of Bethany Society, she has finally set up her poultry unit where at present she is earning a minimum of Rs. 500 a day by selling the chicken and addition of Rs. 30 a day selling the compost when it is ready. It was in such cases when she expressed that the business model and the training received was very well suited with the region where she resides rather than producing knitted products where she was running on loss. She plans to be the main supplier of chicken in the local market and dreams of being the main supplier in Garo Hills District.

Likewise MCAT would prepare person with disabilities in bringing up the best in them and to implement the trade accordingly and of course after a little effort of market survey.





THANK YOU

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