



ENGAGING EVERY CHILD IN LEARNING
THROUGH
INCLUSIVE EDUCATION- “WHERE CLASSROOMS BELONG EQUALLY TO EVERYONE, ALL THE TIME”



By-

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

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Ph: 91-364-2210631, (M) 9436119808, email: bethanyngo1981@gmail.com,

Website : bethanysociety.org



SUMMARY

Name of Organization	Bethany Society
Title of Proposed Project	ENGAGING EVERY CHILD IN LEARNING THROUGH INCLUSIVE EDUCATION
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



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Organizational Profile:

1. **Name & Registered Address of the Organization:** Bethany Society, Arai Mile, New Tura, W. Garo Hills, Meghalaya 794101

2. **Address & Contact details of key functionaries:**

Mrs. Shirleen B. Sawkmie, **President**
Green Dale, Lower Burney Hills, Arai Mile, New Tura
W. Garo Hills, Meghalaya 794101 (M) 9436112004

Mr. Carmo Noronha, **Secretary & Executive Director**
Lady Veronica Lane, Laitumkhrah, Shillong - 793003
Ph: 0364-2210631 M : 09436119808 email: bethanyngo1981@gmail.com

Col. T. I. Donald (Retd), **Administrator** (Tura)
Arai Mile, New Tura, West Garo Hills, Meghalaya - 794101 Ph: 03651-232396

Registration details:

- SR/BS-223/81 of 1981 under Meghalaya Societies Registration Act (Validity till 2019)
- 214250065 of 1987 under FCRA (Validity till October 31, 2021)
- 707/12A/CA/"87-"88 under sec 12A (a) of IT Act.
- PAN: AATB 2783R
- TAN: SHLB03528A
- 80G: CIT(E)/10F/714/15-16/16-17/G-0108/739-41 of 13/05/16 (Permanent Validity)
- Registered under Persons with Disability Act 1995 with Dept of Social Welfare, Govt. of Meghalaya (Validity till 202)

4. Profile:

Bethany Society is a not-for-profit, secular, registered society established in Mendal, East Garo Hills, Meghalaya in 1981. Its registered office was shifted to Tura, W. Garo Hills in 1985.

We dream.....(VISION)

Of an earth fully alive, wherein everyone enjoys fullness of being.

We work towards this by.....(MISSION)

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Forming partnerships with people, communities and resources so as to create opportunities which empower, enhance dignity and lead to security of health, food, livelihoods, and shelter in a sustainable manner.

We work with.....(PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS)

People in vulnerable situations such as persons with disabilities, children, youth and women living in extreme poverty, especially those located in remote rural areas.

We work in.....(LOCATION)

The major focus of our efforts is in Meghalaya and we work in partnership with other organizations across Northeast India



Bethany Society in Meghalaya, India

Our strategy is.....(OBJECTIVES)

- To mainstream disability in development programmes; leading to an inclusive, barrier free and rights based society.
- To create sustainable livelihoods, particularly among rural communities, through application of appropriate technology
- To promote an attitude of stewardship towards the earth.
- To create and join networks for greater impact

5. Major Activities:

- Institutional and community based rehabilitation programmes for the empowerment of persons with disability in all districts of Meghalaya, covering 400 villages and reaching out to

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5000 persons with disability. Institutionally, we manage an “inclusive school”, 2 Livelihood and Skill Development Centres, 4 hostels.

- Rural development and rural livelihood programmes in all districts of Meghalaya with a special focus on micro-enterprise development and inclusion.
- Training and capacity building in the sectors of disability, rural development, rural technology and environment education reaching out to all the Northeastern States.

OUR PROGRAMS:

The core principle behind the design and implementation of all our programs is to promote **Inclusion as a value, where no one is left behind**. We thus classify all our programs under two major blocks:

1. **CLAN (Community led Accessibility Network):** We follow a **Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID)** approach to promote accessible environments to facilitate the mainstreaming of disability.
2. **CLEAN (Community led Environment Action Network):** Our programs are aimed at empowering the community by promoting **environment-friendly** and **sustainable livelihoods**.

PROMOTING THE CLAN THROUGH



Health

Early intervention, mental health, prevention of disability programs through CBID in 600 villages across 7 districts of Meghalaya covering 10000 families

Education

RAISE NORTHEAST: Inclusive Education through **Universal Design of Learning (UDL)** in collaboration with 15 NGOs and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan (SSA) across 5 states in North East India. **Jyoti Sroat School, Shillong** promotes inclusion for 250 children with and without disabilities

Livelihood

Roilang Livelihood Academy, Shillong and **Marian Centre for Appropriate Technology, Tebrongre, Tura**, promote inclusive skill development and setting up of micro-enterprises for 200 persons with and without disability annually.

Empowerment

Promoting people's movements through formation of **Disabled People's Organisations (DPOs)** in 30 blocks of Meghalaya

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KEEPING IT CLEAN BY



Rural Development & Livelihood Promotion

Application of appropriate technology for promoting Natural Farming, Livestock, Handicraft in 400 villages of Meghalaya. Rural Technology Park in Tebrongre, Tura further promotes sustainable livelihoods

Zero Waste

Promoting stewardship for the earth in pursuance of **Sustainable Development Goals** through solid waste management and value addition to waste. A women Self-help group; "**Merry Maidens of Marten**" is converting waste into compost using **garbage to gold** microorganism granules at the landfill in Marten, East Khasi Hills

10,000

Persons with disabilities impacted

600

Villages in Meghalaya Covered

80

Teachers trained in Inclusive Education Annually

13

National & Regional Alliances & Recognitions

Important Links:

1. [Video: Snapshots of Life at Bethany Society- by Maria Madrid, Spain](#)
2. [Video: Bethany Society - Humans and Earth Fully Alive](#)
3. [Video: Bethany Society Overview- by Maria Madrid \(Spanish Subtitles\)](#)

Present Major Funders

Lopez family, Spain



Shanti Onlus, Italy

Ministry of Rural Development, GOI



MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

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



Classroom Learning

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Early Intervention Service



Computer Centre for the Visually Impaired



Inclusive Sports

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

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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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Livelihood Academies for Inclusive Skill Development:

Roilang Livelihood Academy was established on 12th March 1996 as a unit of Bethany Society, Shillong. The academy aims to empower vulnerable youth especially women, school drop outs and persons with disability through the development of skills for establishing or being employed in sustainable livelihoods. Roilang not only does impart Skill Development training, but also trains in setting up Micro-enterprises and Business plan, Inter-lending and Micro-finance and formation of Self Help Groups and National Open School for school drop outs, Marketing, Counselling, and Rights and Advocacy. It also links the trainees with financial organisations and Government departments working in the development of the area. We have worked continuously since 1996 to develop rural training centres for training persons with disabilities and poor rural communities in livelihoods. **Infrastructure for in-house training of batches of 100 has been developed. 100 persons with disabilities have been trained continuously annually since 1996 which leads to at least 2200 persons trained in various livelihood activities.**

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[Find out more about Roilang Livelihood Academy, Shillong here](#)



1. **Problem Statement (What?):**

Social Sector in which problem is identified:

- **Education:** Promoting Inclusive Education, Inclusive Skill-development Training, Support for persons with disability
- **Livelihoods:** Eco-friendly sustainable livelihoods based on the principles of ethics, efficiency and economics

Region in which problem has been identified: Meghalaya, India

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Problem Definition:

Lack of access to quality education and livelihood skill training to marginalized groups, especially young people with disabilities. As per Census 2011, the percentage of children and youth with disability (5-19 years) who have never attended any educational institution in Meghalaya is 35% which is the third highest rate in India. About 50% of the young people with disability (5-19 years) in Meghalaya have either dropped out of school/educational institution or have never attended one, which is significantly higher than the national average of 39% (As per Census 2011). Therefore, there's substantial evidence to say that Persons with disabilities (PWDs) are largely left out in the state.

And in scenarios where the presence of PwDs is ensured, due to inaccessible systems and Environments, their equitable participation and performance cannot be achieved. As a result most of children and youth with disabilities are not able to complete schooling and/or skill-development training. This prevents them from leading an independent life with dignity and being contributing members of their community which invariably leads to their devaluation in their neighborhood and society. The challenge thus is to create an inclusive society where there are opportunities for equal participation and contribution for all.

2. Proposed Solution:

Bethany Society provides safe accommodation in hostels at its two campuses in Shillong and Tura to 110 young people with disabilities from remote rural areas of Meghalaya where education is not accessible, and also an opportunity for quality education in an inclusive school namely Jyoti Sroat Inclusive School, Shillong where about 110 Children with disability study together with their 130 non-disabled peers in the same classrooms facilitated by specially trained teachers following the mainstream curriculum, thus providing them an opportunity for equal participation. The goal thus is promoting total inclusion to ensure that classrooms and learning environments belong to everyone equally all the time. The objective is to strengthen the existing models of Inclusive Education and Inclusive Skill Development being currently followed by Bethany Society using the principles of Universal Design of Learning (UDL) to ensure access and flexibility of the curriculum rather than segregation and uniformity of it.

The other focus will be skill-development on designing micro-enterprises which are ethical, efficient, and economical. The youth will thus be trained on livelihood activities namely poultry and/or piggery based on resource-recovery. These models will then be replicated by them at the community level, providing them an opportunity for sustainable livelihoods.

Few Success Stories:

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- ✓ **Batihun Mary Khongmawloh (Locomotor Impairment)** – One of the first students of Jyoti Sroat School, Bethany Society. After graduation, Mary was employed by



Mary with husband David, and daughter Sophia

Bethany Society as warden of the Boys' Hostel in the campus and later as a staff of Legal Awareness Cell (LAC). A former President of Association of Challenged People (ACP), Meghalaya she has been instrumental and dynamic in mobilizing Persons with Disability (PWDs) in the state of Meghalaya for advocacy purposes. Currently, she lives in the USA with her husband who is blind and together they started a project called “Jing King Ksiar” project under which they built and manage a primary school in her village, “Pungweikyian”, Pynursla aimed at providing education, exposure, and skill development to the village children and youth.

- ✓ **Bertina Lyngdoh:** An ex-student of Jyoti Sroat School became the first visually impaired person from Meghalaya to complete her post graduation (Masters) from a mainstream university. She then went on to teach English at Jyoti Sroat School, Shillong. Her surge continued unabated and she is currently teaching English to students in a government college in Assam, India.



Bertina Lyngdoh with her Master's degree from North Eastern Hill University (NEHU)

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- ✓ **Light After Dark:** The music band from Jyoti Sroat School comprising of all Visually Impaired members: **Hilter Kongphai, Dilbertstar Lyngdoh, Rimeki Pajuh & Wanlamphrang Nongkhlaw**, has earned plaudits for their musical prowess and have performed across the state and certain other parts of the country. They were also the finalists of the talent show Meghalaya's got Talent (2015). Their latest performance was at **The India International Cherry Blossoms festival 2017** organized by the government of Meghalaya in Shillong. [Watch more about their story and success here.](#)



Light After Dark performing at the La Tomatina festival held in Shillong, May 2016

3. Duration of Proposed Solution/Project

Continuous

4. Total Number of Stakeholders covered

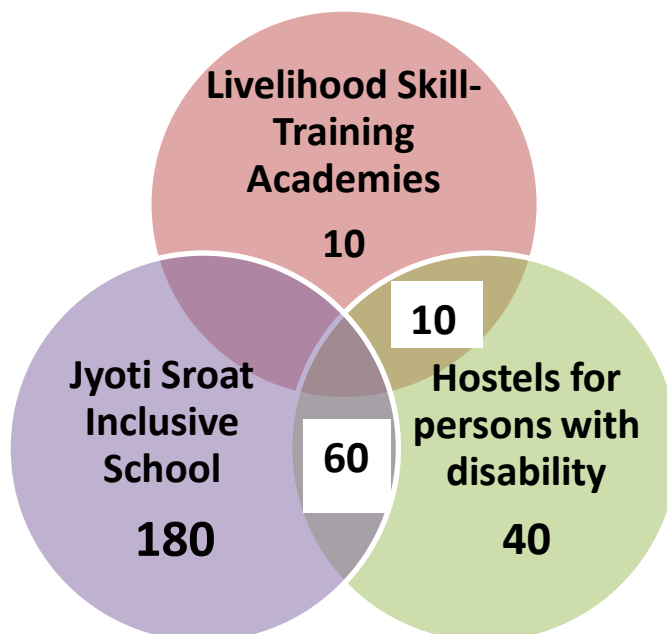
Program	No. of Direct/Primary Beneficiaries
Jyoti Sroat Inclusive School	240 (This includes both day scholars and children and young people living in the hostels)
Divine Flame Hostels for Persons with Disabilities	110
Livelihood Skill-training academies (those residing in hostels)	20
Total	300/year

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Unit-wise total Number of primary stakeholder Break-down

Secondary Stakeholders:

- 100 teachers from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and private schools who will undergo foundation courses in Inclusive Education, conducted by Bethany Society on an annual basis.
- Parents of children studying in Jyoti Sroat School, Bethany Society, Shillong.

5. Defining Impact: What does it mean to Bethany Society?

For Bethany Society impact is directly related to its vision: **"We Dream of a World Where all Enjoy Fullness of Being"**. Practically this would mean that those who have never had an opportunity will now be able to show themselves as "expert learners", purposeful and motivated, strategic, goal-directed, knowledgeable. This would mean that all children in the school and in SSA schools are enjoying their education and completing schooling or being skilled in inclusive settings.

It also inherently means empowering the vulnerable particularly those from remote-marginalized areas to learn and carry-out trades which are ethical, efficient, and economical leading to their independent and contributory living.

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How will the proposed solution lead to a greater impact?

The support provided to implement the proposed solution will give the organization the opportunity to showcase that education can be accessed by all and all students can participate and perform. The principles of **Universal Design of Learning (UDL)** will be used to create this impact and to multiply this mission.

In terms of annual impact, the programme will ensure:

- 110 Children/young persons with disabilities avail of hostel facilities while pursuing education from pre-primary level to higher secondary level, or livelihood skill training, all in an Inclusive set-up.
- 180 children with and without disabilities belonging to disadvantaged backgrounds from across the city of Shillong avail of Inclusive Education from Early Education level to Higher Secondary level at Jyoti Sroat Inclusive School, Shillong.
- Due to partnership with the government, 100 teachers from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and private schools are trained in Inclusive Education through foundation courses conducted by Bethany Society.
- This will provide a working model of Inclusive Education for the government to be replicated in remote and rural areas of Meghalaya. It will not only provide equal educational opportunities for children with disabilities, but will improve the quality of education overall.

6. Objectively Verifiable Indicators for progress tracking of the project:

- Number of children availing of the accommodation facilities in Divine Flame hostels for boys and girls who have directly benefitted from GlobalGiving/ Impactguru contributions.
- Number of students in formal education successful in class (I-XII) in Jyoti Sroat Inclusive School, Bethany Society Shillong.
- Number of out of school children back in school and completing education.
- Number of teachers from Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and private schools trained by Bethany Society in Inclusive Education through foundation courses.
- Number of persons living in Divine Flame Hostels who are trained in livelihood skills at Roilang Livelihood Academy, Shillong (A Unit of Bethany Society).

7. SUSTAINABILITY: HOW WILL THS SOLUTION BE SUSTAINED AFTER 3 YEARS?

Bethany Society has been promoting Inclusive education and Inclusive Skill development since 2006 and 1996 respectively. The proposed solution is in alignment with our core vision of

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promoting total inclusion and will further deepen our programs. Therefore, it's safe to say that continuity of project will be ensured as a direct fit and extension to our current programs.

For necessary financial support, CSR opportunities and convergence with state government departments particularly Department of Education, Social Welfare, is envisaged. Being an NGO the solution will always need support to sustain itself. From the School there is very little amount raised through fees as the students are from extremely deprived backgrounds. However, almost 70% of the expenses will at the end of three years be supported by the Government through the Department of Education. The Skill Development initiative will be self sustaining at the end of three years with regular income from sale of produce such as that from poultry and manures.

8. PROGRAMME BUDGET (Half-Yearly)

Overall Budget for the Programme: 18,379 USD (INR 1,320,000)

USD= United States Dollar; INR= Indian National Rupees

Budget Break-down:

Component	Unit	Unit Cost (INR)	No. of Units	Total Cost (INR)
Board, Lodging and Education fee for a child with disability	Per child/month	2000	110*6= 660	1,320,000
Total				1,320,000

Therefore, overall cost per child for six months (October 2018 – March 2019): INR 12,000 = 167 USD

In order to further support the project, beyond the support received by Globalgiving community, Bethany Society plans to raise the remaining amount through the following sources over the period of the next one year:

Source	% of remaining budget
Govt. & Govt. associated organizations (e.g. Ministry of Rural Development etc.)	30%
Individual Donors	10%

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Private Donor organizations (e.g. Tata Trust, Azim Premji Philanthropic Initiatives etc.)	10%
Multilateral Organizations (e.g. UN or UN affiliated organizations, World Bank group etc.)	15%
Foreign Aid Agencies (CBM, USAID etc.)	10%
Companies through CSR	15%
Govt. of India or Govt. of state	10%
Total	100%

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