



***Project Title: Samerth Talim Kendra – Centre for providing need-based rehabilitative support to children with multiple disabilities***

***Proposal Summary:*** Samerth Charitable Trust, located in the densely populated Juhapura area of Ahmedabad, has been a lifeline for children and young adults with intellectual disabilities for over 16 years. The Samerth Talim Kendra (STK) has been instrumental in providing specialized services tailored to the needs of children with disabilities, including Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), therapies, nutritional support, and rehabilitation training. Currently, serving 98 children, STK is facing a critical situation with a waiting list of 40 children identified and waiting to enrol. To address this pressing need, we propose expanding our program by establishing two new community-based Kendra in underserved areas.

***Background and Context:*** Juhapura, a neighbourhood in the new west zone of Ahmedabad, has witnessed significant demographic shifts over the years. Initially developed to accommodate those displaced by floods, Juhapura experienced a surge in population due to migration since 2000. Today, it is home to over six lakh Migrants, Dalits and minorities, making it one of the densest ghettos in Gujarat.

Despite this, access to specialized services for children with disabilities remains limited. Samerth Charitable Trust has been a pioneer in bridging this gap, serving as a beacon of hope for families in need. Over the years, STK has successfully supported more than 451 children, empowering them to lead lives of dignity and independence.

***Samerth and Asha for Education:*** Asha for Education's contributions have facilitated the expansion of services at the Samerth Talim Kendra from initially serving a modest number of 42 children to now catering directly to over 100 beneficiaries. This expansion includes the establishment of an early intervention section, offering crucial support to 27 young children, six of whom successfully transitioned to mainstream school this year. Additionally, Community-Based Rehabilitation services have reached out to 12 severely disabled children, providing them with essential therapies and

*interventions.*

**Enhanced Learning Environment:** *With Asha for Education's support, the transition from weekly to daily therapies has created a more immersive and impactful learning environment for the children at the center. The provision of a larger space with dedicated areas for speech and physiotherapies has been pivotal in enhancing the quality and effectiveness of therapeutic interventions, ensuring that each child receives personalized care and attention.*

**Infrastructure Improvements:** *The procurement of state-of-the-art physiotherapy equipment and the establishment of fully-equipped vocational centers have been made possible through Asha for Education's continued support. These enhancements have not only enriched the learning experience for the children but have also empowered them with valuable vocational skills, such as beadwork, photocopying, and paper plate production, preparing them for greater independence and integration into society.*

**Diversification of Initiatives:** *Asha for Education's backing has provided Samerth Charitable Trust with the means to explore and implement innovative initiatives, including Animal-Assisted Therapy, Music Therapy, and play therapy. These initiatives, detailed in the attached report, have broadened the scope of services offered by the center, catering to the holistic needs of children with disabilities and promoting their overall well-being and development.*

**Current Proposal: Addition of two community-based centres along with Samerth Talim Kendra extending services to 138 children:** Building upon the success of the existing center supported by Asha for Education, Samerth Charitable Trust now proposes to establish two new centers in underserved communities, following a hub-and-spoke model. These spoke centers, operating for four hours daily, will extend essential services such as physiotherapy, speech therapy, sensory therapy, and special education to 20 children in each, thereby reaching a broader population and addressing the growing demand for rehabilitative support in the region. **The total project cost is Rs. 61,28000/-. We are requesting Rs. 29,32,200/- from Asha for Education.**

**Project Details:**

**Objectives of the Programme:**

- *Ensure that 138 children receive center-based and/or home-based*

*services tailored to their individual needs. Out of these 98 will in the current centre and 40 new children will be accessing services in the community-based model.*

- *Build the capacity of staff and school teachers to effectively work with children with disabilities, promoting inclusive practices and understanding.*
- *Facilitate integration with government programs and services to enhance access to entitlements and benefits for children with disabilities and their families.*

## **Activities in Detail**

1. ***Establishment of New Community based disability Centers:*** Based on the expressed demand from parents and the scoping exercise conducted in four areas, the selection of the Canal and Al Ateek areas for the establishment of community learning centers is well-founded. These locations have been chosen strategically to address the needs of the community and fulfill the demand for services for children with disabilities. The process of selecting these areas involved thorough assessment and consideration of various factors, including the existing infrastructure, socio-economic conditions, population density, and accessibility. By establishing centers in these areas, Samerth Charitable Trust aims to effectively reach and serve the most vulnerable children and families in the community, thereby making a meaningful impact on their lives and promoting inclusivity and empowerment.



- Demographics of the two areas: Based on the assessment conducted in the Canal and Al Ateek areas, it is evident that there is a significant need for community-based disability centers to cater to the needs of children with

disabilities.

Area Profile:

- Canal Area western Ahmedabad:
  - Population: Approximately 600 people living in makeshift huts.
  - Socio-economic status: Families earn between 7000 to 12000 per month.
    - Infrastructure: Uneven roads, lack of streetlights, and security concerns.
    - Demographics: Mostly comprised of migrants who have settled in the area for the past 2 to 4 years.
- Al Ateek Area western Ahmedabad:
  - Population: Around 25,000 people residing in densely populated low-income residential spaces.
  - Socio-economic status: Household earnings range from Rs. 10,000 to 15,000 per month.
  - Stability: Residents have been living in the area for approximately 10 to 15 years.
- Identification of Beneficiaries:
  - A list of probable beneficiaries has been compiled based on expressed interest and the observed incidence of disability in these areas.

**Infrastructure Development & staff recruitment:** *Secure appropriate centre space and furnish them with physio and speech equipment. Recruit qualified professionals, including physiotherapists, speech therapists, and special educators, to staff the new centers. In the early months trained staff from Samerth Talim Kendra will be working in these areas..*

**2. Expanded Reach and Impact to 138 children:**

**Special Education and Therapy Sessions:** *Conduct daily special education and therapy sessions tailored to the individual needs of each child, including physiotherapy, speech therapy, and sensory integration therapy, animal assisted therapy etc to all 138 children.*

**Educational Activities:** *Offer structured educational activities focused on developing communication skills, cognitive abilities, and functional independence.*

**Parent Support Groups:** Organize regular meetings for parents to share experiences, receive training on supporting their children at home, and advocate for their needs within the community.

### **3. Collaboration and Capacity Building:**

**Stakeholder Engagement:** Collaborate with local community leaders, schools, and organizations to raise awareness about the new centers and promote acceptance and inclusion of children with disabilities.

**Training Workshops:** Conduct training workshops for center staff and school teachers on topics such as disability awareness, inclusive education practices, and effective communication strategies.

**Community Outreach:** Organize awareness campaigns and outreach events to educate the community about the causes of disabilities, reduce stigma, and promote acceptance.

**Government Liaison:** Establish partnerships with government agencies and other organizations to facilitate access to government programs and services for children with disabilities and their families.

	Objectives of the project	Activities Outcome by the end of the year
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1	<p>Ensure 138 children receive Centre-based and/ or Home-based services . Out of these 98 children will be provided services at the centre and 40 children will be provided services at the community disability centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clinical &amp; functional assessment &amp; therapies to be provided to children coming to the centre and at their homes as per the timetable/ schedule</li> <li>● Development of an ‘individual education plan’ (IEP) for each individual, based on which therapies are designed and implemented – speech /sensory/ physio psychotherapy and animal assisted therapy.</li> <li>● Provision of aids and appliances,</li> <li>● Training in daily-living skills, social and functional skills.</li> <li>● Regular nutrition to be provided to all children coming to the Kendra</li> <li>● Health checkups to be conducted regularly</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● A total of 138 children and young adults shall receive goal-based therapies which will be monitored and have measurable impact.</li> <li>● Regular clinical assessments shall be undertaken for all children at the centre by neuro pediatrician, Neuro ENT specialists etc</li> <li>● Weekly meetings and home visits with parents /care takers on issues such as nutrition, training on sexual &amp; hygiene issues, and therapies to be undertaken at home.</li> <li>● Impact based Individual plan targeting the children to become independent to the extent possible.</li> </ul>
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2	Build capacity of staff to work with children disability.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Regular training through webinars &amp; offline and online training on issues such as adolescent sexual health &amp; behaviors, Augmentative Alternative Communication (AAC – where children with speech difficulties find it difficult in communicating with the caretaker and family members) from experts in the field</li> <li>● Identify two additional mentors in our mentor-ship program from experienced organization to handhold the team on a monthly basis</li> <li>● Teachers given an opportunity to attend training organized by reputed organization to build networks, promote</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Creating a team of local people and exposing them to various training and experts from the field leading to capacity building of the community that has high incidence of disability.</li> <li>● Creating experts in an under represented area of the community.</li> <li>● Ensure cross learning of local practices with scientific methods of the team members.</li> </ul>
		cross learning if and when possible.	

3	Build capacity of school teachers on disability issues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training of school teachers on the RPwD Act, 2016. Capacity building of teachers to help them better understand the causes of various disabilities, approach required to work with children with disabilities will be done through webinars by experts.</li> <li>● Training teachers and through them even children to be more empathetic, accepting and inclusive towards children with disabilities</li> <li>● 20 school teachers from 10 schools sensitized on disability hoping that this will reduce the dropout of children with disabilities that have enrolled. The same 20 teachers would be hand held through the year by the team to build their perspective and understanding on working with children with disabilities.</li> <li>● Capacity building of other teachers in each of these schools by Samerth trained teachers through quarterly meetings on importance and impact of inclusion.</li> </ul>
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**Conclusion:** *The proposed expansion of our community-based disability centers represents a significant milestone in our journey to empower children with disabilities and foster inclusive communities. With Asha for Education's support, we are confident that we can address the pressing need for specialized services in underserved areas, reaching more children and making a lasting impact on their lives. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Asha for Education and working together to create a more inclusive and equitable society for all.*



Sr. No.	Name of the child with disability	Area Name
1	Md.Khalid	Present duplex
2 3	<u>Altaf Bag</u> Aisha	Al-Hamd Flat Al-Haram Residency-7
4	Aksa Sheikh	Golden Row-House
5	Mohammed Ayan	Asia's Villa
6	Mohammed	Shahe Alamnagar
7	Sheikh Amreen Imran Bhai	Bismillah Masjid Ke Paas
8	Ahsan Ali. Md.Aslam	Orange Row-House
9	Simran Mo.Riaz	Yusuf Mandali Farm-House

10 Pathan Ujmanba's Mo.Khan Tuba Residency

11	Yakut Ismail Khan Pathan	Al-Arab Residency
12	Jamal Ahmed Vohra of Duty	Munisha Residency
13	Sheikh Mehrajibi Ilmuddin	—
14	Sheikh Samsad Md.Hanif	—
15	Zeenat Banu	—
16	Mehra Sheikh	Al-Ashad Park - 2
17	Nafisa	Alphina Park
18	Ruhaan	Alphina Park
19	Imran Mansuri	Anushapark
20	Noman Sheikh	Anushapark
21	Rida	Anushapark
22	Fatema Bibi	Alphina Park
23	Sehzin	Al-Rehmani's Row House
24	Mo., Hamza	Ahmadi Row House

25 Md. Saheem Ahmadi Row House 26 Md.Hammad Ahmadi  
Row House 27 Ayan Ansari Alif Row House 28 Sanjida Kazi  
Syed Nagar

**Budget approved for 2024:**

Annexure 2: Budget			
To provide educational & rehabilitation services for 138 children with intellectual & developmental disabilities in Ahmedabad, Gujarat			
Particulars	Total Y1	Request from Asha for Education	Other donor + Samert h's contribution
<b>Human Resource Costs</b>			
1-Disability Specialist working with children on AAC ( Augmentative Alternative Communication)-Rs 36,000*12*1	432,000	216,000	216,000
3- Centre Assistant to support the children carry out assisted living activities Rs 12,000*12*3	432,000	144,000	288,000
6- Honarium to Therapists3 (Physio) & 3 Speech and sensory Rs. 25000*11*6	1,650,000	825,000	825,000
2- Trained Community Based Rehabilitation Workers working with children with severe disabilities at their homes- Rs 15,000*12*2	360,000	180,000	180,000
4- Special Educators working directly with children with severe intellectual & physical disabilities-Rs 20,000*12*4	960,000	480,000	480,000
<b>Human Resources Total (B)</b>	<b>3,834,000</b>	<b>1,845,000</b>	<b>1,989,000</b>
<b>Project Activities</b>			
Once in quarter visit by psychologist, paediatrician and neurosurgeon(25000 per visit)	100,000	-	100,000
2 Specialised training for Parents and Caregivers - Rs 10,000*1*2	20,000	-	20,000

Capacity building & training of Special Educators - Rs 5000*1*4	20,000		20,000
Quarterly survey of Aganwadis, Padeatric centres for early identification of children with disability Rs 1500*4*1	6,000		6,000
Once a quarter, capacity building & training of School staff (travel) (Rs 2000*4*1)	8,000		8,000
Quarterly training of parents on early identification and intervention Rs 5000*4*1	20,000		20,000
<b>Travel</b>			
CBR Worker- Rs 3000*12*2	72,000	14,400	57,600
Travel of Children from home to care center by van(1000 per day, 24 days and 11months)	264,000	132,000	132,000
Travel of 40 children for AAT to Qi to Happiness(10000 per trip of 20 children, 2 trips a week, 80000 per month)	880,000	440,000	440,000
<b>Activities Total (C)</b>	<b>1,390,000</b>	<b>586,400</b>	<b>803,600</b>
<b>Admin Expenses</b>			
Rent for centre- Rs. 48000*12*1	576,000	172,800	403,200
Rent for spoke centres 7000*12*2 including electricity + water supply	168,000	168,000	-
Physio and Speech equipments at the spoke centres - 80,000 per centre (fan,chairs, cupboard + equipments)	160,000	160,000	
<b>Admin Expense Total (D)</b>	<b>904,000</b>	<b>500,800</b>	<b>403,200</b>
<b>Total (E)</b>	<b>6,128,000</b>	<b>2,932,200</b>	<b>3,195,800</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>			
<b>Total budget approved for the year 2024</b>		<b>INR 26,75,000</b>	