

Name of the Project: Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay

Was your site visit announced: Yes, it was planned

When (the date) : 12'th December 2020

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PART A: Particulars about the organization and its environment

1. What are the different focus areas of the organization? (give rough estimate of the % of their total effort/funding)
Community development: Education: 40% Health: 30% Other: 30% (please specify) home based care (childcare, food & nutrition, sanitation etc.) and security.
2. What is the administrative structure of the group (e.g Board of Directors/Grassroots-based)

There is a governing body which has a total of eight members. Dr. Michelle Harrison, the founder, is the Secretary of the board.

PART B: The organization and the community it serves

1. Approximately how many families live in the area?

The children all came through the Child Welfare Committee who were previously housed in an institution. They come from the greater West Bengal Area and are not from this community, but they are being raised as a part of this community.

2. What do the parents do for a living?

The children at Shishur Sevay are orphans who have lost the family and community they were born into. Except for one child who has her mother living there.

3. At the time of enrolment does the school ask for the name of both parents?

No parents (See #1 & 2)

4. How often do the teachers meet the parents?

No parents (see #1 & 2)

5. How do the parent participate in the organization's activities? (eg. By contributing their time, money or labour in the school's activities etc.

No parents

6. Are there any government Schools in the area?

Yes, and the girls attended that for the first four years.

7. If yes, how far are the government schools from the community

The closest government school is less than one kilometre from Shishur Sevay.

8. Why did the parents choose this school over the government school?

No parents.

Some girls are differently abled and some have seen extremely violent and turbulent childhood. They are deprived of love and attention that a child need. So they require special attention. Initially they spent few years in the government school, then a missionary school and an English Academy where they faced discrimination and the schools were not meeting their educational needs. That is when Shishur-Sevai decided that it would be best to start their own educational programme to cater to the needs of the children's education, as

9. When you visited, how many children were present in the class? 15

What is the regular class strength?

Comment:

All 15 were present at Shishur Sevay. I reached there during evening time so children were basically retired for the day. They were doing things like Drawing and on the computers. In general they were doing their own activities.

10. Do the children seem to enjoy coming to school?

I found the children were happy and they were steadily making progress towards becoming integral part of society.

PART C: Project particulars

1. What is the mode of teaching in the school? (Check the appropriate choices)

A. Formal (State Board, Central Board etc.)

B. Non Formal Education **X**

Do the students also attend formal school?

This question is answered above partially see PartB, question 8. One of the children(four year old) will start at a formal school in April 2017. Most of the other children were in formal schools in the past but faced a lot of discrimination and were not learning

because of the pressure. For formal certification some of the children will be availing the National Institute for open Schooling (NIOS).

C. Vocational: **X** Training to be assistants to special educators.

D. Other: **X Please Specify:** Open School. Two of them have been registered for the Secondary Level course in (NIOS). **They were registered on 31st January 2017**

2. If A (Formal), up to what grade (LKG, 5th, 7th etc.) does the school conduct classes?

NA

3. If B (Non-Formal) how many of the children also attend formal school in the area?

See response 1-B

4. If Non-Formal Education, does the organization create its own study material (books, games)?

They create their own material and also use other available material like text books available in the market, material available from NIOS etc. They also use materials available online. They avail of online courses like K5learning, khan academy etc. and do online classes through videoconferencing with a professor in the US.

5. If C (Vocational) what do the children do after they finish training

Two of the children are training to be assistants to special educators. Training is still ongoing.

6. How many staff or volunteers are recruited from the community? 11

How many of the staff are women? 15

7. How many teachers have left the school in the past one year, and why?

Three. They left for personal reasons.

8. How many new teachers have joined in the past one year, and why?

Two on payroll and one volunteer. To replace the teachers who left.

9. Does the organization train the teachers? If yes, how do they provide the training?

Yes. As the focus and approach to education there is different, orientation is required for the new teachers. The teachers who are experienced in conducting inclusive classes share their

experiences and methods with the new teachers. Several of their teachers have been there for five to six years and have gathered valuable experience in inclusive education.

10. How much is the staff paid?

Is it on par with the salary paid to the staff in the government school?

No.

There are two full time teachers (35+ hours per week, five days a week), four part time teachers/physiotherapists (< 35hrs. per week, five days a week) and six tutors who have 1-3 classes per week. The salary is decided individually depending on the number of hours and the skill and knowledge in their fields. The range of salary is between ₹1500 to ₹23,000.

PART D: Financial resources of the organization

Do you think the proposed amounts in the budget are reasonable? Yes

Are all items covered in the budget? Yes but we are covering only part of the budget now.

1. Is there anything you think should be added or removed from the budget? No
2. Did you discuss proposed changes with the project? If so, please describe their response. No change.

PART E: Comments: I think, members of Shishur Sevai are extremely devoted set of people and they are doing wonderful work which should be supported as much as possible.