

FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK

Welcome to our 25th Annual Report.

I thank you for your support and hope you enjoying reading the progress reports.

It has been a challenging year, but we have managed to both maintain and develop the work of the Trust.

Most notably the Trust has been awarded a new grant from the Union Ministry for Child Welfare to further develop our Childline work with railway children at Gaya Railway Platform.

The Health project has still maintained its service but we are looking for new source of funding.

Because of serious incidents concerning other NGO's in the state increased burden has been placed on our child protection services and I would like to thank our staff for rising to the challenge.

We look forward to welcoming visitors from supporting organisations and I would like to thank you all for your support and interest in our work.

Deepak Kumar

Chairman People First

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS Women's Sewing Centres



What are they?

Sewing centres provide a safe place for women to meet together, to support each other and learn a skill, and through the women's self-help groups organised by the Trust, avail a low interest loan and have an independent source of income.

"My name is Sanju Devi and I am 3D years old from Paini Village in Jharkhand and I have three children. My husband works as an agricultural labourer and he works in the field and earns only 250 to 300 rupees a day \$4/\$5, or £4.00, (about 50cents an hour). It was very difficult to survive life with my children with this little income so I came to People First Sewing Training Centre to learn the sewing skills and for support and companionship. I then joined the Self Help Group which was organized by People First Team in my village and I have received a loan to buy the sewing machine, with very little interest and started to make the clothes in my own village. Because of Income from the clothes which I sold at the local market I have now paid back the loan in full".

VILLAGE EDUCATION



What does village education mean?

People First started with a simple village school at Paini over 25 years ago. From that simple school many more followed educating over 800 children daily. Our village education programme aims to provide quality education to the poor where it is not available to them free of cost. Our biggest school in Dhobi has 300 children from Kindergarten to Class 10. Kanjiar Kindergarten and community school for younger children seen in the photo is sponsored by Martin Huckerby in the UK.

"My name is Kanchan. My family is very big, I have four brothers and three sisters. We are all getting education at People First's School in Dobhi. My sisters did not get chance for education beyond class six because my parents felt that there was no point because they will be married anyway. With me it's different. Why?

Because there is a programme at our school for girls only where the people first staff and my teachers sometimes talk to my parents and they have signed a bond which says I can be in full time education for as long as I need it. I work very hard but I enjoy my school very much and I want to be a doctor for animals. I was first position in my class and my family is very proud. My school being a people first school is free to all the poor children but because I am part of the education for girls programme I get extra money for books and school materials and uniform, and the Trust has made sure that my parents support me. I want to thank you for your support very much and wish you and your families well".

RESCUE JUNCTION



Where is Rescue Junction and what does it do?

Rescue Junction is a centre for children in urgent need and distress based in Gaya.

Over the years it has helped thousands of children whether homeless, abandoned, victims of child trafficking and or abuse and closely works with families, the police, state authorities and the central government through is toll free number for children 1098.

Its very much a community-based project and runs campaigns against child labour, Child trafficking and child marriage.

"Rescue Junction saved me from my factory, from being beaten daily and even sometimes denied food and water, I am now safe with my family and enjoying school and playing cricket"

Rahul aged 9

HEALTH FOR ALL



What is the Health Project?

The Health Project is a community-based project working mainly but not exclusively with young mothers and women in several local villages.

Although it is a preventive programme in nature, that is teaching hygiene and good health practices, it does have a clinical element.

Our staff on the Health Team have been trained by UNICEF in the Integrated Management of Neo Natal and Childhood Illness and this protocol has proved to be very effective in preventing illness and effectively treating children.

With thousands of interventions annually the project has demonstrably improved the health particularly of children in the project area.

"We are very poor and could not afford treatment for our sick baby girl. Without the help of People First and their wonderful health team we would have lost our child for ever. Thank you so much!"

Pramila Devi (Mother of Riya - 6 months old)

OTHER PROJECTS



VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Based at the Averill Centre our headquarter building the Trust runs courses in computer skills. Seen in the photograph celebrating teacher's day the students at the centre take a course which is nationally recognised and equips students with the very necessary skills required to find employment.

"My name is Anjilee and I am 17 years old. Because we get hardly any training in computer skills at government schools this course enabled me to find work at a local travel agent, and now I am not only financially independent but I am helping my family which is very poor. Thank you People First!"

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Trust has a very limited scheme to sponsor individual students at the higher education level.

Previous students on this scheme have come from desperately poor backgrounds to work at Infosys, Renault, HSBC and other multinational companies as well as with government. If you would like to sponsor a student please contact us at the email address given on the how you can help page.

"The opportunity of a full education from childhood, for me, was nothing short of a miracle. One minute I had received another beating from my uncle, and then someone came to my village school and asked me would I like to go to Bodhgaya to study. They also told me that I would not be returning to my Uncle ever again as they had found a safe place to stay. There was no point returning for any possessions because I had absolutely none, not even a pair of sandals on my feet".

Sanjay

HOW YOU CAN HELP

ONLINE

The Trust is one of a few NGO's in India which after comprehensive vetting has projects on Global Giving both in the

USA and the UK. Please visit www.globalgiving.org and search "People First Educational Charitable Trust"



It is possible to donate through some of our partner organisations, for example if you are in the USA full tax benefits are available. Our donate page on our website has many ways to donate and help our work.

OFFLINE

You can send cheques to....

People First International

C/O Mr. Kevin Enright (Treasurer)

52 East View

Madeley Hill

Ironbridge – TF8 7QY

Shropshire

ШK



THE FINANCIALS

INCOME FROM ALL SOURCES 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018

SOURCE	AMOUNT	PERCENT
People First International	45,79,962.00	32.42
Health for All, U.K	14,10,239.43	09.98
One World Children's Fund USA	31,89,607.29	22.58
Global Giving USA	19,21,910.73	13.61
Asha For Education USA	12,12,000.00	08.58
Patrick Ruckli and Family, Switzerland	3,16,450.00	02.24
Amount received from Indian Funding Agencies	13,54,765.00	09.59
Interest and other source	1,40,912.00	01.00
Total Income	1,41,25,846.45	
Opening Balance on 1 st April 2017	42,47,052.49	
TOTAL	1.83.72.898.94	4



This year students have passed the secondary exam from our Dobhi School

THE FINANCIALS

EXPENDITURE REPORT FROM 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2018

Service Provision Including Salarie	2	113,99,466.00
Computer Purchase and Maintenan	СЕ	1,49,300.00
Vehicle & Generator Maintenance		10,72,406.00
Travelling Exp		2,39,865.00
Building Maintenance		9,23,630.00
Meeting & Awareness		1,59,426.00
Electrical Exp		1,74,941.00
Function & Festivals		1,26,271.00
Furniture		2,93,283.00
Bank charges		6,482.95
Batree for Invertors		88,400.00
Top (Children Sponsorship Exp)		5,69,026.00
Social Assistance & Flood relief etc	;	3,12,925.00
	Total	1,55,15,421.95

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS STATEMENT

We have examined all the account of "PEOPLE FIRST EDUCATIONAL CHARITABLE TRUST, BODHGAYA, GAYA, BIHAR, INDIA" As at 31st March 2018 and Income and Expenditure account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the books of account maintained by the Trust.

We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the Audit. In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the Trust so far as appears from our examination of the books.

In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to information given to us, the said accounts give a true and fair view:

Dipak Kumar Singh (Chartered Accountants) M.N. 542404

Ground Floor Sri Vishnu Kenti Complex Naknannlow Road Gava (Rihar) - 873NN1

WELCOME

Some of the visitors recently ...



IT WAS OUR PLEASURE TO WELCOME FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS TO PEOPLE FIRST DURING THE PAST YEAR We thank you for all your support and interest in our work, and we look forward to more visits in the future from our wonderful supporters.

STORIES FROM RESCUE JUNCTION

Soni Kumari (14)

Soni has had a difficult life. When her mother died when she was young, her father remarried only to constantly fight with his new wife and eventually she committed suicide by drinking poison. Soni went to live with her grandmother who could not afford to keep her. So she ended up with her aunty in another village. Throughout all this she managed to educate herself up to class seven. She became friendly with a local boy and together they ran away to seek a better life together and were removed from a running train by the government railway police. Rescue Junction staff are working with her to decide the best option for her welfare and wellbeing.

Prakash (10)

Prakash has never been to school and his father is ill and his mother was so poor. He was found working in a tea shop washing plates for 30 rupees a day (about 50 cents). He was rescued by the special labour department team formed with rescue Junction staff. Efforts are on to get him in mainstream education and for the time being he remains at Rescue Junction.



Shafi (8)

Shafi a boy aged eight decided to have an adventure and, on his way, to school took an auto from his college 50km away to Gaya. Eating samosa in a small café near the station, the owner was concerned when he was approached by three men, and intervened. He brought him personally to Rescue Junction where he has been counselled in a kindly but firm way with his parents and he returned home after a few days.





Names have been changed according to the Trusts Child Protection Policy

THE POWER OF WOMEN



Finally, People First has always been in the forefront of helping women and girls whether through the sewing centres, local health care initiatives, or empowerment at Rescue Junction. One of the most successful programmes administered and supported by our Heath Team is our Self-Help group programme for women. Women run and manage with our support groups where the members save a small amount each week and then decide together to grant loans to members for income raising projects whether it is the acquisition of animals, starting a small shop, purchase of a hand operated sewing machine, or buying equipment to make incense sticks. Defaults on loans are very rare, and the amounts these groups manage to save is impressive.

At present over 20 groups with 230 women have saved a total of 5,59,539.00 and distributed loans to the value of 13,29,275.00.

This programme really does help to alleviate poverty whist at the same time empowering women with an independent source of income.

ONE STEP FORWARD ...



Childhelp desk was officially opening by the District Magistrate and Senior Superintendent of Police Gaya on 29th September 2018

People First has recently been rewarded to operate another Child Help Desk at Gaya Railway platform by joint initiative of Indian Railway and Child and Women Development Ministry Govt. Of India

SPECIAL THANKS TO ...

Special thanks to...

Denby Transport Lincoln UK

One World Group Oxted UK

Lindum Construction UK

One World Children's Fund USA

Asha Silcon Valley USA

People First International UK

Health for All UK

Heidi Patrick and family Switzerland

Martin Huckerby UK

And all who have helped our work.

People First is a registered charitable Trust number 9062.

The trust is fully licensed to accept foreign donations under the relevant provisions of the FCRA Act.

The Trusts accounts are independently audited

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People First Educational Charitable Trust

The Averill Centre

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www.peoplefirstbihar.org

