

Work for Equality
Annual Report 2017-2018



Background of Work for Equality:

Work for Equality is a registered organization working with the vision to create a new world where everyone will get equal opportunity and no one will be discriminate of the basis of cast, class, gender and religion and our mission is to build capacity of the marginalized communities on the various areas like education, health and livelihood so they competently endure into the core tributary of the society.

Background of the children: children are associated with us are belongs to Schedule Tribes, Nomadic tribes and Schedule cast like THAKAR, BAHURUPIYA, BHIKSHEKARI, VADAR, NANDIVALE JOSHI, DAVARI, VAIDU, ZARISONAR and DALIT. Maximum of them are had migrant from drought areas to Pune district for livelihood purpose. Majority of them are on footpath having rough houses made by Tine sheets or plastic papers. Their parents engaged in construction labor, rag pickers, working in agriculture or following their own business like giving natural medicine treatment JADIBUTI, making stones utensils, selling artificial ornaments of children and women.



Maximum children are engaged in child labor or supporting their parents for domestic work. Due to living on footpaths, their issue of safety has a big concern. Many children are engaged in begging as well as victims of substance abuse. Majority of them are far away from educational rights. Due to poverty and wrong habits of eating, many of them face problems of malnourishment. Children belong to deprived communities having low confidence, self-esteem and behavioral issues due to lack of awareness among parents regarding child development and destroyed family background.

We believe that children are the future of our nation, but if maximum children are even far away from their own basic human rights, how they will become the future of our nation. To understand the need, Work for Equality has initiated two major programs that are

- 1) Prerana – Child Holistic and Community Development centers**
- 2) Prerana – Residential Home for street girls.**

Through both the program we are providing following services to the deprived children such as

- 1) Educational guidance
- 2) Educational resources
- 3) Educational scholarships
- 4) Health
- 5) Nutrition
- 6) Life skills
- 7) Community awareness and parents participation
- 8) Safe residential home

Distribution of Beneficiaries and stakeholders:

Numbers	Name of the community	associated with	Standard/ age group	Number of children	Parents
1	Sant Tukaram Nagar	Sant Tukaram Nagar Zillha Parishad school – Dehuphata	1 st to 4 th	45	Approximately 750 parents
2	Sant Tukaram Nagar	Sant Tukaram Nagar Zillha Parishad center	6 th to 10 th	34	
3	Yelwadi Village	Yelwadi Zillha Parishad center	5 th to 7 th	40	
4	Yelwadi Villae	Yelwadi Zillha parishad center	7 th to 10 th	14	
5	Sant Tukaram Nagar	Sant Tukaram Nagar Zillha Parishad School	Playgroup	25	
6	Shinde Wasti	Sant Tukaram Nagar Samaj manadir	Playgroup	25	
7	Sonzari Community	Lokmanya Tilak school – Talegaon Dabhade center	1 st to 7 th	40	
8	Warale Thakar Community	Warale- Zillha parishad school	1 st to 4 th	36	
9	Koregaon Village	Koregaon Zippa Parishad School	1 st to 7 th	40	
10	Rajubai Thakar Community	Rajubai Zillha Parishad school center	1 st to 4 th	40	
11	Eainade Thakar Community	Eainade Community - Zillha Parishad School	1 st to 4 th	36	
Total	Community - 11	School – 7	Children	375	

Description about services

No.	Activity	Age group	Number of childrens
1	Educational kits including school bags, water bags, compass,	3 years to 14 years	375
2	Toys	3 to 6 years	50
3	Shoes	3 to 14 years	375
4	Nutrition	3 to 6 years	50 children daily approximately 300 days

Description of Children beneficiaries of Residential Home

No	Number of children	Age group
1	28	6 years to 14 years

Program implementation:

Education: Maximum children from deprived community children do not able to complete even primary education because of lack of parents support, lack of resource, frequently get migrant and not coup with study due to languages differences. To provide them support to complete their education, our organization is working with 11 villages and 7 Zilla Parishad Schools Maval and Khed Blocks, we run educational support classes for the deprived community children from playgroup to 12th standard. We provide educational resources along with scholarship support to the youth in community for higher education. This year we provided 375 educational material included school bags, shoes, water bottle, tiffin, educational kits etc...



Success stories: Right to Education: More than 50 children below 6 years from Dehuphata community didn't able to get education because of the mainstream community didn't give permission to start playgroup for the children. We motivated parents and did advocacy with local and state government still we have not received positive response from government to start government playgroup for the children, we are continuously doing follow up with the local and state government.

With the support of parents, we started two playgroup in the community and currently 50 children are taking benefits of the project.

Success stories of Shwati Shinde, Kajal Shinde and Priyanka Shegar :

Shwati , Kajal and Priyanka belongs to homeless community, were school dropout due to poverty and frequently get migrated from one place to another with their parents for livelihood purpose. They came into the contact of PRERANA teachers. The teacher motivated parents for their education. After number of counseling sessions with parents, they showed their interest to send their children at school. Now these three girls are part of **PRERANA RAINBOW HOME**, which is a residential home run by Work for Equality organization. After completing six month, they enrolled in regular government school and they are enjoying their education.

Health: because of superstitions and misconception about medical treatments, children who belongs to deprived communities face lot of health issues. To understand their health condition, we do basic blood testing such as TB, HIV and Hemoglobin and then as per suggestion of experts we do follow up of each child. We keep record of height and weight of each child to understand their health issues. We insist on physical as well as mental health, for that purpose we organized regular yoga and meditation workshops for the children who are part of our project.

To improve health status of community, this year we conducted medical camps in the community and schools on general health checkup, antenatal care, vaccination etc....

Along with this we had provided regular guidance to the parents through providing them knowledge on child development and related issues such as health and hygiene, nutrition, vaccination, gender discrimination, importance of education etc....

Success stories:

Due to lack of awareness among parents on vaccination, 14 children had left and not received vaccination. We connected with respective PHC and did advocacy with the authority and showed our willingness to support them, due to that 14 children who were not received vaccination we provided them our support and the children got vaccination. We didn't stop here, and we started to spread awareness among parents on the importance of vaccination, the result is that,

Nutrition: because of poverty, habit to eat junk food and lack of awareness among parents on importance of nutritional food, we find many children face problem of anemia. This directly impact on their educational performance.

To improve health status of a child we provide regular nutritional food including milk and fruits to the children. We also provide special nutrition to the children who are malnourished. Along with nutritional support, we increase awareness among children and parents on nutrition, this results, maximum children stopped to eat kurkure and many parents stopped to give junk food to the children in tiffin.

Life skills: Part of destroyed families make children confidence down and affect their self-esteem, the result they not able to mingle with other community children. facing regular violence, make children violent. Maximum time they live under mental stress which demotivated them from study. To developed confidence level, reduce behavior issues and to inculcate values in the life, we organized weekly life skills sessions for the children facilitated by our own teachers. Along with this, we organized monthly life skills training for the children which we invite experts from outside. Along with regular trainings our children use the platform of "BALSABHA" which is helped them to raised their voices and learn about their role and responsibilities.

Success stories

Improved saving habits through Life skills: we work with the communities, where saving is not given much importance. Parents habituate to give regular money to the children. Children use this money to eat outside food. We continuously conducted session on saving habits to safe our future and also start small piggy bank for the children. At the beginning very few children started to save money, after the certain period of time, we opened the piggy bank and returned money to the children. They got good amount from their savings up to Rs. Five hundred. It's motivated to the other children and now more than 20 children are doing regular savings in piggy bank. We also taught them the proper utilization of saved money.

Parent's participation:

Through PRERANA centers we are providing daily support to the parents through home visits. Before our initiative, we found, parents were only busy for their survival, they didn't understand the importance of interaction with children, about their development. We developed IEC material for the parents and conducted home visits on such topics like importance of giving time to the children, role of playing in the life of children especially girls, burden of domestic work on girls, importance of to give domestic responsibility to the boy also for his development etc.. these sessions supported parents to increased their awareness and sensitivity towards girls child. The impact of these support is, we able to make supportive environment for the girls in the family and community.

Before our initiative, Nanda one of the parents, never give time for home visits, when we talked about the topic of burden of domestic work on women, she find the reality which is so closed to her situation. She likes the topic very much and now she started giving time for home visits.

Exposure visits: spreading awareness amongst children about environment and protecting it, we organized educational visits for the children. This year we had organized exposure visits to the areas like Sinhgad, Bhandara Caves, Bhagadewadeswar Caves, Prashvpradnyalaya Temple, Carla Caves, Mahabaleswar and Horticulture Center etc... Through these educational visits, children learnt about nature and various types of agriculture techniques.

Events: Work for Equality is celebrate number of events and program to get exposure to the children and developed their confidence. We celebrated events and Day such as birthday celebrations, Mother's Day, international women's Day and International day for child Labourer.

Our children participated in the program of "Bachpan Ki Aastha" which was inaugurated by Pune Commissioner Mr. Kunal Kumar and Mayor Mrs. Mukata Tilak. Through the program, street children will be provided safe residential home. Children associated with us had participated in "Happy Street" program and get exposure of various activities like dance, drama, drawing and playing etc...

Staff Capacity building: to building capacity of the staff in child development, we had organized regular capacity building programs for the staff. This year we had organized 12 capacity building programs. The topics covered were understand child psychology, how to improve reading habits of children, skills of storytelling, art and craft, Gender, reproductive health, superstitions and misconceptions, Early childhood development etc....

Awareness Workshops for the employees on Sexual abuse: our organization is a part of sexual harassment committee of many reputed companies such as Gabriel India Pvt. Ltd and Continental India Pvt. Ltd. Throughout the year, we facilitated 16 workshops for the employees and increased their knowledge about Sexual Harassment of Women at Work Place act 2013. It helps to increased sensitivity amongst society about women's issues.

Achievements: On the occasion of International Women's Day, Work for Equality has been felicitated by Talegaon Dabhade Nagar Parishad by giving SERA award. Indira Group of Institutes has been also felicitated to the organization to provide them NGO Leadership Award.



Media coverage: We are trying to increase sensitivity of mainstream society regarding issues of the marginalized community children through writing articles in the reputed Newspaper, Magazine etc.. This year following article we published



फुटपाथ आणि वस्त्यांवर भरतोय 'प्रेरणा वर्ग'

वर्षा कांबळे

पिंपरी : शासन सर्व शिक्षा अभियान राबवित असले तरी देखील आजही अनेक मुले ही शिक्षणाच्या प्रवाहाबाहेर आहेत. भटकंती करणारे किंवा पिढ्यान्पिढ्या फुटपाथवर राहणारी ही मुले परिस्थितीआभावी शिक्षणापासून दूर जातात. अशा मुलांना संधी मिळावी आणि शिक्षणाबद्दल आकर्षण निर्माण व्हावे यासाठी वर्क फॉर इक्वालिटी संस्थेतर्फे 'प्रेरणा वर्ग' चालविला जातो.

भटकंती करणारे आणि दुर्लक्षित घटकातील पालक हे निरक्षर असल्यामुळे मुलांच्या शिक्षणाविषयी अद्यापही फारसे जागृक नाहीत. त्यामुळे पालक शाळेत जातो एवढेच

प्रेरणाताईमुळे शाळाबाह्य मुलांना शिक्षणाची गोडी

वर्क फॉर इक्वालिटी संस्थेचा उपक्रम

समाधान पालकांना असते. त्यामुळे पालकांची ही विचारधारा बदलण्यासाठी पालकांनाही या प्रेरणावर्गाचा घटक बनविण्यात आला आहे. शाळे व्यतिरिक्त हे प्रेरणा वर्ग चालविले जातात.

सध्या सात गावामध्ये हे काम सुरू आहे. तळेगाव, वराळे, देहुफाटा, येलवडी, राजूभाई वस्ती, ऐनाळे, कोरेगाव याठिकाणी हे प्रेरणा वर्ग चालविले जातात. यामध्ये कम्युनिटीमधील एक शिक्षिका म्हणजे 'प्रेरणाताई' या वस्त्यामध्ये जाऊन मुलांना विविध विषय सोप्या पद्धतीने शिकवतात.



वस्तीमध्ये प्रेरणाताईकडून शिक्षणाचे धडे घेणारी मुले.

कम्युनिटीमधील असल्यामुळे मुलांशी जास्त जवळीक निर्माण होते. प्रेरणावर्गामध्ये फक्त अभ्यासावरच लक्ष नाही तर सर्वांगीण विकासावर भर दिले जाते. यामध्ये प्रत्येक मुलांचा अभ्यास केला जातो. तो कशात मागे आहे ते ठरवून काम

केले जाते. तसेच मुलांच्या वर्तणुकीमध्ये सकारात्मक बदल कसा घडून येईल हा प्रयत्न केला जातो. फुटपाथवर राहणारे असल्यामुळे आरोग्य आणि स्वच्छता याकडे लक्ष दिले जाते. प्रेरणा वर्गामध्ये पालकांसोबत जास्त काम केले जाते. संपूर्ण प्रक्रियेत पालकांचा सहभाग असतो. पालक सभेमध्ये पालकांसाठी दर महिन्याला वेगळा विषय असतो. जे मुलांना शिकविले जाते ते पालकांनाही शिकविले जाते. पूर्वी मुलांना अडविणारे पालक आता मुलांमधील झालेला बदल तेही मान्य करत आहेत.

६ घरचे वातावरण शिक्षणासाठी कमकुवत आहे, त्यांच्यात इच्छा निर्माण करावी यासाठी प्रेरणा वर्ग चालवितो. जी मुले अशा वातावरणातील आहेत, अशाची प्रेरणा वर्गासाठी निवड केली जाते. शिक्षणाविषयी मागदर्शन केले जाते. पालकांचाही या प्रेरणा वर्गाला चांगला प्रतिसाद मिळत आहे. पालक स्वतः पुढे येऊन घरातील समस्या बोलू लागले आहेत.

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