

Parivaar Education Society

Bonogram, Bakhrahat Road

Kolkata-700104

West Bengal



Annual Report

2015 - 2016

About Parivaar:

Parivaar is a humanitarian service organization, based in 24 Parganas (S), West Bengal, and at present is chiefly working for total care and overall development of children from categories like orphans, girl children highly vulnerable to exploitation, victimization, and trafficking, street children, abandoned children, extremely impoverished children from tribal areas and other such highly vulnerable children at Parivaar Ashram, Village- Barkalikapur, P.O. Bakhrahat, District 24 Parganas (South), West Bengal.

Starting from scratch and thereafter developed brick by brick, Parivaar is being continuously developed and molded into a unique institution transforming the lives of each of its residential members (children and adults) and acting as a training ground of highly dedicated life-committed grassroots workers.

History/ Achievements/Accomplishments:

Parivaar was started by Vinayak Lohani (an alumnus of IIT Kharagpur and IIM Calcutta), who, inspired by spiritual and humanistic ideals of Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda, decided to devote his entire life for serving 'Divine in Man' as taught by Swami Vivekananda. Vinayak Lohani gave up the prospect of highly lucrative corporate career by not taking any placement from IIM. Immediately after passing out of IIM in 2003, with just 3 children in a small rented building with almost no financial resources, Vinayak started Parivaar. Till the level of 15 children at Parivaar, he used to take some lectures for students appearing for Management entrance examinations and through that could meet the expenses. Gradually people began to be inspired by this dedicated service and started to support the initiative and the number of children at Parivaar grew. At the end of 2004, Parivaar could purchase its own land to develop its permanent campus called Parivaar Ashram. Parivaar's mission and theme began to attract dedicated youth, many of whom joined Parivaar Ashram as resident workers and began to become bearers of this mission.

As on 1st April '16 there are 1450 resident children at Parivaar, making it the largest and high-quality residential program for children from impoverished strata in West Bengal.

Children are admitted at a young age of 4 to 10 into Parivaar Ashram. Each resident child once admitted into Parivaar is under the care and custody of Parivaar till higher education (graduation / post-graduation) and subsequent job placement and settlement into the future phase of life. Parivaar is behind each child and pave his/her way into any future career which he/she is aspiring for and showing promise of making to, whether it is a stream graduation in humanities, commerce or sciences, or a professional degree education in engineering/medicine.

Milestones:

As on 1st April '15 there are 1023 resident children at Parivaar, making it the largest and high-quality residential program for children from impoverished strata in West Bengal.

Awards and Honours

- National Award for Child Welfare 2011 presented by the Hon. President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- Sanskriti Award 2011, country's premier award for young achievers in 2011 from the Former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.
- CNN-IBN's 'Young Indian Leader of the Year Award' for 2012.
- IIM Calcutta's 'Distinguished Alumnus Award' (one of the 9 recipients selected out of 8000 alumni of the institute in last 50 years) awarded in 2011 on occasion of Institute's Golden Jubilee.
- IIT Kharagpur's 'Distinguished Alumnus Award' awarded in 2014- Youngest recipient in the history of the award.
- Swami Ranganathananda Memorial Humanitarian Award 2014 presented at the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture Calcutta

- Telegraph 'Special Honour' conferred by Telegraph Education Foundation Calcutta in 2014.
- 'Spirit of Mastek Award' conferred by IT Company Mastek Corporation
- 'Karmaveer Puraskar' 2011 presented by International Confederation of NGOs
- 'Transforming India through Transforming Indians' felicitation from Chinmaya Mission Kolkata
- Rotary Club of Calcutta Megacity Vocational Excellence Award 2012.
- Rotary Club of Calcutta Metropolitan Vocational Excellence Award 2014.
- 'Bhaorao Deoras Sewa Samman' 2015 presented at Lucknow by Hon Governor, Uttar Pradesh.

Roles with Government of India

- Induction into Government of India's Ministry of Women and Child's Working Group for the Twelfth Five Year Plan (2011).
This role is now over as the Working Group's term has ended..
- Induction into the National Committee for Promotion of Social and Economic Welfare constituted by the Ministry of Finance, Government of India (2014-2017).
The mandate of this Committee is to select the NGOs which should be given 100% tax exemption status. This is the highest decision-making body for this purpose.
http://dor.gov.in/sites/upload_files/revenue/files/joined_document.pdf
- Inducted into the Governing Board of Childline India Foundation, constituted by the Ministry of Women and Child which manages 24 hour child helpline services across nearly 300 towns in India.
<http://www.childlineindia.org.in/governingboard.htm>

Educational Excellence at Parivaar:

- Built on theme of positivity, of infinite possibilities hidden within each child.
- Sculpting lives that will excel and bring out the best in whatever they do.
- Youngest admitted children (aged 4, 5, and 6) are taken into most initial classes.

- Children who have age of 8 to 12 and no exposure to education trained 'Fast-Learning Bridge Course' and the admitted into a grade suitable for their age.

Amar Bharat Vidyapeeth(ABV)

- Parivaar's own High Quality Formal School having medium of instruction English as well as Bengali.
- Currently from Class 1 to Class 10.

After School Tutorship:

- Along with the formal schooling a strong after school tutorship ensures continuous good academic performance.
- 4 hours daily in addition to the school hours.
- Academic progress continuously noted by teachers and Resident elders.
- Detailed tests for all subjects, during last week in each month.
- Continuous evaluation and correction ensuring improvement.

Standard Operating Procedures:

- Assessment tests are taken to determine the grade in which a particular child should be admitted.
- There are separate teachers at ABV and tutorship program.
- Question Paper Approval Committee to check quality, clarity and course-pervasiveness.
- Weekly meetings between teachers for Statement of Activity.
- Fortnightly meetings between After-School Teachers, School Teachers and Residential Caretaking Team.

Handholding through entire Growth Path (Kindergarten to Higher Education / Placement)

- Each resident child once admitted into Parivaar is under the care and custody of Parivaar till higher education (graduation / post-graduation) and subsequent job placement and settlement into the future phase of life.

- For example, children showing aptitude for meritorious professional lines like engineering or medicine or any other such lines is trained and fully supported (just as parents do for their own children) till completion of that higher education and subsequent placement.

Capacity Building and Skill Enhancement Workshops:

Parivaar has been constantly working towards enhancing the skills set of the children as well as the teachers and Seva-vratees. Following steps have been taken in order to achieve this:

Skill Education at Parivaar

Parivaar has started a Skills and Vocation Educational Cell in collaboration with the Balrampur Institute of Vocational Aid (BIVA) from February 2015. The objective of this program is to impart life skills to children, which can also be beneficial, though its not the primary objective, for their livelihood preparation.

The Process

All the children were properly guided and counseled while selecting for the courses to be conducted at Parivaar. These efforts were intended to make them realize the relevance and utility of the skill training. Thus, out of 9 different options offered by BIVA, they have chosen 3 courses as per their interest.

BIVA provides the trainers to conduct the training sessions. It also prepares the training agenda, shares it with Parivaar and co-ordinate with the trainers in such a manner that the training programs are conducted smoothly. Parivaar bears the cost of honorarium of the trainers, raw materials and facilitates overall operational management.

These skill training sessions have been introduced for interested groups of children from Class 10 to 12, and undergraduates. The table below shows more details on each selected courses:

At present, the sessions are conducted on every Sunday from 10.30 am to 5.30 pm. At the completion of the course and an evaluative examination, a certificate from BIVA will be awarded to all the successful participants.

Photographs

Operations Related Challenges and Adjustments:

There have been several procedural reforms in the Accounts department under the guidance of the Audit Consultants team. Now, two Chartered Accountants from the *Jha, Yadav and Company* firm, have a permanent presence at Parivaar office since the beginning of this financial year. This has led to strengthen all the accounting practices, smoothening and fastening the transactions minimizing the possibilities of any error.

The use of the accounting software “Tally” has been introduced in the accounts department. Thus all the documentation will be tally based instead of excel-based, which a being used until now. This will help in generating an automatic ‘Receipt and Payment’ account and the ‘Balance Sheet’ account at the end of the financial year.

Infrastructure Related Challenges and Adjustments:

Ever since its inception, the development of infrastructure at Parivaar has been an ongoing process. Along with developing new infrastructure, proper attention has been given on the maintenance of existing infrastructure and complying with all the safety norms.

Some recent Photographs of New building for Amar Bharat Vidyapeeth:

A new floor, above the new Dining Hall building in Parivaar Ashram, has been completed and is fully functional now. It has an area of 4500 sq. ft. and capacity for 120

children. Similar 2nd floor, above it, is under construction and is expected to be completed in next 1 to 2 months of time.

At Sarada Teertha, a new computer lab for girls has been set up. The lab has 28 computers and is fully functional now. However, construction of two new floors of area 3500 sq. ft. each, above the existing control desk building has been delayed due to various factors outside the control of Parivaar. Each floor has a capacity of 100 children. Our infrastructure development team is taking proper steps to complete the project sites as soon as possible. Once completed Parivaar would be able to admit around 200 girl children.

Children related challenges and adjustments:

Internet exposure on each Sundays has been institutionalized. The focus of this class has been on building very basic concepts of what is internet and how it can be used as a source of vast knowledge. The emphasis is more on the practical side of learning. During a session students create their own email ids, navigating through Google Maps, read online news, Wikipedia and Youtube. No wonders that the practical approach has made this initiative successful in such a short duration of time.

News reading, in front of entire school, during morning assembly, is done by two students on daily basis now. This exercise not only aims at helping them develop reading skills and to overcome stage fear but also helps them in keeping abreast with current affairs.

In order to inculcate the importance of discipline and sense of responsibility amongst the students, the decision to make student representatives (monitors) has been implemented. All students have been informed about the roles, responsibilities and duties of student representatives. A democratic process of nominating and selecting their own class representatives was followed to implement this system. A regular, bi-monthly meeting between the students' representatives and the school administration has been planned. This practice will not only help in dynamic resolution of day to day problem areas but also help in strengthening this newly adapted system in school.

Teachers are encouraged to make their classes interesting. The educational videos of *The Khan Academy* are been shared with the teachers. This helps them to structure their lessons in the class. A regular, bi-monthly meeting between the teachers and the school administration has also been planned. This interaction is aimed at problem mapping, idea generation, discussion and implementation of new innovative techniques by participation of teachers. It also aims at building a Team spirit among entire ABV staff.

Health Status

At the time of Admission:

For every child while getting admitted at Parivaar, a file is made where their medical history is kept on record throughout their stay at Parivaar. The file's cover has the following details:

- ✓ Name
- ✓ ID code/ File Number
- ✓ Date of Birth
- ✓ Admission Date
- ✓ Blood Group
- ✓ Child's Photograph

The file has the following components in it:

- ✓ Blood Group/ Rh (D) factor
- ✓ Age
- ✓ Hemoglobin Count
- ✓ HIV

Twice every week, Dr. Moloy Kumar Day, MBBS, makes visits and checks the students who are sick and writes the necessary prescriptions which are then filed. There is a provision for a sick room, which consists of the following:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Beds:
(9 @ Sarada Teertha
12@ Parivaar Ashram) ii. T.V./Indoor Game facilities iii. Fridge iv. Kettle and Induction stove | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Attached bathroom vi. B.P. machine vii. Weighing machine and Scale for height viii. Oxygen Cylinder |
|---|---|

At Parivaar Ashram, instrument to check sugar levels is available. It also includes test strips and glucose ultra point needle.

In cases where there are more sick children than can be accommodated, then either they are adjusted with two sharing a bed or the ones with a mild condition are sent back to their rooms.

Functioning @Medical Room:

When a child complains of fever, the temperature is immediately checked via the thermometer. If the temperature is around 100 C, a paracetamol tablet is usually administered to the child. In case of high fever, anti-biotic is administered. The child is kept under observation for a maximum of three days. If the condition persists, doctor is consulted.

In cases where high fever persists, child's blood sample is sent for testing for the following diseases:

- Malaria
- Malaria Anti-gen
- Typhoid
- TCDC
- Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate (ESR)
- HB count

If the test results show indicate positive for malaria or typhoid, child is immediately taken to the nearest Nursing Home, Kasturi Nursing Home. In instances where the child needs a much better facility for care, she/he is taken to the Calcutta Medical Research. In all other cases, the child is kept in the sick room and given all the required care. A pathologist comes in whenever required to take blood samples.

On Record: Different registers are maintained for the purpose of keeping record.

- Doctor-Patient Record File: It has the name of the patient with the doctor's diagnosis.

- Medicine Record File: Any medicine which is given to the child or staff after being prescribed by the doctor is mentioned in this file.
- Tetanus Vaccines: The names of all the children who have been administered TT is mentioned along with the date of vaccination.
- Admission Record File: Apart from the separate files maintained for each child, an entry is made in this file with the child's name, date of birth and date of admission. This is exclusively for Sarada Teertha.
- Doctor's Visiting File: This is to mark the doctor's attendance. This has the mention of the date of visit, arrival time, patient's name, diagnosis, leaving time and signature.
- Chicken-Pox Preventive: Every year, all the children and staff are administered Malandrinum 200. It is a chicken pox preventive homeopathic medicine. This is done in 3-4 doses. A separate file is maintained for this purpose.

Exclusively at Parivaar Ashram: Following is the list of certain files that are maintained only at Parivaar Ashram.

- Prescription File: Every prescription written by the visiting doctor is maintained in a separate file. This is done on a regular basis. Once the child is sent back to the room, the Brothers are explained what time the child is to be given which medicine.
- Diagnosis File: Two such files are maintained. One, prior to the appointment and one after the consultation. Whenever a child has to be taken to a hospital, and a prior appointment is obtained it is kept on written record in this file. Once the consultation has taken place, details of the next visit, examination fees, consultation fees, medicines prescribed etc. are kept on written record. A soft copy is also maintained.
- Stock File: Medicine is purchased every 3 months. This file keeps a record of the medicine list prepared/ order list and the copy of the bill.
- Medicine File: Medicines which have been prescribed for the sick child and are not available in the stock, has to be bought from the nearby local chemist. The bill is in this separate file.

In Stock: The medical room also keeps stock of medicines and other essentials that are required for day-to-day sickness.

- Ice bags
- Hot water bags
- Weighing Machine
- Height Scale
- Paracetamol tablets (fever/headache)
- Pills for acidity
- Pills for allergies
- Painkillers
- Stethoscope
- Cough-syrups
- Band-aids
- Volini
- Dressing equipments
- TT injections
- Sanitary Pads
- Asthama pumps
- Surgical Instruments

Dealing with Sickness @Parivaar:

- Since the inception of Parivaar in 2003, there have been a few cases of Typhoid and Malaria.
- 75% children have had Chicken Pox wherein, they were given absolute care by the two medical representatives. From feeding them with appropriate food to bathing them in neem water after 21 days, the children have been well taken care off.
- In cases of fractures, the children are taken to the Nursing Home and the X-Ray is taken. After administering the plaster, the children are kept in the sick room, given food and bath till they are completely healed.
- Once any child displays signs of any allergy to any type of food, the respective mothers are notified about it and it is ensured that the child is not given that specific food. In case where any doctor has provided any prescription, it is kept on record and maintained in the file.
- Since Parivaar's inception, there has been one case of a child experiencing mental instability. The child was given proper psychiatric care and medicines, and is now made well.

- Children experiencing Asthma problems are taught how to use the pumps/inhalers.
- Any child experiencing vision troubles, they are duly taken to an eye specialist and given necessary care.
- Young children's milk teeth are plucked manually by the medical representatives and given mouth-wash.
- Children's ears are cleaned with ear-buds on regular intervals.
- Every month, the Mothers and Brothers measure the height and weight of each child. This is then documented at the office.

Dealing with Hospitalization:

- In case of emergency, the child is taken to Kasturi Nursing Home or the Calcutta Medical Research Institute and admitted if required.
- Once the doctor has seen the patient and issued the lists of tests to be done, the seva-vratee accompanying the child informs the Control Desk regarding the same.
- Mr. Vinayak Lohani is then contacted and informed about the case and requirements. Once the permission has been sought, the money is sanctioned from the Office and tests are conducted.
- If the child has been admitted in the pediatric ward, a Mother is left with him/her throughout the hospitalization period. If the duration of hospitalization is long then another mother is sent to take care of the child.
- The medical attendants at Parivaar ensure to visit the child on all days during the visiting hours.
- Parents of the child are informed about the same.
- All the medical expenses are borne by Parivaar.
- Once the child has been discharged, complete care is provided to the child till he/she gets back to normal.

Ambulance:

There is an ambulance each at Parivaar Ashram and Sarada Teertha. The ambulance is equipped with:

- ❖ An oxygen cylinder
- ❖ Surgical Gauze
- ❖ Band-Aid
- ❖ Cotton
- ❖ Volini Spray
- ❖ ORS Powder
- ❖ Pillow etc.

Good Governance and Good Practices:

- ✓ The medical room is completely equipped with the necessary equipments and medicines that might be required in an emergency.
- ✓ Every medicine that is ever prescribed to any child or staff is kept on record.
- ✓ The documents are well maintained and there is a high level of transparency in the functioning of the medical room.
- ✓ The files are properly stacked and all information fed in the files are authorized and duly signed.
- ✓ Each morning, between 7:30am- 8:30am, any of the medical attendants at Parivaar Ashram take a round in every room. They inquire about any sick child or do a follow up of any child under medication.
- ✓ Each evening, before leaving the premises Ms. Tagari Biswas informs and updates the members of the Control Desk regarding the day at Sarada Teertha.
- ✓ It is ensured that the children are given medicines only which has been prescribed.
- ✓ The sick room is swept and cleaned daily, which ensures that proper hygiene is maintained.
- ✓ The T.V. and other indoor games like Carrom Board/Ludo/Chess provided in the sick room is a relief for kids who have to stay there for longer periods.
- ✓ There is a water purifier inside the medical room.
- ✓ When the girls reach puberty, not only are they taught as to why it happens they are even taught how to use the sanitary napkins and the proper method of its disposal.
- ✓ The well maintained files help give a clear picture of every child's medical history while at Parivaar.
- ✓ The ambulance is not only for the purposes of those sick at Parivaar but can also be availed by those residing in the nearby area. Therefore, the presence of a medical attendant and facility of ambulance is also beneficial for outsiders.
- ✓ When any child has a broken bone or any other serious sickness, the parents are informed timely. Although, it is up to them to visit the child. All the expenses are borne by Parivaar.