

Jyoti Program and Activity 2018-19 report



Name of the Organization: Stepping Stone Charitable Society

STEPPING STONE CHARITABLE SOCIETY, is a registered charitable society serving the poor for over 30 years as of date. Having Charity Commission Registration number: F11425 under the BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST ACT (registered on 4/8/1986) and Maharashtra State Reg. No.: Bom 404 1986 G.B.B.S.D. registered under the Society Registration Act XXI of 1860.

R. K. Khanna & Associates, Chartered Accountant, Mumbai is appointed to duly audit and certify the Accounts of every financial year.

Mumbai houses the richest of the rich and the poorest of the poor. Over 54 % of Mumbai's 22 million population lives in slums. Many of these slum dwellers cannot afford basic amenities like medical care, sanitation and a proper education for their children.

Stepping Stone Charitable Society has a proven track record of serving the underprivileged of Mumbai city in particular. At the same time we are aware that forging partnerships with like minded people will enable us to provide extensive care and services where they are needed the most.

Jyoti Project -

Jyoti Kendra, Disha Kendra, Pragati Kendra, Widows help and Covid relief are activities and programs run under the Jyoti project of "Stepping Stones Charitable Society". The Kendras have been serving in 3 slums in Mumbai. So our Kendra feels called to get involved and make a difference in these lives. We are serving the underprivileged, the pitiable conditions of the people and particularly the children caused us to start the first Kendra in the slum of Lal Dongar, Chembur in 1996. Completed almost 5 years of service in the Indira Nagar slum, Kalyan. and about one year in the community centre in Mahul, Chembur. and are 5-6 years we are helping elderly widows from different community

Hundreds have benefited through the Kendra, as we have provided child care, medical assistance, initiatives in education and care to widows.

Jyoti project programs and activities –

- 1. Jyoti Kendra, Chembur**
- 2. Disha Kendra, Kalyan**
- 3. Pragati Kendra, Mahul Chembur**
- 4. Support to the Widows.**

1- Jyoti Samaj Kalyan Kendra, Chembur

An English Nursery . We have an English nursery with a desire to motivate parents to educate their children as well as they can. It is difficult for slum dwelling parents to cross the bridge of educating their children in English, but also to admit the children in other mainstream nurseries because of the high fees, social standing etc. Ours is the first English nursery in these slums which are in the community for the community.

We have been serving the Lal Dongar slum community for over a decade. 2018-19 was our **11th year** of our English nursery. On an average we have served over 25-30 children per year which is quite a lot given the space & the team capacity we have. The children, parents & community continue to be blessed as these little babies start their education with the English Nursery & the younger ones having a safe & healthy environment in the Crèche. Over the years hundreds of children and parents have envisioned a better education for the children and work hard towards making that happen. Hundreds of children have passed through our English Nursery and have been admitted to English speaking schools.

With surveys showing over 53% children are abused and this happens mainly in slum communities, our mission is to protect and care for the children allowing the parents to be tension free as they go to work. The children are fed and cared for, as well as the parents are released to earn more hence improving the living conditions



Disha - She was a child who couldn't focus in class. She would hardly reply to any of the questions asked during class. With love and teaching now she has become very attentive and answers all the questions. She is turning out to be one of the brighter ones.

So year 18-19 we had 25-28 children finished nursery

B- Creche facility - We also serve in the area of creach from 10 plus years now and children from community who has been not cared sufficiently from the age group 10 months to 4 years who would otherwise be home alone or are left at the mercy of the neighbours, are cared for through the day while their parents earn their daily bread. The children play with the team of caretakers and also learn the alphabets, colours, animals etc. Parents are from different vocations such as house maids, daily wage labour, drivers etc. per month. Children are cared for and fed nutritious food. again from last years we have helped and been blessing blessing for numbers of parents and childrens and seen many stories that brings happiness in our hearts and satisfaction because of our work and how children been really grow in good environments and cared for

We had helped around 15-20 children foe whole 12 months for period of 2018-19 As children gets admission and then because of some reason stop and then someone take admission



Rihan - He was ill and unable to talk. He stopped attending crèche for a few days. He is healthy and has begun to communicate well.

Vihaan & Vishan - They are two brothers who come to the Crèche and their mother spoke to us about their father, who drinks and beats her. He doesn't even provide money at home. She has her father in law living at home. With all these problems she decided to keep her kids at the Crèche and work and provide for the family. Now we are in a better situation.

Dhairya – He stays at the Crèche and the Nursery. He would not relate to anyone earlier. His parents had problems between them. The wife's mother in law would not adjust with her and because of that she went to stay with her mother. She even left her job. We consulted them and now the child has opened up and the parents are living together.

C- Counselling Due to massive challenges that these people face they are subject to a high level of physical, mental and emotional stress. The pressure to put food on the table, the husband-wife fights, alcoholism, domestic violence, living in debt, physical illnesses all these and more are challenges they face daily. Our team is available to provide a listening ear and that vital bit of encouragement and counsel.

Most of people who are parents of nursery and creche children's mothers have benefited from counselling so around monthly 15-20 parents we had able to helped

D- Medical assistance: Given the unhygienic conditions and the rampant spread of tuberculosis and HIV- Aids, we have from time to time provided medical care, hospitalisation and medicines.

We had 5-6 people/families for medication



Suresh Tiwari - We have helped he and his wife as they are HIV positive and have counselled and still helping. his wife died but he has been still helped and supported by us .

2. Disha Kendra, Kalyan

This slum where we are working is called Indira Naga, Sidharth nager and some other area which is located in a North Eastern suburb of Mumbai called Kalyan. This slum has an approximate population of 40,000 -45000 people. This slum community mainly consists of different religions and cast people staying mostly muslims, buddhist and hindus

Here we have started work same like chembur jyoti kendra we have work here similar programs from 5 years now



Here we have seen many families and childrens have benefited through our programs and activities

A- Disha English Nursery -

An English Nursery . We have an English nursery that started in 2014 and is almost 4 years old to motivate parents to educate their children as well as they can. It is also difficult for slum dwelling parents to cross the bridge of educating their children in English, but also to admit the children in other mainstream nurseries because of the high fees, social standing etc. here also our is the first English nursery in these slums which are in the community for the community.

We have been serving the kalyan for over 4 years and have seen almost 15 to 18 admissions in the Nursery . Which is quite a lot given the space & the team capacity we have. The children, parents & community continue to be blessed as these little babies start their education with the English Nursery & the younger ones having a safe & healthy environment in the Crèche. Over the years hundreds of children and parents have envisioned a better education for the children and work hard towards making that happen. Hundreds of children have passed through our English Nursery and have been admitted to English speaking schools.

With surveys showing over 53% children are abused and this happens mainly in slum communities, our mission is to protect and care for the children allowing the parents to be tension free as they go to work. The children are fed and cared for, as well as the parents are released to earn more hence improving the living conditions

Anvita:

She has grown in study, especially oral and in writing and is also clever in observation. She also repeats poems and conversation so basically after coming to our nursery she has changed a lot. She also takes care of her things very well. Teacher feel proud about her; she is also a regular at the school.

Akanksha:

She was deaf and dumb girl. We felt like taking her because of her condition. Basically there was no hope for her for schooling. She was there up to October 15 but she used to give attention carefully in writing, she also was doing well in action and was also mixing with other children.



This year we have 17-18 children for 10 months

B- Creche facility - We also serve in the area of creche from 4 years now and children from community who has been not cared sufficiently from the age group 10 months to 4 years who would otherwise be home alone or are left at the mercy of the neighbours, are cared for through the day while their parents earn their daily bread. the family's condition is very diverse and so our creche has helped them by keeping their children in our place and feeding and caring for them. The children play with the team of caretakers and also learn the alphabet, colours, animals etc. Parents are from different vocations such as house maids, daily wage labour, drivers etc. per month. Children are cared for and fed nutritious food. again from last years we have helped and been blessing blessing for numbers of parents and childrens and seen many stories that brings happiness in our hearts and satisfaction because of our work and how children been really grow in good environments and cared for

This year we had around 19-20 for 12 months period (children for age of 6 month to three years)



Ronit: Age 3 years

Ronit, a boy, has been part of Disha for the last two year. He comes from a UP family background ...simple fly. mother wanted to learn some course and driving .so they kept him with us ...she could learn from that time also fly was happy. She also learned two-wheeler driving small so that she can take other children into scooter for school also because of Ronit his elder sister is attached with us and becoming closer to Gospel. His family wanted this boy to be with us for a longer time as he has become decent and the family does not want this boy to come with bad fellowship.

C- Counselling Due to massive challenges that these slum people face they are subject to a high level of physical, mental and emotional stress. The pressure to put food on the table, the husband-wife fights, alcoholism, domestic violence, living in debt, physical illnesses all these and more are challenges they face daily. Our team is available to provide a listening ear and that vital bit of encouragement and counsel.

we have regular session of counselling happening during week time so some of parents whose children is with us in nursery and creche also been benefited of this counselling

we have been counseled around average 20 plus ladies every month and around 100 plus in this year

some families we have help with couples counselling to have to take care of children hygiene and provided then some help

we have taken some ladies for picniic also so they can enjoy life outside of families



D - Kids works -Kids work in kalyan disha has been really exciting stuff that happened from the last 4 years. many childrens we have n touch of them personally

Growing in slum is not been easy because of family background you came from and bad friendship you connect with and that was story of many growing kids

we are involved with these kids from 4 years and some have grown some and still in schools but its really helped them

we used to have weekly activity

on some festivals and summer we have celebration and picnics we have arranged

many of our friends have volunteers for this work

We have helped them in their studies and made sure they life is better and developing there has been 100 plus kids and growing children have been benefited through our programs and activities



E- Education Assistance and Medical assistance - We have helped some families for medical assistance and also for children school have paid fees or paid for books

around 3 to 4 childrens we had helped and 2/3 few for medical helped

3. Pragati Kendra, Mahul Chembur - Similar like Jyoti and Disha work we have started Pragati center this year we are calling Pragati kendra

This settlement has come up in the last 6 years as part of a slum rehabilitation scheme run by the government. The approximate population would be 25,000-30,000 people as more people are placed here.

The Kendra started from 4th September with a crèche / play school. We have number of children and families has been benefited from this year

A- Pragati English Nursery -

An English Nursery . We have an English nursery that started this to motivate parents to educate their children as well as they can. It is also difficult for slum dwelling parents to cross the bridge of educating their children in English, but also to admit the children in other mainstream nurseries because of the high fees, social standing etc. here also our is the first English nursery in these slums which are in the community for the community.

We have been serving the Mahul SRA place since this year and have seen almost 14 to 15 admissions in the Nursery . Which is quite a lot given the space & the team capacity we have. The children, parents & community continue to be blessed as these little babies start their education with the English Nursery & the younger ones having a safe & healthy environment in the Crèche. Over the years hundreds of children and parents have envisioned a better education for the children and work hard towards making that happen. 3 bathes of children have passed through our English Nursery and have been admitted to English speaking schools.

Our mission is to protect and care for the children allowing the parents to be tension free as they go to work. The children are fed and cared for, as well as the parents are released to earn more hence improving the living conditions

We have 15-16 Nursery student attended for 10 months

Many parents have stories about how their child has blessed being in our nursery



B- Creche facility - We also serve in the area of creche in Mahul from this year and children from community who has been not cared sufficiently from the age group 10 months to 4 years who would otherwise be home alone or are left at the mercy of the neighbours, are cared for through the day while their parents earn their daily bread. and family's condition is very diverse and so our creche has helped them by keeping their children in our place and feeding and caring for them. The children play with the team of caretakers we have helped and been blessing blessing for numbers of parents and childrens and seen many stories that brings happiness in our hearts and satisfaction because of our work and how children been really grow in good environments and cared for

We had cared around 17-20 children from community in this year for 12 months



C- Counselling - SRA people who used to live in slum areas but shifted to these SRA buildings there are several challenges these people face they are subject to a high level of physical, mental and emotional stress. The pressure to put food on the table, the husband-wife fights, alcoholism, domestic violence, living in debt, physical illnesses all these and more are challenges they face daily. Our team is available to provide a listening ear and that vital bit of encouragement and counsel. many families we have counselled couples to have to take care of children hygiene and provided them some help

so we had helped around 50-60 womens through counselling in whole year

4. Support to the Widows. From last several 5-6 years we have supporting elderly and needy widows by giving them monthly aids @1000

This is an emerging and real need in the time, having seen in many families their childrens have been left alone and not really looking after their old widows /mothers and relatives - some we have supported do not have children also.

We and team regularly visit them and look care of this elderly every month - we have around 18-20 such widows



Name - Parvati
Age - 69
Work- No work
sometime little
Health- Old age
Address- Mhada vashi naka



Name - Pushpa Uke
Age - 60
Work- selling toiletries
Health - Had surgery on right leg
Address- Mhada vashi naka



Name - Kamalabai
Age - 72
Work- no work
Health- Old age
Address - Dharavi, Sion