

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

PRERNA Social Development & Welfare Society



Brief Yearly Activities conducted by PRERNA

PRERNA Social Development & Welfare Society- 2011-12

“Towards an effective change in the life of underprivileged group of people
especially women and children”

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President's Message

It is my pleasure that **PRERNA Social Development and Welfare Society** contributed a remarkable job during the financial year 2011-2012 towards its aims and objectives. PRERNA was started five years back (during 2006) with limited source of funds to address the issues of underprivileged group of people, especially women and children through better aids. The dedicated & continuous support provided by the donors, good supportive friends and various contributions shared by volunteers from various institutions/groups encourages PRERNA to deliver the quality services to the needy regularly.

Today's complex society, with its myriad political, economic, and social changes, has accelerated migration and led to the displacement of many families because of human conflicts, natural disasters, social upheaval, religious or political persecution, or the search for economic and professional opportunities. Most of these migrated children spend their childhood years working and living on the streets, and have no opportunities for play or school. At present India have a large number of homeless/street children. As the rate of urban poverty grows, there is a parallel increase in the number of child workers competing with the existing disadvantaged population for jobs.

As a responsible person growing up in an urban city like Delhi, I have recognized the growing challenges and the need to create sustainable dialogues and bridges between people. I also realized that it wasn't as simple as that. There are people who care, but don't have the resources they need to be able to stand up and speak out. As we've discovered, there are multiple movements of work happening across the world and within our own country, that most of us would like to be connected to, but aren't.

This is the time when everyone realizes that they need to stand up for what they believe in. It is about recognizing what ignites passion within you, in a manner that nothing else does, and for me that is why everything continues. **There is a need for stronger understanding and ability to negotiate the complexities of differences, which requires us to work together. This begins by creating platforms and accessing shared knowledge** where people can learn more about each other and build a common language, where we can agree to disagree and still provide equity, respect and equality. **PRERNA is doing the basic work to create a common platform to achieve this task.** I refuse to believe that in my lifetime, this is a utopian concept.

During the financial year 2011-2012, PRERNA actively conducted events promoting education of the children of Homeless Community in many ways. PRERNA also concentrating on the empowerment of the parents of these children through Vocational trainings to earn for the day to day livelihood requirements.

With sincere thanks to all donors, well wishers, volunteers, staff, board members and other supporters of PRERNA, I am submitting the Annual Report for the year 2011-2012 for your kind information.



Introduction

PRERNA Social Development and Welfare Society is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), non-profit voluntary organization, engaged in social activities registered under Societies Registration Act – XXI of 1860 with a main objective to improve the quality of life of the underprivileged and marginalized people. We are determined to replace their despair with hope, their fear with security, and their ignorance with knowledge. PRERNA is keenly working for the underprivileged group of people especially women and children of homeless community/street children.

The change created has to be structural, both at larger policy and community levels but must resonate from personal opinions, belief systems and choices made by responsible people in their lives. PRERNA is working to promote and provide qualitative education at free of cost to homeless/street children and communities which are socially and economically deprived. Furthermore this activity helps to bring out the children's latent talents, so that they not only acquire academic learning, but also vocational proficiency, personal character and societal values. They should become self - reliant and responsible citizens. We aim to strengthen responsible people's engagement with policy-making at local, national and regional level.

Vision

“Creating a human friendly society in which every individual can be self dependent and can make their life prestigious. Young people's human rights are realized, their leadership skills are enhanced and they are recognized as powerful change makers & equal stakeholders in society”.

Mission

“To provide better opportunities and alternatives for up-liftment of underprivileged group especially women and children through better aids. To promote, protect and advance young people's human rights by building leadership, and strengthening youth led initiatives and movements.”

Organizational Details:-

Brief Profile of "PRERNA"

S.No.	Type of Description	Details
1	Name of the Organization:	PRERNA Social Development & Welfare Society
2	Address of the Organization	<u>Field office:</u> DDA Community Hall (Barat Ghar), Gujjar Dairy, Gautam Nagar, Near Mother Dairy New Delhi-110 049 (INDIA)
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6	e-mail id	prerna_ngo@yahoo.co.in, info@prerna.org & info@prernango.com
7	Registration no	S-57388
8	Date of Registration	19-December-2006
9	PAN NUMBER	AAABP0490R
10	Details of 80-G:	Yes.
11	Details of 12 (A):	Yes.
12	FCRA Registration	Yes.
13	Credibility Alliance	Accreditation of Desirable Norms

Need of the hour "Education"- a brief background

Socialization of homeless/street Children in India

Only education ensures the enjoyment of childhood and also provides various positive ways/options for future of every individual. Vocational training is the backbone for each and every one to earn money for the day to day livelihood requirements.



The field scenario indicates that majority of street children were boys (71%) and in 8–12 years age group. Incidence of migration was observed and 70.5% of these children lived with their families. Gambling, watching films and television; smoking and drinking, and taking drugs were common modes of entertainment and relaxation for these children.



The results throw light on significant developmental concerns which emerge from the socialization of homeless/street children in India, and draw a parallel with the findings of research studies carried out in different parts of the world to strike common ground for theory building and practice.

If, we are not able to provide these basic initial opportunity, these children will face a lot of vulnerable situations, and start petty theft, pick pocketing, helping to drug smuggling & smack sellers/ smugglers, etc and automatically spoil their life & become as a 'anti-social element' for the society/Govt. PRERNA is continuously contributing its efforts to use and bring out the talent & energy of these children through a channelize way.



Non Formal Education (NFE) for all -- Primary and literacy programs

We all know that Education is the most important part for development of every child. But most of the children in India are not completing the basic primary education programs due to lack of accessibility, awareness, interest in education and due to poverty of their parents. PRERNA is running NFE centers at various places in Delhi namely Bhati Mines, Rajpur Khurd, Gautam Puri, Dayal Singh Colony, Okhla, Yusuf Sarai and Safdarjung fly over. At present there are about more than 485 children in the contact area of our project.

Formal Education.

Education plays most important role in human development and personal empowerment. PRERNA helped many young children to find their path towards school. PRERNA also encourages the children to be clean and stylish. PRERNA provides uniform, school kits, note books etc which very much supportive to the parents of these children. The smile of the homeless children shows lot of confidence and encouragement for a bright future.





With the cooperation of school administration and the parents of homeless children, a special drives were organized for new admissions in formal school at the nearby areas i.e. Lodhi Road colony, Safdarjung airport, Kotla Mubarakpur and Kidwai Nagar.

Many working girls were assisted free of cost for their entrance and registration in open schooling admission in the class 10th and 12th. Many of these Working youths have passed 10th standard and have a strong desire to continue their education. These girls are working as house maid in various areas of Delhi and they belongs to the States of Bihar, Chhatisgarh, Orissa etc.



Awareness programme

Malaria, Dengue & Chikunguniya

To create awareness on the malaria, dengue and chikunguniya disease, several awareness campaigns have been organized at various slums/clusters etc during the month of September & October, 2011. Awareness to keep the environment clean and dispose of the wastes as well as to clean the stagnant water around the living places were also made through 'Nukkad Natak'. Bleaching and spraying the area to kill the larva were also organized. 'Kala Hit' Mosquito spray were distributed among the slum population of urban areas and homeless community in Delhi free of cost.



Day Care Centre for children and elderly

PRERNA DAY CARE CENTER for elderly people established on 23rd February 2007 at community hall in Gautam Nagar, New Delhi & regular activities are going on. PRERNA always reaching the elderly people and assisted them for getting financial help (old age, widows, and divorcee pension), health related issues, entertainment, reading and for emotional security. Medical checkup camps twice a month were being conducted for routine health related issues. Medicines for free of cost were also provided to the members.

Every Tuesday approx. 25 to 35 elderly people get together at 11:00 am to 1:30 pm and plays games, antakashree, bhajan , and share their experiences with each other.

PRERNA also provides facilities of indoor games and fair number of reading material to make them engage apart from giving a common platform to discuss different facet of life and their experiences.

The centre provides number of games such as chess, chopad, carom board and playing cards. Library of our centre contain a bulk of religious books and books related to various diseases which are common in old age. Apart from books, magazines and three daily newspapers are also provided to the members.



Basic computer training is also provided to the elderly. Festivals of all types were celebrated with the active participation of elderly people.

Shelter home for Homeless

Advocating for the Rights of Urban Homeless Citizens

As per reports, 90 per cent of shortfall housing facility affects the EWS (Economically Weaker Sections) and LIG (Lower Income Group) sections. To cover the shortages of shelter for the slum dwellers and homeless citizens, PRERNA is working with Delhi Government towards improving the living conditions of the Homeless Citizens, and also to ensures well-equipped shelters for them. The project's initiatives include shelter management, vocational training programmes, healthcare camps and the management of community kitchens.

Shelter Management

During the year 2011-12, PRERNA manages two shelters namely Shelter at Safdarjung airport fly over and one permanent shelter at Mata Sunday Road especially for challenged persons. **During the winter of 2011-12, the tent shelters were replaced by semi-permanent shelters under Govt. project** which provided a lot of hope among the NGOs to do a variety of activities. A livelihood training programme (tailoring & jewelry making) were conducted for the homeless community women and challenged persons. The shelter is proposed to be converted as a model shelter, with all essential facilities, children's education and recreation, livelihood trainings and cooperatives and a focus on individual development.



Community Kitchen

PRERNA with the support of ISCON, provided dinner at the shelter home situated inside AIIMS Hospital for at least 400-500 patients and their attendants daily. Now, this activity is going on as a regular activity at the AIIMS Gate from ring road side.



Aadhar card

PRERNA facilitates the issuance of Aadhar cards for all homeless people in the project area. Initiatives for issuance of voter ID Cards, Homeless Cards (Delhi Government) opening of Bank account were taken as a welfare measure of homeless community.



Clothe distribution

PRERNA volunteers regularly providing the used/old clothe for distribution to the needy people. PRERNA regularly distributed the clothe donated by volunteers and playing items etc among the homeless community and encourages them to be a prestigious citizen of India.



Photo story of changes in the attitudes of homeless children

The eyes and facial expression of the homeless children are clearly shows their attitudes at the initial stage and how it was changed by the effort of PRERNA staff and volunteers.



Capacity Building of Urban Homeless children

Due to the effort of PRERNA, the homeless children are enjoying the life with lot of confidence. They are learning the manners and courtesy, good behaviors and facing the world with confidence. Prerna always encourages the children by distributing motivational gifts to the achievers/participants of every event.



Family Counseling centre & Community meeting

Gender Equity and Women Empowerment

PRERNA strongly believes that women should have equal socio-economic, cultural and political opportunities as men. At the formal schools, a successful attempt was made to achieve an enrollment ratio of 50:50 for both genders. We also work towards gender equity in which women have enhanced socio-cultural, economic and political opportunities, enabling them to take crucial decisions which affect them and their families.

Strategy

The following methodologies and approaches will be used in order to achieve the objectives of the Gender Equity sector:

- Continuation of the process to provide market oriented skill training to women and adolescent girls.
- Commitment to help mothers of children, who are attending educational classes, and involve them in saving, thrift and credit, skill training and income generation activities.
- Integration of adult literacy with skill training and income generation or making literacy a precondition for skill training and income generation activities.
- Development of leadership within the communities and linking them with government and non-government facilities.

Generation of awareness among common people through involving women from project locations.

Health is indeed Wealth

“Some girls in homeless community are thinking that Menstruation is a disease they are suffering from and that it has no cure”. PRERNA aims to educate young adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years on menstrual hygiene.

Initially shy to open up, the girls and even their mothers are now sharing the problems faced and are seeking solutions to them. However it will take more time to break through the traditional mindsets and get the girls to accept Menarche as a normal and IMPORTANT part of their life. No doubt that the knowledge will multiply manifold and the girls share the learning with their peers. The net outcome will be an aware and trained population of women and girls who will be encouraged to address their health needs and become rich as.



Vocational Training

Training Activities

Vocational training programme was conceived with a view to address the specific needs of the youth and this has been achieved through their complete involvement and active participation at all stages of the programme.

The main aim of the value formation programme is to develop human resource and inculcate assertiveness and confidence amongst the youth for them to be decisive and work independently and in unison. The programme also targets at bringing out hidden creativity, communication skills and leadership quality in the community. These are achieved through recreational activities like dance, music and sports. Regular competition cum coaching classes were also conducted for drawing. Awareness camps were held on prevention of early marriage, school dropouts and adolescent health. Exposure visits are also organized for community children.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Education alone cannot bring changes unless there is sufficient scope for employment and income generation opportunities. PRERNA facilitated the self-employment process to make the poor men and women economically self-reliant and help them attain a respectable social standing.



Women's empowerment and formation of SHG

PRERNA encouraged the poor to build basic groups of SHG's so that they can fight against the forces of under development and poverty. PRERNA offered various human and skill development training to the homeless community to build their capacity and raise their level of awareness so that they can become the active participants in their own community development. Several efforts were taken during this period for enhancing the level of consciousness to fight for their rights, water, shelter and development.



In support to that, generating income for the family, women played an important role, which PRERNA always encouraged for implementation. Beside that, PRERNA worked diligently to reduce gender disparity at its own home and in the society at large. In all spare of PRERNA activities women became the primary focus. Through development of self-help group, awareness raising, capacity building training and ensuring of participation in the decision making process and demand for access of development funds from the state for the community is the activities of PRERNA to empower women.

All the children/adult of 12-18 years old (who are not willing to join regular school) are encouraged to attend technical education for skill development on different trade like tailoring, jewelry making and to prepare handmade house hold materials etc.

National and Regional Festival Celebration

As usual, PRERNA celebrated 15th August, 2011 celebration with the children of homeless community. During the celebration gifts were distributed to the parents of the regular school going children. This motivates the parents and children to attend regular school.



The children's day was also celebrated with the homeless children on 14.11.2011. On that day children of homeless community signed a greeting card for the Chief Minister of Delhi which was handed over to the CM Delhi through MNGO for Homeless community later on.



Health Programme

Joint Medical camp

PRERNA believes that the concurrent development of preventive and pro-motive health is crucial to the well-being of those who are unable to afford regular health care. Thus PRERNA launched the joint Community Health care program, focusing on preventive and pro-motive health among the homeless community.



Providing access to health care, encouraging a health seeking behaviour among the people & strengthening the existing health delivery mechanisms in the target homeless community is part of the health sector strategy followed by PRERNA.

Basic clinical investigation facilities were provided which encompasses the tests for Haemoglobin, Blood Group, Urine Pregnancy Test, Urine, Albumin sugar, etc. The HRC Mobile health unit is also a classic example of Health on Wheels.

Health & Environment Services

PRERNA initiated health education, primary and secondary health care and health infrastructure development activities, such as conducting of health awareness campaign, medical camps and distribution of de-worming tablets to control intestinal parasite for school going children in our project area. PRERNA also tried to provide safe drinking water and good health campaign for the homeless community.

Sanitary & need of basic amenities

Poor sanitation and lack of basic amenities (latrine) are another big problem and challenges in the homeless community. 90% of the homeless community does not have the basic amenities (latrine). People use open field for the defecation, which are the major causes for fesses-to-mouth and other water borne and communicable diseases. In order to prevent them, PRERNA with the Delhi Govt. has started providing drinking water & latrines for each Homeless community. Awareness has resulted in better health & hygiene situation in the community.

Safe drinking water

Safe drinking water is the main problem in most of the areas where homeless community is residing. Due to non availability of safe drinking water, women and children spend most of their time to fetch drinking water from distance as a result there is high rate of school absentees. Due to lack of safe and clean drinking water people suffers from severe water born diseases and epidemic is the common phenomenon in these community. There are no adequate provisions for drinking water and there is a lot of effort is required to provide required safe and clean water for everybody.



But if awareness is created on the water management many of the problems can be solved. Therefore, PRERNA took initiative to raise awareness programme at all level to save water, proper use of water and harvest rainwater so that water problems can be solved. Group discussion in the community, learning through schools for the children has become an effective tool.

Since majority of the people are poor and not able to mobilize their resources other than human resource, PRERNA approached Delhi Water Board for regular supply of drinking water to these community so that people have access of drinking water easily.

Garbage disposal

Garbage disposal of the city is a continuous problem of the urban people including the urban poor because Municipality is not able to reach everywhere for disposal of garbage timely, therefore the environment of the city became unbearable. PRERNA initiated movement to clean the local area time to time. PRERNA began the activities of raising awareness among the citizens of homeless community for proper use of waste bins and disposal of garbage, at the same time joined hand with the municipality for disposal of garbage.

HIV/AIDS Awareness

HIV/AIDS is a dreadful disease which is incurable but it can be prevented. HIV/AIDS is one of the most challenging public health problems ever faced by the country. PRERNA regularly making awareness on the sexually transmitted diseases and its precautionary measures. Special video clips and illustration were shown to the adult and women in the community time to time. Awareness programmes are also conducted at the shelters where homeless men are residing. We have worked to raise HIV/AIDS awareness in two border posts where truck drivers regularly stop for completing inter-State (Badar Pur Border) Chungi, filling gas, diesel and rest & refreshments. The awareness materials were distributed through the local shops especially in the Dabhaas where the drivers keep in touch regularly.

Picnic & outings

A day at the roots

To motivate the homeless children, PRERNA organized a get-to-gather meeting between the homeless children and police personnel. During the programme, children of homeless community performed cultural activities and participating in drawing competition. The winners of the competitions were awarded suitably through the police personnel which make the police personnel friendly with homeless children.



As an entertainment activity playing games with the homeless children were also conducted. Educational book and instruments were distributed to all the homeless children during these occasions.





Activity on Environment

ECO FRIENDLY IS THE WAY WE DO IT...“CLEAN DIWALI GREEN DIWALI”



This was the motto of the PRERNA students. As the whole world was busy preparing for Diwali, PRERNA children were busy spreading the “CLEAN DIWALI GREEN DIWALI” messages in their community.

The students made attractive and informative posters with which they walked around the community. At many place they stopped to educate the children about the ill effects of bursting crackers. The presentation of colorful and attractive slogans allured the people, bringing out great amount of responsibility.

Children made beautiful cards for their teachers in order to wish them happy and prosperous Diwali. Sweets and chocolates were distributed to all the community on the occasion of Diwali.

SHG formed by challenged persons at Shelter Home at MS Road

PRERNA strongly believes that persons with special abilities could also lead a normal life like their counterparts if they have effective access to services like early identification, intervention, education, vocational training, employment opportunities and the availability of aids and appliances. Thus caring persons with special abilities became a part of PRERNA from the starting. The SHG formed by the challenged persons at Mata Sundry Road actively involved in preparation of house hold material by using the waste paper etc. However, the marketing and motivating factors are very crucial points to develop/promote this kind of activities. Prerna seriously working to run a shelter cum vocational training center for the challenged persons to earn for their livelihood.



Readers are kindly support us to provide the requisite help to the needy.

FACTS OF HOMELESS/STREET CHILDREN & CONCERNS

Vulnerability of Homeless and Street Children- facts

The hidden and isolated nature of homeless/street children makes accurate statistics difficult to gather. Street/homeless children in India may be homeless because their family is homeless through poverty or migration, or because they have been abandoned, orphaned or have run away. It is not unusual to see whole families living on the sidewalks of any city, or rows of individual children sleeping around the railway station. Homeless children have the odds stacked against them. They are exposed to the elements, have an uncertain supply of food, are likely to miss out on education and medical treatment, and are at high risk of suffering addiction, abuse and illness. A single child alone on the streets is especially vulnerable.

Who are considered Homeless and Street Children?

A **Homeless and Street** child is “any girl or boy who has not reached adulthood, for whom the street (in the widest sense of the word, including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland, etc.) has become his or her habitual abode and/or source of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, directed, and supervised by responsible adults.”

US AID has divided Homeless and Street Children into Four Categories

- A **'Child of the Streets'**: Children who have no home but the streets, and no family support. They move from place to place, living in shelters and abandoned buildings.
- A **'Child on the street'**: Children who visit their families regularly and might even return every night to sleep at home, but spends most days and some nights on the street because of poverty, overcrowding, sexual or physical abuse at home.
- **Part of a Street Family**: These children live on sidewalks or city squares with the rest of their families. They may be displaced due to poverty, wars, or natural disasters. The families often live a nomadic life, carrying their possessions with them. Children in this case often work on the streets with other members of their families.
- **In Institutionalized Care**: Children in this situation come from a situation of homelessness and are at risk of returning to a life on the street.

Some facts of Homeless and Street Children and the Effects of Street & Homeless Life

- **100 million** children living in the streets **in the world**.
- **Approx 18 million** homeless/street children in **India (boys aged 10 to 14)**.
- Many **girls live on the streets** (“useful” in taking care of **younger siblings and cooking**).
- **Girls trafficking** for **commercial sexual exploitation** or other forms of **child labor**.
- International indifference to the problem has led to **continual neglect and abuse** of these children.
- Children who **run away from home** or children's institutions frequently **end up on the street**.
- In several areas of the world, **disabled children** are commonly abandoned, particularly in developing countries.
- In addition, **refugee children** of armed conflict areas, children separated from their families for long periods of time,
- **AIDS orphans**, repeatedly find nowhere to go but the streets.
- Extremely detrimental effects on children, **unstable lifestyles, lack of medical care, and inadequate living conditions** increase young people's susceptibility to **chronic illnesses** such as respiratory or ear infections, gastrointestinal disorders, and sexually-transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS.
- **Enticed by adults** and older youth into selling drugs, stealing, and prostitution.
- **Drug use**, use psychoactive substances, including medicines, alcohol, cigarettes, heroin, cannabis, and readily available industrial products such as shoe glue.
- The **mental, social and emotional growth of children are affected** by their nomadic lifestyles and the way in which they are chastised by authorities who constantly expel them from their temporary homes such as doorways, park benches, and railway platforms.
- **Lack security, protection, and hope**, and continue to face a deep-rooted **negative stigma** about homelessness.
- Some **refuse to speak** for months.
- Often **feel guilty** and **blame themselves** for their mistreatment. Such damage can take **years to recover** from in even the most loving of environments; on the streets **it may never heal**.
- A large proportion of the boys and girls in **homes have suffered abuse**. In addition to fulfilling their material needs.
- And, more than anything else, they **lack love** and **emotionally scarred** & there is a **requirement of a warm and caring atmosphere**.
- Common job is **rag-picking, collect recyclable material**.
- Rag-pickers can be seen alongside pigs and dogs searching through trash heaps on their hands and knees.
- Other common jobs are collecting firewood, tending to animals, street vending, dyeing cloth, begging, prostitution and domestic labour.
- Children that work are not only subject to the strains and hazards of their labour,
- **denied the education or training that could enable them to escape the poverty trap**.
- In Indian Society **females are often discriminated against**. The problem is worse in street/homeless community than others.
- **Gender discrimination** is particularly evident in education where boys are more likely to attend school and to do so for more years.
- Many parents and children **consider education for girls to be a waste of time**, especially when the child can instead be working or performing domestic chores.
- **Child Marriage** is another way in which girls are disadvantaged. In addition to limiting educational possibilities and stunting personal development, **early marriage carries health risks**.
- A **girl under 15 is five times more likely to die during pregnancy** than a woman in her twenties; her child is also more likely to die.
- **Poor health** is a chronic problem for street/homeless children. Half of all children in India are **malnourished**, but for street/homeless children the proportion is much higher.
- **Susceptible to disease**, they are also unlikely to be vaccinated or receive medical treatment.
- **Only two in three Indian street/homeless children** have been vaccinated against TB, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Measles;
- only **one in ten** against **Hepatitis B**.

- Most street/homeless children have **not been vaccinated at all**.
- They usually **cannot afford**, and **do not trust, doctors or medicines**.
- Child laborers suffer from exhaustion, injury, exposure to dangerous chemicals, plus muscle and bone afflictions.

Poverty

Poverty is the primary cause of the street/homeless children crisis. Poverty dumps a crowd of problems onto a child. Not only do these problems cause immediate suffering, they also conspire to **keep the child poor throughout his/her life**. In order to survive, a poor child in India will **probably be forced to sacrifice education and training; without skills the child will, as an adult, remain at the bottom of the economic heap**.

Protecting Children

Many governments, nongovernmental organizations, and members of civil society around the world have increased their attention on homeless and street children as the number of this disenfranchised population continues to grow dramatically. Nonetheless, more action is necessary. Most importantly, as a result of adverse economic conditions in many countries, **an international plan to provide basic housing needs to be developed**.

On a local and regional level, initiatives have been taken to assist homeless/ street children, often through shelters. Many shelters have programs designed to provide safety, healthcare, counseling, education, vocational training, legal aid, and other social services. Some shelters also provide regular individual contact, offering much-needed love and care.

Youth savings programs

Youth savings programs have been successful in mobilizing youth participation and positive savings performance. Evidence suggests that there is demand for youth savings products and services. Additionally, evidence suggests that youth—regardless of income, gender, age, religion, parental status, and marital status, and other personal characteristics—want to and do save.

Get Involved

- **PRERNA provides non-formal education** to ensure that working children get **at least a basic education**. We nurture community support for our NFE centers and seek to mainstream suitable children into the Government education system. We also provide practical vocational training where older children can learn skills while also earning some money.
- **The root causes of poverty are beyond a single NGO's power to change**, but PRERNA believes in helping where it can. Homeless/street shelters provide some education, as does mainstreaming of children into government schools and offering scholarships to private schools.
- **Vocational training is the backbone for each and every one to earn for day to day livelihood**. Vocational training for youth is an integral part of social work that we have been doing from the starting. We have now succeeded in strengthening our activities in this field. This is particularly relevant in the context of children/youth who did not have the opportunity to complete their education or learn useful skills for making them profitably self employed and able to stand on their own feet. We are conducting Vocational training programmes covering a broad range of subjects from **computer training, Cutting & tailoring, Embroidery, Cooking, Painting, Mobile Repairing, Electrical, Greeting Card Making, candle making and Driving through Maruti Driving School, Delhi etc.** PRERNA has also been active in promoting Child Rights.

- **Vocational training centers are the pragmatic, but powerful tool to assist youth in escaping the poverty trap.** Youth at these centers learnt the required/interested skills through which proved more valuable to them than additional formal schooling. The money youth earn at these centers alleviates some of their poverty, and encourages the youth to continue the study.
- **We are getting a lot of problems/issues in providing the basic education through 'Hindi' medium especially for the children of homeless community and street children. We are trying to identify the correct educational tools to teach these children with good standard.** As a responsible NGO, we want to do something **to achieve 100% education of all children of homeless community and street children in Delhi, Delhi NCR as well as all over India and empowering youth and homeless community.**

Dream of Prerna

PRERNA is primly working with "Homeless Community". During the field work and interaction with the homeless community, it is **strongly felt** that there is a need of a '**compact shelter for children of homeless community**'. It was noticed that many children **who are dependent on their relatives** (without parents either one or both) as well as the **children whose parents are not able to provide proper education to their children**, are very keen to learn. However, their living atmosphere does not allow/ motivate the children for regular Education and they are not able to give due priority and attention to access the requisite Education/health care. We are getting success through the non-formal education (Non Formal Education) in motivating the children for their Formal Education in regular school. However, a '**compact shelter for children of homeless community**' will give more opportunity /good atmosphere for regular education of these children through which we may send these children in various higher education and various jobs.

Prerna request

If you are interested in helping street and homeless children, you can volunteer to work in shelters and other programs in your area, or donate funds or supplies to organizations that work with street youth. Finally, you can raise awareness of this issue by educating yourself, your peers, colleagues, students, teachers, family members, and others around you interested in this issue.

Prerna's Future Planning & needs-

- **"Compact shelter"** for children of street/homeless community;
- **"Touch screen computers"** for the children of street/homeless community;
- **"Mobile Education Van"** for street/homeless community at many locations;
- Volunteers for running **"Study Points"** from all over India;
- **Youth (unemployed) data collection, providing Youth vocational training and their placement** at suitable places;
- **"Blood donors"** from all over India;
- **Working partners** to address Homeless/street children issues – www.homelessindian.com



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