



SNEHA CARE HOME AND SHINING STAR SCHOOL

PROVIDING SUPPORT AND CARE FOR CHILDREN LIVING WITH HIV
AN INITIATIVE OF CAMILLIANS-INDIA UNDER SNEHA CHARITABLE TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT 2011-12

ABOUT THE CENTRE

Sneha Care Home and Shining Star School, of Sneha Charitable Trust owned by Camillians-India, is a residential care facility for orphaned and partially orphaned children living with HIV. It's an attempt to comprehensively address the multiple issues of HIV infected children to prepare them for productive and constructive lives by providing them with protection from exploitation, abuse, violence and discrimination in the absence of their near and dear ones. In a nurturing environment, children are provided with educational and recreational opportunities, adequate nutrition and healthcare, and psychosocial support. Our aim is to build responsible adults through 'Value Education' and aptitude-based skill development.



GOAL

To ensure quality of life for the CLHIV by comprehensively addressing their physical and psychological needs through health, educational and psycho-social support.

VISION AND MISSION

Sneha Care Home and Shining Star School endeavour to produce successful, responsible, confident and creative human beings by creating a happy, caring, and stimulating environment where values blend with academics, where skill development is aptitude-based, and where special needs are addressed through individual attention.

MOTTO

Inspiring buds to bloom and blossom



DIRECTOR SPEAKS

Sneha Care Home has completed four years and is moving forward with new thrust and enthusiasm. The smiles on the faces of our children are a testimony of the difference we could make to their lives. The confidence they display gives us hope to look to the future with confidence and courage. As we move into the fifth year, we are aware of the increasing demands and challenges that are ahead of us. Even when our resources are limited and are unpredictable, we are touched by the overwhelming support of people from all walks of life to keep the program running and look to the future with hope. From the beginning of the program to this day God has been guiding us and blessing us to bring more smiles into their faces. Often these blessings came through you, our beloved supporters, benefactors, collaborators and friends. As we present to you this annual report, I thank you on behalf of all our children and Sneha Care Team for journeying with us and dreaming with us. As we now step into the development of the Adolescent phase we look forward to your continued support and prayers. May the Lord help us to continue the good work we have begun to its fruitful completion.



Fr. Mathew Perumpil M.I.
Director, Sneha Care Home

STATISTICS OF CHILDREN (2011- 2012)

TOTAL NO. OF CHILDREN	100
No. of Boys	57
No. of Girls	43
Siblings	12

PARENTAL STATUS	
Orphans	46
Boys	24
Girls	22
Single parents	46
Boys	28
Girls	18
Maternal Orphans	09
Paternal Orphans	37
Both alive	08

Kolar Outreach Programme	50
Siblings Care Programme	106



DISTRICTS	NO. OF CHILDREN
Bidar	25
Kolar	20
Bangalore	5
Chitradurga	3
Belgaum	9
Shimoga	6
Haveri	2
Ramnagar	4
Gulbarga	9
Udupi	1
Chikmangalore	2
Dharwad	1
Koppal	1
Kodagu	2
Bijapur	1
Solapur	1
Chikballapur	2
Hoskote	1
Mysore	1
Raichur	2
Davengere	2
Total children	100

THE ACADEMIC PROGRAMME- SHINING STAR SCHOOL

Sneha Care Home strives to provide our children with an individualized learning opportunity and help them learn things suitable for their individual aptitude and intelligence. Therefore our Academic programme is a blend of academics, Value Education and co-curricular activities. The motto of our Academic Programme is 'educate ad vitem' or 'educate for life'.

We teach them three languages, English, Kannada and Hindi as well as Science, maths and social science. We have classes five days of the week and the weekends are set apart for conducting various skill trainings and co-curricular activities. In order to have this flexibility in curriculum we are following the National Institute of Open Schooling System (NIOS) and we prepare the children in that line for the NIOS examination in the future.

Assessments are conducted every three months along with weekly tests. The children's performance and the teaching methodology are assessed during this time and strategic changes are made accordingly.

Additionally we teach Value education by following the 'Living Value Education programme'. As such, we have a value of the

month and weekly sub values. We talk to children about these values and conduct activities to teach them about these values.

As part of the academic programme, we have also introduced projects, a process of comprehensively learning about a concept or phenomenon, through instructions, group activities, observations and other diverse activities. This programme also aims to improve the general knowledge of the children. Thirdly it focuses on building group dynamism and strengthening teacher-student relationships by working together.

Integration of co-curricular activities along with education is a salient feature of our education programme. Based on individual aptitude and interest, we provide our children with computer training, music, art, dance classes, and sports. We also provide them with platforms to showcase their talents through organizing monthly arts and sports week, monthly birthday celebrations and special day celebrations. In the activity department there are three clubs: the green club takes care of the vegetation in the campus; the flower club takes care of the flower garden; the pet club takes care of the pet animals. We also have four houses with these we conduct different activities.

INNOVATIONS

FAMILY INTEGRATION

The efforts of Sneha Care Home to connect all children to their families, relatives, extended family members and community at large has become a successful endeavour.

The family gatherings organized by Sneha Care Home on October 1 2011, before our children went for their Dasara holidays and on 29, April, 2012, before the Summer holidays witnessed a large number of family members turning up for the event and being extremely interested in the welfare of their children at Sneha Care Home. These gatherings paved the way for creating a bond and building rapport between Sneha Care Home team and the families, to ensure that we share a mutual and collective responsibility for the welfare and healthy growth of our children. During these occasions we also collected feedback from the parents using various modes.

As a result of these efforts, unlike other years, all our 100 children went home during the Summer holidays.

KOLAR OUTREACH PROGRAMME FOR CLHIV IN THE COMMUNITY

With the aim of replicating some of our learnings and experiences in the community setting we began the Kolar Community Outreach Programme for the children infected and affected by HIV, last year. The goal of this attempt was to enhance the quality of life of these children, to address their traumas, build their self esteem and confidence, recognise their aptitude and

develop their skills, and make them independent citizens of the country.

We wanted to link them to all the resources and government schemes available for them. This year the programme took a new leap as we were able to make a comprehensive database of 52 CLHIV and 200 children affected by HIV in Kolar district and frequently follow them up. We conducted two assessment camps for them; one from October 10- 13 2011 for three days and another camp from 15 May 2012 to 20 May 2012 for five days. Furthermore, we also organized a camp for them in the community.

During the camp we conducted clinical assessment and evaluation along with the assessment of their psycho-social needs and other issues of the children. Besides them, various activities and informative sessions were organized by renowned resource persons. The outreach programme paved way for helping many children with chronic health issues from the community being diagnosed and receive adequate access to health facilities. Five children, who were with us in this programme, were absorbed to Sneha Care Home.



HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Health Care Management of children is a prime focus in Sneha Care Home. Through Health Care Management we focus on promotive and preventive health care of children. We are assisted by St. John's pediatric department specially HIV pediatric clinic to effectively manage clinical care of the children.

Children enjoy good health through these interventions and we are able to prevent hospital admission through this effects.

PSYCHO-SOCIAL DEPARTMENT

Psycho-social department of Sneha Care Home strives for relieving children of their traumas and sorting out their behavioural issues and helping them to grow up with good self image and self confidence. We try to achieve these things through individual and group counselling, peer group interventions, life skill education, motivational classes and disclosure. In order to assess the behavioural issues of the children the department conducts strength and difficult questionnaire (SDQ).

DATA MANAGEMENT

With the purpose of monitoring and evaluating the programme we capture and manage the data using two softwares. In order to assess the overall programme we use the Homelink Software after having customised the software into our setting. Clinical data captured through Epi.info. Both these softwares have been very useful in monitoring and managing the data for researches.



VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME

Sneha Care Home has a well established volunteer programme. We have three categories of volunteers: local volunteers, foreign volunteers and students. We have a volunteer application form which they have to fill before joining Sneha Care Home. We assess the application, and if it suits mutual interests we allow them to volunteer with us. About 25 volunteers of various categories, joined us at different times during the year.

Local volunteers are people from the nearby places who volunteer in our centre. Most often they are not regular volunteers. They come on dates, fixed on mutual agreement. They are mostly engaged in skill trainings like painting, music, dance, computer and communication skills and holding motivational and personality development classes.

Foreign volunteers join us through direct contact or sent by

volunteer agencies. FSL, an agency, that promotes volunteers, regularly sends foreign volunteers to our centre. They stay with us for longer durations. They are engaged in assisting our teachers, giving individual focussed teaching for children who have difficulty in learning, and coaching in extra-curricular activities.

Students from Social Science disciplines often intern with us as part of their education programme. They include Indian students as well as foreign students. Students from various colleges in India, Students of The International School Bangalore, and foreign students who are part of the USAC programme of the Christ University, volunteered with us last year. They are engaged in learning about various aspects of our programme and skill training for our children.

SNEHA CARE HOME AS A LEARNING SITE

Sneha Care Home has been recognised and approved as a learning site by the Government of Karnataka (KSAPS). The centre will provide learning opportunity for those who are working with CLHIV. Last year various organisations and institutions visited our centre (about 600 people) for exposure and learning. Sneha Care Home is also approved and registered under JJ Act the Government of Karnataka. (Reg. No.: KA180016DCWP).



GLANCE THROUGH THE MAJOR EVENTS

3RD ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sneha Care Home celebrated its 3rd anniversary on July 14th, 2011 at Snehadaan Campus, Bangalore. Rt. Rev. Dr. Bernard Moras, Arch Bishop of Bangalore, graced the occasion with his presence. The focus of the celebration was a spectacular cultural programme performed by the children. Sneha Care Home also felicitated and honoured Sr. Mariambika, who has been rendering service as Clinical Co-ordinator from the inception and was transferred for Andhra Mission. The Foundation stone for Snehagram, the adolescent phase of Sneha Care Home Programme was blessed and the Annual Report of Sneha Care Home was released on this occasion.



CHAMPION IN ME - 2011

Champion In Me, a customized arts and sports event, conducted annually by Sneha Care Home for children living with HIV in the state of Karnataka was held with much ceremony, for the third time on 3rd and 4th of December. More than 350 children from different care centres for CLHIV, participated in the event.

The first day was multihued as the arts events were held on this day. Along with 'Champion In Me' arts and sports events Sneha Care Home in collaboration with Bangalore Schools Sports Foundation organized 'Champion in Me 5 k Run 2011' for the public on 4 December 2011, at Kanteerava Stadium. The meet was flagged off by Robin Uthappa the Indian Cricket Player, Ashwini Nachappa celebrated National Athlete and Raghu Mukherji the youth icon Actor. Around 750 people participated in the run.

Following the run, Champion in me sports meet for children living with HIV was held at the same venue. The event was inaugurated by Mr. Pranob Mohanty Joint Commissioner, and the sports meet was declared open by Mr. Ashish Ballal, former National Hockey Captain. In the Evening the valedictory function was conducted and prizes were distributed by Mr. Honnappa National Kabaddi Player and Dr. Reynold Washington, Director, KHPT.



'CLOSING THE GAP'- FORMAL CLOSURE OF USAID SUPPORTED SAMASTHA PROJECT

USAID supported SAMASTHA project which brought in revolutionary changes in the HIV care and support services in Karnataka and coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh formally ended on March 28, 2012

On the same date, a USAID team under the leadership of Ms. Kerry Pelzman, Director, Health, Population and Nutrition, USAID India visited Snehadaan and Sneha Care Home. The team interacted with the staff and children of Sneha Care Home.

During the final event to mark the accomplishments of the Samastha Project children of Sneha Care Home performed a thematic dance which aptly suited the theme of the event, 'Celebrate Life'.

USAID TEAM VISIT ON APRIL, 12, 2012

A high profile team consisting of Mr. Sean Carrol, USAID/Washington Chief Operating officer, Mr. Bill Hammink, Director, USAID/India, Ms. Elizabeth Haytmanek, USAID/India, and Mr. Sanjay Kapur, USAID/India visited Sneha Care Home on April 12, 2012. The children took the team around the campus and explained the details of the programme to the visitors.



RAINBOW SUMMER CAMP-2012

Rainbow Summer Camp is a supervised, fun-filled, activity-based programme for children, conducted annually at Sneha Care Home. Rainbow Camp-2012, held from 29 May 2012 to 2 June 2012 was a unique experience with lot of fun and frolic. The event was made more colourful with the presence of 8 students from United World College, Wales around this time. Major highlights of the week-long celebration included a session on Waste management by Daily Dump, a mock fire drill by the nearest fire station, a session on model design, a magic show and a camp fire to end the camp.



SPECIAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

Sneha Care Home celebrated all important national and regional festivals with their traditional flavours. This was done to ensure the children did not miss festivities which they would have celebrated if they were at home.



FUND RAISING EVENTS

STARRY NIGHT 2011

Starry Night is an annual fundraising Christmas dinner organized by Sneha Care Home. Conceptually it is a Christmas celebration promoting the stars of Sneha Care Home. The principal aim of this celebration is to bring together the well wishers, friends, benefactors and people closely associated with Sneha Care Home for a common joint celebration with the children and staff of Sneha Care Home.

This year Starry night was held on the 10th of December. The programme was held on the Snehadaan lawn. The children of Sneha Care home put on a cultural programme for 45 minutes. The guests enjoyed the talents of children and relished the sumptuous dinner. About 350 guests attended the celebration along with the children and staff of Sneha Care Home.



HARMONY-CADENCE 2011

On December 11, 2011 Harmony International Music Foundation organized a musical evening of Christmas carols sung by Harmony Kids Choir, conducted by Sandra Oberoi.

Harmony International Music Foundation is an organization to train young talents in music.

During the event an appeal was made to support Sneha Care Home children.

CSR INVOLVEMENT

Involvement of the corporate sector in support of our programme is another emerging aspect of the past year. We have been successful in linking up with 5 companies.

HCL Technologies: With the aim of improving the health of our children we have launched a micronutrient supplement programme for the malnourished and weak children in SCH in association with HCL technologies.

The official launch of the initiative took place on 2/2/2012 in the presence of HCLT representatives, Sneha Care Home children, staff and special invitees. Smt. Salma K. Fahim IAS the project Director of KSAPS launched the programme.

National Instruments Systems India Pvt. Ltd: National Instruments Systems India Pvt. Ltd support us monthly to meet some of our food expenses.

Wells Fargo India Pvt. Ltd: Wells Fargo India Pvt. Ltd. joined with us to meet the educational needs of the children.

Timken India Pvt. Ltd: This company has accepted our proposal for constructing the girls' hostel for Snehagram, the second phase of the programme. The proposal is in the pipeline. Additionally, Employees of Harman International, Societe Regionale, and Markem Image Pvt. Ltd. and also involved with us to supporting the programme.

PUBLICATIONS

Our publications include:

Documentaries: Where Stars Shine, An ode to life and a documentary on Sneha Care Home produced by Harmony School of Music.

Newsletter: Monthly E-newsletter titled 'Sneha Shabd'

Research and Studies:

- 'Cognitive, neurological and adaptive behaviour functioning among children with perinatally-acquired HIV infection.' Dr. Anita Shet and Team, St. Johns Medical College, Bangalore.
- 'Growth and nutritional status of orphaned HIV-infected children living in an institutional facility in India.' Dr. Prasanna K Kapavarapu and Team, St. Johns Medical College, Bangalore.
- 'Disclosure of children's HIV status in four high prevalence states in India.' Center for Global Health and Development Boston University Massachusetts, USA.
- 'Nutritional Support for Children Living with HIV. (Case Study-SCH)' Ms. Padmavathy.K, Dr. Anita Shet and Team.
- 'Psycho-social wellbeing of children living with HIV. (SCH Pilot Study)' Dr. Tess Lang, Medical Student, University of California and San Francisco, USA.
- 'Family integrated model of HIV care of Children- A Blended approach.' (SCH Case Study). Louisa Bertola, Malta.

Ongoing Studies:

- 'Anaemia and nutrition among children with perinatally acquired HIV infection in South India.' Dr. Anita Shet MD, Department of paediatrics, St. John's Medical College, Bangalore.
- 'Understanding clinical, immunological, and virological outcomes in untreated and treated HIV-infected children in India: Setting up a clinical cohort.' Dr. Anita Shet MD, Department of paediatrics, St. John's Medical College, Bangalore.

Please visit our website www.snehacarehome.org for these papers.

ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE in 2011-12

- Number of children receiving our care - 117.
- Launched Kolar Community outreach programme with 50 children.
- Siblings care extended to 106 children.
- Selected as Learning Site for children- Karnataka State AIDS Prevention and Control Society.
- Registered as a special home for children under JJ Act, Government of Karnataka. (Reg. No.: KA180016DCWP).
- Presented SCH at NACP III conference held at Delhi.
- All children are connected to their families.
- Started developing adolescent phase campus for vocational training.
- Tie up with HCL for the micro nutrient support project.
- Tie up with Corporates like TIMKEN and Wells Fargo.
- Local and foreign Volunteers for the programme.
- Educational tie ups with International Schools.



SNEHAGRAM- GETTING CLOSER

The Adolescent Phase of our programme, which focuses on Vocational Training and Skill Development as we prepare our adolescents for practical integration with the larger community is being developed at Veppanapally, 60 kms away from the Bangalore campus. The construction of the building has already begun and we are planning to move about 20 children by the end of 2012.





JOIN HANDS WITH US

USAID SAMASTHA Project that partially supported our programme ended in September, last year. Therefore, in order to sustain the programme, we are looking for other sources of support. We cannot accomplish what we dream of for these children by ourselves. We need many more hearts and hands to meet our goals for the children. Anyone can join us by volunteering, advocating, fund raising, or personally supporting the various needs of our children. The aim of this sponsorship programme is to request all the people to consider sponsoring a child in Sneha Care Home with just Rs. 1500/- a month. You may also support different components such as education, nutrition and health care separately with Rs. 500 each. All donations made to Sneha Care Home are exempted u/s. 80 G (5)(vi) of the I.T. Act, 1961.

'THANK YOU' TO THOSE WHO EXTENDED A HELPING HAND

Many have been instrumental in developing this programme and we gratefully acknowledge their valuable efforts. We greatly acknowledge the effort of USAID-Samastha for funding this programme and KHPT for effectively implementing it. We also appreciate and express our gratitude to KSAPS, DWCD and all others for their benevolent support and collaboration. We are grateful to all our supporters from the Corporate sector for your generous support and involvement in our programme. We express our gratitude to all those who financially contributed to begin the work of Snehagram. We especially thank all our well wishers, foreign and local volunteers, sponsors and donors, who contributed greatly to Sneha Care Home since its inception. Finally, a big word of gratitude to all those people who keep praying for our children and the success of our programme.

COMMENTS BY VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

*Colin Frezouls,
a volunteer from France*

"I spent three months as a volunteer teacher in the Shining Star School. My mission was to give an extra attention to some children who could not manage in their normal class. These three months in this institution were a very interesting experience for me. I learned a lot from the challenges I had to face. I taught these children about math and English as much as they taught me about myself. I wish everybody could take part in such an interesting project! A lot of people ask me if I will bring back something from this experience. Obviously I will, but the most important thing is that I will go back without something : my prejudice. Thank you to the Sneha Care Home staff for this opportunity."

"Kids are adorable
and so confident"

*Beth Haytmanek,
USAID/India*

*Smitha Mallya,
Principal, Steiner School*

"The children's smiles &
confidence speak volumes for
the work all inspired adults are
doing. All Strength to you!"

Sneha Care Home and Shining Star School

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