

## I. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

**I.1 Project Title**

SCRP (Street Child Rehabilitation Project)

**I.2. Country**

INDIA

**I.3. Detailed project location**

DON BOSCO ASHALAYAM  
 158/18 Belilious Road,  
 Kadamtala, Howrah-711 101.(Kolkata Suburb)  
 West Bengal, INDIA

**I.4 Duration of project**

July 2006 – June 2010 (48 months)

**I.5. Description of current situation and the problems to be addressed****A. Intervention Zones****A.1. Socio-Economic Context**

**India** is a big subcontinent (3,287,263 km<sup>2</sup>) with a population of more than 1 billion inhabitants. In this country the agricultural sector represents no more than 20 % of the whole economy and reform undertaken these last 3 years enabled to simulate economic growth (+5, 6%). But the earnings are far from being shared among all people: GNP per capita is only US\$ 440 a year, and of the total population 40% lives below the poverty line. In India, technological and economic development has overtaken social development which has accentuated regional disparities catalysing the process of pull-push factors leading to rural-urban migration. Children lured by the glitter of city life, the scope for unbridled freedom and option for earning easy money have been dragged them away from their home and families finally to end up on the streets and platforms of Railway Stations as "street children" and "platform children".

It is widely accepted that India has the largest population of street children in the world (UNDP Human Development Report, 1993) though it is extremely difficult to enumerate the exact number because of their mobile nature and the absence of inclusion of their existence in "Statistic-friendly" Infrastructure (census, schools, etc). While there are no statistics for the total number of street children in India under the UNICEF definition, the Government of India's 2001 Census estimated that eighteen million children lived and worked in India's slum (huts, tenement, pavements dwellings), which under the government's definition qualify them as street children, by virtue of their residence, the fact that they were considered working and the fact that their families were also living on the street as pavement dwellers or in huts which are street-level shelter. These eighteen million street children are living and working on the streets of urban India, labouring as porters at bus or railway terminals; as mechanic in informal auto-repair shops; as vendors of food, tea or handmade article; as rag pickers, picking through garbage and selling usable materials to local buyers (UNDP:2003).

## Kolkata

Calcutta, now renamed Kolkata, is the Capital of West Bengal in Eastern India and ex-capital of India until 1911. **"From the mid-day halt of Charnock, grew a city"** as observed by Rudyard Kipling, the city flourished as the chief center for trade and commerce. Since then its industrial capacity has enabled significant growth. Despite transfer of the Capital to New Delhi in 1911, Kolkata pursued high economics through to the end of the World War II. In 1971 Indo-Pakistani war unleashed mass immigration from Bangladesh boosting the population, thus aggravating urban population density which still carries on till today for the sole reason of the porous nature of the Indo-Bangladesh border. Slums and slum-like areas sprung up in and around Kolkata and Howrah to accommodate these hapless refugees. This onslaught migration also occurred within the states as families from neighbouring states of Bihar, Orissa as well as from far flung areas of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, with all sorts of livelihood but living below poverty line, crowded the slums and shanties. Their children spend most of their time wandering around streets, railway stations, bus stands and other public places where they could get some food, shelter and earn some fast easy money. During the construction boom in Salt Lake area, a vast amount of cheap unskilled labour was necessary. Given the poor economic condition of the rural hinterland and neighbouring states and lack of opportunities therein, a large number of people came to Kolkata and stayed on thereafter (J. Mazumdar:2003). Many of their children found their way to the railway stations due to the readily available infrastructural facilities like drinking water, toilets and shed to take night shelter at night.

### A.2.. Demography and Urbanization

The major problems of this region are all linked to **great poverty**: over population, malnutrition, illiteracy, high infant mortality, hygiene deficiency, adverse health & housing conditions and out of date human rights activities and educational facilities. Kolkata still continues to attract immigration and now counts to more than 12 million inhabitants, of which 40% are under 18 years. Basic infrastructure are inadequate and outdated e.g. water treatment, road, schools and health care, while unemployment runs very high. All this naturally affects the living standards.

### B. Kolkata and Howrah Street children

The term "street children" is hotly debated. Some say it is negative that it labels and stigmatises children. Others say it gives them an identity and a sense of belonging. It can include a very wide range of children who: are homeless; work on the streets but sleep at home; ether do or do not have family contact; work in open-air markets; live on the street, railway platforms with their families or alone; live in day or night shelters; spend a lot of time in institutions (e.g. prison.) (Consortium for Street Children).

According to UNICEF (as cited by Nandana Reddy in Street Children of Bangalore: A Situational Analysis (NOIDA: Government of India, 1992)), street children are those for whom the street (in the widest sense of the word i.e. unoccupied dwellings, wastelands, etc) more than their families has become their real home, a situation in which there is no protection, supervision or direction from responsible adults. Yet street children are rarely alone, even if they have no family contact: **"Here we do not have any kind of blood relation with each other. But when we are on the streets with other friends, though we do not have any name for our relationship, we are like a family. We are actually members of our street family"** (Street Diary, Save the Children (UK) Nepal 2001).

**In the city of Howrah and Kolkata**, the huge number of marginalized children, who are robbed of their childhood, are compelled to negotiate their precarious existence in the world of

crime, misery, abuse and exploitation. They live on platforms, along railway tracks, in empty pipes, under the bridges, on pavements and in slums and bustees. Fast urbanization, high unemployment and aggravated poverty resulted in the increase of the numbers of children on the street. More than 100,000 minors, aged 5 to 18, are street children. The main causes are:

- Extreme poverty that fosters domestic conflict and violence, induces children to leave school and earn a living.
- Children beaten, feel unloved and are rejected or run away from home. They end up on the streets.
- Some children leave home after death or illness in the family.
- In most cases the father is an alcoholic or the mother a prostitute, they too turn to the streets.

### **Street girls**

Girls are a minority among the street children (studies indicate between 3% to 30% depending on the country). This has many reasons. In many culture there is much pressure for girls to stay at home than boys. Research shows that girls have more staying power than boys in the face of abuse and are also more reluctant to leave home. However, once girls make the decision to leave home, the rupture is more permanent than for boys. Girls are also less visible on the streets as those who do take to the streets do not stay long because they make easy prey for prostitution ring operators and other forms of exploitation. This puts them out of reach of any help from any Organization. However, it is important to note that street boys are also at risk of sexual abuse and exploitation as well as girls.

### **The need to respond to the problems**

Street children are not unique to Kolkata and Howrah but extreme poverty undermines family ties and induces children to seek sidewalk refuges in the hope of a better and brighter future. Many NGOs are coming online with programmes to help the city's street children. All agree that any real solution depends on government commitment to identify the causes and fighting them.

Today the government is doing something but that is not enough. Street children are regularly arrested and referred to child welfare centers but these centers function more like detention establishments when opportunities for real social rehabilitation are lacking until these children reach majority but by then it is too late.

**A number of priority needs are clearly recognizable:** access to education and fight against illiteracy; reduction of poverty; elevating the economic situation of the communities; protection and promotion of the rights of the child; adoption of an appropriate legislative/judicial protection system and institutionalization of democracy. **These needs of the target group** are those defined in the framework of the Internal Convention on the Rights of Child and the priorities set-up by the Government of India: -defense of the basic rights of the children (food, health, refuge, clothing, psychological safety, education; protection against exploitation at work); mobilization and training of adult who are able to protect them;- being some of the priorities set.

According to United Nations Child Rights Convention, a child should enjoy

- ❑ The Right to survival
- ❑ The Right to education
- ❑ The Right to good health
- ❑ The Right to free expression
- ❑ The Right to be heard
- ❑ The Right to enjoy their own language

The Government of India realizes the presence of a problem and is working with NGOs and the Social Justice Ministry and they have set up a hotline for distressed children whose implementation has been subcontracted to Don Bosco Ashalayam (DBA). In addition, the Government of India holds regular nation-wide street child events. In 2005 the Government of India has started a process to try to eradicate child labourers and has thus set up the National Child Labour Programme (NCLP). DBA is a partner in NCLP and is presently working with the District Magistrate Office in Howrah to identify child labourers and in the set up of Shishu Shiksha Kendra (Child Education Schools) where education to these child labourers is contemplated to be imparted.

In accordance with the constitutional provisions, The Government of India announced The National Charter for Children 2003 to reiterate India's Commitment to the cause of children. Underlying this Charter is the intent to secure for every child its inherent right to be a child and enjoy healthy and happy childhood, to address the root cause that negate the healthy growth and development of the children, and to awaken the community in the wider societal context to protect these children from all forms of abuse.

1. Survivals, Life and Liberty
2. Promoting High Standards of Health and Nutrition
3. Supplementary nutrition to children belonging to BPL families
4. Assuring Basic Minimum Needs and Security
5. Play and Leisure
6. Early Childhood Care for Survival, Growth and Development
7. Free and Compulsory Primary Education
8. Protection from Economic Exploitation and All Forms of Abuse
9. Right to be protected against neglect, malnutrition, injury, trafficking, corporal punishment, etc
10. Ensure children are not used in the conduct of any illegal activity
11. Protection of the Girl Child
12. Empowering Adolescents
13. Equality
14. Opportunity for all round development of personality including creativity
15. Freedom of Expression, Freedom to Seek and receive Information
16. Freedom of Association and Peaceful Assembly
17. Strengthening Family
18. Responsibilities of Both Parents
19. Protection of Children with Disabilities
20. Care, Protection, Welfare of Children of Marginalized and Disadvantaged Communities
21. Ensuring Child Friendly Procedures

Although there is no legislation that specifies the term "street children" in the judiciary of India, the laws applicable under the **Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act 2000** relates quite strongly to the care of and the rights of street children in general, without mentioning them in any term [Chapter I, 2(d) ] but are found, on a national level, not to be

implemented properly at all. In fact, many police officers/constables in the field do not know about the details of the Act.

### **Assumptions and risks in problem redressal**

- No Major international incidents modify radically the order of priorities.
- The concerned areas do not undergo any major natural disasters during the project period.
- Participation & co-operation of the community and beneficiaries is ensured in all the activities undertaken.
- The related social environment and the community involved is stimulative.
- Families and communities understand the significance of education and training, particularly for girls.
- Communities/parents/teachers/institutional actors participate in all awareness campaigns.
- Local communities accept the setting-up of the child education and Vocational training Centers
- The level of collaboration between all concerned is maintained.
- The pre-identified target group is not radically moved from the intervention areas because of unexpected incidents.
- The authorities/communities/institutional actors willingness to co-operate, during the project design, is renewed.

### **I.6. Project beneficiaries**

DBA has designed the project so that it empowers beneficiaries to take charge of their personal development and future. They will perform housekeeping and help with the internal organisation work by holding different levels of responsibility to stimulate their social integration. DBA's strategy is to offer an alternate to street life while leaving the choice in their hands.

### **Beneficiary Selection Criteria**

DBA has 20 years experience of approaching street children and inviting them to join its activities. Its policy receives any child in distress regardless of caste, gender or religion. Children come of their own free.

They fall into four categories:

- ❖ Children seeking daytime psychological help, medical help and attending services on the streets, pavements and railway stations.
- ❖ Children seeking to live at the shelter homes and obtain schooling/vocational training.
- ❖ Children seeking daytime vocational Training only.
- ❖ Children seeking a place to sleep for the night only.

### **A. Qualitative Elements**

#### **Direct Beneficiaries:**

- 1 **Street Children and children living in the streets and railway stations:-** These are the children who are forced to survive alone because they ran away from their

homes or were abandoned or are orphans; Children who have occasional contacts with their families but spend their time on the streets as this is where they can get some money; Most working children who are obliged to spend the night in the streets or near their place of work. Majority of the children (49%) belong to the age group of 8+ - 12 followed by 12+ -15 (29%) and 15+ - 18 (17%). The working children are between 8-14 years and 65% of them work between 9-14 hours a day.

- 2 **Children vulnerable to Trafficking and Prostitution:-** These are poverty stricken children who have run away from homes or children living with their families on the streets, in brothels or in railway stations who are at prone to trafficking, sexual abuse and prostitution. They are also at high risk for sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS.
- 3 **Marginalized Children living in the slums and bustees adjacent to stations:-** These children because of their violent environment and the social stigmatization they suffer are forced to take up drugs and get used to alcohol at a very age (nearly 80%).
- 4 **Working children/child labour:-** These are the children who are living in the station-adjacent slums and who are forced to earn their living because of acute financial problems in their families. They work in and around the railway station and streets as moving vendors, compartment cleaners, shoe-polishers, small scale industries (both hazardous and non-hazardous), in motor garages, as domestic labourers, etc. The working children are between 6-14 years and 65% of them work between 9-14 hours a day.

#### **INDIRECT BEBECIARIES**

- 1 **Staff/ Teachers/ Educators:-** Through various training sessions and community sensitisation programmes they shall benefit by acquiring and enriching their teaching skills and dealings with the children.
- 2 **Community workers and volunteers:-** Through involvement in various community mobilization programmes they shall benefit by developing their skills in dealings with the children, the parents and the community at large.
- 3 **Social workers/ counsellors:-** Through various training sessions and counselling and advocacy sessions with the children and their parents they shall benefit by enriching their communicative and interactive skills.

#### **B. Quantitative Elements**

**Direct Beneficiaries :** In the backdrop of the above some 200 odd street and platform children and teenagers resident in the 6 Shelter Homes in Kolkata and 1 Night Shelter of DBA and some 500 odd street children living on the streets and their family shall directly benefit from this Project. They all belong to communities where 85% people live below the poverty line. Girls will represent 35% of the beneficiaries.

**Indirect beneficiaries :** Through various training of trainers and community sensitisation programmes some 100 odd persons consisting of DBA staff and senior inmates of DBA, service providers (peers/volunteers/community workers) on and off the street and the community shall be benefited under the project.

#### **I.7. Don Bosco Ashalayam**

- A. Officer in Charge (Administrative./ Political responsibility)  
Fr. Mathew George sdb, DBA Director
- B. Person(s) in Charge of project Implementation (Project Manager/Operations)
1. Programme Manager : Fr. Subir Mondol sdb

## **C. Capacities of DBA**

### **C.1. History of the organisation**

DBA is an organisation working for the past 20 years for the rehabilitation of the street and destitute children. The organisation runs various outreach projects like Non Formal Education Project (children residing in the Shelter Homes of DBA are going to formal schools), Child Labour Prevention Project, Childline Project, Sanjog Project (international project involved with the rehabilitation of trafficked children and children exposed to sexual exploitation), Vocational Training Project and handles huge funds (foreign as well as local) with able management. The number of children benefited through these outreach programmes are more than **3,000 children** per month on an average.

Besides running various outreach projects and programmes, the organisation also has set up 21 Shelter Homes (05 being for girls), 03 Night shelters (01 being for girls) and Vocational Training Centers [(Howrah, Kolkata (girls & boys) and Kalyani (girls) training them in 25 trades] thus helping more than 550 sheltered children through its Curative and Preventive Approaches with the light of education, training, medication, nutrition and psychological and mental health programmes and job placement through which these children and young adults are assisted in their rehabilitation process and mainstreamed into the society that once rejected them.

### **C.2 Initiative**

The project idea arises out of DBA field experience of 20 years. DBA has worked the streets of Kolkata and Howrah since 1985 to help distressed children. This project aims to expand and reinforce DBA's urban capabilities by being able to extend its services for the street and platform children in areas where these children are particularly vulnerable due to the quarters principal activity; prevent and protect this vulnerable subpopulation from physical and sexual exploitation and trafficking. DBA wants to help this exposed subpopulation by giving them other lifestyles opportunities either on the streets itself or off the streets in its Night Shelters/Transit Shelters and/or Shelter Homes.

### **C.3. Project positioning with respect to existing development strategy**

This project is a component of DBA strategy to provide both relief and alternative opportunities to Kolkata & Howrah street child. DBA has been building aid mechanisms for this subpopulation in cooperation with local authorities for the past 20 years now. This project targets street and platform children in downtown Kolkata and Howrah. "Street children" means anyone living on the streets regardless of sex or religion, upto 18 years of age (the youngest so far is 4 years).

#### C.4. DBA experience and learning

DBA now operates 21 Shelter Homes in Kolkata suburbs hosting more than 550 children (of which 35% are girls) and 3 Night Shelters ( being for girls). DBA social workers ply the street of New market, Sudder Street and Park Street (all commercial areas), Moulali and Park Circus (places of public gathering), Esplanade area( central bus terminal) and railway stations of Sealdah and Howrah and the suburbs. This enables direct follow-up of more than 3,000 street children. DBA also has a reception office in the main railway station of Howrah where children can come in, talk and obtain help. DBA contemplates to open up a child reception centre in downtown Kolkata also.

DBA achievements have earned recognition through support from local Government, District Magistrate office as well as the Government of India for their activities, e.g. children's hotline and cooperation. DBA experience gives it flexibility to tailor projects to beneficiary needs. This underpins the present project for the distressed children of Kolkata.

#### C.5. Constraints and obstacles

- The target subpopulation is rising faster than DBA, likeminded NGOs and government services can cope with, leaving many street children with no care or few care options.
- Downtown street children are tough to manage, emotionally disturbed and even violent.
- These street children have been on the streets for a long time in staked out territories and they adjust to existing rehabilitation structures only with great difficulty.

### I.8. Previous Initiatives related to the present project

Don Bosco Ashalayam is an Organisation working for the rehabilitation of the vulnerable children e.g. Street and working children, destitute children, abandoned or missing children since 1985. The Organisation covers Howrah District, Kolkata Metropolitan area, Nadia district and Burdwan District. The major objective of Ashalayam is identifying the street children in the age group of 4-18 years and assist them to reintegrate with their natural families, if they have any or wherever possible, or helping them establish themselves or alternatively provide protection against sexual, physical and/or psychological exploitation by criminals, employers and the society. **Ashalayam provides** all round development avenues by providing shelter, education, nutrition, health care, hygiene, recreation facilities, vocational training, job placements and adequate support to purchase land and building to set up their own family to enable their integration into the mainstream of society.

Today Ashalayam provided services to more than 550 children living in its 21 shelter homes (5 being for girls) and 3 night shelters (1 being for girls). Through its other projects, (Educational, Non-Formal Education Project, Childline, outreach, networking, etc) Ashalayam reaches out to more than 3,000 children per month. The uniqueness of Ashalayam's methodology is the division of its activities into two broad areas:- Curative aspect and Preventive aspect.

1. **Curative aspect :-** Curing the children of their wounds (physical, mental and emotional) and helping them forget their traumatic past through a lifestyle with a family-like set-up. For this 21 Homes have been opened up providing the children with proper and professional counselling, basic education, formal education and training in professional skills through projects like Sanjog Project, Vocational Training Projects, etc
2. **PREVENTIVE ASPECT** : Preventing the children from landing up on the streets and platforms by reaching out to them where they are through various activities under

our different projects like Childline, Non-Formal Education Project, Mobile Health Clinic, Asha Shramik (Child Labour Prevention) Project.

### **DBA Partners-Foreign**

- ECPAT Luxembourg and Luxembourg Government has been supporting DBA for the past many years under the project "Asha Nayan" which is a Calcutta Street Child programme and sponsorship for a Girls Home in Kidderpore, Kolkata and has helped in the mobilisation of external financial and human resources, advice to local NGOs and recommendations for technical and strategic improvements.
- Groupe Developpement, France and European Commission Co-financers for the Sanjog (Linkage) Project. Sanjog project is a International Project on Education and Rehabilitation of Children vulnerable to Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation. EC has also supported Integrated Child Development Support (ICDS) led by the Indian Government and DBA (one of the partners) since 1998 for the food aid programme for the underprivileged children (Food Securities Programme, Europe Aid)
- Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), Dhaka, Bangladesh, who are partners under the Sanjog project and Sari-Q Project .
- Association for Community Development (ACD), Rajshahi, Bangladesh who are partners under the Sanjog project
- Aparajeyo Bangladesh, Dacca & Chittagong, Bangladesh who are partners under the Sanjog project
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### **DBA partners-Indian Government Departments**

- Social Welfare Department, Government of India-Associated with the Children's hotline (Childline) activities
- Government of West Bengal
- The District Magistrate, Howrah
- Howrah Municipal Corporation and Kolkata Municipal Corporation
- Kolkata and Howrah Police
- Kolkata and Howrah Railway Police and Authorities

### **DBA Partners-NGOs and various organisations**

- Missionaries of Charity
- CLPOA
- Catholic Relief Society
- Seva Kendra Calcutta
- Various Street child NGOs including CINI-ASHA, Calcutta Samaritans, Children's Aid, SEED, Samaritans, Sanlaap, SKIP, Calcutta Rescue, South Point Howrah, all the Don Bosco Institutions and centres
- Apeejay Surendra Group of Industries
- Lafarge Ltd.

## **I.9. Description of the project**

### **A. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**

#### **A.1. Project Goals and Objectives**

Don Bosco Ashalayam is a movement, which has been founded to protect children from the evils of our present day society and make them aware of their rights and responsibilities. It offers them possibilities to blossom in an environment that assures them security, love, hope and acceptance. The very word Ashalayam, in Sanskrit means "a Home of Hope" and it really gives hope to many 'hope-less' and 'help-less' children.

The outcome of the influx of migrants is the proliferation of slums and makeshift colonies in and around the main cities, adding to the already existing problems of unemployment, illiteracy, housing and health care facilities. Unfortunately it is the children who are most affected and they become vulnerable targets as child labourers, child sex workers, domestic workers, beggars and scavengers. Their day starts on the streets and ends on the same street. They become, as we call them "STREET CHILDREN".

**Ashalayam reaches out to these children through various programs:** Street schools / Slum schools / Railway Station contact centres / Childline Project / Street Melas / Monthly Melas / Various half-way homes / Mid-way homes /Night Shelters and Shelter Homes.

**The overall goal of the project** in the long run aims to lift the social condition of the distressed children in downtown Kolkata and Howrah. However, DBA does not pretend to be able to contain the entire phenomenon, given its scale and complexity. Nonetheless it shares its know-how with the local authorities and other organisations. This should help the Government design new social measures to address the needs of the street children with active participation from the beneficiaries under this project.

**In the short/medium term** this project aims to:-

1. **Reinforce and help in the capacity building** of Kolkata and Howrah street children who do want to be institutionalised.
2. **Provide Shelter** through institutionalised care to protect them against hazards of street life and provide opportunities for a better future.
3. **Provide quality primary education and training** on the streets and in the shelter Homes.

The project has two specific objectives :

- **Prevent and protect the children** and the vulnerable young adults against sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking by way of improvement of the social environment; improvement of educational services, schooling and training; and by the reinforcement of the community capacities.
- **Implementation of sustainable and integrated Psychological and economic rehabilitation procedures** and joint and coherent improvement of the methods used through the region.

The project will

1. Boost DBA street child aid capacity in downtown Kolkata and Howrah
2. Improve socio-medical support
3. Deliver educational opportunities
4. Deliver Vocational training opportunities
5. Ensure socio-economic rehabilitation to the children "on" and "off" the streets.

Thus through achievement of desired objectives and goals, with active participation from the children themselves, the project shall ensure socio-economic rehabilitation of the beneficiaries by mainstreaming back into the society. Starting from Street Contact to make available to them the facilities of on the street service s well as options of facilities in DBA Night Shelter/Shelter Homes right upto Training and Placement opportunities the complete rehabilitation process shall empower and enlighten the children as to their rights and responsibility, build up their self-confidence and self-esteem to ultimately become responsible and contributing members of the society that once rejected them

## A.2. Project Strategies

In order to deliver quality service and reach short term and pave the way for long term goal achievement the following strategies have been devised.

**The Global strategy** of Ashalayam shall be to identify the target group and make them, their families and communities responsible for their activities..

**The immediate goal** shall be to structure and reinforce the local CBO's, association, institutional actors through intricate networking activities which shall result in immediate actions plans of the various programmes under the project constituting various stages of an integrated programme of assistance to children at risk and of reinforcement of the community capacities.

**Step I : Participative Situational Analysis and Programming to Increase Street Child Aid Capacity** A participative situational analysis through action research/survey shall be conducted in the geographical location where the project shall be implemented to identify the beneficiaries, both direct as well as indirect. Necessary and relevant programmes shall be devised to sustain as well as enhance the level of intervention. Identification of the grassroot actors who shall play a major role in the design and development of a coherent standardized method for implementation of the project, like Community Based Organizations, Local Associations and local schools and wherever deemed necessary with the local legal system and government agencies.

**Step II : Improve Socio-medical Support :-** Various awareness generating programmes shall be implemented to raise/step-up the mobilization of the community volunteers and the parents. The objectives of the awareness of these programmes would also be to involve the parents in the educational and training process of their children and in the development of healthy sanitation and nutrition habits. Support shall be given to the beneficiaries through systematic medical and psychological care, nutritional care, assistance to reintegrate to families and create opportunities for personal development.

**Step III : Protection of Vulnerable Children through Schooling, Education and Training Opportunities :-** Strengthening of resources, human, technical as well as institutional, for the creation of a standardization in the methods and activities for achievement of the goals which shall be measured both quantitatively as well as qualitatively. To achieve this necessary training (non-formal education, formal education and vocational training) shall be imparted to the children and young adults (direct beneficiaries) as well as training sessions for trainers (indirect beneficiaries) to enhance quality distribution of services.

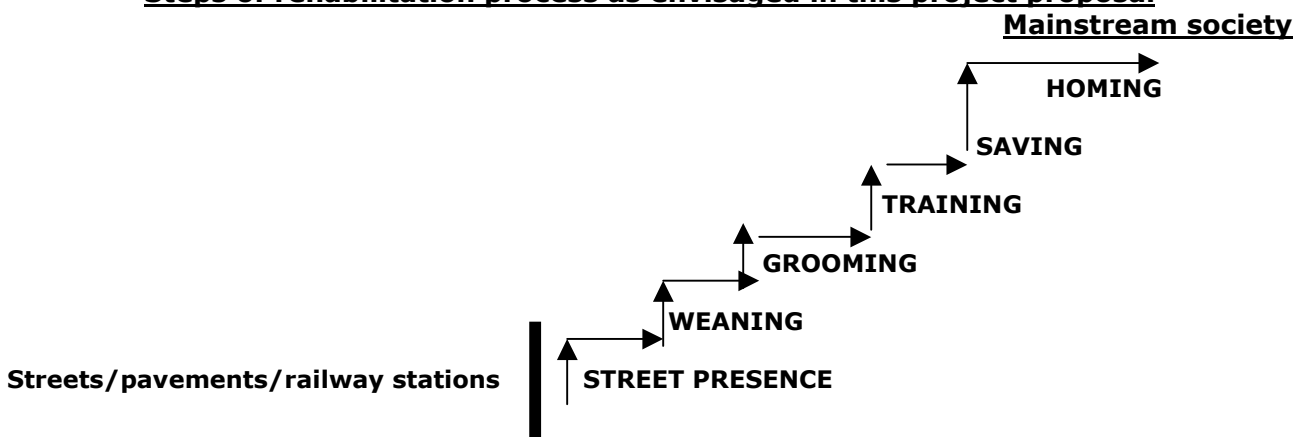
**Step IV : Training of Community, Associative and Institutional Actors :-** Regular and periodic training of the trainers, community volunteers and institutional actors to ensure transfer of their expertise to the target beneficiaries (See Annexure IV). The objective of the training would also be to enhance the skills and techniques to deal with the identified and targeted vulnerable subpopulation.

**Step V: Advocacy, Campaigns through Networking :** Advocacy for the promotion of child rights and campaigns through mobilization of all partners and beneficiaries so that society and State are fully aware of their collective responsibilities regarding child protection. Creation of a network between the target beneficiaries, educators, community volunteers, institutional actors, local authorities for sustained growth and sustainability of the project activities through regular interaction sessions, sharing of information from the area concerned and setting up of standardized and coherent intervention methods.

**Step VI : Capitalisation and Standardisation of Working Methods regarding Child Protection and Rehabilitation :** Standardise the various intervention methods used to reach specific objectives of the project in order to strengthen the institutional capacities, create models which could be reproduced by other actors and implementation of joint programmes for child welfare throughout the region. Through the abovementioned strategies a platform shall be defined wherefrom uniformity and standardization of a cohesive system shall be derived.

The strategy devised for this socio-economic rehabilitation is the 6 steps as detailed below:-

**Steps of rehabilitation process as envisaged in this project proposal**



**1. STREET PRESENCE**

The first stage is the STREET PRESENCE. The child on the streets, pavement and railway platforms has developed a queer and paradoxical attachment to it. The educator or social worker becomes a part of the child's street struggles and adventures. The social workers constant presence on the streets instills in the youth reason, love for the divine and loving kindness. The educators' constant presence also builds up the confidence of the child which helps them facilitate them to keep the children on the right track towards their complete rehabilitation.

**2. WEANING**

The second step is 'WEANING'. The educator makes the child understand that he has not

been forsaken. He too can have a home of his own, enjoy the rights and privileges offered to his own age group and interact with boys and girls of the Don Bosco Ashalayam family.

### **3. GROOMING**

Once the child becomes sure that there is a better place than the squalor and misery of the street, the third stage called '**GROOMING**' takes place. Here the educator begins to influence the child – to invite him to change his wild and reckless behaviour patterns of the street by love, kindness, reasoning and discipline.

### **4. TRAINING**

When the child is acclimatised to his new surroundings and his newfound home, the fourth stage starts, where the educator has recourse to the **TRAINING** process. The child is given the option of either academic or vocational training. In the vocational stream the child has the freedom to choose a trade, excel in it and bring out his talents. Side by side he is also given basic education. The purpose is to help the child to stand on his own feet through education and training.

### **5. SAVING**

When the child is involved in active work, his achievements help him to forget the traumatic memories of his street life. The educator now concentrates on teaching him the art of **SAVING**. He learns to earn and spend a portion of his income and save the rest. To encourage the saving habit, an industrial savings Bank Account is opened for each child in his/her name.

### **6. HOMING**

This stage the child has not only become practical but also responsible. The educator now tries to inculcate in him the idea of building his own personal home towards **HOMING**. He now looks for a plot of land, builds a house, and is also encouraged to marry and lead a happy and contented family life. Don Bosco Ashalayam gives a matching contribution to his own earnings in order to make matters easy for the newly grown up adult.

#### **D. Operational Area (Refer to Map)**

The Operational Area for conducting and implementing the activities shall be:-

- 1 Sealdah Station and Howrah Station and Station-surrounding slums and markets (wholesale and retail) of downtown Kolkata and Howrah division within the area of Kolkata Metropolitan Area
- 2 Slums and bustees in the Kolkata and Howrah Municipal Corporation area that fall under purview of the Kolkata Metropolitan Area.
- 3 Sudder Street, Park Street, New Market Area (all commercial points), Esplanade (bus terminal ), Moulali and Park Circus (areas of public gathering)

#### **B. ACTIVITIES AND ACTION PLAN**

##### **Step I : Participative Situational Analysis and Programming to Increase Street Child Aid Capacity**

###### **C.1.1. Street child approach**

Alienated individuals are hard to approach. Street children have perfected survival strategies to cope with a hostile environment and reason in terms of socially alienating references. DBA workers know this approach work involves listening skills, explanation of opportunities for help and referral as well as organization of street events. DBA approach work happens in co-operation with the police who cover the legal side of the street child work. The police issue special permits to DBA workers. This project will enable DBA to strengthen co-operation with the authorities order to improve its ability to help street children rehabilitate themselves, to help them defend their rights and raise awareness in Indian society about the plight of street children.

The participatory programme to increase Street Child Aid Capacity shall be both **on the street**, by way of reaching out with DBA services and referral services to this vulnerable subpopulation on the streets and in the operational areas itself, **and off the street**, by way of institutionalization of those children who express their willingness or come of their own free will.

For the street girls besides support from DBA, networking will be done with other NGOs working in the same operational area so that the abovementioned facilities are also made available to them.

Through well-structured strategies and action plan (developed and designed through active participation from the children presently residing in the various Shelter Homes as well as the Home In-Charges and Social workers) various campaigns shall be organized to create awareness about issues of sexual abuse and exploitation, health and hygiene related issues, AIDS/HIV/STD, mental health development, livelihood, skill and capacity building. Sensitization programmes shall be organised in the communities along with the local CBO's and active networking partners to make the parents and community aware of their responsibility towards these children.

The object of street work will be to try to wean them away from the streets to a home-like environment of protection, love, care and overall growth, and where that fails to help directly provide services to them on the streets and railway stations.

Regular group activities and counselling sessions shall be organised on the street and Railway station platforms and railway station adjacent areas with the target groups.

These children shall participate in street activities and form their own peer groups and assist the social workers working on the streets and platforms. The children shall be taken off often from the streets for outings to visit places of education and learnings.

A child reception centre shall be opened through services shall be made available to the children of the operational area. Where needed referral services shall be provided through intricate networking activities with the hospitals, nursing homes, de-addiction centres, police and railway authorities.

Children living on the streets shall be helped to save their earning through a well structure banking system/savings scheme that is presently under planning

Street workers will maintain constant presence on the streets to contact, help and refer children, respond to Childline calls and organise socio-educational activities on the streets (e.g. literacy training games and athletic events).

Day visits as well as night visits shall be organised to be with the children most of the times on the streets.

Social workers and trained experienced psychiatrists will also spend his/her time in giving consultation to children and their families and performing house calls.

All activities shall be conducted with qualified and experienced DBA social worker, senior inmates of DBA. Active participation shall also be there from volunteer workers (local and foreign), community workers and children from the street and platforms.

**An Action Research** on the vulnerability status of the children living on the Sealdah and Howrah Station already undertaken by DBA has brought to light the plight of these children and has shown the **processes of exploitation of these children living on the stations, the resource mobilization of NGOs working in these areas, the facilities offered and the gaps therein.** The consensus of the vulnerability of children living on the streets and railway station vis a vis sexual abuse, exploitation, drug addiction, child labour and the evaluation of the available resources will be used.

**Those willing to be institutionalized** shall be brought to the various Night Shelters and Shelter Homes of DBA. Children vulnerable to exploitation (sexual, physical), rescued from trafficking and those vulnerable to trafficking can access these Transit Shelters. (refer Activity C.1.3.)

### **C.1.2. Children's hotline (CHILDLINE)**

DBA, the Local authorities and CINI ASHA, another NGO set up a free hotline in 1998 to permit distressed children to get in touch with social workers 24 hours a day. On government pay, the workers respond with immediate answers and can travel to them if needed. DBA and CINI ASHA provide telephone and mobile presence in several Kolkata and Howrah neighborhoods. However, their resources cannot cover the entire city and they have had to refer some caller to other organizations ill-equipped to cope with certain emergencies. This project aims to boost response capabilities through DBA shelters. Round the clock availability of social workers in downtown areas will provide fast response capability for emergency and direct, adequate response to callers and their needs.

These children shall be responsible and shall make others responsible for the enforcement of conditions and statutes laid down in the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act 2000 and empowerment of the child as to his/her rights as laid down in the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

Regular awareness campaigns shall be organised with the Police , Judicial authorities and community.

**Roughly 250 children per year will be rescued** from the streets and platforms and reintegrated in their families or those who do not have any families with be institutionalized. This activity, entails close co-operation with NGOs, police and governments, comprising three principal stages : Investigation (i.e. release of identified victims by the police forces), repatriation (i.e. follow the official procedure with the

concerned Embassies/NGO/ Child Welfare Committee and facilitate a fast and without trauma return of the children to their country of origin) and reintegration (i.e. ensure that children are accepted in their family and sensitize their community, or integrate the children in the different Shelter Homes of DBA, if they have no family to accept them

### **C.1.3. Shelter (Night Shelter/Transit Shelter/Shelter Homes)**

Outreach work and the hotline need follow-up and DBA which has a centrally-located Night Shelter/Transit Centre shall provide refuge to street children at nights so that they can sleep over if they so desire. It will also provide educational games, homework help, medical care and nutritional support. Admission will be at the children's request.

The main objectives are:

- Protect the children from exposure to hazards of street life,
- Teach them basic personal hygiene, body and health care and sound eating habits,
- Boost their self-esteem and find a personal identity,.
- Introduce a banking scheme to save their earning from the streets, And
- Provide opportunities for a better future.

The shelter will be open to needy children in general who can obey a minimum of rules developed with child participation in a laid-back family type setting. However, theft, smoking and drugs will not be tolerated. Overnight accommodation and activities will be open for those willing to come. Staff will be male and female, paid and volunteer.

For the street girls besides support from DBA, networking will be done with other NGOs working in the same operational area so that the abovementioned facilities are also made available to them.

Shelter workers (Home-in Charges, Night Shelter In Charge, Nurses, etc) will follow-up children's education from reception to social integration. They will organise socio-educational activities and live on the premises for ongoing activities. The children of each Shelter Home will form their own groups and take on themselves responsibilities for conducting various activities. Each Shelter Home shall appoint a Captain selected by the children from amongst themselves who shall be overall responsible for all the activities of the children to the Home In-Charges.

Trained nurse from the dispensary, already established in one of the Shelter Homes of downtown Kolkata, shall take care of the sheltered children. She shall be assisted in her work by the Home in-Charges also who shall be regularly trained on methods to take care of first aid care as well as enhanced medical care of the sheltered children. The nurse shall also devote time to build up networking with hospitals and nursing homes. She shall also devote time to make regular visits on the field (operational areas) along with the social workers, field workers and volunteers to take care of the medical needs of the children living on the streets and platforms.

Workshop teachers will teach vocational skills 5 hours/day to train children and help build up self-confidence.

The Placement Cell shall train and educate the sheltered young adults on methods to go about job seeking and finally to secure employment and also assist them in their

rehabilitation process. The Workshop teachers and already placed young adults, who shall be part and parcel of the Employment Cell, shall spend time assisting the Placement Officer of DBA to build up strong network between the workshops, companies, Placement Agencies and prospective employers to help graduates find jobs.

Trained and experienced psychologists shall be available to the children. These psychologists in collaboration and coordination with the shelter home managers and caregivers shall implement life skill education programmes focusing on issues of adolescence, gender and sexuality and reproductive health. They shall also help in the design and implementation of capacity building and mental health development programmes, They shall also facilitate discussion between the coordinators and applicants in selection of a vocational trade and career counselling. Working in close tandem they shall support the project coordinator in facilitating children's participation in planning, monitoring and evaluation of activities and programmes.

The daily activity (devised in participation with the sheltered children, home In-Charges) of a normal school-going day in the of the Shelter Homes consists of the children waking up at 5:30 am. They have one hour of physical training after which they clean their rooms and do other chores as allocated by the Captain who is the children's representative. At 7:30 am they have breakfast. After breakfast is complete they get ready to go to schools. Those children who are not yet ready for schooling are engaged in non-formal education in the shelter homes itself with the help of tuition teachers/educator till lunch after which they take rest or watch televisions. The Night Shelter children take this time to learn some skills either in beadwork or in other trainings. At 3:30 pm the school-going children are back from their respective schools and all the children do self cleaning and wash their own clothes till 5:00 pm. Home cleaning is also done at this time. This is also the time where they engage themselves in various games and relaxation.

From 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, the children do their homework and they ask the advice and help, if needed, from the teachers who are present. Every evening according to their class level, they get one hour of school support with a private teacher who helps them with their homework, getting through with school problems and explains to them what they have not understood.

It is then dinner time. After dinner is finished, they usually play until "Good Night" time (9:00 pm). "Good Night" time is an informal discussion and sharing held with the children to discuss about the past day and at the end a story is told to them "to help thinking".

**Some 15-20 odd young people and children** will be sheltered each day in the Night Shelter/Transit Shelter and benefit from the daily activities. These centres will be open 24 hrs/day welcoming children from the streets and platforms and will provide them with better living conditions thus intervening in their being exploited while on the streets or platforms. A Medical team will ensure primary and emergency care and the most serious cases will be referred to hospitals. Of these sheltered children, those who are willing to stay back during the daytime in the Night Shelter/Transit Shelter will be trained within local craftsmen workshops to be later reintegrated into their families. Each centre will work in close tandem with the government, police and other like-

mindful NGOs and Inter Governmental Organisations concerned by the plight of the street children.

**Some 120 odd children sheltered in the 6 Shelter Homes** will be professionally trained/provided the opportunity of undergoing formal education, computer education., vocational training to enable them to find employment in administration or services. The objective will be to create a space of confidence. Team of trained teachers will provide education, tuition to each and every child according to public standards. Crafts training activities will result in sales profit which will be transferred to a savings account open in the name of each child which is already prevalent in DBA. Entertainment activities with educational purpose (Summer camps, Monthly fairs "Melas", excursions, outings, educational tours, music, arts, karate, sports, plays, etc) will be organised. All the activities will be based on child participation.

## Step II : Improve Socio-medical Support

### C.2.1. Nutritional care

Food is a street child's main concern but food intake is irregular, insufficient and unbalanced. The resulting nutritional deficiencies impede physical and mental growth.

DBA wants to serve square meals three times a day to around 120 shelter resident children and approx 20 children in the Night Shelter/Transit Shelter. The balanced meals will teach both children and their bodies sound eating habits. (*refer activities c.1.3.*)

### C.2.2. Medical and Psychological care

Street children have no access to health care. They cannot afford it and would not know where to go. Moreover, standard healthcare providers reject them. Beyond "Common" diseases aggravated by their life style, street children also present with serious mental disorders and drug or glue addiction. Some of the common diseases noticed are :

- i. Tuberculosis
- ii. Skin Infection
- iii. Malnutrition
- iv. Asthma
- v. Eye Diseases
- vi. Bronchitis

- **Medical care:-** DBA already has a **Mobile Dispensary** manned by the In-charge, doctors, nurses and helpers. The Dispensary already established in Kolkata and Howrah shelters manned by trained nurses also shall take care of inmates of the shelter homes. All children either resident or on the streets, will be vaccinated against tetanus, diphtheria and hepatitis B. The system of maintenance of a **Medical Card** depicting the medication history is prevalent in DBA.

Shelter workers and the nurses will monitor children's health status and refer the children to other healthcare providers as and when needed. DBA will set up a separate fund to cover the cost

of consulting specialist or hospitalization. In some cases, as and when required, children will be referred to public healthcare providers/NGOs where services are free of charge or minimal. Awareness campaigns shall be organised in communities to generate knowledge of the advantages of sound health, hygiene and proper sanitation system. The children as well as their parents shall be informed of the type of sexual abuse and exploitation that these children are subject to or susceptible to so that corrective and preventive actions can be taken by responsible adults.

A cohesive and coherent network shall be created with Government Hospitals, Government and private nursing homes, NGOs offering deaddiction treatment and Government and

- **Psychological Care:-** Street children need psychological care to evolve towards more socialized behavioral pattern. This care involves both consultations and walk-in receptions. Staffing will be done by social workers trained in child psychology. Experienced DBA street child workers will support psychological care by their contact with the children on streets and the activities they lead at the shelter. This shall be both during the day as well as in the evening/nights. The objective will be to make the children aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Qualified and experienced Psychosocial counsellors will be recruited for the standardisation of mental health process of the children in the Night Shelters/Transit Shelters and the 6 Shelter Homes. Each Counsellor will follow up the children and will deal with staff psychology surveillance and training. (*refer activity c.1.3.*)

### **C.2.3. Return to Family**

While some street children have no contact with families, others still have some ties to home. Where this happens, DBA aims to reinforce the ties.

One aim of psychological care is to identify which ties a child could develop and strengthen. The social workers and DBA workers can then recontact their families. If the family and child are responsive, a meeting is arranged. This starts a process to help the children's return to home. DBA monitors the process and any subsequent return. DBA outreach workers in close collaboration with Childline ensures that the process of restoration and reintegration with their families is a smooth process(*refer activity c.1.2.*)

### **C.2.4. Personal development**

Return to mainstream society depends on finding personal satisfaction and a sense of identity in daily living. The project offers opportunities for empowerment within the shelter through educational games, athletics and cultural activities.

The DBA approach involves children in the organization and operation of the shelter., giving children individual responsibility for smooth operation. Children are expected to help with cleaning and maintenance as well as with the choice and set-up of activities.

Physical education sessions will be held daily and a playing field will be available.

The socio-educational activities will include storytelling, educational games and skits. Children will also stage plays and other entertainment to which all children will be invited.

Shelter residents will also hold *mela* parties for those still on the streets. A mela is two days of games, video shows, health care facilities and awareness sessions open to all. (refer activity c.1.3. & c.2.2.)

### **Step III : Protection of Vulnerable Children through Schooling, Education and Training Opportunities**

#### **C.3.1. Deliver Educational opportunities :RETURN TO SCHOOL**

Most street children are illiterate and never went to school. They either could not afford it or had to go and earn their livelihood to help support their families. They thus find school simply irrelevant. Moreover, standard classrooms teachings does not work with impulse-driven children used to fend for themselves and who expect immediate results from any effort.

Yet, if education is the key to development, they need one. DBA has developed an in-house methodology for street children to give them an elementary education and basis for planning a future. It begins with volunteer remedial teachings at the various Non-Formal educational centers or in the shelter and if the child is willing and able, provided for return to school system. To date 70% of remedially tutored children have joined the school system. These children also have the option of attending daily homework help sessions.

In the Shelter Homes priority is given to education for all. Children shall be given basic education and admitted into public and private schools. Competitive children will be given the opportunity for English medium. **Some 100 odd children from the 6 Shelter Homes** of DBA shall be integrated into formal education and followed up. Necessary tuitions in language science and homework shall be provided through the services of tuition teachers. Regular Spoken English Classes shall be given to improve their reading and writing habits.

Children and teenagers can also learn computer basics through courses given by an outside consultant .

Street child workers can dispense literacy trainings on the sidewalks in the daytime, in various clubs premises during the daytime and in the shelter in the evenings, which are open for all.

To enable return to school, numerous NFE centers already established shall be used for the non-formal education of the street children, child labourers and potential child labourers living in bustees with their families

**Some 700 odd children** shall benefit from the 10 Literacy and primary centres for their subsequent integration into the formal educational system.

### **C.3.2. Deliver Vocational Training opportunities**

Schooling goes hand in hand with vocational training. This approach gives immediate results and personal satisfaction. It suits the teenagers need best. They learn as they work and earn income from the output. They develop their skills and become productive members of society. This builds self-confidence and self-esteem as they learn the ropes of mainstream society.

The DBA Methodology is very successful at social integration through work. It stresses empowerment, helps children identify their skills, find self-respect, develop creativity and build up entrepreneurial spirit. Vocational Training targets minors aged 14-18 years.

The DBA Methodology has two parts:

- **Adjustment Phase:-** The first Phase aims to stabilize minors and identify their skills. To this end, the shelter will operate workshops for papermaking, candle making, book binding and card-painting.
  - To stabilize the children, they must learn to focus on a single activity for several hours and on training courses lasting several months. Persuading street children to obey rules and constraints means giving them skills to produce output, which has market value, generating income and personal satisfaction in children who feel deeply rejected. The first phase gives them a taste of both self-confidence and self-discipline.
- Moreover, the programme set up personal savings accounts to motivate the children even more.
- Children's output is sold on local markets or abroad through NGO partners overseas. Part of the income helps offset the cost of raw materials and tool maintenance (15% of the income the second year and 30% thereafter). The rest goes to the child, with encouragement to deposit it on her/his savings account for later purchase of a home or working tools his approach empowers the child to assume responsibility for her/his own future and develops self-esteem
- **Vocational Training:-** Real Vocational Training come online when the child finds stability and a goal in life. Vocational training takes account of the labour market demands. Courses are open to youth aged 16 years or over. 25 Trades have been established for this purpose in Howrah, Kolkata, Kalyani

and in other establishments., As before, children are expected to save profits from sales of their output in their bank account. However, they are allowed to make withdrawals for daily necessities. DBA also entertains relations to potential employers of its graduates. For this DBA has set up a Placement Cell whose main function is to create openings for employment in collaboration with potential employers.

For preventive reasons, **60 vulnerable children and young adults per year** will benefit from Vocational Training. The key sectors identified in a labour market study, could be sewing, knitting, embroidery, batik, beautician, nursing, carpentry, electricity, mechanics, air-conditioning & refrigeration, chauffeuring, welding and metallurgy, bakery. DBA has the necessary basic infrastructure to suit this project.

#### **Step IV :- Training of Community, Associative and Institutional Actors :**

The principle of training for trainers will aim at development of their skills for concrete implementation of project activities. This training at intervals defines below will make it possible to widen the impact of the project through institutional capacity building, project planning and management accounting, case management and participatory appraisal methods. Training at grassroot and community levels shall result in the enhancement and mobilisation of local resources to build up responsibility and ensure protection of child rights

##### **C.4.1. Training of trainers**

**Eight Thematic Workshops** ( 2 per year X 2 days) will be organised for the DBA Staff and instructors in the Education and Vocational Training Centres under the programmes. Each session will be led by resource persons. Sessions shall be organised on issues like sexuality and taboos, rights of the child, communication with these vulnerable children, psychological recovery in residential institutions,

**Eight Thematic** ( 2 per year X 2 days) Workshops shall be organised for the Outreach workers and counsellors. Sessions will consist of participative workshops on Rights of the Child, Drug De-addiction, Sexual abuse and exploitation, AIDS/STD, ethnic aspects of rehabilitating HIV victims, advocacy and lobbying with police and public authorities, communication with victims and group psychotherapy, psychological recovery in residential institutions,

##### **C.4.2. Training of the Community Volunteers and Institutional Actors**

The trainers prepared as detailed above shall in run be in charge of training community volunteers in their respective areas Thus **around 100 Community volunteers**, working in the their respective fields (leaders, members of Municipalities, youth clubs, small CBOs and community health centres staff) will then be mobilised.

**Twelve Training Sessions** (3 per year) either in the developmental fields or residential will be organised for the elected community volunteers and institutional actors

**Sixteen Training sessions** ( 4 per year) for the caregivers and shelter home managers/nurses shall be arranged to reinforce their capacity to take better care of the children under their care. Systematic training shall be imparted to them to build and improve capacities in areas such as stress-management, communication, problem solving and crisis management.

#### **C.4.3. Training for the beneficiaries**

**Sixteen Livelihood training programmes** ( 4 per year) shall be organised for the children, both institutionalised as well as living on the streets. These programmes shall help develop capacity building skills of the children to ensure their self-dependency once they come of age.

#### **Step V Advocacy, Campaigns through Networking :**

Lobbying at community, state and national levels shall be done to make all the institutional actors responsible for their action, spread knowledge and awareness where none prevails to sensitise and mobilize them to take systematic and cohesive steps in protection of child rights, prevention of sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking and take corrective and remedial steps for the betterment of these vulnerable "invisible" street and platform children. Workshops shall be organised regularly on these issues to standardise methods for formulations and implementation of the same.

**Four lobbying workshops** (one in each year) shall gather concerned ministry's representatives, police forces, railway police forces, judiciary and remand home authorities. The objective so these workshops will be to mobilise them against the vulnerability of children on the streets and platforms. The addressed issues will highlight their responsibility in child welfare, information campaigns, evaluation of legislations, fighting child labour, and combating sexual abuse and exploitation. This shall be done in close collaboration with Childline and Sanjog Project.

**Four State level Seminars** (one in each year) will be organised with the Government bodies/police force, judicial system to discuss the legislatures and statutes regarding violation of child rights, the means to prevent these violations and the corrective that may be designed in conjunction with NGOs, community and institutional actors. This shall be done in close collaboration with Childline and Sanjog Project.

**Step VI : Capitalisation and Standardisation of Working Methods regarding Child Protection and Rehabilitation :** Through creation of a network between the target beneficiaries, educators, community volunteers, institutional actors, local authorities for sustained growth and sustainability of the project after the end of the project financing through regular interaction sessions, sharing of information from the area concerned and setting up of standardized and coherent intervention methods. Through the abovementioned strategies a platform shall be defined wherefrom uniformity and standardization of the system of education shall derive. A mental health resource unit will be opened led by expert psychologists who will set up a standardised intervention framework.

## E. Project Phases

The first phase will be devoted to project start-up and the others are given below:

### YEAR ONE CALENDER

OPERATION	M O N T H											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Purchase/Rental of Building, Land and Equipments	x											
Renovation & Fittings	x	x	x									
Staff Hiring & Training	x	x	x	x	x	x	X	x	x	X	x	x
Programme Activities	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

### FOUR YEAR CALENDER

OPERATION	I	II	III	IV
Real Estate purchase and activity start-up	x			
Project activity	x	x	x	x
Internal Audit & Review	x	x	x	x
External Evaluation		x		x

Annual Calendars for the next years will be given in Annual Project Activity Reports.

## 1. Human Resources

**D.1. Staffing:-** All the project staff will be local people, coming mainly from the project-concerned communities and will be recruited (if not already existing) on the basis of certified qualification and an oral and/or written examination.

01 No. Programme Manager

Overall responsible for the management of the project responsible for overall supervision, administration, policy making, implementation and financial management of the project, monitoring, reporting and documentation

01 No's. Project Co-coordinator	responsible for administration, implementation and monitoring, reporting and documentation and management of the 4 specific programmes under this project viz. Kolkata Homes activities, Outreach activities, VTC activities and Placement Activities
01 Outreach Coordinator	Responsible for implementing, monitoring and documentation of outreach and street contact work in the operational area (refer to map) and for providing DBA available services both on the streets as well as to try to wean them away from street life to institutionalized care in the shelter homes of DBA.
01 VTC Coordinator	Responsible for implementing , monitoring and documentation of vocational and skill training of the children under institutionalized care to assist them for self dependency or self employment.
01 Placement Coordinator	responsible for implementation, monitoring and documentation of placement activities and networking with the labour industry for creation of placement opportunities as well as to assist children in their self employment programmes.
01 No. Accountant	responsible for consolidating financial statements and forecasting
01 No. Office Assistant	logistics, research and documentation
04 street children programme organizers	( responsible for outreach work
03 qualified and experienced psychologists	( to manage counseling unit identify needs, train and monitor mental
06 home in charges	( take care of children resident in the shelter homes)
01 Night Shelter in charge	(responsible for the children in the Night shelter and those who stay back during the day)
02 Field staff/volunteers	(responsible for assisting the outreach workers for community participation and mobilization)

10 No's teachers	(6xHome tutors, 1xscience teacher, 2xlanguage teachers, 1xComputer teacher all responsible for special educational assistance through tuitions)
08 Vocational trainers	(for training of the children and young adults)
01 No. Doctor	responsible for periodic child medication, supervision and health management
01 No. Nurse	responsible for periodic child medication, supervision and health management; to create network with the government hospitals and nursing homes; support the outreach workers from time to time to take care of medical needs of the children on the streets
6 Home cooks/cleaners	(responsible for cooking and cleaning for the Shelter Home /Night Shelter/Transit Shelter Children)
01 security person	(responsible for protection of the children in the shelter homes especially for girls)

#### H. Materials

Qty	Type of Investment	Use	Use by
02	Printer	Office use	Office
03	Computer	Office use	Office
05	Mobile phones	Use by project Executives	Programme Manager, 4 Programme Co-ordinators
01	Photocopiers	Office use	Office use
01	Scanner	Office use	Office use
04	Television sets	Project use	Project use
03	VCD Players	Project use	Project use
01	Out Door P.A. System	Project use for Awareness	Project use for Awareness
09	Audio Cassette Players	Project use	Project use
10	Furniture	Coaching Centre/NFE/ASP use	Project use
05	Book Shelves, Cabinets, etc	Project use	Office
01	Mopeds	Project use	Placement Co-ordinator

## **I.10. Perspectives of Sustainability**

### **A. Political level**

At the political level through Advocacy and Campaigns, the awareness levels shall be enhanced both at National and State level and all concerned Departments.)social Welfare Dept., Judiciary, CWC, etc) shall encourage in the reinforcement and capacity building and transformation of society towards the need for action against child right protection and prevention of child abuse and exploitation.

### **B. Socio-cultural level**

This Project will significantly modify the beneficiaries' way of life and a positive impact will be observed on the families, communities and indirect beneficiaries. By promoting rights for all the children, with emphasis on education, the object will encourage a progressive transformation within the communities. The project is basically a tool for socio-cultural changes at a local level. The significant efforts made in terms of education and campaigns will enable the communities themselves to be empowered to face the processes they themselves have started.

### **C. Economic and Financial Level**

Activities of the children can never be completely auto-financed, as a child remains a vulnerable person, whose needs must be satisfied, and is a non-productive person from an economic point of view.

The objective of the funding agency is to withdraw completely from managing the project at the end of the proposed project but the sustainability process will be supported by Ashalayam through on-going training, financing and structuring. Ashalayam shall develop new autonomous financial capacities or exploit existing ones and shall thus be able to extend their influence as well as make contacts at a Regional and International level.

In its 20 years of work, Ashalayam already has developed close partnerships with different organisation all over the world, UNICEF, UNESCO, Groupe Developpement-France, ECPAT-Luxembourg, CCFD-France, ASA-France, ASA-Swiss, our Associations in Germany, Italy, etc who have during the past, and still continue to assist us in our various projects. At the end of the project duration, lobbying from Ashalayam shall encourage them to provide additional funds to face the issue. Thus fortified with education and training skills they, once they come of age, can exploit on the labour market, and the savings they have made during the rehabilitation stage will enable them to act autonomously. They will become productive and active citizens of their society.

### **D. Organizational Level**

As explained earlier, the system which has been structured and organized these past 20 years along with the reinforcements that this proposed project shall further augment the next few years shall further strengthen the continuation and management of the project. Capacity reinforcement and participation of the final beneficiaries will be ensured through education of the child and teenager community groups by staff members. Like past year, at the end of this proposed project also, there shall be ensurement of the viability of the activities. This shall be

mainly ensured by the beneficiaries, both direct and indirect, who will be teenagers and young people in this Project.

### **Assumptions and risks related to sustainability**

#### **I. Financial Assumptions and Risk related to sustainability:-**

- No major international incidents modify radically the areas of priority.
- The concerned geographical area does not undergo any major natural disaster.

#### **2. Institutional Assumptions and risk related to sustainability:-**

- Participation and co-operation of the community and beneficiaries in the activities undertaken by all the partners in the project
- No or low staff turnover.
- Collaboration between grassroot organizations and partners is given

#### **3. Social and Cultural Assumptions related to sustainability:-**

- Families understand the significance of education and training and particularly for the girls
- Social environment created is stimulating
- Communities participate in the awareness campaigns.

## **II. MECHANISMS OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION**

### **II.1. Division of responsibilities**

#### **Partners of DBA**

#### **Target Groups:-**

The children themselves shall be the key actors of the whole process. The project will teach them how to organize themselves in the form of representative child/teenage groups, animated by peers/leaders. As they are directly concerned by the project, they will take part in all meetings, preparatory sessions, implementation activities, project management and evaluation. They will be in a position to propose their vision, give their analysis and ensure information feedbacks on on-going activities. Thus "technically" taking part in the project through organisation of public awareness campaigns, school support to young people.

#### **CBO's:-**

CBO's will participate in the diffusion of training of trainers and community volunteers and they will be responsible for education, schooling and improvement of child recover conditions. They will be identified and followed up by Ashalayam and will thus benefit from a transfer of their expertise. They will take part in the project planning (i.e., prioritize needs, consult and mobilize their community), implementation (through contribution with available resources, organisation and follow-up of actions), management and evaluation. Support to CBO's is important because they constitute priceless resources which are often ignored by fund donors.

**Institutional actors:-** They will be also involved an all stages of the project. Some of them belong to the Advisory Committees which will be in charge of the follow-up of the project at Ashalayam Level. The Department of Social Affairs and the Department of Children Welfare have already offered their support to Ashalayam in the past and have renewed their willingness for active participation in this project. Reciprocally, some of the project activities correspond to request made by the public authorities (institutional staff trainings)

**Co-ordination and Technical Management of the project by the Funding Agency:- The Funding Agency or his representative** will oversee the project co-ordination and also provide technical assistance to the organisation through:- **Programme Management and Planning**-providing guidance in educational interventions, policy developments, programme management, community development; **Performance Monitoring** – developing and strengthening performance monitoring systems, setting and tracking targets and providing outreach assistance; **Financial Management**- Strengthening organizational budgeting, financial management and financial reporting capabilities.

## **II.2.. MONITORING AND EVALUATION (Annexure-II)**

Project activities justify the setting up of a continuous monitoring and evaluation procedures for analyzing not only the quantifiable results but also quality of services offered and the reality of the co-operation between the actors in charge of providing access to the vulnerable children to quality education and their subsequent retention in the educational system. The monitoring of the whole project will be ensured by the Project manager in direct relationship with the Funding Agency which will provide their continuous technical support. The Project manager will foster the active participation of the institutional actors in the project monitoring so that the local authorities and the civil society will be mutually responsible for the activities. Project monitoring will be made according to a specific procedure: preparation of an operational plan, development of the appropriate follow-up tools; comparison with the result of the researches; monthly meeting of the project co-ordinators, CBO's and Beneficiaries; monthly reports from the technical team and a consolidated general report. Quarterly meetings of the project representatives at Ashalayam Head Office, semi-annual meetings of the Management of Ashalayam for the assessment of the actions.

The accountant based in Ashalayam, which will be the co-ordinating office, will prepare the quarterly, half-yearly and annual consolidated Financial Reporting. A financial audit will be made on a yearly basis that shall be forwarded to the financial partner along with relevant report.

**One interim Report** will be produced internally in the middle of each project year in collaboration with the Funding Agency. For that purpose, missions will be organised, involved staff and beneficiaries will be interviewed, all project documents will be reviewed and recommendations will be given. **An external evaluation** could also be made by an appropriate organisation specialized in evaluating child welfare programme and networking systems with special emphasis on education and schooling, training, Shelter Home activities and outreach work in the operational areas. This evaluation will judge the impact of the project by taking into account the figures of children contacted and DBA services, children sent for schooling/training and other figures from the intervention areas.

III. FINANCIAL PLAN
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**III.1. Procurement of services**

The cost towards retention of services of qualified and experienced service providers has been depicted in the Financial Budget attached herewith as **Annexure III**

*Total of procurement services* ..... 9,987,130.00

**III.2. Cost of personnel**

The cost of personnel has been depicted in the Financial Budget attached herewith as **Annexure-III**

*Total of Cost of personnel* ..... 11,806,704.00

**III.3. Procurement of Furniture and Fixtures**

Furniture and Fixtures including procurement of machines and accessories for training, educational materials, etc., shall be needed for the various Shelter Homes, Outreach Programme, Education (formal and non-formal) and Training Programme and project documentation work.

The cost of procurement of furniture and fixture, machines and accessories has been depicted in the Financial Budget attached herewith as **Annexure-III**.

*Total of procurement of Furniture and Fixtures* ..... 9,691,240.0

**III.4. Procurement of Real Estate**

The cost of procurement/rental of real estate necessitated by the various project activities has been depicted in the Financial Budget attached herewith as **Annexure-III**

*Total of Procurement of Real Estate* ..... nil

**III.5. Guarantee Fund/Working Capital/Revolving Credit Fund**

*Total of Working Capital* ..... 55,037,612.00

**TOTAL** ..... 31,485,074.00

(Sum of total indicated in III.1. to III.5 above)

**Annexures**

- |                                       |       |              |
|---------------------------------------|-------|--------------|
| 1. Logical Framework.....             | ..... | Annexure-I   |
| 2. Monitoring and Evaluation Schedule | ..... | Annexure-II  |
| 3. Financial Budget .....             |       | Annexure-III |

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