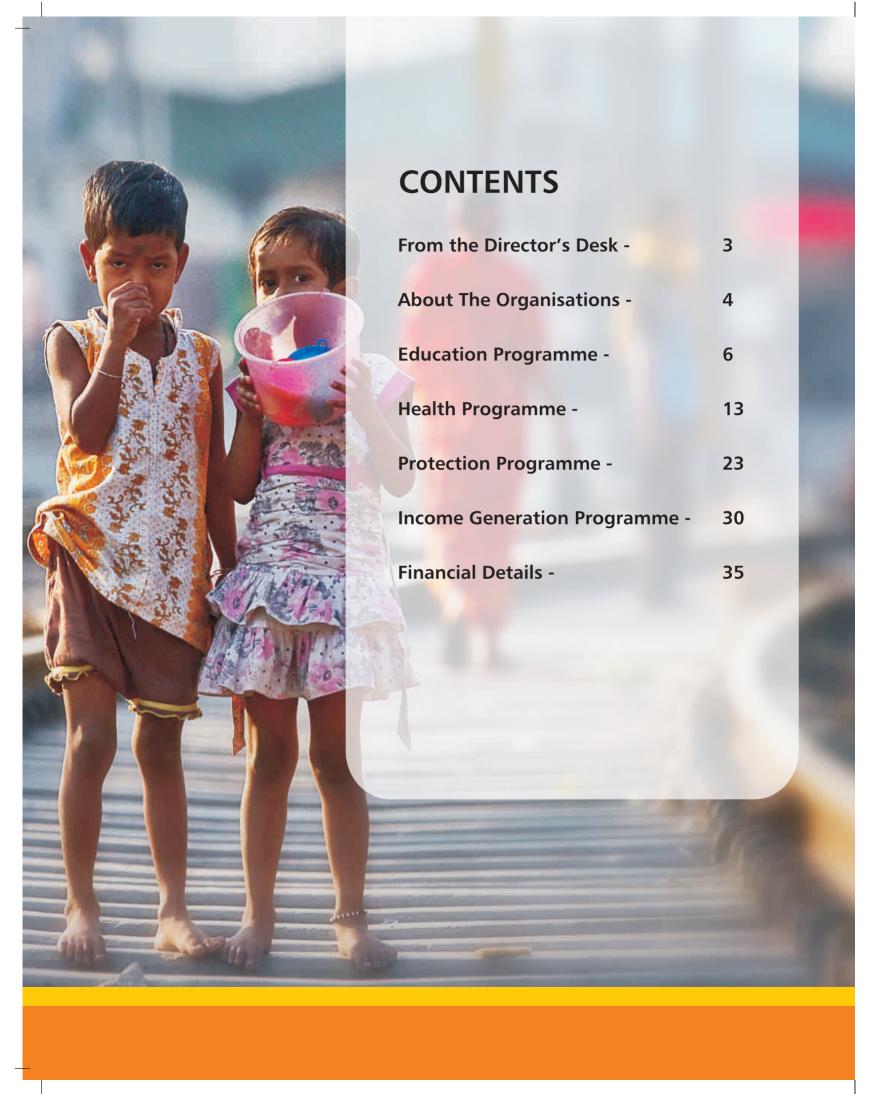


# ANNUAL OVERVIEW 2010 - 11 2010 - 11

the hope foundation





# HOPE FOUNDATION FOREWORD: From Director's Desk

Today here in Ireland, it is difficult to escape the everyday realities the current economic downturn has played in the lives of countless individuals. Earlier this year, the unemployment rate in Ireland soared to the highest rate in decades with news of job losses and businesses closing, flooding our media. However, this crisis is not confined to our Green Isle but has filtered throughout the global economy, once again hitting those living in the direst of poverty, the hardest. For these, the most poverty-stricken families on this earth, it has resulted in the denial of the most basic necessities of life. Here the recession has resulted in hundreds of thousands of premature deaths, particularly for the most vulnerable sectors of societies; women and children. Such desperately poor people, who are denied access to safety nets such as social welfare, are forced to live utterly dependent on the generosity and kindness of others to stave off starvation.

The Hope Foundation through the generosity of spirit of the public, our various private and corporate donors, Irish Aid, volunteers and staff continue to work tirelessly in Kolkata (Calcutta), India since 1999. HOPE is committed to the the holistic care, development, protection and guaranteeing of human rights to the most disadvantaged and isolated communities of Kolkata. Through development education and awareness, we here at HOPE strive to reignite the public's selfless nature by remembering those most affected by the recession and reminding people that the smallest of gestures here make the world of difference to those suffering in the developing world. The benevolence of *you*, has to-date enabled us to reach thousands of street children, providing them with health, education, protection, love and support, releasing them from the vicious cycle of poverty, restoring their childhoods and building foundations for their futures.

Last month tragedy struck the Hope offices in both Kolkata and Ireland, with the sudden death of Papiya, at the tender age of 3. After a life of illness young Papiya passed away from Hope Mother and Child Unit on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2011, to the sheer devastation of staff and children alike. News of Papiya quickly dispersed among HOPE staff and volunteers, and we were inundated with calls and e-mails from those who now and will always remember her warm smile and playful personality. It is the real sense of community among all those involved with HOPE that strengthens and supports our team when they are most vulnerable. Papiya will remain in our hearts and although her life was cut too short, she will continue to motivate and encourage us be the beam of hope for other vulnerable street children of Kolkata, whose futures lie faithfully in our hands.

I cannot express my sincere sense of gratitude to each and every past, present and future supporter of our work here at HOPE and wish to **thank you all** for your generosity both big and small over the years. While recognising the hardships that you and your family may be experiencing, I dare to appeal to your warmhearted nature and implore you to act now to ease the burden of the daily struggles faced by Kolkata's children.

We cannot continue to work without you - TOGETHER WE ARE HOPE

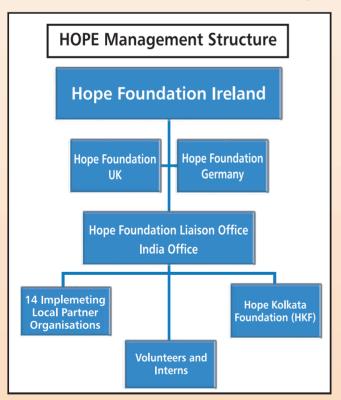
**Maureen Forrest (Honorary Director)** 

# **About the Organisation**

The Hope Foundation is a rights based civil society organization working for the underprivileged section of the society in order to ensure their rights; specially for women and children.

Irish woman Maureen Forrest set up the Hope Foundation in 1999 to restore basic human rights to the street children of Kolkata. Unicef (2002, p37) estimates that close to 100 millions children were living on the streets around the world with 11 million of these children living in India. While the final-figure is difficult to pin point, due to the transient nature of the street dwellers, these figures are commonly cited internationally. In 1999, The World Health Organisation published a report entitled 'Street Children: A One way street', detailing many of the reasons that children find themselves living on the streets. Reasons cited include family breakdown, armed conflict, poverty, natural and man-made disasters, physical and sexual abuse, exploitation by adults, acculturation, dislocation through migration, urbanization and overcrowding.

Whatever the reason for their homelessness, Hope has made a promise to the street children of Kolkata to work towards their advancement and protection. Hope comes to meet the street children



of Kolkata where they are; on the streets, in child labor and in crisis situations offering the hand up they so desperately need to grow and live a Childs life. Maureen Forrest (Midnights Lost Child, 2007) has commented "we need to give these children as normal a childhood as you or I know a childhood to be". This is an integral guiding principle which underlies the work of The Hope Foundation: giving children a safe and child friendly childhood. Whilst living on the street children can be subject to malnutrition, hunger, health problems, substance abuse, theft, commercial sexual exploitation of children as well as physical and sexual abuse.

During the past ten years the organisation

has grown and expanded into differnet project areas that are more focused on community development and women. Through years of experience in development, HOPE has learnt that to truly reach out to underprivileged children; their mothers, family and community must be included in every

step of the intervention. Now the organisation has developed the programmatic approach and working in the areas of Education, Health, Protection, Gender, Income Generation and Skill Development. The organisation has an effective Project Management Unit. This unit monitors the effectiveness and evaluates the efficiency of the projects. It ensures the maximum utilization of resources and accountability to the funds received from the donors.

#### Mission:

Holistic care and development of severely underprivileged section of the society in order to ensure their rights.

#### Vision:

Improving the quality of life of the underprivileged vulnerable population.

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) was developed and applied by the Oxford Poverty and

## Why INDIA...???

Eight Indian states, including Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, together account for more poor people than the 26 poorest African nations combined, a new "multidimensional" measure of global poverty has said.

Human Development Initiative (OPHI) with UNDP support and will feature in the forthcoming 20th anniversary edition of the UNDP Human Development Report due late October.

The MPI, which supplants the Human Poverty Index, assesses a range of critical factors or "deprivations" at the household level: from education to health outcomes to assets and services.

An analysis by MPI creators reveals that there are more 'MPI poor' people in eight Indian states (42.1 crore in Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal) than in the 26 poorest African countries combined (41 crore\*).

In fact, according to the new measure that includes key services such as water, sanitation and electricity, half of the world's poor live in South Asia (51% or 84.4 crore\*) and one quarter in Africa (28% or 45.8 crore\*).

42 crore\* poor in Bihar, Jharkhand, UP, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Rajasthan and West Bengal compared to 41 crore\* in 26 of Africa's poorest countries

Half of world's poor (48.4 crore\*) live in south Asia, a quarter in Africa (45.8 crore\*), says new Multidimensional Poverty Index

Of 104 countries surveyed (5.2bn people in all), 1.7bn live in poverty.

(Source: The Economic Times, July 13, 2010) (BBC—Co, UK) (\*) 1 Crore [1,00,00,000] = 10 Million

# **EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

The real difficulty is that people have no idea of what education truly is. We assess the value of education in the same manner as we assess the value of land or of shares in the stock-exchange market. We want to provide only such education as would enable the student to earn more. We hardly give any thought to the improvement of the character of the educated. The girls, we say, do not have to earn; so why should they be educated? As long as such ideas persist there is no hope of our ever knowing the true value of education. (M. K. Gandhi True Education on the NCTE site)

AMONG ONE OF THE LEADING PRIORITIES FOR THE HOPE FOUNDATION IS ITS COMMITMENT TO ENSURE THAT EVERY GIRL AND EVERY BOY COMPLETES A QUALITY, PRIMARY - SCHOOL EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION & LIFE SKILL EDUCATION.



# **EDUCATING CHILDREN**

The Hope Foundation is strongly committed to providing a good education to the children and adults in its care with the key aim of breaking the cycle of poverty. The Hope projects teach basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills and also help students to understand important issues such as good nutrition and diet and how to develop good decision making skills. Hope teachers support children towards continuing education in mainstream schooling and work with teachers in awareness training in areas such as child protection and the basic health and psychological needs of children. Hope also works with teenagers and adults with basic literacy skills and offers them guidance and support in training for and achieving jobs in the workplace and becoming self sufficient. While it covers a range of educational areas, the vast majority of its students are children, with some teenagers and a smaller number of adults.

HOPE encourages child sponsorship to help and support needy children. This creates opportunities for marginalized children who are meritorious to continue their education. Through sponsorship HOPE supports these underprivileged children to continue their secondary and higher secondary education and, if desired, higher education.

#### **EDUCATION PROGRAMME**



Avik is the only child of his parents. His father is a tea vendor and his mother is a house-wife. Avik suffers from hemophilia – a genetic disorder that impairs the body's ability to control blood clotting or coagulation. Even a few years back he had no hopes of leading a normal life, let alone pursuing his dreams of becoming a doctor. His childhood was spent in the shadow of his disorder which prevented him from taking part in games or other outdoor activities. He had always been a very bright student and spent most of his time with his books as his parents did not have the means to engage him otherwise. Determined not to be cowed down by his disability, he passed his school leaving examina-

tion with flying colors and cleared the difficult Joint Entrance Examination which made him eligible to study medicine. However he did not have the required funds to pursue medical studies. Besides, the nature of his illness is such that he requires frequent blood transfusions, which is an expensive procedure. Avik was resigned to the fact that despite his obvious talents and industriousness he would probably have to let go of this opportunity and face an uncertain future. It was at this point that Avik was brought under the fold of Hope's Education Sponsorship Program. With our support and encouragement, Avik has been able to pursue his much cherished dream of studying medicine and at this point of time he is on the verge of getting his MBBS degree which will make him a fully qualified physician. He said that his association with Hope and the subsequent turnaround in his life has bolstered his confidence and he no longer sees himself as a victim of his disorder but views his illness as another challenge which is to be accepted face on and overcome. He views his future with optimism and hopes to pursue higher studies in medicine.



Santosh is a remarkable young man who despite his family circumstances has reached this far through his own grit and perseverance. He is very focused to achieve his goals and is a good example of how one can overcome the odds in life to create his own place in the sun. He was in a local school and through his own merit and hard work he secured admission in the reputed Khalsa English High School in class IX. He has excelled in The Secondary and Senior Secondary Examinations and has been popular with his peers and teachers who speak very highly of him. His patience and hard work paid off when he secured a seat in "Future Institute of Management and Engineering" after qualifying through the Joint Entrance Ex-

amination in July 2009. Santosh's family consists of his father, mother and two brothers. His father is an autorickshaw driver, who earns a meager income. His mother, who is a pillar of strength to the children, supplements the family income by working as a domestic worker. Santosh has two younger brothers one of whom is in school and the other will be joining college this year. Santosh has been in our Education Sponsorship Program since 2002 and observing his motivation right through these years, we feel that all the time and money that we have invested in this young man has been very worthwhile. He deserves all the support that he can get so that he can be quoted as an example of what hard work and ambition can do in life. He is still continuing his education successfully.

SPONSOR A CHILD
SPONSOR HOPE EDUCATION CENTER
SPONSOR BOOKS, SCHOOL UNIFORMS
SPONSOR FOOD FOR THE CHILDREN IN
EDUCATION CENTER

Give a Gift of Education



#### **HOLISTIC EDUCATION PROGRAMME**

# **OBJECTIVES**

Improved children's development readiness to start primary school on time especially the vulnerable poor children.

Improved education status of target children (3 to 18 years) of 4 operational pockets. (Under the ward no.39, 40 and Panchpara and Belgachia (Bhagar) Panchayat area of the city of Howrah).

Increased awareness regarding the need of education through the creation of community based Peer Groups.

Increased awareness on child protection at different levels of the society by enabling it regarding the rights of the children.

Improved access to existing Govt. resources by network building and advocacy.

# **COVERAGE**

HOPE runs 8 Crèches covering 330 children below 6 years of age and provides pre-primary education.

HOPE has set up 37 coaching centers in 27 slums to provide remedial guidance to 2315 children attending formal school.

HOPE has supported 161 children belonging to very poor families to get mainstreamed in formal school,

As a result of remedial guidance support 1455 children were successfully promoted in the next class.

Children attending the education centers are deprived of their basic educational rights. In order to support their education HOPE provides educational materials to the children.

17 peer groups were formed consisting of 228 children aged between 8 to 16 years. These children attended 3 day workshops on Self-exploration, Teamwork and Leadership, Action Project Planning and Implementation. Further training was given to students on Children's Rights issues and Health and hygiene. The Peer Educators participated in the Bol Jamoore – A Festival of Street Theatre in Kolkata organised by "Theatre Forum for Child Rights" (TFCR).

Children attending the education centers have been provided with regular nutrition, hygiene check up..

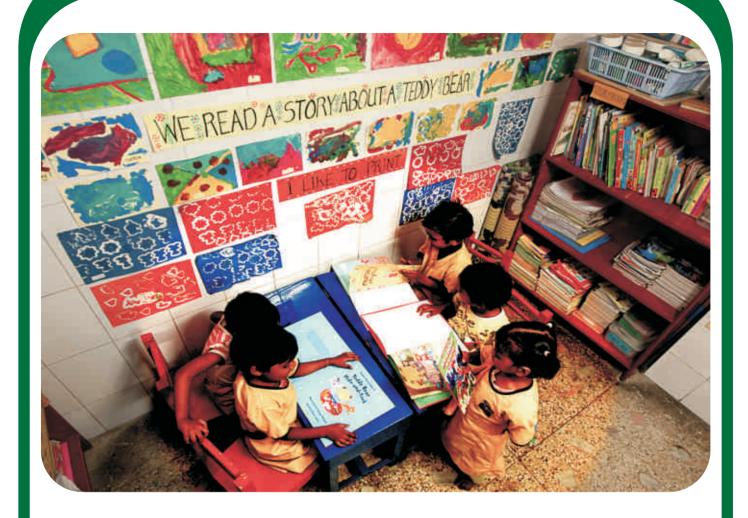
Social Workers regularly monitor the growth and development of the children and if required provide emergency health support to the children.

Social Workers have sensitized 6978 number of community people on different issues like—Right to Education Act, Child Protection, Education and Development.

20 parents committees have been formed to ensure community participation in the project. Now parents are being capacitated to run the education centers better.

Training modules were developed for the teachers to help them to improve their ability to deal with children in teaching, motivating and disciplining. Two trainings were conducted for 54 teachers of education programme.





# **HOPE Froebel Partnership**

As part of the Hope-Froebel Partnership, now in its third year, lecturers from Froebel College visited India for workshops with the coaching centre teachers. In June 2010, 32 Froebel students came over on a inter-cultural teacher training visit and were placed in pairs in 16 different centres. The Froebel students displayed a variety of methodologies used in Ireland to the Indian teachers and taught the children phonics, drama, art, music, numeracy games and number rhymes and songs. It was a very worthwhile experience for both Irish and Indian teachers and many of the Froebel visitors planned to come again as HOPE volunteers independently next summer.

# **Changing lives...**



Purnima Chakraborty lives in Kalighat along with her younger sister & her mother on the stairs of the KMC-building for last 4yrs. They came to the city in search of a better income. Her mother started working as a domestic helper. As she came from the village in the middle of the academic session she was unable to get admission in formal school and also she was unable to pay the fees & buy new school dress. Education project staff have a good relationship with the formal school so with their co-operation, she was enrolled in the nearby school. She was finding it difficult to cope up with studies which are different from her previous

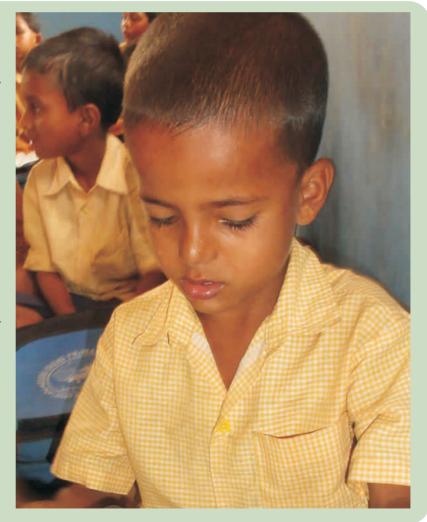
school in the village. So she joined the Kalighat coaching centre. Teachers started the process of teaching slowly as she was really afraid of study. Within 2yrs her mother developed skin disease and she had to take leave on a regular basis, so Purnima had to start supporting her mother in everyday work. The school provided support such as allowing her to pay her fees in installment and provided school dress. Every support was given by the education staff. Regular visit & continuous support helped her to pass her class X Board Examination. She wants to continue her study & the organization will support her in every aspect.

#### Nabadisha - Education Center for Street Children

HOPE runs four Nabadisha Centers in four police stations— New Market, Topsia, Tollyganj and Gariahat. The project aims to educate street children through formal and non-formal education. It is a step ahead to mainstream the street children in order to reduce the criminal activities and build a better society.

Last year 221 children were provided with necessary support; such as— nutrition, education, health and recreation.

From Tollygunge Nabadisha Amit Biswas appeared for Madhyamik Examination (Class X Board Examination) and Rahul Biswas Higher Secondary Board Examination (Class XII Board Examination). It is a great achievement for the teachers of the Tollygunge Centre, who had given special attention to these 2 children, to prepare them for the most important examination of their lives.



# Each child is special...

# EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FOR SPECIAL NEED CHILDREN

There is a residential unit for children with special needs. It is dedicated to the special needs of 12 children between 2 and 7 years of age who have special needs due to cerebral palsy. The centre aims to make the children as self reliant as possible and offer them a quality standard of living. As these children require help with activities of daily living, all opportunities throughout the day are seen as a learning process. They are taught with picture books and posters and get intense educational and speech stimulation from teachers. Physiotherapy forms an integral part of their rehabilitation to improve their motor skills.

# STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CARE THROUGH EDUCATION PROJECTS

The challenge of children in conflict with the law and children in need of care and protection are the subject of constant and widespread public discussion in recent years. The government solution is often to resort to institutionalization of juvenile offenders, but HOPE seeks to help these children by mainstreaming them, all of whom are victims of poverty.

The HOPE education projects cover three government run homes for such child victims. The homes provide care and support to child victims of various forms of social oppression and facilitates social reintegration. The counseling components of the project aim to reduce a child's distress and discomfort and help him/her to recuperate physically and emotionally. Skill development training is provided to the home functionaries such as superintendents, social workers, teachers, counselors as well as other staff involved in giving care and support to the children.



# From Liam's Diary

In India's fast growing economy we are being shown time and time again that to really get ahead in the workplace a high level of English is required. At the Hope Foundation we are dedicated to giving all our children every possible tool they need to maximize their potential. We felt that there was a need for a program to support students in their learning of English. To this end The Hope Foundation English program was started in December 2010.

Based on the acclaimed Macmillan series of English books for young children we aim to put in place a solid foundation for our children's language development. The important skills of reading, speaking, writing and listening are all incorporated in the syllabus and we follow the 'communicative' approach to teaching. This means more emphasis on exercises and games that get the children speaking the language. Having fun is an important element. This approach to teaching is still not widespread in India and this is where we believe that our children can gain an advantage. At present the program is in operation in 5 protection homes and in all of our 31 coaching centres, reaching approximately 1800 children and over 70 teachers. The program is now well under way and the results have been very encouraging. The children have shown an amazing appetite to learn. The teachers are also benefiting through regular training sessions. As the children's English is improving so is the teacher's. This fits in to our belief in sustainability. Eventually, we will be able to promote some of these teachers to take over the running of the program. Presently, a student of 16 years old can attempt level 3 of our program. It is our target within a couple of years to have students of 12/13 years old attempting Level 3.



Venture Scout Troops from Mount Argus, Crumlin, Walkinstown and Donore Avenue in Dublin travelled to India. 40 Scouts first visited HOPE Projects and then travelled to Birbhum to undertake the construction of a school for the tribal children in Mohammadbazar Block in partnership with HOPE.

They lived in the village for 26 days and volunteered for HOPE. They interacted with the villagers, taught the children, played soccer with the villagers and got an exposure to a different culture. Hundreds of children from the villages are now attending classes in the school constructed by Scouting Ireland.

# **HEALTH PROGRAMME**

To keep the body in good health is a duty, otherwise we shall not be able to keep our mind strong and clear. —Buddha

The Hope Foundation works to increase access to healthcare facilities; improve water and sanitation facilities and improve health awareness among the slum dwelling population of Kolkata and Howrah. Hope aims to improve basic health status of the slum dwelling population in a sustainable way.

Jana Swasthya Suraksha— [Community Health Care] Through Awareness, Access, Action & Advocacy



Jana Swasthya Suraksha is a community healthcare programme that is operated and implemented by HOPE and its partner organisations, which promote health seeking behaviour in slum communities through action advocacy and access.

Support for communities to gain access to resources for local development and the improvement of essential services.

HOPE supports over 35 mobile and fixed clinics that cater to the health needs of the slum and street population. Through these clinics, Hope has reached out to 16,071 adult patients and 12,835 child patients in the year 2010-11. Cases are referred to the government hospitals and to any other hospitals or nursing homes through the doctors in the clinic as well as through the Nurse/Health Workers. Total of 7,043 cases referred to government hospitals. Patients were provided with emergency treatment support.

Support for communities to participate in development at local and national levels.

HOPE has formed 57 community health groups consisting of 592 community health volunteers. Each group was made up of 2 adult males, 4 adult females, 3 adolescent males and 3 adolescent females. This was to ensure that each gender and age group had access to a member of their community that was familiar with the problems they faced. Social Workers have built the capacities of the community health volunteers on issues like—reproductive child health, adolescent health, communicable and non-communicable diseases, disease control programmes, govt. schemes. Social Workers and Community Health Volunteers have organized 274 awareness camps and 247 campaigns on health issues. Through these camps and campaigns they have tried to improve the level of information among the community people on health issues.



Support for communities to respond effectively to pregnant mothers and new born baby.

Community Health Volunteers were also responsible for facilitating access to the Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) scheme. Through educating pregnant women on reproductive health, their rights and entitlements and facilitating access to the health services under this scheme, the community volunteers identified potential beneficiaries and registered them in JSY. A total of 208 women received payment for fully undergoing antenatal care and a further 102 women received payment after giving birth in a health facility. The volunteers also recorded 348 women giving birth in hospital whilst 29 opted for home delivery. Other than these, they have provided regular Family Planning Kits to the eligible couples and also facilitated 123 ligation cases.

Support for communities to improve water and sanitation facilities.

The organisation had built 24 community latrines. The organisation has formed 20 WATSAN (Water & Sanitation) Committee consisting of community people. The responsibility of this committee is to get contribution from the community people and maintenance of the tube wells and latrines.

Strengthening the voice of civil society organizations.

HOPE actively engaged in networking with local government. The purpose of the networking was to inform local government of the activities of the programme, to gain information and access to government schemes and to give community volunteers who accompanied social workers exposure to the workings of local government. Because of the networking, 30 people received BPL Cards, 345 children provided with Birth Certificates, 20 people got the card of health insurance, 225 people received support under SASPFUW (State Assisted Scheme of Provident Fund for Unorganized Sector Worker).







Witnessing the power of grassroots filmmaking to engage and revolutionize communities inspired the formation of the Community Video Program. Apna Disha TV is a local production company run by up to 12 community members trained in all aspects of video production and distribution. It has two video cameras, one computer, one TV/VCR and one wide screen projector for outdoor screenings. It produces multiple videos on a continual monthly basis. Its videos are seen by up to 10,000 people per month in community settings alone.

Solutions-Based Media Each CVU produces "Video News Magazine" every six weeks. The content of the Magazine is decided by a Community Editorial Board based on viewer feedback and key campaign issues. Different segments might include:

Community News – the issues of poor communities, such as government schemes, local health issues and upcoming events that are not covered by the mainstream news

Opinion Polls – that capture community consensus and call to action on particular issues

Success Stories – such as families that have found economic success through educating their girls

Short Documentaries – for example, stories where families speak out against alcoholism

Legal Tips - i.e., what to do if your name is not on a voter's list

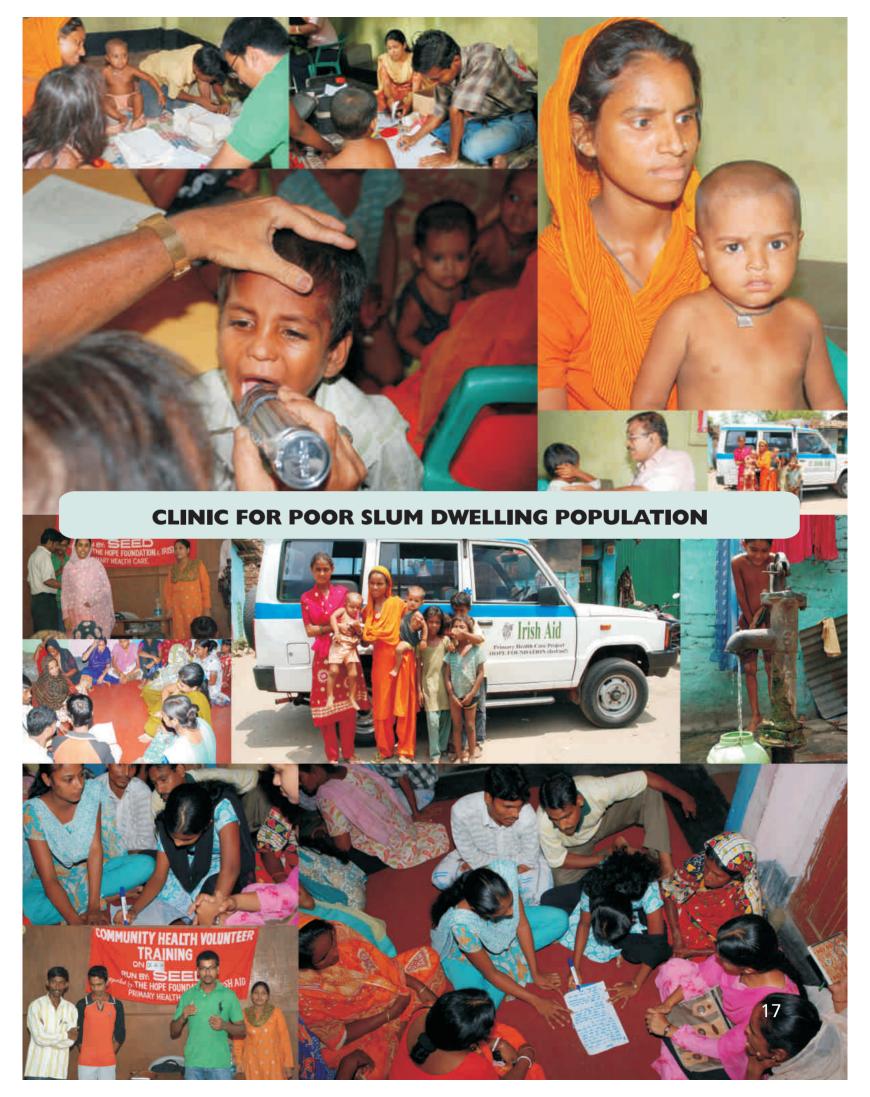
Local Culture and Music – could be introductions to the festivals of another community/religion

Expose/video raids – such as short clips of closed government health services followed by an on-the-fly interview with the concerned government officials

Editorial – where the organization and the reporters take their stand-for-change on the issue and give follow up action points

Local humour/jokes/skits – because we need to make people laugh!

Apna Disha TV has produced 2 Video Magazines- one on water problems in the urban slums of Kolkata and Howrah and the second on the ICDS Service in Kolkata and Howrah area. Throughout the year, 50 screenings of the video have been shown to more than 3050 people.



# **Community Based Rehabilitation of Homeless Mentally III**

Naya Daur is a sustainable community based care and support program for the homeless mentally ill – a program that weaves together state, private and community into a network of resources that not only cares for the beneficiary population, but works actively towards making them productive members of families and community. In a resource scarce environment, the community model has proven to be costeffective – by using infrastructure and services already available with the state, other NGOs and CBOs and individual citizens, the organization has been able to support a larger number of beneficiaries than they would have if they had followed a conventional institution-based approach. 183 homeless mentally ill patients were identified and brought under the fold of the program.10 patients were rehabilitated to their homes. 20 Awareness Camps were held in the year attended by 657 people. 3 Advocacy Meetings were held attended by 85 people.

Nazma was discovered in the Sealdah Station on January 2010. She seemed to be suffering from complete



social isolation and had no interaction with people around her. She was also found to be muttering to herself and her speech was incoherent and she made no eye contact. After medical examination she was found to be suffering from schizophrenia. The social workers established rapport with her by interacting with her on a regular basis and she agreed to take medicine. As the treatment continued improvement in her condition was observed and she began to interact more often and was able to engage in meaningful conversation. She revealed that she was married and that her husband worked in a telecom company. She also said that she had been treated for schizophrenia before and had even been hospitalized. Nazma was finally able to provide her address which was in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. The local police station was contacted and her family was notified. Finally Nazma was restored to her family on 26.11.2010.

# Rehabilitation of Orthopedically Handicapped Children through Corrective Surgery

The project is designed to provide comprehensive rehabilitation to orthopedically handicapped children belonging to the weaker section of the community with special emphasis on rural belts of different districts of West Bengal. The project enables these children to lead a meaningful life without being a burden on society. The project identifies, assesses and provides appropriate medical rehabilitation to the orthopedically handicapped children up to 14 years of age. In a year 1150 patients were treated in 98 clinics held. 150 children underwent corrective surgeries. 2014 children received immunization from 47 immunization camps conducted. 10 Early Identification camps were organized in the year attended by 404 patients from whom 95 patients were identified. 24 Awareness Camps were held and which were attended by 1543 people. 353 children received treatment in 106 cerebral palsy clinics run in the year.

Bijay Chalok is a boy of about 13yrs. He had Bilateral Congenital Talipes Equinovarus (C.T.E.V) - or in com-



mon parlance club foot - on both feet. His deformity was of rigid type on the right side and he came to RCFC on 05.06.10 for correction of his deformity. The deformity of the left foot was of minor degree and was corrected previously outside RCFC. At RCFC he underwent surgery on his right foot (Extensive PMR –ETA, Steindher, Post. Capsulotomy). This was followed by regular physiotherapy and on 11.11.2010 another surgery was performed (calcaneal osteotomy) and a Kirschner Wire was fixed on his right foot. His foot was then put on splints and later he was provided with surgical shoes from RCFC's mobility aid workshop. This was followed by gait training within parallel bars and crutch walking training. Bijay was finally released on 01.01.2011 having completed his treatment.

#### **HOPE HOSPITAL**

The Hope Hospital was established in May 2008 to specifically cater to the secondary healthcare needs of street and slum dwelling children and adults. It consists of an Indoor Department, Outdoor Department, Surgical Department and Diagnostic Centre. The Hospital's structure was designed so that each of these coordinates and supports each other to ensure that patients receive a high quality service. The Inpatient Department consists of 30 beds with an equal division between the male and female ward. Priority is always given to child patients in terms of bed availability.

The Outpatient Department caters to both above and below poverty line people and has a central role in the hospital. The consultant doctors are used to provide referral for patients from below line households to the inpatient department, order their required tests, provide diagnosis and also arrange for their surgery and after care. For patients who do not require Inpatient care, the consultant doctors provide care, diagnosis and treatment with support from the diagnostic centre. In a few cases where Inpatient care is not required, they also refer patients for surgery at the Hope Hospital.

The Surgical Department caters to both inpatients and outpatients. Initial Consultation is conducted through the clinics at the outpatient department. If surgery is required, patients are moved to the Inpatient department provided their surgeries can be conducted in the hospital itself. Other cases are referred to hospitals where their surgeries can be conducted. The surgical department also has full access to the testing facilities at the diagnosis centre.

The Pathology Department is equipped with a medium sized laboratory and staffed by a Pathologist, Biochemist, two laboratory technicians and an assistant. In accordance with 'The West Bengal Clinical Establishment Rules, 2003', the pathology department is only permitted to conduct certain tests such as LFT, Lipid Profile, Renal Function etc. Samples which cannot be tested in the hospital are referred to other diagnostic centers.

The X-ray Department is equipped with an x-ray machine and staffed by a radiologist and x-ray technician. The Cardiology Department is equipped with ECG machine, echocardiology and colour Doppler machine and staffed by cardiologist and nurse. Finally, the Sonology Department is equipped with USG machine and staffed by sonologist and nurse.

The Hope Hospital is registered with the Government of West Bengal and is fully compliant with 'The West Bengal Clinical Establishment Rules, 2003' as set down by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of West Bengal.

A total of 442 patients were admitted in the Inpatient Department and 13 patients were carried from the previous year. Of the 455 patients, 405 were released after treatment, 10 were transferred to other hospital for specialized treatment and 14 patients passed away. 26 patients remained in the hospital as of March 30th 2011. Of the total patients this year, 258 were male and 197 were female.

A total of 245 adult patients were treated and there were 210 child patients, 86 were aged between 10-18 years, 68 were aged between 5-9 years and 56 were recorded as being aged between 0-4 years.

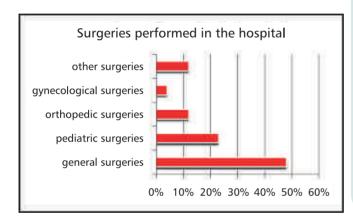
In the Outpatient Department, a total of 1105 clinics were held and 7098 patients were treated.

In the childcare clinics a total of 278 vaccines were given to children.

In the pathology department of the Diagnostic Centre, a total of 5,493 patients' samples were tested. As the pathology department tests each sample for a number of different illnesses, the actual amount of tests conducted were 7,646.

There were 63 general surgeries, 34 pediatric surgeries, 16 orthopedic surgeries, 5 gynecological surgeries and 16 other types of surgeries carried out in the Hope Hospital. All patients received aftercare in the HOPE hospital and follow up by the consultant doctors.

Breakdown of Patients Treated in OPD	No of Clinics Held	No of patients treated
General Medicine	468	2414
Childcare	227	1553
Gynecology	81	335
Eye	90	234
ENT	35	136
Dermatology	97	1835
Surgery (Laparoscopic)	13	12
Surgery (Orthopedic)	44	410
Surgery (General & Pediatric)	50	169
Total	1105	7098



Raju- 18 year old boy was rescued from the streets by a volunteer of Hope Foundation on 24.10.2010. He had a wound in his head which had become infected and had become infested with maggots. Initially he was taken to a state hospital where he was refused admission. He was then brought to the Hope Hospital. It did not seem like he was going to survive as his wound was very severely infected and was exposed to the bone. The staff at the hospital cleaned him and painstakingly extracted and removed the maggots and then dressed his wound. The boy was in a state of disorientation and was very agitated. There was no information about his family as he had been rescued from the streets and was not in a position make meaningful conversation. Over the next few weeks he was under an intensive care program and at the end of two and a half months his wound became completely healed. He also started to communicate and began expressing simple needs like hunger, pain, discomfort etc. However he was still not able to recall anything about his family and identity. He was then placed under the treatment of the hospital's consultant psychiatrist. Later when he became completely medically fit he was rehabilitated to the home of the Missionaries of Charity, Calcutta.

Rina is a 45 year old woman who was rescued from the Behala Police Station area by the staff of HIVe India – partner of Hope Foundation. She was brought to Hope Hospital on 26.01.2011 and was found to be physically unwell and also to be suffering from psychotic symptoms. No information was available regarding her identity and she was not in a state to reveal anything. Initially she was completely withdrawn and refused to make eye contact with anyone. Within a few days in the hospital she began responding to treatment and her health improved. However her mental state remained the same. She kept muttering to herself and incoherently . She was referred to a psychiatrist and after many sessions and a lot of effort from the



doctors and nurses she began responding and started interacting with the hospital staff. After some time she was able to reveal that her name was Rina Halder and that she had a younger brother named Suresh Halder and that her diseased father's name was Panchanan Halder. A few days later she was also able to recall the name of her locality – Barisha Purbapara. Her exact place of residence was then traced by the hospital staff and her brother was informed about her. He came to meet her at the hospital immediately and was very relieved and happy to see her again. He revealed that Rina had gone missing a month back and that the family had made various attempts to trace her. After Rina's siblings produced her ID documents she was released from the hospital and was handed over to her family.

# Comprehensive Care & Support Project for HIV/AIDS Infected & Affected Children & Mother

HOPE implements a comprehensive care and support program for the HIV/AIDS infected mother and child. Expert doctors, nurses, counsellors, peer outreach workers and a strong contingent of volunteers comprise a unique team dedicated to providing care with a humanistic approach to the patients. From this hospice, the beneficiaries can access treatment for all opportunistic infections of AIDS. In the year 2010-2011 a total of 181 patients have received treatment in the hospice's inpatient department. Out of these 63 were new patients and rest were patients who had been readmitted. Amongst the beneficiaries 103 were children. In the outpatient department the total number of patients treated this year is 159 out of whom 48 were new patients and the rest were repeat patients. 56 persons of this project were initiated with Anti Retroviral Therapy. A total of 542 patients underwent pathological tests - 391 in government set ups and 151 in private agencies. Counseling comprises an integral part of HIV/AIDS treatment. This year individual counseling was provided to the inpatients of the hospice 913 times and 45 sessions of group counseling were done covering 300 patients. Good nutrition is vital to help maintain the health and quality of life of persons suffering from AIDS. Keeping this in mind regular nutritional support was provided to both inpatients as well as outpatients. Regular follow up is an integral part of this program as most of the patients being treated in the hospice come from underprivileged backgrounds and lead lives of hardship where healthcare does not always receive the priority it deserves and so it becomes important to check on past patients. This year 50 home visits were made both to follow up on past patients as well as to check on the families of patients admitted.

# **24 hours Emergency Response Project**

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) is a project that offers a range of services, which respond to people in crisis and in need of any kind of physical and psychological emergency support. This emergency response unit through its multi winged approach reaches out to the children primarily and to the women and men, who are very poor and don't have any one to take care of them. This service is one of its kind in this great metropolis and functions 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year and acts as a gateway of relief and tranquility for people in crisis. This project includes the rescue of abandoned children, trafficked children or women, people who have had an accident on the road and mentally ill people on the street. Psychological support is provided to these people if required, as well as hospitalization and treatment in the case of poor and homeless peoples and includes repatriation of the rescued victims and follow-up. ERU is an endeavor to provide an immediate response and support to Any Person at Risk on Street of Kolkata with special emphasis on the financially and socially marginalized children/ persons. This service does not restrict itself to just providing immediate support to the child or person who has been rescued. In fact it also aims to provide a sustainable solution through the processes of restoration and rehabilitation of the rescued children/adults. Apart from responding to emergency situations in Kolkata the ERU is also involved in rescue work in the events of accidents or disasters of massive scale taking place outside the city of Kolkata as per requests for help from the Fire and Emergency Department and Public Safety Department as well. Emergency Response Unit has rescued total of 399 persons. Of the persons rescued, 167 were restored to their families, 46 were rehabilitated in different centers. 302 amongst the rescued persons were assisted in receiving treatment in hospitals. Nutrition, clothing and referral services were provided to the extremely underprivileged.

Madhusudan—an elderly gentleman was found lying in the pavement in front of a cinema hall, he was there for several days. He appeared to be starving and suffering from malnutrition. He also appeared to be in pain and was crying out for help, however he was completely unattended and no one came forward to help him. The personnel of Muchipara Police Station noticed him lying in that condition and contacted the ERU team. The ERU team immediately reached the spot and after rescuing Madhusudan admitted him in Hope Hospital. It was discovered that he was suffering from trauma and was in a state of disorientation. After several counseling sessions his condition improved and he was able to communicate his address. He revealed that he was from a place called Ledo, Tinkusia in Assam. After getting his address the members of the ERU team immediately set out to touch base with his family and contacted the local police station of that place, however they were unsuccessful initially. So it was decided that a few members of the ERU team would accompany him to Assam with the assistance of the police. Finally Madhusudan's family and residence were located and he was restored in his home.

Tripti (60 years) was living in Bally in Howrah district with her husband. Her husband was mentally unstable and used to subject her to mental and physical abuse and would take away all her money and valuables. She was suffering from fear and frustration and finally unable to tolerate the domestic violence any more she left home and reached Kalighat in Calcutta. She was found roaming aimlessly in the streets of Kalighat by the personnel of Kalighat Police Station. The ERU team of HIVE was contacted by Kalighat Police and Tripti was rescued and admitted in the Crisis Intervention Center of Hope Kolkata. However her husband found his way to the center and insisted on meeting her. He had an altercation with the security guard on being denied entrance and turned violent. Following this a general diary was lodged against him in the local police station. It was later discovered that Tripti's husband was involved in smuggling and it became obvious that she could not be reinstated in her husband's family. Thereafter she was shifted in a home run by another organization for her safekeeping.



STOP CHILD LABOUR. SUPPORT HOPE TO EDUCATE THEM.

# **Protection Programme**

In our country children are considered as the most vulnerable section of the community. The major concern of the country is their growth and development. Millions of children are growing without the basic human rights. Especially in the metropolitan cities the number of vulnerable children is increasing. These children are either living in the streets or in the slums. They are child labor, child domestic worker, addicted child, trafficked child, abused child, orphan child, HIV infected or affected child, missing child, abandon child or other at risk child.

The Hope Foundation is committed to the holistic care, development, protection of the underprivileged children/people in India since 1999. Child Protection is one major area of HOPE's Strategic Plan. The HOPE projects under the protection issue are Child Watch, Crisis Intervention Centre, Mother & Child Care Unit, and Rehabilitation Home for the Solvent Addicted Children, Protection Home for Boys & Girls, and Anti Trafficking Project.

# **Protection Home for At Risk Children**

Hope's Child Protection programs are in place in order to provide holistic development of young girls and boys who are in high risk, living on the streets, in poor economic or social standing, orphan, abandoned or vulnerable to trafficking and so on. This is achieved through providing them with protection home, health care, nutrition, education and other supports. Children are provided with educational, nutritional, medical and counseling facilities within a secure protected, loving and caring family environment. Children are provided with life skill training. The children are encouraged to learn dance, drawing, karate and other extra curricular activities. These children, orphaned or uncared-for due to extenuating circumstances, are being given a foundation and the chance to grow into intelligent and responsible adults.

#### Kasba Girls Home (below 14 years old)

Kasba Protection Home provides shelter, educational support, nutrition, health care, and counseling facilities to young underprivileged girls less than 14 years of age. The project has provided service to 73 girls during the year. The Home caters the need of the underprivileged girls below 14 years of age. 12 girls were shifted to HKF Panditiya Home when they reached the age of 14 years at the end of the year. The project aims at providing support to the vulnerable, at risk girl child living on the streets and slums. All the children of Kasba Girls Home got their annual progress report. All the girls passed their examination and successfully promoted to the next class. A training program was organised for the adolescent girls on Anger management. It was a follow up program. The program was facilitated by the three counselors of the protection Homes. Three girls from Hope Kasba Home participated in a competition organized by La Maternelle Primary School on Hand writing and Paragraph Writing. In the competition Rumpa Ghosh achieved 1st position and Kamala Rani Ojha & Tumpa Banerjee achieved 3 rd position. Heena Khatoon of Hope Kasba Home participated in the Circle Level Sports Meet which was organized by Kolkata Primary School Council. She was placed second in the event of Long Jump.

#### Panditiya Girls Home (above 14 years old)

Panditya protection Home aims to provide underprivileged girls above 14 years of age with education, nutritional, medical and counseling facilities within a secure protected, loving and caring family environment in which they can grow. The project has provided support to 51 girls during the year. Among them 24 are in-house residents 21 are in a Hostel. All the girls succeeded in their annual examination on the last academic session 2010-2011, they were promoted to the next class. Under extended family support, 14 cases were supported with education, 3 cases were supported with medical and 20 cases were supported with other kinds of support during the year.

#### **Girls Home for Trafficked Victim**

Keertika Protection Home provides shelter, food, clothing and care to young girls who are at risk, vulnerable, and victims of trafficking. The goal is to rehabilitate them socially and economically through education, awareness, skills and personality development through behavioral training etc. Last year the project covered a total of 17 girls, all are in-house residences. The four girls were restored in their own family, as the economic condition of the family improved or the vulnerable condition of the family improved, the guardians showed their interest in taking back their child in their own Home. 7 new girls were admitted, who are from vulnerable and abused background.

#### Tollygani Boys Home (below 14 years old)

Tollyganj Boys Home is a protection home in place to provide a safe happy environment for boys less than 14 years in which they can be educated, receive adequate nutrition, medical and counseling services. During the year 63 boys were provided with holistic support. Among them 38 are inhouse residents and 25 are in Hostel. All the Boys of the BOYS Home were successfully promoted to the next class in the year. Four training programs were organised for the Boys during the year on anger management, sex education etc. All the children were covered under the counseling sessions. Boys from the Hope Home situated in Tollygunge, achieves excellent results in the annual examination. Hera Sk, stood 2nd in class-I, Chakradhar Bera secured 2nd position in class II, Suman Sarkar of class IV, stood 2nd in the class, Keshar Meheta of class II, stood 1st in the class, Swapan Sarkar stood 3 rd in the class, Loknath of class II stood 3rd, Surojit Stood 2nd in Infant class. Sonu one of the special children of Hope Boys Home was placed at Asansol for special care, support and future rehabilitation. Javed Khan from Tollygunge Boys Home won a gold medal from the 20 (Twenty) kg. Section in the Inter school karate competition. Mongal Barik got 80% marks in class V from Lee Collin's School, Dipankar Naskar who is in the class VI got 75% and Sukhbilash who is in class IV secured 85% marks in the annual examination.

#### Girls Home at Bhowanipur

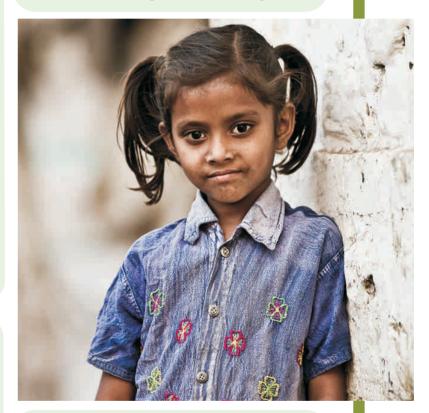
17 girls of the Kalighat Red Light area were provided with Holistic Support through this Home. Female children of the Kalighat area are unprotected and vulnerable to the sex trade due to their mother's profession. The Home aims at protecting these girls from second generation prostitution.

#### **Snehaneer**

During the year 2010 – 2011, the project has covered 29 children among which 18 are boys and 11 are girls. Among the children 8 are HIV infected. All the children of the shelter home are going to school. The Home supports the need of the HIV infected and affected children who are at crisis. When situation is overcome the children are supposed to be restored back in their own family.

#### Girls Home in Howrah—Swopnoneer

This home is situated in the Howrah district of West Bengal under the Ward No-31. The population of the area is above 40,000. Howrah is one of the most congested and industrial belts of West Bengal. It lacks the basic civic amenities of urban life. There are number of children who are slum dwellers, lacking parental care, support and protection thus facing acute vulnerable condition. The home is providing support to protect such the vulnerable young girls of the area. The project has covered 43 girls in the year 2010 – 2011, among them 20 are in-house girls, 17 are Hostel girls.



#### Mid Way Home

Mid Way Home caters service to the physically, emotionally, sexually abused girls who are either abandoned, homeless or parentless. The aim of the project is not only to provide a Home to protect the girls physically but at the same it gives emphasis on the psychological and emotional needs of the girls. The project covered 62 beneficiaries in the year. Eight girls were restored in their own family, six girls were rehabilitated in other agencies and three girls were sent for adoption during the year.

#### **Inside Stories**

Javed's father left the family about four years back and there has been no news about him since then. His mother is homeless and moves about in the city of Kolkata and begs to make a living. He has two sisters and one younger brother. The family was discovered in the New Market area by the Night Round team of Hope Kolkata. The children were found in a filthy and neglected condition. Javed and his two sisters were placed in Crisis centre of Hope initially. His younger brother Abdul who was very small at that time so he stayed with his mother; Later he was placed in the Boys' Home after his mother abandoned him. Javed's two sisters are in Kasba Home presently. Jared's mother has been traced and contact has been re-established by the Home authorities. The mother does not have a regular address and does not visit the children regularly. Javed came to HOPE Boys home in 2007. Later on he was admitted to A.K.Ghosh Memorial School in 2008. Gradually has grown up to be an intelligent, healthy and a beautiful boy. He is very quiet and calm by nature. He is presently studying. He has also achieved a gold medal in Inter School Karate competition.



Preeti came to the Protection Home in the month of June, 2010. Her family stays in a slum. Preeti saw the hardship of life at a very early age. She grew up picking bad words and phrases from the people of the locality. Initially when she came to the Protection home, she used to use those bad words and phrases while sharing her experiences at home and had a tendency of telling lies. She was regularly counseled and each care giver has given her best effort to bring change in Preeti's nature and attitude. Within one and half months, Preeti showed remarkable changes in her behaviour. As a part of our motivational strategy for the children, she was declared the "Star Child for the month of August" 2010 for her remarkable change in a positive way. Preeti is studying in class III presently.



# Punorjibon—Rehabilitation Programme for Solvent Addicted Children

A four-step intervention program has been developed to help solvent addicted children/adolescents overcome their addiction and reintegrate back into society - Awareness, Detoxification, Rehabilitation, Aftercare. During the year 121 boys were supported under the project. Among them 88 children were supported through the Hope Drop In Centre situated in the Howrah railway station, 25 boys were supported through the Rehabilitation Home and 8 boys were supported through Half Way Home or After care Home.

**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS**: One boy trained as a driver, one boy placed in Carpentry work, two boys are leading independent lives, and one boy is working independently in wood work.

Biswajit is 16 years old. His home is in Nadia District. Biswajit ran away from home six years back due to abject poverty and reached Sealdah Station. He started collecting bottles and leftovers of passengers to survive. Moving from station to station he finally landed in Howrah Railway Station. In Howrah he picked up the habit of using glue and got addicted to it. He used to come to the HOPE Drop in Centre and was motivated to join the De-addiction program. When he came to rehabilitation home of HOPE after his detoxification, he has serious problems in settling down. His mood swings and anger used to make him revolt against everything or everyone. Though he was admitted in school he could not concentrate on his studies and found it very uncomfortable. He ran away from Punorjibon as a result of mood swings and wandered around aimlessly for a few days before returning to Howrah railway station in a bad state.



He expressed his desire to start all over again to our caregivers and was taken back in Punorjibon.

He still continued to have problems with his anger and would get aggressive. But slowly over a period of time he settled down. Exploring alternative life skills made him choose carpentry. He is concentrating on Carpentry work. He has moved on to the half-way home and is sincerely trying to become a productive and responsible member of the society. With the effort of the Hope Staff he found his family members and is in touch with them.



# **Crisis Intervention Center for Boys and Girls**

The Crisis Intervention Project of HOPE address the need of the individual who are identified and rescued through the night round program of Child Watch. These individuals are given holistic support and are restored, rehabilitated or repatriated. There are two temporary Shelter Homes of HOPE one for the Girls and the other for the Boys. During the year 29 female cases and 32 male cases were provided service under the crisis intervention project. 24 female cases and 16 male cases were restored during the year. Three Boys from the Male unit has been placed in HKF Boys Home during the year. One adult male has been rehabilitated in the Old age Home. One boy with special needs has been placed. One boy has been placed In HOPE Rehabilitation Home. Two mothers were shifted to Mother and Child Care Unit of HOPE along with their children. One girl was placed in Kasba Girls Home of HOPE.

Md. Julu was rescued by the Hope night round team in a very bad physical condition and was admitted in the Hope Hospital. He was later diagnosed as mentally retarded. After treatment he was placed in Crisis Centre. Initially he was very unsteady but slowly settled down. On the information provided by him the caregivers tried to locate his home but could not find the same as the information proved to be incorrect. Since he is intellectually impaired (moderate), efforts were made to place him in a suitable Home and finally he was placed in an organization which works with intellectually impaired children. He is doing well there and is regularly followed up by caregivers of Crisis.



Moni was rescued along with her son when the child was just 22 days old. From the streets of Hastings; they were rescued by night round team and were placed in Crisis Centre. Moni was very much depressed and in helpless condition. She did not tell much about her past life. In Crisis she got love, care, attention

and all her other needs were fulfilled. Her counseling is also continuing and she is better now. She dreams about her son's future. The little Anurag is also growing up, he is healthy, adorable. From the Crisis unit they were shifted to Mother and child care unit of HOPE. She will be placed soon thus the effort is to make her economically independent.

# **Community Based Anti-Trafficking Project**

Since 1999, the Hope Foundation has being working to improve the lives of below poverty line families in West Bengal, India. In recent years, HOPE has become involved in efforts to combat trafficking and has partnered with the local NGO to implement a community based anti trafficking project in two of the worst affected districts by this phenomenon in West Bengal, South 24 Parganas and North 24 Parganas. 569 Community meetings were organised and were attended by at least 11370 people to raise awareness on trafficking issues. 15 campaigns/rallies were organised in High Schools. 217 watch group meetings have been organised and attended by 1489 people to build the capacities of community based groups to analyze the causes of trafficking and develop skills in order to combat trafficking. 12 women and 1 minor boy were rescued from Delhi, Mumbai, Pune, Bareilly, Midnapore, and South 24 Parganas. IGP support has been given to 20 individuals in the form of sewing machines, goatery, grocery and paddy husking in order to reintegrate them in the society.

Rini, a 15 year old girl lives with her widowed mother in the project area. Her mother is employed as a temporary worker. Rini was working as a helper to a mason. One day in July last year while she was waiting for the train in Agarpara Station an unknown woman approached the girl and started a conversation. She offered her a good job in Pune, Maharashtra. She even visited Rini's home. At last she convinced the girl to accompany her to Pune. When they reached Pune she sold Rini to a brothel in the city. In September 2010 she was rescued from Pune and brought back to her own village.

## **Mother & Child Care Unit (MCCU)**

Hope started Mother and Child Care Unit in Tollygunge to provide shelter and necessary care to the abandoned, destitute, neglected women wandering or living on the streets with their children. The project aims at providing necessary health care, nutrition, appropriate vocational training to the targeted mothers to rehabilitate them into mainstream society and for the children mainstream them into formal education. MCCU catered service to 15 individuals during the year among which four were mothers, two were adult girls and nine were children.

Putul Khatoon (age 25 yrs) along with her three daughters Roshni (9yrs), Muskaan (6yrs), Taniya (I year 3 months) and one son Munna (3 years) were the beneficiaries of Mother and Child Care Unit. They were rescued from Sealdah Railway Station by an Irish volunteer. They were referred to Hope Hospital for treatment after being found in a very poor physical condition. She was working in the Hope Life Skill training unit after being placed there by the Unit. During her stay in the unit she was motivated and counseled to live independently. As a result of which she started staying in a rented house. Presently she is staying in Mallickpur and working in a factory at Rajabazar. Her weekly earning is Rs. 400. Her younger daughter, Tania is with her. Her two elder daughters are placed in HOPE Kasba Girls Home. They are continuing their education from Kasba Home. Munna is continuing his studies from the Unit. A bank account has been opened in her name with United Bank of India.

Arati (35 yrs) came with her two children Gopal (8 years) and Rakhipurnima (6 months) to Mother and Child Care Unit (MCCU) on June, 2010. They were living on the street of Dalhousie, Kolkata for a long time. When Arati was small, she lost her parents and was trafficked. Somehow she escaped from there and started living on street; she was sexually abused and as a result of this had two children. When they were rescued by Childline her daughter had severe infec-



tion in all over her head. Childline referred the case and were admitted in Hope hospital. After that they joined MCCU. Arati is mentally ill, doctor diagnosed her as Schizophrenic. Her treatment is going on. Her son Gopal was Placed in Hope Boys Home.

# **Child Watch—Integrated Child Protection Programme**

CHILD WATCH - Integrated Child Protection Program for the Children living in difficult circumstances is a major program formulated by HOPE to ensure basic rights of children up to 18 years who are living in difficult circumstances. The objective of the child Watch project is to improve the child protection mechanism and safety net in the community to prevent abuse, violence and injustices towards the children, Strengthen the govt. child protection mechanism at ward, district and state level, eradicate and rehabilitate child labors, children addicted to drugs, orphan, abandoned children, children with HIV/AIDS, prevent child marriage and increase awareness on child protection at different levels of the society. The operation areas of Child Watch are Ward No. – 6,14, 20, 36, 39, 48, 59, 61, 62, 63, 75, 80, 82, 83 and Night Round operation outreach wards covers 17, 18, 19, 36, 40, 46, 49, 59, 60, 63, 68, 69, 71, 81, 82, 83, 86, 90, 93, 94, 101, 110 and Sealdah Station.

During the year 89 awareness camps and 69 awareness campaigns were organized covering the issues like child rights, health and hygiene, child addiction, begging, drug abuse child marriage, Child Labor Act, Child Development Khazana etc.

Stakeholder meetings organized in the community were represented by the Members of Legislative Assembly, councilor, Teacher, ICDS worker, Community leaders, Child Welfare Committee members, Club Secretaries. 26 stakeholder level meetings were organized covering several issues to ensure the project objectives.

300 working children were mainstreamed in the formal school during the year. 59 working children were provided vocational training on different trades. All the children completed their course successfully.

Children addicted to drug and other substances were identified and 22 children were sent for detoxification and rehabilitation where they completed the course successfully.

Formation of vigilance groups and core groups were initiated during the year. 5 vigilance groups and 4 core groups were formed during the year. The concept of vigilance groups was framed so that children of the community will be provided with the necessary skills and information and they will prevent addiction among children, child labor, child abuse, child trafficking, child marriage etc. Core groups are formed by the members with diverse backgrounds such as agencies dealing in institutional care, adoption, the legal profession and Government officials in order to ensure availability and accessibility of existing child protection services in place.

During the year 56 cases were identified during the night rounds among which 23 cases were referred for treatment, 13 cases were kept in temporary shelters, 7 cases were referred to other agencies and 3 cases were restored to their family and one case was placed in the protection Home of Hope. Five addicted children identified during the Night patrolling completed the detoxification during the year.



Noorjahan Khatoon, a 14 year old girl staying with her mother, Haseena Bibi at Sick Lane field of HOPE. Both of them were working as daily labourers. Noorjahan had a relationship with a boy and as a result of which she became pregnant. When the mother came to know about the matter she shared it with the social worker of the project. At that time she was seven-months pregnant. The social worker suggested her to do a pregnancy card. In due course she gave birth to a girl child. Her physical condition was not found to be good. Within few days her mother passed away sadly and there was no one to look after her. With the initiative of HOPE staff she was placed in Sukanya Home (Govt. Home for the Girls).

Chattu Paswan is a 17 years old boy. He was a child labourer working as van puller in the Nimtala field. He was identified by the Child Watch social worker. He was admitted into the Mobile Repairing Course. He showed his determination while undergoing the course and successfully completed the course. He got 70% marks (Grade A) in the examination.

Presently he has opened a mobile repairing centre in front of his house and is in a position to earn Rs. 70 – 100 / per day. He is very happy with his new work and we are happy to see his successful completion of the vocational training and to ensure his economic independency.

# **Income Generation Programme**

Hope Foundation is committed to its agenda of promoting gender equality and it, along with its partners has been at the forefront of several initiatives which aims to empower women from deprived sections of society and help them to move from positions of marginalization within household decision making process and exclusion within the community, to one of greater centrality, inclusion and voice. The vocation training and income generation units target women and girls from financially weak families living in slums in and around Panditya Place in South Calcutta and Khidderpore in the South-West parts of the city. These women due to their disadvantaged backgrounds have been deprived of a proper education and thus they find it difficult to find employment in the organized sector and most of them are either homemakers or at most get employment as domestic help or similar other low paying jobs. The income generation project aims to empower such women through entrepreneurship development. SHGs have been formed to help women to save on a regular basis, with the ultimate objective of allowing her to explore an alternative means of earning a living, when she has completed her training course in a specific trade. The Vocational Training Units strive to enhance the skills of the candidates in a particular area - garment making/hospitality/computers - so that at the end of the training they are qualified and ready to be absorbed in the respective markets. This allows them to make substantial contribution to their families - realizing their dreams of educating their children amongst other things. Most importantly it instills in them a sense of confidence and empowerment which comes from pursuing a career rather than just holding a job.



In the last year In the garments section of Vocational Training Unit, 18 candidates completed the course successfully and appeared for the examination at the end of the course. All were awarded certificates. 20 trainees were able to secure employment in the course of the year with different enterprises. 29 trainees from the Computers section completed their training successfully. 5 of them are working in different agencies. 6 trainees from the Food & Beverage section of Hope Kolkata have secured employment in the hospitality industry. 7 exhibitions were organized by the tailoring unit where the products of the trainees were promoted.





HOPE runs another Vocational Training Unit in Bhowanipur. It trains and assists unemployed and illiterate women to develop skills and find gainful employment. The women belonging to the communities in Khidderpore and Kalighat receive training in tailoring, craft and office administration. In the year 2010-2011, 55 women completed training in tailoring, craft. The women in the tailoring unit while still undergoing training also simultaneously receive and fulfill orders. The Enhanced Skill Development Unit assists women to upgrade and market their skills in sewing, embroidery and craft, so that they can enhance their vocational skills, increase their income and enhance their quality of life. The women who perform best in the vocational training are selected for Enhanced Skill Development. In this unit they produce marketable sportswear which is then sold to selected units. Agencies.

Purnima Shah is a 21 year girl living with her parents and four siblings in a small rented room in Khidderpore – the heavily populated port area in south-west Calcutta. Her father is a taxi driver earning around Rs 3500-4000 per month and her mother is a homemaker. Her 2 brothers are still in school. Purnima and her 2 sisters were forced to discontinue their studies as the impoverished family could not afford to educate the 3 daughters. Her older sister's marriage set back the family's finances further as her parents had to pay a hefty amount to the groom's family as dowry and her father had to take a loan from a moneylender at a steep rate of interest. Watching her parents struggle to make ends meet, Purnima felt that she needed to support them in some way. However her lack of formal education came in the way of her getting any gainful employment. It was then that she took admission in HOPE—PBKOJP's vocational training center and received training in tailoring and stitching. Purnima was a diligent student and she came second in the final evaluation. Even after she completed her training she did not have



enough money to invest in a sewing machine. But determined as she was she got hold of a broken second hand machine and made her maiden venture as a tailor and started taking local orders. At present Purnima is earning about Rs 600-800 per month. She is supporting her family and has even opened her own bank account. Her objective is to buy a good sewing machine so that she can take more and larger orders. Purnima is a very courageous girl who did not let the disadvantages of life stand in the way of fulfilling her ambitions.

Reshma Hela lives in a slum in Garcha Road near Panditya Place. She lives with her mother, 2 sisters and 1 brother. The social workers of Hope Kolkata came to know of her when they visited that area on one of their awareness drives. Her parents were old and ailing and so Reshma had to stay at home to look after them and her younger siblings so she had to forego formal education. The social workers encouraged her to join the vocational training unit and she enrolled for a course in the tailoring unit. In the beginning she suffered from a tremendous lack of confidence much of it stemming from the fact that she was unable to read and write. Her trainers painstakingly taught her the alphabet and numbers and gave her special guidance in the initial stage. Her older brother who is the main bread earner of the family was an alcoholic and used to subject Reshma to physical abuse and would not allow her to attend the classes. Her trainers intervened and had a discussion with her family members. After that Reshma became more regular. Reshma has completed her training successfully and has joined a designer brand as a finishing staff. Most recently she has been promoted and her salary has increased. More importantly her self confidence has increased and she is no longer afraid to dream big.

# **Self Help Group and Micro Finance**

25 self help groups were in operation in 3 wards of KMC with 274 members. 2 new groups in North Calcutta named Umeed and Umang were initiated at the end of the year. Hand holding training programs were organized for the members of the self help groups where the members were educated on keeping books of accounts, maintaining registers, working on savings etc.

On 02.07.2010 an orientation program on banking methods was organized for members of 3 SHGs – Ananda, Nandini and Sangi – all from Ward No 85 at Panditya Place. Five representatives of Gariahat State Cooperative Bank were present in the program and explained to the SHG members who were present about the rules and regulations related to loan taking and they also answered the various queries put forward by the members about the same. At the end of the program Rs 50000 was sanctioned as loan to the SHG Ananda. This holding of such a program was very significant as many of the members of the SHGs did not have prior banking experiences and this program raised their awareness level and increased their confidence in such matters.

On 22.12.2010 an awareness generation program was held at Chetla Lock Gate with the local community. About 30 community members attended the program where 3 representatives of West Bengal State Cooperative Bank were present. The resource persons shared their experiences regarding self help groups and explained the various rules and regulations in relation to bank loans and interest rates. She also set out the new guidelines on opening new SHGs. The community members were encouraged to form new Self Help Groups.

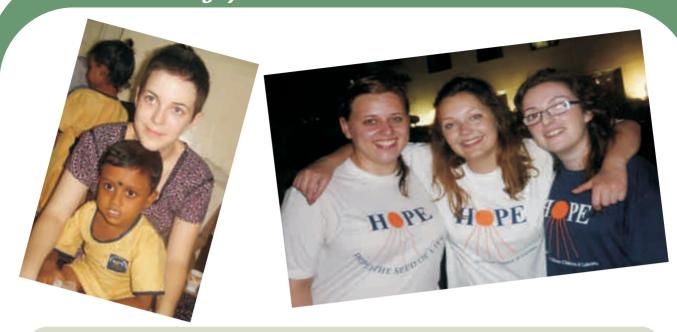
2 exposure visits were organized in the course of the year. The first visit was on 16.12.2010 to a trade fair named Saras Mela. 11 self help group mothers went on this visit. The second visit was to Anirban Rural Development Society at Diamond Harbour on 02.02.2011. 3 SHG members went on this visit and learnt about this project which is totally rural based. These visits gave the SHG members ideas on possible new ventures and also as in case of the latter visit gave them an insight on how rural microfinance organizations operate and the different activities in which the members could be engaged.

On 16.08.2010 a workshop was organized by West Bengal State Cooperative Bank at their head office in Chandni Chowk in Central Calcutta. 1 member each from Manasi, Samanway and Nandini Self Help Groups attended the program where they spoke about their work displayed a few specimen like handmade greeting cards. Members of other self help groups financed by the same bank were also present and the workshop led to exchange of information and experiences which was beneficial to all present.

On 13.01.2011 a workshop was held by the organization on handmade-paper card making with the women working in the IGP section. It was observed that the IGP mothers were very skillful in preparing and making the articles. At the end of the workshop a ceremony was held and prizes were distributed to the IGP mothers who participated in the workshop.

The microcredit unit with an eye on innovation has launched new eco-friendly products like flower vases, trays, pen-stands made of old newspapers – all these products are water proof. The idea is to use recycled material for making the product.

#### 'Be the change you want to see it in the world.'- Gandhi



There were 51 volunteers who visited and worked with HOPE last year in different capacities. 10 were long term volunteers who stayed for 6 months or more, 4 were returning volunteers doing specific projects, 22 were short term volunteers for a few weeks to a few months and 9 were part of study-work groups. The long term volunteers were Alicia Bambury, Susan Clarke, Ciara Buckley, Marcella O'Sullivan, Amy O'Shea, Claire Nix, Tim Scanlon, Stephanie Daniel, Shona Cahill and Barry O'Meara.

The returning volunteers this summer were Gwen Oates, Hazel Stanley and Nyasha Weinberg and Rebecca Roberts. Theresa Sullivan is a nurse who comes every summer for specific projects in the medical area. Elaine Kingston, Patrick Hughes returned for another 3 month period. Winifred Farry spent 2 months with HOPE in Autumn 2010 and returned again for 3 months in Spring 2011 to continue her work.

The short term volunteers were: Miriam Brady, Alexandra Rogers, Katherine Rashley, Victoria Robb, Amy Keane, Virginia Wallace, Hazel Murray, Rachel Coffey, Eva Ryan, Aoife Durcan, Hazel Stanley, Amanda Carey, Bex Roberts (with four Drama Teachers: Jodie Milburn, Amy Mayes, Krishna Dubasiya and Lucy Atkinson) Grainne Keane, Maeve Smith, Jennifer Prior, Martina Collins and Nadine Angus.

The study-work volunteers were: Emily Kiely, Deirdre Flynn, Pamela Rawat, Cathy O'Keeffe (Early Childhood Education students, UCC) Saswati Debnath, Spanish University, Jenny Daunt and Niamh Caffrey (International Development and Food Policy students, UCC) and Emma Daly and Peter Downey (International Development and Food Policy students, UCC) and 32 students came in July from Froebel College for a month for teaching practice.

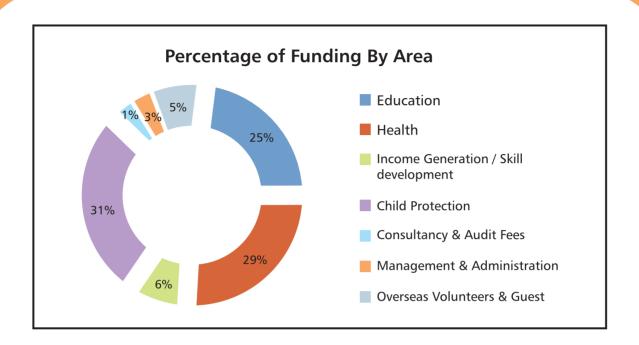
All of the volunteers above willingly gave their own time and enthusiasm and commitment to the HOPE projects and added to the success of HOPE this year.

Annemarie Murray and Liam O'Connor began as volunteers and are now full-time staff with HOPE, Annmarie in the Health area and Liam in Education.

We are always grateful to the contribution made by the walkers, visitors and school groups.



# **Financial Details**



#### **Staff Details**

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HOPE is fortunate to have a number of major sponsors that directly support projects and programmes in Kolkata. To each one we say THANK YOU on behalf of the children whose lives you have helped to change.







































#### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORT

There are many more organisations and people that generously give their time and expertise to The Hope Foundation. They enable HOPE to develop and promote top quality events and to reach more people with effective messages. There are too many to list here and some prefer to remain anonymous, but you know who you are!

On behalf of all the children in Kolkata, Thank You!



Adam Kukaswadia and Adam Cox winners of GT900 Spirit Award, after driving 900km in 3 days to fund



Cork Hurler, Ronan Curran launches HOPE's Annual Golf Classic

Irish celebrities forming'Team Hope' preparing to travel to Base Camp of Mount Everest





HOPE Director Maureen Forrest joined forces with Irish TV presenters Jacqui Hurlet and Evanne Ni



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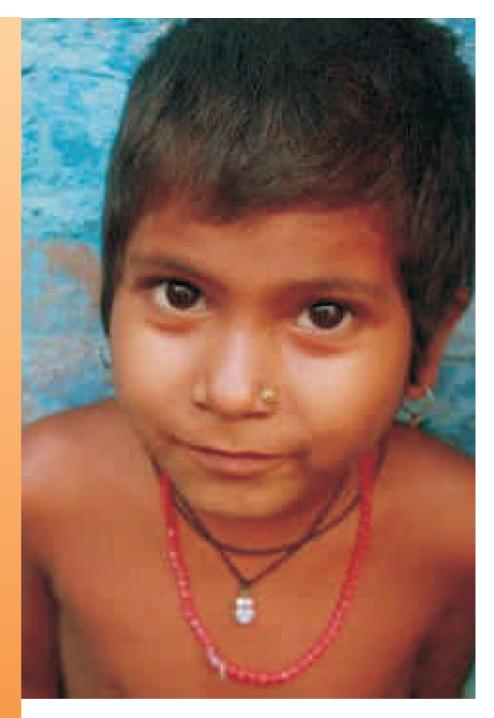
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