

ANNUAL REPORT

2013-14



COMMUNITY ACTION SOCIETY

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FROM SECRETARY'S DESK

It is indeed a great pleasure to announce that the Community Action Society has been completed its sixth year in 2013-14 successfully. It is branded as "Kolkata Konsultants". Though started in 2007, the society got registered in 2008 and is expanding its activities speedily beyond the boundaries of Kolkata and few adjacent districts. It also got registered under FCRA in January 2013. Presenting the Annual Report 2013-14, reviewing the year long activities is a great moment that always directs the organization to plan new dimension accepting new challenges.

Our commitment for the year 2013-14 was to train teachers, parents and care givers on Positive parenting skills and modes of non violent discipline to minimize the rate of corporal punishment in school and homes. We are glad to say that during this financial year we have come up with a book on positive parenting and non violent discipline. We have trained school teachers on positive parenting and non violent discipline. Although 2012-13 was the last year for complying the RTE Act, 2009 but still people are not yet sensitized about the provisions of the Act and our mission was to sensitize and reach more people with the provisions of RTE Act, 2009. To fulfill this endeavour the society has trained 1400 School Management Committee members on RTE Act 2009 provisions and School Development Plan. The society in last three years has succeeded to sensitize over 8000 teachers, stakeholders, parents, children and members of different NGOs in eight districts of West Bengal. Apart from these educational activities, we have done Risk and Need Assessment Work in 8 Government Child Care Institutions in West Bengal. The society is also providing hot cooked Mid-day meal every day for 2700 students

In coming year we would like to extend our focus on orienting more and more teachers, parents and caregivers on Positive parenting skill and modes of non violent discipline. We will work towards making the government homes child friendly. We will also involve ourself on monitoring RTE implementation in few districts of West Bengal. Sponsoring underprivileged Girls from 14 to 18 years of age group for completing their education till class XII is another agenda of the society in coming years.

We hope that the society will be able to achieve its objectives in year 2014-15, expanding exponentially with new endeavours.

Partha Roy
Secretary

About the Community Action Society

Community Action Society (CAS) is a non-profit making registered non-government organization established for the upliftment of the community in the state of West Bengal in the year 2008. Since then the organization has been working relentlessly for improving the living conditions of the under privileged marginalized community in and around Kolkata. The organization is committed to work in bringing about holistic development through education, health and livelihood for the under privileged section of the community, especially the children. A beginning has been made with several development initiatives – Education and Child Protection being the main thematic areas of intervention. Networking, advocacy and capacity building are the core strengths of the organization, and these have been applied to the programmes and causes that the organization espouses.

Today, Community Action Society is working extensively on effective implementation of the Right to Education Act, 2009, Providing Mid Day Meal, Child Protection issues and Positive Parenting and Non Violent Discipline across West Bengal partnering with National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Sarva Shiksha Missions, Save the Children, Unicef, Tdh and Goal-India majorly and also working with few others INGOs and number of Civil Society Organizations across West Bengal.

Our Vision

To create an enabling environment which will lead to a socio-economically empowered community through holistic development

Our Mission

To protect Children from exploitation and abuse through education, health and community empowerment

Core Objective

- To empower women and children through education, health and vocational training.
- To facilitate NGOs and other likeminded organizations to develop research studies and documentations reflecting development of the society.
- To create awareness within the community members so that they can be an integral part of governance.
- To ensure a better and safe environment.
- To ensure proper advocacy related to development of women and children.

Area of Operation

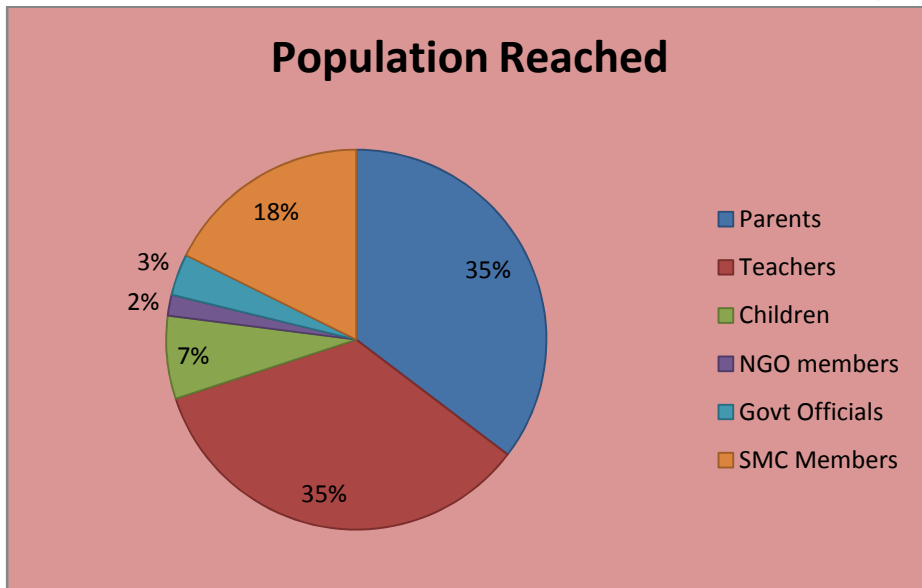
In and around Kolkata and districts of West Bengal

Target Group

- Teachers, Parents and children of government aided schools
- Stakeholders of Education Departments
- Civil Society Organizations
- Underprivileged children and women

- Adolescents
- Children and Staffs of JJ Homes

Population Reached in 2013-14



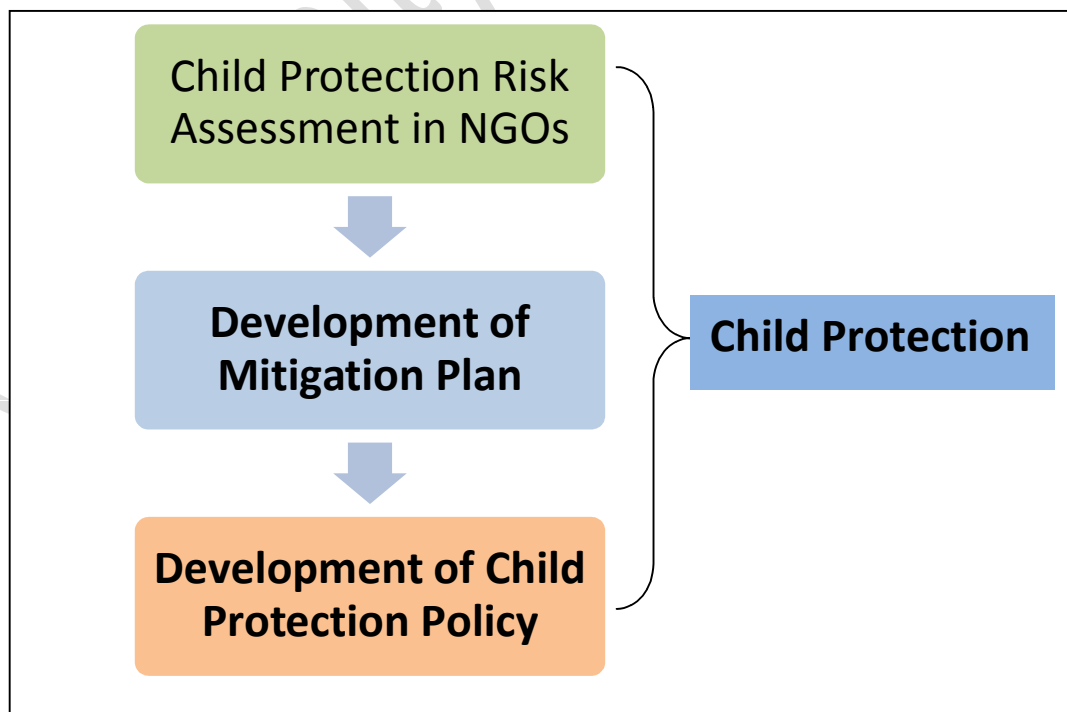
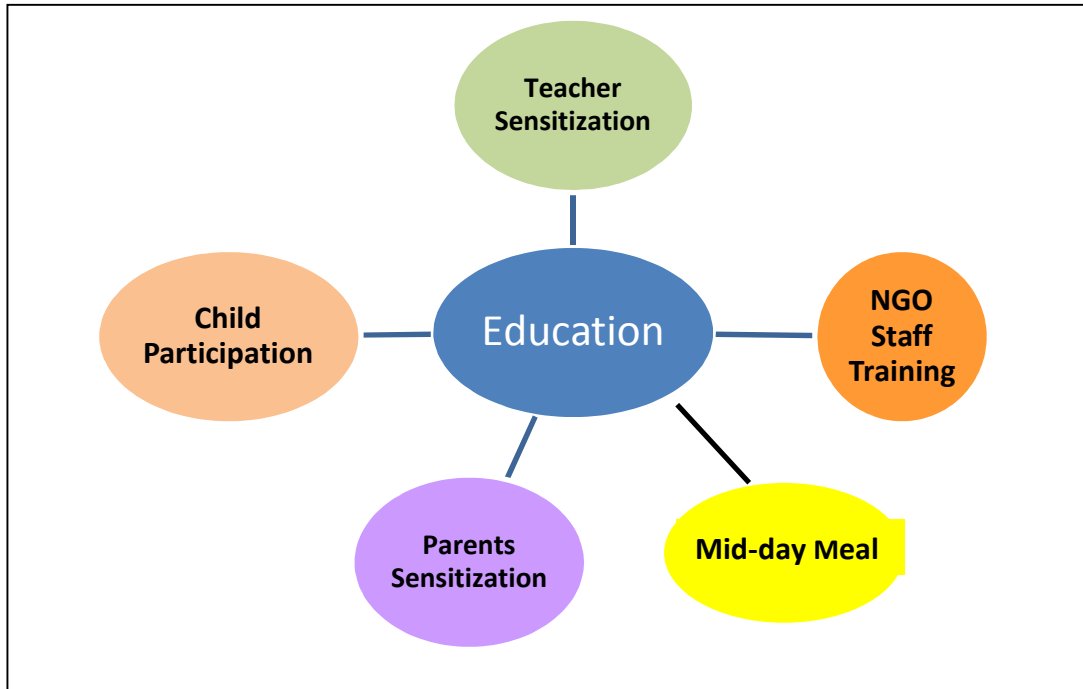
DISTRICTS COVERED

| SOUTH BENGAL | NORTH BENGAL |
|-------------------|------------------|
| KOLKATA | KOCHBEHAR |
| SOUTH 24 PARGANAS | JALPAIGURI |
| NORTH 24 PARGANAS | MALDA |
| EAST MEDINIPUR | SILIGURI |
| PURULIA | DAKSHIN DINAJPUR |
| | MURSHIDABAD |

Achievements in Last Six Years

- Sensitized 3500 Government aided school teachers, 420 Private school teachers, 4000 parents, 1200 members of School Management Committees, 800 children, 200 government officials and 400 members of Civil Society Organizations on Right to Education Act, 2009
- Organized Public Hearing on the Violation of Right to Education Act, 2009 and Child Trafficking under the leadership of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- Organized two State Consultations on Positive Parenting and Non Violent Discipline in Schools and Homes Situations with the government officials and members of the civil society organizations of 14 districts of West Bengal
- Developed a State Resource Group on RTE Act 2009
- Assisted and trained members of 12 NGOs across West Bengal on Child Protection Risk Assessment and Development of Child Protection Policy.
- Provide Mid-day Meal to 2700 children of one upper primary and four primary schools in Kolkata District every day.
- Conducted COHORT Study over 551 schools of Kolkata district for three years
- Provided remedial educational support to 7 schools of Kolkata for three years.

INTERVENTIONS



Educational Activities in 2013-14

I. ACTIVITIES ON RTE ACT, 2009

Several Activities on RTE Act, 2009 have been done in the year 2013-14 with different target groups across West Bengal. These activities are summarized below:

1. Parents Sensitization Workshops

During the year 2013-14 initiative was taken to sensitize parents of 7 Government schools on RTE Act.

This initiative was supported by save the Children. the emphasis was given on the role of parents in better implementation of the Act. Through this process the society could reach to trhe certain part of the community to ensure Child's right to Education.



2. Sensitization of the Members of School Management Committee

1400 School Management Committee members of Government Aided Schools of Kolkata had been sensitized on RTE Act 2009 and School Development Plan. This has been done in collaboration with the Sarva Shiksha Mission, Kolkata. Sarva Siksha Mission took strong initiative in circulating order to each management committee and as result in all the 14 workshops maximum number of members participated enthusiastically. They learned about different aspects of RTE Act and how to make school development plan in respect of their respective schools.

During this process all schools of all Educational Circles was covered by CAS and few other NGOs selected by Sarva Siksha Mission. CAS covered educational circles X, XI, XIII, IV, VI, Tollygunj and Behala. 10 members from each management committee participated in the 2 days sensitization programme.



Sensitization of Members of School Management Committee

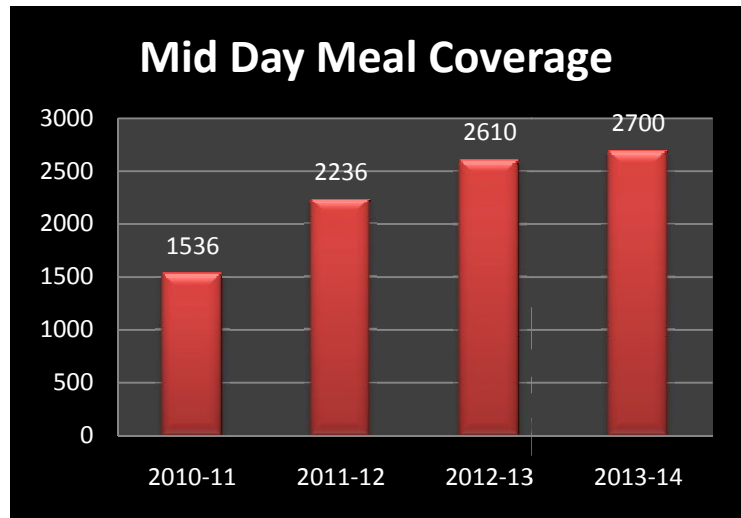
3. Setting up of Library



Right to Education Act 2009 says its mandatory to have a library in every school. CAS in collaboration with Smile foundation has set up a library in Chowbhaga Primary School for the benefit of the children. The library has 140 different types of books which will enhance the reading habit of children.

II. MID DAY MEAL PROGRAMME

Arresting classroom hunger is one of the challenges that educationists running schools in poorer sections of society face – the children of daily wage earners, slum dwellers and such others rarely have one square meal a day – let alone a nutritious meal before



attending school. The Mid Day Meal is the world's largest school feeding programme reaching out to about 120 million children between the age group of 6-14 years across the country. With a view to enhancing enrollment, retention and attendance and simultaneously improving nutritional levels among children, the programme was initiated by the Indian Government.

Community Action Society is serving Mid-day Meal to students of primary and upper primary schools since last three years. One more primary school students are added in this list in this financial year. Now the society is giving Mid-day Meal to 2700 children every day.



III. ACTIVITIES ON CHILD PROTECTION

1. Risk and Need Assessment in Eight Government Managed Child Care Institution in West Bengal

CAS in collaboration with Global Institute of Social Sciences conducted a Risk Assessment and Need Assessment study in eight Government managed Child Care Institutions (CCI) in West Bengal. The CCIs were located in North 24 Parganas, Murshidabad, Dakshin Dinajpur, Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar.

Risk Assessment on Child Protection envisaged to identify the existing and potential risk in the CCIs. Contact situation between adult and children during routine activities and special events, exposure/contact with infrastructure and equipment and the general environment at CCIs constituted the key areas of enquiry. Some of the key findings of the study shows that 63.59% of staffs and care givers are not aware of the do's and don'ts associated with child protection. 43.07% Staffs and caregivers were not familiar with protocol for responding to emergencies. 57.81% knew that child protection issues were guided by government circulars and only 35.71% knew how to overcome the current risks.

The Need Assessment on Positive and Non Violent Disciplining aided consolidation of current understanding and practice of disciplinary measures for children. It involved analysing perceptions, knowledge and experiences of both CCI personnel, representatives of external service providers and children on these aspects. Capacity building needs of the CCI personnel were accordingly identified. The major findings say that 42.76% cannot assess behavioural manifestation of children. 34.06% doesnot possess knowledge of creating child friendly environment in CCI. 94.29% staffs and caregivers never

had any orientation on the process of enduring discipline among children. And nearly 79% children were not oriented on the disciplinary rules.

IV. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

1. Teachers Orientation Programme

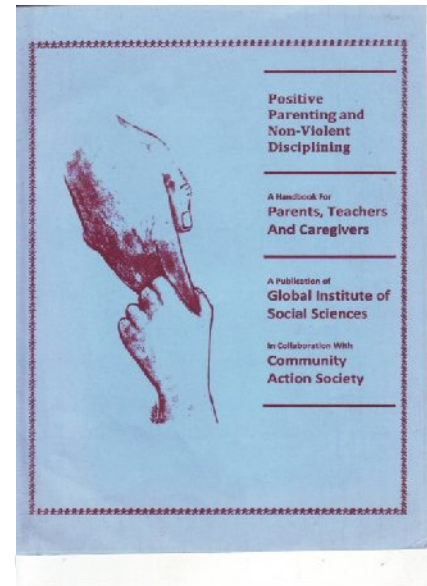
Teachers Orientation programme on positive parenting was organised in 4 schools of Kolkata. Nearly 120 teachers participated in the Orientation programme. They were oriented on psychomotor and psycho social development of a child, parenting issues along with stress, anxiety and anger management aspects.

2. Training of Narayantala Mass Communication Society members

Resource person from CAS gave one day training to the Education Centre Teachers on strengthening Child Rights of disadvantaged children in brick kilns in India. Through this training the staffs were oriented about the concept of child rights and child protection. They were also oriented about different Acts and services related to child protection and how to access those services. They were also given a brief idea about the existing government structures from panchayat to district level and their functions to ensure child protection

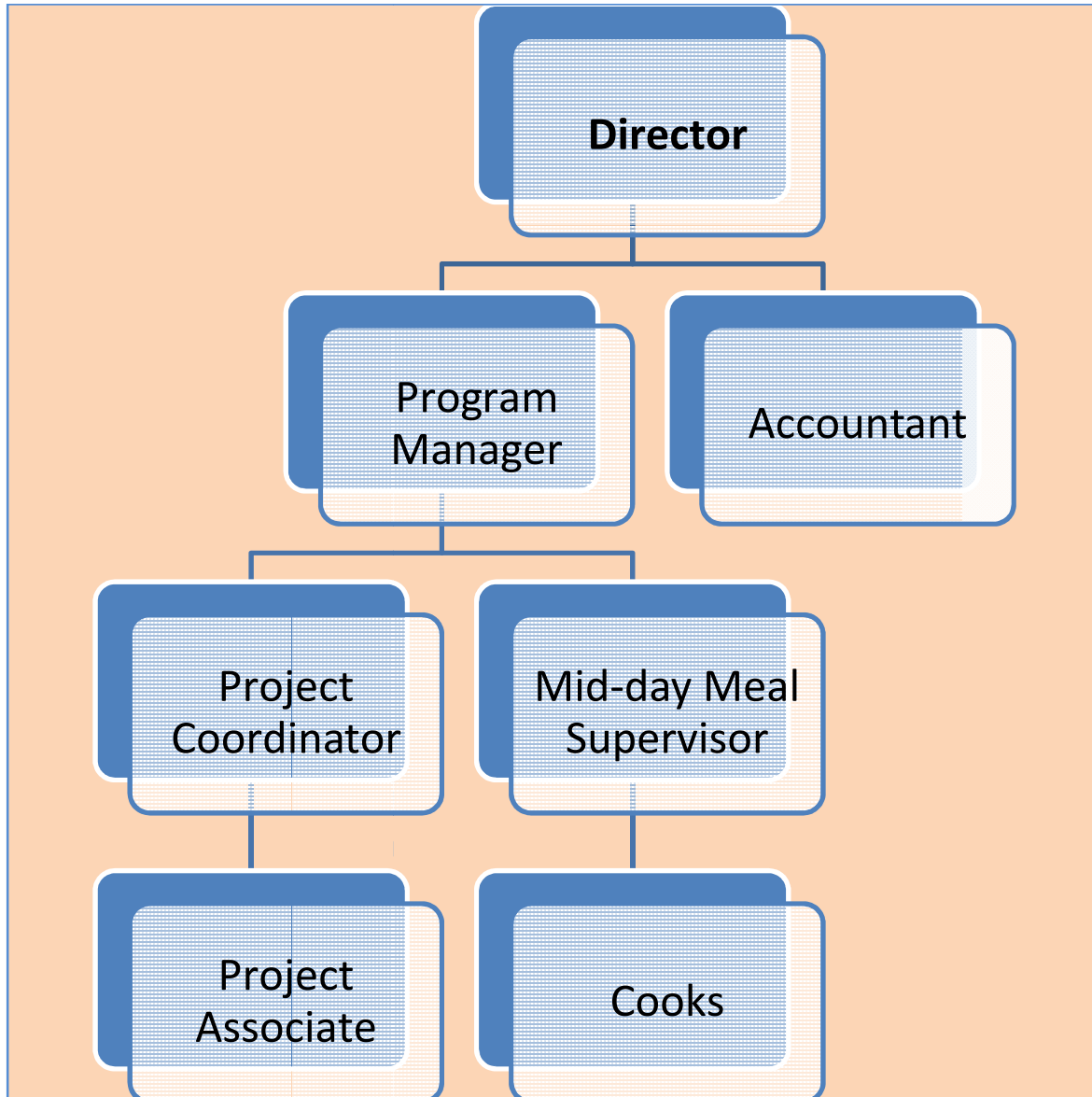
V. PUBLICATIONS

This Book has been published in collaboration of Community Action Society in the year 2013 on Positive Parenting and Non Violent Discipline, for the parents, teachers and care givers.



Community Action Society

Organogram



FOR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT WE THANK ...

National Commission For Protection of Child Rights, Govt. of India

Sarva Shiksha Mission, Kolakat

Sarva Shiksha Mission, Malda

Sarva Shiksha Mission, Siliguri

District Primary School Council , Kolkata

Unicef

Save the Children

Hope Foundation

Terre des hommes

Our Special thanks to Mr Amit Majumder, interim division

Director, [San Diego Supercomputer Center](#), CA, USA

Individual Donors and Others

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S/1L/55864 of 2008-2009

The society is registered
under section 12AA of
Income Tax Act, 1961

FCRA Registration No:
147120998

All Donations are Exempted
under Section 80G(5)(vi) of
the Income Tax Act, 1961

Our Auditor

R. N. Roy & Co
Kolkata

Our Banker

Bank of India, Ruby Park
Branch, Kolkata

Governing Body
2013-14

President

Mr. Dibyendu Narayan Biswas
Social Worker

Vice President

Mr. Sunny Kollannur
Businessman

Secretary

Mr. Partha Kumar Roy
Social Worker

Treasurer

Mr. Sanjay Biswas
Businessman

Member

Mr. Mainak Chaki
HR Expert

Member

Mr. Mrinal Chatterjee
Businessman

Member

Mrs. Anjana Basu
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