

2015-16

ANNUAL REPORT



user

COMMUNITY

ACTION

SOCIETY

2015-16

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FROM SECRETARY'S DESK

It is indeed a great pleasure to announce that Community Action Society (CAS) has completed its eighth year in 2015-16 successfully. I present the Annual Report 2015-16, in an attempt to review the yearlong activities of the organization and also as a way to direct the organization to charter new dimensions and accept new challenges.

The last year was extremely eventful as we embarked on a journey with big responsibilities. CAS collaborated with Sarva Shiksha Mission, Kolkata to manage two residential schools facilities for underprivileged boys and girls. Both the hostels are operational and have the potential to accommodate 100 children each.

Apart from this we are continuing with our mid day meal programme, but additionally also happen to serve the students of Parui Radhakrishna Vidyapith; the school within the premise of which we have started our Vivek Bitan hostel for boys.

The rest of the year saw us getting involved in a variety of activities such as conducting trainings on Non violent discipline and positive parenting, to conducting external evaluations, to installation of water stations and purification systems to provide access to clean drinking water to inhabitants of Sukanya Home.

In the coming year, we hope to expand activities at both our hostels and welcome all 200 faces so that we can maximize our effect. Apart from this, our work towards spreading awareness on RTE Act as well as ensuring its maximum implementation will be of prime importance to us.

Hope to have a successful year ahead!

Partha Roy
Secretary

ABOUT 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 and marginalized community in and around Kolkata. The organization is committed to bring about holistic development through working in the spheres of education, health and livelihood of the under privileged section of the community, with a special focus on 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, running state sponsored residential schools for boys and girls, Child Protection issues and Positive Parenting and Non Violent Discipline across West Bengal, partnering majorly with National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Sarva Shiksha Missions, Save the Children, UNICEF, Terre des hommes and Goal-India 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 Objectives

- 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.

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

Achievement in Last Five Years

- Organized a workshop supported by Save the Children to sensitize parents of 7 Government schools on RTE Act, emphasizing the role of parents in better implementation of the Act.
- Sensitization of 1400 School Management Committee members of Government Aided Schools of Kolkata on RTE Act 2009 and School Development Plan, in collaboration with the Sarva Shiksha Mission, Kolkata. CAS covered educational circles X, XI, XIII, IV, VI, Tollygunge and Behala.

- 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 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 funded by UNICEF
- Assisted and trained members of 12 NGOs across West Bengal on Child Protection Risk Assessment and Development of Child Protection Policy Funded by International Development agency, GOAL Ireland
- Provided Mid-day Meal to 2500 children of one upper primary and eight primary schools in Kolkata District every day funded by Government of West Bengal
- Provided remedial educational support to 7 schools of Kolkata for three years and special coaching to 100 girl children
- Conducted Risk and Need Assessment in Eight Government Managed Child Care Institution in West Bengal
- Conducted Teachers Orientation programme on positive parenting in 4 schools of Kolkata with participation of nearly 120 teachers.
- Training of Narayantala Mass Communication Society members on strengthening Child Rights of disadvantaged children in brick kilns in India.

Activities during year 2015-16

I. Educational Activities

1. Residential School Programme

In 2015, in the spirit of the RTE Act, Sarva Shiksha Mission (SSM) Kolkata began

a residential school programme which would allow the out of school, underprivileged section of the society to stay in a residential hostel and go to school.



Community Action Society collaborated with SSM Kolkata to run two such hostels; Bhagini Nibedita Bhawan inside the premises of Shibrampur

Madhyamik High School for Girls and Vivek Bitan inside the premises of Parui Radhakrishna Vidyapith. Each hostel, one for boys and the other for girls is



meant for 100 children.

Under this programme,

all needs of the child-

food, clothes, books and

others are fully covered

so that he/she has the

most conducive environment for attaining holistic development.

2. Setting up of Library

Right to Education Act 2009 says it is 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 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 1250 students of Chowbhaga Primary school and High school.

Recently, it has started serving mid day meal to the school students of Parui Radhakrishna Vidyapith that it started in collaboration with Primary School Council, Kolkata.

III. ACTIVITIES ON CHILD PROTECTION

1. Organized celebration of 26 years of Child Rights Convention in collaboration with UNICEF and West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights (WBCPCR)

UNICEF, an extremely important body for the promotion and protection of child rights organized

a week long

celebration to

commemorate 26

years of the

formation of the

Child Rights



Convention.

Community Action Society played an active part in the organization of the event that started on 23rd of November 2015, with a panel discussion on child rights which was also aired on television. Mr Partha Roy, Secretary of Community Action Society was one of the esteemed panelists. The celebration

saw its final culmination with a grand programme on 26th November, 2015 at the EZCC, Salt Lake. Children from various Civil Society Organizations rendered beautiful performances based on the theme: 'Prevention of Child Marriage'.



2. Evaluation Report for Early Child Care Centres Programme

CAS created a mid term evaluation report for NGO Development Action Society's Early Child Care Centres Programme. The mid term evaluation for the project, meant to assess the status of the 3 year program, consisted of field study, interviews and discussions with various stakeholders in order to

understand their perceptions surrounding the program, its effect and extent of success. Study was conducted in 3 semi urban locations- Andulgaria, Mousal and Tongpara (under Tardah Panchayat, South 24 Parganas).



3. Installation of water filtration systems and drinking water stations at Sukanya Home



Community Action Society, with funding and technical support from Splash, implemented a comprehensive WASH project in close coordination with Government of West Bengal. The aim of the project was to provide free and

wide access to clean drinking water and promote safe hygiene practices among the children staying in the Home.

A feasibility study was conducted to assess the water and sanitation condition as well as hygiene practices of the then inhabiting children. Thereafter, to provide access to clean drinking water, one filtration system was installed at the site which provides 24x7 clean and safe drinking water with advanced auto back flush technology.

IV. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

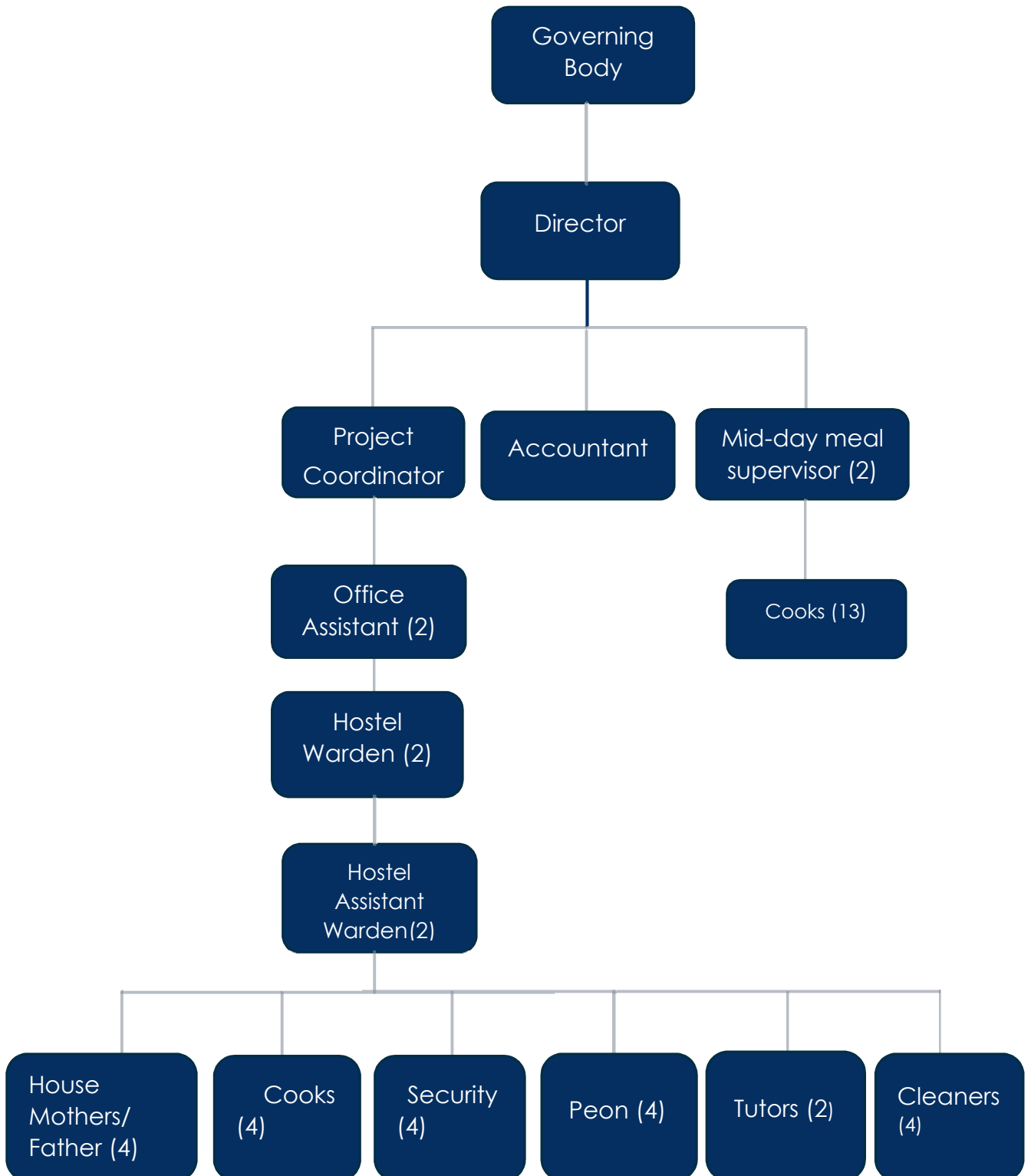
1. Training session on Positive Parenting and Non –Violent Discipline supported by Hope Foundation (Kolkata)

Community Action Society facilitated a training session on Positive Parenting and Non –Violent Discipline at Hope Kolkata Life Skill Training Centre with caregivers of various homes supported by Hope Kolkata Foundation.

The participants were from various educational and income backgrounds and ranged through different designations; from Assistant Coordinator to cooks.

Training was majorly provided on ensuring psychomotor and psychological development of children residing at Institutional Care Homes and developing attachments and providing a secure environment.

ORGANOGRAM



FOR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT WE THANK

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

Sarva Shiksha Mission, Kolkata

UNICEF

Hope Foundation

Save the Children

SPLASH

Individual Donors and others

Amitava Majumdar, interim division

Director, San Diego Computer Center, CA, USA

Mrinal Chatterjee, Bangur Avenue

Primary School Council, Kolkata

Society Registration No.:
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 2015-16

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
Housewife