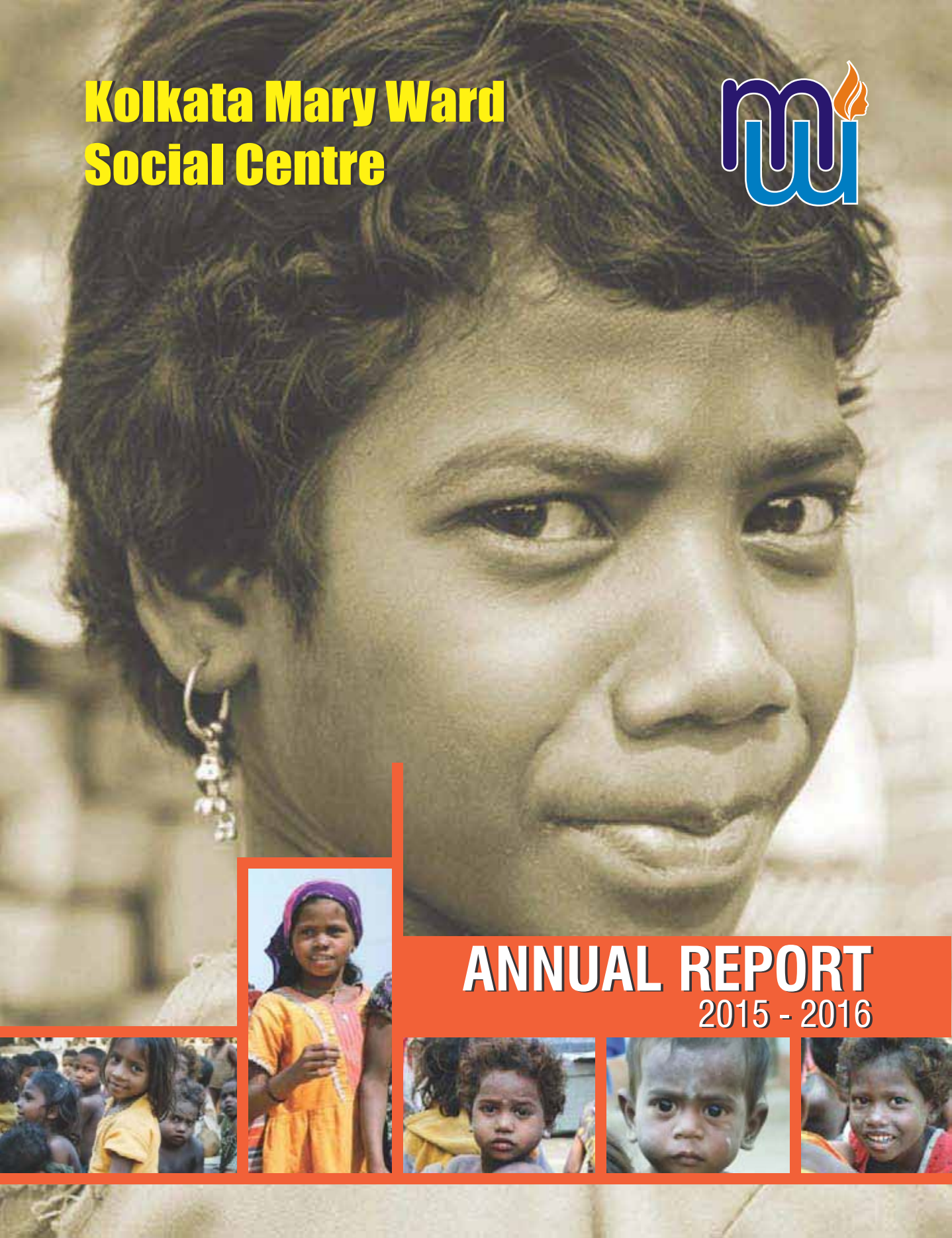


# Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre



## ANNUAL REPORT 2015 - 2016



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# President's Message



Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre

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Reviewing the year that is just over at KMWSC, I congratulate Sr. Monica Suchiang, the Director of KMWSC and her Staff for the great progress they are making in putting the Centre on a steadier and surer foundation by introducing good systems and practices. The Centre's efforts at partnering and collaborating with others to give opportunities to those living on the margins of our society is truly praiseworthy.

I believe that this Annual Report is evidence of the good work being carried out.

May all associated with KMWSC be richly blessed and may KMWSC grow from strength to strength.

*Anita M. Braganza*

Sr. Anita Maria Braganza  
President

# Director's Message



It is my privilege to share with you the Annual Report 2015-16 of KMWSC. This report comes to you with a sense of achievement as it is a collage of our struggles, endurance and successes. Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre has continued to play its role in mobilizing and empowering the deprived communities through the expanse of our programmes and activities to address the root causes like poverty, exploitation and violation of human rights.

From the marginalized beneficiaries in remote villages to the People's Organizations, we see the beginning of a change taking shape. Personally, my experience is that our beneficiaries have come together and shown resilience, determination and a shared sense of purpose, and are working effectively as a unified voice for change.

2015-2016 was a year of positive developments inspired by our foundress Mary Ward's charism. Our interactions with stakeholders, donors and well-wishers has been another key aspect of our strength. We attempted to build and managed to generate mutual respect, justice, care and service.

We hope our report will narrate the saga of KMWSC and bring us together to create a just and humane society. As an organization we could never have reached these heights without the support of our Governing Body members, donors, partner organizations, volunteers and all our well-wishers. We thank you all for encouraging us and for being a pillar of strength, through the years.

We take this opportunity to thank you for the confidence you have placed in us and our organization and look forward to many more years of such partnership and support. I am sure together we can make a difference.

Sr. Monica Suchiang  
Director





## KOLKATA MARY WARD SOCIAL CENTRE

Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre (KMWSC) is a local non-profit organization registered under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act of XVII, in June 2014. The KMWSC is a unit of the Loreto Sisters where projects on education, child protection and women's empowerment are being implemented to reach out to the neediest sections of the society. The organization assists vulnerable children and women and helps to protect and rehabilitate them. KMWSC has made its way through many difficult terrains and stood out to become a pioneering institution of social work.

Mary Ward, the foundress of the Loreto Congregation had instilled the core values of

Justice, Peace, Freedom and Integrity into the ethos of the Institution. Inspired by these values KMWSC is reaching out to the poor, oppressed and socially excluded. KMWSC has gone beyond its capacity to bring in social justice and equal opportunities for all those whose lives they have touched.

Presently, the organization is proudly running 11 projects. The organization, through the services of its motivated workforce, has successfully reached far and wide to care for the ones most uncared for. It is only the strong desire to bring a change in the lives of the benefactors and the love of thousands of well-wishers that has brought the organization to where it stands today.

## Provisions of the Constitution of India

▶ **The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act of 2009** : The law mandates free and compulsory education to all children aged 6 to 14 years. This legislation also mandated that 25 percent of seats in every private school must be allocated for children from disadvantaged groups and physically challenged children.

▶ **Article 24 of India's Constitution** prohibits **hazardous** child labour.

▶ **The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act of 1986**: The Act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in hazardous occupations identified in a list by the law. The list was expanded in 2006 and again in 2008.

▶ **The Factories Act of 1948**: The Act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory. The law also places rules on who, when and for how long pre-adults aged 15–18 years can be employed in any factory.

▶ **The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) of Children Act of 2000**: This law made it a crime, punishable with a prison term, for anyone to procure or employ a child in any hazardous employment or in bondage.

## Reality

▶ **Census 2011** showed that about **32 million children** aged between 6 and 13 years have never attended any educational institution, even though government estimates of out-of-school children show substantially lower numbers.

▶ **The 2011 National Census of India** found the total number of child labour, aged **5–14, to be at 4.35 million**, and the total child population to be **259.64 million** in that age group.

▶ India's National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) **2014 reported 73,549 missing children** in the country out of which **31,711 were** untraceable

▶ **2,020** cases of procurement of minor girls were reported in the year 2014 as compared to 1,224 such cases in the year 2013, accounting for an increase of **65.0%** over 2013. **West Bengal** has reported **852** of such cases.

▶ As per the Census, **2011 the child sex ratio** (0-6 years) has shown a decline from **927 females** per thousand males in 2001 to **919 females** per thousand males in 2011.

▶ **School dropout rate** amongst adolescent girls in India is as high as 63.5% (Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation - MoSPI, 2012)

▶ **Nearly 45% girls in India** get married before the age of eighteen years (National Family Health Survey III - NFHS)

▶ Out of the **400 million children in India**, every second child is malnourished (National Family Health Survey III – NFHS, 2005-06)

▶ An estimated **11.6 lakh children die** every year within one year of their birth due to lack of immunisation. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India)





# Vision & Mission

## **Vision:**

“The vision of Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre is to ensure that the values of love, freedom, sincerity and justice are experienced and lived out by all.”

## **Mission:**

“Our mission is to empower every person who is touched by our work with the values of love, freedom, sincerity and justice. We have a rights based and participatory approach. Within this we cherish a special love for and commitment to the poor, especially women and children. We try to show this love through our attitudes, structures and work”.



# Project overview

**11** PROJECTS + **90** LOCATIONS = **8382** DIRECT + **58,075** INDIRECT

## BENEFICIARIES

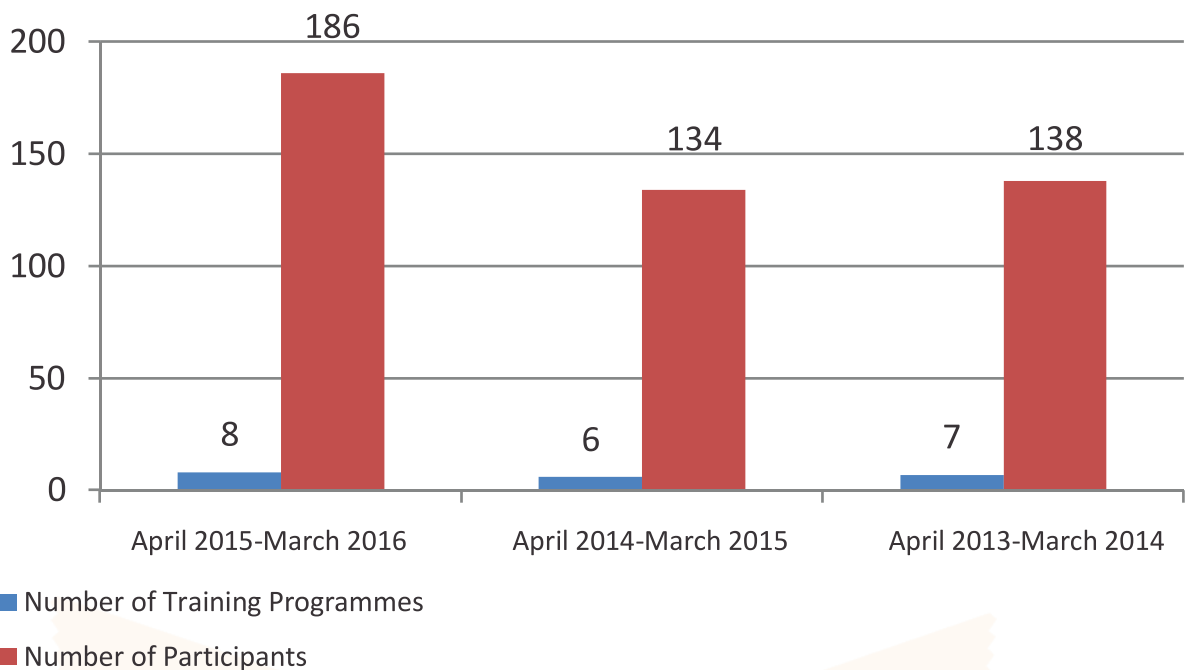
	Sensitization on Human Trafficking	<b>376 people</b> involved in generating awareness on human trafficking
	Community and Adult Education Programme	<b>278 children</b> and women are being educated
	Hidden Domestic Child Labour	<b>1700 children</b> being mainstreamed through education and vocational training
	Barefoot Teachers Training	<b>186</b> grass root level teachers trained till date
	Youth Skill Development Training	<b>100 youth</b> being trained as professional tailors and beauticians
	Brick Field School Project	<b>5246 children</b> and adults from migrant communities receiving educational and health benefits
	Providing Education and Protection to Vulnerable Children	<b>60 commercial sex workers</b> and their children being given new hope in life
	Education of Deprived Urban Children	<b>61 children</b> receiving education and temporary health benefits
	Solar Enlighten and Community Empowerment Project	<b>145 children</b> receiving education and community people receiving training to develop solar lights
	Lodha Community Project	<b>70 children from the backward</b> and Lodha community receiving mainstream education
	Jharkhali Education Programme	<b>160 children</b> receiving remedial education and English language training

# Intervention Area



## BAREFOOT TEACHERS TRAINING

programme embodies the principal concept that **'People only need feet to walk; shoes are a luxury'**. For years we have been fulfilling the goal to give practical exposure to grass root level teachers. The training programme has now been remodelled with interactive insights and latest methodologies to provide a unique experience to the participants. A new generation of teachers equipped with the latest methods of teaching are being created by the training programme for rural and urban India.



“ This fun filled teaching will help me in teaching beyond the conventional methods : such activity based methodologies will clear the concept of the topics and will help the children”

*“Feedback of one of the teachers attending the Barefoot Teachers Training”.*



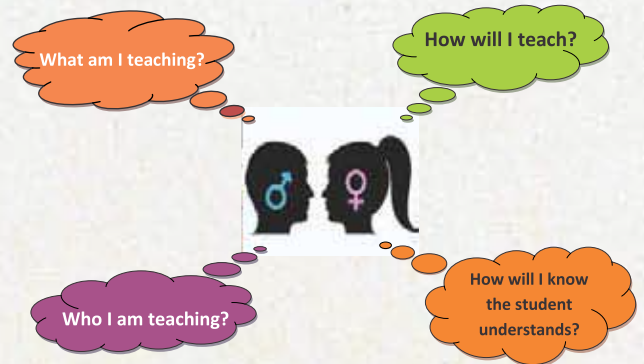


## BAREFOOT TEACHERS TRAINING



► Through this programme we have trained **186 teachers in 3 languages** (Bengali, Hindi, English) covering standards Nursery to Class 2.

► **8 Training Programmes** covered an overview of education, discussion on pedagogy of Language and Mathematics teaching methods, as well as developing teaching and learning materials. Demonstration class has helped teachers to facilitate the learning process swiftly and actively and this in turn has helped children to learn spontaneously.



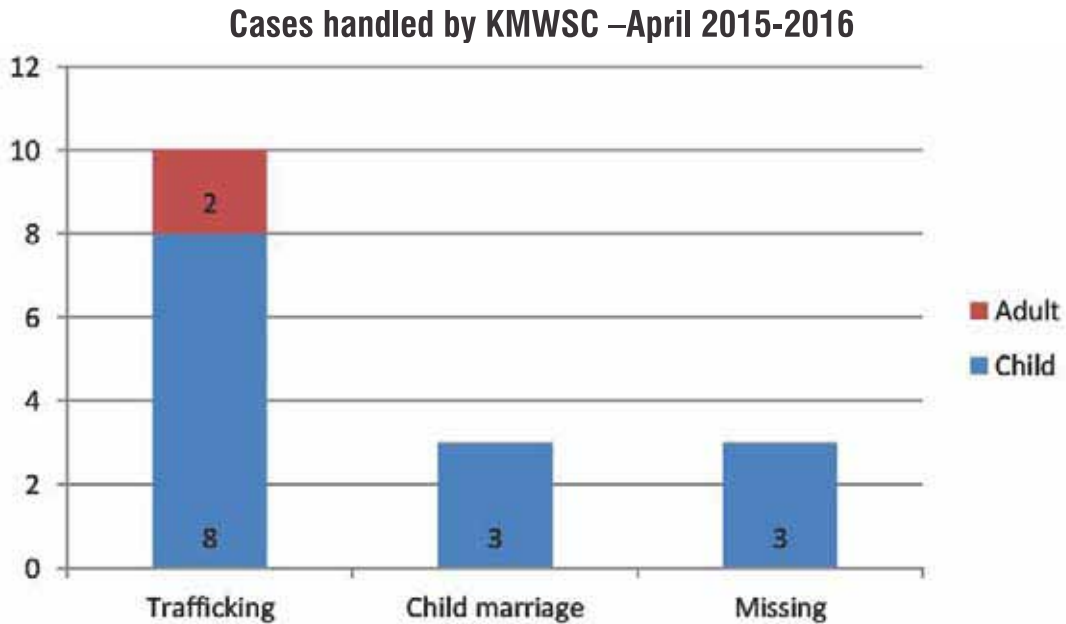
► This Training has reached out to grassroot level teachers from **Bolpur, Medinipur, Howrah, South 24 Parganas** and **Kolkata** who are from village schools or even drop-outs or who have no route or access to teacher training, particularly as they have scholastic qualifications which are lower than Class X.

► The key word in the course is **Creativity**. The trainee learns, not just to reproduce methods and teaching aids but to make them her own and use them as stepping stones in developing his/ her own way of doing things.

► More than **3500** children have benefitted so far.

## SENSITIZATION ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROJECT

is being run in 10 Gram Panchyats under **Canning- I Block** namely **Matla I, Taldi, Nikarighata, Daria** and **Itkhola** which being close to Canning railway station are an easy transit route for the traffickers. The project pledges to prevent trafficking of children, girls and women while at the same time generating awareness on women and child protection issues among the villagers.



“ We have realized that trafficking is inhuman and is against our basic human rights. Trafficking of women and girls is rampant in this area and this is primarily due to lack of awareness. Presence of Community Vigilance Committee and its efforts have boosted the confidence of the people in the community and they are now alert to monitor the outsiders entering the community and informing the committee when required”

*“Community Vigilance Committee member Bablu Gayen at Taldi Gram Panchayat”*



## SENSITIZATION ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING



► Formation of **6 Community Vigilance Communities** and **Adolescent Girls Groups** each with **20 members** was successfully implemented and is shouldering the responsibility of acting as a safety net. Training and workshops on Child Protection issues have made them adept in their work of vigilance.

► **60%** members of the Community Vigilance Committee are women. In **5 Community** meetings majority of the women in **Self Help Groups** participated in the discussions.

► Sensitization of the Community, has educated more than **1400 people** about child marriage and issues concerning human trafficking. It encouraged them to make informed decisions.

► Capacity Building Programme for **250 Local Self Government officials at the Gram Panchayat level** has enabled them to make the correct decisions whenever violation of child rights has taken place in their areas.

► On the occasion of Childrens' Day, 14th November 2015, **150 girls from the 5 Adolescent Girls Groups** participated in the programme and shared their thoughts and dreams of a society free of child abuse.

► **School level campaign on Child Protection** issue at Canning 1 Block reached out to approximately **1500 children**. Discussion on child trafficking, child marriage, child abuse and child labour equipped children to recognize, report and respond to abuse, exploitation and violence.



**LODHA COMMUNITY PROJECT** is being run in **Sagar Block** in **South 24 Parganas** to bring a change in the lives of the children of the Lodha community (a marginalized tribal community living in Bengal) through education along with the inclusion of health and hygiene practices.

28 children  
mainstreamed in schools

Advocacy with local government  
brought electricity

Centre bridging the gap between the  
Lodhas and people of  
other communities

Regular home visits has helped to  
reduce child dropouts

5 Health camps sensitized people  
on various social issues

Celebration of Children's Day,  
Women's Day, Christmas etc  
made children feel special

Changes  
in the  
Community

“ I can do painting, play with friends,  
and listen to stories-I can do whatever  
I want at the Centre.”



*Akashi Laik-5 year old girl attending the Centre*



► **23 children from the Lodha community** and **47 children** from other communities are receiving inclusive education at the Centre, bridging the gap between the Lodhas and the people of other communities.

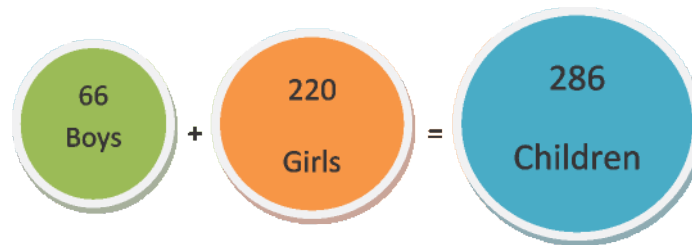
► **Advocacy at the Panchayat Level** has brought electricity to the Lodha residential areas.

► **5 successful Health Camps** conducted for the community people with participation of on an average of **78 patients** has ensured reach-out of medical facility to the far flung island village.

► First ever sensitization on **Women and Child's Rights** was brought to the fore by the celebration of Women's Day, Girl Child Day, Children's Day. These occasions have made women and children realize the value of their lives in society.

► The community has sought admission of **4 new children** to the Centre which reflects that the community is sensitized about the importance of education in a child's life.

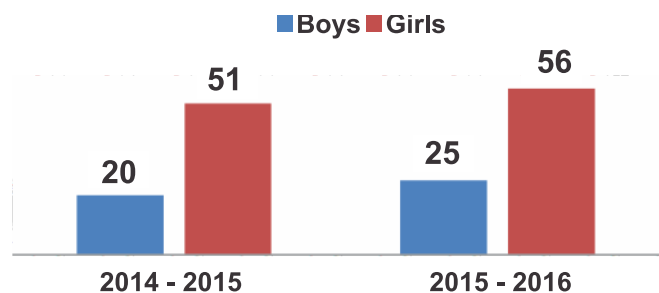
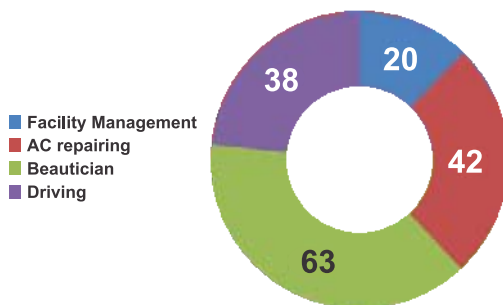
**HIDDEN DOMESTIC CHILD LABOUR** project works for the education, protection and rehabilitation of the deprived children who are involved in domestic work as well as child labour in **8 wards of Kolkata Municipal Corporation** and **Kamarhati** and **Baranagar Municipality**.



are receiving activity oriented lessons at 8 Multipurpose Activity Centers

Candidates trained under New Horizon Project

Mainstreamed children in school



“

I used to work as what they call a 'domestic worker' and earn Rupees 1500 per month. My life has been a long tale of misery. I have been doing this work ever since I was very young. My life took a new turn when I came to know from my neighbour about the 3 month vocational training organized by KMWSC.

I started attending the training sessions on Facility Management .Right now I am working at Kothari Medical Hospital as an Assistant Caregiver and earning Rs 5500 per month.I am independent and also taking care of my family”



“Amina Khatun-Child Domestic Worker from Kamarhati Ward Number 2-Age 19 Years”





► **97 children** are now better skilled after receiving life skill education training.

► **31 Child Domestic Workers** have been motivated and empowered to complete their vocational training and have received placement.

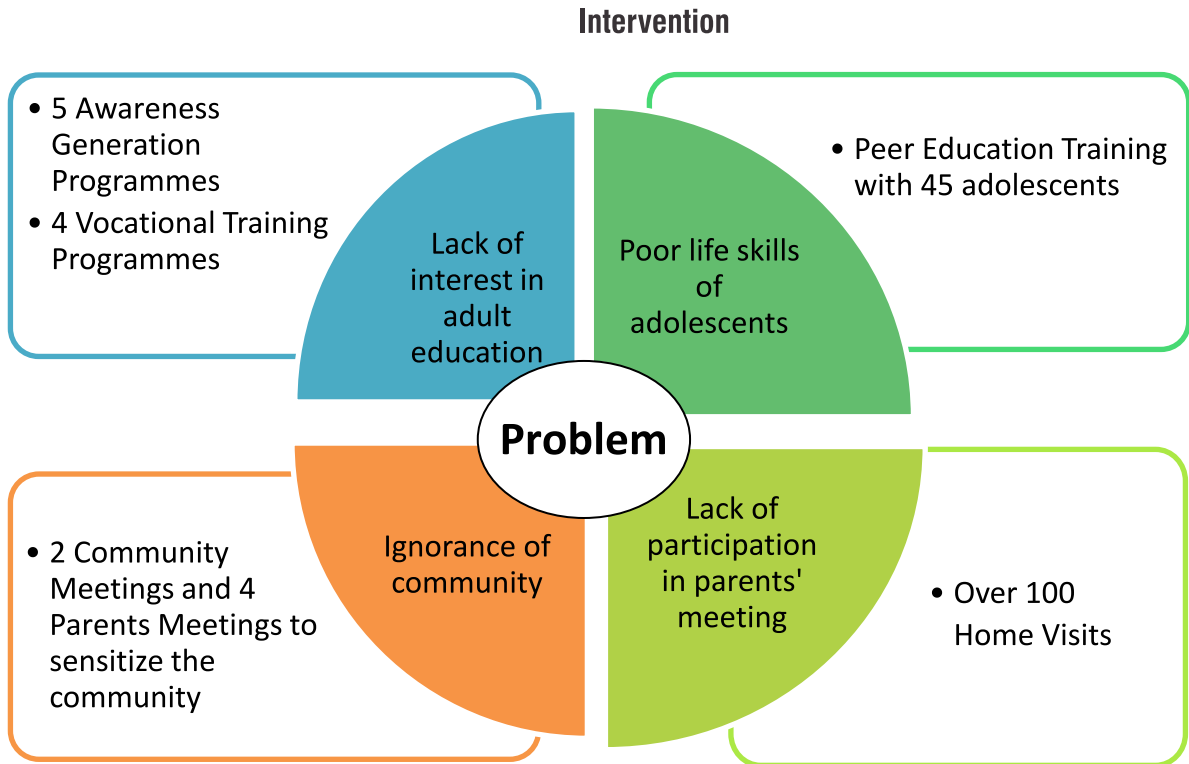
► **8 children between 15 - 20 years** have received placements in well reputed organizations including **Cafe Coffee Day (CCD)**, **Kothari Medical Hospital**, **Great Eastern Hotels**, **Grand Hotel** and **Big Bazaar**. This has helped to rehabilitate the children.

► **77 community people** have been involved in Resident Welfare Achievement meetings. Out of this one Residential Welfare Association in an apartment complex has declared their complex child labour free.

► **8 Child Protection Committees (CPC)** has been formed which have acted positively as :

- **CPC members of Baranagar Municipality Ward – 6** at Alambazar have started taking moves as per the Action Plan. They have identified 2 Child Domestic Workers (CDW's) from their locality and referred them to Loreto Sealdah Rainbow Home for residential education facility.
- **Children Group members of Ward-13** are very empowered about their rights. They reported a child labour case to Childline and raised this issue in front of CPC.
- **In Ward – 12** a kind and positive employer provided Deba Mishra who is a Child Domestic Worker and a student of Class – V in Ultadanga United High School with books, which was very encouraging for him.
- **360 school children, 64 school teachers and 82 college students** were oriented on child labour centric issues which enhanced their responsibility towards child welfare.

**COMMUNITY AND ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME** is being run in **Sonapota** and **Chaulgola** in the district of **South 24 Parganas** to provide quality education to 170 children and vocational training support to 50 women of the communities living in the project area.



“Earlier I used to think there is something missing in my life, something which everyone else has. After coming to this Centre I have learnt a lot of new things like English and Bengali alphabets, poems, basic Arithmetic and Numbers. I have made new friends. I enjoy coming to the Centre and it gives me happiness at the end of the day”

*“Kartik Halder attending Sonapota Centre”*





## COMMUNITY AND ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME



► Children are taking interest in co-curricular activities. A Summer Art Workshop was arranged for them, where **70 children** participated and made flower vases, flowers, cards. **90 children participated in the Sports Programme**. This gave them a new avenue of recreation.

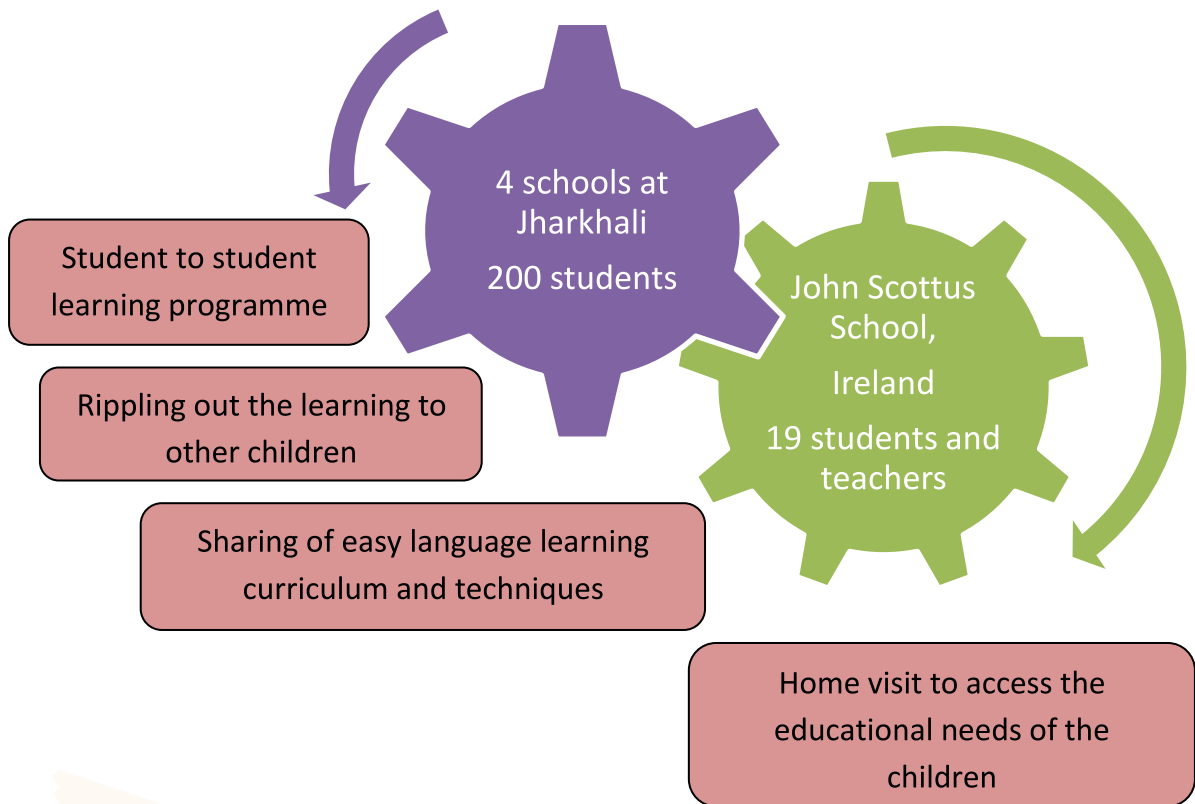
► Women keen on income generation took part in **4 training programmes**. **55 women** participated in making various handcraft items.

► This year (2016) there are **170 children** in the two Centres, whereas in 2015 there were **120 children**.

► Women's Day was celebrated in both Centres. **87 women** enjoyed and learnt about the rights and entitlements of women.

► **49 children** between 6 months and 5 years of age received **Vitamin A and Albendazole** oral administrations which has prevented them from acquiring vitamin deficiency related diseases.

**JHARKHALI EDUCATION PROJECT** is being run at Jharkhali in **South 24 Pagarnas** to provide remedial support to needy children as well as to conduct Teachers Training Programmes for the capacity building of the teachers of various Sishu Shiksha Kendras and Mardhayamik Shiksha Kendras.



“**KMWSC is the first organization at Jharkhali which is extensively doing Community Awareness Programmes on child protection issues. More and more number of women and farmers attending the meetings and discussing issues on child protection is one of the greatest impacts of the project.**”



*Prasanta Mondol, Field Supervisor of Jharkhali Education Project*





► **60 children** are receiving **remedial educational support** which has improved their academic performance.



► **2 training programmes** conducted for **45 teachers** of Sishu Siksha Kendra and Madhyamik Siskha Kendra on Anti-Human Trafficking initiatives and Family Planning.

► **Lesson Plan Development** and **Continuous Comprehensive Education** has enabled teachers to guide their children in a better way and acquire depth in various subjects.



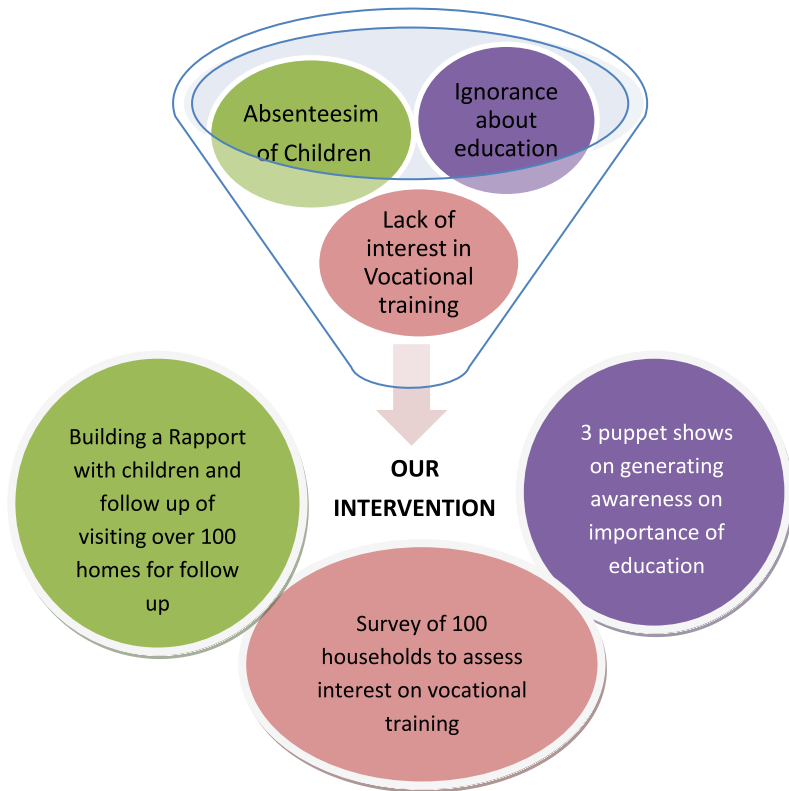
► **20 volunteers** from the John Scottus School imparted knowledge to 200 students on English language skills.

► Community meetings with **240 women** and orientation of **200 children** on women and child protection issues and formation of **20 member Community Vigilance Committees** have helped in creating a safe environment for women and children in the area.



## PROVIDING EDUCATION AND PROTECTION TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN:

The children of commercial sex workers lead a life of oblivion in the infamous by-lanes of Asia's largest red light district, **Sonagachi**. To educate and enlighten these children is one of the latest pledges of KMWSC. Bringing smiles to the faces of the mothers is also a part of our effort by training them in diverse vocational trades and creating alternative livelihood opportunities for them.



“

I have struggled a lot for what I have achieved. The support from my trainer has allowed me to continue with the Beautician Course even though I was totally tied down by housework. I have learnt new beauty treatments and techniques and I hope to continue with the course.

My trainer encouraged me and gave me confidence, and my life a new direction. I am looking forward to making a sustainable income for my family, so that we can have food for everyone in the house. I feel a bit more secure for myself and my family now.”



*Surbhi Singh-Student of Beautician Course at Sonagachi*



## PROVIDING EDUCATION AND PROTECTION TO VULNERABLE CHILDREN



► **35 children** of high risk group are receiving recreation oriented education from the Multipurpose Activity Centre (MAC) which complements their lack of an educational environment at home.

► Providing **Beautician Training** to **10 commercial sex workers**, which is creating possibilities for alternative means of livelihood for them.

► Providing unique recreational opportunities for the children of CSWs through various events and workshops, like **Art and Craft Workshop for children** to make paper collage. Celebration of Independence Day created an atmosphere of joy and happiness. These programmes are proving successful in giving joy to the children and making their day different from the rest of the days.

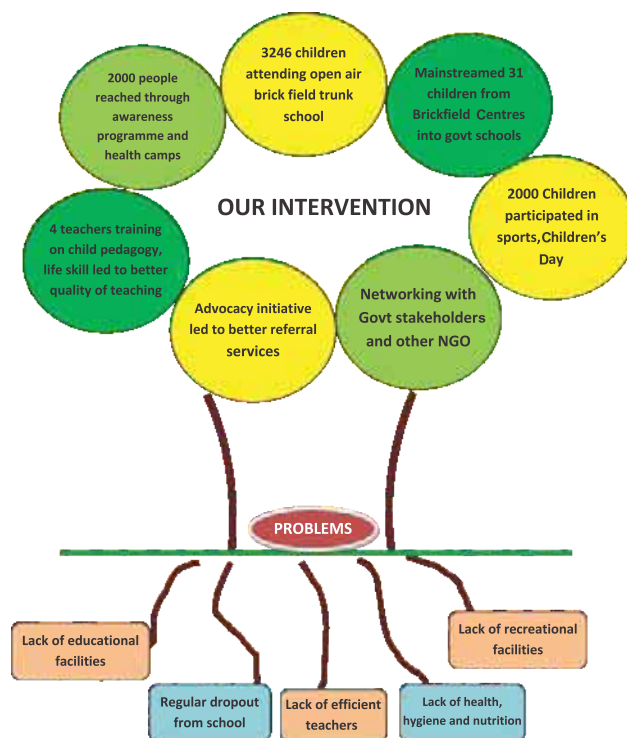
► KMWSC is organizing **auto — campaigns, puppet shows** so that community is aware of the facilities of education available for the children. As a result more children are enrolling in the Centres.







**THE BRICK FIELD SCHOOLS** are no doubt very unique as they are open air schools and set up under the shade of trees or temporary shades. Each school has a trunk in which all the materials for setting up the school is kept. Every morning the teachers of the school carry the trunk to the school area. They take out the teaching learning materials and hang them on a string to create the temporary open air class. They also take out the stationery that the children require to attend the classes. After 3 hours of class when the children leave, the teachers very diligently wrap up the class and store the materials back in the trunk. Thus the school everyday appears out of the trunk and again is locked up in the trunk, thus exists **“the trunk – brick field school”**.



“For the last 6 years Kalimata Brick Field School is running at my premises. 80 children are attending classes on a regular basis. Health Camps are organized, that ensure not only basic learning of the children but also teach them basic hygiene. We are very happy to provide sheds during Health Camps and school days.”

*Brickfield owner Pawan Paswan from Taraksehwar Brickfield*



## BRICK FIELD SCHOOLS



► The Brick Field Schools are open air schools. Since **2008**, KMWSC has facilitated open air schools under the shade of trees for **5 Days** a week for **3-hours** a day for the children of the migrant workers living in brickfields on the outskirts of Kolkata.

► Each Brick Field School has **2 teachers** and around **50 children**. Presently there are **60** Brick Field Schools functioning over **9 distinct locations** in the districts of South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, Hooghly, Howrah and Birbhum.

► Each school has a trunk in which all the materials for setting up the school are kept. Every morning **120 teachers** of **60 Brick Field Schools** in different locations carry the trunk to the school area. They take out the teaching learning materials and hang them on a string to create the temporary open air class.

► **3246 children** are attending Brick Field School regularly. More children, especially girls, are attending the classes in spite of working in the brick fields. For these poor migrant children these open-air schools are the only school they have.

► **296 Parents Meetings** have been organized in **60 Brick Field Schools**. Regular Parents Meeting are helping in generating awareness about their children's education and on social issues. Parents are actively sending their children to the school now.

► Majority of the Brick Field owners are very happy to provide a place for the school and they are cooperating with us.

► Health Camps and Awareness Sessions conducted in 3 phases for all **60 BFS** have been completed successfully. We have been able to reach out to **2000 people** through Health Camps.



► **Health Camps** are organised at regular intervals to meet the specific needs of the community and to deliver medical services to Brick Field Schools. The camps also ensure provision for timely referral services to the patients for further specialized care.

► The uniqueness of the Camps lie in its comprehensive approach where **health promotion and prevention** are given equal importance and curative care is administered.

► **Puppet Show** has been used as a tool for creating awareness throughout the year on safe migration, Right to Education, Right to Information, child marriage, Interstate Migration Act and Government schemes.

► Regular **monitoring visits** are a very important part of the Brick Field School Project. KMWSC staff visit each BFS twice every month for monitoring and assessing the teachers performance. **294** visits last year ensured quality teaching.

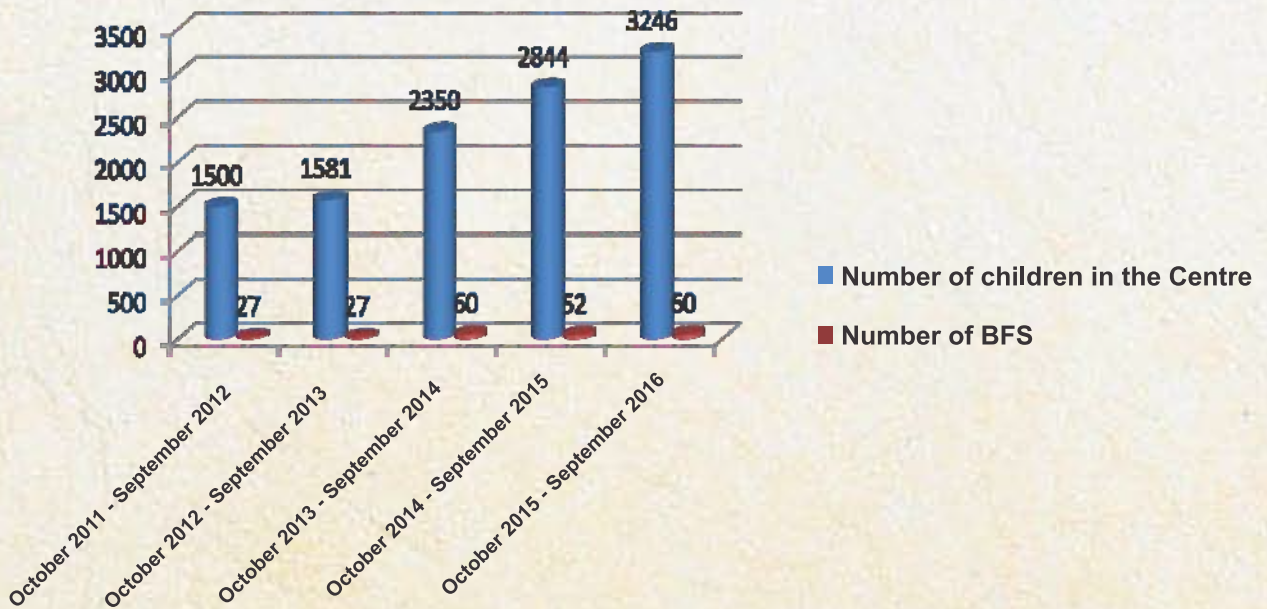
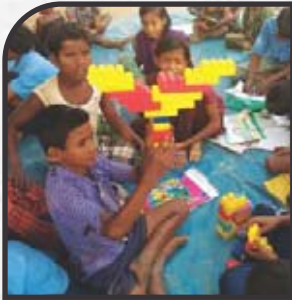
► **4 Teachers Training programmes** organized has been able to bring qualitative changes in teaching methodology of different subjects, making them more interesting and student friendly for the children. Trainings have helped to enhance communication skills between students and teachers, between peer groups, as well as in enhancing learning and grasping skills of the children.

► **KMWSC** provided a variety of extra-curricular activities for children that included Drawing Competition, Sports and Christmas Celebration. The children look forward to the recreational activities, sports and special events. Recreational opportunities have facilitated the process of positive development of children and has played a significant role in influencing their behaviour.

► One of the greatest achievements was that an **11 year old girl**, Reshma Kumari who had migrated from Navada to West Bengal was found in Kulpi. The girl was taken back to Nawada and admitted in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya in 2015.

► During the Nawada intervention programme the staff of the project visited **14 districts** of Nawada to make the people aware about the importance of education and admitted **82 children** in ICDS schools and **251 children** in local schools.





## SOLAR ENLIGHTEN AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

is implemented in **Gosaba Block** in **South 24 Parganas** to create awareness on solar and other alternative sources of energy, while providing solar lanterns and educational support to the children and women of poor families in the village.

**KMWSC programme on solar lights has benefitted the community in the following ways**



“ I have two daughters, Rakhi (6 years) and Purnima (4 years). Rakhi has been admitted into the Centre. Solar lights have highly benefitted us. My daughter can study attentively and I can do my household work at the same time.”



*“Kanika Burman mother of Rakhi Mondal (6 years) and Purnima Mondal (4 years), who attend the Centre”*





## SOLAR ENLIGHTEN AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

- ▶ There are **4 Learning Centres** in **4 areas of Manmathanagar village** where there is still no electricity. These Learning Centres function as Solar Centres.
- ▶ **140 children** are enrolled in the Centres at Manmathanagar out of which **40** are **new admissions**. They are receiving remedial education as they are not able to afford it on their own.
- ▶ Children are taught with innovative methods and have learnt the English and Bengali alphabets and numbers. They have also learnt the names of seven days in a week and names of the months of the Bengali calendar.
- ▶ **58 children have been mainstreamed** into formal education and they are now attending school regularly.
- ▶ **40 sessions** conducted over 4 Centres for **generating awareness** on the importance of education. As a result attendance of children at these Centres has increased.
- ▶ Year **2016** marked completion of building the **Solar Centre** at **Manmathanagar** where **100 solar lights** have been assembled by the staff, which in future will be distributed in the community.
- ▶ **9 community meetings** were held to spread awareness on solar light and use of solar power as an alternative source of energy, in the following areas - Gopal Kata, Amra Methi, Kachukhali, Bon Anchal para. We have got a positive response.

## EDUCATION OF THE URBAN DEPRIVED CHILDREN

was started from April 2015. The project provides education to the deprived children of **Jyotinagar Colony**. Presently there are 32 students.



“

It is so rewarding to be able to share my knowledge with young people at the Centre and watch them bloom. Regular classes and different activities organized for children have shown a remarkable improvement in children's reading and writing skills. Of all the work, teaching these children is what I enjoy most. It is fulfilling and engaging-never a dull moment.”



*Loreto Teacher Group Head-Nirmala Biswas –Teacher at the Centre*





**42 children** from Jyotinagar are part of us. Every day, a bus from Loreto Day School, Sealdah brings the girls to us and again takes them home safely. Children are attending Raj Rajeshwari School in Bowbazar. The bus service ensures that children attend school regularly. Children have developed social skills and confidence by making friends and socialising with others.



Teachers belonging to Loreto Lay Associates regularly guide the children. After they finish the regular school day, KMWSC provides extra tutorial support to **20 children**, along with a small snack. A teacher is deputed to help with their daily lessons, as well as to improve their standard in English and Mathematics. Having a regular time to do homework is helping them and their knowledge base has shown definite improvement.



Volunteers from Cognizant are taking classes once a week, every Saturday. Children's interaction with outside Teachers/Volunteers has yielded good results. These classes help to provide them with a strong foundation.

Constant monitoring has developed healthy habits among the young children. They are maintaining proper health and hygiene.



**32 Children** have received books, cardigans, leggings and socks.

**4 girl children** from Jyotinagar were admitted into Loreto Rainbow Home, Sealdah.



# Stories of Success

## SENSITIZATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROJECT

**Influencing Change :** On 7th September 2015, Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre project staff conducted a campaign at Darikanath Balika Vidyalaya (Girls High School) in Canning on the child protection issue. During the campaign a girl, Mahira Khatoon (name changed to maintain confidentiality) aged 15 yrs, a student of 11th standard along with her teacher approached the Project Coordinator of KMWSC with her complaints. She shared that her parents are forcing her to get married and she is finding it difficult to convince her parents to allow her to study. She requested the coordinator to help her in stopping the marriage as she wanted to continue with her studies. The Coordinator, along with her project staff immediately informed Mr. Anindya Ghosh, District Child Protection Officer, South 24 Parganas and CHILDLINE India Foundation about Mahira. The project staff followed up the case and on 8th September 2015, the marriage was stopped by the Canning Police Station with active intervention of the District Child Protection Officer and Childline.

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## SENSITIZATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROJECT

**The Journey of a Brave Heart :** An active Adolescent Girls Group member of Daria Gram Panchayat, Tuktuki, has shown great presence of mind when she heard from the father of her friend Rehana Mali (name changed) that Rehana has migrated with an acquaintance of the family to Bardhaman for a job. Based on knowledge acquired from the Sensitization Programmes conducted by KMWSC, she knew something was wrong. Taking the number of the man from Rehana's father, Tuktuki called him. She acted intelligently and appealed to the man to help her find a job. The man (a trafficker) in the hope of a probable candidate, promised to connect with Tuktuki. Wasting no time she immediately called Childline and informed the local community leaders. The community stakeholders were able to pressurize the trafficker's family to return Rehana as soon as possible. Due to strong pressure from the community and Childline, the man was forced to return to Canning along with Rehana. With everybody's help Rehana was brought back to her parents. Later on Rehana revealed that she had been taken to Bihar and was in the process of being sold to a dance troupe. Now Tuktuki and Rehana are inseparable friends.

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## BRICKFIELD PROJECT

**Where There is a Will, There is a Way :** Manisha Sardar is a 4 year old girl with a physical disability. She came with her parents from Jharkhand to Minakhan Brickfield. Her parents work in the Brick Fields of Minakhan. Unlike other children of her age, Manisha could not stand straight, since birth. First, her parents were not willing to send Manisha to school, but after KMWSC's intervention they agreed. Presently Manisha is attending the Brick Field School at Minakhan. Her parents are very supportive now and send Manisha to school regularly.





Manisha is a charming girl. She has never let her disability hold her back. Manisha decided not to be dictated by her fate but to live life on her terms. She participated in the Sports Programme which was organized in the month of May, 2015. Manisha won the second prize in “Ball in the Bucket” competition where the number of competitors were 27. She not only won the second prize, but was able to win our hearts too. She really enjoyed the interaction with the children through the game. She is a true inspiration for all of us.

## BRICKFIELD PROJECT

**A Positive Attitude led to Positive Outcome-Embrace Change :** Reshma Kumari, a 11 year old girl, migrated to Kulpi Brick Field along with her parents in 2014. She was attending the Brick Field School during session year 2014-15. After completing the BFS session she went back to her native village at Nawada. During our intervention at Nawada we were able to identify Reshma in her village. We came to know that Reshma had left school due to family problems. We tried to convince her parents to get her admitted in school. We were successful in our efforts and finally with her parents consent we admitted her in Kasturba Gandhi Residential Home in Class VI. After few months we did a follow - up visit and found remarkable changes in Reshma. She is performing well in class now and enjoying school life. She is also getting access to the government facilities. Her parents are regularly meeting her in the residential school. The residential school has brought a ray of hope not only in her life but also in the life of her parents. She shared that from now onwards she will continue with her studies in the residential home until she becomes 15 years old. Reshma truly has set a example for other brickfield children.



## EDUCATION OF DEPRIVED URBAN CHILDREN



**Finding Hope in the Midst of Despair :** Raju Mir, son and brother of CSWs had been born and brought up in the red light district of Sonagachi. When he was young he fell in love with a CSW and soon they were together. The couple gave birth to a girl, Heena. But Heena was deserted when she was just 15 days old as her mother eloped with her lover. Since then Heena has been in the care of her grandmother and aunt. Though they looked after her, she was not allowed to attend school regularly, and even was physically abused by her aunt. Raju remained away from the house till late at night for work. He was very worried and wanted to put Heena in a residential care where she could be safe. Heena's progressing adolescence worried Raju even more. He wanted his daughter to be out of the red light area.

Heena was identified by one of the teachers of KMWSC and brought to the Centre. One day during a home visit they got to meet Raju who expressed his desire to send Heena to a hostel. Assessing the vulnerability of the girl child and to relieve the fears of her father, Heena was admitted to the Rainbow Home through the intervention of the KMWSC staff.

Now Heena happily lives at the Rainbow Home and is regularly attending school. Her father, Raju finds his fears rested and is happy that KMWSC came to the rescue of his daughter.



## LOTUS CHILD PROJECT

**Helping Hands made a Big Difference :** Sagarika Sardar was left without any educational help when the Chaulgola Lotus Child Educational Centre closed down a few years back. Her father and mother leave home everyday early in the morning for work leaving her alone to look after herself. She gradually found it difficult to cope with her studies as she reached higher classes and her grades in school started deteriorating. It was a boon in disguise when the Lotus Child Centre reopened at Chaulgola in 2015. She soon started coming to the Centre and availed the remedial educational help. In no time, taking help from the Centre teachers she started faring well in her studies once again. Now her parents are no longer worried about her education and they are very thankful to the Centre for opening a window of opportunity for Sagarika.

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## LOTUS CHILD PROJECT

**Reframing the Path to School :** 12 year old Sonia Raut longs to go to school. "Who will look after my younger brother and cook at home if I go to school?", asks Sonia. Sonia's parents, in order to earn a living, leave home early in the morning and return late at night. Though they send their young son to school every day but were reluctant to send Sonia to school. Sonia's life was dull before the opening of the Lotus Child Centre as she was only doing household chores. But the Centre gave her a chance to learn read and write and live her childhood as she had always wanted to. She has progressed and now can write her name and read as well. Twice everyday she attends the Centre with the children as well as with the adults. We are at present trying to convince her parents to send her to a residential school where she can live as a child .



## HIDDEN DOMESTIC CHILD LABOUR PROJECT



**Caring For The Most Vulnerable :** Deba is a 13 year old boy, living with his younger brother Biki Mishra (9 years) and his sister Riya Mishra (6 years) and widowed mother in small hut beside the canal in Ward no – 12 Ultadanga, Kolkata – 4. Deba's father was suffering from cancer for a very long time, before he expired in 2015. Since then, the entire responsibility of the family came on his mother's shoulder. His mother works as a domestic maid and earns Rs.1500/- per month. As they are very poor the family faced lots of problems to meet the expenses, and there was no one to look after the siblings at home. In this situation Deba started to work along with his mother to support the family. On 4th September'2015, Deba and his 2 siblings were identified by the MAC Facilitator through a routine survey and were given the offer to attend MAC. Initially Deba was not willing to continue his education as their financial condition was not good. During this time the KMWSC Facilitator met with Deba's employer and convinced him to get Deba enrolled in the MAC programme. Finally they started coming to MAC and after 2 weeks, Deba was enrolled in Ultadanga United High School in



Class – V. His brother Biki got admitted in Class – II and his sister in Class – Pre Primary in the same school. The mother is very happy now as her children are going to school regularly. Deba has seen his mother struggling throughout her life, so he wants to study hard and get a better job to support his family in future. Deba's employer helped him to continue his studies and also provided him school materials for encouragement.

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## HIDDEN DOMESTIC CHILD LABOUR PROJECT

**A Ray of Hope :** Kajal was a child domestic worker. She is 19 years old and stays in Ram Chandra Bagchi Lane, Alambazar Ward – 7 along with her parents. Kajal got married 2 years ago. After marriage she faced lots of problems in her in-laws house. Santu, her husband was jobless and addicted to drugs. He used to even physically torture her regularly so she left the house and started staying in her mother's house. Her father is bedridden for a very long time and her mother works as an adult domestic worker along with her younger sister to support and run the family. Her family income is approx 2000/- per month, which is insufficient to meet the family needs. Kajal somehow managed to complete Class – V from a Bengali medium school (Bata School) which is near her house. Kajal was identified by the MAC Facilitator and was encouraged to come to MAC but her parents were unwilling to send their daughter to MAC. After much effort made by the Facilitator she started coming to MAC, and was enrolled in the Beautician Training course. She continued her 2 months on job training from Bablin Parlour at Dunlop. Since she was not able to afford the local travel, MAC facilitators helped her with that. Now she is working in Ritty Parlour and earning Rs.1800/- per month.



She and her parents are very happy as she is not dependent on anyone. She is earning and supporting her family through the income. Kajal thanked Save the Children and Loreto for changing her life.

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## LODHA COMMUNITY PROJECT

**Spreading The Light Of Education :** Rahul Bhakta was born and brought up in his maternal uncle's house. He is 7 years old now. His father Sukumar Bhakta earns Rs 2500 per month. For the last one year Rahul has been living with his parents. Both his parents work in the paddy field. He has five members in his family. As the financial condition of his house was not good it was difficult for him to continue his education. Rahul started working with his parents to help augment the family income. His grandfather is undergoing treatment and physically not well. We made several home visits to convince his parents to send Rahul to our Centre while making them aware of the need for education for their child. Finally, we were successful in convincing them. Like other children Rahul now comes to the Centre and enjoys reading and having fun with friends. At the end of the year we are planning to mainstream him. Rahul is showing the way to others who are hoping a better future.









## LATEST INTERVENTIONS

### BEAUTICIAN TRAINING PROGRAMME:

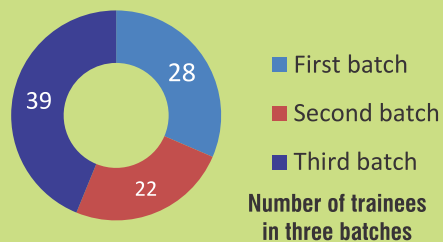
With a vision to impart job training and business skills, the three months course started from October'15. The marginalized youth are the major attendees of the basic course where trainees are trained on the intricacies of a beautician's skills.

- ▶ All the candidates attending the training are from the economically backward, minority communities which makes the course a much needed tool for them to earn a respectable living.
- ▶ An official inauguration programme for the course was organized in November'15.

### TAILORING TRAINING PROGRAMME:

Another addition was made to programmes of KMWSC in March'16 – Tailoring Training programme. A six month comprehensive course intends to train tailors with professional skills.

- ▶ 49 candidates are being trained in two shifts regularly.



# One Billion Rising



Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre (KMWSC) organized for the second consecutive year, a captivating event on 13th February 2016 at Mohurkunj from 4pm till 8pm to celebrate the global movement of One Billion Rising. A staggering audience including school and college students, parents, activists, NGO's and people from all walks of life joined hands to protest against the escalating injustice against woman in society. A flash mob flagged off the programme calling for an uprising to break the chains around women.

Hon' Justice Nadira Patheyria, the Chief Guest of the event encouraged women to raise their voice and stand up against injustice, to lead a dignified life. Students of Loreto Schools, La Martiniere, Vidya Sagar School of Social Work put up scintillating performances that won accolades from the audience. Tales of social







evils and change of ideas were all on board in the performances. The vulnerable child domestic workers rehabilitated by KMWSC, were thrilled to display their dancing skills inspiring many to aspire for a better life. Never having the chance to perform on stage 12 incredible hearts, beneficiaries of KMWSC portrayed today's Durga (the venerable Hindu goddess embodying power) on stage through a dance recital.

Star performers, Kamran and his band – Voicez, Shayne Hyrapiet and Channell Grosser made the audience tap their feet spreading the message of women empowerment loud and clear.

KMWSC took the opportunity to honour two indomitable spirits, women who showed outstanding courage to come up against all odds in life. Commercial sex worker Meena, sold early in her life to the brothels of Sonagachi was felicitated by Justice Nadira Patheyria for her struggle to educate her three girl children with the help of KMWSC. Punita, a young child labour transformed into a trained beautician and proud owner of a beauty parlour with assistance from KMWSC, was also felicitated. The event stood as a tool to generate mass awareness on equality and justice for all which echoed far and wide.

KMWSC wishes to inspire, hope and create opportunities for a better tomorrow for the marginalized in the society by celebrating its annual event of One Billion Rising.



# NETWORKING & ADVOCACY

► State level consultation on the issues of migrant labours was conducted by KMWSC at Seva Kendra Calcutta on 24th of September 2015. WBSCPCR, Labour Dept., Childline India Foundation and other NGO's participated in the consultation. The panel consisted of Mrs. Manisha Bhattacharya– Deputy Labour Commissioner (unorganized sector). Mr. I.S Chatterjee, Shri Asokendu Sengupta, Chairman, West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Shri. I.S Chatterjee, Deputy Director, State Child Protection Society (Govt of West Bengal), Shri Partho Roy, Executive Director, Calcutta Action Society & Activist, RTE Forum and the Director of KMWSC.

► Consultancy Meet organized by KMWSC involved various stakeholders including Government and Organizations who played a role in the lives of migrant children. As a result Sarva Shiksha Mission assured that migrant children will be included in the existing ICDS.

► Networking with Government hospitals in Kaikala Brick Field School led to government doctors attending and treating patients in Brick Field health camps.

► Collaboration and networking with Vitamin Angels Organization led to the training of

competent staff who are providing essential Vitamin A & Albendazole tablets to malnourished children who have deficiency of Vitamin A. This initiative is a boon for the young children.

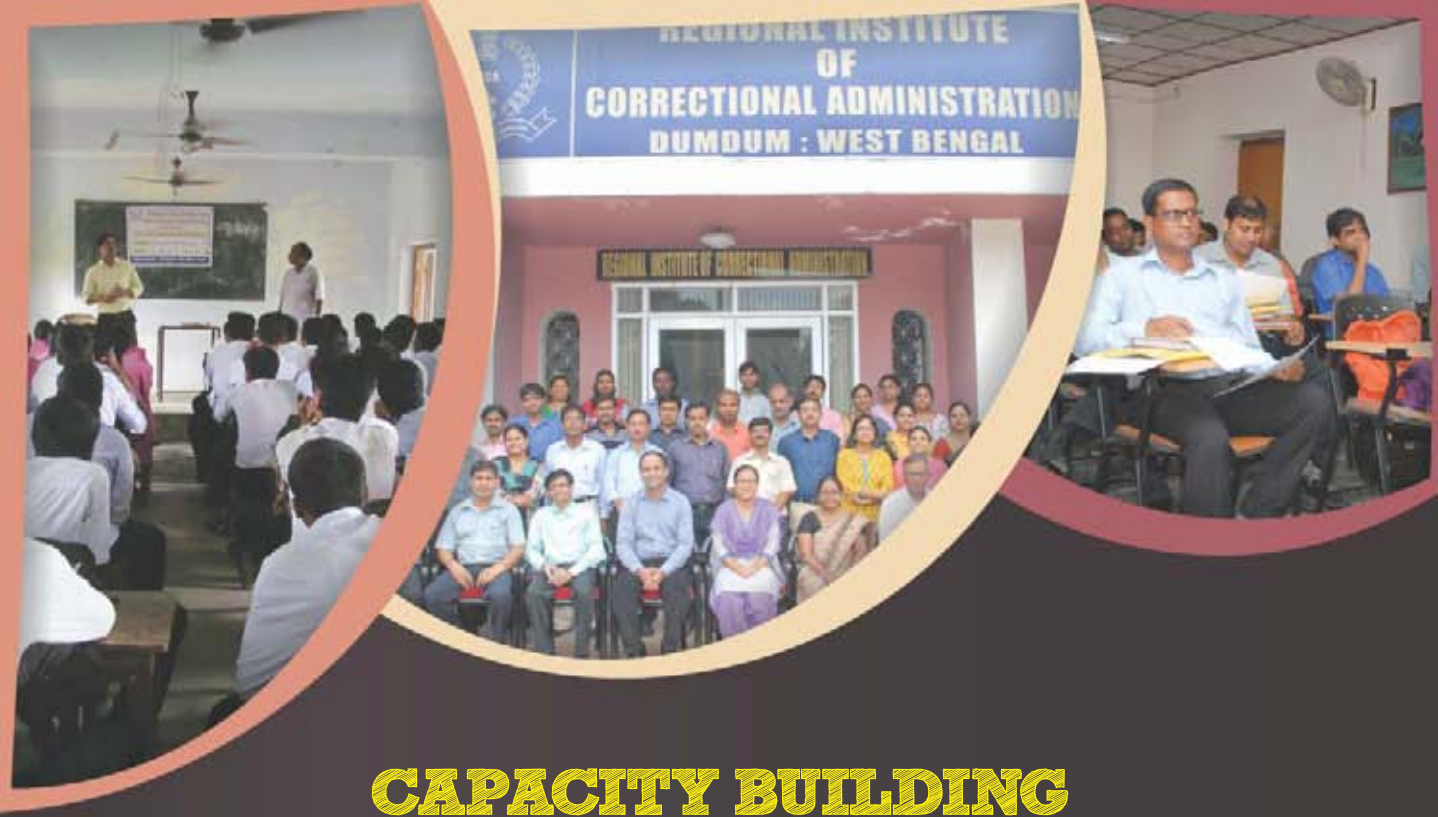
► Collaboration and networking helped a Brick Field School student to be successfully placed in the Kasturba Gandhi Residential Home at Nawada District.

► District Level Consultation on Anti –Human Trafficking issues was conducted by KMWSC at IITD, Thakurpukur on 22.012.2015. 29 NGO's from South 24 Parganas District participated in the consultation on Women and Child Protection issues.

► Block level consultation on Anti-Trafficking Initiatives in collaboration with Child Development Project Office in Canning 1 Block was conducted. Around 100 ICDS workers from 10 Gram Panchayats participated where strategies to combat human trafficking from source area was discussed.







## CAPACITY BUILDING

Building the capacity of new and current staff is an essential part of KMWSC programme implementation. The organization believes in developing resource within its staff members which will enrich the quality of work and lead the efforts of the projects towards success.

► A training on Project Management and Fundraising was conducted by Seva Kendra Calcutta by Fr. Lord Winner from 18th to 23rd of May 2015 which was attended by staff.

► From 11th May to 24th May 2015, 2 KMWSC staff attended a residential training on Gender, Sustainable Development and Women's Empowerment in Himachal Pradesh. The training was organized by JAGORI GRAMMEN Organization.

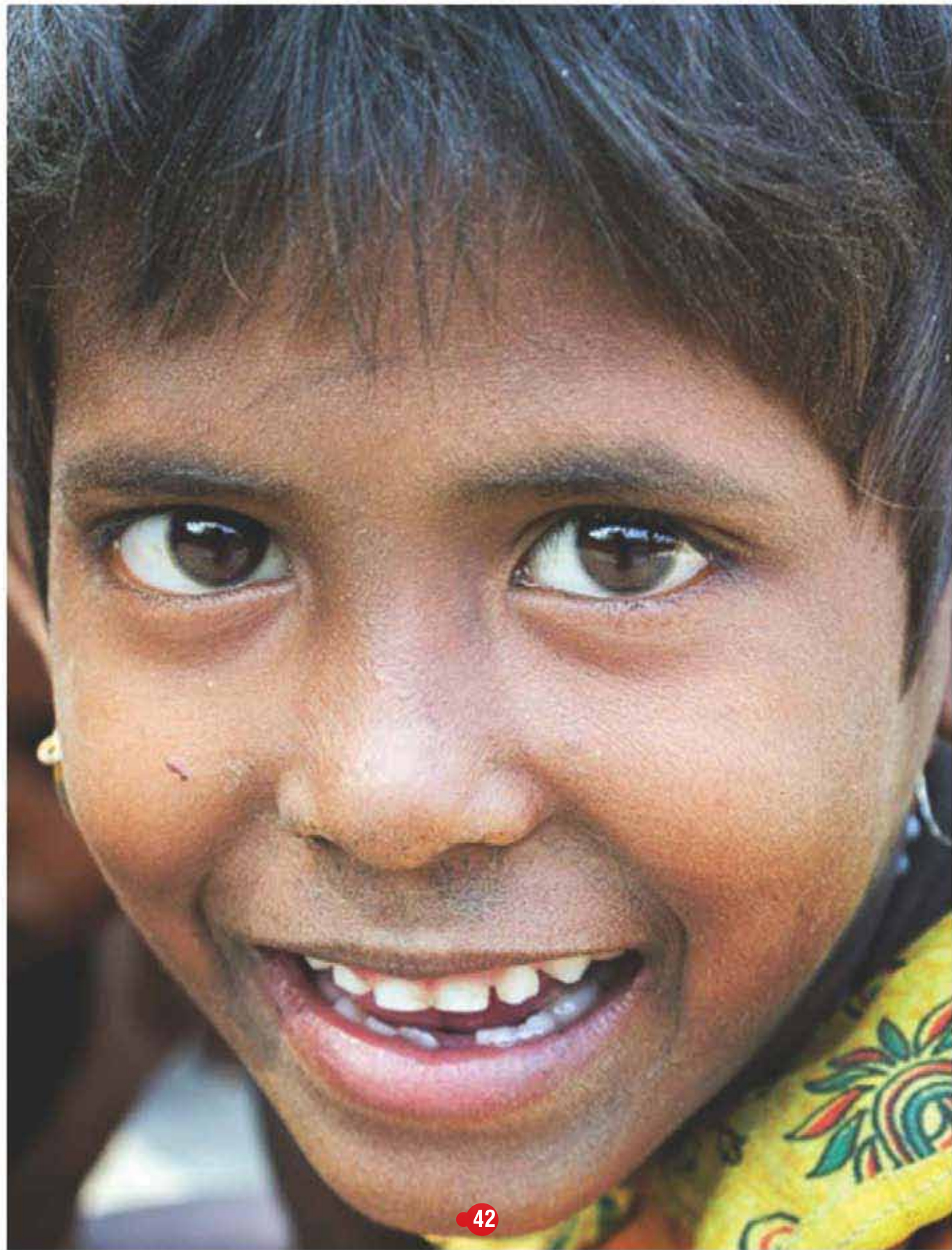
► A training on service delivery programme of Vitamin A supplementation and de-worming was conducted by Vitamin Angels at Pragyalaya, Barasat which was attended by KMWSC staff. This was organized in the months of May and September.

► KMWSC had organized training for staff on Communication Skills. 21 staff members of KMWSC participated in the programme. Ms. Suparna Rudra, Psychotherapist and Art Based Therapist, conducted the session on Communication, Barriers of Communication and Listening Skills.

► 7 Hidden Domestic Child Labour Project staff attended 5 days life skill training called 'Lalita & Babu' (organized by SAVE the Children); the content was based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) which highlighted 13 thematic areas such as Me, Myself and I, My Emotions, Gender Challenges, Violence and Substance Abuse etc.

► 2 staff of KMWSC attended workshop on report writing organised by Save The Children at Hotel Orkos in September, 2015.

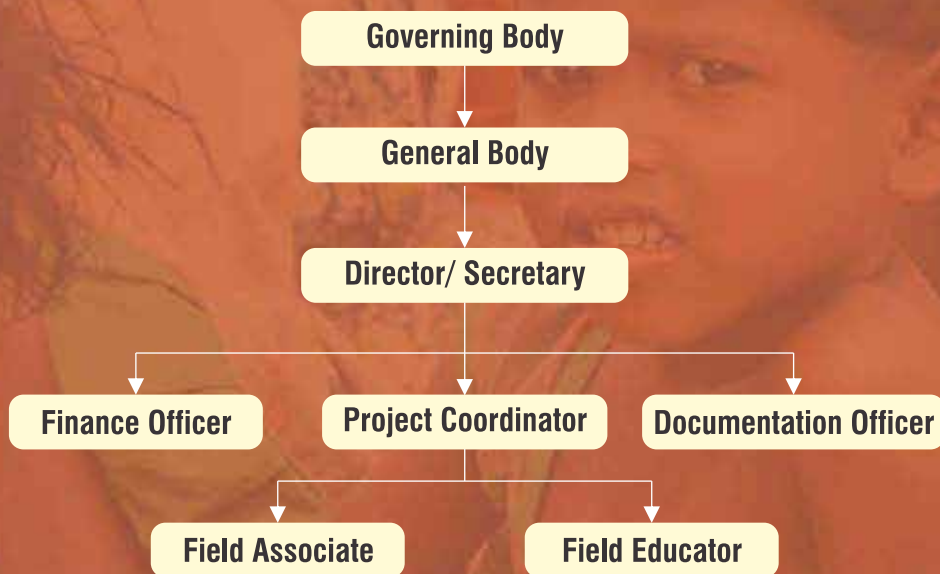
► On 8th & 9th December 2015, 'Save the Children & New Horizon Team' organised a capacity building programme for the 10 grassroots level field workers. Topic was Self Analysis through Group Activities.







# We at KMWSC



## Governing Body Members

1	Sr. Anita Maria Braganza	President
2	Sr. A Sahaya Anbu Anitha	Treasurer
3	Sr. Sabrina Edwards	Member
4	Sr. Marion Vase	Member
5	Sr. Nirmala Minj	Member
6	Sr. Flora Anthony	Member
7	Sr. Monica Suchiang	Director/ Secretary

## General Body Members:

1	Sr. Anita Maria Braganza	President
2	Sr. A Sahaya Anbu Anitha	Treasurer
3	Sr. Carmella Coelho	Member
4	Sr. Marion Vase	Member
5	Sr. Sabrina Edwards	Member
6	Sr. Flora Anthony	Member
7	Sr. Nirmala Minj	Member
8	Sr. Mary D'Souza	Member
9	Sr. Phyllis Morris	Member
10	Sr. Marilla Anne D'Souza	Member
11	Sr. Christine Coutinho	Member
12	Sr. Antoinette Rodrigues	Member
13	Sr. Monica Suchiang	Director/ Secretary



## Thanking You



FUNDACIÓN  
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Mrs. Val Jonston  
Mrs. Margaret Jansen



LOTUS CHILD  
Caring for the street children of India  
The Calcutta Child Welfare Foundation

green energy against poverty



Mrs. Catherin O Loughlin  
&  
Mr. Kevin O Loughlin

## Partnering with

Mr. A.K. Bhaumik of Exide; Asansol Burdwan Seva Kendra; Athmik; Kaikala Chetona; Navodaya Seva Niketan; Justice and Care; St. Joseph College Bowbazar; Vitamin Angels; Cognizant; Big Bazaar; Belle Vue Hospital; Sunil Lucas Productions; Seva Kendra Calcutta; CINI; Childline India Foundation; The Hope Foundation; District Child Protection Unit; South 24 Parganas; Anti Human Trafficking Unit-C.I.D Bhawani Bhawan; Govt of West Bengal; IITD; Thakurpukur; Bansra Birangana Seva Samittee; Jayprakash Institute of Social Change; SLARTC; Vidyasagar School of Social Work; JPIC; Mr. Anand Nayak; CESC Ltd-Mr. Dominic Barren; Col. Rahul Kar (Retd.); RBL Bank; Mrs. Gouri Basu; Mr. Debasish Bhattacharya; Loreto Lay Associates; Schools in Kolkata.



# HAPPY NEWS FOODIES!!!

## KMWSC BAKERY

has started production of baked and nonbaked items.

We request you to place orders

at **9831747038**

*You will surely enjoy our delectable snacks*

The Bakery employees are women from marginalized communities who are being empowered through training and subsequent work experience.

The funds thus raised will be utilized for driving forward social development initiatives through the various projects of KMWSC.

**Come join hands to support the cause!**

**Awaiting your orders !**



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