

## Focus Areas

- ~Advocacy    ~Education    ~Empowerment
- ~Environment    ~Healthcare    ~Livelihood



## From the Managing Director....

Dear Friends,

Yet another quarter, filled with activities, visits from donors, friends and supporters, interaction of AKS Hope children with other school children, a lot of learning, both for the students and the staff and a heart full of thanks for all that has been achieved during these past months.

Thank you for remaining connected with us. We value your friendship, prayers and support for the AKS family and trust that the news on the various projects of AKS Hope shared with you from time to time is encouraging to you as well. We thank God for His blessings in helping us achieve our goals and enabling us to do our best for the children entrusted in our care. Your support can never be rewarded.

With warm regards,

*Manju Lawrence*

## HIGHLIGHTS...



Nari Niketan Mental Health Project, which began on February 1, 2016 in partnership with the State Govt. of Uttarakhand and Herbertpur Christian Hospital.....

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"Every drop makes an ocean". Hope Home continues to grow.....

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Hope Project Burans, working in the area of Mental Health, initiating Livelihood program for PWDs and working among the youth....

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AKS Hope TI & FSW Project. A project to reduce HIV infection by 90% among one of the highest risk groups, i.e. Female Sex Workers.....

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*Advocacy; Education; Empowerment  
Environment; Healthcare; Livelihood*



Hope Home



Hope Samvedna



Hope Project Burans



Hope Academy



Hope CCSS

## Nari Niketan Mental Health Project

Nari Niketan Mental Health Project was started on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2016. An MoU between the State Govt. of Uttarakhand (India) and Herbertpur Christian Hospital, Dehradun, Uttarakhand (India) was drawn for operating and providing services at Nari Niketan. Along with Herbertpur Christian Hospital, AKS 'HOPE Project' is strengthening the Care and Support at Nari Niketan i.e. Training and Skill development of Staff and Care Givers in Mental Health, MDR –TB, Nutrition Diet etc.



At present, 118 PPSDs (People with Psycho-Socio Disorder) are residing at Nari Niketan. Most of them are suffering from Psychosis, Schizophrenia and Bipolar Disorder. There are also some deaf and dumb inmates.



A daily schedule has been set for the inmates which includes self-care, bathing, yoga & PT, meals, recreational & social activities, medication etc. In the recreational time, PPSDs learn art & craftwork, alphabet & numbers, coloring/painting etc. During the time for social activity, they are involved in Knitting, Preparation of Agarbattis (incense), cleaning the premises, helping in the Kitchen etc. All religious and National festivals are celebrated and the PPSDs participate in various cultural items. They enjoy the festivals and celebrate it with joy. Very positive changes have been observed in the mental and behavioral condition of the PPSDs.



Care & Medication is available round the clock. A Gynecologist, Psychiatrist & Physician visit every week and are also available 24x7 on phone in case of any emergency. Nursing care is provided in-house 24 hours a day. Pest control, high dusting & other cleaning work in the dormitories and premises are done on a regular basis.



### Life changing stories....



Karishma, when she arrived at Nari Niketan

Almost 45 PPSD inmates have been reunited with their family members thus far and Karishma is one of them.

**Karishma** arrived at Nari Niketan on June 27, 2016 with the local police. She was found near the Lachhiwala jungle. She arrived at Nari Niketan in a terrible condition, long tangled hair full of mud and dust, dirty and stinking clothes, very dry skin and highly malnourished. Her eating habits were not at all like that of a normal person. When she was served her meal, she took the plate and put her food on the floor and tried to eat from there. With proper care, love and timely medication she was able to improve a lot and at the time of her departure from Nari Niketan, she was not the same Karishma.



Karishma, reunited with her family

**Subhadra**, from Assam, was separated from her family 16 years ago and was finally reunited with her family on March 6, 2017. Her son and 2 relatives came to receive her. Her son was 6 years old when she left home one day because of her unstable mental condition and could not return home.

**Subhadra** was found at the Bus Stand at Tehri Garhwal. She came to live at Nari Niketan in December 2014. In his own words her son described that they had never hoped to see her again. Truly, this is a miracle! Her story was also covered in the print and electronic media.





**“Every drop makes an ocean!”** Hope Home continues to grow with new children joining the Home, loving and dedicated staff who take care of the children and numerous friends, donors and visitors who visit the Home from time to time to encourage the Hope Home family.



Shalom

Two new children joined the Home – **Shalom**, who is 5 year old and is now the youngest member of the Hope Home family. He comes from a poor family. His father is a daily wage labourer. Shalom is a bright child, full of energy and loves to play with other children. He has already received admission in Class KG at Colonel’s Academy nearby. **Ashish John** is the other new member at the Home. He is 9 years old and is attending Class 4 at Bal Vidhya Mandir School. Children at Hope Home are involved in a lot of activities. 35 students attended a five day Summer Camp at the Herbertpur Christian Hospital where they learnt a lot about family,



Ashish John

relationships and environment. The children enjoyed their time at the camp.

A special education program was also organized for the children at the Home. With the help of Hope Burans team and special resource persons, Mrs. Minima Dayal and Ms. Margaretta, the children were given talks on adolescence, sex education, health and hygiene and good relationships. It was a very good learning experience for the children and they enjoyed the interactive sessions.

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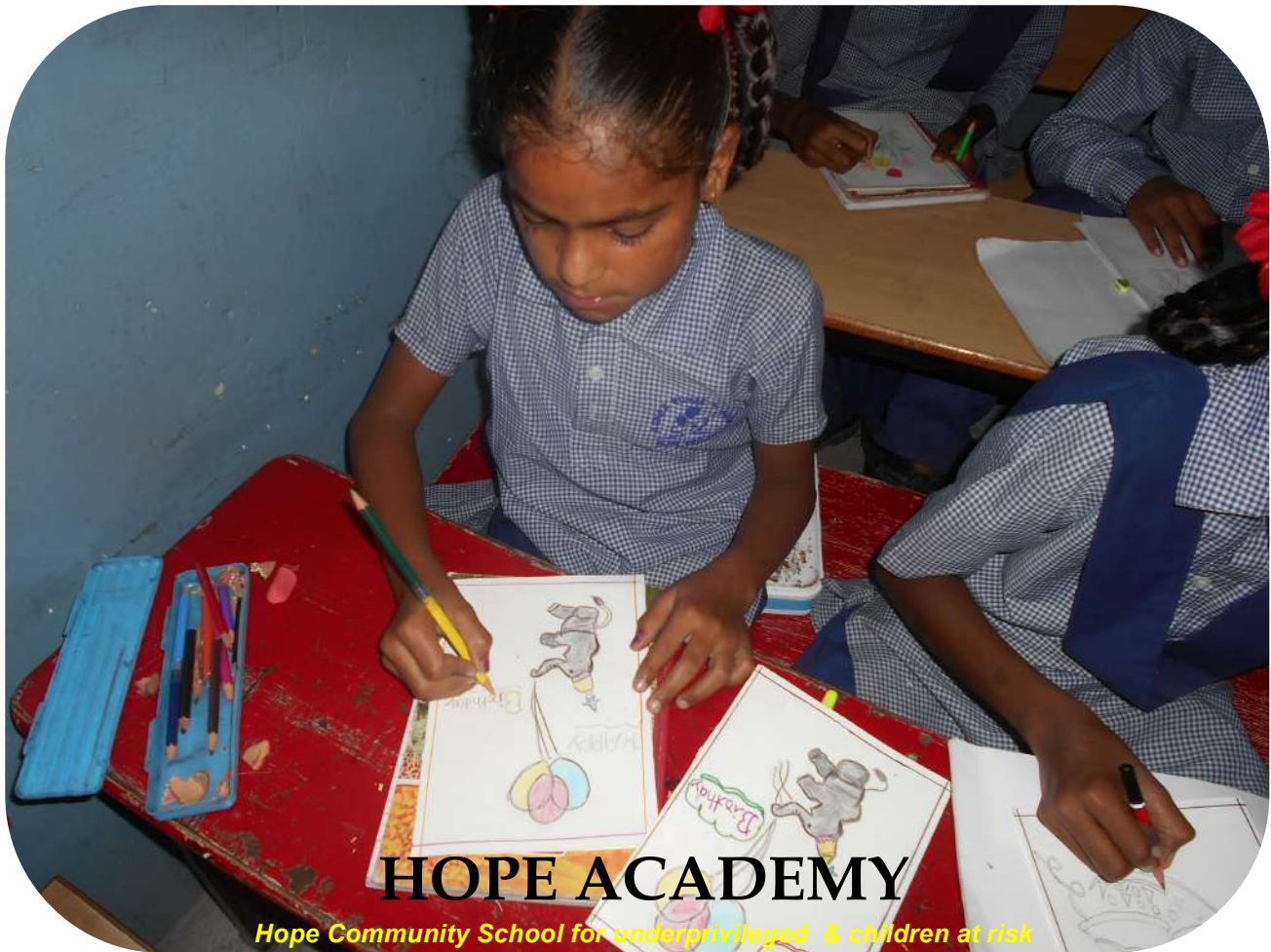
## Friends and Visitors at Hope Home

It is always a pleasure and an encouragement to have friends and visitors visit us at the Home. The children love to interact with them and learn new things. Ms. Margaretta, Ms. Ines and Mr. Jo stayed at the Home. Jo took the children for jungle walks, while Margaretta and Ines taught a number of things to the children and took part in various activities along with them.

Besides these friends, a number of school children from different neighbouring schools have visited the Home and exchanged learning. Students from well known reputed schools such as Shri Ram Centennial School and Selaqui International School have come to the Home to have an interaction with the children and take part in various activities organized by them.

Others who came to visit the Home were Police personnel from Uttar Pradesh, who came and shared information on Juvenile Justice Act. Mr. Peter A. Tower and his team and the Digital India team also visited Hope Home.





After a long summer break, the students at Hope Academy were thrilled to return to school. The new session began with a number of activities, celebrations and learning. The excitement of submitting holiday homework in neatly covered notebooks and project files, celebrating Independence Day, taking part in drawing and painting competition, learning to plant saplings and plants in the school premises, keeping the environment neat and clean and learning to work together in cooperation and harmony – it was all there and the children loved being a part of it all!

Not just the students, but these past months have been a learning experience for the teaching staff as well as workshops were held for them in Smart Board teaching and Participatory Approach in teaching. Mr. Gaurav Mishra took the workshop on Smart Board teaching. He explained how to interact with the students and keep them engaged in various activities, mentioning that the Smart Boards were described to be a scientific concept on which teaching is based. He also shared the ‘**5 E Concept**’ i.e. **Engage, Explore, Explain, Extend and Evaluate** that could be followed and linked to the subject taught in the classroom. The workshop was interesting and very useful for the teachers to prepare themselves for using Smart Class Boards provided in the classrooms of the school.

A workshop on ‘**Participatory Approach**’ was organized by the Management and it was conducted by Mr. Andrew Masih. He explained why participatory approaches are needed and how can active participation in child’s development, behavior and improvement be fruitful. Participatory approaches to learning are active approaches that encourage people to think and actively contribute to teaching and learning rather than receiving information from outside who may not have local understanding of the issues. The approach encourages us to share information, learn from each other and work together to solve common problems. The workshop was very informative and helpful.

**Continued...**

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**STUDIES, ACTIVITIES, CELEBRATION, GAMES & FUN!!!**



**IMPACT**

Babblu Kapadia studied at Hope Academy since Nursery. He was good in studies and completed his schooling with very good marks. He has a keen interest in studies.

Presently he is pursuing his studies and doing graduation from D.A.V. (Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Dehradun).

He wrote a letter of appreciation to the staff and management of Agnes Kunze Society and Hope Academy for believing in him and helping him to reach thus far.

**All the best, Babblu. Keep it up!!**

## HOPE SAMVEDNA

*A Community Based Rehabilitation run by HOPE for Persons With Disabilities/ Children with Disabilities*

HOPE SAMVEDNA is the disability-focused wing of AKS Hope Project. Its initiatives are CBR program where regular meeting and counseling sessions with persons with disabilities, caregivers and parents. Individual home visits and follow-up programs is carried out for children who are bed ridden and are unable to go to schools. Regular follow-up is also done at their schools so that they can adjust in the environment of school. Hope Samvedna has also been concentrating on creating awareness on disabilities in schools and community level.

Under the Hope Samvedna DILIP Project (Disability Inclusive Livelihood Initiatives Program), the goal is to sustain the Disabled Peoples groups, through livelihood initiatives and help them to become independent. Under this program, five families having intellectual disabilities have been selected because they are the most neglected. Agricultural activities depending upon the need, choice, capabilities and environmental conditions are initiated and the families are assisted in the same. The Disability Coordinators have been given training in horticulture, animal husbandry, poultry, kitchen gardening, vermi-compost, raising goats, etc. A two-day training at Herbertpur was held where experts and resource persons from the government department gave theoretical as well as practical knowledge in these areas. The training also included visits to

### Hope Samvedna Day Care Centre



## ASLAM



Aslam is a 16 year old boy who lives with his father, Matlub Hasan in a village at Hasanpur Sahaspur block Dehradun. They are 4 brother sisters. He is also registered in Hope Samvedna CBR project. Aslam has intellectual as well physical problem. He used to come to Hope Samvedna day care centre but from April 2016 onwards, CBR program was started and Aslam had no work to do at home. He always roamed around on the streets without any reason, which became a major problem for his parents. Hope Samvedna team decided to engage Aslam in the Livelihood activities with the purpose of giving him employment as well as motivate him to do something in which he was interested. He is now engaged in poultry and kitchen gardening. This is very beneficial for him as it is not helping the family members but is also a good therapy for Aslam. We hope that in the coming few months he will earn some money from these activities and become an efficient part of his family. His parents are fully supporting him in these activities and are very happy to be a part of the DILIP project. They have a ray of hope for a better future for him.



# HOPE PROJECT BURANS

*a project of EHA & CHGN-UKC for Community & School based Mental Health Program*



The Hope Burans team in association with the Selaqui Mental Institute celebrated World Mental Health Day on October 10, 2017. Hope Burans Community worker, Mrs. Mariyam shared her life story on how she had suffered domestic violence, as her husband was an alcoholic. She also shared how she was rescued after she joined Hope Burans team and since then has also been able to help her

husband come out of this habit. Hope Project Burans team created awareness among the people on the importance of Mental Health at this occasion.

Under the Disability Inclusive Livelihood Initiative Program (DILIP), there are 4 families who are being benefitted and are able to earn a livelihood. Two families have been provided with chicks to start up poultry and two families have been provided with goats. The families



selected for this program have people with disabilities as members, who are unable to go out and work.

The youth of village Rampur celebrated Youth Day on August 12<sup>th</sup> by planting trees and plants. This was a wonderful experience for them, as they had never done anything like this before.

### MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE

Sehrana, a 26-year-old girl, had never stepped out of her home or her village Redapur. She was confined to her home and housework. She had no experience of working outside. Sehrana slowly started participating in the Youth Inclusive Program initiated by Hope Project Burans team. She learned a lot of new things and started gaining confidence. Today, Sehrana works as a Community Volunteer in an NGO, namely, Population Services International (PSI) that works in the field of Tuberculosis. Sehrana earns a monthly income of Rs.4250/-. She is very happy that she is able to support her family. Now she motivates and encourages other young girls in her village to find jobs, earn for themselves and become self-empowered.



## HOPE TARGET INTERVENTION (FSW) PROJECT

*A project for Female Sex Worker supported by USACS – NACO Govt. of India*

AKS Hope Target Intervention and Female Sex Workers (TI & FSW) project was started in November 2016 with the support of the Uttarakhand State AIDS Control Society (USACS). The aim of this project is to reduce HIV infection by 90% among one of the High Risk Groups (HRGs), i.e. Female Sex Workers (FSWs). The project aimed to target 400 FSWs, register them under the programme and provide all the services associated with the programme. Till date, AKS Hope TI & FSW Project has registered 451 FSWs.

The programme includes registration, counseling, testing, Condom distribution and proper follow-up. In the counseling sessions, the complete background of the FSWs is taken. They are given information on HIV/AIDS, Sexually Transmitted Infections, importance of using Condoms and ensuring proper hygiene. Regular activities are organized by the Hope team to create awareness. A Mehndi competition was organized for them in which they showed great talent.



## HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Agnes Kunze Society and its management has always stressed on HRD initiatives and continues to encourage their staff to participate in various training and workshops in order to keep themselves informed and help in self-development as well as self-motivation. AKS also collaborates with other like-minded organizations in the network of which it is a member and works in partnership with them towards a common goal of development. Glimpses of some of the training, workshops and sessions attended by various staff members are seen here.



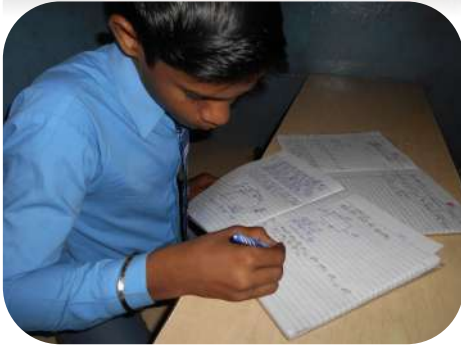
## COMMUNITY BASED INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES (CBID)

*Inclusion of Children with Disabilities into education In India - In the State of Uttarakhand (In Partnership with CBM India Trust)*

Community Based Inclusive Development-2017 has been working towards the inclusion of children with Disabilities into mainstream education; developing communities for Inclusion and providing specific services for persons with disabilities where required. This project is being implemented in partnership with CBM and other implementing partners.

Hope Samvedna CBID project team (one of the 4 implementing partners of CBID-2017 in Uttarakhand) conducted an Individual Profile survey of Persons with Disability within the identified catchment areas. The team has worked on mobilizing community stakeholders PRI, BDO, Ward Members, Auxiliary Nursing Midwifery, Anganwadi groups, ASHA through Awareness and Sensitization meetings. **Include Vidya Campaign** Competitions/Activities & Awareness Walks have taken place among the school children of Primary Level School to encourage importance of Inclusion in Schools. A Teachers Capacity Building Workshop was conducted and a meeting with the School Management Committee was also held in order to create awareness and sensitize and to build the capacity of the teachers in interacting or dealing with Persons with Disability at School Levels in an inclusive environment. AKS also along with the Implementing partners and CBM have proposed to come up with a MYP (Multi Year Plan) on what can be done more in the coming years for people with disabilities in the state of Uttarakhand.





### Chief Functionary

Agnes Kunze Society, 'Pari Mahal' , D-55 Aman Vihar, Lane No. D-10 Village Chidowali, P.O. Kandoli, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun 248 001, Uttarakhand, INDIA

Phone: +91-9412053217; 8439002016 Mobile: +91 9719536211

E-mail: [cinzia\\_manju@yahoo.com](mailto:cinzia_manju@yahoo.com); [cinzia.manju@gmail.com](mailto:cinzia.manju@gmail.com)

Website: [www.akshopeprojectindia.org](http://www.akshopeprojectindia.org)

