

Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay শিশুর সেবায়

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https://www.facebook.com/ShishurSevay

What We Are

- √ A Home for Life for orphan girls at risk, some having profound disabilities, all living inclusively as a family.
- ✓ An Inclusive school, Ichche Dana Learning Center, providing a supportive environment for children with traumatic histories.

What We Are NOT

- We are NOT an adoption related Home. We are giving the girls a strong Indian upbringing in Kolkata, India.
- We are NOT affiliated with any religious institutions or beliefs. We maintain the religious and cultural practices of their origins, with values of Honesty, Compassion, Integrity, and Generosity.

In memory of Tuni Harrison



Dedicated to Tuni, who won our hearts and souls in the brief time she was with us at Shishur Sevay.

We miss her dearly.

We keep her in our prayers as she journeys with the Gods.

Tuni's story is in Dr. Harrison's blog posts at www.shishursevay.com

Jul 25: One Baby's Heart and So Many Questions!

"Tuni is her name, but I added
"Harrison" as I do for the kids with
disabilities who have no
surnames..."

http://shishursevay.com/2013/07/25/ one-babys-heart-and-so-manyquestions/

Jul 26: HEARTS

"Tuni will need to have her heart repaired..."

http://shishursevay.com/2013/07/26/ hearts/

Aug 17: Today I Bathed in the Ganges

"Tuni Harrison died on the 14th of August 2013..."

http://shishursevay.com/2013/08/17/ today-i-bathed-in-the-ganges/ Today I bathed in the Ganges



Dear Friends.

When one can name a hundred reasons for doing something, but not one single reason, then those are just words we try to put around a path to destiny. So it is with the founding of Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay. I am here because all roads in my life led to Shishur Sevay.

My connection to India, to Kolkata, began in 1984 when I adopted my younger daughter from a Calcutta orphanage, already mother to a ten year old daughter whom I had birthed. From the beginning though I wondered about the children who were not adopted. What was their fate?

In 2000, my daughter and I came to visit Kolkata, the place of her birth. I had just been through breast cancer and my future was uncertain. Our experiences were shocking and exquisitely painful. She will write her story one day. For me, the next few years were ones of trips back and forth, trying to understand what we had learned. I investigated what I could, and the more I learned the more committed I became to doing something for the end of the line orphans housed in government institutions. I wanted to show what I knew to be true, that these children had worth, the same as any of our children.

Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay received it's registration as a Charitable Society in June 2006, and it's License to take in orphan children in January 2007. In February 2007 twelve girls were sent to us for "Care and Rehabilitation" by Order of the West Bengal Child Welfare Committee.

Four were severely disabled, unable to sit, stand, feed themselves, or speak. Our idea was to create a model of inclusive non-institutional care for orphan children. Our bigger plan was to raise these children with the level of care and opportunity offered through adoption. Our belief was that while adoption provided family and benefits to orphan children, the State still had responsibility for the children left behind, often invisible behind bars, the children without advocates.

Shishur Sevay today is what it was intended to be, an inclusive model of non-institutional care for orphan girls, some with profound disabilities. This 2 year Annual Report tells the stories of how we and our children have grown. We are an oasis in a troubled world. Our biggest challenge now is in making Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay an inclusive home for life for some who will never be able to live on their own, and in fact would not survive without constant attention and care. We have a successful and replicable model of care, which includes our school Ichche Dana Learning Center, but now we need to insure its future and extend its reach.

Please join us on this journey,

Dr. Michelle Harrison
Founder, Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay



	How it all started	
2	About the Project	2
	The Place:Why Kolkata and why this community? Organizational Structure United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child Facilities at Shishur Sevay Safe Environment Rehabilitation Healthy Food ইচেছ ডানা Ichche Dana	3 5 6 9 9 10 11
	Vision, Mission & Strategies	14
	Our Vision for the Society We Want Strategies The Children We Serve	14 14 14
4	Life at Shishur Sevay	15
	Life at Shishur Sevay 2013 Life at Shishur Sevay 2014	15
5	The Team	20
	Full Time Crew Part Time Crew Consultants Volunteers & Interns Board Michelle Harrison, M.D.	20 21 21 22 22 22 23
6	Financial Report & Donors	24
	Financial Report Supporters of Shishur Sevay	24 27
7	Goals Achieved	29
8	Challenges in 2013& 2014	30
9	Goals for 2015	32
10	Future of Shishur Sevay	33

I. How it all started

In 2006 Dr. Harrison purchased a 900 sq. ft. house and supervised the renovations. An upstair classroom was added to the original building. Shishur Sevay received the Certificate of Registration of Societies under the West Bengal Act XXVI of 1961. Registration #No. S/IL/37263 of 2006-2007.

In 2010 Shishur Sevay received the registration under Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act or FCRA, 1976. Since then Shishur Sevay is allowed to receive foreign donations.

in 2012 Friends of Shishur Sevay was established in the United States as a non profit organization, 501(c)(3), permitting tax deduction by U.S. donors.

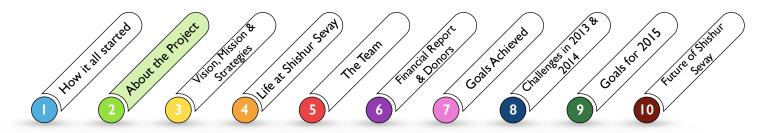
In December 2005 Dr Harrison gathered a group of concerned citizens in Kolkata to discuss formation of an NGO to establish a model of non-institutional care for orphaned children. This followed her work since 2000 in sponsoring children in schools in West Bengal. In working with many NGOs she found that true orphans were only in government institutions without adequate medical care, education or social development. She also found that quality of education for girls was very poor, and that the caste and class system was enforced.

In January 2007 Shishur Sevay was licensed by the Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal, to operate a home for orphaned children.

In February twelve girls were transferred from Sukanya Home by order of the government. Their ages varied from 18 month to 11 years. The four youngest had profound disabilities. Shishur Sevay also received the certificate for tax exemption under section 80G(5)(vi) of the IT Act of 1961.

In 2011 a second floor was added to the building. The room, with an attached bathroom, now serves as a place for foreign interns to stay as well as extra classroom space.

In 2013 the Ichche Dana Learning Center launched as an alternative and inclusive school to fulfill specialized needs unmet by the government and private sectors and based on needs of the children of Shishur Sevay. If you want to know more about Ichche Dana please have a look at the chapter "About the Project".



2. About the Project

What is Shishur Sevay? – This question is more complex than it appears at first. Shishur Sevay is far more than an ordinary orphanage. Many small things make Shishur Sevay, what it is, something special. This chapter deals with everything you ever wanted to know about Shishur Sevay, and maybe even more than that.

An Ordinary Miracle

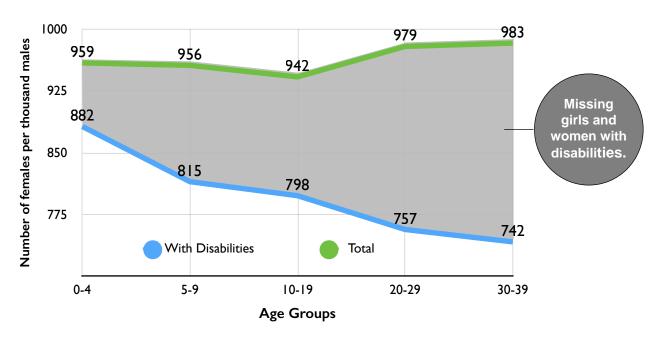
Once upon a time there was an old little house on a tiny piece of land in Panchabatitala, where New Alipore meets Behala in Kolkata, West Bengal, India, South Asia, Planet Earth, The Milky Way galaxy, in the Universe. Then a miracle happened and it became home to fourteen orphan girls. Fourteen girls suffering from various forms of social, nutritional, emotional and educational deprivation, six of whom suffer from severe disabilities.

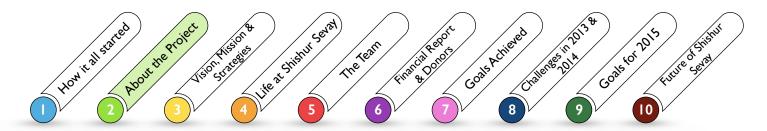
The miracle is that this house is now one of laughter, joy and big dreams for the future. We are meeting the ordinary needs of the children, because they are no different than others, namely education, nutrition, a safe place, and more than anything else, a true home.

Girls at Risk

Girls in India are at risk. The sex ratio, the number of girls per 1000 boys is 940. That means for every 1000 males, there were 940 females as per the Census of 2011. Females with disability are even more at risk than males with disabilities. In the graph below, the green line represents the sex ratio in the total population of West Bengal. The blue line is the sex ratio of female persons with disability. Medical differences in disabilities between males and females cannot explain this difference. Social differences in attitudes and care of females results in these massive losses of females with disabilities. Girls, particularly those with disability are also at greater risk of violence because they cannot defend themselves. Orphan girls are often seen by the wider community as public property. Shishur Sevay is intended to counter these dangers and provide a safe and healthy model of care of vulnerable girls.

Sex Ratio of West Bengal with regard to disability 2011 (Age 0-39)





2.1. The Place: Why Kolkata, and why this community?

Dr. Harrison's connection to Kolkata goes back to 1984 when she adopted her then two month old daughter and raised her in the US. In 2000 they came to visit Kolkata and thus began Dr. Harrison's awareness of conditions of orphan girls, and her efforts to help families improve their lives. For the next five years she made many trips to Kolkata, supporting children in schools, and came to understand the necessity of personal involvement if goals were to be achieved. In 2005 when she decided to create Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay, she was already familiar with this particular neighborhood as she had previously helped a family to re-settle there. She hoped that Shishur Sevay would be more accepted if she were not a stranger to the area.

Demographics of Kolkata and West Bengal:

Kolkata is the capital of West Bengal. According to the 2011 national census, Kolkata district, which occupies an area of 185 km², had a population of 4,486,679; its population density was 24,252/km². The total metropolitan population is 14,112,536.

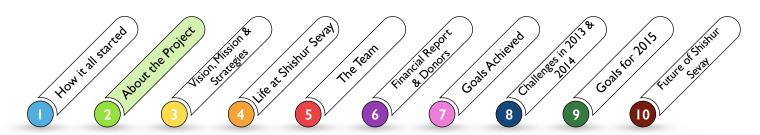
According to the Census 2011, West Bengal has 1,847,174 disabled people, which accounts for 2.3% of the population; there are 21.9 Million persons with disabilities in India who constitute 2.13% of the total population. This includes persons with visual, hearing, speech, locomotor and mental disabilities. 75% of the persons with disabilities live in rural areas. The society puts some level of blame and shame on those with disabilities, so many who have disabilities spend their lives in the isolation of their homes. In addition there is no meaningful accessibility so even if one had a wheel-chair, there would not really be a place to go. Shishur Sevay has been adapted for wheelchair use, including the bathrooms and is non-discriminatory in it's hiring policy.

Behala

Shishur Sevay is located in Behala just over the border with New Alipore. This makes it easy to reach by public transportation, an important factor in attracting staff. We are located in the southwest part of Kolkata, about 12 km from the heart of the city. Behala is economically diverse. At one time it was part of the Sunderbans and then its villages became incorporated into the Kolkata metropolitan area with subsequent development. Open space is disappearing in the area of Shishur Sevay. Open drains are slowly being replaced by underground drain pipes, thus increasing the safety and sanitation of the area. There are many schools and several hospitals in the area.

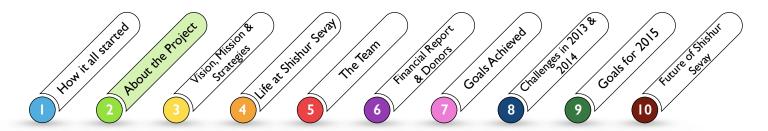


Unfortunately, Behala also has a flourishing underworld with pockets of criminals dealing with drugs, guns, and prostitution, hidden among quiet residential areas. Diamond Harbor Road, which cuts through Behala is a known trafficking route. This is why 24/7 security is required at Shishur Sevay. In keeping with the local culture, girls do not go out unaccompanied. One rarely sees girls alone, or even in playgrounds unless they are being watched and protected. Although Dr. Harrison was already known in the community, many believe(d) she was forming Shishur Sevay in order to take orphan girls, educate them, and sell them abroad for a high fee. Such is how orphan girls are viewed all too often. In the early years of Shishur Sevay, death threats and extortion were all too common. Fortunately that is all in the past now as the community acted with police to rout the local criminals.



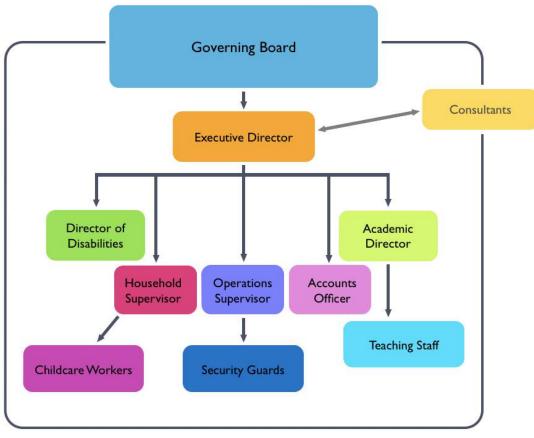
Map of Kolkata





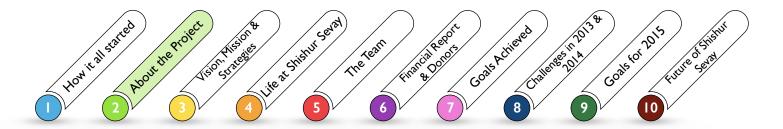
2.2. Organizational Structure

Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay is a Registered Society under the West Bengal Societies Act XXVI of 1961. The act requires that a Board or Governing Body be regularly elected to lead the organization, and to take responsibility for the work of the Organization. The Organization must operate without profit, and for the betterment of the society. It is a public entity required to report regularly to the government and keep records available for review.



- Members of the Board set the vision and mission of the organization. They are responsible for setting the goals, budget, policies, and priorities, and securing the funds necessary to achieve the goals. They ensure compliance with all necessary legal and financial regulations.
- The Executive Director implements the directives of the Board, providing leadership, guidance and management of the organization. This is currently an unpaid position.
- Director of Disabilities focuses on inclusiveness and ways of meeting the living, social, and educational needs of the children with disabilities and the others. This person also teaches in Ichche Dana Learning Center.
- Academic Director oversees the education of the children, teaches, and works with the teachers of Ichche Dana Learning Center to develop and update the curriculum.
- Teaching Staff are part of the Ichche Dana Learning Center and work directly with the children in the inclusive and innovative programs.
- ●Household Supervisor manages the running of the household, including supplies, clothing, cleaning, and the schedules of childcare workers.

- Accounts Officer maintains financial records of all transactions, expenses, donations, and bank accounts, enters accounts into Tally software and prepares records for the auditors.
- Childcare Workers give the personal care to the children, particularly the ones with disabilities. They feed, toilet, bathe, and dress the children, and attend to them when they cry, especially those with profound disabilities. They also rotate cleaning and cooking. They are central to the good care of the children.
- Operations Manager maintains the house, grounds, generator, car and equipment. This responsibility includes purchasing and working with vendors. Security guards are supervised by the Operations Manager.
- Consultants add skills and expertise that are needed for specific assignments. A qualified accountant provides monthly consultation and review of all financial records
- The Security Guards protect the property, hold the keys to the entrance, and maintain the log of everyone who comes and leaves



2.3. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child



The International Community has struggled with and debated the "Rights of the Child" for more than ninety years. The first Declaration of the Rights of the Child was endorsed by the League of Nations in 1924, and called the World Child Welfare Charter.

Over the years the Charter was expanded and on 20th November 1989 the Convention on the Rights of the

Child was signed, and became effective less than one year later. Today only two countries have <u>not</u> ratified the Convention, namely the United States of America and Somalia. India ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in December 1992.

Shishur Sevay, as a model of non-institutional care of orphans, has looked to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as a framework in providing the care for our orphans. We are simply complying with what 191 nations, including India, agreed are the basic entitlements of children, particularly those under the direct protection of the state.

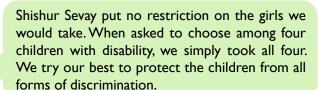
Article 2:

The State Parties shall respect and ensure the rights set forth to each child without discrimination of any kind...



Article 3:

The State Parties shall ensure that the institutions...conform with the standards established by competent authorities, particularly in the areas of safety, health, in the number and suitability of their staff, as well as competent supervision.



Shishur Sevay is a registered charity and licensed home for orphans, some with severe disabilities. The Department of Social Welfare conducts regular inspections. Staff is experienced; training is ongoing. Fire safety, electrical safety, CCTV in all rooms.

Article 7:

The child...shall have the right from birth to a name, the right to acquire a nationality and, as far as possible, the right to know and be cared for by his or her parents.

They came without records, some with only a first name, some with multiple names, none of which they said were correct. We gave them names and were able to get birth certificates, necessary to enrol them in school.

They did not know India as a country, nor did they recognize a map of India. They learned about India and became proud Indians. They love the classical literature, songs and dance.

We were able to locate two of the families, family restitution was not possible. In several cases their mothers had been killed. In all cases we taught respect for their families and supported them in their sense of loss. For some, the loss of younger siblings they had cared for was the worst aspect. They were more like mothers who lost children than children who lost mothers.

Article 14:

State Parties shall respect the right of the child to freedom of thought, conscience and religion...

The girls are encouraged to express their views and thoughts. Daily prayer is held following Hindu customs, which is what they knew before coming to Shishur Sevay. They are taught about other religions as well as Human Rights.

Article 19:

State Parties shall take all...measure to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect...

Our girls were already subjected to abuse and neglect. We provide both, preventive and curative support related to physical or mental violence, injury or abuse and neglect. We maintain a policy of Zero Tolerance regarding abuse of children. We maintain a Child Protection Policy and have CCTV throughout the house.

Article 23:

State Parties recognize that a mentally or physically disabled child should enjoy a full and decent life, in conditions which ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate the child's active participation in the community...

Quality of life for people with disabilities must be provided because the severely impaired cannot control their environments. If no one brings them into the room with others, they remain isolated. Our inclusive living means they are in the midst of everything even if they can't always participate. For the more abled, or less disabled, every opportunity is taken to involve them in community events. Our classes are inclusive. No one is left out.

Article 24:

State Parties recognize the right of the child to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health and to facilities for the treatment of illness and rehabilitation of health.

Healthcare is a priority. The girls came with many health problems; some will require lifetime medical care, which is provided by Shishur Sevay. The children are immunized and regular medical care is given. For serious illness, they are treated at one of the private multispecialty hospitals. When a staff member was diagnosed with TB, we treated all the children according to WHO's highest standard and protocols. Physical rehabilitation is daily. Water is filtered and high sanitation maintained.

Article 27:

State Parties recognize the rights of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.

The standard of living at Shishur Sevay exceeds all norms of food, sanitation, education, nurturing, health and arts. In essence, Shishur Sevay is challenging Indian social norms of caste and class so the girls do not live lives of shame because of their origins. Shishur Sevay is helping them develop into confident, competent, and independent young women. Why should orphans be poor? They shouldn't!

Article 28:

State Parties recognize the right of the child to education.

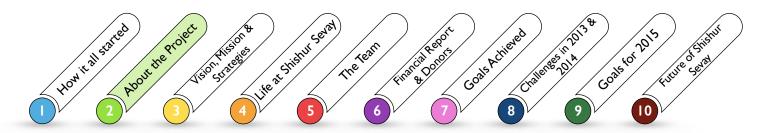
The children have attended community schools and special needs schools, but now we have opened Ichche Dana Learning Center. The school is gentle, disciplined and inclusive. Children are led to interact with their environment, ask questions and take advantage of technology. All media is used including assistive technologies, educational DVDs and software. Ichche Dana offers a personalized education plan for every child. The children who are able, will sit for Board exams through the National Institute of Open Schooling.

Article 31:

State Parties recognize the right of the child to rest, leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts...

Five girls study dance at Mamata Shankar's famous Udayan Dance Academy. Each day has some form of arts, either tabla, harmonium, voice, inclusive dance, or art. Shishur Sevay has a small garden and play area.





2.4. Facilities at Shishur Sevay

Shishur Sevay provides a safe home and center of education for the girls. The house was purchased in 2006, a onestory 900 sq. ft. building on 3 kottah (2170 sq. ft.) property. The front portion was a relatively new foundation, so an additional classroom was added. In 2012 the roof was enclosed with glass creating an additional room with toilet that offers a 270 degree view. The ground floor is fully wheelchair accessible with all steps inside and outside replaced by ramps. The bathrooms also have rails.

A small backyard with garden allows some outdoor activities, and play. The Main Room is always filled with life; there is always something going on. During the day the room is mainly used for classes and office. In the evening it is a play area, TV room, prayer room, and more. During the night all furniture is pushed to the sides, foam pads are rolled out. The room becomes a bedroom for the children and Dr. Harrison. Sleeping together is especially comforting for the children who have been abused and for the children who cannot move on their own.

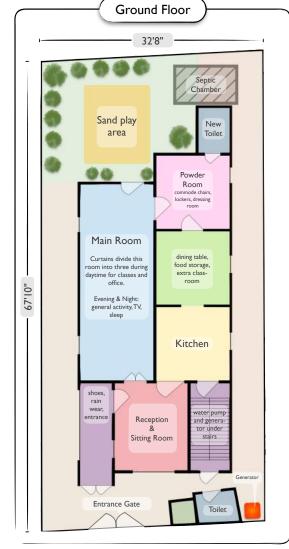
2.5. Safe Environment

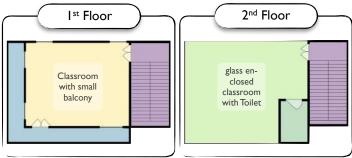
The girls are safe at Shishur Sevay – a fundamental reason this home was established. The children need to <u>feel</u> safe and <u>be</u> safe. This was done through constant vigilance.

To guarantee the safety of the girls, the following measures are in place:

- √ Security guards are present 24/7, and work in 12 hour shifts.
- ✓ Everyone entering & leaving Shishur Sevay has to sign in & out, of which the security guard takes care of.
- √ Local police and the government's Child Welfare Committee work with us to protect the girls.
- √ Child safety protection policies are in place and enforced. This document can be found on the Shishur Sevay Website under "Official Documents".
- √ CCTV has been installed in the building. This has been instrumental in identifying rare abusive behavior. Perpetrators have been fired, as Shishur Sevay has zero tolerance for abusive behavior.
- √ Fire extinguishers and shock proof electrical system
 with circuit breakers are installed

In addition to this, fire safety is regularly taught. Everyone learned how to handle a fire extinguisher and how to behave in case of a fire.









2.6. Rehabilitation

To rehabilitate is to bring to a previous state of fitness. For children who have always lived with their disabilities, the challenge is to bring them to their highest levels of functioning, physically, emotionally, vocationally, and with respect to their quality of life. An inclusive environment is always a stimulus and reminder of what can be achieved, fully or partially. The greatest challenge is with the children who cannot speak, walk, sit on their own, or use their arms to reach and pick things up, or go to the toilet, or feed themselves, and yet who are so filled with joy when they can be a part of the life around them. Isolation is the greatest threat to their having good quality of life.

Modalities of Rehabilitation:

Dance and Music Therapy



Occupational Therapy



Physiotherapy



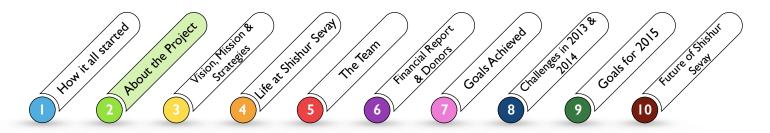


Recreational Therapy



Speech and Augmentative Communication





2.7. Healthy Food

Good and healthy nutrition is an important part of running any home. We follow internationally accepted guidelines for healthy nutrition of children and adolescents. We align the food served at Shishur Sevay to a standard food pyramid. We maintain an Indian diet, and the girls take part in the preparation and cooking. We buy locally for two reasons, one is freshness and the other is that it is part of building our relationship with the community.

The children always have access to food. It is not locked, but for the children with disabilities, it always must be provided, and prepared depending on their ability to chew and to swallow. Fish pieces are mashed carefully by hand to make sure no small bones

are still present. Feeding time presents the greatest risk to our children with disabilities because if they are not fed correctly, they may easily choke on food or liquid. Feeding each child takes about an hour and can't be rushed. Adequate filtered water is given throughout the day to prevent over-heating and dehydration.

Fruits are served daily, and fresh pressed orange juice is served every day for those with disabilities. Bananas, oranges, guavas, apples, watermelon and other seasonal fruits are given regularly. Vegetables are brought daily from the local market and the fish seller comes twice a week. Sometimes the small Shishur Sevay garden also provides vegetables.

The meals we serve every day are varying and offer everything needed for a healthy diet. We organize our meal in two different menus, one regular and one adjusted to those with special needs.

Regular Menu:

The breakfast starts at 6.30 am and consists of either noodles, moori (puffed rice, very popular here), sooji (cereal made from, ground chickpeas, rice or wheat) or gram powder served

with milk.

At II am lassi, yoghurt and milk are served. For lunch we always have two vegetable curries (according to the season), served with rice and some source of protein. Two times a week we cook fresh fish,

and another two times an egg-dish. Chicken, paneer and dal are served once a week respectively.

For supper we prepare chapattis, together with Dal and the leftovers that we have from lunch.

In addition we also serve fruits during the day, as an important source of vitamins.

The needs for our children with disabilities are different, and so our menu

for them differs somewhat. They have more frequent feedings and their food is separated from the rest before chile is added. However their food is otherwise the same, as they like tasty food as much as anyone else. To maintain their good health they also get fresh made orange juice daily, and extra servings of fish.

Menu for Special Needs:

The children are awoken at 6 am and taken to the toilet first, and then to have their teeth brushed. Breakfast for them starts at about 6:30 am with milk, cereals, gram powder (from chickpeas) and often also egg.

At 10 am they get moori and banana together with yoghurt or milk.

For lunch they get the same food as the others, but without chile. For chicken and fish we are especially conscious about bones as they are a potential danger for choking. These children also get a second serving of the protein for supper. In the afternoon, at 4 pm we serve seasonal fruits.

For supper, at 7 pm we prepare chapati, together with dal, as well as the extra protein serving of fish, chicken or egg.

2.8. ইচ্ছে ডানা Ichche Dana Learning Center

Established November 2013 as an inclusive school in which to educate our girls, and possibly expand in the future to take in other students.

Our Principles:

- lchche Dana is an inclusive school.
- Every student counts.
- Children feel safe:
 - To ask questions
 - To show curiosity
 - To express ideas and opinions
 - To take risks and make mistakes
- Education is a life-long process for students and teachers.

Why Another School

Six years of working with children who have been severely abused and abandoned has taught us that conventional schooling just does not work. Their profound sense of danger and lack of trust leave the children unable to think much past survival. An educational system built without context interferes in their ability to integrate information into a useable knowledge base. The Ichche Dana Learning Center is a place where children can feel safe to learn.



This is a typical scene from our school: the older girls reading to the younger ones.

Additionally, the children were not accepted or well-treated within any of the several schools they attended over the years. As "orphans" they were not expected to be able to learn. Being constantly demeaned and mocked left them unable to apply themselves to learning. Although some of these school conditions are present for other children, our girls with their low status, low self-confidence, and

histories of unimaginable abuse did not believe anything good was possible in their futures.

How Ichche Dana Learning Center is Different

With Ichche Dana we want to offer another path, to true education, to built common sense, out of the box thinking, competence, confidence, independence and leadership qualities. This path is open for every single girl at Shishur Sevay, within their abilities and disabilities.

Technology

We use the latest technologies to make sure that everyone of the girls at Shishur Sevay reach their highest possible level of education and independence.

One example for that is Ganga. She has cerebral palsy and is unable to speak, walk or move precisely. She has been a determined learner since she arrived in 2007 at age 4 weighing 8kg. She works now with the Tobii Eye Tracker, a technology developed in Sweden. Shishur Sevay is the only facility in Kolkata with this technology. Before that she worked with a special keyboard. This past year she already did her first class presentation using Tobii. We prepared a video of Ganga using the eye tracker for communication, the link to that can be found below this paragraph. Ganga practices every day on the eye tracker, which offers her a possibility to express herself and ask questions.

All these things could not be provided within the Indian educational system. For a small NGO like Shishur Sevay this path was and is not the easiest, but our belief in equality and high quality education as well as seeing the tremendous progress the girls made since we started lchche Dana, keeps us going that path.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=klcZRhMDS6c

Learning by Projects

Ichche Dana focuses on understanding and integrating information. A good example is an early project we did about plant life. We developed our garden and planted spices and greens we use in cooking and labeled all the plants.

We scheduled a field trip to the Botanical Gardens and prepared by studying the plant life in different areas of the Gardens and the World and Indian regions of their origins. The girls then each presented what they had learned in our School Assembly the following week.





The holiday trip to Mandarmani Beach also is a success story of our concept of education. In June we went three days to the beach with the sole purpose of vacation. In this worriless situation they became curious about the salt water, and how salt could be extracted. So they filled a 2 liter bottle with sea water and brought it home to separate out the salt. But when they looked through the bottle they could also see tiny creatures swimming and moving around. We brought out our microscopes and working with lenses of varying power, they saw the fish and the crab up close and real.



The separation of the salt and water still to be done. They filtered the water, distilled it and voilà! And then they prepared presentations for the regular assemblies, which they now asked to do. If you want to read more about this nice trip to Mandarmani Beach please feel free to continue reading in the chapter "Life at Shishur Sevay".

This example really shows how important a safe environment is to develop a healthy learning atmosphere and also what benefits you get from learning in projects. Different

subjects compliment each other and created a real world learning experience instead of abstract memorizing. Most problems and questions we have to face in daily life can not be separated in individual subjects, but rather a combination of several aspects of various areas. Learning in projects just starts from there. Apart from the above mentioned projects we had several more, and will continue this approach to education for when it is appropriate in the future.



Twice a month the girls present what they have learned in our school assembly.

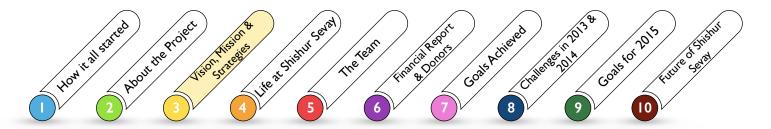
Private Lessons

Every child is different, learns differently fast and has different interests and talents. We are aware of that, and offer individual coaching whenever it is needed or required. One example for this is, that we have a recognized artist coming three days a week to teach one of our girls in fine arts. She always loved drawing and her aim is becoming an artist. We support those dreams and let them develop into reality.

Bottom Line

Ichche Dana Learning Center is more than a school, it is a preparation for life and makes dreams come true. And all that in a safe and supportive environment and on the basis of equality and inclusion. We believe that building competence, confidence, independence and leadership qualities is only possible through education, and Ichche Dana makes this possible for everyone, according to their ability.

At Ichche Dana, the girls get prepared for the secondary and higher secondary board exams through the government's National Institute for Open Schooling, which gives them the ability to walk on.



3. Vision, Mission & Strategies

3.1. Our Vision for the Society We Want

A society where orphaned and abandoned children, those with abilities and disabilities, are not segregated, but are respected as necessary members of our communities.

Our Mission: How to Achieve Our Vision

To protect orphans and abandoned children, including those having differing abilities and disabilities, by providing a safe environment where they will be sheltered, nurtured, and educated in ways that build Competence, Confidence, Independence and Leadership.

3.2. Strategies

- Maintain a home that is secure and safe, physically and emotionally.
- Establish an inclusive overall educational system via Ichche Dana Learning Center.
- Utilize technology for communication for those who cannot speak, and to enrich the learning of all the children.
- Living inclusively in all aspects of the life of Shishur Sevay
- Create safe and realistic plans for independent living and self sufficiency for the girls where possible.

3.3. The Children We Serve

Some of the girls were/are unable to speak or communicate at all, but those who could speak told us their stories. Eight years later some are just beginning to talk about their feelings. Mostly their terrible histories of violence and abuse left them believing that they will never be accepted as equals in the society. Much of their experience bore that out.

These are the stories of our girls

For the girls with disabilities: two of our four girls with disabilities have pierced ears that have closed. They must have had families at one time.

My mother died when I was born. My brothers sold me. After many years those people abused me and I ran away on a train. I became lost and a lady took me to the police

Some men took me to a room and tied me up and beat me. Then I don't remember. Then I was at Sukanya Home.

My mother drank poison and then the police came and took me.

I used to ride the train to the station and beg. I was beaten if I didn't bring home enough money. One night I missed the train home and the police took me to a home and then I went to Sukanya Home.

My mother and I were begging. Then she told me to wait on a corner but she never came back.

My mother died and my uncle took us to a pond and left us there. We got to a train station and some people offered food to my little brother and sister and then took them away.

4. Life at Shishur Sevay

Every day of the year at Shishur Sevay is filled with activities, education, visitors, trips, adventures, fun, challenges, or in a nutshell: with life. Some of these stories we want to share with you to know more about us.

4.1. Life at Shishur Sevay in 2013

Every year on 2nd January Shishur Sevay hosts adoptees and their families, who are on the Ties program's "adoptive family homeland tour". It's a journey about connection, to a place, to people, to origins and heritage.



In the end of January Dr. Prabhat Ranjan, who has done important work in the development of "Environment Control System" based on body part movement, voice and brainwayes. He visited

Shishur Sevay andworked with Ganga on the iPad, using apps to improve her motor skills.

Early in February visitors from Equal Health and Curtin University from Australia visited Shishur Sevay. They were a wonderful group of health professionals and spent some time with us. Their skills were amazing, but even more their enthusiasm and resourceful-



ness, and their love of their work. They left us energized to carry forward what they taught us. In a very short time they became friends, to the staff and the children.



The Holi Festival in the end of March was a joy and fun for everyone. For the occasion one of our teachers brought non-toxic powder. We went outdoors in our sand garden, and had wonderful peaceful fun that involved everyone and did not leave anyone without color.



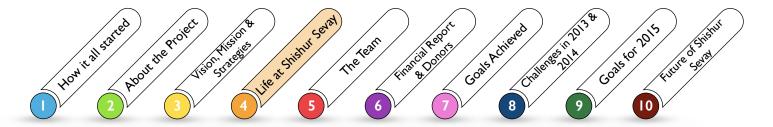


Before we started Ichche Dana three of the girls attended Upasana Academy. In April of 2013 they went on a school trip to Vizag. Aside from missing home they had a really wonderful time and came back safely.



When we do something, we do it for everyone, and we want everyone to be part of it. The same is true for our first function. We wanted an inclusive dance, including all abilities and disabilities. It was a great success. The girls now have





dance and movement lessons three times a week.



In August we participated in the walk for Para-Aug lympics. organized by Civilian Welfare Foundation. We wanted to raise awareness on Paralympics, sports for the differently abled.

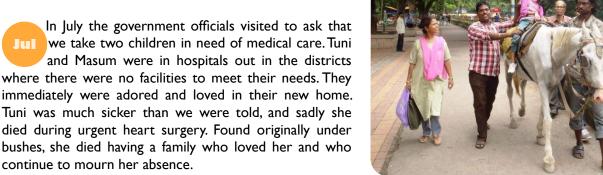


The healthcare at Shishur Sevay is on top level and meets

international standards. This also includes of course the immunization of children. In June we had Dr. Sankar Banerjee, a neurosurgeon from the United States who has returned to Kolkata. With his help we brought the immunizations of the girls up to date. As expected, the reactions of the children was mixed.



In October 2013 we took our first steps in developing our Therapeutic Riding program for the children with disabilities. Dr. Harrison and our Intern at that time, Emily Mattson are experienced with horses. Since there were no facilities for this, we had to improvise. The helmets were ordered in the U.S. and just arrived in time. The horse was found near Maidan in central Kolkata. Normally these horses are for tourists who want to ride around Victoria Memorial Hall, but it also worked fine for our purpose.









Just in time for the pujas, Dr. Harrison's eldest daughter and her family came to visit and spent a great time at Shishur Sevay. It was the first time for Dr. Harrison to meet her new grandson and to see her granddaughter again.



When Durga Puja started in Kolkata, it also started at Shishur Sevay.. Durga Puja basically is about the victory of the Good over the Evil. It is one of the most important festivals in Kolkata and the whole city lights up for five days of festival. Communities build pandals all over the city and collect donations from residents to build these. In 2013 we did not pay since it is a Hindu custom that this donation is skipped when there has been a death in the family.



In November 2013 saw a major change as we withdrew the girls from the private academy and founded our inclusive Ichche Dana Learning Center. If you want to learn more about it, you will find a lot of Information in the chapter "About the Project"

December started with a trip outside of the city to visit Dr. Harrison's cow Bubbi. She is staying at AI-Animals Come First, a rescue home. We brought fruits and biscuits for all the animals there. The children really enjoyed being there with the animals.



One week later we did a field trip to the Botanical Gardens, as a part of Ichche Dana. Interactive learning is an important part of our inclusive Learning Center. Trips like this allow a totally different approach to information and true knowledge.



Finally there was also some education for our staff. Two of our team represented Shishur Sevay in a meeting on "Violence on Disabled Women", organized by Sruti Disability Rights Centre.

4.2. Life at Shishur Sevay 2014

Early in 2014 a team from Challis Early Childhood Education Centre led by Equal Health came to visit Shishur Sevay. They worked with us over the next few days to strengthen the teaching program of Ichche Dana. They also donated two sewing machines which led to our having regular sewing classes. Mid January two team members of Shishur Sevay attended a workshop on "Mainstreaming Concerns of Women & Girls with Disabilities and Prevention of Gender Based Violence, at the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP).



Five of the girls study dance at Mamata Shankar Dance Academy. The Saraswati Festival is a yearly event there and the girls had to create their own dance. They trained hard and they were truly amazing at the show.



Shishur Sevay was also represented at a workshop on "Inclusion-Philosophy: Practice & Promise"

At the end of the month the girls performed an amazing inclusive dance at Jadavpur University. The girls received a standing ovation. The fact, that this has been their first time to perform their inclusive dance outside of Shishur Sevay makes this even more remarkable.



Like in 2013 we had a wonderful Holi at Shishur Sevay. It was a day full of fun, color and water, and nobody was spared.

About a week later we visited Science City with the girls. Trips are integral to our new teaching program. Initially we went there to see the movie "Greece: Secrets of the Past". We made it a full day trip, as there was a lot to explore.



and is now also using it in class to ask and answer questions.



May started with the opening of a photo exhibition on Ganga in Gallery Gold. It was organized by Click Start from Kalighat. Ganga basically has two aspirations in life. One is writing a book, the other is being a model, and Debosmita Dashelped with the second one.



On May 14 we went on an adventure and decided to ride

the Kolkata Metro. We almost rode the whole line starting and ending at the Tollygunge Station. We met with the station's superintendent to discuss the details. The trip was really a success as the children learned about public transport and we raised awareness among the other passengers,



because it is very rare to see differently abled people using public transportation.

Only a few days later Bhangra to Believe, a wonderful ben-

efit party for Shishur Sevay, organized by SMD Bhangra Club was held in New York. Thanks to Travis W. Keyes we have very nice photographs to show.



The same month Ganga started on Tobii. This is an eye tracker that allows her to control a computer and to communicate with it. This is

truly a game changer for her, since she has always been a very communicative child. She is working with it every day

In June we went for vacation at Mandarmani Beach. It has been three years since our last vacation. This time we had a pool in addition to the sea beach. In the pool the children with disabilities could really play, and relax and float, unhampered as they usually are by their motor limitations. It was three days of fun for all the children and all the staff.





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We always had fire extinguishers but to update our training we had a recognized company come and work with us. Everyone practiced with the extinguisher so that in case of a fire everyone knows what to do.



On August 15 we celebrated the Indian Independence Day. The girls designed a sari, that initially was just white. They decorated it with hand and finger printing in the national colors. They prepared short presentations about the Freedom Fighters and a dance performance. It was a great day all together.



Almost one year after we launched Ichche Dana we celebrated our first Teacher's Day. The girls took the initiative and worked until late at night to make cards for their teachers. We have a wonderful teaching staff at Shishur Sevay, and they deserve celebration.



October was the festival month. We had the Durga Puja, Lakshmi Puja and Diwali. We had a nice and long walk around with the children to visit all the pandals nearby. A few days later a local community club invited us over for lunch during the Durga Puja celebrations. This



is really showing the acceptance we have achieved in the local community, and we are very happy for that.



For Lakshmi Puja we went to river Ganga to do the immersion of the goddess, but as responsible citizens we protected the river from pollution and decided to keep the idol under a banyan tree together with others instead of being immersed.



Our art teacher who also founded his own school had an exhibition of his students' art. For this he also invited some artists from rural areas who did a workshop on how to make colors out of natural materials. Later some of the artists sang stories illustrated by pictures on a long roll of sari cloth and paper.



A few days later we received an incredible gift from BAK

Label. The two who founded this brand came together with Equal Health and brought a walker for Bono and Ganga.

The very next day we had an inspiring workshop with Art of Awakening from Singapore. They explained how to visualize ideas



and together we created a giant picture.



5. The Team

5.1. Full Time Crew

Dr. Michelle Harrison

Founder and Secretary of the Board (Bio at end of this



chapter) Dr. Harrison's first priority is always the children, believing if we do not put them first, we have no reason to exist. Her next priority is to develop a strong infrastructure so Shishur Sevay can meet the lifetime needs

of the children with disabilities. Dr. Harrison lives at Shishur Sevay, with the children.

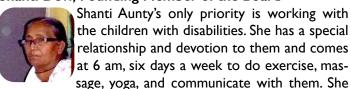
Seema Gupta, Vice President of the Board



Mrs. Seema Gupta recently retired as Joint Registrar of the Calcutta High Court and is taking on a greater role at Shishur Sevay. She is strengthening our regulatory filings and licenses. But her priority is also with the chil-

dren and additionally she comes each morning at 7 am for recitation, singing, or just taking the children to the park.

Shanti Devi, Founding Member of the Board



is also an operating theater supervisor at a nursing home. Much of the development of the children with disabilities is due to her consistent and committed care, and her love.

Dr. Purba Rudra, Academic Director



Rutgers University, Ph.D. Geography; Jawaharlal Nehru University: M.Phil, Geography. Dr. Rudra oversees Ichche Dana Learning Center and teaches the abled and those with disabilities. Dr. Rudra's main focus is in empowering

the girls, building skills and self confidence. She is also managing the advanced assistive communication technology and teaching Tobii.

Sudipendu Dutta, Director of Disabilities



Sudip is a graduate in Sociology from Netaji Subhash Open University, Kolkata. He worked in Corporate Social Responsibility with Tata Consultancy. He is a member of Ankur, an advocacy group for rights of those

with disabilities. He also teaches Bengali.

Gargi Sengupta, Language Teacher



Gargi Sengupta – graduate in English Honours from Calcutta University and has an International Diploma in English Language Teaching (ESL) from IDELT, New York. Gargi is particularly gifted in working with the chil-

dren who have learning difficulties. She is truly devoted to the children.

Srirupa Biswas, Teacher



Srirupa holds a Diploma in Arts & Crafts from the Vocational Institute for Air Force Women Welfare Association, Bhatinda. She is experienced in teaching the arts, as well as in academic subjects. She has been with Shishur

Sevay since 2010 and works with all levels of student learning. When Ganga was in a non-inclusive school she went with her to teach her in the classroom.

Anindita Dutta, Teacher



Anindita holds a BA and MA in Philosophy from Calcutta University. She has been with Shishur Sevay since 2010. She works primarily with the children with disabilities and creatively comes up with new ways of interesting

them and motivating them.

Bijoy Das, The Truly Indispensable



Bijoy has been with Shishur Sevay from its beginning, and has known Dr. Harrison since 2000. He has multiple roles, as driver, fix-it man, and as our strong man when that's needed. He is "MAMA" (uncle) to the girls at

Shishur Sevay. He really is indispensable.

Chaitali Begam, Accounting



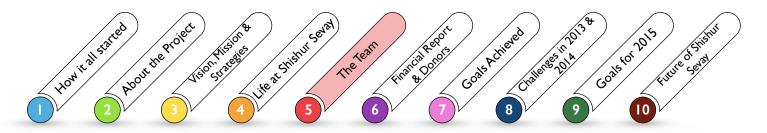
Chaitali began as the first teacher at Shishur Sevay in 2007. After receiving her MCom, she began working in administration primarily handling bookkeeping and accounting. She is trained in Tally.

Ruma Sengupta, House Supervisor



Ruma holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Vidyasagar College for Women, Calcutta University. She supervises the work, schedules and standards of household functions, she is always there to calm the children when

they are upset.



Kaberi Pal, Teaching Assistant Rehabilitation



Kaberi assists in the rehabilitation of the children with disabilities. As mother to a young woman with cerebral palsy, she has extensive hands-on practical experience with disabilities and a strong commitment to their care.

Childcare Workers

We have an outstanding group of childcare workers who care for the children, as well as doing the work of cleaning, laundry, bathing, feeding, and most important, holding a crying child. They ARE the environment of the children. We work hard to make their work environment good.

Purnima Sardar



Purnima started in 2010. She is from Jagannathpur. Most days she works for 24h., but the children usually sleep through the nights. "I really like working here. I have learned a lot from Mummy, especially about working

with children with disabilities. I want to learn more!"

Chhaya Sarkar



Chhaya joined Shishur Sevay in Feb 2013. She lives near Manton Behala. "Since the time I have joined I have really liked the place and all the people. I would like to work here till I die and I went to keep learning more."

Sharifa Begum



Sharifa is part of our team since Jan 2014. Every day she comes from Budge Budge, about 1h30min each way, to Shishur Sevay. "The children here are brilliant. I am really attached to the kids and love them from my

heart. May the children do well and go ahead in life."

Tumpa Das



Tumpa came to Shishur Sevay in Dec 2013 and comes from Bagrahat. "I like working here and being with the kids, The children's home filled a void in my life."

Monika Das



Monika is with us since Jan 2014 and is from Sahapur. "I am very happy working here. The environment here is very good (I have seen other places). I want to keep on working here. I have got a lot of help from the aunties

(teachers) here and mummy is a very good person, we wouldn't have been here otherwise."

5.2. Part Time Crew

Satyen Sur, Dance and Movement Teacher



Satyen holds an M.A. in Dance from Rabindra Bharati University. He specialised in the Bharat-natyam and Kathak dance forms. Satyen teaches the Inclusive Dance Movement Program, working with the abled and

those with disabilities.

Dibyangshu Dasgupta, Arts Teacher



Dibyangshu holds a Diploma in Visual Arts from the Indian Art College, Rabindra Bharati University. He works intensively with our girl who is a gifted artist. He is a well-recognised artist and exhibits widely. He founded his own

art school, Aankiey in 1987.

Debashish Sarkar, Music Teacher



Debashish is a registered tabla player under Calcutta Stage Performing Musicians Welfare Association, Kolkata. He has been teaching the older girls tabla since May 2013. He has taught at South Calcutta Ananda Niketan

Home since 1996.

Ajoy Guha, Arts Teacher



Ajoy Guha holds a Master degree in Fine Arts, Commercial Arts and Sculpturing. He also has a Diploma in Interior Designing. Ajoy has been the examiner of University of Rabindra Bharati since 1991. He teaches art to

three of the girls.

5.3. Consultants

Consultants support the work of Shishur Sevay in areas that can not be covered by the main staff in administrative work. Consultants to date have primarily been in the area of accounting.

5.4. Volunteers and Interns

Shreya Pal



Shreya received her Ph.D in Political Science from Monad University – Gaziabad. She has been volunteering since 2010 and had guided the girls through many subjects and areas of interest, particularly in Political Science, Hu-

man Rights and Women's Rights.

Suravi Changlani



Suravi found Shishur Sevay through Asha for Education. With her Bengali roots and language and her training in Psychology she was helpful in so many ways, personally with the children, and administratively for the organi-

zation. Ask her to do something and complicated as it might be, she got it done on her own. She organized the evaluations and implementation of Speech therapy for those girls who needed it. "Shishur Sevay's initiative in combating social injustices has inspired me to follow suit and given me a new career direction. I will always treasure the time I spent in the sunny, yellow house with the loving Shishur Sevay family. In my own small way, I hope to contribute to their noble endeavour."

Emily Mattson



Emily came with the goal of one day opening her own home for disabled girls in India. Together with Dr. Harrison she initiated a therapeutic horseback riding program for the girls. "The girls here have been, and will continue

to be, such an inspiration to me. These strong individuals have such a bright future with thanks to Shishur Sevay. I can't wait to see what amazing women they become."

Indu Upadhyay



Indu is a Kolkata native, student of Liberal Arts at Bryn Mawr College, Pennsylvania, USA. She interned at Shishur Sevay for a month in May-June 2014. She worked with some of the girls on their spoken English and

assisted Gargi in her class. She also accompanied the girls to a painting exhibition, at JU, Memories of Dark Days.

Johannes (John) Berrens



John interned at Shishur Sevay for six months beginning September 2014. A student of theology in Germany, he is committed to improving and enriching life where he can. He has travelled and volunteered extensively in Africa. His previous visits to Kolkata inspired him to come back for a longer time and to be helpful in some way. He found Shishur Sevay through the Yellow Pages of the Internet. John produced this annual report, having researched the



questions of what would help us best, and then designed it and wrote initial versions of all the content. He helped us to create the new website and maintained it as well as all our social media. When we needed a dead tree cut down, he did that too.

5.5. The Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of a Registered Society carries the responsibility for the policies, direction, and carrying out the mission of the organization. We have:

- Hon. Justice Mr. S.S. Ganguly is a retired judge of Calcutta High Court. He is the President of the board and presides over board meetings.
- Mrs. Seema Gupta recently retired as a Joint Registrar at Calcutta High Court. She is the Vice President of the board and acts as president in the absence of the president.
- Dr. Michelle Harrison serves as Secretary of the Board. She also functions as the government appointed Superintendent, and the Director reporting to the Board. Dr. Harrison is not paid for any of her roles at Shishur Sevay.
- Mr. Pratul Saha is a Kolkata businessman and the Treasurer of the Board.
- Ms. Cecilia Devyani Harrison has a background in South Asian Studies. She works as a paralegal. She is a recognized Drummer.
- Mrs. Shanti Devi does yoga and massage for the children with disabilities at Shishur Sevay. She also works as an operating theater supervisor at a nursing home.
- Mr. Andrei Volik is a businessman and sportsman. He is also the President of Friends of Shishur Sevay.

Bottom Line

Good work requires a good team. But having good individuals is not enough, they also have to play together well, and our team does. Everyone does some of everything. Everyone is cross-trained in aspects of administration so one person's absence does not stop important work from continuing. And since most work goes on with the children underfoot, or close by, not one can forget why they are here and the importance of what they do.

5.6. Michelle Harrison, M.D.

I am an American doctor of Family Medicine, Psychiatry, and Obstetrics & Gynecology. I am also an educator, published author of books and medical articles, and a mother. I'm an adventurer, a poet, and a visionary.

2006-Present: Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay

2000-2005 East and West

Following cancer, life felt uncertain. In these years I represented Medical Women's International Assoc. with UN Commission on Women; Represented World Medical Association, and Medical Women of India Association, Lecturer MWIA Hospital Kolkata. Consultant JR Mullen Health; Volunteer ASHA for Education in NJ and Kolkata. My life increasingly focused on India, sponsoring children in schools, building toilets in villages, a septic tank at an orphanage, and learning about the harsh realities of the lives of orphan children.

1994-2000: Johnson & Johnson Corporate HQ NJ

- 1997–2000: Executive Director, Johnson & Johnson Institute for Children – worldwide philanthropy program. Worked with WHO, PAHO, World Bank, Government Ministries, and local and International NGO's.
- 1994–1997: Worldwide Director of Medical Affairs, Johnson & Johnson APMR Product safety, Scientific Affairs, worked with European Commission and Trade organizations.
- 1993–2007: Clinical Associate Professor of Family Medicine, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, UMDNJ
- 1988–1993: Asst.Prof. Psychiatry, U. of Pittsburgh School of Medicine. Women's health, Medical Ethics: organ harvesting, egg and embryo donation, surrogacy; did expert testimony in cases of surrogacy.
- 1988: Associate, Center for Medical Ethics, Lecturer, Institute for Politics, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Developed and taught a graduate course, "The Politics of Pregnancy"
- 1986–1988: Fellow in Psychopharmacology, and Resident in Psychiatry at New England Medical Center Hospital, Tufts University School of Medicine, Boston, MA. Director, Tufts New England Psychiatric Day Hospital
- **1981-1986**: Wrote and published A Woman in Residence and Self-Help for Premenstrual Syndrome, first US book on PMS. Private practice, lecturing, media tours.
- 1978-79: Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, MA (1978-79) Fellow in OBGYN, Harvard University School of Medicine,

- 1975–1978: Clinical Asst. Prof. of Family Medicine; Rutgers Medical School; focus on Maternal and Child Health
- 1972–1975: Beaufort-Jasper Comprehensive Health Services, Inc., Beaufort, South Carolina, Director of Health Care Services opened first clinic on St. Helena Island, in a poverty stricken area of South Carolina with full medical services as well as wells, housing, transportation, community development, and land ownership. Headed division with 200 employees.

Books

- A Woman in Residence: Random House, 1982; Penguin, 1984; Fawcett, 1993; An Autobiography and expose.
- Self-Help for Premenstrual Syndrome: Random House, 1985, 1998; French-Canadian edition, 1986; UK 1987; First book on PMS published in US.
- The Pre-Teen's First Book About Love, Sex, and AIDS, American Psychiatric Press Inc. 1995; Translated into Spanish, Portuguese, and Russian. A Book of what I wanted to tell my daughters. It's about trust.

Representative Papers and Articles

Published in: Organisational Development; Child and Adolescent Psychiatric Clinics of North America; Journal of American Medical Women's Association, Journal of Women's Health, Journal of Substance Abuse Treatment, Psychiatric Aspects of Reproductive Technology. Gender & Society: Wall Street Journal, Mademoiselle, and Glamour.

Featured Stories and Media

Cover: East-West Journal; Featured in Time, Chicago Sun Times, and others. Did Major Book Tours, TODAY Show, etc.

Education

- B.S., Washington Square College, New York University, 1963; Major: PreMed, Minor: French Existential Poetry
- M.D., New York Medical College, 1967
- Internship 67-68: Monmouth Medical Center,

Residency training in Psychiatry:

- Hillside Hospital, Glen Oaks, NY (1968-69)
- Sheppard&Enoch Pratt Hospital, Towson, MD (1969-70)
- New England Medical Center, Boston, MA (1986-88)

Residency training in Obstetrics and Gynecology:

• (1978-79) Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, MA Fellow in OBGYN, Harvard University School of Medicine,

Other

1990 The Holocaust: A Course for Educators, Yad Vashem, Hebrew University Jerusalem; Furthering my research and teaching in Medical Ethics.

6. Financial Report & Donors

6.1. Financial Report

Administration

Shishur Sevay has the children in focus. We kept the expenditure on administration on a short level and will continue doing that in the future. In 2013/14 the total amount spent on administration was about \$621, which is less then \$52 a month, and makes it about 1% of the total expendi-

Security

A home for orphaned girls has to be a safe place at first. 24 hours a day guards protect the property and take care that everyone entering and leaving Shishur Sevay is signing in a register. The salary for day and night guard as well as the neighborhood watch are part of Administration the security expenses. \$238 a month was spent on Security, so \$2858 for the entire financial year of 2013/4. Security

Household

Household and Running the **Project**

29 % This category includes everything that is related to running Shishur Sevay. To name all of them in detail here would be to much, but you can have a look at the following list of expenditure to see them in detail. One of the highest expenses in house-Education hold is again salary, with \$407 a month, which shows, that we rely on our staff. Our driver and House Supervisor are part of this group. Household also includes cleaning expenses. Cleanliness and hygiene are very important at Shishur Sevay, not only to be a nice home for the girls, but also as part of precaution against any kind of diseases. \$1402 was spent on cleaning, which is around \$117 every month. To put that in perspective: the cleaning expenses are more than double the whole administration costs. Furthermore Shishur Sevay invested \$3162 in 2013/4 in repair and maintenance. Waterline repairs and general electrical wiring were kept up to ensure that everything is working safely in and around the house. In 2013/4 \$5595 was depreciation, which makes it the largest expense for the past year in household. Other expenses in Household and Running the Project are Taxes, Transport and Electricity Expenses as well as General Expenses.

Childcare

Shishur Sevay is committed to being a "best practices" model home for orphan/abandoned children, including those with multiple and profound disabilities. To give these children what they need for survival and quality of life is labor intensive. Six girls cannot walk, talk, toilet or feed themselves. They are continually at risk of choking as they have swallowing difficulties. To keep them clean and fit, they are fed regularly, and bathed three times a day. The average monthly costs of about \$1898 for childcare for the year 2013/4 can be split into three subcategories. About one third, namely \$655 a month was paid as salary to the childcare workers, which exceeds the Indian regulations on minimum wage. Another third, \$653, was spent on health, which includes immunization, treatment and medication for all the girls. \$590 per month was spent on cooking healthy and nutritious food for the girls.

Education

33 %

Education for the girls is one of the most important goals for us. So Shishur Sevay invests almost one Childcare third in this. Our aim is to provide the tools, so that the girls are able to build competence, confidence, independence and leadership through our educational program. Every month \$1374 was spent on the salary for our highly skilled teachers which makes it almost three guarters of the total education fund. As a role model for inclusion Shishur Sevay also invested in inclusive learning for our disabled girls. In 2013/4 it has been \$3358

in total, which is an average of about \$280 a month. Some of our educational programs (e-learning software) require internet connectivity, so \$114 a month was spent on communication in 2013/4. \$893 of last year's expenditure was spent on educational material (i.e. books, software) and activities (i.e. dance). In total that gives an average monthly expenditure of about \$1856 for the year 2013/4.

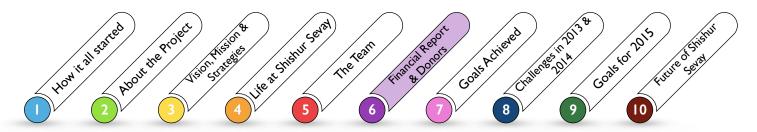
32 %

Detailed Expenditure List

Administration	Expenditure (₹)	Monthly Exp. (₹)	Expenditure (\$)	Monthly Exp. (\$)
Audit Fees (Local)	₹22.472,00	₹1.872,67	\$372,79	\$31,07
Bank Charges (Local)	₹11,24	₹0,94	\$0,19	\$0,02
Office Expenses	₹13.767,00	₹1.147,25	\$228,38	\$19,03
Printing Expenses	₹300,00	₹25,00	\$4,98	\$0,41
Printing Expenses (Local)	₹900,00	₹75,00	\$14,93	\$1,24
Total Expenditure in 2013/14	₹37.450,24	₹3.120,85	\$621,27	\$51,77

Security	Expenditure (₹)	Monthly Exp. (₹)	Expenditure (\$)	Monthly Exp. (\$)
Security Expenses	₹172.287,00	₹14.357,25	\$2.858,11	\$238,18
Total Expenditure in 2013/14	₹172.287,00	₹14.357,25	\$2.858,11	\$238,18

Household	Expenditure (₹)	Monthly Exp. (₹)	Expenditure (\$)	Monthly Exp. (\$)
Salary to Others	₹294.300,00	₹24.525,00	\$4.882,21	\$406,85
Consultancy Charges (Local)	₹13.484,00	₹1.123,67	\$223,69	\$18,64
Depreciation	₹336.176,00	₹28.014,67	\$5.576,90	\$464,74
Depreciation (Local)	₹1.095,00	₹91,25	\$18,17	\$1,51
Expenses Written Off	₹9.584,00	₹798,67	\$158,99	\$13,25
General Expenses	₹10.717,00	₹893,08	\$177,79	\$14,82
Car Expenses	₹98.794,00	₹8.232,83	\$1.638,92	\$136,58
Cleaning Expenses	₹84.516,00	₹7.043,00	\$1.402,06	\$116,84
Electricity Expenses	₹124.073,00	₹10.339,42	\$2.058,28	\$171,52
Property Tax	₹620,00	₹51,67	\$10,29	\$0,86
Repair & Maintenance Expenses	₹98.340,00	₹8.195,00	\$1.631,38	\$135,95
Repair & Maintenance Expenses (Local)	₹92.250,00	₹7.687,50	\$1.530,36	\$127,53
Transport Expenses	₹24.374,00	₹2.031,17	\$404,35	\$33,70
Transport Expenses (Local)	₹24.225,00	₹2.018,75	\$401,87	\$33,49
Total Expenditure in 2013/14	₹1.212.548,00	₹101.045,67	\$20.115,24	\$1.676,27



Childcare	Expenditure (₹)	Monthly Exp. (₹)	Expenditure (\$)	Monthly Exp. (\$)
Food Expenses	₹412.126,00	₹34.343,83	\$6.836,85	\$569,74
Gas / Cooking Expenses	₹14.841,00	₹1.236,75	\$246,20	\$20,52
Medical Expenses	₹425.592,00	₹35.466,00	\$7.060,24	\$588,35
Medical Expenses (Local)	₹47.000,00	₹3.916,67	\$779,69	\$64,97
Salary to Childcare Workers	₹473.614,00	₹39.467,83	\$7.856,89	\$654,74
Total Expenditure in 2013/14	₹1.373.173,00	₹114.431,08	\$22.779,88	\$1.898,32

Education	Expenditure (₹)	Monthly Exp. (₹)	Expenditure (\$)	Monthly Exp. (\$)
Book Expenses	₹1.580,00	₹131,67	\$26,21	\$2,18
Communication Expenses	₹47.124,00	₹3.927,00	\$781,75	\$65,15
Computer Expenses	₹35.045,00	₹2.920,42	\$581,37	\$48,45
Dance Expenses	₹3.600,00	₹300,00	\$59,72	\$4,98
Disability Aids and Appliances	₹12.880,00	₹1.073,33	\$213,67	\$17,81
Disability Aids and Appliances (Local)	₹189.525,00	₹15.793,75	\$3.144,07	\$262,01
Educational Expenses	₹48.706,00	₹4.058,83	\$808,00	\$67,33
Salary to Teachers	993963,00 ₹	₹82.830,25	\$16.489,08	\$1.374,09
Staff Training	₹10.280,00	₹856,67	\$170,54	\$14,21
Total Expenditure in 2013/14	₹1.342.703,00	₹111.891,92	\$22.274,41	\$1.856,20

Bottom Line

Our goal for this financial report was to show how the money is spent at Shishur Sevay, and that we always invest

money responsibly and on behalf of the girls, and for their future.

Direct interaction with other human beings is important for all children, and this is especially true for the disabled ones. So the best way to increase their quality of life is to integrate them into daily life and not isolate them, which requires sufficient human

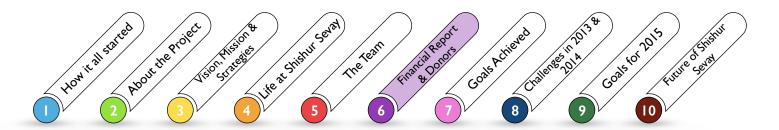
resources. Almost half of the total expenditure in 2013/4 was spent on staff. This Team is what keeps Shishur Sevay alive, and keeps up the good work here. The salary is high but rational. A nice home, and a bright future is what we

want for the girls and this can only be done with good and sufficient staff.

What it really comes down to, is that 99% of all the expenditure of 2013/4 was spent on the direct benefit to the girls. A safe and secure place, good and healthy food every day,

aligned to the girl's abilities and disabilities, clean and hygienic surrounding, and healthcare. At Shishur Sevay, the children are in focus, which can be seen in every part of the project and also in our financial report.

high quality education,



6.2. Supporters of Shishur Sevay

All of our work, all the effort needs support from outside. We had great supporters and donors in 2013&2014 who helped us be the home we wanted to be. Apart from money, goods and expertise we had a huge group of visitors coming throughout the year to just spend time with the girls, and learn more about Shishur Sevay. Without all these people the year would not have been that great as it was, and in fact Shishur Sevay would not be what it is now.



Asha for Education has supported us from the beginning, and when we received our FCRA they began giving us financial support too. We have received support from their chapters, Asha CNJ, Cornell, and Delaware.

In 2012 we were part of the Asha Work an Hour Campaign. We are especially appreciative as we know how hard they work to raise these funds and how committed they are to education in India.



Children's Hope India, a US based organization is also one of our long time partners and have supported us with funds to keep the project running in 2013 and 2014. Dr. Harrison's inspirations for Shishur Sevay

came partly from her visit to their Prayas Center in 2000.



The Baal Dan Charities with their Founder, Tanya Pinto has been an important partner for us from the beginning. They helped start our first computer teaching and then our first iPad. In 2013 they generously gave a

multi-year fund, for which we are grateful.



One Billion Minds was instrumental in our first stage of Ichche Dana Learning Center. Their friendship as well as financial support made the journey so much easier! They make a great cheering squad.



The Ties Program brings Indian adoptees and their families to India to connect with their mother country and places they began their lives.



Five of the girls have been enrolled at Mamata Shankar Ballet Troupe's Dance Institute, Udayan, since 2012. This has been an amazing opportunity to study among the best.

Our Special Friends from Western Australia









We are privileged to have been a site for the Curtin University GoGlobal Allied Health students. Their visits helped us improve our work with the children, especially those with disabilities. Each visit moved us a bit more to where we want to be.

Equal Health,a volunteer organization, sent a group of specialists in early 2013 and 2014 to work with the children with disabilities and also conduct staff training. We have continued what they started, for instance with our ongoing sewing classes using the machines they donated.

The Independent Living Centre has been a great support with Tobii Eye Tracker. They skype with us and prepared the program templates we needed. Ganga loves to skype with them, her special friends in Australia.

The Begins at Kindness Label (BAK) had a huge impact on the quality of life of two of our girls. In November 2014 they brought and donated a walker and a collar. The collar was to help hold Ganga's head in position for Tobii, and the walker/trekker to give Bono some mobility. But now Bono also uses the collar and Tobii Eye Tracker and Ganga also uses the walker. The walking has been thrilling to watch.



In 2013 Illuminate India surprised us with a wonderful walker and wheelchair for our little Masum. The small sized walker is adjustable so that it can be used for a few years with her.



Baidyanath Ayurved Bhavan, a Indian manufacturer of traditional Ayurvedic medicine contributed in 2013, which helped us to keep up our work.



Art of Awakening held a one day workshop on visualizing ideas and expressing through art. Result was a giant picture, where everyone participated.

Apart from organizations and companies, we had a vast group of private donors and visitors in 2013 and 2014, who supported us in so many different ways. Part of the reason to issue this annual report is to thank the people that have been so supportive in the past, and to share the impact they had on our children.

In detail we want to to thank: Baheti Exports Ltd., Santanu Bhattacharya, Mary Caselli, Nandini Chowdhury, Dr. Father Joseph Dargen, Debanu Das, Sushma Dubey, Purvi Dugar, Annaya Dyanuka, Margaret Eagles, Justice Sudhansu Sekhar Ganguly, Subrata Ghose, Samiran Ghosh, Soumi Gupta, lennifer Haag, Tim Hamon and Irene Kang, Samiksha Hariharan, Phirangiz Hawksley, Anil Hirjee, Siegfried Dante Ulysses Jegels, Deepak Khemani, Mahima Kothari, Tanisht Kothari, Hina Lokwani, Dr. Sonja and Soumya Majumdar, B.G. Marthi, Rakesh Kr. Mishra, Subrata Mitra, Shikha N. Murray, Premnath Murthy, Off Tech Inc., Amitabh Prasad, Sharbani Roy, Shubhadeep Roy, Rohit Roy, Atri and Carole Rudra, Avishek Saha, Pratul Saha, Sanjukt Kumar Saha, Vaskaran Sarcar and Gopal Mondal, Rai Sanyal, Supartha Sen, Deepak Shetty, Dakhane and Amit Shweta, Pranshu Topal, Reshma Nilofer Visalakshi, Neetu Wadwa, Nigel I. Williams.

A special thanks goes to Abhishek Rathi who raised money for Shishur Sevay by running the Ladakh Half-Marathon in November. Caught in the floods, he still managed to get to the start line before the race. Many thanks to him. He has been a friend of Shishur Sevay for years.



"I ran up and down the mountains for Shishur Sevay"

Our Friends in the U.S.

Friends of Shishur Sevay is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organi-



zation formed in the United States. Much of our support comes from Friends of Shishur Sevay as the organization is approved for tax exemption. The volunteer organization was started and is maintained by Dr. Harrison's family and friends.



A big thank you goes to the "Bhangra to Believe" Event Team. SMD Bhangra Club, AEG and NY Bhangra Clique, MC Monty Kataria, DJ Sunny Entertainment, and their sponsors: Radio Asia, BG Magazine and Simply Bhangra.

Friends of Shishur Sevay created a slide show that was shown at the function.



The Greater Richmond Bengali Association contributed and we are grateful to our friends for the important work we are doing for the children.



Through the Amazon Smile Foundation Friends of Shishur Sevay received funds throughout 2013 and 2014.



In May 2014 we received a donation of the Forest Hills School District, which also helped us to run our educational program Ichche Dana.

We want to thank: Kirk J. and Susan Andrews, Swapna Bolleboina, Jitendra Borse, Suravi Changlani, R. Gregory Ferrer, Rosalind Forber, Grace Fort, Joyce M. Grubbs, Abhishek Jhaver, Vasundhra Kashyap, Nitin Khosla, Abdul Lateef, Ellen F. Mappen, Avijit Moitra, Ursula Murphy, Brooke Nixon, Nancy Nourse, Regina Pollock, Kalpendu Passad, Norman Hall and Susan J. Popkin, Peter Reding Mark S. Rodney, Abhishek Shah, Deepak Shah, Suravi Sircar, Nehal Somani, Erica Warren, for their support in 2013 and 2014.

Bottom line

2013&2014 have been amazing years, the project and every child made enormous progress. We are looking forward for the next adventures. Thanks to everyone who made these years so special.

7. Goals Achieved in 2013 and 2014

Taking Inclusion to another level was the major challenge of 2013-2014. We lived inclusively, but until then, most of the education was separate, with some girls going out to school, and except for Ganga, the girls with disabilities being taught in-house.

There is one critical caveat in all of this. A safe environment, whether for living or learning, cannot coexist with bullying and/or violence or sexual abuse. By definition an inclusive environment means that some very vulnerable children will live and learn next to stronger ones. We finally decided on a ZERO tolerance to any abuse by other children, as we already had that for staff. Shishur Sevay had to be a place where children who cannot speak or defend themselves were safe. No one should be forced to live with their perpetrators.

Inclusive Education

Our group of girls represented a wide array of abilities and disabilities. Physical disability did not mean intellectual disability, and likewise, an able body did not mean an enabled level of intellect. How could we address this variety of needs and still have a cohesive teaching and learning environment where everyone is capable of meeting challenges at some level. We were also clear that the successes for the children had to be real, and that "fake praise" ultimately undermines self confidence rather than building it.

We had to establish different goals for each child and yet fit them into classes with others. We had girls we were preparing for eventual higher education including college. We had girls who could not read, and all levels in between, and then Ganga and Bono who depended on assistive communication, but Ganga loved to read and study, and Bono preferred to kick balls, but began to really enjoy communicating, if not studying.

The bi-weekly Assembly programs created a way of forming unity. When we worked on theme-based learning, everyone could learn at some level and present at some level. Oral presentations, sometimes memorized, sometimes read, sometimes spontaneous provided wide opportunities for each girl to contribute. And in the few occasions someone just had not prepared well, they had to do it again the following week. Rules and standards are critical, but cannot be applied harshly.





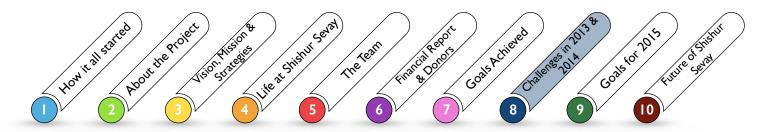
Inclusive Dance

Inclusive dance was a dream from the beginning. Like many things, it came out of the needs of the children. We quickly discovered that the children with disabilities, particularly Ganga, really wanted to dance with the children who were mobile. And it was clear she wanted to dance. Four years old, weighing 8kg, unable to lift her head, sit, or stand or talk, she made her will known anyway. For us, dance had to include the feeling of movement, which could only happen if we took them out of their chairs.

Early 2013 we found a teacher who was interested and understood that our goal was in the experience itself, that "perfection" in the classic sense was not our goal. We began our Dance & Movement Classes three times a week. The frequency insured that this was a serious undertaking, not simply an "activity," and it has remained so.

On 4th June 2013 we had our first official function at Shishur Sevay, with invited guests. We had waited these years so when we eventually had a program, our children with disabilities would fully participate. The occasion was the birthdays of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nasrul Islam. Then on 21 February 2014 they danced at Jadavpur University where they received a standing ovation. Dreams take a while to come true.





8. Challenges in 2013 and 2014

Challenges are there in every normal life, and same is true for an organization like Shishur Sevay. We would not be an honest and transparent organization if we would not admit that there have been hard times not only for us as an organization, but also for the girls.

Safety

Safety has been an issue from the beginning. We are physically surrounded by criminals, which obviously we did not know when we bought the house. About a year ago the police finally acted to close down the drugs, guns and prostitution, and banished the criminals. However recently the criminals have been able to "influence" the police and political forces to allow them to return. They harassed us by regularly cutting our phone lines, and making threats. They want the girls.

Funding

Our major need is for funds to sustain the home over time as some children will require care throughout their lives.. Dr. Harrison's original plan did not include children with disabilities, and so the program was self-limiting in a way. At best it would grow. At a minimum it would raise eight girls to independence and it was within the range of what she could set aside of savings and pension. All this changed with the (fortunate) decision to include children with disabilities. Shishur Sevay has to exist in the future since our children have survived the predictions that they would die and there is no other care for them. Furthermore the true inclusion of children with disabilities comes with many additional costs. They need one-on-one care for washing, feeding, dressing etc. All of this is very time consuming and labor intensive, as is their required laundry. Many such children die of choking, and need to be fed slowly and carefully. Third, medical expenses have been high at times due to medical and psychiatric conditions of some of the girls.

Education of the Girls

When the girls attended outside schools they were not accepted by teachers and classmates. They were subjected to shame and humiliation, more from teachers. These girls came from severe trauma and the school environment left them too fearful to learn.

Actions taken

That is why we invested in a proper security system for our home. The property is surrounded by walls and we have security guards 24/7. We are independent from outside lines for phones as we now have a wireless connection. The girls are accompanied at all times, and we have CCTV cameras in the house and outside. We also strengthened our position in the social area around us and are very well accepted in the community.

Actions taken

We have begun looking at corporate social responsibility, although it has become clear that disability is not a brand builder. We are looking at ways to build a long term donor base. Dr. Harrison's daughter started an organization in NY, Friends of Shishur Sevay that is non-profit to enable fund raising efforts in the US. A major fundraising event was held in NYC, Bhangra To Believe. We continue to look for grant opportunities, and now have more formal HR Policies and Procedures and Financial Policies. All audits, licenses, and tax filings and payments are up to date.

Actions taken

In 2013 we established Ichche Dana Learning Center. This school within the project itself is addressing the educational needs of the children. A talented and committed group of teachers works with the girls individually and in groups. We use advanced technology for a modern education as well as for including disabled girls. The environment is one of safety and support. You can learn more about Ichche Dana in the chapter "About the

Accessibility of Kolkata

Kolkata is mostly inaccessible to people in wheelchairs or even on crutches. There is also a negative attitude towards the disabled and sometimes a resentment of any accommodation required.

Actions taken

The most accessible place we have found is the South City Mall, because it is totally accessible inside, with clean bathrooms (critical for people with disabilities) and a food court with ice cream. Trips require a huge effort and expense in moving children wheel chairs, and staff.

Our presence in the neighborhood has helped raise awareness, and several of the Puja Pandals now have ramps as well as steps, and we are made to feel welcome.

Succession Planning

Dr. Harrison likes to say, "There are two major mistakes that Founders make. One is to think they will live forever, and the other is to expand beyond their resources." The issue of succession has been present from Day One, including always keeping emergency plans in mind.

Actions taken

We are working at two levels. Our Vice President of the Board, Mrs. Seema Gupta recently retired as a Joint Registrar, Calcutta High Court. She works on our financial procedures and is increasingly involved in various registrations and regulations necessary for the running of the Home.

Simultaneously, a strong administrative component has been created, with good and transparent infrastructure in finance, human resource, teaching and running the home. Dr. Purba Rudra and Sudipendu Dutta, are the drivers of the care, teaching and administration.

Long Term Care

We have to establish a new model of long term care with quality of life for those with severe disability. The Government's responsibility is purported to cover children in need of protection until they are 18+ years. However there are no institutions for those who can never live on their own and who require long term care. In discussions with various officials (informally) we were told that the children are not really expected to survive.

Actions taken

We have some ideas and visions of a model of long term care that would include housing, education, rehabilitation and community involvement. This will require another level of funding and support.

Bottom Line

Innovation is always a challenge to the status quo, and therefore there will always be challenges. Our strength is that since 2006 we have overcome enormous challenges, and we are stronger than ever. There will be more and we have an experienced and committed team who will over-

come them all. As our girls grow, we are amazed at their commitment to the children with disabilities. They too are part of our team.

9. Goals for 2015

They were not expected to live



But they did and they thrived

These are the four children who changed the course of Shishur Sevay and led to its inclusiveness and commitment to children with disabilities. We were not required to take them, but when asked by the government, because they could not find anyone else, we looked at them and said yes. That decision had profound implications for the future. Shishur Sevay was no longer a potentially time limited project to raise girls until independence. We had committed ourselves to children who would never be independent.

Now we need a home for life

The next stage of Shishur Sevay must be to create a permanent inclusive and dynamic home for the young adults and adults, and even the aged, as these children are ac-

tually very healthy. We have mastered the prototype of the inclusive home and school for children. Now we must create this therapeutic community as they grow. We have many ideas, mostly in terms of ways of insuring inclusiveness, maintaining quality of life, and avoiding the social isolation of those with disabilities. We know how to do it.

The main goal of 2015 is to begin the process of building partners and securing funds that will maintain these children throughout their lives. Such facilities are desperately

needed, not just for our children, but for so many others languishing alone, in institutions, in homes, on the streets. As a society we just have to decide it is important.

Refuting Nothing Can Be Done Showing What Can Be Done

10. Future of Shishur Sevay

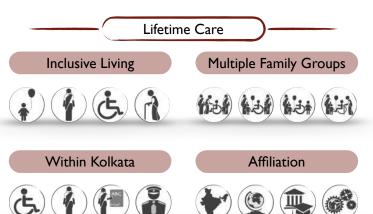
Inclusion is our strength. Initially it was Inclusive Living. Then it became Inclusive Education with the establishment of Ichche Dana Learning Center. Our next phase is extending our model and our expertise to create an Inclusive Home for Life

Shishur Sevay must establish a Home For Life because some of our children can never be on their own. Their lives literally depend on what we create for them. And as we do we are well aware of the lack of such services for others and so our intent, as usual will be to create and implement the model.

What We Envision as Lifetime Care: Design will be finalised pending funding and international architectural competition for inclusive design.

There are important reasons for staying in Kolkata, in fact specifically in our current neighborhood.

- We are now well known and respected in the neighborhood as a responsible organisation. Dr. Harrison is known to this area since 2003, which is why Shishur Sevay was built here in 2006.
- We have many staff who are local and work around "school" hours. These are women committed to our children but travel would take precious time from their work.
- 3. Being in the city means a much greater and more skilled work force.
- 4. We are already familiar with the various municipal authorities who will have to give licenses and permits.
- Our residents can have easy access to the benefits of city life, events, parks, visitors, as opposed to being isolated in the country. They can be a visible part of the community.
- 6. Being in the city means easy access for students we will include in the inclusive living structure.
- 7. We will be a major positive development and economic factor and a point of pride for the local community, and this will benefit us as well.





Home for Life will include social areas, school rooms, vocational and rehabilitation facilities.



We have been accepted by the community.

Coming up in the next year...





Donation

Donations to Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay are highly appreciated. Every amount helps us keeping up our work and the quality of life we are offering to our girls. Donations can be made from within India and internationally.



Direct Donations to Shishur Sevay

From Within India

Checks to be issued on behalf of Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay and sent to:

Shishur Sevay 17/2/7 Sahapur Main Road Kolkata 700038 West Bengal, India

The return receipt will include information for 80G tax exemption.

From other countries

Checks to be issued on behalf of Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay

and sent to the above address.

For wired donations please contact us first and we will provide all necessary information for the procedure.

Contact: Shishur Sevay

Phone: (033) 2498-1120 (Office)

+91-9830240182 (Dr. Harrison)

Email: shishur.sevay@gmail.com Website: shishursevay.org Blog: shishursevay.com



Donations through
Friends of Shishur Sevay,
A U.S. Non-Profit Organization
with 501 (c)(3)

Donations can be made from the Website www.friendsofshishursevay.org where there is a Donate button and payment portal to use credit cards and other payment methods.

Alternatively, checks are to be made out to Friends of Shishur Sevay and sent to:

Friends of Shishur Sevay 751 Franklin Ave, Suite 145 Brooklyn NY 11238

Friends of Shishur Sevay is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (Tax ID Number: 45-4456929). The donations will be sent to Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay in Kolkata.

Contact:

Heather Harrison Volik, Andrei Volik

Phone: (917) 361-5529

Email: info@friendsofshishursevay.org donations@friendsofshishursevay.org Website: www.friendsofshishursevay.org

