

Organization Profile

A safe and inclusive non-institutional group home for the girl children otherwise housed in government institutions.

- 🌻 **The Time:** Founded in 2006 as Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay
- 🌻 **The Place:** Kolkata (Calcutta at that time) in West Bengal, India
- 🌻 **The Person:** Founded by Dr. Michelle Harrison, an American physician, author leader in women's health, and mother of two daughters. Her first daughter was born to her; her second came from Calcutta in 1984 at 2 months of age.
- 🌻 **The Reason:** Her questions were, "What happens to the orphans not adopted?" What if the girls are rejected for adoption in India were given opportunities of those abroad, but without the loss of their country, culture, heritage and religion? When her daughters were grown, she sold her belongings and with her savings and pension came to Kolkata to do whatever she could.

The twelve girls placed with Shishur Sevay had been lost, abandoned, and in government institutions, rejected for adoption, with no trace of their families. They came with: cerebral palsy, autism, seizures, visual and hearing loss, development delays, Down syndrome, microcephaly and severe malnutrition.

Mental health conditions included: depression, psychosis, behavior disorders, suicidal ideation and post traumatic stress disorder. They came having experienced the brutality that is evitable for girls unprotected. The girls were fierce, proud, and terrified. Those with disabilities were severely underweight, some not expected to live very long, aged 18 month to 10 years.

The organization: Childlife Preserve Shishur Sevay

- 🌻 Sound financial policies with full transparency, regularly audited accounts.
- 🌻 Recipient of GuideStar India Transparency Award 2016; Gold Seal 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020
- 🌻 Received FCRA Registration, having all renewals and filings up to date.
- 🌻 Registration as a Society under West Bengal Societies Act XXVI of 1961; No. S/IL/37263/2006-2007.
- 🌻 Received 80G with current status: "In Perpetuity"
- 🌻 Licensed as a home for children by W.B. Directorate of Social Welfare.
- 🌻 Social media presence on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram
- 🌻 Sister Organization: Friends of Shishur Sevay, in the US is a non-for-profit with 501 (c)(3) www.friendsofshishursevay.org
- 🌻 Received registration under Persons with Disabilities Act, 1995, from the Government of West Bengal

