

FUNDACIÓN ASHA-KIRAN

PROJECT SUMMARY “Yashodhara Shelter Home”

PROJECT NAME	YASHODHARA <i>Home for vulnerable children in Pune, Maharashtra, India</i>
IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<p>The Project is carried out in Pune, capital of the State of Maharashtra, India, and its implementation period is one year (from April 2009 to March 2010).</p> <p>At the end of this time period, there will be a final evaluation in order to assess the way in which the Project was implemented, analyze its positive and negative aspects, and integrate what we have learned into the design of the next period's Project.</p>
PLACE OF IMPLEMENTATION	<p>COUNTRY: India STATE: Maharashtra CITY: Pune</p>
DESCRIPTION	<p>The Yashodhara Shelter Home Project caters to children who need additional care and protection than those offered at the Day Care Centers – a Home adapted to the needs of children who have spent a great part of their lives in the streets or in the slums, most of the time alone, without the necessary care and attention for their development.</p> <p>Yashodhara was officially inaugurated in March of 2008. It houses 20 children, 8 boys and 12 girls. Although we keep on receiving applications and petitions from other NGOs and families to take more children in, we are now at full capacity, so it is our wish to secure bigger premises in the future.</p>
CONTEXT AND JUSTIFICATION	<p>India faces a wide variety of problems in several areas, one of which is that a great part of the population lives below the poverty threshold and has no access to education and other basic facilities. Due to this, children's development is hampered. Moreover, lack of knowledge concerning children's needs worsens their plight, which results in a disregard for their rights.</p> <p>Within this context, Pune is now one of the fastest-growing Indian cities, which attracts many migrants from all over the nation. Together with the migrants, the city is also home to street children who used to be seen only in large cities such as Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkatta.</p> <p>Children on the streets do not have any adult supervision and are prone to many difficult situations. In Pune, most street children come from families who live on the streets or in more or less structured settlements. Other street children live on sidewalks and at bus and railway stations; they lack permanent shelter and are always on the move. In general, their families are too busy to pay any attention to them; they have to make a living and stray from education as a result.</p> <p>Given these conditions, the present Project sets out from an orientation based on the defence of children's rights as stated in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child” (1989), which acts as a beacon for the aims, methodology and activities which we wish to undertake. This makes us focus on prevention, protection, and a widening of a range of choices and participation that will favour global and positive actions in order to attain our goals, and which will benefit street children in Pune, their families and the community.</p> <p>The development of the Project must allow the improvement of Pune's street children's conditions and of their environment. This demands global and joint intervention, and paying special attention to those areas where</p>

	<p>their rights are overlooked. Hence, in order to favour said development, and always keeping the children's foremost interests in mind, our proposal consists in the attainment of improved conditions of those involved regarding health, education and protection.</p>
MAIN GOAL	<p><i>The Project's goal is that 20 vulnerable children from Pune between 5 and 18 may be part of a living environment where they count on the affection, protection, nourishment, education and healthcare that will allow them to develop their potential and true possibilities for choice and participation in life.</i></p>
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrate the children into the Home and develop their social skills. • Enroll them in traditional schools and facilitate their adaptation by establishing a tutoring program at the Home. • Improve their nutrition and health status. • Mainstream the youngsters into the conventional job market so that they may have other alternatives besides working on the streets. • Work towards strengthening the children's ties with their family, legal tutors and their reference background. • Raise awareness among the public, local authorities, government officials and parents about the special needs of vulnerable children.
RESULTS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of a Home for street children who are particularly vulnerable because they lack family ties or because their family cannot care for them properly. 2. Improvement of the children's academic level. 3. Improvement of the children's health and nutrition. 4. Development of the children's social skills and improvement of family relationships. 5. Increased public awareness about children's rights.
WHAT THE PROJECT INTENDS TO OVERCOME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The obstacles and challenges that the children and their families face – both within the families themselves as within society at large. • The stigma that vulnerable and street children have to live with.
GENERAL ACTIVITIES	<p>At Yashodhara, we aim to offer the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Home • Health care • Nourishment • Counseling • Non formal education • Recreation • Group activities • Other activities geared to increase the children's self-esteem and self-confidence <p>All activities will be planned keeping in mind the children's development. Our aim is that the children grow up holistically by promoting their physical, emotional, social, moral and financial development so that they may be better equipped to live in society.</p>
BENEFICIARIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children between 5 and 18 who live on the streets and make a living in them. The Home has room for 20 children. Niños y niñas de menos de 5 a 18 años que vivan en situación de mayor vulnerabilidad, bien porque no tengan adultos que se hagan cargo de ellos o porque éstos no sean capaces de dar a los menores un cuidado adecuado, debido a enfermedades, adicciones o una situación económica acusadamente desfavorable. El hogar tiene capacidad para 20 menores. • The families or legal tutors of the children who live at Yashodhara. • Yashodhara's children's community.

BUDGET	€36.580,46 (for a breakdown of expenses, please contact Asha-Kiran)¹
FORESEEN ACTIVITIES (PUNE)	<p>1. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES</p> <p>1.1 Rent the premises for Yashodhara and maintain them in proper operating condition.</p> <p>1.2 Enroll all the children who live in the Home in school and facilitate their attendance to it or to vocational training courses.</p> <p>1.3 Provide tutoring services at the Home so that the children may be able to cope better with schoolwork.</p> <p>1.4 Draw up a timetable of the children's activities.</p> <p>1.5 Do a follow-up of the activities, courses and training of the children and youngsters.</p> <p>2. HEALTH AND NUTRITION ACTIVITIES</p> <p>2.1 Perform periodic check-ups on the children with the cooperation of Aundh Civil Hospital.</p> <p>2.2 Do nutritional studies on the children and base their diet on the specialists' recommendations.</p> <p>2.3 Hold talks and classes with the children concerning the importance of hygiene habits and health measures.</p> <p>2.4 Have weekly counseling sessions with the psychologist for the children and their relatives.</p> <p>3. AWARENESS-RAISING ACTIVITIES</p> <p>3.1 Hold at least 4 meetings a year concerning the rights of children in which other organizations and NGOs take part.</p> <p>3.2 Participate in forums, conferences and meetings about children, working with them, their rights, and other relevant topics.</p> <p>3.3 Disseminate information about our work in India and the plight of children through our website, ads or any other available means.</p> <p>4. DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES</p> <p>4.1 Carry out activities that promote wholesome relationships and habits among the children in the Home, such as excursions, sports, etc.</p> <p>4.2 Give personalized attention to each of the children, providing them whatever they need, and seek professional help for difficult cases.</p> <p>4.3 Hold talks with the children about topics they are interested in.</p> <p>4.4 Hold talks with parents or legal tutors to keep them up to date on their children's health and academic progress; facilitate, whenever possible, the strengthening of family ties; give support to relatives who wish to and can modify their personal situation.</p> <p>5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES</p> <p>5.1 Draw up documents such as reports, minutes and lists of all the aforementioned activities, and of those that are considered important for the Project's monitoring and evaluation.</p> <p>5.2 Gather and analyze data for evaluation purposes.</p> <p>5.2.1 Monitor and manage the process during its implementation.</p> <p>5.2.2 Do a half-way monitoring report.</p> <p>5.2.3 Perform a final evaluation.</p>

¹ This amount is subject to modifications resulting from changes in currency exchange rates (Euros-Rupees).