

Children's Education Projects: URBAN From Deprivation to Light of Education

- **Elimination of child labor through education**
- Formative recreation, like annual picnic, sports, excursion trip, dance, paintings, etc. to channel Children's energy and creativity
- Periodical health check up
- Awareness for adolescent girls on Quality of Life Programs, like menstrual hygiene, personal cleanliness, reproductive health rights and others
- Yoga and meditation to explore untapped potential
- Presently, LDLM touches the hearts of 200 street children of Kolkata through outreach Street Schools
- LDLM collaborates with local schools to mainstream the street children at primary level



We are overwhelmed by the sincere performances of street children and appreciate their eagerness to educate themselves
Dipali Mukherjee, Sarbani Ganguli, Sikha Mukherjee (Lecturers
,Women's college, Calcutta

Community Health Program

- **2 well equipped Mobile Medical vans and 9 Community Clinics attend around 1,75,000 patients a year with Homeopathy Treatment.**
- **Dental treatment and advance Eye Care for street and slum dwellers. Free Cataract Surgery for average of 600 poor patients a year**
- Referral health services
- LDLM collaborates with local diagnostic centers for pathological testing for vulnerable segment of society

The mobile medical clinic is run very professionally and there is genuine concern for each and every patient. The program is run in a very organized manner to treat the maximum number of people. I was incredibly impressed with the work being done. First rate! ~ Mark Peters, Iowa City, US

URBAN Development Projects

Sharing with the Slum and Street Dwellers

LDLM has adopted two slums in Kolkata, - Garcha and Swin Hoe for integrated development, especially on safe drinking water, improved sanitary conditions, empowering the women through vocational education to enhance life competency and mainstream the children through non formal education

Collaboration Program

- LDLM provides support to UTSAV – a home for destitute children from tribal communities for mainstreaming, and
- SOHAM for providing vocational training and education to physically and intellectually challenged children

As a Resource Organization

- LDLM extends its expertise to like minded organizations and government agencies in capacity building programs and policy formulation
- Develops resource materials on need based subjects
- Tribal School in Guwahati, Assam, run by the Mission since 1992

Coverage

Since 1985 the Mission has touched the lives of Millions of poverty stricken men, women and children belonging to hundreds of villages and more than 60 slums of West Bengal and Assam.

We are deeply thankful to our donors and patrons whose continual support helps us to continue to create a difference in the lives of millions of underprivileged in villages and slums of India. We seek your support as a gesture of your love and compassion.

**MAKE CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:
"LOKENATH DIVINE LIFE MISSION"**

All donations to LDLM, India, are exempt from Income Tax under Sec- 80-G and we also have registration under FCRA to receive foreign Contributions in all currencies in our FCRA Account in ABN AMRO Bank, Kolkata.
For Info write to: ldlmc@babalokenath.org

Lokenath Divine Life Mission

Attaining Freedom through
selfless Service

There is no greater joy than caring and sharing for those who are suffering physical, mental, emotional and spiritual deprivation, sharing the same planet. ~Sri Shuddhaananda



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Sri Sri Shuddhaanandaa Brahmachari founded the Mission in 1985 under the divine inspiration of Mahayogi Baba Lokenath Brahmachari, (1730–1890) while in retreat in the Himalayas, to serve mankind as the veritable manifestation of God. The objectives of the Mission are: 1) Inspire the humanity in the art of practical spirituality to bring peace and harmony on Earth. 2)

Help the downtrodden to help themselves for a sustainable rural and urban development. Charity in LDLM is only to awaken the poor to realize their potentials and create a healthy happy community around them.

Focus

Women, children, adolescent girls and youth within communities facing deprivation and vulnerabilities

Program Interventions

RURAL PROJECTS

Joyful Education

- Literacy and value based education for children yet to reach formal school
- Yoga, pranayama and meditation are integral part of the curriculum
- Book bank grant and faculty support to government run high schools
- Coaching centers for drop-outs
- 100 Ananda Schools at Sundarbans delta educating over 3200 children



Health

- Preventive and curative treatment is provided through homoeopathy
- Referral services
- Project Vision – On going micro-surgery (cataract) and eye care. Around 300 patients are operated annually
- Health awareness on special topic issues mainly for women and adolescent girls
- HIV / AIDS awareness programs

Nirmal Gram (Sanitation & Forestry) All households should have access to toilets with full use **More than 600 sanitary latrines have been installed so far ~ Social forestry programs**

Women Empowerment through Micro-Credit ~ Self-Help-Groups



LDLM believes that economic empowerment transforms the rural resource-poor women into powerful agents of social change

SHG ~ Micro Credit Program:

LDLM is one of the pioneers in West Bengal in the Micro-Credit and SHG program since 1994. Group members make monthly contributions to create a monthly corpus which is used to extend soft loans to members, thereby eliminating the exploitation by money-lenders. **More than 2.5 Million Indian Rupees stand as Bank Deposits in the name of the Groups who had no savings even a few years back! Money lenders have no place!**

Freedom from Debt Trap

Smt Bhawani Khatua of Sundarban joined Lokenath Self Help Group (SHG) ten years back. Her husband took a loan of Rs. 20000/- from a money-lender at 120% interest p.a. to start a fishery but failed to create profit. At this crucial juncture, the SHG came to the family's rescue. The SHG secured a bank loan of Rs.40,000/- and Bhawani was given Rs. 21,000/- @ 2% interest p.m. only of which Rs. 20,000/- was for paying the debt and the remaining Rs. 1000/- was for starting a poultry farm. Now, Bhawani earns Rs. 2500/- p.m. on an average and repaid the debt in full.

The system of mandatory contribution strengthens the savings habit, leading to capital augmentation and overall development. **Since the last decade, around 1300 groups**

have been formed by LDLM covering more than **14,000 rural women**. The LDLM is playing the role of Catalytic Agent and bankers pay visit frequently to our groups for first hand field experience interacting with women of the groups.



Village Mission run school children performing folk dance

Gram Swaraj (The Ideal Village)

- The concept has been instrumental in improving the all round development of the villages and economic empowerment of poor in particular
- Village *Chunchura* of *Sandeshkhali, Sundarban* has been adopted for the purpose.
- Approach of work: LDLM intervention in the adopted village is based on Principle of **SELP HELP and development through Participatory Process by the beneficiaries**
- **Parameters:** *Education and health for all, *women empowerment and fostering economic self-reliance and special focus on *environmental sanitation comprising excreta and waste water disposal, *refuse disposal, *control of water borne diseases, *plantation of trees, *cleanliness of village ponds & roads and housing.

Convergence

LDLM collaborates with Central Board for Workers' Education, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Field Publicity Department, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India to create awareness on labour laws, Govt. programs available for them and special seminars for backward classes of URBAN PROJECTS.