



GOOD SHEPHERD CONVENT - Garratola

Madhya Pradesh

ACTIVITY REPORT 2015-2016

The presence of the Good Shepherd sisters in Garratola over the past 35 years has made great impact on people. Sisters are involved in Social Action Ministry, Residential Care, Health Care and Pastoral care. We are glad to present to you the report of the activities of the Good Shepherd Sisters during the year 2015-16.

SOCIAL ACTION MINISTRY

In association with Kinder Noth Hilfe Germany, the sisters were able to reach out to the needy through community development programs at 15 villages. The Project supported more than 5000 people for seven years and hence utmost care has taken to hand over the programme to the people headed by the Self Help Group. The sisters are involved in the community development activities and visit the villages regularly with the staff and conduct various programmes.

The Community Based Organizations such as 48 SHGs for women, 24 Farmer's Groups, 8 youth groups and 26 Children's Parliament. They meet once a month and discuss the social issues and try to solve problems within the community.

Special coaching classes are organized in 15 villages for the school going children and teachers take keen interest to improve their knowledge and build confidence. The children come out with good results.

The main focus of the project is to **improve the economic status of the Birsa Block Tribes** through Income Generating Programmes.



CLIMATE CHANGE PROEJCT

Programs

- Tree plantation
- Eco clubs
- Natural resource management
- Promotion of bio-technology
- Awareness programs through street plays, skits, rallies etc.



RESIDENTIAL CARE MINISTRY

St. Mary Euphrasia Boarding

We had 60 children in the boarding during this year, with 28 new girls joined the boarding. Five of them were given free admission and boarding and other four children were given concession. There were 6 girls for grade12 and 8 girls for grade 10



appeared for exam. All of them passed with good results. During the academic year a few children got scholarship for their studies from the government.

The activities of the year:-

- ❖ **Academic Studies:** - School, Regular Coaching Classes, minimum 3-4 hours of study.
- ❖ **Training:-** capacity building, Value education and sex education, Motivation, Leadership and Health awareness classes.
- ❖ **Celebrations:-** Hostel day -31st July, Children's Day, Christmas, National and Local festivals like Dipawali, Holi, and Birthdays of the girls .
- ❖ **Yearly picnic:** Every year one day picnic is organized for the children. This is a joyful occasion for them to be away from their studies. This year our children were taken to **Songogura**.
- ❖ **Other activities:** Cleanliness of the house and surroundings, Gardening, Cooking, Games, regular health checkup, Cultural activities like singing, dancing, drama.



HEALTH CARE MINISTRY

Good Shepherd Dispensary:



Activities

Health monitoring:

Health camps

Health awareness programs

Community health

Promotion of Herbal medicine

Herbal garden

Good Shepherd Dispensary with the support and guidance of **Corad N. Hilton Fund** could reach out to the remote areas of tribal community around Birsa block. The negligence from the part of Govt. adversely affected the health status of the tribal. The absence of Primary Health centre and also malfunctioning of them forced tribal to take risk without seeking the proper medical treatment.



The dispensary is a boon for the tribal people for their various health services. GSS, Garratola Dispensary provided various treatments to them with affordable fees.

The major illness which is treated in the dispensary were Malaria, anemia, Jaundice, viral fever, cold, cough, diarrhea, vomiting, back pain, skin infections, scabies, boils, sun stroke, wounds, etc. There were many Malaria cases were tested, diagnosed and treated in our health center. **Jaundice** cases were treated with Herbal medicines. The dispensary also does the referral services for acute illness to the district and other private hospital.

For a successful health care practice, we need to associate with other health care units. We established strong link with the NGOS, Govt. department and retired medical practitioners to get their valuable services of the tribal community. There were session on reproductive health rights of women and better health practices.



Antenatal and postnatal camp was organized and **68 mothers** were examined during the health camp and awareness program on Nutrition, Care of new born child, Hygiene, Anemia, Immunization. They were also provided the ironing tables.....The program helped the mothers to know good child care practices and improve their own personal health system.

It is an old saying “Prevention is better than cure” GSS dispensary could conduct various Health awareness programs at the villages through. We have adopted various medium like street play, skits, songs, posters on HIV/AIDS and Malaria to attract people.





We also encourage and promote herbal medicines and Herbal Garden. Many patients were treated with Herbal medicines, for example Jaundice, scabies, and ulcer in the mouth, cough and cold, Leucorrhea Malaria Piles etc. We have formed a **Health Service Voluntary Group** from the community to promulgate good health care practices among the tribal.

Economic Justice Fish farming Project

PROGRAMS

- Fish farming
- Capacity building
- Women's rights and entitlements
- Awareness programs
- Leadership trainings
- Networking with NGOs & Media
- Research
- Business skills and marketing



The fish farming project commenced on September 2016. Five SHGs were constituted for the women. Men's' support group were also established to support the women's activity.

This project's aim is to reduce disparity between men and women. The women belong to the weaker section of the society. They are vulnerable to discrimination, violence, abuse and harmful traditional practices such as early and forced marriages. They are also restricted

in socio-economic and political development activities.

This has to be changed rapidly. Tribal adolescent girls have immense potential which has to be tapped effectively. Our organization is ready to support for this noble effort. The bakery unit training centre will help the Adivasi girls to Increase required skill for enterprise. After the training the adolescent Tribal girl will have the ability to contribute to the family through small enterprise development.

EMPOWERMENT OF VULNERABLE ADIVASI YOUNG WOMEN THROUGH ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT, GARRATOLA.



The research study has been done on the situation of Tribal Adolescent girls with the help of Mrs. Manuella from Scotland. The outcome of the study gave insight to begin a Bakery Unit in Garratola for the Tribal Adolescent girls.

50 young women were identified and oriented to the business enterprises. They also visited Kerala bakery at Indore to have a glimpse of functions of bakery unit.

The project formed a project management committee consists of young women, project's officials, parents, community leaders and Govt. officials.



The project commences

its activities

from June 2016. Three young women are sent to Indore to undergo the advance training program on bakery production and marketing.



PASTORAL MINISTRY



Pastoral ministry is an inevitable part of GSS's mission work. Sisters of good shepherd have good association with the Parish and we have developed good relationship with the parishners.

The Pastoral Involvements through;

I. Faith formation through Sunday class for children and youth

Sisters actively involve in the faith formation for the children. The children's attendance for the catechism classes improved tremendously after the involvement of the sisters. The exposures and tours help the children and youth to build good humanitarian community. The involvement of sisters strengthens them to sustain this fellowship.



2 House visits

The Sisters have kept aside two days in a week to visit the Christian families. Our regular visits help them to enhance their faith and practice the same in family and community. There is a development among the Christian families to have family prayers and seek spiritual guidance. Listening ears are rendered to their problems and we support them whatever way possible.



3. Mother's Group

Mothers' groups are formed in the Parish and given guidance and motivation. They come together regularly for the monthly meetings and savings. They too take initiative to organize the parish activities.

We are privileged to live and work with the vulnerable and marginalized people and we feel strengthened in our vocation.

