

Final Project Report

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Submitted By

**Social Action for Child Rehabilitation Emancipation and
Development(SACRED)
Kurnool District, A.P**

To



Fundación Vicente Ferrer, Spain

AT A GLANCE

Project	Community Based Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities and their Families
NGO	Social Action for Child Rehabilitation Emancipation and Development (SACRED)
Registered Address	D.No: 6-1-194, Lakshmi Nagar Janmabhoomi Road Ananthapuram – 515001, A.P – India
Partner Organization	Fundacion Vicente Ferrer, Spain
Project Location	19 Mandals in Adoni Division of Kurnool District, A.P
Project Goal	Development and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and their Families through their participation and involvement
Project Start	April 2022
Project End	March 2023
Financials in Rs.	A. Budget Approved : 1,07,92,373.00
	B. Amount Received : 1,08,58,745.78
	C. Excess Amount Received (B – C) : 66,372.78 (Rounded Off to 66,373.00)
	D. Expenditure Incurred : 1,07,89,761.00

NOTE:

The excess amount received i.e., INR 66,373.00 is proposed to deduct from the first instalment of the project 2023 – 24.

SACRED – FVF

Annual Progress Report from 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

Self Help Groups(SHG)

SACRED has identified 11060 persons with disabilities in 586 villages and constituted 936 SHGs, called VikalangulaSanghams, covering a membership of 9768 in 19 mandals of Kurnool District.

The SHGs are facilitated to discuss various social, economic, physical and medical rehabilitation of persons with disabilities, with a special focus on mobilizing government resources or entitlements to which they are eligible and services they could avail from the Government. Such a sensitization process would continue in all SHG meetings and workshops for leaders and members, including parents of children with disabilities.

SHGs have been coordinated with CBOs related to IKP(Indira Kranthi Patham), namely SHGs of women, VOs and Farmers' Associations. It has contributed to mobilizing resources from STREE Nidhi(Fund for Women) and Farmers' loans. There is also an effort made by SHGs to upgrade the skills and livelihoods of persons with disabilities to improve their quality of life.

The Staff of SACRED has established a good rapport with the village volunteers, ASHA workers, Anganwadi, RBK (RYTHU BHAROSA KENDRAM) Staff and other cadre staff working in the village secretariat. It is one of the means to ensure that eligible PWDs get covered under different schemes of the Government and avail of various types of services.

Parents meetings are conducted at ANGANWADI Centres, and mothers, including antenatal/postnatal, were given input on the timely identification of children with disabilities and measures to prevent and reduce the intensity of

disability among children. The input was given on Nutrition and factors that would result Anaemia among mothers and girls.

The Staff of SACRED extend support to the local Anganwadi Teachers through play activity, singing rhymes and showing various charts depicting children's growth socially, psychologically and physically. They ensure that children take the Nutrition served to them, including eggs and other eatables.

448 children are pursuing their primary education in the Government and Private Schools, against 373 children from the 6th to 10th Class. The Staff of SACRED motivated parents to avail of financial aid from the Government of Andhra Pradesh Scheme under the AMMA VODI. Each child got IRS.13000, and 821 children mobilized IRS.1,06,73,000.

The Government of Andhra Pradesh also provides school uniforms, shoes, ties and other materials to students pursuing education in Government Schools. Likewise, they also provided with mid-day meals, Periodic visits are made by Staff and leaders of SHGs to ensure that all children, including children with disabilities, avail of such facilities.

162 students with disabilities are pursuing their higher education, and the Government gave them IRS.20,000 under various schemes like VIDYA DEEVENA and VASATHI DEEVENA. The amount credited into their mothers' accounts was IRS.32,40,000.

Under the Sponsorship Program, 229 children were given IRS.700 each under BALA BAVISHYA NIDHI (IRS.160,300), and it was credited into the joint account. Some children were provided special gifts, including books, by the persons who sponsored them.

Community Care Centres:

In major 'Village Panchayats', Sacred has established Community Care Centres to rehabilitate persons with disabilities. It includes children with cerebral palsy, intellectual disability, speech disability, hearing disability and visual disability. The Staff adopted different methods of communicating/teaching using cards, charts, toys and pictures of various birds and animals. Appropriate therapeutic interventions are used by the Staff associated with the centres to educate children and parents.

Skill Development:

It is one of the key intervention promoting livelihoods, Sacred enabled 4107 persons with disabilities to mobilize IRS.8,52,76,400 from Banks for various income-generating schemes/enterprises. Many women with tailoring, embroidery, weaving and designing work earn moderate incomes, leading an independent life. Likewise, some youth had set up enterprises like floor mills, cellphone repairs, electronic devices, and setting up MEESEVA and computer centres. PWDs that excelled in skills and sustainable livelihoods are Ms.Anitha of Pillagundla village of Gonegondla, Sulochana of Thimmapuram, Sarojamma of Chippagiri, Venkatesh of Peddanelatur, Suresh of Avuladoddi village, Dhona Mandal and Mallikarjuna of Peapully Mandal. They stand as role model entrepreneurs.

SACRED provided revolving grants to 387 PWDs for various enterprises apart from 385 PWDs who accessed Disability Development Fund (DSDF) worth IRS.55,21,000 to income-generating schemes.

Youth for Jobs:

SACRED, along with RDT, has started implementing Youth for Jobs. Educated youth with disabilities are encouraged to find different types of employment in cities. Different entrepreneurs /owners of companies are being negotiated to

provide placements for youth with disabilities. Skills are imparted duly considering the present-day employment trends in cities. This program evoked a good response in villages, and many youth with disabilities are coming forward to leave their villages to find suitable jobs in cities.

- Basavaraj of NADICHAGI Village of KowthalamMandalam works as sales executive in FLIPCART Shopping Mall, Bangalore.
- Ramajaneyulu is working in the Airtel Customer Care Centre
- Adilakshmi of Kalabhatla Village of Peapully Mandal works in a 5-star hotel in Bangalore and is getting good recognition in the family and village. Similarly, Rangamma of RathanaVillage also works in a reputed star hotel in Bangalore.

Employment:

SACRED is encouraging PWDs who have eligibility to get government jobs. Some got employment in Village Secretariat Peddayya, Marella, Lalbi, Devanakonda, Veeranjanyulu, Devanakonda, Railways , Malligarjuna, Halageri, Subordinate posts in primary health centres , Sriramulu, post office andKrishnaveni,Chanugondla, Municipal Office. Support extended by SACRED in providing required assistance contributed to getting employment in various government departments.

SACRED was associated with the Government functionaries from PHCs in conducting a household survey to identify persons suffering from various disabilities and chronic sicknesses.

It also took part in deworming campaign conducted by the Government and distributed Albendazole tablets and syrup to children/students under 18 years. Similarly, it was part of the survey to treat children suffering from gross anaemia and distributed iron and folic acid tablets.

Aids and Appliances:

During the year, 580 PWDs were provided with various aids and appliances, contributing to improved mobility and independently resuming livelihood activities/daily routines. Not only persons with disabilities associated with SACRED but also other disabled persons from other than SACRED Mandals were provided aids and appliances.

27 PWDs in the project area got motorized scooters from the Government. The Sacred Staff played a vital role in giving information to them and in the online submission of applications, apart from negotiating with the concerned government staff.

51 persons who have epilepsy are given treatment at BRAIN HOSPITAL in Bangalore, and they are being followed up regularly by SACRED Staff and members of SHGs. It is observed that due to regular medication and counselling, there has been a perceptible improvement in their health condition.

There are 44 Spinal Cord injured persons in the project area; 8 require regular dressing and medication, and it prevented bed sores. Likewise, 38 were provided Nutrition, urine bags and catheters on monthly basis.

14 parents meeting and pre-assessment camps were conducted, 390 children with disabilities were assessed, and 123 were referred to doctors for further consultancy. They were suggested to attend camps conducted by Spanish Doctors who visit RDT yearly. 180 persons were suggested strengthening and stretching exercises. Parents were taught the tips and were advised to practice the same for their children in their homes regularly. Due to regular therapeutic measures/interventions, there is improvement in the condition of children. It covers 87 under speech

therapy, 55 under ADLS training, 20 having congenital deformities and 25 with a physical disability.

42 persons were identified at an early stage, among them, 14 underwent treatment at workshops apart from referring them to GSR Hospital. POP was applied in the workshop, and they are using adapter brasse.

During the year, Spanish doctors conducted seven screening camps, and 131 attended, and of them, 61 needed different types of surgeries. They were referred to RDT Hospitals located at Bathalapalli and Kalyandurg. The SACRED Staff are doing follow-ups of such cases twice a month. POPs were removed after four weeks, and they were provided with the required aids and appliances. They were suggested to undergo physiotherapy regularly.

Concerning mental sicknesses, 397 suffering from various illnesses were identified. 182 were referred to a psychiatrist and are on regular medication. The health condition of 62 got stabilized, and they actively engaged in regular livelihood activities.

SACRED has a good rapport with the BIRRDs and GSR Hospitals, enabling many disabled persons to undergo surgeries in those hospitals.

Not only persons with disabilities and their family members but also the general public and government functionaries expressed their happiness and satisfaction with the quality of services provided by SACRED Staff, having experience in various fields of disabilities.

Social Rehabilitation:

PWDs face much social discrimination and exploitation, including sexual abuse and physical/psychological harassment. Due to regular input from the members of SHGs, they can tackle such issues (property rights) with support from their Sangham members. For example, at Nagarooru, one of

the disabled persons, namely Ranganna, with the help of his Sangham members, filed a case at the police station and solved his property issue. Likewise, at Chilakaladona village, the brothers of Naga Lakshmi obstructed her from getting a share in the property. The Federation of PWDs intervened and ensured justice for her at the police station.

Capacity building training of Organizations of People with Disabilities(OPDs)

The SACRED has been strengthening village-level SHGs and constituted Mandal, Regional associations District Federation. These include ADARSA, VENNELA, THARNETRA, Carers Associations got strengthened. They actively tackle any issue a person or persons with disabilities faces in the family, community and village.

Capacity Building Training Programs for Staff:

The Staff of Sacred had undergone training programs on Team Building, management of persons with mental illness (online), training in therapeutic interventions and Gender Sensitization during the reference period.

Social Issues:

Obularaju, aged 45 years, hails from Pulikonda village. He is a person with a disability. His brothers started looking down on him as he had a disability, and they refused to give a share to him of their ancestral property. But, the SIDDHARTHA Federation of PWDs stood by his side and lodged a case at the police station against his brothers. The police intervened and called his brothers, and warned him of the consequences of causing any harm to his brother, either physically or psychologically. The issue got settled amicably, and he got a share from his brother.

The consistent efforts of the group could bring him collective achievements. These include repair of roads, cleaning the drainage canals, repair of street

lights, repairs to drinking water schemes and various other initiatives. They have established a good rapport with the members of local bodies and local officials working at the grassroots.

Lessons Learnt:

The gender sensitization workshop conducted by RYDT has been quite useful, and it has thrown several reflections on the attitude of men towards women. It contributed to gaining certain skills in delivering input on gender. In turn, it would help conduct gender sensitization programs for the members of SHGs including parents and leaders representing disabled people's organizations.

Highlights:

Disabled Day Celebration:

World disabled day celebrations were organized at Veldurthi mandal headquarters. Total of 280 persons with disabilities attended from 2 manuals, Veldurthi and Krishnagiri. For this event, MPDO Mr.Srinivasa Rao, Deputy Tahsildar, Mrs.Deepika, IKP,Chamundeswari, Director of SACRED and other community leaders attend as chief guests to this meeting. First, PWD possessed Rally on the streets of Veldurthi town with colourful banners, flexes, and flaw cards. After the Rally, a public meeting was held. The MPDO, Mr.Srinivasulu, said, "We always support and give the first convent to persons with disabilities for accessing the government schemes. IKP Community Coordinator Mrs. Chamundeswari said," Our staff and we always encourage PWDs of SHGs to open bank accounts and access the bank linkage for loans.

International Women's Day Celebration:

It is a historical Day Celebration organized by Vennela Women Federation on 8th March at Thuggali SACRED Field Office. To begin the Rally with Flexes Banners, Flaw Cards shouts no discrimination towards women with disability, not to call nicknames to call birth names, equality of women in society and family, and encourage women's dignity.

After the Rally get-together meeting, the dignitaries Mrs.Rameswaramma, Regional Director RDT, ICDS PO Mrs. Sumitra, Mr. Thippanna, SACRED Director,

Dr.Hari, Director RDT, took part in the meeting along with other guests, including Advocate Mr. MadhuBabu& Mr. Suraj also presented.

Mrs. Rameswamma explained that we encourage all women to be on the front line; women should participate equally treated as others, and women have the right to equal property.Dr.Hari said that mothers always love their children, regardless of whether they are with or without disabilities. Persons with disabilities feel more responsible towards their parents, he added. Finally, Mr. Thippanna explained that SACRED promoted **Vennela Women with Disabilities Organization** and is registered, playing a fantastic role in identifying the problems of women with disabilities. They have action plans framed and implemented every three months once to meet and discuss the plans accordingly.

Finally, they thanked all dignitaries for their encouragement and were blessed to continue the journey of the **Vennela Women Organization**.

South India DPOs conference, Bangalore:

South India DPO leaders conference organized at PalanaBhavan, Bangalore, by Association of People with Disabilities (APD), Bangalore.A total of five South Indian states' DPO leaders attend this meeting

They Discussed action points as follows:

- 1) Sharing of best advocacy issues practice by DPO leaders participating in this conference.(social, women issues, society problem and PWD Act 2016) .
- 2) Discussed Indian legal support for persons with disabilities, like National education policy 2021, National trust schemes, Legal cell service authorities etc...
- 3) All DPOs focus on accessibility and barrier-free environment for persons with disabilities
- 4) To start a state-level DPOs forum for each state
- 5) Finally, to establish a South Indian DPOs forum for advocacy issues and mutual support of each DPO at the State Level in South India.

Carers' Day Celebrations:

Carers Worldwide, UK announced all partners in 3 countries to organize Carers Day Celebration on the same day, 19th October 2022. SACRED was organized in Adoni Mandal from 20 mandals; around 200 carers participated in this

event, which began with a Rally with colourful flexies, banners, and flag cards on the street of Adoni town to create awareness of carers issues and recognize the carers issues by the government while processing the rally pamphlets distributed to the public. The public reported carers are the new concept we are hearing for the first time, and they exercised. We are extremely happy to hear about the carer's problems. After the public rally meeting organized at the MPDO office in Adoni. The members read the carers' charter and signed it for the public and government staff.

During the public meeting, the Revenue Department superintendent, the Panchayat secretary from MPDO, the office, and the Area team leader from RDT attend this meeting.

The superintendent of the RDO office expressed, "I assumed it is a meeting for people with disabilities. The first time I heard about carers' problems by sharing the carers' stories, I thought carers also have a lot of Health, Economic, Emotional and Social problems. If you want to recognize by the government, you must approach higher authorities at the state level. The state authorities recognize we can recognize and implement the schemes for carers at the village level.

MPDO secretary explained the first time I received the carer's concept SACRED NGO extremely helping people with disabilities. It's also good for the SACRED to work for carers in all the mandals Kurnool District.

State Level Carers Forum Meeting: (APSLCF)

This year, the AP State Level Carers Forum was conducted at Cheyutha early intervention centre Vijayawada. 6 NGOs participated in this conference, mainly focused on carers' issues and the implementation of the carers project. SACRED presented PPT Presentation at Cheyutha Centre, Vijayawada.

Challenges:

- Medical and Social rehabilitation programs for all the poor, disabled people in all 22 Mandals.
- Focusing on strengthening and empowering community-based organizations is challenging.
- Expansion of the carers programme in 20 mandals of the Kurnool and Anantapur districts is challenging.
- Strengthening and sustainability of 3 OPD's independent functioning is a challenging.

Conclusion:

“Community Based Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities and their Families” project has contributed to a great extent for the development and empowerment of the persons with disabilities, their families and the communities in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh. All the people are quite happy with this project. On behalf of the people SACRED expresses its thanks and gratitude to Fundacion Vicente Ferrer, Spain for its continuous support. SACRED hopes that the relationship between the two organizations will continue on long term basis for the uplift of these vulnerable communities.