

**Social Action for Child Rehabilitation Emancipation
and Development (SACRED)**



**Annual Report – 2023– 2024, from 1st April 2023to 31stMarch 2024
Kurnool District, A.P. India**

The SACRED in Kurnool District of Andhra Pradesh has initiated various community-based rehabilitation programs focusing on education, healthcare, livelihood, and empowerment for persons with disabilities (PWDs) residing in Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandals. These initiatives undertaken by local disability organizations and associations at the village and Mandal levels, aim to enhance the socio-economic inclusion of PWDs through various interventions.

In the combined Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandals, 916 PWDs have been identified. The coverage extends across 58 villages, with the active involvement of 81 self-help groups (SHGs). These SHGs boast a substantial membership, totalling 788 individuals, the cumulative savings of these SHGs amount to Rs.6,17,100.

Name of The Mandal	No of Villages	SHGs	SHG's Membership	Savings
Veldurthi & Krishnagiri	58	81	788	6,17,100/-

Coverage:

The data further reveals a breakdown of PWDs by age group and disability type, illustrating a comprehensive understanding of the demographic distribution and needs assessment. Age-wise categorization indicates that most PWDs, 589 individuals, fall

within the 16 and above age group. Additionally, disability-wise segmentation showcases diverse disabilities represented within the identified PWD population.

Age-wise	Disability wise														Total		Grand Total
	PD		SH		VI		ID		CP		MD		MI		M	F	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
0-5	6	3	2	1	0	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	0		14	9	23
6-10	16	12	7	3	1	2	3	2	5	3	1	0	0	0	33	22	55
11-15	49	26	7	4	5	2	5	2	6	4	4	4	1	2	77	44	121
16& above																	
	255	132	56	33	20	11	13	13	22	10	12	6	4	2	382	207	589
Total	326	173	72	41	26	16	23	18	35	19	19	11	5	4	506	282	788

Specifically, there are 23 PWDs in the 0-5 age group, while the 6-10 and 11-15 age groups consist of 55 and 121 PWDs, respectively. The highest count is among individuals aged 16 and above, with 589 PWDs. Disability-wise, the data reflects the varying prevalence of different types of disabilities across age groups and genders.

Overall, this comprehensive data analysis provides valuable insights into the demographic composition and needs of PWDs in the Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandals, facilitating targeted interventions and policy formulation to promote their social inclusion and well-being.

Establishment of Self Help Groups (SHGs)

In the Mandals of Veldurthi and Krishnagiri, a commendable effort has been made to establish 81 self-help groups across 58 villages, encompassing 788 members with disabilities. The Rural Development Worker (RDW) and the coordinator regularly monitor these SHGs. Members actively contribute to savings in their SHG bank accounts while maintaining consistent progress.

Supportive Initiatives

During SHG gatherings, significant government welfare schemes such as medical certificates, pensions, entitlement cards, and flagship programs related to various sectors are included to SHG members. Necessary aids and therapeutic programs are provided to meet the needs of PWDs, ensuring their integration and well-being.

Provision of Assistive Devices

In collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and with the assistance of local leaders, a range of assistive devices, including 2 wheelchairs, 4 tricycles, 3 motorized scooters, laptop computers, and 2 battery-operated tricycles, have been distributed to PWDs, facilitating agricultural activities.

Financial Growth

The cumulative savings of SHGs have grown substantially, reaching INR 6,17,100. Additionally, 41 SHG members have successfully availed loans, reinforcing financial stability. Regular savings and repayments demonstrate members' commitment to financial sustainability.

Capacity Building

The SACRED organization conducts educational workshops for SHG members, leaders, and Mandal representatives. 713 leaders have received training on leadership, group dynamics, book keeping, problem-solving, and decision-making, among other topics. SHG members actively support livelihood activities and are motivated to clear their debts.

Collaborative Efforts

At the grassroots level, collaborations have been forged with government healthcare centres, Anganwadi teachers, volunteers, Panchayat Presidents, and Village Organization leaders to support SHG members with disabilities. These

partnerships aim to address various needs and ensure the holistic development of PWDs at the village and Mandal levels.

Establishing and empowering self-help groups (SHGs) among persons with disabilities (PWDs) in the Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandals a significant towards inclusive development. Through collaborative efforts and supportive initiatives, these SHGs have fostered financial growth, access to assistive devices, and facilitated capacity building and community integration. Moving forward, sustained efforts to strengthen SHG networks, expand outreach programs, and foster partnerships with governmental and non-governmental organizations will be instrumental in ensuring the continued progress and well-being of PWDs in the region.

Education:

Primary, Secondary and Higher Education:

Disability	1 st to 5 th class children			Total 6 th to 10 th Class children			Higher education			Total		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
PD	15	7	22	17	9	26	11	10	21	43	26	69
SH	9	5	14	9	2	11	1	2	3	19	9	28
VI	1	2	3	2	2	4	3	2	5	6	6	12
ID & CP	3	7	10	2	3	5	1	0	1	6	10	16
Total	28	21	49	30	16	46	16	14	30	74	51	125

Enrolment of Children with Disabilities

The data presents the enrolment of children with various disabilities across different levels of education. In the 1st to 5th class category, 49 children are

enrolled, comprising 28 boys and 21 girls. This group includes children with Physical Disability (PD), Intellectual Disability (ID), Cerebral Palsy (CP), and Speech & Hearing Disability (SH).

Transition to Higher Education

Moving to the 6th to 10th class category, 46 children with disabilities are enrolled, with 30 boys and 16 girls. These students represent various disabilities, including PD, ID, CP, and SH. The transition to higher education underscores the commitment to inclusive education and equal academic advancement opportunities.

Enrolment in Higher Education

At the higher education level, 30 children with disabilities are enrolled, comprising 16 boys and 14 girls. This stage marks a significant milestone in their educational journey, symbolising their efforts to promote inclusive learning environments and support their aspirations for higher learning.

Overall Enrolment

Combining all levels of education, 125 children with disabilities are enrolled. This inclusive approach aims to cater to the diverse needs of students with PD, ID, CP, and SH, ensuring the quality education and equitable opportunities for socio-economic empowerment.

The analysis reveals that Physical Disability (PD) consistently accounts for the highest enrolment across all levels of education, followed by Intellectual Disability (ID), Speech & Hearing Disability (SH), and Cerebral Palsy (CP).

Gender-wise, there are variations in enrolment patterns, with some disabilities showing a balanced distribution between boys and girls while others exhibit slight deviations. This data underscores the importance of tailored educational

interventions and inclusive policies to address the diverse needs of children with disabilities and promote equitable access to education.

Key Achievements

Collaborations for Education

SACRED collaborated effectively with local Anganwadi centres, government departments, and village primary and high schools, fostering strong relationships.

Nutritional Support for Women and Children

Pregnant women and children under five in village Anganwadi centres receive nutritional support by the efforts of SACRED.

Health Services Outreach

Anganwadi teachers and ASHA workers, with ANMs' assistance, ensure timely access to healthcare services for pregnant women, lactating mothers, and young girls with various health needs.

Health Education Initiatives

ASHA workers and Anganwadi teachers, with the cooperation of ANMs, regularly educate adolescent girls about their health conditions in primary health centres.

Inclusive Education Efforts

Ninety-five children with disabilities, ranging from 1st to 10th grade, are enrolled in government schools, and thirty are pursuing higher education. The state government supports them financially through various scholarships and hostel schemes.

Educational Support Programs

Through the Vidya Kanuka program, children receive school uniforms, bags, and other essentials, benefitting 95 students from 1st to 10th grade.

Specialised Services for Disabilities

Eighteen children with various disabilities received admissions to mainstream schools with support from SACRED, RDT, and other special schools. They received tailored therapies like physiotherapy, speech therapy, and daily activity programs.

Health and Referrals

Strengthening Government Health Programs

SACRED collaborates effectively with the government's health programs, integrating well with village-level sub-centres, nurses, and ASHA workers. Teachers in Anganwadi centres identify children with disabilities and refer them to centres for Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation (CP&MR), contributing significantly to their specialised care. Nutritious food such as milk, eggs, and mixed diets is provided daily to address malnutrition concerns.

Coordinated Health Services

Government health services, coordinated by Mandal-level coordinators of Primary Health Centres, facilitate health interventions such as polio and other vaccinations. The Health Department's Health Security Program addresses various health issues like Tuberculosis, Diabetes, Blood Tests, Skin Diseases, and Women's Health Issues through regular medical examinations.

Medical Interventions and Support

Medical officers, MLHPs (Mid-Level Health Providers), ANMs, and ASHA workers engage with SACRED's intervention efforts, offering insights into medical issues. Collaboration with Anganwadi teachers further enhances SACRED's understanding of the intervention's impact on the community.

Launch of New Health Initiatives

The central government has initiated the Ayushman Bharat program, providing financial support of five lakh rupees annually to eligible families for healthcare services. This initiative benefits 256 families of persons with disabilities in the Mandal, significantly improving their access to medical treatment and support services.

Sl. No	Supply	Last Report	During This Report	Total
1	Aids and Appliances	98	49	147
2	Tricycles, wheelchairs, and motorisedtricycles from SACRED and other institutes	98	14	112
3	Water beds	8	1	9
4	Physiotherapy, Speech therapy	138	108	246
5	Hearing aids	10	1	11
6	Total children undergone surgery at RDT, GSR & Government	9	2	11
7	Total number of catheters, urine bags	120	36	156

Analysis of Aids and Appliance Distribution

The data reveals a significant increase in the distribution of aids and appliances during this reporting period, with 147 aids and appliances supplied, compared to 98 in the last report. This surge indicates a proactive approach to catering to the needs of children with disabilities.

Enhancing Mobility Solutions

The number of tricycles, wheelchairs, and motorised tricycles provided by SACRED and other institutes has increased significantly from 98 to 112. This signifies an improved focus on enhancing mobility solutions, enabling children with disabilities to access education and healthcare services more effectively.

Improvement in Therapeutic Support

The distribution of physiotherapy and speech therapy sessions has remained consistently high, with 246 sessions conducted during this reporting period. This steady provision of therapeutic support underscores the commitment to addressing the specific needs of children with physical and speech impairments.

Addressing Hearing Impairments

While the distribution of hearing aids has slightly increased from 10 to 11, it reflects ongoing efforts to address hearing impairments among children, ensuring they have access to necessary assistive devices for improved communication and quality of life.

Surgical Interventions and Medical Supplies

A total of 11 children underwent surgery at various medical institutions during this reporting period, indicating the continuation of essential medical interventions. Additionally, the supply of catheters and urine bags has decreased from 120 to 36, suggesting a potential need for further assessment and procurement to meet demand adequately.

Economic Empowerment through Livelihood Programs

Economic Development Programme.

Details	As on Previous	During report	Total
No. of Persons accessed loan from SACRED	59	2	61
Loan Amount	650000	20000	670000
Amount Repaid	522400	62500	584900
Amount Balance	127600	85100	85100

Financial Status of Government Loans 2 Mandal's:

	As on Previous			During report			Total		
	Bank	IKP	Total	Bank	IKP	Total	Bank	IKP	Total
No. of persons accessed loan from Bank/ IKP	242	18	260	7	2	9	249	20	269
Loan Amount IRS	3199000	555000	3754000	2200000	200000	2400000	5399000	755000	6154000
Amount Repaid	1428220	89500	1517720	365000	55900	420900	476800	145400	622200
Amount Balance	1770780	465500	2236280	4922200	609600	5531800	4922200	609600	5531800

Access to Loans from SACRED

During this reporting period, 61 individuals accessed loans from SACRED, indicating continued support for economic development initiatives. Although the number of loans accessed increased marginally from the previous report, the total loan amount decreased slightly.

Loan Utilization and Repayment

A total loan amount of Rs. 670,000 was disbursed, of which Rs. 58,4900 was repaid. While the amount repaid during this period is commendable, a balance

of Rs. 85,100 remains, signifying ongoing financial commitments and opportunities for further economic growth.

Financial Status of Government Loans in Mandal Areas

Loan Access and Utilization

During the reporting period, 269 individuals accessed loans from banks and IKP (Indira Kranthi Patham) in Mandal areas. While the number of individuals accessing loans slightly decreased compared to the previous period, the total loan amount disbursed increased significantly, indicating ongoing support for economic development initiatives.

Repayment Trends

Although substantial, the amount repaid during this reporting period did not match the increase in disbursed loans, resulting in a higher balance to be repaid. While the amount repaid from bank and IKP loans increased, there is still a significant outstanding balance, highlighting the importance of timely repayments to ensure the sustainability of loan programs.

Financial Management and Sustainability

Effective financial management is crucial to ensure the success and sustainability of government loan programs. While the increase in disbursed loans reflects a commitment to economic development, it is essential to closely monitor repayment trends and address any challenges to maximise these programs' impact on Mandal areas' livelihoods.

Future Prospects

Moving forward, it is essential to continue supporting individuals in accessing loans for entrepreneurial ventures and livelihood development. This requires financial assistance, training, and mentorship to help borrowers effectively

manage their businesses and repay loans on time. These programs can contribute significantly to Mandal communities' long-term economic growth and well-being by fostering a culture of financial responsibility and entrepreneurship.

Key Achievements in Livelihoods

Empowering Rural Lives of Persons with Disabilities

Significant strides have been made in improving the lives of rural persons with disabilities through livelihood programs, by focusing on this aspect, special emphasis is being placed on assessing the effectiveness of SACRED's livelihood programs for disabled PWD's.

Livelihood Opportunities in Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandalas

In Veldurthi and Krishnagiri Mandalas, comprehensive awareness of available livelihood options has been created among persons with disabilities. Initiatives such as tailoring units, photocopy centres, cool drink shops, grocery stores, poultry farming, vegetable vending, and computer centres provide livelihood opportunities supported by sanctioned bank loans and SACRED approvals. A significant approval of ₹61,54,000 has been facilitated for implementing various livelihood programs, with 61 individuals being granted loans of ₹10,000 each by SACRED to promote regular repayment.

Enhancing Skills and Economic Independence

As part of skill development initiatives, 18 women with disabilities from these mandalas have been enrolled in Tailoring Training in collaboration with SACRED, earning monthly incomes ranging from ₹4,500 to ₹5,000. Additionally, four elderly women in these mandalas receive training in handloom work, embroidery, and basket weaving through "Aame Artisan Company," a joint

effort by the RDT organisation to foster skill development and economic independence among women.

These programs, facilitated by SACRED, not only provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to gain self-reliance but also contribute to their families and society, thereby dignifying their lives.

Training for Mandal Level Leaders & Staff

Training sessions spanning four days have been conducted to enhance the capabilities of leaders. The key highlights of these sessions include team building, the importance of unity and coordination, and gender sensitivity. These training programs aim to impart essential skills and knowledge to Mandal-level leaders, enabling them to understand the significance of unity and how to collaborate effectively with members and improve their abilities in leadership and technical aspects.

1. Cooperation

The training emphasises the importance of cooperation among Self-Help Group (SHG) members or federation members. It guides them in collaborating effectively to achieve common goals and support each other in various endeavours.

2. Coordination

Participants are trained on how to coordinate with other members and stakeholders. They learn strategies to foster cooperation and collaboration among groups and individuals, promoting harmony and synergy in community activities.

3. Assistance

The training encourages mutual assistance among members of the organisation. It instils the value of helping each other within the group, fostering a supportive environment where everyone can thrive.

Gender Sensitivity

SACRED has conducted training sessions to raise awareness about gender sensitivity issues. The main focus areas include understanding the differences between gender and sexuality, identifying root causes of gender bias, and strategies for promoting inclusivity and respect for all genders.

Gender sensitivity training is crucial in creating awareness about gender equality issues and challenging existing practices and beliefs. This process helps individuals examine their biases and perceptions, leading to a better understanding of the realities faced by different genders and fostering empathy and acceptance.

Highlights

1. International Day of Persons with Disabilities Celebration:

- The International Day of Persons with Disabilities was enthusiastically celebrated in the Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh.
- Around 380 disabled individuals participated in the event, which included placard displays, cultural performances, and rallies.
- Dignitaries like Sri Mati Kangati Sreedevamma, MLA, Subhashini from Jadipeta, Venkataraman Reddy, and Mahesh from Velugu Foundation emphasised the need for banks to provide loans for disabled pensioners to engage in farming activities.

- Approval for building houses for eligible disabled individuals was also announced, promising rapid construction to provide shelter.
- Subhashini from Jadipeta arranged meals for all participants during the event.

2. Inauguration of New Orthopaedic Workshop:

- A new orthopaedic workshop, Jagadurthi Ortho Workshop, was inaugurated in the Krishna district. It aims to serve disabled individuals in the Kurnool and Nandyal regions.
- Mr. C.C. Thippanna, the director of Sacred Organization, laid the foundation stone with support from area leaders.
- Dr. Christoph from Switzerland, Angela, and Livia collaborated to support the construction program.

3. Early Identification, Early Intervention Programme:

- Officials from health centres, including Medical Officer Sri Devi, MLHP Anusha, ANM Lakshmi, and Asha workers Soumya and others, participated in the program.
- The program focused on raising awareness about early detection and treatment of disabilities among pregnant mothers and children.
- Key focus areas included awareness during pregnancy, timely vaccinations, and early intervention for physical deformities.

Mandal Level Federations:

- Discussions and meetings were conducted to address the concerns and needs of disabled individuals.
- Mandal-level federations were instrumental in implementing programs related to Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016.

- The federations worked towards mobilising resources and coordinating with government authorities to resolve issues faced by disabled individuals.

Government Resources Mobilization:

- During the year, 757 existing and 26 new disabled individuals received disability certificates.
- 680 existing and 18 new disabled individuals were granted government pensions.
- A total of 483 disabled individuals received travel concessions for bus and rail journeys.
- The government disbursed a total of 2,25,58,280/- INR as disability pensions.

Lessons Learned:

- Collaboration between central, state governments, and local donors is crucial for the effective implementation of programs.
- Utilizing various government schemes and initiatives significantly benefits disabled individuals, as evidenced by the mobilisation of resources.
- Regular meetings and discussions at the Mandal level are essential for addressing the evolving needs of disabled individuals and coordinating with relevant authorities effectively.

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