

KUSUMA SEVA

PROJECT DESCRIPTION – FEBRUARY 2012

Partner:	Vikash Vidyalaya Foundation (VVF)
Location:	Sambalpur, Orissa, India
Target Group:	Orphans
Number of Beneficiaries:	20 Orphaned and Semi Orphaned Children
Grant Period:	1 October 2008 – 30 September 2013
Grant Amount:	£23,014 (5 years)



Objective

To provide food, shelter, education and medical care to orphaned and semi-orphaned children in Sambalpur.

Description

This project supports 20 orphaned and semi-orphaned children staying in a VVF home in Sambalpur. The children come from highly marginalised socio-economic backgrounds and the home provides them with basic support for their physical, mental and intellectual development.

Two young couples with their own children live in the orphanage as wardens providing protection as well as a family environment. Children are enrolled in the local government school and they are also taught music and yoga at the home. The outdoor areas provide ample space where the children can play.

Kusuma has provided a one-time grant of £21,127 as a corpus fund. An additional grant of £1,887 was subsequently made for the purchase of furniture like bunk beds and cupboards; and educational resources, such as library books and games materials.

Progress

The children reside within the VVF home, which enables them to continue their education at a nearby government school. All 20 of them attend the school on a regular basis.

Results

The corpus grant ensures the home operates efficiently and manages to meet its monthly expenses, as well as improve the quality of care and services delivered to the children.

Challenges

The building where the home is located is currently the subject of litigation. Consequently, the Board of VVF is planning to shift to a new location. Discussions are underway with the partner to develop a proposal for the purchase of new land for the orphanage.

The staff who manage the home require training around child care and protection, and on how to improve the quality of services given to the children. A training plan is to be developed in consultation with the partner.

News

Due to disputes over the ownership over the land, the partner is currently in the process of acquiring new land near the existing orphanage.

VVF has received INR 10,00,000 (£13,333) from the Member of Parliament Fund to construct the new orphanage and will seek separate funding for the purchase of the land separately.