

Seon Ashram Trust

OUR INSTITUTION AT A
GLANCE

MARCH 2011



Vinayak - almost paralyzed - has found a place of care in our disabled children project



Our Little Flowers - Destitute Children studying for a better future



The start - U.C. Paulose gave up his well-settled life to start serving the poor. In his own house!



Our service to our residents - more than just dressing the physical



Also elders find shelter and support in our Ashram



Mentally ill
Unfortunately often without a home

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Our staff with supported by a resident during physiotherapy for Vignesh not having control over his muscles due to Cerebral Palsy

OUR PHILOSOPHY

Questions and pleas of our residents are not an interruption in our ongoing work. It is our purpose to listen and respond to them. No inmate is an outsider in our service – everyone is part of it. Surely we do him a favor by serving him, but they also do us a favor by giving us an opportunity to do so.

Who we are

The Seon Ashram Trust was set up in 1999 by Mr. U.C. Paulose being now the managing trustee.

At present our institution caters to 440 residents among which there are

- 100 mentally ill
- 168 mentally and physically challenged in combination
- 85 aged
- 87 destitute and school going children
- And a large number of residents around our facility



One of our volunteers during tuition

The initial point

During a travel Mr. Paulose saw a group of people at a train station fighting over thrown-away food of a public dustbin. This experience awakened his social conscience.

So he founded Seon Ashram as a home for these people - without any support - in his own house! Fortunately soon friends and relatives spread his idea of serving the poor and introduced him to a growing number of supporters. It is thanks to their initiative that we are now able to take care of 440 residents.

We can be better - and reach more together

Thanks to social conscience we started Seon Ashram - but thanks to the social conscience of others we have been able to grow and serve.

For this reason we would like to keep on pursuing our social ideals with you together and kindly pray you for your support.

Problems we face

We have been applying for public funds for years. However the Indian government has not yet recognized our efforts.



Our counselors sharing a free minute conversating with one of the elder ladies in our Ashram

No public funds have been granted so far. Thus we depend on the goodwill of society.

Overwhelmed government hospitals and NGOs keep on sending patients to our Ashram: Our facilities are good, but gradually our place becomes overcrowded.

We would like to have you on our side for the better for these God's children. In the following articles we would like to introduce our beneficiaries and present you how we plan to overcome the current difficulties.

Apart from this you can find further ressources and contact possibilities on the last page of this letter.

Just a thought

A psychiatric illness is a huge blow of fate - and many among our society can never come over it. But the feeling of being useless and not having existed for anyone is even worse.

Tim Halbmann, current volunteer in Seon Ashram



A male resident working at the construction site of our Biogas plant

For whom all this is about—our residents

Currently 440 residents are living and served in our Ashram. Here they receive:

- Shelter and accommodation
- Treatment
- Support on their way back into society



Apart from that we offer recreational activities such as:

- Art and craft
- English lessons
- Singing Program
- Sport and Cultural Programs

Here our inhabitants can prove their talents and be creative - It will help for their way back into society.



Female residents during the Craft Class working on the production of 1,500 Easter Cards to be sent to our donors

Work— both involvement in the daily life and rehabilitation

Quite many residents carry out works on the assignment of social and field workers. Thus they learn about rules and duties in a community. Among these tasks are:



- Kitchen works
- Field cultivation
- Animal Husbandry
- Help in construction work
- Cleaning
- Take care of a handicapped child or an elder resident

Some more impressions of our residents and service



One of our God's children while collecting grass for our cows



Our warden giving one elder paralyzed lady her afternoon chai



Work can be fun - a differently abled while watering our garden

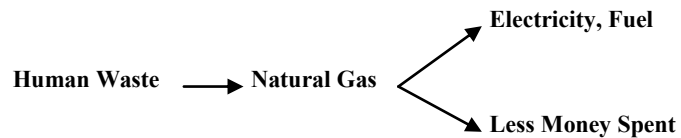
Income—generating projects

Biogas Plant

Problems

- Overloaded drainage system due to human waste
- Increasing prices for fossil fuel and energy
- Power failures

Our Approach



An overloaded drainage system due to the increasing number of residents as well as rising prices for electricity and fuel belong to the most urgent problems we face.

By building our Biogas Plant we can resolve these problems at one swoop:

The human waste can be put in the silo and during the decomposition process natural gas will emerge which we can use to operate our generator.

Thanks to our creditors and the support of donors we were able to complete 50 per cent of the construction before the rainy season. However this is a huge project requiring 20 lakh Rupees and so we humbly pray you to help us to finish this decisive



The Current State

- Drainage Channels dug
- Pipes laid out
- Silos built and protected

The next steps

- Raise financial resources during the rainy season
- Connect the drainage system to the silos
- Set up facilities to siphon off the natural gas
- Connect an eligible generator

Progress

50 % completed

We humbly pray you to join hand with us for the better future of our residents.

If interested in detailed information, please do not hesitate to contact our office via the details mentioned at the end of this brochure.

Run the plant as a whole

Animal Husbandry—one Approach, many ways

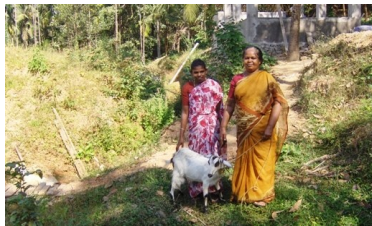
Goat Farming—the initiation

In last February six goats have been acquired. Since then they are watched by three of our residents. But we would like to take further steps by enlarging our population up to 20 animals accommodated in an appropriate facility. Each goat to be added is about Rs. 1500 As in every husbandry process a part of the farm animals can be sold.

Patient's involvement Program

Goats are easy to keep—the husbandry process offers many of our residents the chance to take responsibility—this can be in the following ways:

- Collect the necessary nutrition, i.e. grass and water
- Keep the facilities clean and neat
- Be a shepherd



Your helping hand is needed

We kindly pray you for your support to:

- Acquire the remaining goats
- Construct their facility

Piggery—the future level

The raising of pigs will be our third step towards self-sufficiency. Currently we just have a small family of 4 pigs in one cage: We plan to enlarge this one thus far that we can gain sufficient and steady income from it. The advantage of pigs is that they basically eat everything—food waste could be collected from the households surrounding the Ashram and given to the animals.

Efforts to be taken

- A facility for the livestock is to be constructed
- Then the current life stock is to be enlarged
- Field workers and residents have to be introduced to their new responsibilities.

Our resident's tasks

- Help during construction period
- Collect nutrition for the animals
- Keep the facility clean
- Dump the animals' waste into the silo of the biogas plant

Of course in collaboration with our field workers!

Chicken—the next step

Until now chicken were only raised on a small scale. In order to take another step towards financial independence, we would like expand the chicken farming. Our target is to raise a population of about 100 chicken and keep them in an appropriate building.

The Facility

For this purpose we plan to renovate one house on our property and put a mesh at 1m height, so that the chicken can stand on it, which will make it easier to keep the place clean.



How “Our People” will be involved

- Help during construction period
- Collect nutrition and feed the animals
- Give water to the chicken
- Clean the facility



This is supposed to keep money—in future pigs will help us to make our own money

Sponsorship Programs

We would like to serve our residents the best we can—but this is only possible with your support. For this purpose and to develop a personal contact between beneficiary and donor – we have set up different sponsorship programs:

- Destitute Children at our School
- Handicapped Children Project
- Mentally Ill and Differently Challenged Project
- Old Age Project

With your help, we can provide better nutrition, counseling, medication and care as well as optimal facilities.



Vignesh - one of our handicapped children waiting for a sponsor

Please feel free to choose among the following periods of sponsorship:

- Once an amount of your choice
- Monthly Rs. 2,000
- Quarterly Rs. 6,000
- Half-yearly Rs. 12,000
- Yearly Rs. 24,000

More information and sponsorship forms are to be found on our website www.seonashram.in/how-to-support-us or contact us.

Please feel free to contact us if you would like to support our beneficiaries differently.

A vision—Superior education for rural children

The Little Flower School in Rangana-palke was donated by one of our well-wishers as he saw the Ashram's children wanting to give them a place to study and grow. There we currently offer education up to 10th standard for 310 children. Among these 87 receive full support from our side and are accommodated within our school facilities.

Problems we face

First, the number of children taught keeps on increasing. Next, we are not satisfied with the facilities we can offer.



It is education which will make our "Little Flowers" grow and take their fate into their own hands.

The approach

The construction of a spacious three-floor building with space for 24 classrooms has been initiated. Special classrooms for science and technology will be available.

Our Aim and Vision

We want to fulfill the SLCC standards, so that the efforts of our students can be recognized fairly by others. In the future we want to extend our education up to 2nd PUC and - even further.

Tax exemption—a return for your support

Donations are subject to exemption under section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961

Seon Ashram Trust

A Thought

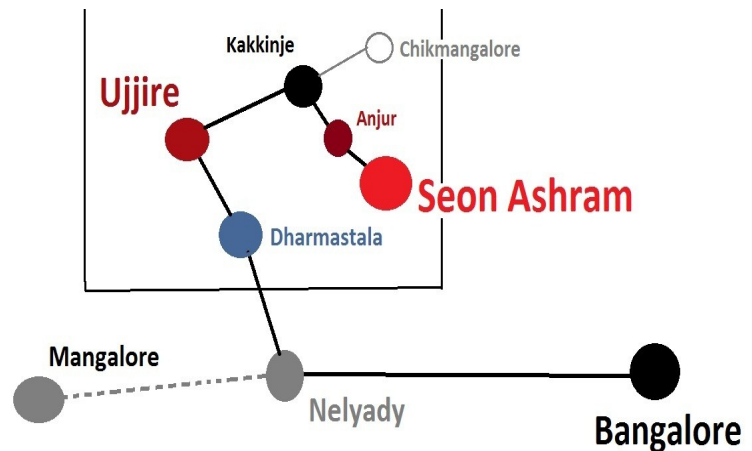
“It has always been the initiative and the conscience of the people which brought about change in a society”

Volunteer in Seon Ashram

Where we serve

The Seon Ashram is located in a rural area near the temple town Dharmastala at the foot of the Western Ghats about 100 Kilometers from Mangalore and 300 form Bangalore.

You can get the best impressions of our work if you see it with your own eyes, therefore we kindly invite you to visit Seon Ashram. If you are interested in doing so—the journey from Mangalore takes about two and a half hours. From Bangalore you can take a night bus to Dharmastala and then get to our Ashram in the morning.



Further Resources and Contact

Internet

Seon Ashram: www.seonashram.in

Our School: <http://glaridaeducation.wordpress.com>

Blog of our Volunteer: <http://trimmesblog.wordpress.com>

Direct Contact

Email: seonashram@yahoo.co.in

Telephone (1): +91 82 56 – 23 52 28 / 20 81 22

Mobile (1): +91 94 48 01 19 28

Mobile (2): +91 94 83 90 77 28

Mobile (3): +91 94 83 90 62 27

Postal Address

Seon Ashram Trust
Gandibagilu Post / 574 228
Belthangady Taluk
Dakshina Kannada
Karnataka State
INDIA



Founder U.C. Paulose, his wife and one child of a rehabilitating mother in the Ashram. Our residents usually call Mr. Paulose “Daddy” and his wife “Mummy” - although there are at present 440 inhabitants, there is still a good contact between patients and managing staff.

Our Bank Account Details

First possibility

Seon Ashram Trust
Syndicate Bank, Kakkinje Branch
Belthangady T.Q, D.K District, Karnataka
A/C No: 01773070000059
IFSL Code: SYNB0000177

Second Possibility

Seon Ashram Trust
AXIS Bank, Mangalore, Branch Essel Tower, Ground Floor, Bunts Hostel Circle
Mangalore
A/c No: 077010100127783
IFSL Code: UTIB0000077

Donate Online - via Pay Pal

If you are frequently buying things online – we are also grateful to receive your donation via Pay Pal. You will find a “Donate” button in the left sidebar of our homepage www.seonashram.in.

When receiving your money, we will transfer it to our bank account then use it for the purpose chosen by you.

We want to be accountable

We would like to send you a receipt for your donation. For this reason, we kindly pray you to send us your email address to donate@seonashram.in.

We are required to inform the Income Tax Department regarding each donation received. If you want to stay anonymous, please send us an Email and you will remain it – your name will not appear anywhere. Else we kindly request you to mail us your postal address so that we can keep our books and forward information to the Income Tax Department if required.

Tax exemption certificate

Donations are subject to exemption under section 80G of Income Tax Act 1961.

Questions regarding Pay Pal?

Do you need more information regarding Pay Pal? Please refer to the Pay Pal website.

Thank you very much for your interest in our institution as well as the sake of the lesser fortunate of society by reading this brochure. We are looking forward to hear from you.