



AANGAN TRUST ANNUAL REPORT

(For year ending March 31, 2007)



The Carom King Festival at Govandi Youth Center

Aangan Trust: About Us

Aangan works for children and youth in the state institutional, criminal or judicial system. We work towards a system that consistently demonstrates a deep respect for child rights and human rights; considers emotional, social and developmental needs, emphasizes rehabilitation and reintegration.

How we work

- Develop replicable models
- Affect policy to work toward a more rational, effective, juvenile justice system
- Emphasize developmentally appropriate programs
- Build data and information on target population and surrounding issues
- Ensure continuum of care for children and youth in the system

What we believe

- Juveniles in the system should be treated with a restorative and rehabilitative stance, rather than a punitive one.
- Understanding and acknowledging the social history of the child is key to effective rehabilitation
- Programs and models should take into account developmental differences between adults and juveniles
- Community based alternatives supplementing institutional care provide an effective continuum of care

Aangan Trust: About Us

OUR PROGRAMS:

Rehabilitation through Creative Processes: A program in children's institutions to deal with mental health, psychosocial, behavioral issues to build emotional coping skills. Arts-based activities, group work and discussion are used primarily to address past trauma, help child cope with institutional life and prepare for reintegration. Aangan works in 10 institutions with over 2000 children in Mumbai and Thane institutions.

Youth Pathway Project: Preventing offending, re-offending, dangerous and anti-social behavior among youth in high-risk communities. Youth centers in four of Mumbai's most deprived areas: Dongri, Bhiwandi, Antop Hill and Govandi. The goal of the Centers is to provide a safe space and constructive activities for youth, along with guidance and support in areas of health, education, vocational training, counseling, recreation, family issues. Working with previously institutionalized children as well as referrals from Juvenile Justice Boards and police – we aim to prevent offending and anti-social behavior and reoffending. This project began in June 2007.

Research & Policy: To build credible data around the population and surrounding issues. This kind of data we believe is key to affecting policy at local, state and national level. Our objective is to work toward a more rational, effective, juvenile justice system.

Projects Mamta, Masoom and Milaap: for children of incarcerated parents will work on three interconnected levels. Fieldwork in Mumbai/Thane prisons with mothers and children will help us develop a model and demonstrate its effectiveness. Based on this experience, we hope our advocacy will result in the model being scaled up, replicated and institutionalized as an approach. We will emphasize state intervention on: (a) in-prison facilities and care for mothers and newborns; (b) Child oriented systems for children growing up with parents in prisons; (c) Support for children separated from parents due to incarceration.

Institutional Management: Late 2005 we began programs on institutional management with a view to increasing effectiveness and making institutions more child-oriented. In partnership with Department of Women and Child Development (Government of Maharashtra), we have piloted four programs over 100 children's institutions across 32 districts in the state. These include a) a standardized monitoring and evaluation tool for institutions across the state b) a vigilance system for institutions c) an operational manual and d) a staff recognition program for motivation.

Aangan Trust: Note from Trustees

As we begin our sixth year of work, we would like to reflect a little on Aangan's growth and challenges so far. Over the past five years, we have had the opportunity to learn a lot from our work with children and institutional staff at the ground level. This year, we will focus largely on scaling up and institutionalizing our approach.

In 2002, we began with a group of 75 children in conflict with law, in a Mumbai's Observation Home, Umerkhadi, Dongri. Today we work with 10 institutions in Mumbai and Thane, reaching 2000 children in state custody. Over the years, we have developed a fairly deep understanding about themes, emotional, behavioral and life-skill issues of institutionalized children. We have also been working with session content, formats and creative processes extensively. This year, we hope to share this learning and build capacity with institutional staff and relevant stakeholders - so that staff-child interaction becomes an institution's strength rather than its weakness.

Late 2005, we began programs on institutional management with a view to increasing effectiveness and making institutions more child-friendly. In partnership with the Department of Women and Child Development (Government of Maharashtra), we piloted four programs in over 100 children's institutions across 32 districts in the state. Our partnership with state authorities has developed into a constructive and sustainable one. It is with this confidence that we begin the Aangan Research and Policy Cell in New Delhi, to institutionalize our approach at the Center. With the newly appointed National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, we are optimistic about change.

We have always been aware of one gap area in the continuum of care for institutional children. Prevention programs that reduce the risks of anti-social, dangerous and offending behavior are crucial. In a baseline research done last year we identified risk factors and developed the Youth Pathway Project based on findings. This new community based alternative provides holistic and individualized approaches in "high risk" neighborhoods of Mumbai. In 2007 we will emphasize this model.

Another new program we will begin is for children of prisoners. The program includes direct action on the field, programs for mothers and children in prison as well as support services for children of prisoners, separated from incarcerated parents. Again we hope to develop and demonstrate a viable model that can be replicated in prisons across the state – and ultimately the country. This program is going to be particularly challenging, being our first experience with adult criminal and justice systems.

Aangan Trust: Note from Trustees

In conclusion, the last year has been tremendously exciting and encouraging. Our rapid growth has only been possible due to the committed efforts of Aangan's team of bright young social workers, facilitators, psychologists, advisors and volunteers. Once again we must mention all the donors and friends who have helped us - especially Global Fund for Children (Washington) and Chintu Gudiya Foundation (San Francisco) for believing in us and steadily supporting us over the years. Thank you for your concern and faith. It has inspired us and together we hope that our efforts will deliver safety, happiness and health to India's children and youth.



Suparna Gupta



Shailja Mehta

Aangan Trust: Highlights (April 2006 – March 2007)

A. INTERVENTION IN INSTITUTIONS

Program: Psycho-social Rehabilitation for Institutionalized children

Objective: To address mental health and social, emotional and behavioral issues of children. We believe it is crucial to address children's emotional and behavioral issues, acknowledge past trauma and build coping skills.

Reach (Institutions): 10

Reach (Children 3-18 years): 2000

Highlights: Like the traditional "Aangan" in Indian homes, important life lessons can be taught through joyful processes. Last year's Aangan sessions found newspaper clubs discussing the headlines, committees preparing for upcoming events, adolescent girls introspecting during on self esteem sessions and boys participating in problem solving and decision making exercises. Special pre-exam, study groups were formed to help children study together. We administered psychological tests for over 350 children. We also had special sessions for child laborers rescued in mass raids to help them understand their situation and plan for their return home.

Outcome: The increased enthusiasm and participation from the children was the most satisfying outcome. The nurturing environment makes them feel it is safe to open up, share and express. Children took more initiative, attended more regularly and participated actively.

Program: Creative Arts Based Work

Highlights: The year began with the Basant Utsav in Observation Home, Umerkhadi where over 50 children participated in a dance, theater, music dhamaka. The audience of 450 children thoroughly enjoyed the colorful production and imbibed the Bollywood-style message about the lure of crime. Through the year, street play style skits on running away, substance abuse and the importance of education were a big success with the children. The local flavor and lingo of the performances were fun and also led the children into some interesting discussion on the issues.

Summer camps in 5 Mankhurd institutions included child participation in dance, poetry writing, singing and of course cricket competitions! The year ended with the Flower Festival in MDC Home where special needs children and staff had worked together to create beautiful pieces of handiwork including artificial flowers, decorative "torans", table linen and more. Not surprisingly they even got several orders for more!

Aangan Trust: Highlights (April 2006 – March 2007)

Program: Capacity Building for institutional staff

Objective: To share knowledge on special education issues

Reach: 40 institutional staff

Highlights: Knowing that the MDC Home is filled beyond its capacity with special needs children, we held two workshops on behavioral issues and children. Our objective was to motivate and train staff in effective care for this population.

Outcome: The staff gave positive feedback about the sessions, but all voiced a need for more in-depth, regular sessions where problem situations could be discussed and practical advice received.

B. INSTITUTIONAL REFORM - Partnering with the state Department of Women and Child Welfare (Government of Maharashtra)

Program: Monitoring and Vigilance

Objective: To standardize operational definitions of effectiveness in institutions and evaluate institutions based on these guidelines.

Reach: The pilot included 100 institutions across 32 districts in Maharashtra.

Implementation: Aangan developed a monitoring tool with four sections to evaluate institutional effectiveness. Infrastructure activities, staff-child interactive, special initiatives are measured and institutions are graded out of 100. Most important, the monitoring exercise helps to set quarterly goals for improvement.

Outcome: On presenting reports to the DWCD, the department takes relevant action as per our scoring. Institutions have become more vigilant themselves and over the rounds of monitoring we find that scores are gradually improving.

Program: Operational Manual on Institutional Procedures

Objective: To standardize operational procedures of staff-child interaction in institutions

Reach: This manual once completed and approved by the DWCD will be reaching all the government and semi government 550 institutions across Maharashtra

Implementation: The staff and authorities of the institutions will be given the manual and will also be intensively trained on how to use the manual. This manual has detailed guidelines on each and every aspect of the Juvenile Justice Act with a special focus on child staff interaction as the key area of improvement.

Outcome: What is status of this manual? Capacity building for institutional staff towards making state-run institutions more child friendly and effective. This model can then further be used across the nation for all children in institutions across the country.

Aangan Trust: Highlights (April 2006 – March 2007)

Program: Staff Awards for Children's Institutions

Objective: To provide an incentive to institutional staff, to reward best practices and motivate staff to improve rehabilitation efforts for institutionalized children

Reach: 100 institutions across 32 districts in Maharashtra. 600 staff from all over Maharashtra attended these awards.

Implementation: The 'Suryodaya' staff recognition awards were held in Pune on 27th April 2007 at the Bal Gandharva auditorium. The Suryodaya awards signify positive beginnings and excellence. It had 13 categories, including best institutions, best budget allocation, best cook, best superintendent and many more. We received more than 140 entries out of which the final awards were given only after doing a thorough background search.

Outcome: There was a great turnout of more than 600 staff and members of institutions. Several individuals and institutions from lesser-known districts were commended for their good efforts and achievements. This proved to be a huge motivational success for the staff and also made the staff aware that they were being monitored – not only for complaints but also recognized for positive deeds. This was a first initiative of its type ever and the Commissioner (Department of Women and Child Development, Maharashtra) Mr. Ashwani Kumar truly appreciated this, promising that next year the department itself would help organize the event.

Aangan Trust: Highlights (April 2006 – March 2007)

C. AANGAN STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Objective: It is our consistent effort to provide our own staff with opportunities to learn and improve especially in the field of children and juvenile justice.

Workshops/Trainings attended by Aangan Staff:

- **Arts Based Therapy:** a 10 month training on arts based therapies conducted by World Center For Creative Learning Foundation Pune that helped Aangan facilitators and counselors use movement, drama, art, drums for therapy through creative processes
- **Strategies to Counsel on Child Sexual Abuse:** Professor Subhead Maitra, (Center for Health and Mental Health) at Tata Institute of Social Sciences conducted a workshop on child sexual abuse where the Aangan team was able to discuss and strategize around certain difficult cases
- **Juvenile Justice Act 2000:** Internally, the team reviewed the various aspects of the Juvenile Justice Act, and discussed its implementation in institutions.
- **Legal Rights of Children in Institutions:** Pratibha Menon, child rights activist and lawyer from India Center for Human Rights conducted a workshop on rights and gave input on how we could orient children about their rights.
- **Play Therapy:** Conducted by Sonia Murray, a play therapist from the UK – on how to use play therapy especially for younger children
- **Techniques of Garden Project:** David Field who has worked in Toronto's Spiral Garden for the last ten years provided on-field input and ideas as a handbook that outlines principles of the Spiral Garden.
- **Adolescent Sexuality:** Apnalaya (a Mumbai-based NGO) held this workshop on creating interesting communication (like comic books and stories adolescent issues like sexuality, genders issues, HIV AIDS and so on.
- **Planning for 2007-8:** In March 2007, the Aangan team's annual planning meeting focused on creating a template for Youth Pathway Centers, the entire team participated in this brainstorm. The immediate result: guidelines to set up and run four centers across Mumbai as part of the Youth Pathway Project.

Aangan Trust: Highlights (April 2006 – March 2007)

D. RESEARCH AND REPORTS

1. **“Changing Spaces”** – an action research report to understand the effectiveness of children’s institutions from the child’s perspective. In this report, we have suggested some detailed practical recommendations in areas of staff-child interaction, staff motivation and defining effectiveness.
2. **“Bachenge to milenge” (See you again if I survive)** – an action research about children and youth in Mumbai’s high-risk neighborhoods. This study helped us identify some of the recurring issues that put youth at risk of engaging in dangerous, anti social behavior. It provides us with useful insights about the youth population, their environment and helps us focus on effective prevention, protection and early intervention strategies.
3. **Vigilance and Monitoring Reports** – This is a continuing part of our monitoring and vigilance project where at the end of every quarter we prepare a detailed report on the observations of our visits to various homes across the state. These reports are confidential and shared with the WCD who take the required action where needed.

E. YOUTH PATHWAY PROJECT

Objective: To understand issues of children and youth living in ‘high risk’ communities, and work towards preventing and reducing the risk of dangerous behavior, anti-social behavior, offending and re-offending.

Reach: Children in 4 “high risk communities” - Bhiwandi, Antop Hill, Dongri, Govandi - the city’s most deprived areas.

Implementation: Initially, we conducted research to understand the youth perspective and identify risk factors common across neighborhoods. Based on the findings, a community-based model was developed.

Outcome: Aangan will begin with four Youth Pathway Centers. These Centers will give young people somewhere safe to go regularly. Here they can learn new skills, take part in activities with others, get help and guidance with their education and employment. Most important, every day they will interact with positive role models – the workers, volunteers, mentors – who will work gently and constantly to change young people’s attitudes to education, health, crime and other relevant issues. Based on results in the initial 4 centers, the plan is to develop additional centers in similar other high risk areas of Mumbai.

Aangan Trust: The Year Ahead (April 2007 – March 2008)

This year, in addition to our continuing work in running programs in institutions, our focus will be on the following:

1. Research and Policy Cell: Beginning August 1 2007, Aangan's R&P Cell will work towards influencing state and central policies on issues related to youth and criminal or justice systems. We believe there is a requirement for a deeper understanding of the population and surrounding issues through credible researches and studies. Such knowledge also enables us to affect policy and present recommendations in a more focused manner. On our agenda this year are studies and lobbying around:

- Re-offending – understanding the scale and trends of youth re-offending in India.
- Prevention and early intervention programs to prevent offending, re-offending, anti-social and dangerous behavior.
- Standardized operational procedures for children's institutions
- Joint Management: Developing an understanding about government and NGO partnerships and their effectiveness in management of children's institutions.

2.Children of Prisoners: This project for children with incarcerated parents will work on three interconnected levels. Fieldwork in Mumbai prisons with mothers and children will help us develop a model and demonstrate its effectiveness. Based on this experience, we hope our advocacy will result in the model being scaled up, replicated and institutionalized as an approach. We will emphasize state intervention on:

- Facilities and care for mothers and newborns
- Education for children in prisons
- Support for children separated from parents due to incarceration.

Aangan Trust: The Year Ahead (April 2007 – March 2008)

3. Youth Pathway Project: With 4 youth centers up and running in Dongri, Bhiwandi, Antop Hill and Govandi, we begin with the hope of engaging high-risk individuals through recreation, education and vocational activities. Each center will develop unique programs that can then be replicated across other youth centers. For instance, one center will pilot a support group for mothers of offenders, while in another a youth group begins with planning a community celebration of a festival and begins to work together as a self-help youth group. A third youth group of adolescent girls will work at raising awareness of gender issues and women's rights among girls in the community. Programs will be geared toward

- Increasing youth "ownership of centers" - planning and running the centers by children and youth
- Engaging with Community: Youth to plan and participate in local events and programs with families and community
- Civic Engagement: Working with local authorities, politicians and elected representatives to run programs for the youth.

4. Standardizing Operational procedures: In August 2007, we will complete a project on monitoring, vigilance and staff recognition programs. This project is being done in partnership with the Department of Women and Child Welfare (Government of Maharashtra) and was piloted across 100 institutions. We will now lobby to standardize these operational procedures for children's institutions across all institutions of Maharashtra. Therefore our recommendations for 2007-2008 include:

- Standardizing the use of the monitoring tool across the entire state
- Increased state participation in vigilance through forming vigilance committees
- Action Research on the workings of Child Welfare Committees and Juvenile Justice Boards across the country
- Dissemination and training of operational manual developed by Aangan for institutional staff and authorities
- Increased state participation in staff recognition program for all institutions in the state.

Aangan Trust: Financial Statement (Summary)

Balance Sheet

(in Indian Rupees)

	<u>YE 3/31/2006</u>	<u>YE /31/2007</u>
Assets:		
Fixed Assets	73,737	53,250
Loans and Advances	41,836	2,836
Cash and Bank Balances	<u>703,779</u>	<u>4,939,716</u>
Total Assets	819,352	4,995,802
Liabilities:		
Corpus Funds	661,639	4,194,117
Income a/c – Surplus	<u>157,713</u>	<u>801,685</u>
Total Liabilities	819,352	4,995,802
Income Statement		
Income:		
Donations	1,713,699	3,649,077
Interest	<u>26,546</u>	<u>46,478</u>
Total Income	1,740,245	3,695,555
Exp on Trust Objects	1,306,315	2,746,976
Exp on Establishment	137,412	274,344
Depreciation	36,553	20,487
Miscellaneous	<u>1,852</u>	<u>9,775</u>
Total Expenses	1,482,132	3,051,583
<i>Surplus Carried</i>	<i>258,113</i>	<i>643,972</i>

Aangan Trust: Legal and Financial Information

- Aangan Trust is registered as a not-for-profit Trust with the Charity Commissioner, Greater Bombay Region, (Reg. No.EW18695, dated November 1, 2000).
- Aangan Trust is registered u/s 12A of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (Registration No. 36954 dated 28/11/2002), and with the Director of Income Tax (Exemptions) u/s 80G, valid till March 31, 2009 (Registration No.80G/1301/2006/2006-07).
- Aangan Trust Income Tax Permanent Account Number (PAN) is AAATT5502G.
- Aangan Trust is registered under section 6 (1) (a) of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 1976 (FCRA Reg. No. 083781091). The Bank account in which Foreign Currency funds are received is with HDFC Bank, Sandoz House Branch, Worli, Mumbai.
- Aangan Trust operates 2 Bank Accounts with HDFC Bank Ltd., Mumbai and 1 Bank Account with HSBC Bank Ltd., Mumbai.
- Doshi and Khandelwal, Chartered Accounts (409, Niranjana, Marine Drive, Mumbai – 400002) are our statutory auditors.
- No remuneration or sitting fees has been paid since inception of the Trust to any Board Member, Advisor or Trustee.

Aangan Trust: Team

Managing Board and Advisors

Ms Suparna Gupta, Founder Trustee / Director: With a B.A (Psychology) from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and a Diploma in Social Communication Media from the Sophia Polytechnic, Mumbai, Suparna began her career in media, working in advertising agencies Lowe, and Ogilvy and Mather. But her volunteering experience at various shelters/homes made her realize a strong need for the rehabilitation of institutionalized children. In 2001, driven by a desire to work with this neglected population, she left advertising to begin Aangan.

Ms Shailja Mehta, Trustee / Director: Shailja began her career in public relations with Procter and Gamble after completing a B.A (Economics) from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and a Diploma in Social Communication Media from the Sophia Polytechnic. She joined Aangan in 2003, wanting to use the medium of communication to help Aangan start up and grow. Her communication skills have been used for fund raising and creating awareness about the cause. She has also conceptualized Aangan's "Rehabilitation through Creative processes" - a program for children in institutions; her background of theater and the arts has provided a solid base for developing this program innovatively.

Ms Atiya Bose, Advisor, Research and Policy: For the last seven years, Atiya worked as a private investigator and sentence mitigation consultant in Los Angeles, California, conducting primary research and preparing legal briefs and advocacy reports in criminal cases for submission to the court on behalf of criminal defendants from underprivileged and marginalized communities. She also worked as an educational facilitator with "at-risk" youth in poor neighborhoods (8-14 year olds from difficult and often violent family backgrounds who manifest significant levels of social dysfunction and emotional distress). Atiya has a B.A (History) from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai and a MFA in Film and Television Production from UCLA.

Mr. Rajnish Dhall, Advisor, Finance: After completing his post graduation in Business Administration from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad in 1991, Rajnish worked with the multinational American Express Bank for over 15 years, in a variety of roles across 3 different locations - Mumbai, London and Singapore. While working with the bank, he advised Aangan informally in matters of finance and fund raising. This year, he has relocated to Mumbai and has joined Aangan in a full time role, overseeing finance, administrative, fund raising, legal and accountancy matters.

Aangan Trust: Team

Ms. Suranjana Gupta, Advisor, Projects: Research and advocacy coordinator for the Huairou Commission (GROOTS), since 2002, Suranjana has been in grassroots empowerment work – primarily in India – since 1995. For Swayam Shikshan Prayog, she focused on credit as a tool for empowerment and institutional responsiveness to poor communities. She facilitated and documented a post-disaster peer learning exchange between grassroots women in Turkey and India. In addition to her work with Huairou, she teaches Applying Development Knowledges at the New School University in New York City. Suranjana is advisor to Aangan specifically on issues related to research, advocacy and lobbying.

Ms. Gayatri Menon, Advisor: Gayatri is currently a PhD candidate at Cornell University, where she is working on issues related to state-formation, political economy, post-structuralism and post-coloniality. Earlier, Gayatri had worked with Mumbai based SPARC (for urban slum dwellers) for ten years. She has been closely associated with Aangan since its inception, and has worked on articulating and defining Aangan’s objectives, goals, overall approach and strategies.

Aangan Trust: Team

List of Personnel (as on March 31, 2007)

1. Ankit Macwan: Masters in Social Work
2. Uma Gopalakrishnan: Masters in Social Work
3. Meghna Vesvikar: Masters in Social Work
4. Bhavini Gandhi: Clinical Psychologist
5. Neeti Babu: Clinical Psychologist
6. Neeta Bhole: Masters in Social Work
7. Nirmal Parmar: Masters in Social Work
8. Walesa Barretto: Masters in Social Work
9. Ganesh Lokare: Paraprofessional
10. Niraj Prasad: Masters in Social Work
11. Neeta Joshi: Masters in Social Work
12. Digant: Creative Facilitator
13. Pramod Pathak: Creative Facilitator
14. Naina Karpe: Special Educator
15. Smita Dharmamer: Masters in Social Work
16. Vinod Singh: Office Assistant
17. Jayesh Vyas: Office Assistant
18. Lata Patil: Gardening Consultant
19. Tasneem Ali: Volunteer, Art
20. Radhika Chopra: Volunteer, Art
21. Arti Menon: Volunteer, English Speaking
22. Milind Nagpurkar: Volunteer, Gardening

Aangan Trust: Contact Us

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