

ANNUAL REPORT:

April 2012 to March 2013

Priscilla Centre is a charity organisation working towards empowering women in the North East region of India by providing them training in livelihood skills such as tailoring, weaving, food processing etc and facilitates them to engage in Income generating activities so that they have income to support their themselves and their family. PC works with widows, school dropout girls, HIV positive women and women having back ground of sex work and substance addiction.

Priscilla Centre was started in 1997 and registered under the society registration act, 1860. Our headquarter is in Guwahati, Assam where the central administration, coordination and networking are handled. Currently, we work in some districts of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh.

Goals:

- Provide vocational training on skills such as cutting and tailoring, weaving, food processing, cans & bamboo works etc.
- Promote savings among the project participants.
- Provide counselling and psycho social support.
- Provide support for starting micro enterprises
- Market outlet
- Networking
- Conduct awareness and capacity building programs

Strategy-how we work-



Priscilla Centre has been promoting the indigenous North East handloom and handicraft since its inception. The products are based on traditional designs which are trendy and have a market demand.

Priscilla centre works in partnership with local communities for 5 to 10 years and then hand over the full ownership of the project to the Local partners. Every partnership is initiated with the understanding that the local partners' raise local finds and share the resources required to support the projects. Thus 40%-70% of the project cost is contributed by the locals in kind such as furniture, kitchen wares, living expenses etc. The rationale is to remove the mentality of dependency and instead motivate people to become responsible, promoting the concept of self-reliance and accountability. Once the community owns it, the project will be sustainable.

Priscilla centre also believes in Capacity building and educating the community to bring in development and empowerment. Therefore, a large part of our work also focuses on awareness programme and capacity building programmes.

Brief Project Report:

	State	Centre name and location	Targets	No. of project participants	Activities
1	MANIPUR	Priscilla Home, Churachanpur	School dropout, destitute widows, HIV+, CSW & substance abusers.	7 women 7 children Atleast 1 or 2 in the night shelter per night.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weaving and tailoring • Night shelter for homeless women • Transitional Home for women infected with HIV/AIDS with no home. • 7 Destitute children's education support. • Organisational development of Partner.
2		Tabitha Compassion and care centre, Imphal	HIV+ and destitute widows	10 widows 9 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tailoring, embroidery & knitting. • Nutritional and dry food supplement • 9 destitute children's education support
3		We care, Irong	School dropout & women from CSW background	4	Tailoring, embroidery, Bead works, wire baskets, soap and dish wash, etc.
4		Life care, Pallel	School dropout, destitute women & HIV women.	16 widows 7 children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cane and bamboo craft such as baskets, jewellery box and tea coaster. • Food processing, where they prepare juice, candy and pickle (seasonal) • Weaving embroidered Mekhela (wrap around) based on order. • Dry food and nutritional supplement. • 7 Destitute children's educational support
5		Sharon centre, Senapati	School dropout girls, destitute women, HIV+, substance users and orphan.	4	Tailoring, embroidery work, soap & dish wash making. 
6		Grace centre, TML	Destitute widows	4	Baking cake, bread & pastries
7		CeWe, Ukhrul	HIV+ widows School dropout girls	12 10 children	Tailoring Support for canteen setup. The profit from the canteen is used for support

					the 9 project participants. 10 Destitute children's educational support
8	NAGALAND	Grace Ministry Mon	Destitute widows	45	Weaving, cultivation of yam, candy making.
		Lydia centre Peren	School dropouts, destitute women and disabled girls	8	Weaving, tailoring and knitting
9		Dorcas centre Khaibung	School drop outs, widows & destitute women	4	Weaving
10	ASSAM	Khongsaigaon		8	Spinning raw silk cocoon and weaving
11		Nowgong	School dropout girls and destitute women	5	Tailoring 
12		Udalguri	Destitute women and widows	4	Weaving and thread bank set up
13		SIGAP, Guwahati	School dropout girls	12girls	Tailoring 
14		ALTDC, Guwahati	School dropout girls	8	Hostel facility and leadership development
16	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	Senyi Apu Centre, Ziro	Destitute women	5	Food Processing and Tailoring

CONSULTATIONS, WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS CONDUCTED DURING THE YEAR:

1. **PC Project Partners Meet 2012:** It was held in Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh, co-hosted by Senyi Apu Centre, Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh from August 2-5, 2012. The highlights of the program are:
 - a. Sharing of PC 5 years Strategic Plan (2012- 2017)
 - b. Sharing of reports from 17 existing Centres both activities and financial,
 - c. Sharing and clarification of expectations between PC and LPP.

2. **Exposure Visit:** The exposure trip was held for the trainees and graduates under IGP (Income Generating Program) from September 1-3, 2012 in Dorcas Training Centre, Khaibung, Nagaland.

3. **Graduates Retreat:** This program was organized for the PC graduates from four different projects- PC Imphal, PC Ukhrul, PC Pallel and PC Churachandpur. It was a time to bring them together to learn, share with each other the experiences of their lives.
4. **Vaccination program:** Hepatitis B vaccination program was organized for the graduates and PC staff and their family members. It was held first on May 15, 2012 and the second on June 14, 2012. Other medical facilities are also given whenever the need arises.
5. **Counseling Training phase I:** The Counseling Training phase I was organized for PC staff, field staff and LPP from November 4-10, 2012 in Dimapur, Nagaland. The facilitators were from Elizah House, USA. 15 participants attended the training. The PC staffs and Field staffs have got a better understanding of women with difficult background and are sensitive to their needs. Some of the participants organized the same training in the field in their own dialect.



The Counseling Training was then organized by PC and field staff for the wardens and instructors in the month of February from 1-5, 2013. 20 instructors and wardens attended the training. It was organized for them because the wardens and instructors spend most of their time with the trainees. It helps the authorities to remain patient with the trainees, sit and listen to their problems and together coming out with solutions to certain situations. This brings them together to bring out the best out of trainees.

6. **Children Program:** It was held in Churachandpur, Manipur from December 12-15, 2012. 20 children from PC Pallel, PC Churachandpur and PC Ukhrul attended the program. Mrs. Binu Pradhan Sinha, Siliguri was the facilitator.
7. **6 workshops on Social Issues and Environment were organized in Manipur:** The workshops were held mainly for the community leaders to create awareness of the different social issues and to identify their local issues and to address and respond. PC received positive responses from all the workshops. They were held in participatory manner, so the participants could share their experiences and at the last session they were made to work out action plans for the development of their society. PC organized the workshops in partnership with WAHA (Women Action on HIV and AIDS).

NETWORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND OTHER AGENCIES: Most of the PC Centres have received various government supports at different times.

- PC Churachandpur got financial support from the Government for constructing concrete boundary wall. Furniture, sewing machines, trainings and exhibition for PC products are also being received by some of the Centres.
- Provision of free medicines from NHRM (National Rural Health Mission) to the trainees.
- TRIFED give provided the opportunity to sell PC's products in the exhibitions they organize every year in the different parts of India. Last year, two of our graduates have attended the exhibition held at Jaipur, Rajasthan
- All the centres are tied up with the Government Hospitals for the ART treatment for HIV/AIDS infected trainees/graduates and children.
- Some Local NGOs provide free food supplement and free health check-up for HIV+ trainees/graduates and elderly people once a month
- Some of the graduates received blankets from one NGO (CASA).