

THE "CHILD" SYSTEM MANUAL

Comprehensive Help for International Little Destitutes {A manual for those working with street children.}

■ **THE "CHILD" SYSTEM - PHASE IV-SKILL TRAINING WORKSHOPS**

The Goal

The aim of the entire "CHILD" System is to rehabilitate the children completely. So far, they have undergone some steady and meticulous processes of physical reparation of health, cleanliness, behavioural patterns and psychological repair. They know how to read, write and do mathematics, to the highest degree possible in any given case. Now they need to learn a trade that will take them through life with a reasonable income, a happy family and their own small house. This is what is founded under Phase IV.

■ **Student Rotation**

Your Vocational Skill Training Courses will be, on average, three years in duration. Some courses may be simple and require less training time. Your turnover of children may be large (if you are successful in implementation of the "CHILD" System, it should be), so you will have to rotate the students in batches and perhaps even shifts. Remember to engage the students constantly; they can still leave the programme whenever they want. They are also now teenagers, and need their independence. It is up to you to see that they are satisfied with their work hours, duties and life in general. Be attentive.

■ **The Methodology**

As in all the "CHILD" System programmes, the element of affection and constant attention is absolutely required for complete success. As the children will be placed for training in various fields, the need for guidance and encouragement is obvious. This will be a new process for them, although they would have been introduced to the programme long ago. By now they will have some idea what particular skill they will want to learn, but the ultimate decision will lie with you. Be completely open with the children in discussion. Your knowledge of the students background, capabilities and nature, will tell you whether they have made a wise choice suitable for them. Look for their natural talents and propensities. Make sure that no hidden talent is being wasted. Nature does not provide us with inborn skills by accident. You may want to incorporate some academic classes as part of your vocational training, especially for those not fully literate. This will also give a chance to those younger children to train early if they are not academically inclined at all and are bored in class.

■ **The Municipal Corporation**

The Municipal Corporation will, no doubt, have some shops or sheds which can be leased. Always take great pains to develop excellent relations with your Municipal Authority. They are your greatest asset in the city. Without them there is a limit to your expansion and implementation of the "CHILD" System. Ask for shops or sheds at the most nominal rate available. Try to get them all together, if possible. Larger buildings are available at nominal rents, you must ask for precedents in either local or regional municipal corporations.

■ **The Staff**

In our, opinion it is much better to hire simple artisans and those people who have struggled their whole life to perform their respective services. They are usually more qualified and better natured than so-called graduates. They will also appreciate the new facility you are giving them. Most of the simple people are highly qualified, but due to the lack of capital funds and management training, could never set up their own workshop. Give them an opportunity, but maintain strict vigil. You will find they teach much better and are grateful for your offer. Choose trades that would give ample opportunities for employment with the least investment.

■ **The Trades:**

You might consider the following trades , but you will know best what is suitable in your own area: Carpentry, Commercial art, Screen printing, Plastic Moulding, Tailoring, Welding, Two wheeler repair, Upholstery, Bag making, Sweet making, Broom making, Fittings manufacture, Agriculture, Horticulture, Cooking & Catering, Animal Husbandry, Dairy Farm Management.