

RURAL ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES (SCV ROSS)

PROJECT PROPOSAL FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT.

INTRODUCTION:

This project primarily aims to empower the rural women and to prepare them to face to face any eventuality squarely with a view to evolve and build the right orientation through various methodologies in order to educate and to train with right based approach to view livelihood through the lens of human rights, in contrast merely to human needs, explicitly to focus people in achieving the minimum conditions for living with dignity. Here our main initiatives would to bring local women together to find solutions to their own difficulties, creating the sense of empowerment that comes with greater self reliance.

Ever mother draws her full attention towards her own child. Whereas these unfortunate orphaned and HIV affected and infected children have no one to turn to for any help. We firmly believe that education and health are the two pillars for the development of the child. Hence the above mentioned children's education and health is our second priority in the rural set up under this women empowerment programme.

The destitute and the aged are the most neglected group in the rural household and there is no one to care for them. Thus it becomes the privilege and concern of the Vincentian sisters to extend a helping hand in wiping out their tears to lead a trouble free meaningful existence through this project itself. Thus, ROSS (Rural Organisation for Social Services) combines these three major activities under one banner of "women development".

APPLICANT/ ORGANISATION

Name of the Organisation: RURAL ORGANISATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICES (ROSS)

APPLICANT: Sr. Philo scv, Superior General (ROSS Director)

Area Coordinators: Sr. Catherine scv – Atmakur (Kurnool Dt.)A.P.

Sr. Flowerlet scv – Mederametla (Prakasam Dt.) A.P.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Current situation and description of the project area.

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are the two southern states in India consisting of several Districts. Each district is again divided into many other Revenue Divisions for better governance. Among these we have chosen Prakasam, Kurnool and Medak districts as our prime target areas of works. We shall restrict our description and services only to these districts. Because three districts are the backward area to give more support and service to the women groups, widows and orphan children, the HIV/ affected and infected children and to the destitute.

In the above three districts we have field offices - Atmakur (Kurnool Dt.)A.P., Mederametla (Prakasam Dt.) A.P. , Alirajpet (Medak Dt.) Telangana , implemented by the Area coordinator and helped by the office staff .

To sum up the socio- economic, culture and political situations of the district is as follows:

- The people of this area are in general, economically very poor.
- Most of them are agricultural laborers
- The land is not proportionately distributed and the few rich own the majority of the land
- More than 50% are living below poverty line
- The literacy rate is low and the employment opportunities are reduced to the minimum
- Community life in the villages become a burden due to caste discrimination
- Lack of job opportunities and the means of making daily living more difficult
- Socially, economically and culturally backward

- The political conditions prevailing in the area is that are democratic norms, so there are national and regional parties fighting each other for power.

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Under the socio-economic, cultural and political situations of these districts, the project envisages to solve the social evils and the inequalities that exist through gender causing concerns and stress, which creates inequality of a social integrity and human values. To empower women, often we missed this simple starting and basic point: Until women are accepted by men as equally human, attempts to help women change their lives will necessarily always result in achievements that are limited in scope and longevity. Women alone cannot empower themselves, nor should we expect them to bare that burden. Men too- especially in their status as power holders in the family, community and formal government must also act. However the project is rightly justified, practically feasible and spectacular achievement in wiping out this unmanageable discrimination, from the districts and creates a happy home with peaceful living.

What are the Process of change in the region are expected to be influenced by the project?

We call the unifying framework to bring together the salient aspects of our poverty eradication approaches. This framework is designed to help thousands of people we serve and consistently look beyond the immediate and most evident causes of poverty to three categories that shape the lives of the poor. These are causes related to;

- Basic material or human conditions
- Influence the social positions; and
- The structure of laws, norms and institutions that constitute the enabling environment in which an individual lives.

Our use of the frame work as an analytical tool consistently underscores that women's disempowerment is an universal factor in extreme poverty; in turn a focus on women's empowerment offers a pathway out of extreme poverty and

toward dignity and security for women, their families and whole communities. The first step to self empowerment is to learn to first love yourself, because if you look down upon yourself or anyone else is a waste of time. By honoring yourself and treating with respect, you set the stage up for others to treat you with respect.

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One of the most amazing things about this life is that dreams can become reality, with self belief and faith truly incredible things can happen to anyone. It won't be easy, but it is easier than spending our lives wishing that we had done something, instead of feeling disappointed in ourselves for never having tried. Women's empowerment cannot take place unless women come together and decide to self-empower themselves. A movement has to be build which awakens the individual self in each and every woman for creative and generative action.

This shall help us sow the seed for real women empowerment in India and the result will be expected as:

- Caste discrimination would gradually disappear;
- Malnutrition would disappear and health coverage would improve;
- Poverty would eliminated in course of time;
- Employment opportunities would grow;
- Education would become compulsory for boys and girls;
- Gender equality would rule;
- Work become normal and equal;
- Ill treatment and atrocities will be on the decline;
- Decision making will be open and equal;
- Political participation will emerge on equal footing.

The Project Description.

The empowerment of women is vital to the family, community and society at large and more so to the rural poor women. A majority of rural women not only lack basic education, but are deprived of opportunities for growth. They are denied participation in decision making not only in all family matters but also in matters affecting their personal life. They are economically over dependant on the male members of the family. They are not considered equal to their counterparts in wages. And it was at the plight of women, ROSS realized the role of catalyst to enlighten the women on their status and motivate them to address some of these issues and assist them in every possible way in the process of their empowerment.

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The Objective of the programme is to empower women with economic power, ethical power and social power.

The Vision is to bring about the radical change in women, on par with men through women empowerment in its totality.

The Mission is to plan each step carefully and to implement every activity involving the participation of women, to make it effective, viable and sustainable to fulfill the aim of reaching the goal of women empowerment. Besides, to help out widows, the aged and the destitute and imparting education to the orphan children, nutritious food to the HIV infected and affected.

ROSS believes that the best to give to women is to build their capacities to think, to express, to plan and to implement. To realize this conviction, ROSS uses Gandhi an constructive and peaceful methods rather than agitation. All religious, castes and races are treated equal in preparing the women for all kinds of development activities and to follow them up meticulously.

Target groups/ Beneficiaries

- The women group in general and in particular the rural poor women
- The widows
- The aged and destitute

- Orphan children
- HIV affected and infected children.

The Activities supported to the women empowerment program

- Awareness programs to the women group
- Income generating program for the women
- Education to the orphan children
- Program for the widows
- Nutritional support to the HIV infected and affected
- Skill training for the children etc.

Conclusion

True compassion shown especially to the woes, miseries and the sufferings of these rural women, has to be the hall-mark of Christian commitment. In this

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endeavor, we have made a very small attempt to relieve the pains and suffering of the poor people.

In order to bring the people from the shadow of despair, and guide them to choose the right path our support is needed to attain the pinnacle of empowerment. With this cherished hope, we intended to help the helpless namely the orphaned, aged, destitute and so on. They need our care and compassion. This will be an opportunity to serve them with true love in order to make their life a joyful experience. No doubt, this is a humble beginning! Yet, it is a firm step towards success! The very secret of our success depends up on your cooperation, by way of extending a helping hand through your financial assistance and support for the greater glory of God and to the immense of the humanity.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely,



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Superior General

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