



LORETO HOUSE RAINBOW HOME

DECEMBER 2016 TO MAY 2017



1. General Status of the Children

Children Status

There are a good number of 103 girls on the record. One child left the Home in the month of January 2017. Three children were repatriated on 3.2.2017. Two children have joined the Home during the period December 2016 to May 2017 and have adapted well to the Home.

2. Activities

Nutrition Care

A good and balanced diet has been maintained for the good health of all the children. Children are provided with milk, Horlicks and fruits with breakfast every morning. In addition fruit is provided once a week in the evening. Malnourished children's BMI is monitored every month and they are provided with an extra egg, extra milk, and vitamin tablets. Nowadays every week meat is provided in the meals. Fish is also provided once a week. Egg is provided twice a week. Four children have moved from underweight to healthy weight. Only five children are underweight and extra care is taken to improve their weight, one of them is a day scholar. Regular health and weight is monitored by the nurse and according to the BMI extra care is taken for those children who are underweight. Most of our children are maintaining a good healthy weight because of a

good and nutritious diet and are free of any illness or health issues. The Food Committee prepares the menu chart and it is changed once every three months. This Committee comprises of the children with the help of the Home Mothers. The children are happy with the menu. There were no major health issues.

Health

Our Resident Nurse had attended a training program on Health Issues. Around 24 girls went to the hospital for treatment with minor ailments like fever or skin problems. No major health issues during this period and no hospitalization. Four children have moved from underweight to healthy weight.



Dr. Samuel comes to the Home twice in a year to conduct a general check up of all children.

The children are counselled time and again regarding hygiene and how it can affect our health. Every possible care is taken to ensure that they follow instructions regarding cleanliness in every way possible and there is a marked improvement in this regard.

There was a general medical camp for the children at Bowbazar. Dr. A.K. Sinha and his team did a general health check up of each and every child.



An eye camp was organised at Loreto Bowbazar Rainbow Home for our children. Dr. Sunil Surana was kind enough to give his time for our children and even prescribed spectacles for some of the children and even donated spectacles for eight of our children. He provided medicines free of cost.

Education

Imparting a holistic education to our children is of utmost importance as it helps in building our future citizens. Thirty-two children have been admitted into Metropolitan Institution for Girls, a Government aided school in the month of January 2017, previously they were studying in Baptist Girl's School.

Eleven children who joined the Home after the month of August 2016 have been admitted into the Nursery class at Loreto House Literary Centre. Some of these children are performing very well and have moved up to the next class, although they joined much after the start of the academic session.

Cognizant Technology Solutions give their time by coming to the Home on holidays and helping our children with their studies. We are very grateful to them for their kind gesture.

Gargi Mukhopadhyay, a volunteer teacher still continues to help our children with their studies.



Jyoti Lal, who was a Rainbow Home child, comes in everyday to help the children with their studies. She is very enthusiastic to help the children with their studies and dutifully comes in everyday. She has completed her studies and is presently pursuing a degree course at St. Xavier's College, a very prestigious college in India.

Sangita Minz, a student of the Loreto House Literacy Centre had some problems with her studies. She was not able to concentrate and unable to retain whatever was being taught. She has been counselled and now has shown a good improvement.

Life Skills

Dance – All children are being trained under a dance teacher, once a week.

Two of the team members conducted a session on 'Me and My Friend' with the children. They were asked to look into the mirror and look at their reflection and treat the image as a friend and what would be the reaction, is the reflection a good one of oneself and what are the changes needed.

Another session was on 'When I am sixty'. They were told to look into the future and image what they have achieved and even made banners. Children have become more focussed and are looking at their future.

Extra Curricular activities



Catholic girls attended a retreat in the Bishop's House in Baruipur.



A few of our children from classes IX & X participated in the Einstein Hunt Competition organised by Cognizant Technologies. Our children made a model on "Work, Power, and Energy" and bagged the **first prize** in that category.



Yoga – Every Wednesday yoga meditation is taught to the children above 10 years of age in the big hall. This programme is sponsored by Ms. Mamta Bajaj.



Our children took part in the 'Ananda Run' Marathon to publicise Loreto House Rainbow Home. The event was organised by Tata Steel. Shayne Harapiet, a singing sensation of the city accompanied the Rainbow children to boost their spirit. This Tata Steel 25K organised this event to create awareness of the Home and help them.

Personnel from Asian Paints visited our Home and interacted with our children. They have donated a washing machine to the Home.



Art & Craft



Senior Students of Loreto House School taught the children how to make beautiful paper flowers. Our children were very excited with the beautiful creations.

Judo

Children are learning judo at the Calcutta Judo Club, which is very close to the Home. They have also participated in the State Championship event. Saraswati Mandol stood first in one of the events. Sarbani Roy stood third in one of the events.

Gymnastics

'Pechaan' an organisation has selected our children to participate in gymnastics for which the auditions are over and selection done.

Sports

Ranju Das represented Baptist Girls School at the Annual Athletic Meet organised by the District Council for Games and Sports at Central Kolkata. She participated in various events and was awarded as follows:

7th February 2017

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| ❖ 50 mtr. Relay Race | 1 st |
| ❖ 50 mtr. Race | 2 nd |
| ❖ Long Jump | 3 rd |

15th February, 2017

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------------------|
| ■ 100 mtr. Race | 1 st – Gold Medal |
| ■ Long Jump | 3 rd |



Ranju has been selected to represent the school in the state level this year in athletics.

Parvati Routh studying in Loreto House School participated in Modern High School for Girls Annual Sports and was awarded a Medal & Certificate for securing 3rd place I in the Interschool Relay.

At the Loreto House Junior School Sports held on November 12, 2016

- ❖ Secured 1st place in the Inter-Loreto Baton Relay and was awarded a Certificate and Medal.
- ❖ Secured 2nd place in the Long Jump Event and was awarded a Certificate and Medal
- ❖ Secured 1st place in the Activity Relay



Parvati also participated in the Loreto Day School, Dharamtala Sports and secured 1st place in the Baton Relay and was awarded a Certificate and medal.



Priyanka Mukherjee studying in Metropolitan

Institution for girls. She participated in the school organized games and was awarded 2nd prize in shot put.

Rachana Middey studying in Metropolitan Institution for girls. The teachers of the school organized some games. She participated and was awarded 1st prize in wicket ball throw and third prize in the potato race.



Reshma Khatoon studying in Metropolitan Institution for girls – was awarded 1st prize in Fast Skipping.



Asida Khatoon studying in Metropolitan Institution for girls was awarded 2nd prize in Dress Change event.



Shompa Naskar represented IAWB and took part in the 58th Annual Sports Meet 2017 at the district level at Chandernagore Sporting Association, in walking competition and stood 1st. She was awarded a Medal.

Outings



The children and staff went to Bandel for an outing. They enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

Allen Park: Children also were taken to Allen Park, which is very near to the Home.

Eco Park: Children along with staff went for a picnic to Eco Park, which is a vast open beautiful park. The park also has a rose garden, butterfly garden, a water body and variety of flowers. The children enjoyed themselves thoroughly. Lunch was a sumptuous chicken biryani and salad. Frooti, chocolates and biscuits were also served to the children.



One Billion Rising: KMWSC (Kolkata Mary Ward Social Centre) organised a programme “One Billion Rising”. This was a rally to protest against the atrocities committed against women. Our children took part. Many children from other homes participated. Some celebrities were present too to boost the children’s spirit.

Indian Museum: Celebration of Foundation Day.

Indian Museum celebrated 203 years. Our children were invited to celebrate



this occasion and they performed a dance –theme “Freedom of the girl child”. Children from different organisations also participated. Snack boxes were served to all.

Children Participation and leadership

As earlier stated all committees are functioning very smoothly. Children are very active.

Older Girls Future:

Many of our children are attending spoken English classes at Brainwave. Two of our girls are being provided with ITI coaching at Loreto House. Children attended a Career Mela organised by Future State Team at Loreto Bowbazar Rainbow Home. Around 27 girls from class X upwards attended this Mela. Various resource personnel from different institutions attended the Mela to help the children have knowledge of the opportunities available and the scope for the different courses which will enable them to channelize their focus for the future.

Celebrations and Festivals



A **Christmas** Party was organized by Class IX students and Teachers of Loreto House School and it was sponsored by Lions Club of Kolkata. As Christmas is a festival of sharing, our Rainbow children put up a dance item, which was appreciated by all. There was a magic show, puppet show as well as foods stalls for the children.

Each child received a gift.

Holi was celebrated in the Home with a lot of fun and fevour. The children have a good bonding among themselves and festivals and celebrations transcends all barriers and everyone joins in the celebrations irrespective of caste, creed or religion. It is a joy to see all children taking part in all the different festivities.



Bengali New Year was celebrated in the Home. Children dressed in traditional Bengali costume ushered in the New Year with a song and dance.



Easter was celebrated in the Home. Children enjoyed themselves painting eggs.



Engagement with families

On the last Saturday of every month, there is a parent-teacher meeting. During these visits Rainbow team interact with parents and make them aware of the various problems concerning their children. They encourage and also educate parents on how they should guide their children to better themselves. It is a god-given opportunity for the children in the home to be provided a formal education which will help them in the future to live in a good environment and have a good social standing themselves.

The Social Mobiliser, Mrs. Nammi Roy Dey is continuing to visit the families and interacting with the parents and neighbourhood.

Building Social perspective

All children and staff went to see a movie – “POORNA” at Inox, Forum, which is one of the posh cinema halls in the city. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was an excellent movie for

the children as it shows how a small girl climbs a mountain. Great things can be achieved with hard work and determination. We are grateful to RFI for providing this opportunity.

3. Rainbow team

Staff Status

At present we have 6 staff members and 2 part time members.

Team Trainings

Our Resident Nurse had attended a training program on Health Issues.

Team member's experience sharing

Mrs. Kajali Mondal joined the Rainbow Home in the year 2010. She is a Home Mother and the children look up to her as a Mother, especially the small children. She works in the kitchen as well as looks after the children. She takes a lot of care to ensure that the food is prepared properly for the children. She is always attentive to their needs. She is loved by all the children especially the smaller children.



4. Visits

Visitors

- Shayne
- Roben Goldsborough, Canberra, Australia
- Anthony Halis (Mother Jude's nephew)
- Sumeet Nayak, Asian Paints
- Manwendra Singh, Asian Paints
- Shenkei Michael, Asian Paints
- Debjani Chatterjee
- Arnab De
- Tanmoy Bhattacharya
- Dipesh Mehta
- M.K. Singh
- Cleeten Skgy
- Santanu das
- Tuhin Subhra
- Nanani
- Anand Sanganeria
- Arka & Susharan
- Neeerav Tipnis

Anthony Hales and Robert Goldsborough, visitors from Canberra Australia, nephew of Sister Jude recently visited our Home and interacted with the children. The children put up

a small concert for them. They commented that it was a wonderful experience to see them perform.



Mass Media

As is the practice every day the headlines from the newspapers are read out to the children. The Newspaper Committee undertakes this task every day.

Local contribution

We are once again privileged to have generous people, who donate to our Rainbow children:

- Aditi
- Mr. Mukesh Agrawal
- Dr. Dadina
- Yahee Khandelwal
- Mrs. Radhika
- Saniya Agrawal
- Nitika Mohta
- Mrs. Lovina
- Ms. Alisha
- Sakshi
- Asian Paints
- Bidya Pranik
- Loreto House School
- Mr. Himangshu
- Mrs. Banu

Asian Paints have donated a Washing Machine.

Nikita Mohta, student of Loreto House has donated a Water Cooler.

5. Challenges

Challenges about children

Many of the children from middle and senior school are not taking any interest in their studies and it is becoming extremely difficult to manage the situation. Some children are keeping mobiles hidden in the Home and it is very difficult to tell them that they are not allowed to do so. This is creating a lot of tension to the staff.

One of our children was very disrespectful to the team members and quarrelling with other children in the Home. For this reason we had transferred her for some time to Loreto Rainbow Home, Dharamtala, now she has returned to the Home.

Our sincere thanks to RFI for all their support and help.

