Snehasparsh

Third Phase of SCT’s OVC Programme

Snehagram is into its fifth year and as many as 20 children under our care are reaching the age of 18, we are at a crucial juncture at which the transition of these children who are about to leave care (age out) has to be pondered over. Snehagram very well understands that a sudden transition is not possible as the students are not well prepared enough to get relocated in to the community for independent living. To guide the care leavers for independent living, Snehagram has launched a transitional phase – named **SNEHA SPARSH (Touch of Love)** – to prepare the children for independent living; envisaged to materialize by imparting intensive vocational training and handholding. Individualized options are proposed as part of this transitional programme. Various options that are suitable to the individual situation of each student will be implemented. Our coordinator will work with the staff and management to guide and help the children build their own lives after they leave Snehagram. Snehagram will serve as a hub in which they will be connected with the “Touch of Love” (Snehasparsh).

**Farm based Independent Living:** This model primarily aims at the young adults (Care leavers) who choose agriculture-related vocations. There will be four units of composite farming entrepreneurships to engage in agriculture and allied jobs; organic farming, poultry farming and dairy farming. They will work and earn through these activities while we help them with safe housing and health care needs until they are ready for a married life or independent life outside. These initiatives will be under our guidance or with our collaborators.

**Leased/Rented Homes:** This prototype would suit those who choose careers like marketing, jobs in companies, shops etc. in the cities. As accommodation is a challenge, we will help them with renting or leasing Houses and they would share the rent and other costs.

**Job Placements and Support:**

We would also explore and advocate for jobs that are available for our students after they are 18 in safe environments. We plan to place and handhold them through our Catholic institutions who understand our special children. While they are in those institutions we would work as the liaison organization.

**Home Integration:**Those children who are ready to be back home with their relatives and family, we guide them for getting jobs and building their lives with their natural families in their community. This model is proposed especially for those who have their mothers who are living alone.

**Other Supports:**

Snehagram would raise some capital from which loans could be provided to aspiring entrepreneurs from among the care leavers. This would help them to start their own ventures especially in a situation which availing bank loans will be difficult. This amount would be paid back in monthly installments with a minimal interest.