<u>Aashayein Foundation</u> (<u>www.aashayeinfoundation.org</u>) is based in Bangalore, India # 67/1, 6th Main Road, Chamarajapet, Bangalore 560018). We have an annual operating budget of Rs. 6 Lakhs. Contact person is Dharmesh Porwal (+91 990 021 6731).

<u>History</u>

It all started on the first Sunday of January 2007, when a group of motivated young individuals came together with the idea of contributing to the growth of our country by all means. Education being the most important factor for any nation's progress we decided to focus on primary education for that section of the society which needs it the mosts. We started with serving breakfast to children at various ashrams across the city to understand their needs, aspirations and ambitions so that we can design our objectives similarly, Within a period of 6 months we expanded to other areas like clothes donation, book distribution, enrolling poor children to schools, etc. On 19th May, 2007 we formally registered ourselves as an NGO and Aashayein Foundation was born.

Objectives and Goals

Education is the foundation of a prosperous nation. Education nurtures and grooms an individual. Education is an investment made by the nation in its children for harvesting a responsible adult for well function of the society. Hence, education is necessary for growth and development.

Aashayein Foundation was established to provide education to the children from economically weaker sections of the society. We have identified spreading quality education as our major thrust area. We intend to do so by guaranteeing underprivileged children access to education and provide them both monetary/non-monetary help and support to ensure continuation of student's education. In our endeavor to spread quality education we work towards reducing the gap between the level of education in public and private schools.

We believe that responsibility of making our country progress lies on each one of us. This gives people a unique opportunity of being the harbinger of social change when they set themselves on the path where they can touch lives and bring smiles on the face of many a kid. Our efforts will help in the growth and prosperity of the nation. You can also be a part of Aashayein Foundation by taking up any/all of the activities mentioned below:-

- Contribute your idea and time to our programs and its respective projects.
- Participate in our events
- Help us with your skills in teaching, curriculum designing, graphics designing, database maintenance etc
- Providing us Monetary Support
- Donate uniforms, books and other articles of necessity for education needed by students

Main Programs

- a) <u>Pustaka Abhiyana</u>: We have distributed over 4000 books till date and have with us over 6000 books in store. All these books were given to children in government schools including rural areas of Bangalore, Kolar and Hassan. Through Pustaka Abhiyana, Aashayein Foundation has reached out to children from various backgrounds who are in real need of basic writing material, thus making sure, an opportunity to learn is not lost out merely due to lack of stationery. We look forward to continue this effort in the future too by having numerous book distribution drives across various parts of the state.
- b) <u>Shikshana Abhiyana</u>: We teach Basic Communication English at a government school on Saturday mornings. We have understood what these children need, their strengths and weaknesses. We also understand that a great deal of work needs to be put into this project.

Since the standard of English is really poor in these schools, it requires no real preparation from our side in order to teach them. We are also working on making a concrete syllabus, which would definitely be needed at some point in the future

c) Bache Man Ke Sache: We at Aashayein Foundation carry out this project by identifying kids who are not going to schools and get them admitted into schools in the same area they live in. We started by visiting slum areas and took a survey about the kids not going to school. We then approached the schools in the vicinity for admissions. The government is working hard for spreading the importance of education and through this project; we want to support our government in achieving the dream of every child going to school. Till date 60 students have been enrolled in schools through this project.