



Mid India
CHRISTIAN MISSION

in partnership with



Prospectus for a Health Aide Training Program

A project to introduce a number of Health Aide training and certification programs to provide an accredited educational alternative for children who are unable to graduate from high school.

Submitted by:
Mid India Christian Mission

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Summary of the Proposal

Mid India Christian Mission has established itself as a champion for education in India, especially for the underprivileged. Through educational institutions such as Nav Jagriti School, Dr. Vijai Lal Memorial College, Village learning centers and the Industrial training Institute MICM has facilitated educational opportunities for the people of India. Many children come from very poor backgrounds and cannot afford the inflated tuition rates at other institutions. MICM has been working with numerous “low-caste” people groups. Often these people have no formal education or skill training and are in need of a vocation that they can use to support themselves if they are ostracized by their community for their involvement with MICM. One of the major drawbacks of the educational system in India is a lack of independent school certification programs like the American GED which means that children who do not complete High School have very limited options. MICM wants to assist these children by facilitating and conducting skill training as Health Aides. These programs are available for children to attend once they complete 8th grade and on completion will help provide a strong financial opportunity for these children to support themselves.

The initial plan is obtain permission for three fields of training as Health Aides:

- General Duty Assistant (assistants for patients in hospitals)
- Home Health Aide (assistants to provide home health medical care to patients)
- Front Line Health Worker (assistants who survey and provide basic medical care in villages and disaster stricken areas)

Based on the success and demand of the initial course offerings, we may expand our facilities to where we can offer more courses in the future, including courses that children with more advanced levels of educational completion may be interested in.

The addition of these courses will involve a number of steps:

- We need to procure initial resources to meet the security deposit and financial capability requirements needed to apply for these programs.
- We will have to construct or renovate and furnish the facilities as required by the Accreditation Board for the implementation of the courses we apply for.
- We will have to apply and acquire the permission for each of the programs we hope to incorporate from the pertinent Accreditation Boards.

The Cost of this Project is estimated at \$200,000 and will include:

- Land development and boundary wall
- Construction and furnishings
- Accreditations

We envision the cost of the expansion to include:

- Initial security deposits as required by the Accreditation Board for the various programs.
- Application fees and related costs for the various programs.
- Renovation or Construction and furnishing of the proposed facility as per the requirements

Historical Impact of MICM in Education

Mid India Christian Mission (MICM) has always been a strong proponent of education as a means of empowerment for the people of India. Nav Jagriti School was the first educational initiative started by MICM as a K-12 school with 17 students in 1970. Today over 2,400 children are enrolled and over 3,400 students have graduated from Nav Jagriti. MICM has also assisted children coming from poverty with obtaining an education through a Child Sponsorship Program that has enabled over 600 children in obtaining their High School Degree since 1986.

To increase our educational impact we started establishing Village Teaching Centers. While these centers were meant to supplement education by providing tutoring services, in some cases they have served as the primary source of education for children. Local schools are mismanaged and rife with corruption leading to a compromise in the quality of education. The first center was established in 2002 to serve 15 children. Today there are over 15 Village Educational Centers that impact the lives of over 600 children daily.

Currently MICM also has a center for mentally and physically challenged children called the Oasis of Love. Students pursue an education or learn a trade skill at their own pace. It is attended by over 60 children who have limited alternatives due to a lack of facilities in our region. Some of these children are being rehabilitated and assisted with vocational training they can use to earn a living and transcend the stigma of being a “curse” to their family. Many of the children have gone on to obtain government jobs and at different private institutions. Some have started their own businesses.

In addition MICM runs Mercy Homes, which are centers for girls from troubled backgrounds. They provide full-time housing and educational assistance for over 110 girls. Many of these girls have been abandoned for the “crime” of being born female or out of wedlock. Others come from areas where they are under threat of violence and abuse because of their faith. By providing safe housing and an education we empower these girls to take control of their lives and become financially independent while learning to live a life of dignity.

MICM also reaches out to “low-caste” unreached people groups throughout India. We are actively involved with over 7 different unreached people groups. Most of the people we work with come from abject poverty and have no formal education. Often times they are forcibly removed from their community because of their association with us. MICM has remained committed to helping those we work with in obtaining either an education or vocational skill training so they can become financially independent.

In 2001, the Dr. Vijai Lall Memorial College was established to further our educational impact and provide a cost effective opportunity for adults and children who were part of MICM educational ministries. In its maiden year, we had an enrollment of 10 students. Today, through constant expansion of the courses offered and establishing ourselves as a respected educational institute, we have an enrollment of 569 students. Since the first graduating class in 2004, 1716 students have received their degrees from the Dr. Vijai Lall Memorial College.

One of the areas where we hope to increase our educational opportunities in, concern children who were unable to complete their High School Degree. There are often very limited options available to these children due to the educational structure in India which limits admission for high school

dropouts. By providing Health Aide training to these children we hope to help them build a better future.

Social Impact with a Focus on Batiyagarh

Education in India is considered to be the great equalizer. It enables children from any background to reach beyond restrictions that their religion or upbringing may place on them and achieve their full potential. By facilitating financial independence through education, these children can break free of any shackles that their community places on them.

The area of Batiyagarh is a typical village cluster in India. It is located about 40 miles from the town of Damoh where MICM is located. There are 4 village communities in a 20 mile radius here where MICM is actively involved presently. In these villages, MICM is assisting approximately 300 villagers and is intimately involved with building a relationship with 40 families. Most of these villagers work as laborers or farmers. They have to walk around 1 mile to get clean drinking water every day and most of the children assist their parents in this task or in the fields.

The children from the Batiyagarh area share in common many of the problems facing village children in India. Mismanaged educational facilities that advance children on paper without providing them with the educational foundation they need because of pressure from the government lead to many children falling through the cracks as they advance past the locally available educational facilities. Many children, who on paper are in High School, lack the education to even write their own names. These children, often cannot keep pace with others once they “advance” past the local school. Even with additional private tutoring, because they are not allowed to be accepted in lower grades once the government has signed off on their grade, they have no option but to drop out which often means they have no future opportunities and resort to begging and prostitution.

At present these children live in very unhygienic conditions, often sharing their quarters with animals. They grow up working in the fields and often are married once they have to drop out of school. Many girls are caught in prostitution while others who do not have their own land wind up as beggars. Due to the educational structure in India it is very difficult to help them complete their education if they are past 8th grade on paper without learning basic skills and having an educational foundation that is sufficient for high school.

MICM has taken in over 40 of the children from this village into our Mercy Home facilities. While we are able to help the younger children, those who are older and on paper are clear for High School present a bigger challenge as they do not have the skills needed for their grade. Through the proposed Health Aide training courses, we could provide these children with a nationally recognized certification that would enable them to earn a living while giving back to the community. Many of them would be able to earn a comfortable salary regardless of where they decide to live. If they choose to stay in their village, they could use their skills to provide basic health care to the local community which would enrich the lives of those around them.

In addition to the social impact, these children would be working on a personal level with many of their patients and could have a strong impact by sharing their lives and experiences with them.

Objectives and Projected Timeline

Our initial objective is to establish the facilities and resources required to conduct three certification courses that we can offer to children who have completed up to 8th grade of schooling. Each of these 3 courses can be offered to up to 25 students in 1 session.

These 3 courses are:

- General Duty Assistant (assistants for patients in hospitals) – 420 Hours of coursework
- Home Health Aide (assistants to provide home health medical care to patients) – 360 Hours of coursework
- Front Line Health Worker (assistants who survey and provide basic medical care in villages and disaster stricken areas) – 420 Hours of coursework

In order to reduce financial costs, we hope to offer the courses over 2 4-5 Hour shifts during the day. This will allow us to conduct all 3 courses using only facilities needed for 2 courses and complete each training session within a 4-5 month period.

In addition we hope to renovate and reuse some of the existing facilities available to MICM to reduce the cost of the project. However as this is not a certainty, the construction costs are listed for the possibility that we will need to construct the facility from scratch in a new location. This latter option will also allow us to plan better for future expansion of the facility if we decided to expand the scope of the project. This expansion could include courses such as Emergency Medical Technician training and Dental Assistant training that children with a higher level of education may be interested in.

Once funds have been procured we anticipate construction to take approximately 6 months. Once construction is completed we hope to furnish the classrooms and labs in approximately 1 month. Inspection and Approval of the facilities for offering the courses from the educational board will take 3-4 months. Given that some of these can be run concurrently, we hope to have the facility established and permission obtained within 8-12 months of obtaining funding for the project.

Budget

The total estimated budget for this project is **\$200,000** for establishing the facilities and obtaining permission for 3 courses. This does not include monthly running costs (staff salaries, utilities and such) which will be approximately **\$2,000** per month.

Estimated Cost of Construction – \$125,000

- 4 Classrooms – 360 Sq. Ft. Each (Total 1440 Sq. Ft)
- 2 Labs – 750 Sq. Ft. Each (Total 1500 Sq. Ft)
- Library – 1200 Sq. Ft.
- Administrative Office – 300 Sq. Ft.
- Teacher Office/Lounge – 600 Sq. Ft.
- Reception Area – 600 Sq. Ft.
- Kitchen – 200 Sq. Ft.
- Bathrooms – 400 Sq. Ft.

Estimated Cost of Land Development – \$30,000

Estimated Cost of Boundary Wall - \$8,000

Estimated Cost for setting up Utilities – \$2,000

- 300 Ft. Bore-well with motor - \$1,000
- Commercial Electrical Supply - \$1,000

Estimated Cost for Basic Furnishings – \$10,000

- Office and Reception Furnishings - \$1,500
- Water Cooler and Purifier - \$900
- Air Conditioner for Offices - \$1,100
- Classroom Furniture (100 Chair and Desk Combos + Teacher Chair + Desk) - \$4,000
- Basic Lab Furniture (50 Stools, 8 Tables) - \$2,500

Estimated Cost for Equipping Lab with Required Equipment – \$20,000

- This will cover the cost of teaching equipment and supplies for the courses listed

Estimated Cost for Accreditation – \$5,000

- Accreditation and Inspection Fees for 3 courses - \$3,500
- Training fees for staff with pertinent center- \$1,500

Summary and Looking to the Future

Starting a training institute to help the children who have fallen through the cracks due to bad educational policies in India is a prime example of what MICM does best in its educational wing. Empowering the extremely poor to overcome the restrictions that have been placed on them by society helps us to enable these children to become the best version of themselves. While doing so, we have the opportunity to teach them good moral values and train them to become contributing members of society. In doing so we help break the cycle of poverty and keep these children from begging, drug abuse and prostitution.

Due to rapidly ballooning land and construction costs in the past decade it has become increasingly difficult to start new facilities. While we are at times able to continue to use existing resources from

the mission to reduce costs, often it comes with built in restrictions on future expansion. While ideally we would start a new facility for this project, we can also attempt to repurpose existing facilities to meet the requirements of our current goals and demographic.

We look forward to working with our partners to work out a strategy to enable us to achieve this goal of providing certified educational opportunities to the children of India, many of who are from villages like Batiyagarh where they are unable to receive the education they need in a timely manner which has lead them to drop out of school and lose out on employment and educational opportunities as they grow older.

Thank you for your consideration.