



## "HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS"

*SUH Success Stories*

### **ABSTRACT :**

Shelter for Urban Homeless has indeed emerged as an answer for the Poor and Left out who have experienced a new change and a new meaning in their life.

## CONTENTS

SL NO	TITLE OF THE CASE STUDY
1	GOURI TRIYA - LEFT ABANDONED BUT FOUND A RAY OF HOPE THROUGH SUH
2	OLD MAN FOUND A HOME AWAY FROM HOME
3	SANGEETA - AN EXAMPLE OF GRIT AND COURAGE
4	NALINI OVERCAME ALL ODDS IN LIFE TO BECOME SELF DEPENDENT
5	BETRAYED BY HER OWN DAUGHTER BUT EMBRACED BY DAY NULM
6	PREETI - DIVORCED BUT GOT EMBRACED BY DAY NULM
7	SANJU - UTTERLY HOPELESS BUT FOUND A HOPE THROUGH SUH
8	"BASANTI SAHOO - A LADY WHO OVERCAME ALL ODDS IN LIFE "
9	WHERE THERE IS A WILL , THERE IS A WAY
10	SRIDHAR MOHARANA - FROM A MENTAL WRECK TO A NORMAL PERSON
11	FROM BEING LEFT ABANDONED TO GETTING RECONCILED WITH FAMILY
12	FROM BEING LEFT ON THE STREET TO BE WITH FAMILY
13	A JOURNEY FROM BEING ABANDONED TO BEING CARED FOR
14	SUH PROVIDED RAY OF HOPE AT THE TIME OF DISTRESS
15	NEAR ONES DESERTED BUT UNKNOWN ONES BECAME HIS DEAR ONES
16	LOVE AND AFFECTION CAN BREAK THE SILENCE OF GRIEF

“DAY NULM has emerged as a blessing in disguise for people who have nowhere to go but are left undone and uncared for, in the street. It has kindled the hope of hundreds of hopeless and homeless people by identifying and shifting them to the Shelter for Urban Homeless. Indeed people staying in Shelter for Urban Homeless are seeing a new ray of hope for a more secured future”

## GOURI TRIYA – LEFT ABANDONED BUT FOUND A RAY OF HOPE THROUGH SUH

Gouri Triya, 21 years, female is a resident of Shelter for Urban Homeless in Ghatikia. She is now 8 months pregnant and lives with her 1.5 years child in the SUH. She belongs to a lower middle class Scheduled Caste family from Rairangpur, Mayurbhanj area. With the hope of supporting her family financially, Gouri migrated to Bhubaneswar from Rairangpur at the age of 15



in search of job. She was working as a daily construction labourer over here. During the course of work, she fell in love with Rabi Triya. They both started living together in Salia Sahi basti of Bhubaneswar. When Gouri came to know that she is pregnant, both of their families accepted their relationship and finally they got married. The happily married couple were blessed with a baby boy in the year 2016.

Her happy married life was disturbed when her husband came to know about the 2<sup>nd</sup> pregnancy of Gouri. Her husband married to another lady and left Gouri to her fate in the month of May 2017. After this incident, Gouri had an additional responsibility of feeding the baby boy and in search of livelihood in the capital city of Odisha. She had requested several construction contractors and in hotels to get a job. But, no one had offered a job, as she is having a toddler with her.

Day by day her living with the infant became miserable and she was compelled to beg on the streets of Bhubaneswar holding the infant. She was feeling alone in the world and was unsecure. Many a time she felt badly broken down as she had to sleep with an empty stomach and with a hungry crying child. During those days, she was having regular nightmares of her son begging to fill his stomach. Her thoughts were busy thinking of staying with her parents. In early July, 2017 some sex workers in Khandagiri area tried and forced her to do prostitution which was against her will. Somehow Gouri managed to escape with her baby boy. On 15<sup>th</sup> July 2017, Mr. Madusudhan Behera, Community Mobilizer of Shelter for Urban Homeless, Ghatikia and the police personnel from Khandagiri police station met her during an awareness program in Khandagiri location. They counselled and informed her about the Shelter for Urban Homeless where abandoned and hopeless people like her are given shelter and hope to come up in life. Gouri felt secured when she came to know about the home as her days of staying abandoned and hopeless on the street, will come to an

end. She will be free from her life of beggary and will slowly but surely start a journey towards a safe and secured future.

In fact Gouri is now a happy youngster in Ghatikia Shelter home. She acknowledges the initiatives of Government, SUDA, BMC and Vikash for providing a ray of hope to her hopeless, aimless and abandoned life. She is feeling secured and doubly happy as her child is linked to Anganwadi Centre and is growing healthy through getting balanced diet regularly. Gouri is also linked with frontline health workers like ASHA, Anganwadi and ANM. The frontline workers and the SUH staff are providing periodic counselling to her for institutional delivery and care to be taken during pregnancy.

Indeed the life of Gouri has taken a turn for the better.

## OLD MAN FOUND A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Mr. Sarathi Dutta is a 75 years old man who was rescued from in front of Ram Mandir, Bhubaneswar. He has been staying in the Shelter for Urban Homeless since 26<sup>th</sup> December, 2015. At the time of rescue he had a fracture in his femur and his leg. Based on Doctors advice , no surgery was done in his leg as he was very feeble and was not in the right condition to undergo a surgery. Based on the advice of the Doctor , immediately we bought a walker for him. Mr Sarathi Dutta is a happy man as he is able to walk little distance. It is hoped that with little care and attention, Mr Sarathi Dutta will get better physically



and emotionally as well. In addition to taking care of Mr Dutta , effort was made to trace his family roots and we came to know that he has a daughter but unfortunately she is not willing to look after her father. Seeing the attitude of his daughter and weak condition of Mr Dutta , we decide to keep him in SUH and take care of him till his death. Yes his own family estranged him but SUH family decided to embrace him. Now SUH is his family and he is an important members of the family. He has already enrolled for Adhaar card and very soon he will be able to get different facilities under various schemes and programmes of Government.

## SANGEETA - AN EXAMPLE OF GRIT AND COURAGE



Sangeeta Kuswa, a 25yr orphan girl who spend her childhood in the prison of torture, grief, loneliness was rescued from Rajmahal flyover by SUH team on Dt.12.11.2016 with her 2 months old girl child. At present Sangeeta is leading a happy and dignified life at Ganganagar SUH with due care and attention. It so happened that on 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 coordinator of SUH got a call from mobilizers at the time of doing mobilization near Rajmahal. The team said that

they have found a young girl with her 2 months old girl child at Rajmahal who wants to come to SUH but a old lady is not allowing her to come. Soon after the call, immediately a team went to rescue Sangeeta with the help of local police. When Sangeeta saw team from SUH, she started crying and told us that she is an orphan child who was married to a person of Jhansi. But soon after marriage, my husband person started torturing and forced me to bring money for his family by doing unethical activities.

In the first session of counseling she didn't speak anything, she was not interested to talk to anyone. It became difficult for the counsellor to establish rapport with Sangeeta. The counsellor suggested her to do some household work in SUH and to help others in doing their activities.

In the 2nd session of counselling, a remarkable change was witnessed in her behaviour as she started to share her life story with the counsellor. She told that she is an orphan girl, who was married to a person from Jhansi but later she came to know that her husband is a broker who has given Rs.20, 000 to Sangeeta's Aunty to get married to Sangeeta. But her husband forced into prostitution to earn money. But Sangeeta always wanted to lead a dignified life and provide proper education to her daughter. So, she ran away with her daughter from Jhansi without letting anyone know about it. After arrival at Bhubaneswar station, she went to Giridurga Mandir, Master Canteen to spend some time there. At Mandir she met an old lady who assured her that she will try to find some employment for Sangeeta in the temple. But during the night she asked Sangeeta to go with a stranger for doing

unethical activities. Sangeeta got frightened and ran away with her daughter to Rajmahal.

Now after getting admission to SUH, some household work was provided to Sangeeta for earning little daily wages. Further her child was subsequently linked to Anganwadi Centre and the child was named as "Gudia/Sai Sandhya Priyadarsini".

Every Thursday Sangeeta opens a small shop of flowers, diya etc for worship of Lord Saibaba . The team has already taken steps for Aadhar Registration of Sangeeta who is going to open a Small Variety Store near temple premises as many people frequent to the place throughout the day. Indeed Sangeeta proved that if there is a will, then a person can surmount any obstacle to lead a dignified life in the society.



## NALINI OVERCAME ALL ODDS IN LIFE TO BECOME SELF DEPENDENT



Nalini dutta, is a 22yr old girl staying with her girl child named Durga (09 months) and with her elder brother who is mentally ill and her old mother. She hails from Khordah and was rescued from Rajmahal Square, Bhubaneswar. They are a homeless family and have no source of income. She has been staying in Ashok Nagar SUH since 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2017.

While interacting with Nalini we found that she belongs to a very poor family and it is very difficult on their part to bear the cost towards the treatment of her brother. At the age of 18, she met a person and fell in love with him. Soon after against the will of the family, they got married. Still Nalini was happy with her husband. But when she was about to give birth to their first child , her husband left her in maternal home and vanished away. Nalini waited for him but he never returned. This came as a shock to Nalini as she did not know where to go and what to do with a small child to look after. Further the situation became still worse for her mother to run the family when they came to Bhubaneswar in search of livelihood opportunities. Finding no other means, they took shelter near Lingaraj Temple. Nalini had a 7 months old child in her lap but not a single penny to feed her child. At this crucial juncture, SUH team spotted her near Ram Temple and immediately made all arrangements after shifting her to Ashok Nagar SUH.

Right now Nalini is assisting other staffs of SUH and is getting Rs.2000/- per month. Durga is linked with Anganwardi Centre for food and other requirements. On the whole Odisha Patita Udhara Samiti has played a critical part in changing the life of Nalini from a very worse condition to a life of dignity and self-esteem.

## BETRAYED BY HER OWN DAUGHTER BUT EMBRACED BY DAY NULM

Sailabala Mohanty is a 75 years old lady who hails from Borola, Kapilash Road, Jajpur. She was rescued from the area near Master canteen Police Station, Bhubaneswar. She has been staying in SUH since 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. On being asked about her life, Mrs. Sailabala Mohanty narrated her sad story with a tearful eyes that after her husband's death she took all the care of her daughter and played a strong part in building her future. She played the role of Father and Mother for her daughter. She went all out to provide everything for the all-round development of her only daughter. Years went by and time came for her daughter to get married. To pass time, she opened a shop that helped her to earn little income and maintain her livelihood. But soon she discovered that it is difficult for her to look after the shop due to her old age. She wanted to stay with her daughter and son in law but they did not allow Sailabala to stay with them. They drove her out of their house and left her in a hopeless condition on the street. While leading a hopeless life near Master Canteen Square, she was rescued by PCR and volunteers of



Odisha Patita Uddhar Samiti while trying to end her life. At the time of rescue she was suffering from depression and serious mental disorder. However with the help of counseling, Medication and meditation, the condition of Sailabala has improved and now she is leading a happy and normal life with other beneficiaries at SUH.

## PREETI - DIVORCED BUT GOT EMBRACED BY DAY NULM

Preeti Sabat is living with her daughter at Bhagabati Street, ward no 03 of Nabarangpur District. She has gone through some difficult moments in her life. When her daughter was 7 years old, she was divorced by her husband. So it was very difficult for her to survive with her daughter. Finding no other option, she decided to earn some money through tailoring. As the days went by, she got additionally interested to do tailoring as



she could earn some money to look after her daughter and come up in life. It is important to add here that in addition to tailoring, she had also started a small grocery shop in her house. From these two small business, she was able to earn Rs. 3000/- to 4000/- per month. But within this small income it was too difficult for her to maintain the family and meet the study expenses of her daughter. Further she had no other sources of livelihood.

During that time on dated 20.01.2017 some officials under DAY- NULM of Nabarangpur Municipality come to her locality, to form a new SHG by conducting a meeting. In that meeting, they inspired the women of the area to improve their living status through SHG group. She decided to join that group. After joining the group she came in contact with the CO and CMMU Manager and shared about her business activities. After watching my



business, they advised Preeti to apply for a loan under SEP (I) during April 2017 to improve her business. On dated 16.04.2017, she applied for a SEP (I) loan in Municipality office. Then on 06.06.2017, the Branch Manager of Indian bank along with the CMMU Manager came to her house to verify the business activity prior to the sanction of loan. After verification on 30.06.2017 Indian bank sanctioned her a loan of Rs. 100000/- (one lakh rupees only).

She utilized that money for the growth of her business. Today she is able to earn Rs. 10000/- to 12000/- per month. Now she is living happily with her family. There was a great change in her fortune within one year and now she is able to maintain her family and look after the needs of her daughter. In addition she is able

to save some money in the self-help group. She has also been able to repay the loan taken from the group for running the business. She is highly obliged to DAY NULM for the change in her life.

## SANJU - UTTERLY HOPELESS BUT FOUND A HOPE THROUGH SUH

Name - Sanju Guru

Permanent Address - At Domahi Sahi,

P.S/P.O - Ranpur, Dist- Nayagarh

Rescued Place -In front of Naveen Niwas, Bhubaneswar

Duration of Residing at Shelter Home - 30-Nov -2016

Details-

When destiny wants to give a life, death can't get victory over it. Sanju guru is a 35yr old lady residing in SUH. She is both physically and mentally challenged person. She was rescued by mobilizers in front of Nabin Nivas while demanding for a home to reside.

She had a complete world where she lived with her husband, two daughters, in-laws. But one day suddenly her husband forced her to adopt any source from where she can get money for his husband. When she defend this her in-laws demanded her to give birth to a son. For this they started torturing Sanju Guru. One day her husband attack her with a hammer and she lost her memory after that her left side paralyzed.

When we rescue her we referred to her Hospital and now she is under medication for diabetics. She survive only because of the almighty and she got a life because of SUH. OPUS has linked her with Adhaar Card. And very soon she will have a bank account and we have discussed with United Bank of India to grant a loan for her to open a shop for her livelihood.



## “BASANTI SAHOO – A LADY WHO OVERCAME ALL ODDS IN LIFE ”

Basanti Sahoo, W/o-Bijay Sahoo , is a resident of Keshpur at Kadalibana, PS-Pattamundai, Dist – Kendrapara. She hails from an economically challenged family. They have one son and one daughter. Due to disturbance within the family, she was deserted by her husband 1 and half year ago. She was living in her parents' house for one month. While living in her parents' house, she thought that she is a burden upon her parents and wanted to become independent in life. But as she had no money, she was not able to take a decision to leave her parent's house and start her own business.

While she was on the lookout for opportunities to take the plunge to enhance her livelihood, she came to know about the Shelter for Urban Homeless situated at Plant site, Rourkela from one of her relatives and finally left the parent house and reached at SUH-Plant site. During the counselling, the Chairman of BB Technical came to know the exact problem of Basanti Sahoo and advised her to start a team stall. BB Technical provided a vending rickshaw, stove, utensil and raw-materials. Since last one year she is managing a tea stall and making a profit of about



Rs.100/- daily. She is also now reinvesting her daily profit for adding to the variety in the tea stall like biscuits, Chocolate and other related items. She is no more depending on others but meeting the expenditure from her profit. During the discussion, she said that she will be able to expand her business according to the market demand if she is provided with financial assistance from any other source like bank or Government.

## “WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY “

I Munda aged about 22 year S/o-Uday Munda belongs to Railhatu, Subdivision-Bonai, Dist-Sundergarh. He hails from an economically challenged family. As he is a physically disabled, he is not able to go from one place to another place without the help of others. At the tender age of 8, he lost his father. The passing away of his father made the situation very difficult as he was the only source of livelihood. It is quite unfortunate to add here that there was no other source of income for the family. With a lot of struggle and pain, he was able to complete his 10<sup>th</sup> class with support from his mother. Habil tried to survive by cultivating the small patches of land but it was very difficult. In addition, there is no other alternate source of income/livelihood for him in the village. Finding not other means, he thought of living the village for better livelihood. It so happened that while being on the lookout for better livelihood opportunities, he left his family and reached Rourkela.



He stayed at the Rourkela Railway Station platform for one month. Soon after he came to know about the Shelter for Urban Homeless at Rourkela Plant site. He stayed in the plant site SUH for 8 months and later got one employment to maintain his livelihood. At present , he is now working in an online shopping network marketing organisation at Ambagaon namely 'SAFE SHOP' and is able to earn 4-6 thousand per month. He is also getting pension of Rs.300/- from Government. Municipal Commissioner, RMC has also provided a Tri cycle to Habil Munda for moving around freely as and when he desires. Now he is leading a happy life with

little income from his employment. In addition he is also able to provide little financial support for his family.

## SRIDHAR MOHARANA - FROM A MENTAL WRECK TO A NORMAL PERSON



The story of late Mr. Sridhara Moharana is quite touching and inspiring as it unfolds the journey of how an old man and a beggar who was lying precariously on the footpath got saved and was a fresh lease of life.

His condition was bad and he was badly addicted to Pan. He was severely mentally retarded and when

located, he was lying and begging on the footpath. He was showing complete maladaptive behaviour and was speaking in slangs.

In fact, when people tried to hold him, he tried to escape and showed violent behaviour. With a bit of effort, he was picked up from the street and was rehabilitated at Bhimpur Shelter for Urban Homeless. After getting proper food and treatment, he was able to see a new ray of hope in his life. He got exposed to frequent counselling with a lot of sympathy and care towards him as he is old and his condition was quite serious. But after few months of stay, he is completely changed and has become the favourite of all members of SUH. His attitude has changed and is no longer interested in begging.

On the other hand, it is hoped that with proper medical facilities and intense care, the life of Mr Sridhara Moharana will witness a sea change towards becoming completely normal in the future.

## BHAGIRATHI – FROM BEING LEFT ABANDONED TO GETTING RECONCILED WITH FAMILY

Bhagirathi Nayak, a partially paralysed person from Anantpur, Rajkanika , Kendrapara came to Bhubaneswar for begging as he had no other option to survive in his own village. He was seriously ill and was in need of urgent attention. Initially Bhagirathi searched for a place and decided to sit near Ram Mandir as many people will come to the Temple and give alms to the handicapped and precariously placed people sitting in the outskirts of the temple. After a few days of coming to Bhubaneswar, Bhagirathi was spotted by mobilizers in a very bad condition. He was constantly chewing tobacco. He was immediately rescued by Mobilizers from SUH, Malisahi and given treatment which made his condition a little better after a few days. Subsequently due to his partially paralysed condition , physiotherapeutic treatment was started for Bhagirathi and soon after , he was able to walk and see a new ray of hope for him. The interesting change in the life of Bhagirathi did not stop here but it continued further towards going back to his family in the village. It is extremely important to mention here that the interesting story of Bhagirathi from the stage of being totally abandoned on the street to going back to his family has only become possible due to facilitative role played by Odisha Patita Uddhar Samiti.





## FROM BEING LEFT ON THE STREET TO BE WITH FAMILY

Mrs. Dami Bewa from Sakhigopal , Puri was an extremely poor and neglected woman who was finding it extremely difficult for her to survive in the village without any source of income. Finding no other alternative, she decided to come to Bhubaneswar for begging as it will help her to survive. But life soon turned very difficult for her as with her poor physical condition, she could not also sit long and beg at a particular place. Fortunately at this difficult time, she was rescued



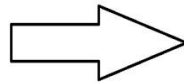
by mobilizers from Rammandir in a very poor physical shape. After being rescued, she was counselled and given proper treatment. She had some skin disease but it got cured after the treatment. Subsequently the process of reintegrating with her family was started through follow up and contact with family members in Sakhi Gopal. After being in the SUH for a few months, her condition became normal and finally the mobilisers escorted her back to Sakhigopal to get reconciled with her family.

## A JOURNEY FROM BEING ABANDONED TO BEING CARED FOR

Attamuri Ramesh is a person from Vishakapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. He was very fond of playing Indoor games. But ill luck and ill health drove him into abject poverty and he was totally abandoned by his family. Finding no other alternative to survive, he decided to shift to Bhubaneswar and started begging on the street. After some time, he shifted to Ram Mandir where normally a number of people turn up to give alms to the poor. But begging soon became difficult for him as his health started to turn worse. At this time, the mobilisers from the Shelter for Urban Homeless in Mali Sahi spotted him at Ram Mandir and immediately shifted him to the SUH. After a little diagnosis in the Capital Hospital, he was found to be suffering from Hernia, Asthama. Soon after regular treatment improved his condition and now he is able to lead a perfectly happy and normal life in the Shelter for Urban Homeless. He may be away from the family members who deserted him but the inmates and staff at the Shelter for Urban Homeless have become his new friends and companion in the journey of life.



**Before**



**After**

## SUH PROVIDED RAY OF HOPE AT THE TIME OF DISTRESS

In India guests are considered as the god and therefore taking care of them, providing them good hospitality is a part of our culture. This culture has been practiced not only at our household level but everywhere in India.

It was an opportunity for the District administration of Puri and the Odisha Patita Udhar Samiti (OPUS) to serve and extended their support to "ANDREI GLAGOLEV", a citizen of Russia.



A 54 years old Russian citizen named ANDREI GLAGOLEV, reached Puri on 09<sup>th</sup> December 2017 for worshipping the Lord Shiva. This was noticed by District administration and local media when he was sitting in front of Lord Jaganath temple and worshipping Lord Shiva. He was shifted by Tourist Officer to SUH Sarbodaya Nagar on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2017.



He had an appointment with UNHCR (United Nation High Commission for Refugee) in Delhi on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018. He was not able to take any food as he had no money with him. During his stay at the Shelter, he was served with the traditional ODIA food as per his interest by secretary OPUS. The staff of SUH took care of him and provided him new dress as his dresses were extremely filthy and dirty.

Sj. Surendra Prasad Das, Special Secretary H & UD department, Government of Odisha visited Shelter for Urban Homeless at Sarbodaya Nagar , Puri and enquired about his well being and how he is being looked after . At the end he expressed his satisfaction over the arrangement that was done to take care of the helpless Russian. He inspired the staff of SUH to show more dedication and come up with similar stories of success more and more in the future.

NEAR ONES DESERTED BUT UNKNOWN ONES BECAME HIS DEAR ONES



Mr. Ajay Das is an orphan boy . He lost his parents during childhood. He was staying with his brother & sister-in-law. But after a certain period of time they didn't take care of him and one day suddenly threw him out from their home. With no where to go , Ajay was roaming here and there in the city . Ajay had little mental illness from the very childhood but could not go treatment as he had no money to pay for it . On 15-06-2018 PCR rescued him from Power House Chak and took him to Ganganagar SUH. He was happy and comfortable as staff at SUH showed great love and affection for . Indeed he felt like being in a new family.

With the help of medication, counselling and therapy, the condition of Ajay became normal and today he is smiling & is taking care of other sick and vulnerable people in SUH. The life of Ajay underwent a great change after coming to SUH and to day he is smiling and raring to go forward in the future.

## LOVE AND AFFECTION CAN BREAK THE SILENCE OF GRIEF



Anam is a 25 years old boy rescued from AG Square by OPUS team on 26th Jan 2018. When the city was busy in observing the Republic Day , this boy was lying abandoned and uncared for near a drain. He was immediately rescued and shifted to the Ganganagar SUH. He was mentally retarded and no proper care could be administered as there is no such facility available in SUH for such people. He was referred to Psychiatric Ward - OPD for starting some primary treatment. When Doctor expressed their disappointment on how these innocent persons are lying abandoned in the footpath only because they suffer from mentally illness. Doctor started his treatment and suggested to give CBT to him. In SUH Anam got due care and attention. All members of the SUH started treating him as their very own and gave him the love and affection, he was so badly deprived of , in the childhood. With the help of counselling, medication and abundant love & affection, the condition of Anam changed and he started to smile and enjoy his life with the inmates of SUH.

After two months, Anam started doing his work by himself. Before that he was not even able to take his food himself. After 5 months, he is helping others in household works of SUH and is also taking care of his grandparents ( the old people in SUH) .

Indeed the story of Anam again provide that love and affection can indeed break the silence of grief. At the time of rescue, the boy was not able to utter a word but after three months of stay in SUH, he was able to talk. Now he is putting his initials in the documents. Staff of SUH have named him as Anam. He is no more homeless or hopeless, he is a cute younger grandson of his grandparents and the most important member of SUH.