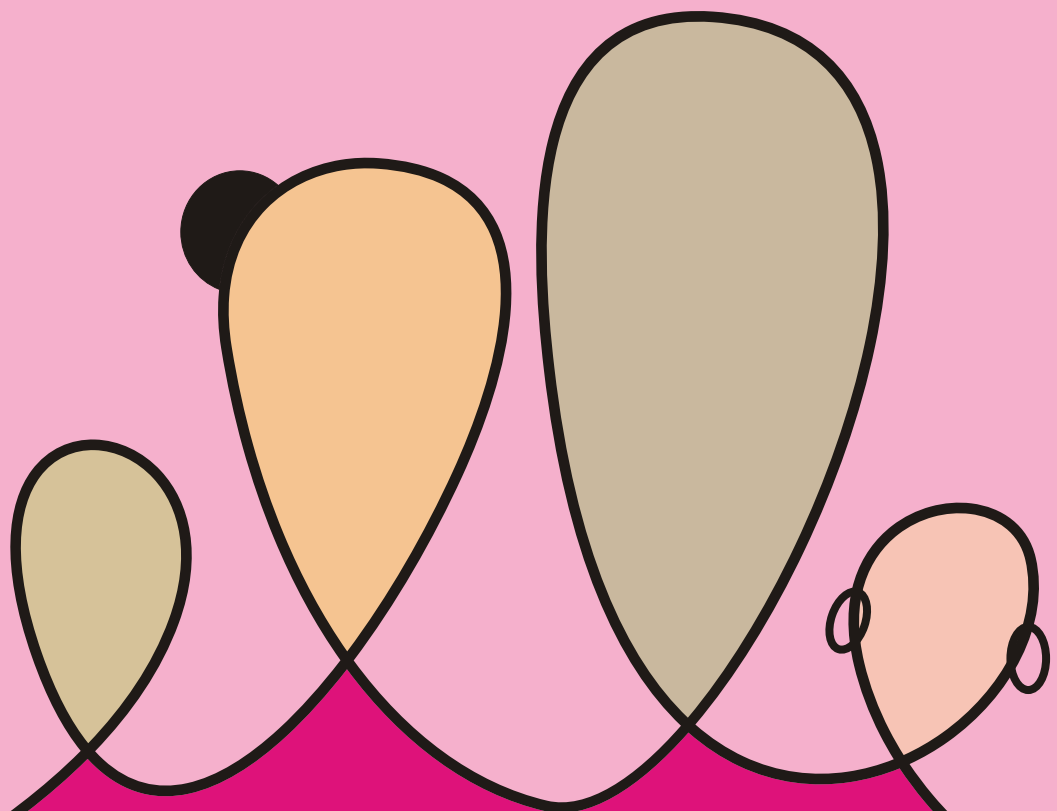


# STATE LEVEL LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN ON “RIGHT TO FAMILY”

## FOCUS ON NON-INSTITUTIONAL CHILD CARE SYSTEM



Organized by:

Task force, Non Institutional form for Child Care

*In Collaboration with*

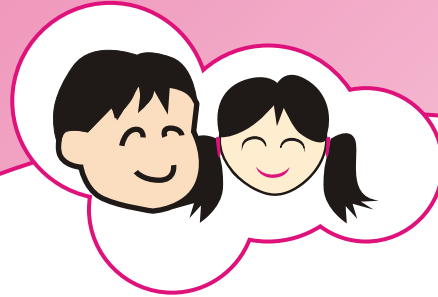
Women & Child Development Dept.  
Govt of Orissa & UNICEF State Office,  
Orissa Bhubaneswar



Women & Child  
Development Dept.



# STATE LEVEL LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN ON “RIGHT TO FAMILY”



## CONTENT

### SUMMARY

Introduction

Juvenile Justice Act.

Odisha Scenario

Emergence of Task force

Functions of task force

Campaign on “Right to family” - A backdrop

“Right to family campaign”: State level launching Program

- Briefing on campaign
- Deliberation by the Guests
- Poster innaguration
- Charan” Katha” in “aasa aame aama katha kahiba”
- Rinku and jayapriti ” Katha” in “aasa aame aama katha kahiba”
- Bhubaneswar declaration on right to family

### Conclusion

ANNEXURE- I : Program Schedule

ANNEXURE -II: Abbrevations

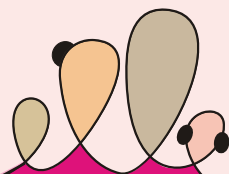
ANNEXURE -III: Media Coverages



## Summary

Millions of children around the world are growing up without one or both of their parents. Many more children are also living in a condition of vulnerability. Factors underlying the vulnerability of children and lack of appropriate parental care include natural disasters, internal migration, HIV/AIDS, chronic poverty etc. Children without parental care find themselves at a higher risk of discrimination, inadequate care, abuse and exploitation, and therefore have particular rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Many such children are placed in institutional care for a long period unnecessarily, where they receive insufficient attention for their growth to their full potential. There is convincing evidence that institutional care is detrimental to the mental, behavioural, emotional, and social development of young children. Hence the UN recognizes family and community based care as the most significant alternative care for the optimum development and better future of a child.

LAUNCHI





In Orissa, presently 139 orphanages are running and supporting around 8000 children. But estimated data says that there are remarkably high number of children living in conditions of high risk and vulnerability. In the state no other alternatives have been put to test other than sending the children to an institution.

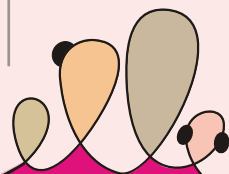
YCDA in the year 2009 organized a workshop with other organizations working on 'children issues' at the state level include W & CD. The workshop created a platform for realization on the concept of "alternative non institutional care for children". A 'Task force' comprising six members with representatives from six different leading organizations across the state has been formed and the organizations are Basundhara from Cuttack, EKTA from Koraput, IDA from Keonjhar, OLS from Bhubaneswar, RARE from Sonapur and YCDA from Boudh. W & CD and UNICEF are leading agency and technical support organizations respectively to the task force and YCDA was assigned the responsibilities of coordinating the whole process.



The Task force from the very beginning of its formation is facilitating statewide comprehensive consultative processes to ensure cross-sectoral broad-based participation and inputs from all relevant stakeholders in awareness building and implementing the concept of Right to family. The task force is proceeding through a campaign approach and has organized to address the issue in a more effective and integrated way with all the stakeholders including the children. At the state level three inter linked events were organized to launch the campaign. They are:

A state level workshop was organized from 29<sup>th</sup> Aug. to 30<sup>th</sup> Aug. 2010 at Red Cross Bhawan, Bhubaneswar on "*listening Child's voice*". The purpose of the workshop is to place the voice of the children in influencing and integrating the state policy framework. Around 45 Children from different institutional and non institutional care across the districts like Nuapada, Khurdha, Bolangir, Cuttack, Boudh, Keonjhar and Koraput actively participated in the program.

State level workshop on Non-Institutional care system was held on 30<sup>th</sup> august 2010 at Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar. All the CWC members and selected NGO representatives





participated in the workshop. The objective behind the workshop was to develop conceptual clarity among the participants on the subject and laws related to this. A draft rule on foster care was presented to the representative of the Govt. functionaries. The workshop focused on the process of integration of family based care in the institutions

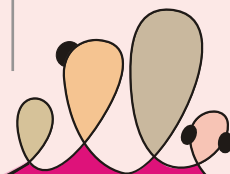
The launching of the campaign on "Rights to Family" was organized at IDCOL Auditorium in the presence of child rights organizations, representatives from child care institutions and Government counterparts, and members of CWC and media representatives. Representatives from corporate houses and civil society organization also participated in the event.

A press Meet was organized during the process of campaign launching with the purpose that media can help dispel myths about the benefits of institutional care and educate the public about domestic adoption, foster care and respect for a child's right to grow up in a family environment. Media can also highlight on the importance of extended child welfare services and poverty reduction initiatives that are needed to help prevent separation. Government support through appropriate policies, funding and legislation is vital for establishing and promoting family-based alternatives to institutional care.

The Task force through advocacy efforts has helped secure high-level political commitment and resources for the scale-up of the response on the concept to the crisis of orphans and other vulnerable children. The task force strategies to non institutional forms of child care include upgrading or piloting essential elements in the continuum of services such as child and family support services, Community based rehabilitation, and foster care systems and developing standards for monitoring of these care systems.

The campaign hopes to sensitize the civil society organizations and government on issues of alternative care for the children experiencing difficult circumstances. The members of the CWC and other representatives from child right and child care organizations will have conceptual clarity on various forms of child care models, and various laws related to the issues. Networking among the likeminded organizations and other civil society groups will be established to share experiences and develop solidarity that would result in joint and convergent planning and implementation. This would further indicate clarity on the concept and approach of alternative child care. Positive attitudes to domestic adoption and well-monitored alternative care systems can ensure that children who cannot be cared for by their families still grow up in a family environment.

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## INTRODUCTION :

As per 2001 census, population of children in India was 42.2 crores, out of which many children are vulnerable or experiencing difficult circumstances. Factors underlying the vulnerability of children and lack of appropriate parental care include natural disasters, internal migration, HIV/AIDS and chronic poverty, etc. These factors have been documented as the main reasons for which children lack parental care on a global level. The increase in the number of children requiring alternative care has contributed to the emergence of many new child care institutions. Ironically, this increase in institutional care has coincided with increasing awareness of and research into the negative effects of institutionalization on children's physical, emotional, and cognitive development.

*"I am Kunti, both my parents died and I am living in an orphanage . When I see other children going to fairs with their parents and purchase balloons, I get very emotional as I don't have a family. I cannot go to the fairs, demand to purchase balloons and toys , share my feelings, express my wants/needs with my parents". This is how Kunti express her feeling how she missed every moment of her childhood without the touch of a family."*

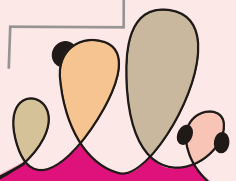
'Security of a family' makes all the difference in the world to a child's chances of having not only a childhood, but a future. Research and direct practice have demonstrated time and again that institutional care are not good for the children in a long run. It can only be considered as a immediate rehabilitation of a child in need for a short period, as long as there is any alternative arrangement for the child. Young children in institutional care are extremely vulnerable to medical and psychological problems. In the short term, in many cases the institutional care put young children at increased risk of delayed language development, other developmental problems and infectious illness. In the long run, institutionalization in early childhood increases the likelihood that children will grow into psychologically impaired and economically unproductive adults. Children reared in institutions, compared to children raised in families, have been found to have lower IQ scores: difficulties in forming and maintaining relationship with others: and have poor self-esteem.

In the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the United Nations has proclaimed that childhood is entitled to special care and assistance and recognizes that the child, for the full and harmonious development of his or her personality, should grow up in a family environment, in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding, a world where every child enjoys the right to a childhood in a safe and caring family, free from poverty, violence and exploitation.

India signed the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) in the year 1989 and ratified it in 1992, which prescribes standards to be adopted by all the state in securing the best interest of the child and committed to safeguard the rights of children enshrined in the Convention. The whole effort emphasized on *social re-integration* of children in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law, without resorting to stringent judicial proceedings and the importance of the "family" in building a nurturing environment for the child.



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## Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act.

The **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000** was enacted in order to mandate due care to the children in difficult circumstances like orphaned/ abandoned/run away/working etc., and children in conflict with law.

However, examination of these Acts and related schemes conducted 2006, by the Ministry revealed shortcomings and gaps in the existing child protection institutions, policies, programmes and the implementation of the scheme and acts, at all levels.

And these findings led to the emergence of a new scheme namely - "Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)" during the 2009-10 for implementation through the State Governments/UT Administrations. **Orissa is the first state to sign MOU with the centre in implementing the ICPS in the state.** One of the major components of ICPS focuses on family based non - institutional care through: Sponsorship; Foster Care; Adoption; and After Care Programme.

### *Juvenile Justice Act on 'Non institutional care'*

*The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has recommended "non-institutional" care options for children in conflict with law and children in need of care and protection.*

*Terming institutional care as the "last resort" for these children, the NCPCR has suggested "foster care, kinship care and supervised and assisted living" for them. According to experts, though the options would be new for India, these have been suggested after studying models around the world, including the UK, US and South Africa.*

*The NCPCR, which has recommended a slew of measures in the Juvenile Justice Act, 2006 (Recommended), has asked for a comprehensive policy framework to set up alternative care which supports parenting in the best interests of children living without parental care.*

*ICPS in its guiding principles 3.6 have clearly mentioned that institutionalization of children has to be the last resort: there is a need to shift the focus of interventions from an over reliance on institutionalization of children and move towards more family and community-based alternatives for care. Institutionalization should be used as a measure of last resort after all other options have been explored. In its approach ICPS is focused in adopting and promoting family-based care including sponsorship, kinship care, foster care and adoption. Periodic review of children in institutional care for restoration to families is another strategic intervention of the schemes.*



## Odisa Scenario

In Odisa, there has been no institutional studies done depicting the scenario of vulnerable children or children living in difficult circumstances, but the latest estimates shared by different stakeholders working on the issues around child rights in the state, put the number of 'children in difficult circumstances' at around 40,000.

A recent survey in Boudh district has come up with estimations that each block has around 400 such vulnerable children or living in difficult circumstances. However, as per the official records, there are only 132 orphanages accommodating only 8,000 children, which raises alarms among all the stakeholders to take measures, and ensuring these children 'a life to live with dignity'.

### "No Place like home"- importance of family

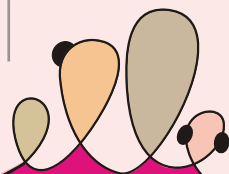
A family is the unit which brings in all round development in a living soul, and builds him up to a responsible person. Psychologists believe that a child learns the most from his or her family. Importance of the family in nurturing a life cannot be denied.

A family happens to be the most important part of a child, till he/she attains maturity in all spheres.. Children having sound and peaceful family system are found to be more happy. Family life is also important in the sense that it takes care of the child, teaches them to live a life with dignity and enable them to take right decisions, etc.

Children having a smooth and settled family life are generally less scared of life, whereas a child from a broken family are generally less confident. These children develop a pessimistic attitude toward life and builds up a negative personality. The way a family treats her kids is actually the deciding factor of what those children will be like as human beings when they grow up.

### HUMAN RIGHTS IN ADDRESSING RIGHT TO FAMILY

While children have the right to be cared for by their parents or family, a child who no longer has a family, has become separated from his or her family, or whose family presents serious danger to his or her health or development has the right to alternative care. Four possible types of alternative care are mentioned in Article 20 of the **Convention on the Rights of the Child**: foster placement, *kafalah* of Islamic law, adoption or, if other options are not available, placement in a suitable institution.





## Emergence of Task force

YCDA, a non government organization working on "alternative forms of care for the children without parental care" in two western districts Boudh and Bolangir. Through its process of implementation, YCDA carried a situational analysis exercise in the area found that many child are existing in the community who have lost either one or both parents and came up with the finding that on an average, there are around 400 no. of children living in vulnerable and difficult circumstances per block.

Other than orphan children, many children were found to be living in vulnerable condition despite having parents. These included children of households, where the senior elder member migrate to different place for few months in search of a livelihood, children affected by poverty, children with disabilities, children affected by HIV/ AIDS and girl children. Many of them live with parents who are sick, and many more are living in households that are struggling to provide the minimum food.

The above stated situation threatens children's basic human rights, including their rights to survival, health, development, education, rest and leisure, and protection from abuse and neglect, sexual and economic exploitation. It was observed at the field level that orphan children, and vulnerable children are more likely have the following negative consequences such as

- ◆ *Poor educational and vocational opportunities*
- ◆ *Drop outs from schools*
- ◆ *Begin to work as child labour at a very early age*
- ◆ *Poor health and nutrition*
- ◆ *Lack love, care and attention*
- ◆ *Experience stigma and discrimination*
- ◆ *Experience exploitation and abuse including sexual abuse and trafficking*
- ◆ *Lack emotional support to deal with grief and trauma*
- ◆ *Experience long-term psychological problems*

During the study, some of the institutions supporting such children were also examined critically. It was also observed that the institutional care has been supportive in extending good education and nutrition to vulnerable children, but the support in the developmental needs are not sufficient or proper. Adding to it, the institutional care





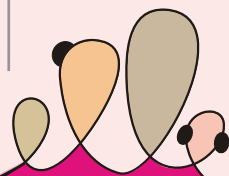
available in the state is not adequate and qualitative for the proper growth of the childhood. Another important findings of the process is that there is hardly any law or support schemes, to address the needs of such children .

Realizing the fact that the family is the centre for bringing in development in a child, achieve children's rights and to help children realize their full potential, create an enabling policy environment, YCDA in the year 2009 organized a workshop with other organizations working on 'children issues' at the state level including UNICEF and W & CD. The workshop created a platform for realization of some of the interventions in a holistic and collaborative way. A 'Task force' comprising six members with representatives from six different leading organizations across the state is formed and the organizations are Basundhara, from Cuttack, EKTA, from Koraput, IDA from Keonjhar, OLS from Bhubaneswar, RARE from Sonapur and YCDA from Boudh . These organizations are actively working on child issues. Task force is a collaborative approach at the state level to advocate and enable **"children's right to family"**.

W & CD and UNICEF are leading agency and organizations to the task force and YCDA was assigned the responsibilities of coordinating the whole process.

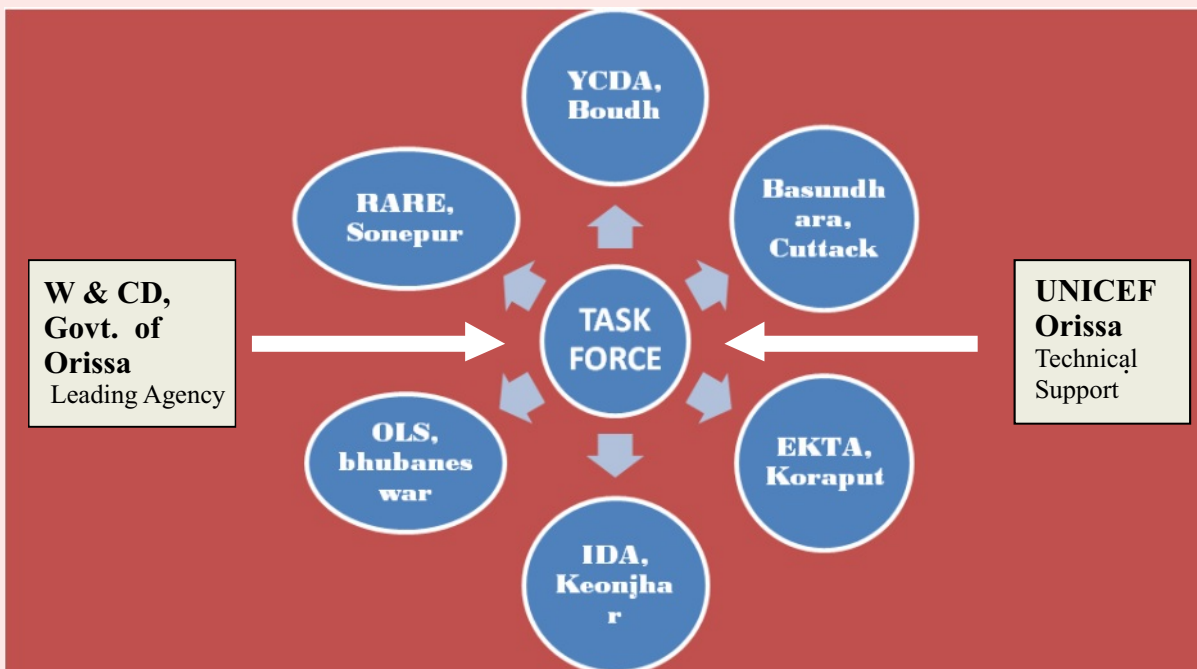


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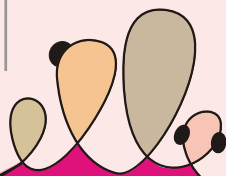
### Organizations in Task Force- A brief Introduction

- ◆ **BASUNDHARA, Cuttack** formed since 1860. The organization is working as an ideal rehabilitation centre for the children, elders and women in distress.
- ◆ **RARE- (Research Academy for Rural Enrichment), Sonapur** is active in right based activities including child right since last 17 years.
- ◆ **Open Learning System (OLS)** active since 1987 and is contributing strongly to the cause of reproductive Health, child right, Community health, disability, education and W & CD.
- ◆ **EKTA, Koraput-** is working for a equitable society. Activities of the organizations are basically on child rights, CBR for PWD, HIV/AIDS,, Micro enterprises and women empowerment
- ◆ **IDAL- Development Agency- Keonjhar,** the organization is active in addressing child rights and through watershed development addressing the livelihoods of the poorest of the poor
- ◆ **YCDA- Alternatives forms of care for the children** is working in boudh and Bolangir district and is providing support for the non institutional care for the children



Task force Organizations with their respective districts

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## Functions of 'Task Force'

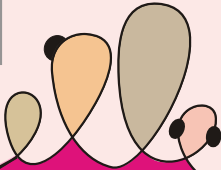
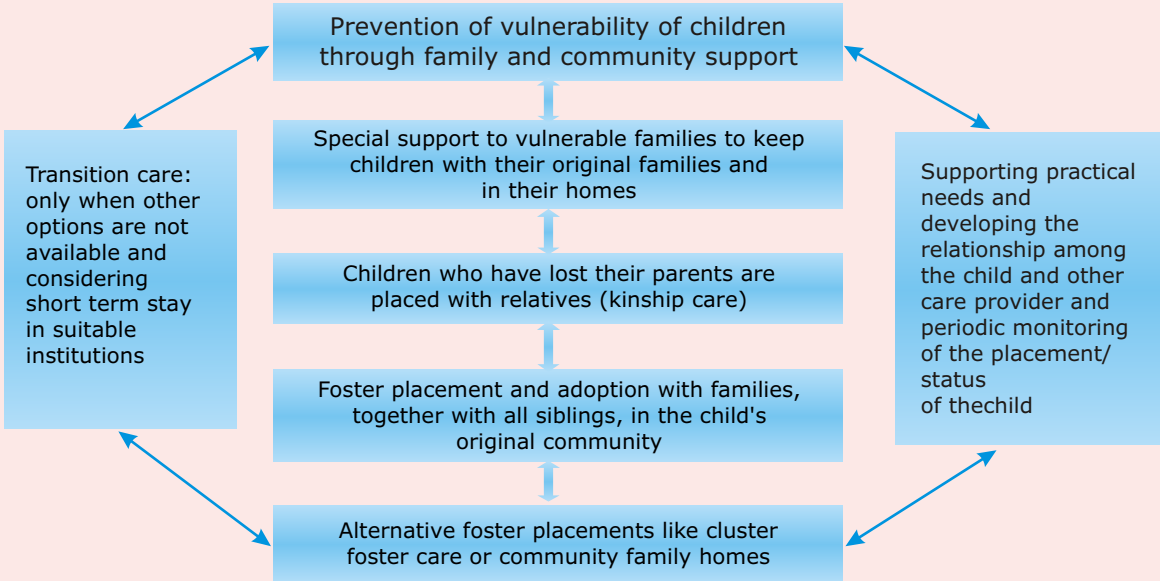
The task force realizes the psychosocial needs of children for their holistic development and emphasizes the importance of family-based care, drawing upon cultural and community support systems.

Considering a continuum of different care options ( Non- Institutional care ), with institutional care being the last consideration to be used only when no other options are available, the task force from the very beginning of its intervention, is working on innovative models of research and piloting alternative approaches, like community based support, foster care, kinship, independent living etc.

Task force analyzed the particular problems of affected children, families and communities, resources available with them and their coping strategies and formulated different intervention plans. Some of the focused area of intervention are as follows:

1. *Strengthen capacity of families to cope with their problems*
2. *Stimulate and strengthen community-based responses*
3. *Work with communities to define needs and identify vulnerable children*
4. *Ensure government support*

*Following the intervention strategies, the task force act in line with the following decision making process.*





## Now School is not far... .. for Prabhasini- (A case on the alternative approach by YCDA )

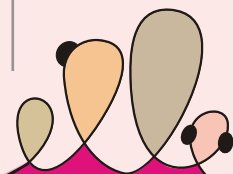
Prabhasini Bhoi a student of class 10th of village Bandhagora, district Boudh, Prabhasini was only 5 month old, when her mother and father died of T.B. Prabhasini has seven brothers and sisters, Prabhasini's elder sister however, she shoulder all the responsibility of the family to mange in a younger age. They maintained their livelihood in collection of non timber forest products and sale in a local market. Prabhasini had a great interest to read in the school but poverty was the obstacle for her so she was dropped out from school. Fortunately, Prabhasini was incorporated in the program of alternative forms of child care since 2007 and then she is mainstreamed in primary education. Now Prabhasini is reading in Class X in Khuntigora high school which is three Km. away from her house. In 2010, YCDA initiated a program to encourage girls' education to provide bicycle to those girl for whom high schools are inaccessible. Now Prabhasini is happy to get a new bicycle to go to school regularly.



## Campaign on "Right to Family" A backdrop

Guided by the spirits of the ideals like spirit of peace, dignity, tolerance, freedom, equality and solidarity, proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations, the task force is committed, to provide every child without parental care with an "alternative family environment". The task force work on the issue in a *campaign approach* and assess the situation from grass root level to the policy level. To achieve the goal as envisaged, the task force under its process, assess current practices within child care institution including quality of care and also assess the situation of vulnerable children at the community level. In its progress, the task force conducted series of meetings with the stakeholders at block and district level and consolidate the findings at the state level through different workshop, and strategies to influence the policy makers at the state level, in different forums. Some of the major findings of the process are as follows :

- ◆ *The development of new child care institutions has been increasing over the past few years, whereas the development of other alternative care options has not been growing at the same pace.*
- ◆ *The institutional care available is not adequate as per the no. of existing vulnerable children in practice.*
- ◆ *Little emphasis has been laid on developing other alternative care options, such as kinship care or foster care.*





- ◆ *No other approach has ever been adopted by the government apart from sending children to the orphanage and the state policy has not enough space on the issues to address.*

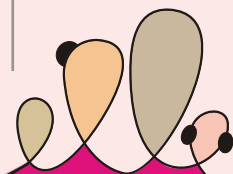


*Minister W & CD Ms. Pramila Mallick along with the children in signature campaigning*

To address the issue in a more effective and integrated manner with all the stakeholders including the children at the state level, three inter linked events were organized and they are as follows

- ◆ A state level workshop titled "listening to Children's voice", was organized between 29 - 30 August 2010 at Red Cross Bhawan, Bhubaneswar. The objective of the workshop was to provide children (without parental care) an enabling environment, where they can have accesses to a healthy and protected environment to live a quality and healthy life without any fear i. e "a family".
- ◆ A State level workshop on 'Non- Institutional care system' was organized on 30th August 2010 at Panthanivas, Bhubaneswar with an objective to develop conceptual clarity among the participants on the subject and laws related to it and focused on the process of integration of family based care in the institutions. The CWC members and selected NGO representatives participated in the workshop. A draft rule on foster care was presented to the Govt. Functionaries and other representative organizations.
- ◆ The state level launching of the campaign - "Rights to Family" was organized at IDCOL Auditorium with representation from child right organizations, representatives of child care institutions and Government counterparts, members of CWC and media representatives, corporate houses and civil society organizations.

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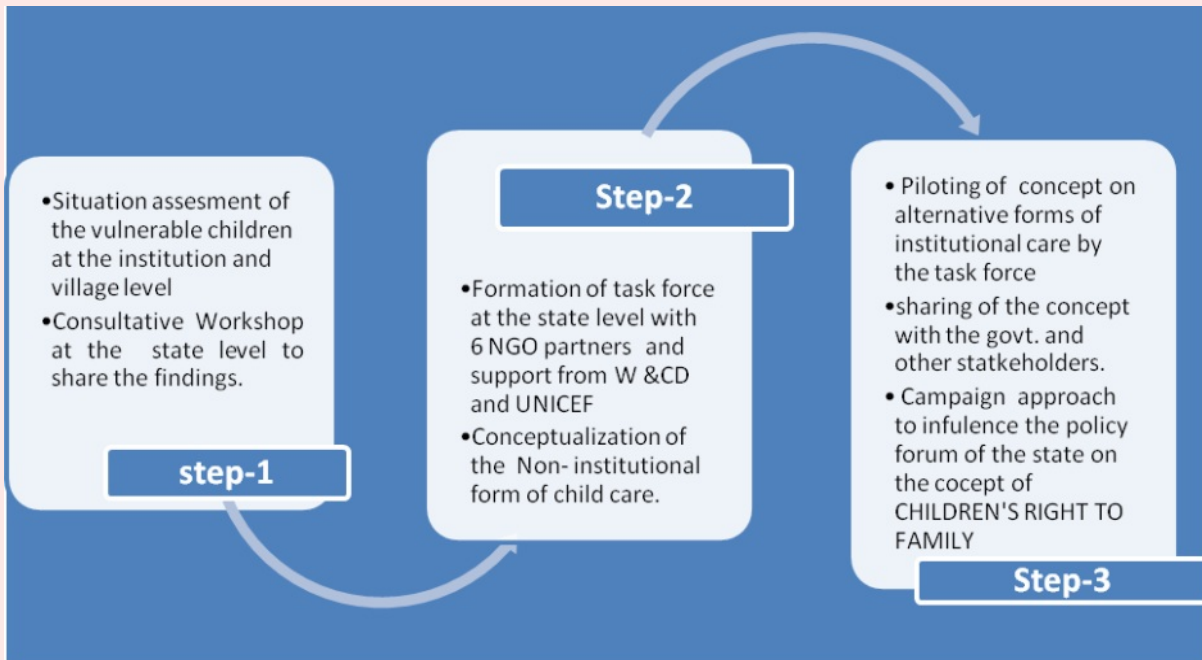


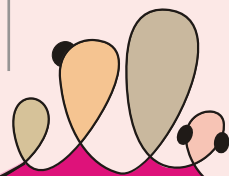
Diagram showing the Process of task force formation to launching of the concept

**The broad objectives behind the campaign " Child right to family" are as follows**

- ◆ To Sensitize and influence the policy makers including Government, NGOs, and UN bodies on the situation of orphan and vulnerable children with our without parental care and various family based alternative care models and its inclusion in policy framework of the state.
- ◆ Create awareness and educate the civil society bodies including, NGOs, Government counterparts, child welfare committees and organization providing institutional care on various forms of alternative child care approaches for the children without parental care and laws related to this.
- ◆ Develop an effective working model in the state with regards to alternative form of care for the children without parental care and advocate for wide dissemination of these approaches among the child care institutions and other stakeholders.



LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN

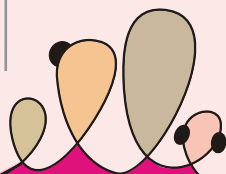




### "Right to Family Campaign" : State level launching programme

The civil society alliance taskforce launched Right to Family campaign in the state on 31<sup>st</sup> August in association with the W&CD dept. and UNICEF. The campaign "Right to Family" aimed to sensitize and influence the policy makers including government, NGOs, and UN bodies on the situation of orphan and vulnerable and will focus on promoting non-institutional care of orphans and other vulnerable children with an emphasis on giving the children a chance to live in a family environment. The state level launching program started off with the signature campaign by the participants and guests, followed by lighting of lamp by the dignitaries and a song presentation by the orphans. The song by the children "AASA AAME AAMA KATHA KAHIBA" reflects on the need of a family in their holistic development.

*Ms. Madhumita Das, member of task force well come all the guests to the desk and briefly introduce all the guests to the lunching participants. The workshop meeting was presided by Mrs. Pramila Mallik, Minister, Child & Welfare Dept. Govt. of Orissa, Smt. Kasturi Mohapatra, Commissioner for persons with Disabilities, Smt. Arti Ahuja, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary, W&CD, Ms. Shairose Mawji, Chief Field Office, Unicef Office for Orissa, Smt. Sulata Deo, Chairperson, Orissa State Social Welfare Board, member secretary, Sanjog, Ms. Bijayini Das and the programme objective was shared by Mr. Rajendra Meher, Convener, Task Force.*





## Briefing by Rajendra Meher, Convener, Task Force



There has remarkable percentage of children, who are either orphan or have been debarred from getting the care from their parents due to various reason, as a result they are homeless and are sheltered under institutional care. In Orissa, to address this concern, there are the some orphanages and approximately, 15000 children are being nurtured in the orphanages. In other state, there are provisions for children like kinship care, adoption,, but in the

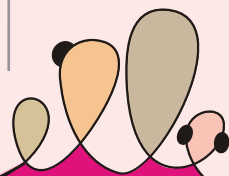
Orissa context, except adoption, other forms of institutional care has not been take up that large scale. The children can be nurtured with in the community, instead of sending them to the orphanages. He also shared in the forum that some of the organizations in different parts of Orissa who have recognized this as a concern, have come forward to take up this institutional care. Orissa is the first state to have such an organized form for non institutional care. He stated that the task force is keen to support and implement the concept in the state. The task force is moving in a structural way and taking steps in mobilizing children's view, seeking participation of CWC members and consolidating the findings at the state level.

Orissa is the first state to initiate the ICPS in the state and the scheme emphasizes that institutional care should be the last resort for a child. He invites all the related organizations and stakeholders to work in synergy for the successful implementation of the program in the state .

Madhumita Das, member of task force cited example that in many case it was observed that children with institutional care draw only black and white painting but children from families draws colorful painting.



LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN





## Deliberation by the Guests

**Mrs. Pramila Mallik**, Minister, Child & Welfare Dept. Govt. of Orissa, speaking on the occasion, said that the very concept of 'Right to Family' is good. She emphasized that every child is entitled to love and care, which a family can only provide. So after the death of the parents, the society and the relatives should not leave that child in the hostel.

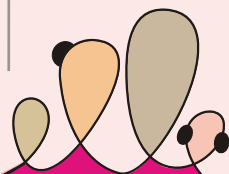


She also emphasized on the need to eradicate the thinking and perception of institutional care for orphans. Seniors have a special role i.e. to give a child a good life - a life with dignity . and the Govt. schemes to extend security to the children. By giving a child only love and care, we cant say that we have secured their life, but we need to ensure they get all the justice. In order to build the lives of our future, we all have a role to play and sacrifice, she added. At the end, she said that the WCD department will pilot the concept of non-institutional care in two or three blocks in the state and review the result. If the outcome is positive, the state will consider extending this programme in other parts.



**Smt. Kasturi Mohapatra**, Commissioner for persons with Disabilities in her speech mentioned how the non institutional forums were started by Mr. Pyari Mohan Mohapatra, to extend care to the children in the Keonjhar district She emphasized that every child has a right to live with dignity and agreed that any form of institutional care cannot replace any family. She requested all the agencies working in this sector, to work dedicatedly

and give a good life to the orphans and children with disabilities. Citing the example of Ersama, she pointed out that during the super cyclone 3000 children became orphan and homeless. The children are rehabilitated within their community through the concept of extend family. This learning from Orissa was also applied to the orphan of Bhuj for the earthquake victims in Gujurat. Non of the law has put light on the issue only the Juvenile justice Act 2006 speaks few lines on the issue. Time has come to give a





developmental prospective instead of just merely well being prospective to the issue, to make the program success at the state level and to full fill the right of every child to access a family to live in and to grow.



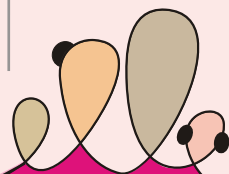
**Smt. Arti Ahuja, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary, W&CD** mentioned about the different Acts and schemes by govt.. She emphasized on the 'rights of child' and how they have to be protected against morale and material abandonment. Emphasizing on the role and responsibilities of the task force, she said that they have to play a greater role. She also informed, that the govt. is conducting an orphan census and mapping of vulnerable children in few districts and the district administration has instructed to

establish foster care. Article 20 & 21 stressed upon the child's right to a family. She put hope that after the initiation of ICPS in the state the whole issue can be tracked well. She invited all the CWC members to extend all their support at the district level to make the program run successfully. She deliberate the responsibility to the CWC members to provide Right kind of family to the children to safeguard their future.



**Ms. Shairose Mawji, Chief Field Office, Unicef Office for Orissa** : Speaking on the occasion, she said that children are our pride, they are our future, and they are the leaders for tomorrow. We need to nurture our children in the community, in our homes, and in our society. There are some children, who do not have parental care, and who live in difficult situation and they are very vulnerable. Those children have the right to be nurtured and cared, like all other children with

parents. This is the prime reason why family care is vital, particularly So for children who are orphans or vulnerable. She appreciated the work done by the agencies for extending the support to these vulnerable children, caring for them, and extending all support in leading a life with dignity. If a child is given a proper environment, then he/she can grow, be creative, and explore in life. She said that UNICEF does not favour any child being in an institution unless it is absolutely necessary. Where children are in institutional care, the goal should be to get them into a safe family as quickly as possible





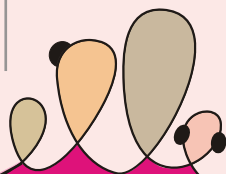
**Smt. Sulata Deo**, Chairperson, Orissa State Social Welfare Board in her deliberation emphasized that the role of a family is extremely important for a child's growth. She agreed to the fact that the love and care a child gets from a family is certainly more and useful compared to the care given by the institutional care. She encouraged, if the households can forward and adopt the orphans and give them a

family life or at least visit the orphanages or the institutions and extend the orphans the love and care.

**Smt Bijayani Das**, Member secretary Sanyog ( ACA) facilitate the whole process of deliberation by the guests.



*POSTER INNAGURATION a poster on right to family campaign was inaugurated by the chief gues*



**CHARAN'S KATHA in "ASA AAME AAMA KATHA KAHIBA"**

Charan, one of the inmates of a hostel in Keonjhar district narrated a personal account. He shared about his fathers death when he was very young, how he was shifted to his uncles home, where he was assigned to safe guard the farm. The farms products were sold and with that money, a pair of clothes were purchased for him. His mother used to prepare a local liquor (handia) and sell in the local market. With that minimal money, she used to took care of his siblings and managed the home. Later he was shifted to a hostel (in the district headquarters) as there was no one to take his care. He share that when he came to Keonjhar town to study in a hostel he saw a town in his life first time and his experience of sitting in a pucca house in his hostel is also a first time in his life. He was thankful to the hostel authorities for the care, but somewhere, the services and care given to him lacked love and feelings', etc. There are not sufficient staff compared to children staying in the hostel, so it is impossible on their part to take proper care. He missed his family very much when he used to be sick in his hostel and desperately wants his mother to take care of his health. Citing one example he put the case of a f his friend Kusa, Kusa is a orphan boy both of his parents were died and admitted in to the hostel when he was too small. One day Kusa's relative came to the hostel and c unable to identify kusa. Charan express through this example that some time we become so detached from our society and family that even our family cannot identify us. Charan also express his thanks to the hostel because it will one day provide him a good future. Lastly Charan request to all the guests to provide all the children their future ( education) in their community level so that they can grow in a family and also can develop themselves with proper education facilities.

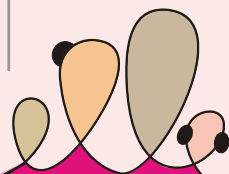


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**Rinku and Jayapriti' Katha in "AASA AAME AAMA KATHA KAHIBA":**

*Rinku and jayapriti through their written presentation express their voices and are*

- ❖ *When we are sick we get more comfort in our house*
- ❖ *We are free to demand for something before our parents.*
- ❖ *We get lot of freedom in our families*
- ❖ *In hostels we have to follow too much of discipline , rule and regulations.*
- ❖ *We never afraid of anybody at home*
- ❖ *In house we are free to eat whatever we like.*
- ❖ *In villages we celebrate different cultural program and festivals*

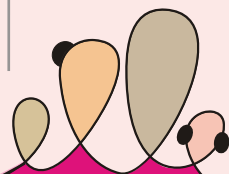




Children produce the Bhubaneswar declaration on child right to a family, which is as follows

### **BHUBANESWAR DECLARATIONS ON RIGHTS OF EVERY CHILD TO FAMILY**

1. Whereas the United Nations convention on the rights of the child affirms that it is in the best interest of the children that they be brought up in their own families, it envisages separation as the last possible resort, after doing everything that can be done to support parents, Children without parental care, for whatever reasons or circumstances and in need of alternative care because of their parents are unavailable or unable to care for them and deprived of love, affection, care and sustenance, which is the basic requirements for a child to survive and develop.
2. Where as it is the primary responsibility of the states to formulate policies, laws and schemes for the protection of the children in accordance with CRC. And address standards of child care and regulate practices and monitor the agencies providing the services, the state should implement laws and take action in this regard.
3. Whereas Juvenile Justice (care and protections of the children) Act 2000 & Amendment 2006 has been enacted in consonance with CRC provisions for rehabilitation and social reintegration of children i.e adoption, foster care, sponsorship, and sending the child to a after care organization such as kinship care, group home diversion, alternatives to detentions and non-custodial options and after care- Post integration care and support.
4. Whereas Integrated Child Protection Schemes (ICPS) provides mechanism for child protection, guiding principles for implementation and brings several existing child protection programs under one umbrella and initiated new interventions for care, support and rehabilitation services at national ,regional ,state level and district level and prescribes minimum standards for the services for every institutions operate under the scheme.
5. Whereas institutionalization for a child should be used as a means of last resort after all other options have been explored, as children in institutions are exposed to vulnerability and need to grow-up in a family environment and it is proposed to improve house hold economic capacity, strengthen and support child-care capacities, provide basic health and nutrition services, increase school enrollment and attendance, strengthen young people's life skills, adopt laws, policies and services to safe-guard the parent and child relationship and to ensure that all measures are taken to keep the family together.



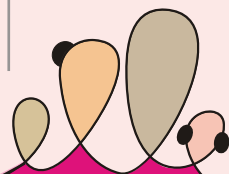


This declaration raise awareness at all levels through advocacy and social mobilization to create a support system for children without parental care and emphasizes it's strong commitments for the implementation of Convention of the Rights of the Child, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of children) Act 2000 & Amendment 2006 and Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) in it's true letter and spirit and urge the state government to take proactive necessary steps to discharge it's solemn responsibilities...

[This declaration is developed by the children, the members of civil societies and Child Welfare Committees members of Orissa assembled in the occasion of Right to Family Campaign during 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> August 2010 at Bhubaneswar, Orissa]



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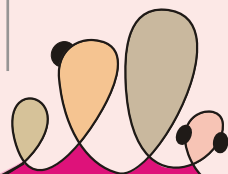
## Conclusion

Taking due account of the importance of the traditions and cultural values of each people for the protection and harmonious development of the child, Recognizing the importance of all the stakeholders co-operation for improving the living conditions of children in the state. The newly formed "Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) is a comprehensive scheme is hope to be address some of the critical area of the issue. The campaign hope in sensitizing the civil society organizations and government on issue of alternative care for the children. The member of the CWC members and other representative from child right and child care organizations will have conceptual clarity on various forms of child care models, and various laws related to the issues. Networking among the like- minded organizations and other civil society groups will be established to share experiences, develop solidarity resulting in joint and convergent planning and implementation indicative of clarity on the concept and approach of alternative child care. The concept is hope to be move forward and will provide with every child a healthy and protected family which will ultimately support children's education, health and nutrition, psychosocial support, and social inclusion. All these areas are important and should be considered together in an integrated response.

### The program expect the following outcomes

- ◆ Civil society organization and Government will be sensitized on the issues of alternative forms of care and mass opinion will be built to protect the rights of the children in accordance with the framework of UNCRC
- ◆ Capacity and conceptual clarity of the members of child welfare committees and other child care and child right organizations developed on various forms of alternative child care models, and various laws related to the issues.
- ◆ Networking among the like minded organizations and other civil society groups will be established to share experiences, develop solidarity resulting in joint and convergent planning and implementation indicative of clarity on the concept and approach of alternative child care.

In the end of the launching program Ms. Sebatl Singh extend vote of thanks to all the guests, participants and children. The program was close with the singing of national anthem by all the participants.



## ANNEXURE - I

### Program Schedule

<b>Program</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
<i>Arrival of participants, guest &amp; Invitees</i>	<b>Task force</b>
<i>Welcome and introduction to Guests, participants and invitees</i>	<b>Mrs. Madhumita Das, task force</b>
<i>Campaign song</i>	<b>Children</b>
<i>Sharing program objectives</i>	<b>Mr. Rajendra Meher, Convener, task force</b>
<i>Listening childrens voice/ presentation on Bhubaneswar declaration on non-institutional child care system</i>	<b>Child representative</b>
<b>Address by honorable Guests</b>	<i>Smt. Kasturi Mohapatra, Commissioner for persons with Disabilities Smt. Arti Ahuja, IAS, Commissioner cum Secretary, W&amp;CD, Ms. Shairose Mawji, Chief Field Officer, Unicef Office for Orissa Smt. Sulata Deo, Chairperson, Orissa State Social Welfare Board, Ms. Bijayini Das, secretary Sanjog</i>
<b>Address by chief Guests</b>	<b>Smt. Pramila Mallick Minister Women and child development.</b>
<b>Unveiling the campaign poster</b>	<b>Chief guest</b>
<b>Vote of thanks</b>	<b>Ms. Sebati singh, task Force</b>

#### Note of references :

[http//www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

Juvenile justice act.

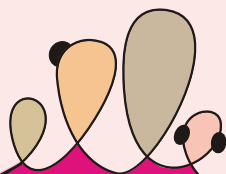
ICPS guide lines



## ANNEXURE - II

### ABBREVIATIONS

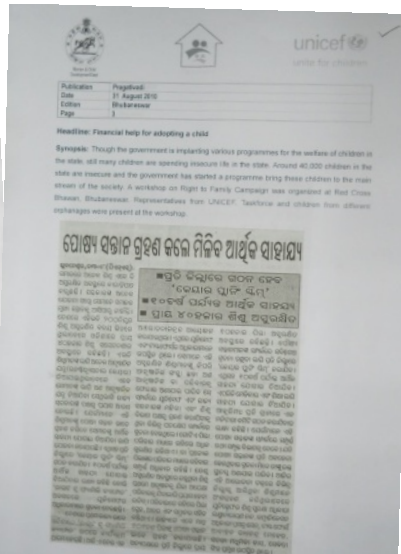
CARA	Central Adoption Resource Agencies.
NCLP	National Child labour Project
ICPS	Integrated Child Protection Scheme
PWD	People with Disability
CBO	Community based organization
CWC	Child welfare committee
UNCRC	United Nation Convention on Child right





ANNEXURE - III

Media Coverages



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