

## Visions Capacity-Building Program

In many developing countries around the world, a quality education is a luxury. The key to achieving sustainability in international development lies in education and with the local communities themselves. Over the past 13 years, Visions has nurtured partnerships with dozens of local civil society organizations that are the change-makers in their own communities – the locally-rooted, innovative problem solvers and program administrators serving the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in their area.

Visions' secret to its success is in responding to specific needs and opportunities identified by local actors themselves. Building on the ongoing work of these local partners (many of whom have worked in their respective communities for decades), we help them to develop their activities and achieve their goals by bringing in our expertise, enthusiasm, and resources. We provide support through consultation, training, funding, strategy development, program development, curriculum development, and much more in order to maximize results, while they take responsibility for local implementation. As always, our goal is to unleash the vast amounts of untapped human potential in the communities we serve.

With regard to specific programs, we have undertaken many educational program and infrastructure development projects in partnership with our local partners, including:

- After-School Programs
- Computer Labs
- e-Learning Programs
- English Programs
- General School Support
- Livelihoods Development Programs
- Learning Centers
- Libraries
- Multimedia Rooms
- Music Rooms
- Scholarship Programs
- Sports Fields/Programs
- Teachers Support & Trainings



The following is a list of all main local partners and their respective programs to which Visions lent its support:

### ETHIOPIA

- ❖ **Deaf Development and Information Association** (*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*) – Visions provided scholarships for 7 Deaf young adults and the salary for hiring 1 Deaf teacher in Bahir Dar (2013-2014).

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- ❖ **Ethiopian Women with Disabilities National Association** (*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*) – Provided livelihoods development support for 20 Deaf women and conducted leadership & empowerment trainings for Deaf women to be community advocates. Visions also created a website for the organization ([www.ewdna.org](http://www.ewdna.org)) (2016 - 2017).



- ❖ **Kal Center for Special Needs** (*Bahir Dar, Ethiopia*) – Another major undertaking, Visions encouraged and helped support the initial registration of the Kal Center for Special Needs as an Ethiopian Residents Charity. Once established, many collaborative efforts in Bahir Dar have ensued, including:
  - Establishment of a Deaf Resource Room at Yekatit 23 School (2013)
  - Livelihoods development opportunities for Deaf young adults (2013-2016)
  - Trainings & capacity-building support for teachers, Deaf adults, universities, and local nonprofit partners/community advocates (2013-2017)
  - Development of community education resources (2015-2017)
  - Construction of new classroom for Deaf students at Yekatit 23 School (2015)
  - Establishment of the Visions Model Deafness Center, including Hearing & Testing Center, Deaf preschool, & outreach at 3 local public schools with special classrooms for Deaf children (2015-2017)
  - Creation of an organizational website ([www.kalcenter.org](http://www.kalcenter.org))
- ❖ **Sebestie Negassie School** (*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*) – After conducting an initial assessment with the school, Visions initiated teacher trainings focused around Leadership and Technology. 2 sets of laptops, projectors, and speakers were provided to the school in order to bring a multimedia experience to the classroom. Additionally, Visions created a website for the school ([www.sebestieschool.org](http://www.sebestieschool.org)) (2016).

## INDIA

- ❖ **Gwalior Government School** (*Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh*) – Visions provided general school support (2014-2015).

- ❖ **Him Jyoti School for Girls** (*Dehradun, Uttarakhand*) – Visions provided general school & scholarship support and served as the institution’s fiscal sponsor in the U.S. (2015 – 2017).
- ❖ **Kamalnayan Jannalal Bajaj Foundation** (*Wardha, Maharashtra*): Visions provided scholarships for 2 young adults (2013-2014).
- ❖ **Nandalala Seva Samithi Trust** (*Chennai, Tamil Nadu*) –Visions supported the establishment of the “Jayalakshmi Ramachandran Scholarship Fund” to support enterprising and high-achieving medical students who lack the financial resources to attend university. Since initiating this endowment fund, 12 individuals have received scholarships totaling more than \$18,000 (2011-2016).
- ❖ **Organisation for Eelam Refugees’ Rehabilitation** (*Tamil Nadu*) – In total, 27 scholarships were awarded to tsunami-affected *dalit* Indian youth and Sri Lankan refugee students to pursue higher education (2011-2013).
- ❖ **Radiance School for Tribal and Dalit Children** (*Dindigul, Tamil Nadu*) – An initiative of SAWED Trust, Visions has provided the following institutional support:
  - School construction contribution (2011)
  - 10 large classroom chalkboards and school signboards (2012)
  - Salaries for 3 teachers for a 3-year period (2013 – 2015)
  - A sports playground (including football and volleyball play areas) (2014)
  - A library (stocked with hundreds of Tamil, Hindi, and English-language books) (2016)
- ❖ **Ramana’s Garden Children’s Home & School** (*Rishikesh, Uttarakhand*) – We provided general school support for the purchase of a new agricultural plot / garden (2015-2017).
- ❖ **Rural People’s Sangam** (*Tiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu*) – We have provided sports equipment to 2 Sri Lankan refugee camps, constructed an open well for one of these camps that lacked its own water supply, and supported a livelihoods development initiative for 18 rural widowed mothers (2015-2017).
- ❖ **SCOPE India Trust** (*Madurai, Tamil Nadu*) – Over a 3-year period, Visions provided support for 5 Children’s Learning Centres that were collectively providing after-school tuition and mentorship to more than 150 disadvantaged *dalit* children (2011-2013).
- ❖ **Visions Global Empowerment India** (*Trichy, Tamil Nadu*) – Visions helped facilitate the founding of this independent organization, to which we proudly lent our name and logo. We provide regular support in staff management, program design & management, fundraising, strategic planning, marketing,

website ([www.visionsindia.org](http://www.visionsindia.org)), impact assessment, financial accounting, and more.

## SRI LANKA

- ❖ **Chinmaya Organisation for Rural Development** (*Colombo, Sri Lanka*) – Working in close partnership with the CORD Sri Lanka team, Visions provided support in developing organizational systems and a marketing strategy & materials. CORD Sri Lanka also facilitated several youth scholarships and the delivery of more than 4,000 library books to schools in Jaffna (2009-2012).
- ❖ **Chundikuli Girls College** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Provided support for 150 Internally Displaced Youth (IDPs) to continue with their education (2010).
- ❖ **Hindu Board of Education** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Bank accounts were established and future savings scholarships were provided to 10 young men at this Jaffna-based boys orphanage (2007).
- ❖ **Institute of Regional Development and Governance** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Provided financial support for the development of an organizational website ([www.irdg.org.lk](http://www.irdg.org.lk)) (2016).
- ❖ **Jaffna College Institute of Technology** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Provided a new computer lab for students enrolled in the Bachelor of Information Technology (B.I.T.) program (2014).
- ❖ **Jaffna Faculty of Medicine Alumni Association** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Visions made a contribution to the Medical Students Welfare Fund (2015).
- ❖ **Kilinochchi Educational Development Trust** (*Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka*) – Visions' support enabled 20 war-affected students from a public school in Kilinochchi to participate in an annual sports competition (2012).
- ❖ **Magasakthy & Yogasakthy Women's Federations** (*Kilinochchi, Sri Lanka*) – Visions provided general support for 120 Internally Displaced (IDP) youth in Northern Sri Lanka (2010).
- ❖ **Moolai Hospital** (*Moolai, Sri Lanka*) – Provided financial support for the development of a hospital website ([www.moolaihospital.com](http://www.moolaihospital.com)) (2016).
- ❖ **Noolaham Foundation** (*Jaffna, Sri Lanka*) – Provided support for an e-library and Tamil-language literature e-archiving project (2013).
- ❖ **Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam** (*Colombo, Sri Lanka*) – One of our largest undertakings to-date, Visions worked hand-in-hand with Saiva Mangaiyar Kalagam in establishing a 5-story learning center in Colombo directly across the street from

the Hindu Ladies College. Additionally, Visions provided scholarships, books, a multimedia center, and a whole host of other support throughout the project period (2007-2011).

❖ **St. John's College (Jaffna, Sri Lanka)** – Visions has enjoyed a fruitful relationship with this exemplary academic institution over the years, and has provided support for the following projects:

- Support for 222 Internally Displaced Youth (IDPs) to continue with their education (2010)
- Establishment of the Rex T. Arulanantham Memorial Computer Lab & Music Room (2012)
- Support for the development of the school's new IT block (2015)



❖ **STITCH Movement (Colombo, Sri Lanka)** – Implemented an after-school tutoring and support program for the benefit of 84 resettled youth in Jaffna for a 1-year period (2011-2012).

❖ **Women's Education and Research Centre (Colombo, Sri Lanka)** – Support was provided for the purchase of 1 trishaw for a women's livelihoods development & personal empowerment project (2011).

❖ **Youth League for Sanatana Dharmic Perception (Colombo, Sri Lanka)** – YLSDP conducted an "Effective English Teaching" training program with Visions' support for 63 public school teachers in Eastern Sri Lanka (2007).