



DCI Newsletter

International Literacy Day 2013

Literacies for the 21st Century

“Literacy is a human right, a tool for personal empowerment and a means for social and human development. Literacy is essential for eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy.” DCI is working to provide severely underprivileged children the opportunity to become independent and productive citizens through education. DCI celebrated the International Literacy Day in all of the SCSP villages in Patuakhali, Feni, Nilphamari and Habiganj on September 08, 2013. The DCI tutors, local youths and local leaders joined the program.



Celebrating the day: mothers gathering, children rally, & information sessions

Literacy facts

- 774 million adults (15 years and older) still cannot read or write – two-thirds of them (493 million) are women.
- Among youth, 123 million are illiterate of which 76 million are female.
- Even though the size of the global illiterate population is shrinking, the female proportion has remained virtually steady at 63% to 64%.

Ref: UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS)

Three out of five youths lacking basic reading and writing skills are young women.

Supplies & Stipend distribution program in two projects



Yearly educational materials & stipend distribution program was held at DCI project area in the Patuakhali and Habiganj district. SCSP children have received various types of educational, health & hygiene materials such as exercise books, pen, pencil, pencil box with scale, drawing book, drawing pencil, school uniform, nail cutter, soap, tooth paste, tooth brush etc. Each children also got 600 taka stipend for six month.

Program summery of two projects:

Patuakhali project

Date	: September 12,2013
Venue	: Village-Shaula, Kalaiya, Upazilla-Bauphal, Patuakhali
Total children got support	: 675 children
Chief guest	: A B M Sadequr Rahman, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) Bauphal has inaugurated program.
Special guest	: Nusrat Jahan, Head teacher of South Shaula govt. Primary school Salma Qadir, DCI coordinator

Habiganj project

Date	: September 26, 2013
Venue	: Nagura Farm High school, Nagura, Baniachang, Habiganj
Total children got support	: 79 children
Chief guest	: S M Monir Uddin, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) Baniachang has inaugurated program.
Special guest	: Nitendra Sutradhar, Head teacher of Nagura Farm High school Fazal Mia, SMC chairman,Nagura Farm govt. primary school Sayed Mofyzur Rahman, Program Development officer, RSC

Supplies & Stipend distribution program in two projects



A B M Sadequr Rahman, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Bauphal (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) inaugurates program



S M Monir Uddin, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Baniachang (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) inaugurates program.



Guest distributing materials to children



Children receiving support from chief guest



Each child received the following support

Stipend	600 Taka
School Uniform	1 set
School Bag	1 set
Exercise book	12 pieces
Ball pen	10 pieces
Pencil	2 pieces
Eraser	2 pieces
Sharpener	2 pieces
Pencil box with scale	1 piece
Drawing pencil	1 box
Drawing book	3 pieces
Soap	5 pieces
Tooth Paste (200 gm)	1 piece
Tooth Brush	2 pieces
Nail cutter	1 piece

After School Tutoring

About 899 children of SCSP have received after-school tutoring support in September. Moreover, 66 tutors have helped them prepare their home tasks.

Activities in tutoring group:

- Home task preparation—according to their school tasks.
- Special counseling for slow learners.
- Drawing & General Knowledge, based on their school text books.
- Health & Hygiene - personal hygiene.
- Monthly tutor training for the next month and getting feedback on last month's activities.
- Monthly meetings with mothers were held on specific agendas such as personal hygiene, children's school, coaching attendance, etc. Mothers' attendance rate is 85%.

Tutoring group information at a glance			
Area	Total Group	Total Tutors	Total Children
Patuakhali	50	36	603
Feni	12	11	101
Nilphamari	11	09	111
Habiganj	10	10	084
Total SCSP	83	66	899



One of the tutoring groups for secondary students

After School Tutoring

According to the monthly syllabus, an evaluation was held in September with regard to the presence of field workers; and a tutor arranged a test for children. The results are as follows:

Number of Children in monthly result	Grade-A (70%-100%)	M	152
		F	167
	Grade-B (60%-69%)	M	161
		F	159
	Grade-C (50%-59%)	M	102
		F	88
	Grade-D (0%-49%)	M	40
		F	30

Tutor recruitment

We have hired 12 tutors for the after-school tutoring program in the Patuakhali project.

On September 18, 2013 a tutor recruitment test was held in the adult center of DCI project office in Shaula village. About 20 male and 24 female candidates attended the test. After the one-hour written test, the candidates also had an oral exam.

We have recruited 9 female and 3 male tutors for our tutoring group. All of them are college students and are interested in village development.



Written test



Oral exam

Every 20 seconds, a child dies from a water-related illness

www.distressedchildren.org

Annual sports in SCSP school

The SCSP Habiganj project office organized an annual sports event in Nagura farm govt. primary school on September 12, 2013. The chairman of the school management committee Mr. Fazal Mia inaugurated the prize distribution program. Children competed in 31 sports and 93 children won 1st, 2nd & 3rd prizes.



S M Monir Uddin, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Baniachang (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) inaugurates program.



S M Monir Uddin, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Baniachang (Govt. chief officer of sub-district) inaugurates program.

Pre School Activities

DCI has been operating 11 preschools, ten are in remote villages and one for slum children of Kallyanpur Pora Bosti in Dhaka, Bangladesh The school provides early education support for children.



making clay pots



Teacher teaching lesson



Rifat telling a story

Pre School Activities



Sun Flower Group

We have a curriculum for our pre-primary school, including games, rhymes, songs, dance and free-hand painting activities. Bengali and English alphabets along with numbers are included in the curriculum to prepare the children for grade 1 in primary school. The curriculum is designed as team-based, individualized, small group and whole-class learning and instruction style. Students also benefit from instruction in music, painting and drill activities. This

cross-curricular approach provides students with many opportunities to enrich their academic subject-based knowledge and at the same time promotes their understanding of the world around them.

Children are divided into four grades as follows:

monthly result	Grade-A (60%-100%)	M	91
		F	94
	Grade-B (50%-59%)	M	35
		F	48
	Grade-C (33%-49%)	M	12
		F	09
	Grade-D (1%-32%)	M	01
		F	02



Drawing



Playing



making alphabet tree

30,000 Children die each day Due to poverty
130 million children in developing countries are not in primary school

Family Support Program (FSP)



Our Family Support Program (FSP) is active in all of the four project areas (Patuakhali, Feni, Habiganj and Nilphamari districts) supporting 531 mothers, who have been divided into 36 smaller groups. Every week they meet to discuss their essential needs, facilitated by DCI officers. The attendance rate at these meetings during the month of June was 68%. As an Income Generating Activity (IGA), the mothers deposit money in this program's common fund and withdraw money as needed. This month money was disbursed for cow farming, rickshaw van purchase, house rebuilding, fishing, small business, nursery.

Your help has changed a life!

Momtaz Begum has been a Sun Child since 2007. She came from a poor family. When we included her in the program, she was in Class Five in South Shaula government primary school. Now she is in the eleventh grade in a college 8 km away from her village. Momtaz completed her long journey from 2007 to 2013 successfully with DCI's support. In the year 2007 when she was in Class Five, her family was thinking about taking her out of school. Her father Kholil Khalifa was a poor farmer. He needed to feed seven family members with his meager income. After selling the only small land he had, he arranged the marriage of his elder daughter. After that he had to earn money by working on other people's land. In that situation he decided to arrange the marriage of Momtaz as well. This is why DCI stepped in and enrolled Momtaz in SCSP. Her younger sister Rabeya was also included in this program. After that their father did not need to think about their educational cost. From the beginning DCI has provided all of education materials, basic necessities and health facilities for these two sisters. DCI also provided money and some goats to their family for income generation. Their father has utilized this money appropriately and bought a small piece of land. Momtaz escaped early marriage and was able to continue her studies. In the year 2013 she participated in the School Secondary Certificate (SSC) exam and obtained the certificate successfully. She got a GPA of 4.31 points on this exam. After that she has been admitted in the eleventh grade at a local college. DCI has now recruited her in the SCS program as a tutor. She goes regularly to college and also helps to teach the other poor children as a DCI tutor.



Momtaz with her family member



Momtaz teaching in a tutoring group

Like Momtaz there are five girls who obtained the School Secondary Certificate (SSC) with the help of DCI. All of them have been getting support from DCI since 2006 and 2007. More than 35 underprivileged children are waiting for the next SSC exam. We need your support to help them succeed.

www.distressedchildren.org

HUP Activity—September, 2013

The clinic doctors served the patients 26 days in a total of 26 service days of the clinic in September, 2013. A total of 448 patients received treatment and medicines from the clinic. Social workers worked on health and hygiene awareness and family planning measures, provided counseling to adolescent girls and antenatal/postnatal mothers, and followed up on malnourished children during this month.

Nine babies were delivered by trained staff and they all received colostrums. 88 people received anti-helminthes treatment. There were 9 units in the Kallyanpur slum but now an extra one has been added. Some of the people shifted themselves to the new unit from previous ones, and some people have newly migrated there.

Field Activities



social worker collecting information from Unit # 10



A part of Kallyanpur porabari slum

Clinical Activities



Doctors & Health staff providing treatment to slum dwellers

Sponsor the Health Clinic Today at: www.distressedchildren.org
www.distressedchildren.org

HUP Activity – September, 2013

S.I	Indicators	Target	Achievement	Remarks
1	Total clinic operation days	26	26	
2	Total number of patient received treatment	390	448	
3	Average number of patient per day	15	17.23	
4	Total amount of money spent for medicine	20,000.00	56,043.00	
5	Average expenditure for per patient	51.28	125.09	
6	Total number of patient referred	0	0	
7	Total Household covered	2500	1968	
8	Total beneficiaries	9000	8094	

Family Planning – September, 2013

Total fertile couples: 1050

Total couples using birth control: 656

Particulars	Method Chart			
	Previous Month	Add	Deduction	Total
Injection	359	19		378
Pill	202	9		211
Condom	47			47
Ligation	10	1		11
Vasectomy	2			2
Copper T	6	1		7
				656

Get Involved with DCI's Mission!

- ◆ Visit our website (www.distressedchildren.org), sign up for DCI's newsletter, and find us on Facebook
- ◆ Volunteer with DCI at home, join a chapter, or start a new chapter
- ◆ Visit our projects abroad and volunteer
- ◆ Host a fundraising event
- ◆ Create a partnership between your organization and DCI
- ◆ Sponsor a child or donate to one of our other programs
- ◆ Help us spread the word: introduce your friends, colleagues, and relatives to DCI!

Education

All the children are being schooled at reputed schools and have the opportunity to take part in activities, such as dancing, singing, sports etc. A few children need help with their studies and are getting special attention from their tutors. Others are studying well, and getting good grades in their classes.



Home tutors are teaching the children



at school

Name	ID	Class/Grade	Grade/Result	Remarks
Fatema Akter Shila	OSP-027	Play	A++	Letter Grade: A++ 90% - 100% A+ 80% - 89% A 70% - 79% B 55% - 69% C 40% - 54% D 0% - 39% Average pass marks: 40%
Sumaiya Begum	OSP-023	Play	A+	
Mini Akter	OSP-011	KG	A++	
Mithila Akter Mitu	OSP-012	KG	A++	
Shanta Islam	OSP-014	KG	A++	
Sumaiya Khanam	OSP-017	KG	A++	
Sumaiya Akter	OSP-024	KG	A++	
Sania Akter	OSP-028	KG	A++	

Celebrating Child Rights Week 2013

The children have the opportunity to take part in activities, such as dancing, singing, art competition and many other programs. For Child Rights Week, from September 30 to Oct 5, 2013, they participated in the rally, cultural program, art and debate competitions arranged by the National Girl Child Advocacy Forum and Bangladesh Shishu Academy. One of our girls got a prize in the art competition.



Art Competition & Rally and Human Chain



Song and Dance Performances



Sathi Akter receiving a prize at the art competition from Florida Parvin, renowned singer of Bangladesh. Sathi & other winners of the competition with guests.

Death anniversary of Late Nasima Ahmed (mother of Dr. Sabina)

On September 20, 2013, a Dowah Mahfil was arranged at Sun Child Home on the death anniversary of late Nasima Ahmed (mother of Dr. Sabina). The children & staff of DCI Sun Child Home participated in prayers. After the prayers children were given nutritious meals. An amount of Tk. 10,000.00 was provided by Dr. Sabina Ahmed for meeting the expenditure of the programs.



Prayer for Dr. Sabina Ahmed's mother at DCI's Sun Child Home



After the prayer children were given nutritious meals

Children, mostly girls, work as domestic servants in private households in Bangladesh where they work long hours and are subject to discrimination and harassment.

<http://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/bangladesh.htm#content>

Stay updated on DCI's programs and current activities.

Join DCI on Facebook at <http://facebook.com/DCI.International>

www.distressedchildren.org

Visitors

In September, 2013 the visitors and volunteers who visited the DCI's Sun Child Home (Orphan Support Program) were Ashley Stewart Tufescu from Canada, and her colleagues Mr. Golam Kibria & Mr. Shamim Osman from Aga Khan Foundation, Bangladesh. Ashley Stewart brought beautiful gifts for the girls, color pencils, dolls, candies, toys, balls, dresses etc.



This has been the most incredible experience, meeting your beautiful children. From my observation it is clear that your work is making a huge impact on the lives of these girls. A million thanks for the warm welcome!

**All the best,
Ashley Stewart Tufescu
Faculty Early Childhood Education**

Why SCSP is needed in Bangladesh?

- ◆ Bangladesh has a population of 154.7 million and is one of the world's most densely populated countries.
- ◆ 50% of the population lives below the poverty line, 36% on less than \$1 a day.
- ◆ 42% of the people below the poverty line are less than 18 years old and 11% are less than 5.
- ◆ The primary school dropout rate is 35%, with the primary reason being poverty and need to work.
- ◆ Nearly 5 million children between the ages of 5 and 15 are employed, most receiving little or no pay.
- ◆ 450,000 children live on the streets in Bangladesh.
- ◆ Widening income gaps give rise to trafficking and commercial exploitation of children.