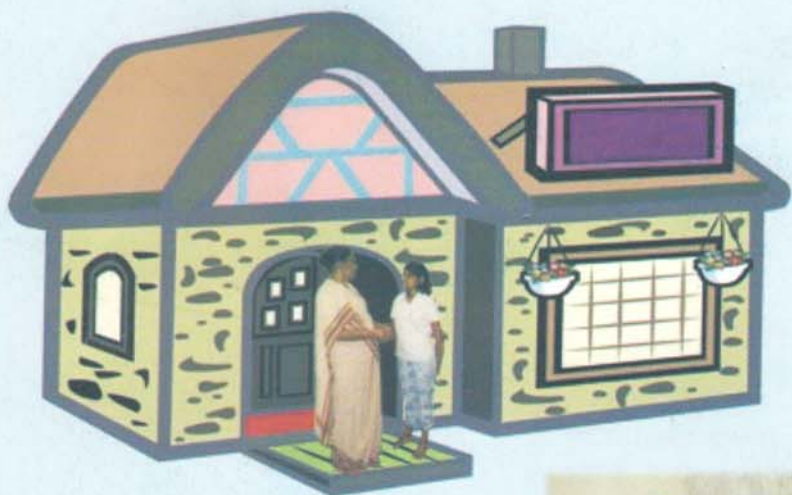


**5<sup>th</sup>**

ANNIVERSARY



**WIN  
HOME**



**2003 - 2008**

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**Vakola, Santacruz (E), Mumbai**

Bishop Agnelo's Message:



*“For all that has been ‘THANKS’. To all that will be ‘YES’”*

These words of Dag Hammarskjold, in his diary ‘Markings’ could well sum up the sentiments of WIN Home as it celebrates one more Anniversary. It can look back with thankfulness at all that the good that has been accomplished in the past five years of its existence. True to its name, WIN, it has reached out to so many women in distress. One has only to look at its ‘diary’ to see the number of people the Home has sheltered and helped – people of different backgrounds, communities and religions – to realize how much good this modest little house has done.

An anniversary, however, does not only look backwards to the past. It looks forwards too to the future. That is what WIN Home wants to do as it peers into the future: how it can be of even greater service, an even greater outreach to women in distress. With renewed enthusiasm and dedication it is ready to say ‘Yes’.

As WIN HOME celebrates its 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we wish it along with Sr. Vinayalata and her band of helpers ‘All the Best’ with an abundance of God’s blessings.

+ Agnelo Gracias

Provincial's Message:



*I am delighted to note the augmentation of WIN HOME for past five years of services given to the most suffering women of the Society. My mind fills with the sentiments of deep gratitude to God for His hovering presence and protection over WINHOME.*

*WIN Home opened its doors on March 19, 2003 to provide confidential shelter, support and advocacy to women in crisis on a twenty-four hours basis. True to its name it has been home for the homeless. It has given shelter to many women in need, in crises; women battered, abused, abandon and faced with domestic violence.*

*Moved like Jesus with compassion for the crowds, Sr. Vinayalata was moved to promote, uphold and protect the dignity of every woman. This initiative demonstrated the genuine humanitarian concern. With dedicated, hard-working and professional service and committed leadership the Centre has achieved very good outcomes over past five years.*

*Celebration of this anniversary symbolizes a call from all of us to end the war that is waged up upon women's bodies and soul everyday in every place conceivable.*

*On this auspicious occasion I congratulate Sr. Vinayalata and Sr. Antonia and wish them fulfillment of the dream of expansion and enhance services of WIN Home. While many challenges remain, WIN HOME can be proud of its contribution to women.*

*Sr. Blessina Tuscano SRA  
Provincial Superior*

## The Director Speaks:

If I can help somebody as I pass along,  
If I can help cheer somebody with a word or song  
If I can help show somebody he is traveling wrong,  
Then my living will not be in vain.  
If I can do my duties as a Christian ought,  
If I can bring salvation to a world once wrought  
If I can spread the message as the master taught  
Then my living will not be in vain.



(Martin Luther King)

The above poem reflects my inner feelings and the desire that I have to serve the Lord and His people, this earnest desire had risen like a rising sun that has spread the rays into the lives of the women who were living in darkness.

It is the small shining Lamp of 'WIN Home' that has spread the light as well as guided us in this noble task. The constant support and assistance from the superiors, sisters, my team, benefactors and well-wishes have added effectiveness to this work.

It is with profound happiness and joy that I thank God for the good work that He has inspired us to initiate, now completes five years. My heart overflows with gratitude to the Lord for all his graces and abundant blessings upon us in this challenging ministry.

As I look back over the last five years, there were encounters with women facing various types of problems and who struggled in their life. I thank God for instilling in me compassionate love, patience and courage towards these broken wounded ones and making me His instrument to heal their wounds, help them overcome their problems, reuniting them with their families and making them whole again. I recall these cases with satisfaction that we were able to guide them along the right path towards dignified living.

Jesus, during His lifetime especially uplifted the women, children and the poor who were discriminated by the society. Empowerment of women and the marginalized is the mission of our congregation inspired by our Founder; as we are involved in the ministry that uplifts the women, WIN Home is an extension of this. We are encouraged and empowered to allow this little lamp of WIN Home to spread out its light upon the millions of women who are living in darkness and have no hope.

I express my gratitude on behalf of the congregation and my team for the whole hearted support of our benefactors. They have been catalysts in realizing the dreams of hundreds of women.

I now look forward to the years ahead with the hope and assurance that many more will support us and help us in achieving our goal and objectives towards helping the helpless

*Sr. Vinayalata Rebelho, SRA*

## Case Description

- Marital Problem: Most women who approach us have family problems such as alcoholic spouses beating, abusing and mentally torturing them, having forceful sex, extra marital affairs, being suspicious, and failure in motherhood and not providing financial support.

So far we have had 125 cases who have been rehabilitated by us. It is heartening to note that from them only 3 such cases have sought for separation and have been successful in getting appropriate alimony. Presently, 10 cases are at the intervention level.
- HIV-AIDS Patients Rehabilitation: 12 women who were diagnosed positive and not having support from any one were admitted in Centres run for these patients. Their children were helped with education by putting them in boarding schools. The other families members have been counseled to accept them back into their families with proper respect.
- Psychological Imbalance: 66 cases referred by NGO's and Church organisations were admitted in Shradha Nursing, Karjat Rehab Home Cooper Hospital, St. Ignatius Hospital at Honavar, etc. 28 of them are better and have returned to their families and from them one girl recently got married.
- Premarital Affairs: 27 adolescent pregnant girls were referred to us. They have been given counseling, shelter, medical aid and looked after pre and post delivery of the child.

We emphasize that the unborn child is also a gift from God and has a right to live. The counseling imparted to them helps them to give birth to the child and agree to the adoption of the child.

After the child has been given for adoption the mother is sent back to her biological family. In case the family refuses to accept her or she refuses to return to them, then she is provided with employment thus is assisted in supporting her self. Therefore, WIN Home becomes a second home for her with continuous contact and follow up.
- Adolescent Counseling & Rehabilitation: 50 cases of girls have been primarily counseled by us and then referred to different NGO's. There were 8 cases who came from different places like Punjab, Allahabad, Latur, Mangalore, Goa etc. and were looked after at WIN Home. Out of them 6 girls have been rejoined with their families. The balance two refused to go back to their families. One girl was encouraged to completed her graduation course and is presently pursuing General Nursing as a career. While the other girl was given Computer Training and is now lucratively employment.
- Forced Marriage: There were 4 cases of underage girls who wanted to complete their studies but forced by their families to get married. Hence, They ran away from their homes. One from Kerala, one from Gujarat and two from Mumbai were given shelter and counseling and later rejoined to their families after taking a written pledge from their parents that they would be allowed to complete their studies and not forced into marriage.
- Domestic Violence: There were 90 cases of women who faced domestic violence due to dowry related matters or gender discrimination. They have been given temporary shelter, counseling, legal assistance, vocational training, general awareness and skill development and have been reunited with their families.

8. Job Referral: Many young girls and women in distress approach us regularly with their family problems. After their intervention and counseling, we realize that their primary need is proper employment. So far we have assisted 406 women and girls to be gainfully employed.

### **Case Studies:**

#### **Althea Cardoz**

Mrs. Althea Cardoz is 26 yrs old deserted by her husband, she has a son and daughters. She approached WIN Home when she was 5 months pregnant. Church organization helped her to keep her children at Mother Teresa Convent at Goa where they are studying. She has delivered a female child and due to socioeconomic problem she has given the baby for adoption. Here she obtained training for Housekeeping, Candle making, Flower making, Computer course and Beautician course and is working presently.

#### **Annie Navin Patel**

Annie Navin Patel came from Gujarat. She is catholic and was married twice. Her first husband was a B.H.M.S. doctor and he was an Alcoholic and died. Her second husband was a Hindu. She has one son from her first marriage and a daughter from her second marriage. On account of the harassment and attempt to kill her she left her home with her daughter and as she had no shelter she came to WIN Home. She was mentally disturbed so she was given the temporary shelter and counseling, legal aid and succeeded in gaining legal separation from her husband. As she a nurse by profession and wanted to work she was provided with a suitable job in the hospital as a nurse and her daughter is kept in the boarding. At present she is earning a good salary.

#### **Asha Gaikwad**

Asha Gaikwad is referred by family service center to us since she was a 7 months unmarried pregnant girl she has been kept with us for 3 months and provided counseling. She was encouraged to prepare and appear for the S.S.C. exam. She has been counseled regarding rehabilitation of her child through adoption and responsible behavior. She delivered a female child and rehabilitate through family service center. Asha is now staying with her family and appearing for S.S.C. exam.

#### **Doris Francis Coehlo**

Doris is 27 years old woman. She came to WIN Home on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007 as she was depressed & disturbed. She has completed her 10<sup>th</sup> standard. She stays in Mira Road. She has one child from her husband. When her husband went abroad, her husband's friend used to come to see her, then their relationship developed in sexual relationship. Doris became pregnant. She wanted to leave the real husband and we counseled her to talk to her husband and seek his forgiveness and reconcile with him thus keeping the family together.

#### **Elisa Kisputta**

Elsia is 15 years old. When she was 4 years old her mentally disturbed unwed mother left her in the forest and an old lady took her and looked after her. After the old lady died a broker from the village tried to sell her but the other neighbors stopped him and came to the girls' rescue and contacted the Sisters at Mother Theresa's home where she lived for 3 years. When she went for holidays the same broker tried to use her sexually and brought her to Bombay to work as a domestic worker. Her employer pressurized her to work but she disturbed and one day she took

the knife to kill herself. Her employer approached WIN Home and requested us to counsel and find out what was wrong with her.

When she was brought to WIN Home, she was silent, afraid and disturbed. We realized that she was psychologically disturbed so we tried to talk to her without getting any response from her. Hence, we sought medical aid and got her admitted in the hospital under round the clock observation and surveillance for 15 days. As there was not much improvement in her case she was recommended 10 shock treatments which enabled her to come out of her disturbance and become normal once again. Presently is living with us and her treatments is on and we are happy to see her move and talk like a normal person again.

### **Jyoti Mukesh Telangi**

Jyoti is a 19 yrs old girl and had studied only till the 4<sup>th</sup> standard. She is a Hindu from Vidya Vihar, Mumbai. She was in love with a man who was her neighbor and he had sexual relations with her but when she was pregnant he deserted her. Her parents and family members made her leave home and refused to take her back. Hence, she was lost and so desperate that she intended to end her life. Some NGO directed her to WIN Home for help on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2007. Here she was counseled and treated her well so she so she felt accepted. At WIN Home she was looked after pre and post delivery of her baby boy who she agreed to be adopted. She was then given adequate training to do house work and was provided with a suitable job. Presently she is happy and is grateful for the timely help that she has received from us.

### **Kavita Ajay Indore**

Kavita Ajay Indore a Hindu 28 yrs old residing at Bhandup, Mumbai. She lived with her first husband for four years who died later. Presently her son is ten years old and is looked after by her in laws as she got married again due to being blackmailed by her second husband Ajay. She was working in a Company and Ajay stalked her for some time and offered to marry her after breaking up her first marriage. So she had no choice but to marry him in a temple and live with him. But he already had three wives and she became the fourth wife. However, he informed her that he has no relations with them. Later she found out that he continued having the sexual relationships with his previous wives and also supporting them financially. Since he openly spoke about the same, which she could not accept anymore. Besides he physically struck her, abused her, and forced her out of the house. She went to the police station to lodge the complaint against her husband where the police kept him for the night, but due to political pressure he was freed. So out of fear she left the house and came to WIN HOME for shelter and stayed here for almost 6 months. After counseling, she was made aware of her rights and was given legal aid which helped her to make the right decision. Later her husband came around and after several meetings and assurances from him she opted to go back to him. Now she is happy again.

### **Leena Lawrence Bavighar**

Leena is a 51 year old Gujarati catholic lady married to a catholic Fisherman from Uttan having two children. She is a nurse by profession. Her husband currently is having an illegal relationship with another woman and wants to divorce Leena. But Leena did not agree to divorce as she did not want to break up the family for the sake of the grown up children. When she approached WIN Home, she was counseled and made aware of her rights and given legal aid. She is with her children and working it out with her husband to return back to them.

### **Linnette Joseph Chirath**

Linnette Joseph Chirath is a 49 years old woman who is a catholic divorcee. Her two children are staying with mother. She is psychologically ill and disturbed. We gave her medical treatment and counseling. Now she is better and has returned to her parents in Kerala.

### **Loretta**

Loreto is 32 years old and a graduate. She was a catholic but as she married a Hindu she did not practice Christianity. Her husband divorced her for another woman. She came to us disturbed and desperate. After counseling her and making her feel accepted in society, she was encouraged to stand on her feet and assisted in getting employed.

### **Mala Pandit**

Mala Pundit is a 40 year old widow as her husband died of HIV AIDS. She and her younger daughter are HIV Positive but elder son is Negative, studying and selling candles at Mahim Church for his living. Since she was very sick the children approached WIN Home who in turn sent her to Nirmay Niketan at Trombay. Her daughter is admitted at Nasik and soon will be transferred to CCDT, Bombay based Organization. Follow-up is done on regular basis

### **Manda**

Manda is 16 years old and was living with her alcoholic brother at home as her parents died years ago. Her brother started harassing her so her married sister sent her to us for shelter and getting a job. We trained for housekeeping, candel making, flower making and carpet making. Presently she is working as a full time housemaid, earning well and happy.

### **Mandakini**

Mandakini aged 18 years was forced to get married to someone else than the boy she was in love with after breaking up with him to please family members. Her husband and in laws began to harass her for lack of dowry and so she returned home. Her family could not afford to give her dowry but wanted her to return to her husband. Her in laws came to take her back but as she refused to go with them they physically struck her and she contacted the local police station for protection.

She then went to the Auxilium Convent for shelter and help. The Sisters brought her to WIN Home. We gave her protection for two months, counseling her and gave her training in Typing & Computers. We then helped in getting employed and presently is back home with her brother.

### **Mary D'Cunha**

Mary D'Cunha aged 72 residing at Andheri was a domestic worker. Her husband and four sons were alcoholics who harassed and made her suffer tremendously. One of the sons had left the house forty years ago and only after her husband and the three sons died he returned to her assuring her that he would support her. However, within a month he began drinking, beating her till she bled and mentally tortured her. Then church association brought her to WIN Home for help. She remained with us for nearly six months and then she was sent to the Aged Home.

### **Mary Pereira**

Mary Pereira is a widow aged 45 years who came to WIN Home for shelter and help when she was disowned by her only son and sister. She was very hard working. But she was depressed & lonely due to family problems. In order to look after her son and his education she decided to work abroad as a domestic worker and requested her own sister to look her son and give him education while promising to send sufficient money to meet al her son's requirements. Her son is an Engineer and employed in a reputed firm abroad. Hence at this age she came back wit the hope that her only child will look after her but he rejected her and addresses the biological aunt as his mother and vice versa. It is very sad to note that a mother who sacrificed her life and spent her earnings on her child has now been disowned by him. Hence, she was homeless and depressed and the Church authorities directed her to us. She was given shelter, consoled and given the requisite counseling and guided to start her life again by providing her with a job.



### **Minali Fernandes**

Minali is a mentally challenged girl aged 26 years. She is from Goa and was admitted for her treatment in Mumbai. After her discharge from the hospital she had to go for check ups every fortnight and to be given regular medicine. As she has no one in Mumbai, the doctor requested us to help her as she had no one and her mother had died due to mental problem. Her father is very old and poor so he cannot help her in any way. It was very difficult to keep her as she would run away at any time. She stayed with us for three months and then went back to her father at Goa.

### **Namita Purva**

Namita Purva aged 45 years has been diagnosed HIV Aids. Her husband and daughter died due to HIV Aids. Since her socioeconomic condition is bad, she approached WIN Home for assistance. We sent her to Nirmay Niketan for treatment and also provide her with medication and regular counseling. Her son has been motivated to take care of her.

### **Prabha Sonavane**

Mrs. Prabha Sonavane is Psychological Imbalance aged 36 years. She has been referred by family service center for temporary shelter. Prabha has been given shelter and counseling. As she needed medical assistance she was admitted at Shradha nursing home and with continuous treatment she was able to remember her past. She has returned back her native place with husband and 3 children.

### **Rosy Henriques**

Rosy is a Catholic aged 56 years with two grown up children. Her alcoholic husband was sexually harassing her and as she is sick she could not satisfy him. Her daughter brought her here for protection. Both her husband and she were given counseling and they now stay together while their children have taken up her responsibility in caring for her.

### **Stella Mary Dinesh**

Stella Mary was married to a contract worker from Surat when she was 15 years old after she fought with her mother and left her home at Wadala. After two years of marriage they got a son. The husband was affected with T.B. and died. She stayed with her child struggling to support them. She left all her belongings and came to Mumbai in a desperate state of mind and was directed to WIN Home. We sheltered them and counseled her. She was referred to Mother Teresa's home as she decided to give up the child, not being able to look after the child. Now she lives in a destitute home run by Mother Teresa's convent and she has opted to work for the welfare of the destitute. Time to time we keep contact with her.

### **Trupti Vaity**

Trupti Anand Vaity came from Dharavi, she is a Maharashtrian, married to a Catholic Koli and has studied up to S.S.C. She has 2 daughters aged 5 and 3 years, and lives with her in-laws. Her husband harassed her and beat her badly. Her immediate thoughts were to end her life. The Parish priest of Dharavi referred her to WIN Home to seek help and shelter. She stayed with us for few days and received counseling and awareness in her crisis situation. Trupti's parents were informed about her whereabouts and came here to meet her. They were advised to lodge a police complaint against the husband. This was an easy way to handle the situation, as her parents accompanied her to Police station. In the mean time her husband had lodged a police complaint to search for Trupti and the girls. The husband had to report to the police station as Trupti surrendered herself with her children to the police. Thereby her husband had to agree not to physically hurt her anymore. Hence, the settlement and reconciliation took place at the earliest. On our follow up, her husband thanked us, acknowledged his fault, regretted his shameful behaviour and expressed his gratitude to us for saving his family.

### **Sarita Kindo**

Sarita a catholic aged 26 years along with her 18 year old sister Saroj came from Chattisgarh to Mumbai as they were promised a jobs by some one. When they arrived at Bombay Kurla Station they did find the person who had called them to Mumbai for jobs. They were lost and frightened and could not find the person the entire day. So at the end of the day they went to Mahim church and from there they were sent to WIN Home. Here they were given shelter and counseling and later agreed to work and earn their living. Both the sisters are provided proper jobs.

### **Testimonies**

#### **Pallavi Sharma**

I am Pallavi Sharma aged 21 years and doing my General Nursing at Honnavar, Karnataka. WIN Home is a place where I found new life, love, happiness, joy, peace of mind and freedom. I stayed in WIN Home for more than one year and I learnt so many things to improve my life. When I had come to WIN Home my condition was like a mad girl but the Sisters helped me to realize my identity, overcome my problems and thus gave me a new personality. I was discouraged but now I am a courageous, brave and bold girl.

WIN Home is providing not only good food but nutritious food according to our likes and dislikes and after staying at WIN Home I have become healthy and active. When I had came to WIN Home, I did not have any belongings except the clothes I wore. Now I have sufficient clothes which not only cover my body but also give me psychological confidence among my friends and classmates.

Presently, when I have vacations, I go to WIN Home to spend them as I consider it as my own home as the atmosphere at WIN Home is what a home should have. We feel loved, cared, understood, wanted, at peace and free in this house which helps us to forget our bitter experiences and start a new life.

WIN Home has encouraged and helped me to complete my BA and now I am doing my Nursing through their sponsorship. There are various rehabilitation activities and Vocational Training Programs conducted at WIN Home which helps us to become independent and stand on our own feet. I learnt cooking, flower making and candle making at WIN Home. I also got an opportunity to teach dance to the school children at Vakola.

WIN Home is run by Sr. Vinayalata who is a religious person. She gives importance to prayer and meditation thus making us aware of God' love for us and developing us spiritually. By sharing feelings to God, many of us have found the right way to lead our lives. It is only after staying at WIN Home, I realized how to pray and the value of praying. But now I am able to pray and speak with God.

WIN Home places focus on the morals and values of women and I have learnt from Sr. Vinyalata how to care for others by forgetting ourselves and now I am able to do the same.

At last what can I say? WIN Home is not a house for me but it is a Church. If WIN Home would have not been there when I was in need, my life would have been ruined today. But now I realize that it is God only who brought Sr. Vinayalata, like an angel on my way to save me and to give new meaning to my life. Sister has filled my life with joy, happiness and love. I don't think anymore that I am an unfortunate girl in this world as I have experienced God's miracles in WIN Home through Sr. Vinayalata. She is a person who sacrificed her time, energy and rest for the

welfare of others. I too want to become like her. I have decided in my mind and heart that when I will start earning, my focus is to care for WIN Home and the welfare of those women who are in need. I want to serve those people who are suffering. All these feeling have come in my mind after seeing the mission work of WIN Home.

This small WIN Home has a big place in my heart and in the hearts of all 800 women who are helped and supported by WIN Home. May God bless me to lead my mission through WIN Home. The inspiration which I have received from Sr.Vinayalata helps me to take this resolution "In my future, I wish to be an angel to hundreds of women who are in pain and suffering. I want to wipe the tears of many more women and I want to make this little plant - WIN Home to grow like a huge Banyan tree which will give shelter to many more." May God bless Sr. Vinayalata, Sr. Antonia and my WIN Home in carrying out their mission.

By, Daughter of WIN Home,  
Pallavi Sharma

### **S. Perpetual Vaz.**

I am S. Perpetual Vaz aged 25 years born in Goa. From my childhood I have experienced the hatred and violence in my family between my parents. My mother married my father at the age of 19 and my father worked in Muscat Oman. I was an unplanned child and the doctor had advised my parents to abort me, but I am grateful to my father for not aborting me and bringing me into this world.

The fight and hatred that started during my childhood effected my life and my health as a result I got fits from the age of one and half years. When I was three and half years, my mother separated from my father, leaving me alone with my father, who had to go back to work. abroad. She did not care for me even though I was suffering from fits and was a small child. Later I was put in a boarding school and completed my studies till S.S.C. I continued my studies up to H.S.C. from home. In between my 12 standard my mother met me and influenced me against my father and took me to live with her. On the pretext of allowing me to appear for the H.S.C. Board exam she got me to do all the house work and look after her new born child till the girl was eighteen months. Then her husband threw me out of the house because I wanted to study further. Then I went to my father who refused to forgive me and take me back. I then approached my paternal uncle who gave me shelter for seven months and then placed me with a family at Mahim as a domestic help. However, this family ill treated me and paid me only Rs. 300/- per month. After living for 4 years with them I left them and approached a Priest at St. Michael's, Mahim who sent me to WIN Home.

Sr.Vinayalata & Sr. Antonia welcomed me with open arms and gave me the love and affection that I craved for. I was also given training in cooking, flower making, candle making. Presently I am attending Computer classes and side-by-side being trained for an office job at home. Here seeing our background we are not kept apart but kept as one family, sharing the joys and sorrow together. Today I am happy and proud to say that I have got a new home for my self, a home that is open to any women in need. And now I don't even call it a center but My Home. I thank Our Lord Jesus for blessing me with this home. Thank You Sister for all your love.

मी सौ. शर्मिला प्रभाकर गरूड राहणार शेवगाव जि अ. नगर पतीबरोबर भांडण झाल्यामुळे रागाने घर सोडले मुंबईची काहीच माहिती नसतानाही मी मुंबईला दादर या ठिकाणी आले कारण नगर या ग्रामीण भागात काम मिळत नाही आणि मला सैतानी विचाराने गोंधळून टाकले होते तरी देखील मी मुंबई मध्ये काम करून माझ्या बाळासाठी जगेल या विचाराने सर्व ठिकाणी काम शोधण्यासाठी फिरू लागले पुर्ण दिवस मुंबई मध्ये फिरूनही मला कामाला ठेवले नाही कारण माझी ओळख येथे कोणाचीच नव्हती शिवाय मी दोन – तीन महीण्याची गरोदर असल्यामुळे घर कामही कोणी मला दिले नाही. घर कामासाठी खुप प्रयत्न करून माझे दुःख सांगूनही कोणाला माझी दया आली नाही कारण माझी अवस्थाच धोक्याची होती. सर्व दिवस पायाखाली घातला काम तर मिळालेच नाही पण आधार

सुद्धा मिळाला नाही. मी वेडयासारखी झाले आणि मनात आत्महत्या करण्याचा विचार केला मी समजून गेले की आता माझ्य जीवनात काहीच उरलेल नाही घर तर नाहीच पण मला आधार पण कोणीच देत नव्हते कारण मी एक अडवलेली गरोदर स्त्री होते यामुळे मला कोणीच जवळ करत नव्हते असाच पुर्ण दिवस संपला अंधार झाला सर्वजण स्वतःच्या घरी जात होते मला घर नव्हते खुप भीती वाटत होती भुक लागली होती पोटात गर्भ असल्यामुळे चक्कर येऊ लागली लोक माझ्यापासून लांब जात होते कारण माझी अवस्थाच अशी होती स्टॅण्डवर उभी असतांना काही लोक मला वेगळया भावनेनं बघतात याची जाणीव झाली.

अशा या वाईट प्रसंगी मी दादर चर्च या ठिकाणी गेले तेथे देखिल मला वॉचमॅनने गेटमध्ये प्रवेश दिला नाही. परंतु तेथिल एका समाज सेविकेने मला विनहोम मध्ये आणले ती सुद्धा माझ्या स्थितीला बधून तीच्या घरी नेऊ शकत नव्हती. मी विनहोमध्ये आले मला भीती वाटत होती कारण मी गरोदर असल्यामुळे माझी जबाबदारी कोणीच घेतली नाही तसे इथेही होइल आणि शेवटी आत्महत्ये शिवाय मार्ग नव्हता परंतू तेथील सिस्टर्स विनयलता आणि अँथोनीया इतक्या प्रेमाणे माझ्याशी बोलल्या की एका क्षणात माझे मन हलके झाले कारण तो एक चमत्कारच होता. अशा वेळी सिस्टरांना माझी सर्व हकीकत समजली तरी त्या मला ठेवण्यासाठी घाबरल्या नाहीत. त्यांनी प्रेमाणे मला स्विकारले आणि तुटलेल्या, विस्कटलेल्या जीवनाला जीवन ज्योत लावली. माझा विचार त्यांच्या प्रेमामुळे बदलला कारण आई देखिल सांभाळणार नाही असे त्या मला सांभाळत होत्या माझ्या पोटातील बाळाची जबाबदारी त्यांनी स्वतःवर घेतली त्यामुळे माझ्या जीवनाला आधार मिळाला कोणीही करू शकणार नाही अशी गोष्ट सिस्टर्स माझ्यासाठी करू लागल्या.

माझे जीवन संपले असते परंतू सि. विनयलता आणि सि. अँथोनीया यांच्या प्रेमामुळे मला आज नवीन जीवन मिळाले आहे. कारण मेणबत्ती जशी स्वतः जळून सर्वांना प्रकाश देते तसेच सिस्टर विनयलता स्वतः झिजून निराधार मुलींना आधार देतात. माझ्या जीवनात आनंदाची बाग विनहोमच्या सिस्टर्स विनयलता आणि अँथोनीया यांनी लावली माझा सांभाळ करूनही माझ्या पतिला समजुतदार पणाने समजावून त्यांनी आमचे जीवन सुखावले आहे. आज त्यांच्यामुळे आम्ही खुप आनंदात आहोत खरोखर देवाने सिस्टर विनयलता यांना गोरगरिबांसाठी निवडले आहे.

“ मायेची देई सावली जीवनात येई पावली ”

सिस्टरांची वेडी माया जीवनात राही ठावी.

सिस्टराविषयी कितीही लिहिले तरी शब्द पुरे पडणार नाही. कारण स्त्रीची आतंरिक गरज त्या आहेत जीवनेल सुद्धा त्या आहेत.

तुमची आज्ञाधारक  
शर्मिला गरूड

मेरा नाम रागिनी सिंह है मैं अलाहाबाद की रहने वाली हूँ मैं एक अनाथ लड़की हूँ! मेरे माता—पिता की मौत हो चुकी है मेरे माता पिता के मौत के बाद मेरे चाचा जी मेरे माता पिता की पापटी अपने नाम कराने के लिये 'मुझे सताने लगे मुझे मारने लगे मुझे घर से निकाल दिया! मेरी पड़ोस में रहने वाली एक औरत ने मेरा फायदा उठाना चाहा वह मुझे अपने साथ **Bombay** लेकर आई मुझे कुछ भी सोचने का मौका नहीं मिला मैं उसके साथ **Bombay** चली आई यहाँ पर आने के बाद वो मुझे बेचना चाहती थी जब मुझे यह बात पता चली मैं बिल्कुल डर सी गई मैं ने किसी तरह उस औरत से पिछा छोड़कर मैं माहिम चर्च के सिस्टर्स के पास मदद माँगने गई फिर सिस्टर लोगो ने मुझे **Win Home** की सिस्टर विनयलता से मेरी मुलाकात करवाई फिर **Win Home** की **Sister** ने मुझे अपना कर मुझे रहने की जगह दी उन्होंने मुझे जो प्यार दिया जो अपनापन दिया वो मैं जिंदगी में कभी भी नहीं भुल सकती विनहोम में आने के बाद मुझे लगा कि जैसे मुझे नई जिंदगी मिल गई है. यहाँ पर आने के बाद मैं अपने घर नहीं जाना चाहती. जिस तरह एक माँ अपने बच्चो को सलाह देती है उसी तरह **Win Home** में रहने वाली **Sisters** ने मुझे सलाह दिया!

तुम्हारी पिछली जिंदगी में क्या हुआ तुम उसे भुल जाओ और हर दिन आने वाली सुबह की तरह अपनी नई जिंदगी की शुरुवात करो अपने पैरो पर खड़े होकर कुछ बनो अपने माता—पिता का नाम रोशन करो सिर्फ मुझे ही नहीं यहाँ पर आनेवाली सभी लड़कियो को माँ—बाप जैसा प्यार देती है, सबको नई जिंदगी देती है, सबको आगे बढ़ने की प्रेरणा देती है. मैं सिस्टर के दिये हुए हर सलाह पर अमल करूँगी. सि. विनयलता और सि. अँथोनिया ने मुझे जो कुछ भी दिया है उनमें से शायद मैं सब कुछ लौटा दूँ पर उनके द्वारा मिला हुआ प्यार, अपनापन जीने की प्रेरणा उनका आशिर्वाद मैं कभी भी नहीं लौटा सकती! अपना घर छोड़कर आने के बाद सि. से मुलाकात के बाद आज मैं जो कुछ भी हूँ उसका श्रेय सर्वप्रथम विनहोम और सिस्टर्स को जाता है! जिस तरह माँ—बाप अपने बच्चों को प्यार करते हैं, अपने बच्चों को सही मार्गदर्शन देते हैं ठीक उसी तरह सिस्टर्स यहाँ पर आने वाली सभी लड़कियों का मार्गदर्शन करती है! *Every one's life in this world was painted by god's own hands 'I am thankful to him' because he painted to my life he touched one nice colour that is you .Sr Vinaylata & Sr. Anthonya. Win Home की Sister को धन्यवाद कहने के लिये मेरे पास शब्द नहीं है:—*

आपको हर सफर का किनारा मिलेगा चमकता हुआ हर सितारा मिलेगा  
आयेगी चेहरे पर प्यारी सी मुस्कान **Massage** जब आपको यह हमारा मिलेगा !

आपकी बेटि  
रागिनी सिंह

## सौ. सुशमा पिंटो

मी सौ. सुषमा रवी पिंटो राहणार नेरूळ-नवी मुंबई. पतीबरोबर भांडण झाल्यामुळे मी घरातून निघून गेले. तेथून माहिम चर्च मध्ये गेले. तेथे फादरानी सांताक्रुझ-वाकोला येथिल विनहोम संस्थेच्या संचालिका सि. विनयलता यांच्याकडे पाठवले. जेव्हा संस्थेत आली तेव्हा तेथिल वातावरण पाहून भारावून गेले. सिस्टरांनी इतके प्रेम दिले की वाटल नाही की मी एका संस्थेत राहत आहे. घराच्या माणसावर प्रेम करावे तसे प्रेम मिळाले. संस्थेत विविध समस्या घेऊन आलेल्या मुलींचे अनुभव ऐकायला मिळाले. एकत्र राहिले. आठ दिवस कधी भरले ते समजले नाही. सिस्टरांनी पतीला बोलावून घेतले. त्यांना समजावून सर्व सांगितले. दोघांना एकत्र घेऊन चर्चा केली व नंतर मी पतीबरोबर घरी आले. आज दोन मुलांसमवेत आमचा संसार सुरवाचा चात्मला आहे.

आपकी बेटी  
सुषमा पिंटो

## WIN HOME ACTIVITIES



## **WIN Home Dispensary**

WIN Home is also running a small family health centre for the neighborhood locality. Most of the poor and needy residents who are below the poverty line take advantage of this medical centre. The cases treated at WIN Home are for Viral Fever, Influenza, Common Colds & Cough, Bronchitis, Asthma, Diarrhoea, Dysentery, Giving Insulin Injections for Diabetic Patients, Regular Check up of High Blood Pressure & Low Blood Pressure, Dressing of Cuts & Wounds, Various Skin Disease Treatments, Sick Calls for the aged and home bound patients etc. Over the last 5 years we have attended to over 8000 patients on a daily basis round the clock.

### **Other Activities –Arnala Outreach Program**

As part of our outreach programme in Arnala, Vasai Taluka, Thane we have been involved in intensive work with women of the Fisher Folk-community as we believe that their development is fundamental for the strengthening of the family and the community on a whole.

Our work with the women of this community began with meetings where in we disseminated information on different subjects.

The main reason for this strategy was twofold: firstly, we decided to go into this community not with our own agenda but wanted the women to take come up with their own issues that they felt important and need to be attended. Secondly; we felt that by them coming forward with information we would be empowering them in developing their functional literacy and succeed in getting them involved.

To find out their needs and assessment in their community we decided to do baseline survey to obtain complete information of the residents which would help us tremendously in their intervention.

#### Intervention with women:

General awareness and functional literacy imparted to the women and young girls. We have conducted 48 sessions for these women related to Health viz. Personal Hygiene, Cleanliness, Nutrition, Family Planning, Parenting etc., Gender Discrimination issues, Women's rights and self-respect, Gaining confidence.

So far 8 Self Help Groups of women have been formed and their main aim is to become independent and self sufficient through income generating schemes.

Two Medicals camps were conducted where in most of the women availed of the various check ups and were diagnosed their ailments. They were made aware of different medical treatments available. Special check up and follow up was conducted for 30 pregnant women.

#### Intervention with children:

175 children attended the 16 days Summer camp organized by us. The main focus in this camp was given on Personality development through Talent and skill development, Value education, Gender discrimination, Cleanliness and personal hygiene. Thus this camp helped them to realize their strength, weakness and values.

### Intervention with children:

175 children attended the 16 days Summer camp organized by us. The main focus in this camp was given on Personality development through Talent and skill development, Value education, Gender discrimination, Cleanliness and personal hygiene. Thus this camp helped them to realize their strength, weakness and values.

We realized that majority of the local children do not study further than the fourth standard. This was due to lack of interest and encouragement from their parents due to their own illiteracy as well as they being away from the home during the day busy with their fishing business. Besides the school was far away and the children had to walk long distances and also they need assistance for their studies. Therefore, we began study classes for the weak and average students and presently 140 children are regularly attending these classes after regular school .

Bal Mandal was formed to create interest among the children aged 10 to 14 years. They meet every Friday at St. Peter's School Hall and the activities conducted so far are Intellectual and Skill games, Singing Competitions, Drawing Painting & Craft Competitions, Street Plays etc. We also use Media Programmes and organize various awareness programmes for their overall development.

### Intervention with Youth:

The Awareness Programme for the Youth was conducted in 8 sessions in which 113 youth attended. The topics covered were Importance of Higher Education and Career, Self Confidence, Meditation, Addiction, Sex Education, Health & Hygiene, Talent building and Savings.

A Vocational Guidance Program was organized for the SSC students, College going students and also school dropouts. 43 youth participated in this training wherein they were given details of various careers they could choose and the necessary training needed for them. Thus making them aware of the importance of Skills training.

Some Youth have been provided with Vocational Training at Training centres for eg. Motor Mechanic Training at St. Francis Institute, Mount Poincur, Borivali and Hotel Management Course at Divine Child Training Centre, Chakala, Andheri etc. Their trainings have been arranged on free basis.

Some of the boys have been given Job Placements in different Companies.



# Networking

Kripa Foundation (Bandra)  
Missionary of Charity (Vile-Parle)  
Missionary of Charity (Santacruz)  
Family Service Center (Colaba)  
Snehalaya Family Service Centre (Mahim)  
St. Catherine Home (Andheri)  
Snehasadan (Andheri)  
Nirmal Niketan (Chembur)  
Daya Sadan (Dharavi)  
Mukti Sagar Kendra (Uttan)  
Ashraya (Chembur)  
Ashadeep (Mahim)  
Ashakiran (Vakola)  
Salvation Seva Kendra (Dadar)  
Auxeliun Convent (Wadala)  
Chium Community Centre (Khar)  
Andrean Social Service Centre (Bandra)  
Mahila Ayog Mandal  
Family Court (Mumbai)  
Justice and Peace Commission (Goregaon)  
All Government and Religious Hospitals  
All Churches (Mumbai)

## Achievements

- \* 338 Women have taken advantage of Vocational Training for eg. Candle making, flower making, carpet making, bag making, tailoring and embroidery etc.
- \* 406 Women have been provided with suitable employment
- \* 27 Unwed Mothers' were helped in giving their children for legal adoption through recognized Institutions.
- \* 66 Psychological imbalanced women have been referred to different rehabilitation centres in different parts of India
- \* 12 adolescent girls are given higher education
- \* 4 girls were rescued from being forced into marriage and their parents have been counseled and now agree to allow their daughters to complete their studies
- \* 12 Women who were diagnosed HIV Aids positive have been counseled and given medication and then sent to the respective centres for treatment
- \* Out of the 125 women who approached us with marital problems 112 of them have been reconciled with their families, 10 women are at the intervention stage. While 3 women have obtained legal separation from their spouses with proper alimony.
- \* 110 women who were victims of domestic violence due to dowry related matters or gender discrimination have been counseled along with their family members and have returned back to their families again.
- \* During these five years 8000 poor patients have been treated and availed of free medicines at WIN Home Dispensary
- \* Outreach Program at Arnala from 2006 onwards:
  - 1) Baseline survey with 2251 families
  - 2) Intervention with women:
    - General awareness and functional literacy imparted to the women and young girls
    - Formation of 8 Self Help Groups of women (income generating schemes)
    - 2 Medicals camps were conducted
  - 3) Intervention with children
    - Summer camp
    - Study classes
    - Forming of Bal Mandal
  - 4) Intervention with Youth
    - Awareness Programme
    - Vocational Guidance Program
    - Vocational Training Program
    - Job Placements

# Appeal

## **WIN HOME**

Sisters of the Queen of the Apostles,  
House No. 69, Vakola Village,  
Santacruz East, Mumbai-55

### **Subject: Appeal for the assistance for empowering the Women.**

Dear Friends,

WIN Home is voluntary organization committed to give justice to the voiceless and exploited women in society crossing all barriers of age, caste and religion. The women who have been tortured, persecuted and abandoned by their families and employers need special intervention. While there are services for counseling and rehabilitation available in the city, a dire need for temporary shelter wherein any women in need or distress can access shelter, unconditional love, understanding, care, concern and guidance from WIN HOME. This home is working towards meeting the needs of the hour for the past five years. Provision of varied services of counseling, medical facility, legal aid, temporary shelter, vocational training, job placement, referrals for alternate accommodation, care and rehabilitation of women in crisis. The Congregation of The Queen Of the Apostles under Immaculata Trust runs this program.

The primary Goal of its services is, promotion of skills and knowledge and capacity building among the women in need, equipping them to deal with various level, (individual, family, community and society) thereby enabling them to lead their life with dignity.

While working towards our Goal, we are facing many constraints to achieve the same. Presently we based in a small house at Vakola village and able to reach out to 800 cases during the 5 years time frame. While accommodating cases in our Centre we feel that we are not able to give justice to all of them due to space constraint. Because the need of the home has become great.

Hence we take this opportunity to approach you to fulfill our need by partnering with us in this endeavor. Benefit under section **80G of the Income Tax Act** is available for all donations by Indians to the **Immaculata Society**.

Yours Sincerely

Sr. Blessina Tuscano SRA  
Provincial Superior

Sr. Vinayalata Rebelho SRA  
Director  
WIN Home

# For Women In Need



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