

In East Khasi Hills District the Special training Programme for out of school children during the year 2019-20 had been functioning for nine (9) months both from the Block Level and Shillong Municipality area. During this academic year we have mainstreamed 289 children out of which 202 from continuing children and 87 from Fresh OoSC. The following are detailed number of mainstream OoSC from the different Blocks and Shillong Municipality:

1. Myllem – 8
2. Mawryngkneng- 26
3. Pynursla- 17
4. Mawkynew- 9
5. LaitkrohKhatarshnong- 7
6. Shillong Municipality- 222.

Below are some documented report received from the centres running Special training Programme for OoSC regarding their success stories along with some photograph.

1. North Eastern Regional Domestic Workers Movement (NERDWM)

The North Eastern Regional Domestic Workers Movement under the project Ray of Hope focussing on the out of school children in two centres i.e. in Mawlai under Ferrando Transit Shelter Home & Pynthorbah in Dorbar School SSA. The Ray of Hope project has been initiated since April 2017 and has been collaborated with the SSA scheme since October 2017. The numbers of students enrolled in both centres from April 2019 were 70 in which 38 student were mainstreamed to formal school under different school within Shillong.



### 2. Mawryngkneng C&RD Block

Mawryngkneng block had 5 Special Training Programme centre with 71 out of school children enrolled. They are able to mainstreamed 26 students. These are two students who have completed their Special training from Mawsharoh Centre and mainstream to Mawsharoh UPS.



Samuel Wahlang & Jingjoplang Wahlang who had been mainstreamed

### 3. SPARK:

SPARK is an organization that had a large number of success stories in which they are able to mainstream a large number of out of school children during this academic year and also in the previous year. They focus not only within the four wall of classroom but were able to provide many other activities that the child is capable off or had skill for. Here are some of the success stories documented by the organization:

1. Name of the student: Probest Khyriem

Sex: Male

Age: 14 years

Father's Name: Shri. Ribor Dohling

Mother's Name: Smt. Krisila Khyriem

Number of Siblings: 6

Address: Mawlynrei, Shillong



Probest Khyriem, son of Shri. Ribor Dohling and smt. Krisila Khyriem yields from a family living below poverty line. When Probest was still young, his father left them and settled with another wife. Hence he and his siblings were brought up by their mother being a single parent.

Due his father leaving them, there were extreme crises in the family due to which he had to drop-out of school and get engaged in some petty work to support the family. He also had to take care of his younger sibling while she mother had to go to work as domestic helper. Hence Probest childhood was no so happy and pleasant as he had to go through many difficulties at such a tender age.

His life got a new direction when SPARK started Out of School Children (OoSC) Centre at Mawlynrei in 2015. He was among the first group of children enrolled at SPARK OoSC Mawlynrei Centre attending the classes regularly showing utmost interest to learn. He always used to say that he want to study and achieve his aim in life and wipe away the problems faced by his family. He has been working very hard doing very good in his studies. He attended the classes in the morning while daytime he has to go to work and also look after his younger siblings.



In 2018, Probest passed out his Class VI from SPARK OoSC securing very good marks in all the subjects. Thereafter with the help of SPARK team, he was mainstreamed to St. Anthony's Evening School. However, he has to pay a minimum school fees at St. Anthony's School which he said that he is able to manage. He does come to SPARK if he finds difficulties in learning lessons. The EVs are helping him from time to time in resolving his issues related to studies as well as encouraging him to go ahead in life.

Presently, Probest is doing very well in his studies with growing aspirations to stand on his own feet and do something for his family and also desires to help others facing similar problems. Such is the dedication of Probest towards his studies as well as towards his family and others.

Probest is not only a very good student and a good son but also a very good human being. SPARK wishes his all the best wishes towards fulfilment of his aim in life.

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2. Name of the Student: SosilaMarboh

Age: 16 years

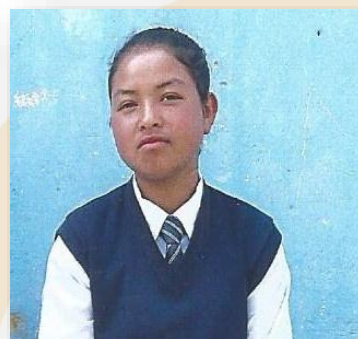
Sex: Female

Father's name: Shri. WadlangKhyriem

Mother's Name: Smt. AitilangMarboh

Number of Sibling: 8

Address: Mawlynrei, Treishnong, Shillong



Sosilia Marboh, daughter of Shri. Wadlang Khyriem and Smt. Aitilang Marboh, is a resident of Mawlynrei Treishnong, Shillong and yields from a family living with financial crises. Sosila is the eldest among the 8 siblings and therefore have many responsibilities in the family.

She has been struggling a lot as she has to look after her siblings and also help her mother in household activities. Thus, she had very limited time for her studies. Finally, she had to drop-out of school and had to get engaged in household chores. Moreover, the financial condition of the family was not stable to send Sosila to any school as the parents could not afford.

Although she was a drop-out but was always eager to learn and looking for an opportunity to get back to education which would be feasible for her considering her financial situation and her timing.

It must be her prayers and prayers of many others which were granted when SPARK initiated the OOSC Centre. SPARK OoSC Centre is totally free of cost as well as the timing of the centre is in accordance with the feasibility of the children.



As soon as, Sosila learnt about the commencement of the Centre, she immediately enrolled her name. Since then, she has been waking up very early in the morning, finishing her household work and then, running to attend the Centre while her siblings are still asleep. As soon as the classes are over, she had to rush back home as she had other responsibilities towards her siblings.

As a student of SPARK OoSC, she has been the best student and always active. She performed all her task with full responsibility and dedication. However based on her performance, SPARK decided to mainstream her to formal school for further studies and letting her talents and skills in a better direction. SPARK team had a series of meetings with her parents convincing them to allow her join formal school as she has a very bright future.

However after a lot of efforts, her parents finally agreed to get her admitted to a formal school and let her to a new beginning.

Sosila was finally admitted to Hubert Morning School which is an English Medium School. We have found that Sosila is very determined and moving ahead inspite of all the difficulties coming her way. She is not a girl to give up. She says that she will never leave hope whatever it may be and make her family and community feel proud of her one day. Sosila aims to become an Army Officer and serve the Nation and the poor.

We wish Sosila all the best for all her future ventures and we strongly believe that Sosila will definitely make everyone feel proud of her.

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3. Name of the Student: Rupa Barman

Sex: Female

Age: 10 years

Mother's Name: Smt. Bindu Devi Barman

Address: Bara Bazaar Slum, Opposite Emergency Fire Station, Shillong.

Number of Siblings: 6



Rupa Barman is a daughter of single parent and is a slum dweller. Her father expired when Rupa was an infant. Her mother worked as a daily wage earner and thus, with lots of hardship and difficulties; she somehow managed to take care of her children. Presently, she is selling tea next to OoSC Centre. Rupa is the child among the 6 siblings who is attending education while others are working as labourers to support the family. Her eldest sister is already married.

Rupa too would have been put to work but because of the set up of SPARK OoSC Centre within her community, she has managed to attend the classes. Rupa is

very intelligent and studious in her studies. She never fails to do her homework correctly and always on time.



Although Rupa is too young to take up the responsibility of running the family, yet it is observed that she plays a major role in helping her mother in the small tea stall and also taking care of the household work. She is indeed a very talented child managing her studies along with the family maintenance.

The living condition of Rupa is something unimaginable. Her house is made of plastic with broken roof and shed. Moreover, there is no electricity in her house. Yet she is determined that no such issues could stop her way of moving ahead in life. Based on efficiency and intelligence, SPARK has mainstreamed her to Guru Nanak UP School where she is performing very well. After returning from school, she regularly attains SPARK OoSC centre to complete her homework and seek help for school tests and examination.

It is indeed great pleasure to see Rupa securing full marks in every school tests and examinations. Inspite of living in such a difficult situation and being under extreme crises still she is successfully heading towards her aim in life of becoming a doctor.

We wish her all the best and pray for the fulfilment of her aim in life. Having such an aim is in itself a way to success.



4. Name of the Student: Pappu Kumar

Sex: Male

Age: 17 years

Address: Bara Bazaar, Shillong

Number of Siblings: 6

Father's Name: Shri. Ram Dayal Patel

Mother's Name: Smt. Sarita Devi

Pappu Kumar has been living in a slum but always held high hopes. He is the best example of inspiration and leading a satisfying life.

He is one of the best students of SPARK OoSC Centre and he has made everyone feel proud of him. Belonging to a family living below poverty line, Pappu had to work since his early childhood as a labourer. He too did not have a pleasant childhood and faced lots of physical, mental and emotional abuse. His father is a drunkard and most of the time he stayed away from home with another wife.

Pappu being the eldest in the family had to take up the responsibility of taking care of his mother and his younger siblings. In spite of his tight schedule, he managed to attend the classes at SPARK OoSC Centre and performed very well in his studies. Later, Pappu was also entrusted with the responsibility of taking care of his two step sisters.

Pappu did not hesitate to it and owned them as his own biological sisters and always fought for their wellbeing.



Pappu has high aspirations and dreams of something different. His talents and skills were quite unique. He was then provided training in animation and film making and in no time, he became an expert in it. He made a small animation film which was sent to Chicago International Film Festival and he was invited by the organizers to attend the programme at Chicago. His talents had touched the sky but due to financial crises, we could not make it to the programme. Now Pappu has been making videos with a wonderful message in each one of it. On the other hand, he is also attending SeinJaintia Morning School after which he goes to work. Presently he is in Class VIII.

Pappu is a very responsible student with an aim in life to do something different. SPARK has been supporting him from time to time towards the fulfilment of his aim in life. SPARK strongly believes that a day will come when Pappu will shine like a Sun.

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5. Name of the Student: Helpfulness Mawrie

Sex: Female,

Age: 15 years,

Number of Siblings: 8

Address: Mawlong Village,  
New Shillong

&



Alwaystar Marbaniang  
Sex: Male  
Age: 16 years  
Number of Siblings: 9  
Address: Mawlong Village,  
New Shillong



Helpfulness Mawrie and Alwaystar Marbaniang are residents of Mawlong Village, New Shillong, Meghalaya and yields from families leaving below poverty line. Their parents are farmers and earning is totally dependent on agriculture. There are also times that they could not earn anything due to bad harvesting as a result of towers everywhere.

Helpfulness herself has to work to support the family by working as domestic maid in the houses of village people. Whatever time she gets in between, she devotes it for studying. Besides, she also has to take care of her younger siblings while her parents are in the field. While Alwaystar Marbaniang has to work as cow boy taking the cows of village people for grazing in the field.

Both their families are living from hand to mouth and somehow leading their lives. Although they are facing such crises yet these children did not ever think of dropping from education.

They are taking every difficulty and crises as a challenge and with strong mindset aims to move ahead to complete their education and get a good job to wipe away the tears of their families. Based on their performance and leadership skill, SPARK has mainstreamed them to Presbyterian Secondary School Mawlong where they are doing quite well. At times, SPARK does support them for their education in formal school so that they do not drop-out again.

We wish that may they soon complete their studies and get an opportunity to help and support their families to get out of crises and live a stable life.

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### 6. Name of the student: Sumi Sheikh

Sex: Female  
Age: 14 years  
Mother's Name: Smt. Amina Begum  
Address: Bara Bazaar Slum, Shillong, Meghalaya.  
Number of Siblings: 5

Sumi Sheikh aged 10 years is the eldest among the 5 siblings and lives in a slum area with her family comprising of her parents, siblings and grandparents.





Although living in a slum in a family facing extreme poverty, Sumi is blessed with high intelligence, leadership skills, dancing skills and other talents.

Along with the teachers, Sumi participates in maintaining the classroom environment and actively participates in every activity. Whenever there are any visitors to SPARK OoSc Centre, she comes forward to host them in a very pleasant way.

Sumi is also very good in studies and has now been mainstreamed to formal school named Islamia Secondary School, G. S. Road, Shillong in class VI.

After returning from school, she finishes the assigned household chores and then, attends OoSC Centre to complete her homework and learn along with other students.

Presently, SPARK is providing her classes in dancing as she is very skilful in it. She has performed at many programmes and won the hearts of many.

It is indeed very right said that the place does not matter to find a talent. We can find it in every nook and corner. Sumi is one such talent who like a lotus has bloomed in a slum. She is very disciplined and well-behaved child. Life has definitely stored something wonderful for her.



### 7. Adult Education Programme

Address: Bara Bazaar OoSC Centre

It has been a major success of the OoSC Centre where the impact of education has forced the women folk to take a stand to educate them and learn to read and write.

The whole scenario is very satisfying and pleasing to watch when the slum women mostly the mothers of the OoSC coming to the Centre with a request to allow them to sit in the class to learn.

It was revealed that their children attending OoSC have encouraged their parents to enroll their names too in OoSC centre and educate them. Thus, SPARK OoSC Centre has arranged a special one hour classes for the mothers of the OoSC where it is amazing to see that these OoSC are helping their mothers to learn.





The whole idea is to enhance the education level among the children in the slum encouraging each one to teach one. It is considered a special programme where both mother and child are encouraged and motivated in this whole teaching learning process.

So far the programme is very successful with acknowledgement of the importance of education among the slum dwellers.

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