

**Girls' Orphanage**

**&**

**Home for**

**Abandoned Babies**

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## **I. WHY A GIRLS' ORPHANAGE AND HOME FOR UNWANTED BABIES IS NEEDED**

There are an alarming number of abandoned and orphaned children in India and Uttarakhand. A large number of these children are little girls who are perceived in our society to be a great burden. The life expectancy of the little girls is very low compared to the national average of little boys. The quality of life of these girls is most deplorable. They are wandering the roads, getting sold into brothels or living in unsuitable shelters. The vast majority of abandoned and orphaned girls have also been raped and abused. Due to their repeated brutalization and abuse, these girls cannot even envision a better future.

Further, even more females are not even given the choice for birth as they are victims of feticide. As the substantiated national female to male ratio is rapidly declining each year, it is essential to provide an alternative for mothers who are considering aborting their pregnancy or killing their newborn, as well as to provide a proper, loving home to the babies who have been allowed to live. Otherwise we will have a most imbalanced society with alarming social consequences.

In addition to the large number of girl babies aborted in utero, each day hundreds of unwanted babies are thrown away by indigent, unprepared, homeless mothers all over India. These babies, some who are only days or weeks old, are left in trash dumpsters, on the steps of temples and in the roads. The young, unmarried mothers are direly impoverished and cannot bear the financial and/or social burden of raising a child on their own. Unfortunately these helpless, innocent babies' last breaths are taken alone on the side of the road, in the woods, or in a trash dumpster. The solution is to set up a facility where the unwanted babies can be dropped off completely anonymously, with no questions asked, in a way that maintains the dignity, safety and anonymity of the mothers.

## **II. A MODEL ~GIRLS' ORPHANAGE AND HOME FOR BABIES**

A proper facility focused on loving, nurturing and caring for orphaned girls and abandoned babies and providing them with physical, mental and spiritual nourishment is urgently needed. These babies and children need a special loving 'touch', a premier academic education, and vocational training along with a nurturing, supportive environment which instills values, ethics and *sanskaras* in their fertile minds.

This special home and program will transform these once abandoned, unwanted and orphaned children into the "divine light" they were destined to be. Along with a trained and professional baby staff, the older girls in the orphanage will help take care of the abandoned babies. This will fill the older girls with great feelings of usefulness and hope. So this girls' orphanage and baby home will ultimately affect multiple generations, for when these girls grow and mature they will become the ideal mothers of future generations of children.

**The human and social growth and positive impact this girls' orphanage and baby home will have on society is vast, broad and multi-dimensional. Through growing up in this supportive, educational and nurturing environment, the children who were once considered "useless" and "burdens" will ultimately become integral, confident, productive and contributing members of society.**

**Through this unique weaving of nurturing support and love along with a cultural and academic education, these girls and babies will no doubt prove to be the future leaders for our great state of Uttarakhand and India. This special facility will be so successful that the rest of the country will be looking to Uttarakhand for guidance in replicating this model of an orphanage and baby home.**

### **III. MISSION AND PURPOSE**

Our mission is to provide a loving, nurturing and caring home for orphaned girls and abandoned babies where they will be educated and trained in lifelong and marketable skills. Our goal will be to fill these girls with hope and faith in their own future as well as to rebuild their faith in humanity and the world.

#### **Purpose of Parmarth Girls' and Baby Orphanage**

1. To establish an orphanage dedicated to orphaned and abandoned girls and babies irrespective of their religion, creed or community.
2. To meet all of the orphaned girls' and abandoned babies' complete needs.
3. To provide nutritious healthy meals, clothing and other basic needs.
4. To establish educational and computer facilities for primary academic education.
5. To encourage secondary and higher education through financial and moral support.
6. To establish vocational training centres (sewing/tailoring, handicrafts, cooking, gardening, nursing training and more) so the children can become productive members of society.
7. To encourage and teach respectful ways to preserve and beautify the environment through non-harmful, organic techniques which will put them in touch with Mother Earth and reawaken their natural nurturing and healing female energies.
8. To provide a clean, green and serene environment filled with beautiful gardens and nature walks.
9. To instill traditional *sanskaras* and ancient cultural wisdom of India.
10. To provide holistic health through allopathy, Ayurveda and other forms of Indian medicinal therapies.
11. To provide lifelong sustenance of health through meditation, yoga and other mind-body balancing techniques.
12. To establish an arts, crafts and music centre so the children receive a well-rounded education.
13. To establish playgrounds, recreational and sporting facilities for promotion of physical and psychological health.
14. To conduct youth camps at the local, national and international level in hopes of bringing tolerance, understanding and peaceful exchange of cultural and ideological differences.

#### **IV. BENEFITS FOR THE PEOPLE OF UTTARAKHAND**

**The following are some of the obvious benefits the girls' orphanage and baby home will bring to all of the districts of Uttarakhand:**

**Social Upliftment:** The Girls' orphanage and Baby Home will change the life course of countless numbers of girls and babies for this generation and innumerable generations to come. A girl, who has received the gifts of love, tenderness and positive guidance, will no doubt grow up and mature into a mother who will impart nurturing, loving support to her children.

**Education:** This special orphanage and home will raise the current low level of literacy in Uttarakhand especially for girls of not only this generation but countless generations to come. Studies have shown that educated individuals are more likely to provide education to their children. By bringing the light of education and training to so many girls who otherwise would languish in indigence and desperation, this facility will ensure that countless generations of children will mature to become valuable and contributing members of society.

**Environmental health:** This unique home will be designed to promote preservation of the environment through organic and environmentally sound methods. Again, the knowledge the girls receive will be preserved and taught to their children and their children's children thereby ensuring the health of the environment for many generations to come.

**Employment:** The special home will educate and train the girls in the orphanage in a variety of ways which will ultimately mean they will become productive and contributing members of society. In addition, through its multiple facilities and centres, the girls' orphanage and abandoned baby home will provide valuable employment to many people of Uttarakhand.

**Uttarakhand ~ National Hub for Girls' Orphanage:** This orphanage will be so exceptionally designed and successful that will be replicated throughout all of Uttarakhand and India. It will be the 'jewel' of Uttarakhand.

## **V. MAIN FACILITIES AND SERVICES**

**We would like to begin with 100 girls and approximately 100 babies, yet ultimately our goal is to be able to provide a home for 500 girls and babies.**

*The orphanage will include the following facilities:*

➤	Dormitory & Baby care centre	➤	Kitchen & dining facilities
➤	Academic education centre	➤	Computer training centre
➤	Study hall & Library	➤	Arts, crafts and music centre
➤	Vocational training centre	➤	Administrative offices
➤	Mind, body and soul healing centre	➤	Medical treatment & Dispensary centre
➤	Organic vegetable and fruit gardens	➤	Organic herbal and flower gardens
➤	Recreational and sporting facilities	➤	Storage and miscellaneous facilities

### **Dormitory Facilities and Baby Care Centre:**

- The dormitory will be designed to meet each girl child and baby's living space need.
- The girls will reside in groups of 5 to 6 per room and babies will be kept together to enable adequate supervision and attendance by the caregivers.

### **Kitchen & Dining Facilities**

- There will be a large kitchen and adjacent dining room where all the girls will eat together as a family.
- The babies will be fed with love and tenderness in a separate location until they are old enough to eat in the common dining room.

### **Academic Education, Computer and Vocational Training Centre**

- The classrooms will be designed to meet the needs of the various classes.
- A fully functional library will be made available for the children. Group reading will be encouraged and there will be ‘story time.’
- Larger rooms will be constructed for the various vocational training areas (sewing/tailoring, handicrafts, cooking, gardening and nursing training).

### **Administrative Offices**

- The offices will be used by the faculty and staff to carry out the various administrative needs of the orphanage and baby home.
- Admissions records, academic registrars, inventories, files and other records will be properly organized in this space.

### **Mind, Body and Spirit Healing Centre with Medical Treatment & Dispensary Facilities**

- One room will be reserved as an infirmary. This is where the children will receive medicine and first aid.
- There will also be a facility to conduct classes in yoga, meditation, dance and other activities.
- There will also be a special “counseling” area where the teachers or house mother can spend private time with any of the girls who are in need of one-on-one counseling.

### **Arts, Crafts and Music Centre**

- A specific area will be designated to develop the natural artistic and musical skills of the children.

### **Vegetable, Fruit, Herbs and Flower Gardens**

- Beautiful gardens filled with nutritious vegetables and medicinal herbs will be grown and cultivated.
- All of the facilities will be lined with a delicious variety of fruits and fragrant flowers and greenery.
- The children will be trained to help take care of the gardens and greenery, thereby giving them the priceless gift that comes from becoming in touch with the Earth and using their own hands to help something else grow.

### **Recreational & Sporting Facilities**

- There will also be a room in the babies’ wing as a “play room” for the babies which will be filled with toys, stuffed animals, rocking chairs, etc.
- Recreational and sporting facilities will be provided so the children can have proper physical exercise and exposure to the fresh clean air of the forest areas.

## **Storage and Miscellaneous Facilities**

- There will also be storage facilities for equipment, supplies and goods.

## **VI. CORE FACULTY AND STAFF**

### **Director**

The Director will be responsible for the administrative duties and making sure the orphanage and babies' home are running smoothly. He or she will ensure that the facilities and centres are providing the best education, training and support to the girls. He or she will be responsible for all of the faculty and staff. He or she will be active in making on-going improvements to the services being offered to the girls and babies.

### **Principal:**

The principal will be a trained, experienced teacher as well as administrator/ educationist. He or she will be in charge of planning the academic curriculum and selecting teachers who can implement the curriculum. He or she will have to be someone who can conduct assemblies, manage administrative duties, as well as teach moral science. He or she will have an office where all important documents are kept (e.g. attendance registrars, files, admissions charts, inventories, records).

### **Housemother**

The house mother has a crucial role in an orphanage as she will have tremendous influence over young and malleable minds of the children. She will be a warm, loving, tender mother for the orphaned girls and abandoned babies. She will serve as a role model for the girls. While she will be a friend, counselor and guide to the children, she will also be firm and strict regarding discipline, punctuality and rules. They will trust her and have faith in her like a real "mother." Being the source of strength and inspiration, she will have the vital role of instilling faith in the children's hearts.

### **Teachers:**

There will be teachers who will come in and teach academic subjects, including math, science, history, English, etc. as well as arts, music and dance. Further, there will be instructors in vocational training including computers, sewing, handicrafts, gardening and nursing. There will also be a yoga teacher and meditation teacher. Some teachers will be residential while others will come just during the day hours.

## **VII. EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

The following is a short list of equipment and supplies necessary for the various facilities and centres of the Girls' orphanage and Baby Home:

### **Dormitory Facilities and Baby Care Centre:**

- Beds, bedding and linen
- Baby specific items, equipment and supplies
- Uniforms, clothing, and foot wear
- Toiletries and personal items
- Washing machines

### **Kitchen & Dining Facilities**

- Gas stoves and cylinders
- Water Filters and Dispensers
- Dining table, chairs and chaukies
- Dining ware and utensils
- Cooking pots, pans and utensils
- Storage bins for food and water

### **Academic Education, Computer and Vocational Training Centre**

- Computers and other related electronic items
- Desks, tables and chairs
- School books and supplies

### **Administrative Offices**

- Office equipment
- Vehicles for administrative and management duties
- Communication equipment (i.e. telephones (land, intercom, mobile), etc.)

### **Mind, Body and Spirit Healing Centre**

- Medical equipment
- Yoga and Meditation mats and equipment
- Medicines and medical supplies
- First Aid and Emergency Kits

### **Arts, Crafts and Music Centre**

- Musical instruments
- Art and painting supplies
- Crafting supplies
- Art, crafting and musical book

### **Vegetable, Fruit, Herbs and Flower Gardens**

- Gardening equipment
- Potting pots, garden tools and water hoses
- Seeds, seedlings, saplings
- Organic biodegradable, chemical free pesticides and *gobar*

### **Recreational & Sporting Facilities**

- Sporting equipment
- Toys for babies and children
- Vehicles to transport children for day and overnight trips

### **Storage and Other Facilities**

- Maintenance and carpenter tools
- Cleaning and janitorial supplies
- Vehicle for transportation of food and other various goods