

Estd: 1995

AMBIKA SISHU KENDRA



Institute for Cerebral Palsy, Mentally Retarded,
Autistic and Multiple Disabled Children

44/86-C, Prakash Nagar, KURNOOL – 518004

A UNIT OF HEMCHAND DEVCHAND CHARITIES TRUST, KURNOOL.

ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



“To Serve Yourself Is Pleasure.

To Serve Others Is Joy.”

Let's Enjoy!

Acknowledgements:

Hemchand Devchand Charities Trust, though set up by a single family, is now an amalgamation of many like minded individuals and institutions who have come forward to extend their support, patronage, good will, blessings and good wishes. We sincerely acknowledge the services of the team of doctors, volunteers, donors, patrons, advisors and well wishers. We draw strength and support from different governmental and voluntary organisations with which we are linked through Net working. They are:

- 1. Govt. of A. P, Welfare of Disabled & Senior Citizens (Kurnool Dist.)**
- 2. The National Trust**
- 3. Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy – Kolkata**
- 4. ARUNIM**

Our special thanks are due to our Trustees who are with us through thick and thin and for being our guides and mentors. They are-

- 1. Sri Chandrakanth H Shah**
- 2. Sri Kantilal H Shah**
- 3. Sri Dilip H Shah**

Our Special Acknowledgements are to our team of doctors-

- 1. Dr. C. Nagesh - Pediatrician**
- 2. Dr. W. Seetharam - Neuro Surgeon**
- 3. Dr. P. Manju Sri - Homeo Doctor**
- 4. Dr. N. Bhargavi - Homeo Doctor**
- 5. Dr. Anil Kumar - Ophthalmologist**

Vision

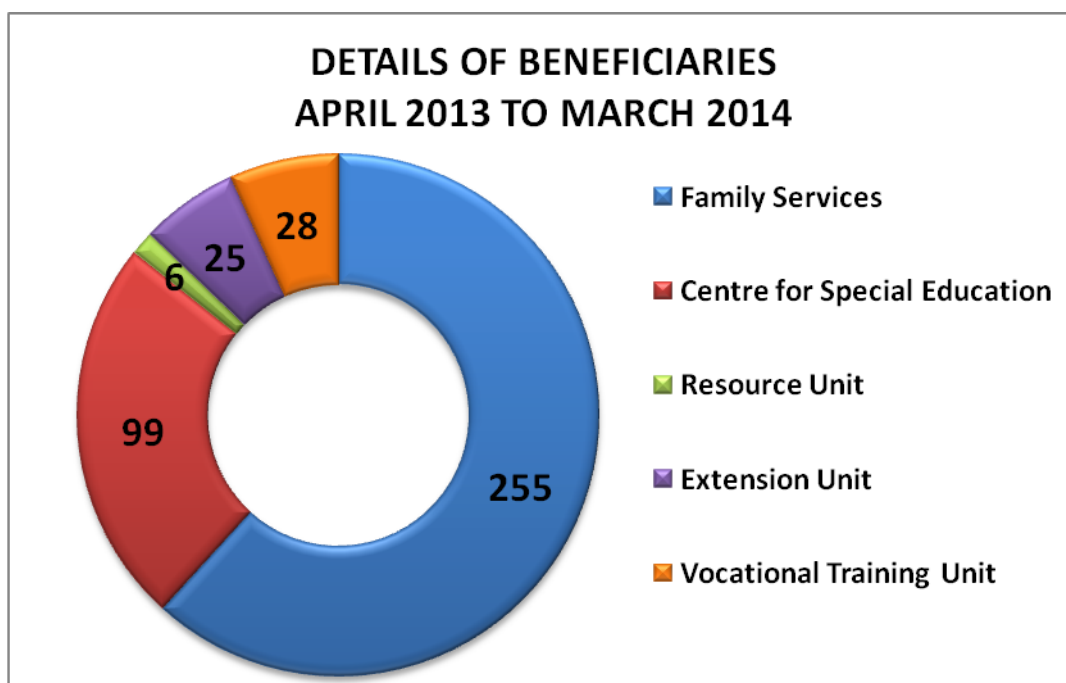
A society in which all the challenged individuals are an integral part.

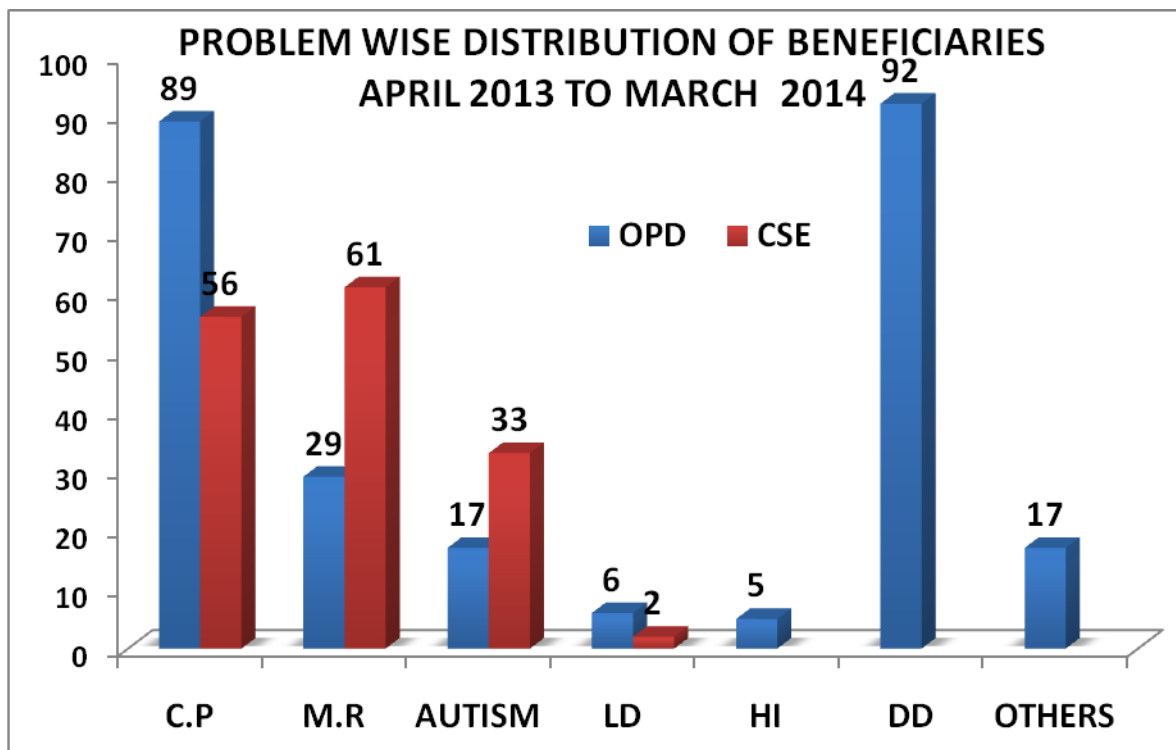
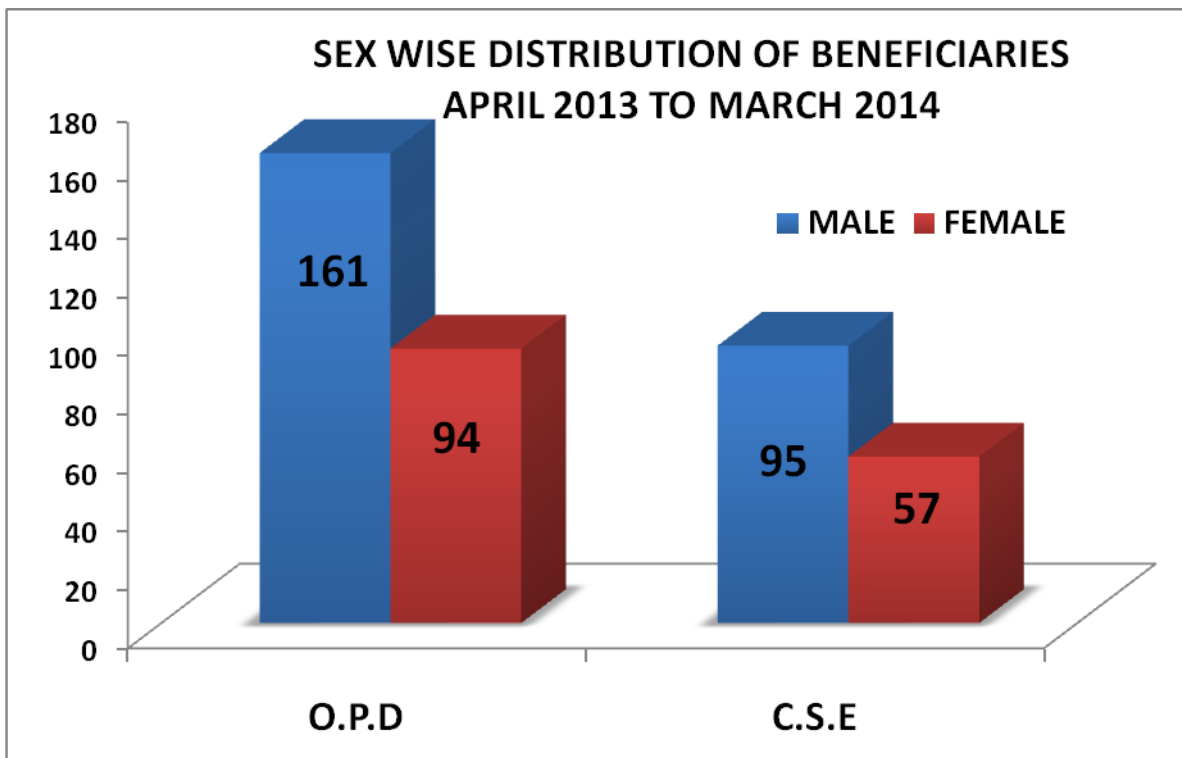
Mission

Ambika Sishu Kendra drafts a goal based programme towards self-help & employability for persons with disability to achieve satisfactory Personal Life & Economic Empowerment.

Ambika Sishu Kendra is synonymous with excellence in Special Education. The students /beneficiaries at Ambika Sishu Kendra, a unique and model school in a barrier free ambience/environment run by Hemchand Devchand Charities Trust are trained in life skills so that they are throughly empowered to lead interdependent lives.

With the support and guidance from many philanthropic well – wishers, all the services are **provided free** at Ambika Sishu Kendra. From the day of its establishment i.e., from 1995, the Centre has made a steady progress and upgradation sytematically in a phased manner and has now emerged as a distinguished Special Education Centre in Rayalaseema region in Andhra Pradesh. We are happy to declare that so far our Centre has served **4964** beneficiaries belonging to Kurnool district and the neighbouring districts. For the year 2013- 2014, 407 children (255 OPD and 152 CSE) were benefited at our Centre.

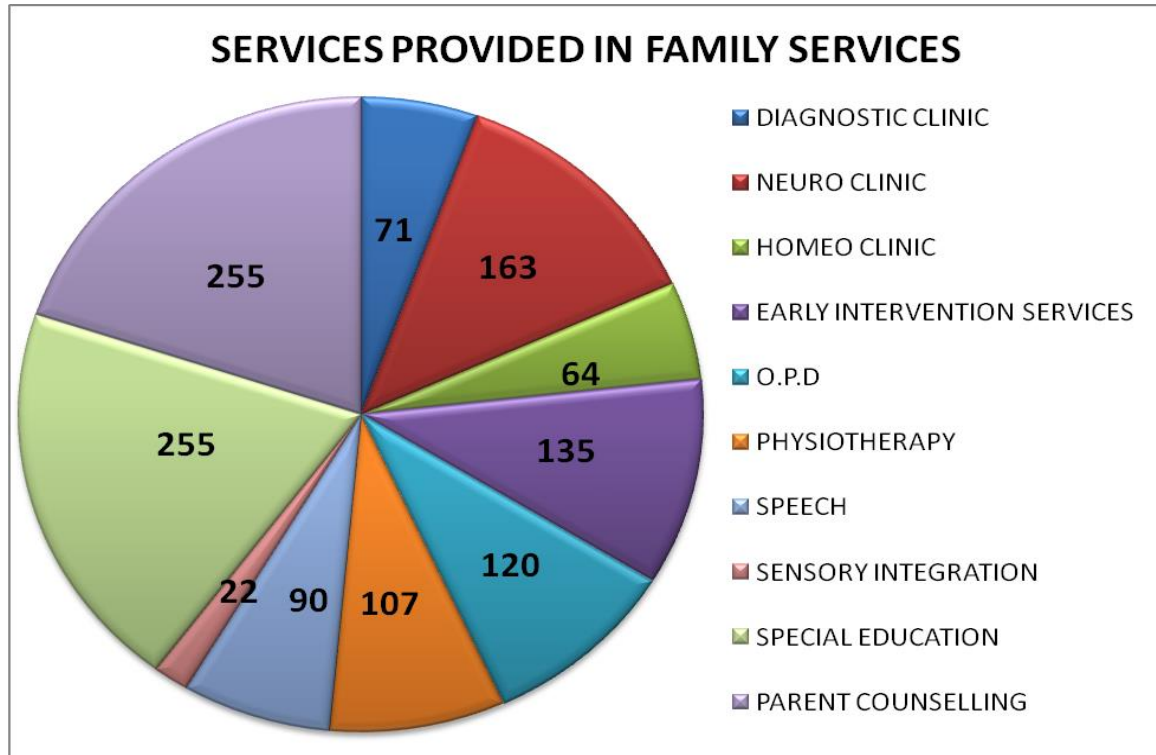




The statistical data illustrates our penchant for Early Intervention as we had 135 children below two years being brought for diagnosis and therapy. Among the children who attended the OPD, the number of boys was 161 and the number of girls was 94. We know that still there are many children yet to be covered. Our effort is only a drop in the ocean. We are happy that the Special Children are trained for a living. Cases of Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation, Multiple Disabilities and Developmental Delay attending the OPD focus the thrust on Early Intervention and Rehabilitation.

I. FAMILY SERVICES:

The first and the foremost service includes Family Services as every child needs proper diagnosis and assessment for a specific period before being admitted in to the Centre for Special Education. In some cases more than the therapy for the child, counselling is required for the parents for accepting and handling the Special Child.



The Family services are provided under the guidance and monitoring by the team of doctors, the therapists, the special educators and the trained teachers. They are like the gateway to the Special Education Centre. We get the cases from the neighbouring districts of Mahaboob Nagar, Anantapur etc. 255 cases were attended to under Family Services.

1. Diagnostic Clinic



Diagnostic Clinic is run twice a week for our children by Dr.C.A.Nagesh, Pediatrician. The children are treated for general health ailments and also for developmental delays. 71 cases attended the diagnostic clinic.

2. Neuro Clinic



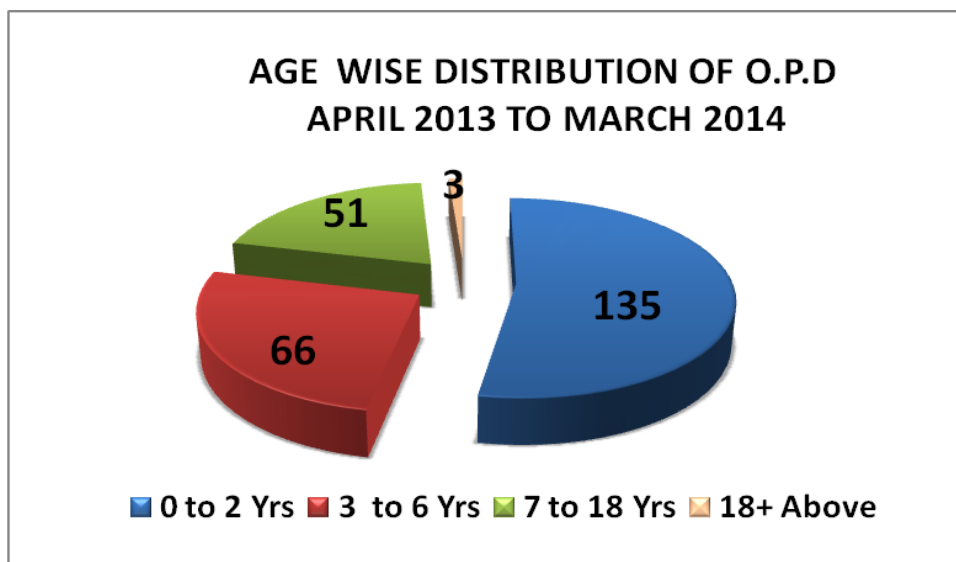
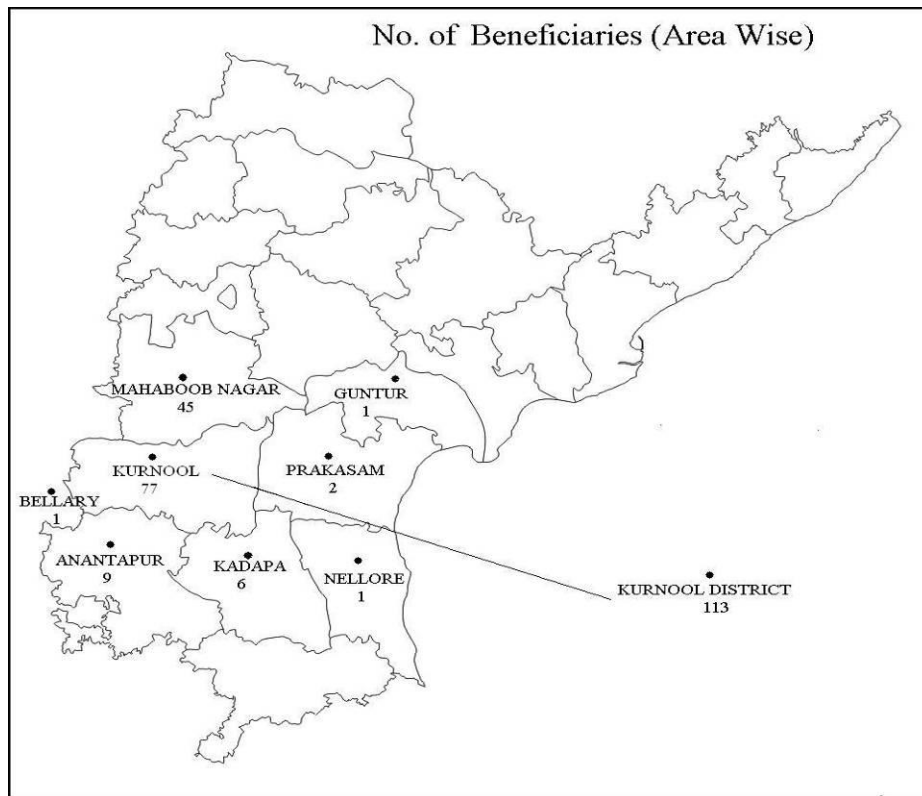
Neuro Clinic is conducted once a month by Dr.W.Seetharam, who treats all the epileptic and neurological cases. 163 cases were treated in the neuro clinic.

3. Homeo Clinic



Dr.Manju Sri and Dr.Bhargavi conduct Homeo Clinic every Wednesday and administer the medicine for health ailments, behaviour problems etc. 64 cases were registered in the homeo clinic.

4.Out Patient Department:



5. Early Intervention Unit:



Prevention is always better than cure. But once the damage is done, Early Intervention reduces the severity of the damage and if executed perfectly, the child can lead a normal life like any other fellow individual. The Early Intervention Unit at our Centre screens the babies, gives the programme and also trains the parents to continue the programme at home. 135 babies were screened and given the programme.

6. Physiotherapy Unit



“Movement is Life.” The Physiotherapy Unit at our Centre strives tirelessly to restore mobility and relief from various orthopaedic and neurological disorders associated with the disability. Gait Training, Training in DLS, Exercise Therapy etc., are some of the specialities of the Physiotherapy Unit. 107 cases receive therapy in the Physiotherapy Unit.

7. Speech and Communication Unit:



Civilized life makes a head way through effective receptive and expressive communication. Our children also have the thirst for communication and if it is satisfied, it will reduce many behavioural problems also. The verbal children are trained to improve clarity and are trained in using the core vocabulary to satisfy their maximum needs. Augmentative and Alternative Means of Communication are extensively used for the non-verbal children so that their communication needs are also met. Oral massage and exercise are also done to improve the vegetative functions. 90 children receive the training in the Speech and Communication Unit.

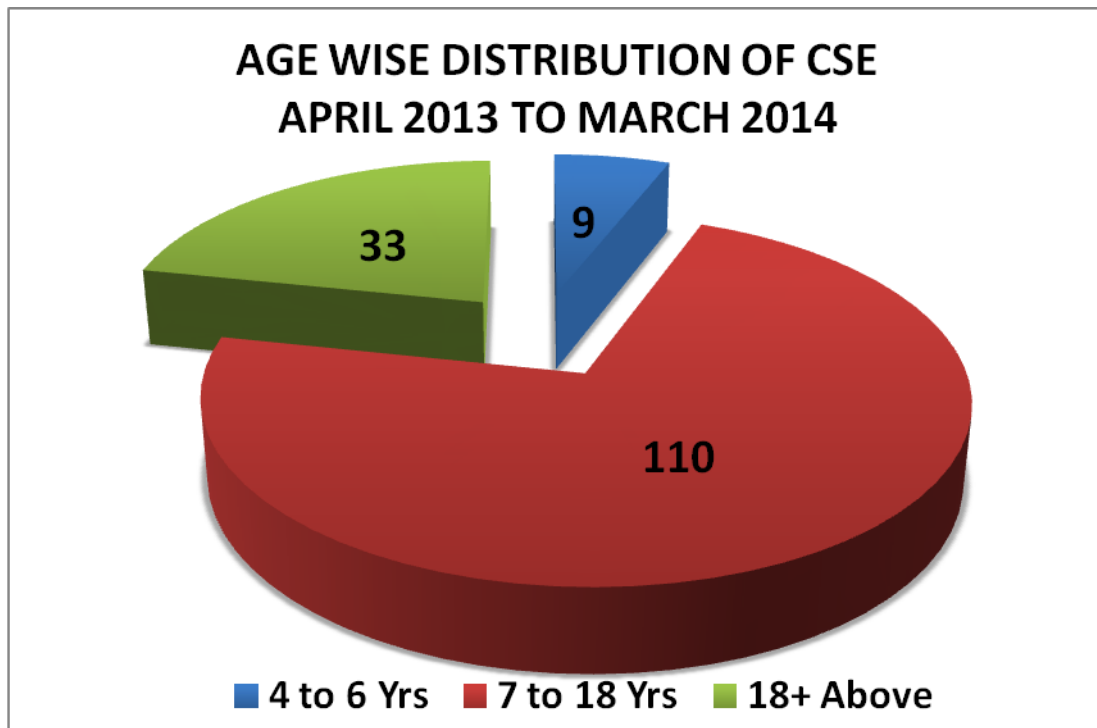
8. Sensory Integration Unit



Civilized and socially acceptable behaviour of an individual are the result of the relation between the brain and the sense organs. Due to the imbalance in this relationship, the afflicted children respond differently to the sensory inputs and hence land in behavioural problems. Sensory Therapy identifies the sensory issues and remedies them through a systematic programme. 22 children are undergoing the sensory programme.

II. STUDENT SERVICES:

The transfer of the children from O.P.D to the Centre for Special Education is well – designed and after a programmed evaluation, the child is admitted in to the class based on his/her ability and needs.



1. Pre-School Special Education Centre:

Pre-School is the platform for the Special Child as here the main focus is on Daily Living Skills in order to achieve considerable levels of independence. Based on the levels of improvement achieved at this stage, the children are promoted to higher classes. Play and Care Unit and the Toddlers' Unit are the two wings of the Pre- School. The children who are not able to cope with the normal stream are also registered here. Some go back to the normal schools and some stay with us. There are 31 students in the Pre-School.



Veda Varshini, aged 5 years and diagnosed with Down's Syndrome was admitted in 2009. She identifies colour and black and white pictures and reads a few words. She is yet to improve writing. She is friendly and communicative. She follows the instructions and has improved in self help too.

2. Primary Unit:

Centre for Special Education has a pragmatic and practicable curriculum for the specially abled children so that their skills are highlighted and the problem behaviour is reduced. When the children with the training in the fundamentals at the Pre-School Special Education Centre are settled well, the Centre for Special Education concentrates on academic training with main focus on the family, the flora and the fauna, the environment, basic reading, writing and counting skills along with colouring. There are 25 students in the Primary Unit.



Master Junaid Talmeez, aged 15 years and diagnosed with Mental Retardation joined Ambika Sishu Kendra in 2010. He attended the normal school but was repatriated from there as he was not able to cope with the academic load and the teaching methods there. The Special Teaching Methods have been very helpful to him as now he is able to do double digit additions and simple subtractions. He writes simple words in English and also writes Telugu alphabet. He is slowly becoming independent in self help too. Many of his behavioural problems are also reduced.

3. Open Learning Unit:

The children in the Open Learning Unit are introduced to academics on par with the normal children in the local Telugu medium schools with the hope that though at a slow pace, if they can complete X class, they can be enrolled in to the job fetching courses. There are five children in 2nd class, 4 children in 3rd class and one child in 4th Class. They are admitted in the local Municipal School. Teaching is done in Telugu medium at our Centre and the children take the exams conducted by the Municipal School. There are 23 students in Open Learning Unit.



Master K. Sai Preetham, aged 15 years and diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, is admitted in 2003. He is studying 4th class in the local Municipal School. He has a good command over receptive and expressive languages to the extent that he speaks two to three sentences with considerable clarity. He understands English and answers in Telugu. He is friendly, monitors his class and enjoys the jokes too. He has shown improvement in academics also.

4. Functional Academics Unit

The children, who cannot cope with academics are taught the functional skills so that they shall be able to lead an independent life in a socially acceptable manner. There are 21 students in the Functional Academics Unit.



Ms. Harshini, aged 15 years and diagnosed with Autism joined Ambika Sishu Kendra in 2007. She has some sensory issues because of which she experiences behavioural problems such as pinching, biting self and crying. These sensory issues are controlled to a considerable extent through sensory integration. She understands all the commands and follows them though she may not co-operate with an unfamiliar person at times. She has learnt to eat all varieties of food on her own.

5. Vocational Training Unit:



The students who cannot be tuned academically are trained in vocational skills suited to their abilities and requirements. The Vocational Activities are so designed that the students shall revise their functional academics such counting, weighing and shopping skills.

The boys in the Vocational Training Unit are involved in making phenyle, liquid soap, paper bags, note books, files etc., where as the girls are trained in kitchen chores such as cutting the vegetables, rolling chapatis, making tea etc.at the Domestic Unit. They are also exposed to participating in meetings, speaking in their defence in the advocacy meetings etc., There are 28 students in the Vocational Training Unit.



Ms. Mounika, aged 24 years and diagnosed with Mental Retardation, joined Ambika Sishu Kendra in 1998 . Presently she is in the Domestic Unit, an ancillary of the Vocational Training Unit. She counts up to 5 and identifies work related sight reading words. She is good at domestic chores like sweeping, mopping etc., She makes and serves two cups of tea under supervision. She is always cheerful and communicates with all.

6. Independent Living Unit:

The goal of any Special School is to train the children under its care to lead independent and interdependent lives. The Independent Living Unit at our Centre also focusses on teaching those life skills necessary for a better living. The main activities here include arranging the room, making the bed, packing the luggage bag and serving self and others at the dining table, shopping skills, commuting skills etc. The adolescent boys and girls are enthusiastically learning these skills.



Master Preetham, aged 22 years and diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy was admitted at our Centre in 2012. He has shown a lot of improvement in academics with in a short span. He comes to school walking with the help of a walker. He has learned counting and shopping skills also. He manages himself with support. He is learning and practising the skills necessary for independent living.

7. Computer Unit:

We wish to take our children also in to the paperless world which functions at the click of the mouse. Our children are exposed to the world of computers, taking the exams at the system, enjoying the rhymes and what not. Most of the academics they are taught in the class room are

revised in the Computer Class. In order to provide technical training to our children who have completed 10th class under APOSS, we have enrolled them in Office Automation and they are trained by Mr. Ahmed, I.C.T Computer Training Centre.



Master Kiran, aged 26 years and diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy, joined Ambika Sishu Kendra in 2000.

He passed 10th Class under A.P.O.S.S and also underwent training in Office Automation. He was 8 years old when he joined Ambika Sishu Kendra. Though he was crawling in the beginning, now he is completely independent in mobility. We are teaching office work such as typing documents, browsing internet etc. so that it shall fetch him a job in the future.

8. Art & Craft Unit:

Every individual is endowed with creativity and aesthetic sense. Our children are not an exception. They participate in painting, drawing and making decorative items. For some of the children, attending Art and Craft Class is a reward where they exhibit their hidden talents and interests. The prominent products of the Art and Craft Unit include rakhis, gel candles, diyas, greeting cards, book markers etc. Our products are displayed and sold in the local exhibitions and we also get orders from our supporters and well wishers.



Ms. Akshaya, aged 13 years and diagnosed with Autism, joined Ambika Sishu Kendra in 2008. She has a special flair for needle work and with all the concentration, stitches different designs using beads and chemki. Though takes time to learn a new variety, she follows the instructions in selecting the colour, design etc. Her behavioural problems are also considerably reduced.

III. COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAMMES:

The community has very little awareness of the special field and feels relieved by showing sympathy to a Special Child. But it is expected of the community to take the responsibility of the Special Children in the form of empathetic concern, accepting them into its fold, playing a vital role in their upbringing etc. We conduct various Community Awareness Programmes for enlightening the general public, especially the youth. We organised programmes such as Legal Awareness Programme by the District Judge, procuring B Forms to 16 of our students who were allotted legal guardians, taking out a rally on the World Disabled Day, visiting the public places like the Malls with our students etc. We are happy that we have received a good response from the public.



IV. MAN POWER TRAINING:**Workshops/ Training Programmes/ Meetings conducted at ASK.**

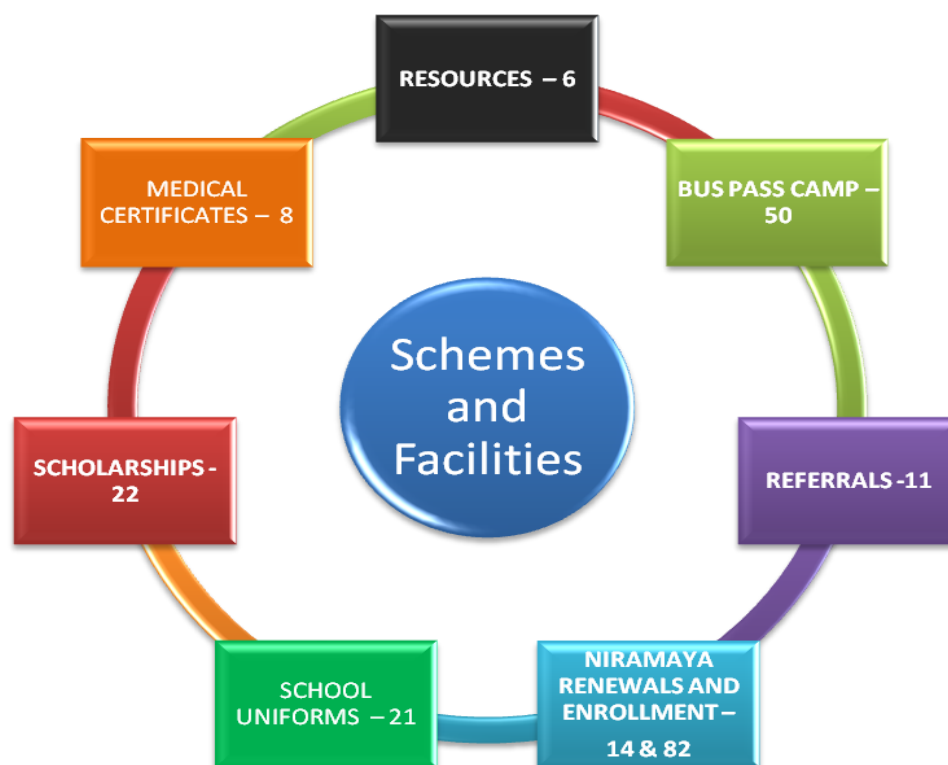
S.No.	Training Programme	Conducted by	Attended by
1.	Dr.M.Thomas Kishore from University of Hyderabad, conducted workshop on "Behaviour Modification" for staff and parents from 12.06.13 to 14.06.13.	Dr.M.Thomas Kishore	In house Teachers and Parents
2.	Geetanjali D.Ed College students came for Orientation Programme.	Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi	Students of 2013 - 15 batch
3.	3 rd year B.Sc. students from Geetanjali College of Nursing came for 2 weeks placement and Clinical Experience from 10.09.2013 to 20.09.2013.	Mr. Raghava Raju and Mrs. Pushpa Latha	3 rd year B.Sc. Students
4.	S.R.C D.Ed College students came for orientation, observation and School Experience Programme (S.E.P) on 27.09.2013.	Ms. E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi	Students of 2012-14 batch
5.	Orientation classes were conducted for 3 rd year students of Government College of Nursing on 25.11.2013.	Mr.Raghava Raju	3 rd year students
6.	Students from Azad D.Ed College and Al-Madina Elementary Teacher Education Institution came for training and orientation on 20-01-2014.	Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi	Students of 2012 - 14 batch
7.	Nursing students from Bhargavi School of Nursing came for Orientation Programme on causes of disabilities on 03.02.2014.	Mr.Raghava Raju Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi	2 nd year G. N. M. Nursing Students
8.	D.Ed Students from Sree Rayalaseema Christian College came for Orientation and School Experience Programme(S.E.P)	Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi	D.Ed 1 st year students
9.	Mr. Raghava Raju and Mrs. Pushpa Latha conducted a workshop on 'Early Intervention' on 26th October and 30th November 2013.	Mr. Raghava Raju and Mrs. Pushpa Latha	In house therapists

Meetings/ Workshops/ Training Programmes attended by ASK Staff.

S.No.	Training Programme	Conducted by	Attended by
1.	E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mr.A.Raghava Raju attended a meeting with District Collector regarding guardianship.	District Collector Kurnool	E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mr.A.Raghava Raju
2.	Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mrs.Krishna Veni attended a meeting with A.D in Care Land Special School regarding guardianship and other government schemes.	Assistant Director, Disabled Welfare Office, Kurnool	Ms.E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mrs.Krishna Veni
3.	Mr.A.Raghava Raju attended the Alimco Camp organized at Rajiv Vidya Mission.	Rajiv Vidya Mission Kurnool	Mr.A.Raghava Raju
4.	Mrs.Pushpa Latha and Mrs.Madhavi attended a workshop on “Sensory Integration” at Swayam Krushi, Secunderabad.	Swayam Krushi, Secunderabad	Mrs.Pushpa Latha and Mrs.Madhavi
5.	Miss E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mrs.D.Krishna Veni attended a workshop on “Augmentative and Alternative Communication for children with C.P and M.D” from 28.11.13 to 30.11.13.	Vidya Sagar, Chennai	Miss E.V.K.Bhagya Lakshmi and Mrs.D.Krishna Veni
6.	Mr.A.Raghava Raju attended a meeting on disability and inclusive development – Free Aids and Appliances Fitment and Distribution Camp for the orthopedically handicapped.	District Collector Kurnool	Mr.A.Raghava Raju

V . SCHEMES & FACILITIES:

Our Centre organises various camps and provides all the facilities for the general welfare and upkeep of our children. Niramaya renewals, issue of medical certificates and bus pass camp are some of these.



VI. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR:

All the activities at Ambika Sishu Kendra are aimed at the all round development of the children. Some of these have been very well received and have placed our Centre on a high pedestal. The whole team of Ambika Sishu Kendra feels happy and motivated.

Etv₂ Team gave coverage to the activities at Ambika Sishu Kendra and broadcast the same, which helped in generating public awareness about the disabilities and the Centre catering to them.



A workshop on 'Behaviour Modification' was conducted for 5 days by DR. M. Thomas Kishore, Clinical Psychologist from University of Hyderabad. Our staff and the parents participated in the same. They have learned about the strategies for Behaviour Modification.



President and members of Rotary Club, Kurnool were the distinguished invitees on the occasion of the 18th Anniversary Day Celebrations. Our Website was inaugurated. The Rotarians Mr. B. Chiranjeevi Reddy and Mr. K. Venkateswarlu donated 12 tables to the students.



Mrs. Hasya Latha Mehta, the former Director of Ambika Sishu Kendra, under whose stewardship the Centre progressed in leaps and bounds visited the Centre. Her visit was nostalgic and she was very happy with improvement at the Centre.

VII . CELEBRATIONS:

Our Centre dons a festive look on the celebrity days such as the Independence Day, Teacher's Day, Children's Day etc.



Staff Details:**Bindu N Shah****(Hon. Director)**

Sudha D Shah

(Hon. Supervisor)

D. Krishna Veni

(Admin. Officer)

E.V.K. Bhagya Lakshmi

(Sr. Coordinator)**Physio Therapists:**

A. Raghava Raju

K. Pushpa Latha

K.Swetha Rose

K.Yella Nagaiah

G.Zaheeruddin

J.Swapna

Speech Therapist:

N. Surendra Babu

Vocational Trainers:

R. Lavanya

M. Parvathi

Art & Craft:

K. Lakshmi

Auxiliary Staff:

Soma Bera

B. Kavitha

C. Valli Kumari

A. Krishna Bai

D. Vijaya Lakshmi

K. Manjula

S. Sudha Rani

J. Madhavi Latha

S. Farhana Parveen

B. Madhavi

M. Sunitha

G. Parvathi

C. A. Usha Kiran

K. Sri Vallika

A. Jaya Vani

M. Sukanya

Subhashini

S. Suseela

G.Lalithamma

A.Venkateswari

Special Educators &**Teachers:**

T. Venkataravanamma

K. Nirmala

V. Mary Saroja

G. Aruna

K. Sumitra

T. Aruna Kumari

G. Ramatholsamma

T. Nagamani

P. Rahamath Khatoon

G. Leelavathi

Shaik Imtiyaz Begum

Computer Operator:

V. Sunitha

R. Vineelavathi

Computer Education:

K. Chandra Sekhar

Catering:

K. Lavanya

B. Sujatha

G. Lalithamma

Receptionist:

B. Radha

Office Assistants:

V. Radhika

K. Hari Krishna

Attenders:

T. Lakshmi

N. Adilakshmi

B. Yashodamma

Ayyamma

K. Malleswari

C. Mounika

B. Sunitha

B.Lakshmi

B.Maheswari

K.Janakamma

Staff Left:

We thank the following members of the staff who resigned from their posts during the year for their contribution.

Mr. B. Chakravarthy

Mrs.V.Sunitha

Mrs.C.A.Usha Kiran

Mrs. A. Jaya Vani

Mrs.N. Rajya Lakshmi

Ms. R.Vineelavathi

Conclusion:

“All roads lead to Rome” is an oft quoted saying. Likewise all the activities at Ambika Sishu Kendra aim at the all round development of the child enabling him/her to lead an interdependent life. The support and the encouragement we get from our well wishers, philanthropists and the society at large keeps us motivated and instils new strength and inspiration in our efforts to achieve a healthy and happy living for the Special Children in our care. Our motto is – **“Arise, Awake And Stop Not Till Thy Goal Is Reached.”**