

FAITH FOUNDATION
ANNUAL REPORT
2017 – 2018

Vision : Society that respects and promotes the rights of children, young girls and women.

Mission : working with children, young women and communities in Meghalaya to create a safe and enabling environment where they are empowered to raise their voice for their rights against abuse and exploitation.

**Message from the
President of Faith Foundation**

It is promising to note that Faith Foundation's activities are relevant to the local context. This year the activities that have been carried out have come to fruition. With satisfaction, I take this opportunity to congratulate the team who have worked diligently and tirelessly for Women's and Girls' Empowerment. I hope it will not end here but the knowledge gained by individuals in the communities where the organization has had its reach will empower these communities to take ownership and tackle the social issues that are prevalent in their areas.

I also extend my gratitude to the ANT, for extending their support towards the organization and all the members and well-wishers. I wish the team all the very best during the next annual year and in the years to come. May God provide you wisdom and knowledge to be true social change agents, always upholding your values and principles while carrying out your duties for the benefit of the society.

Best Wishes,

Mrs Ibasaralyne Thabah Synthiang, President of Faith Foundation.

Overview of the year 2017-18



Introduction of Project Personal Safety Education and Awareness on Child Sexual Abuse with teachers of Lord's Academy School and Syllei-u-lar Lower Primary School

In the year 2017-18, Faith Foundation continued to receive support from the Action Northeast Trust (ANT) and strengthened the Personal Safety Education Program in schools. The organization initiated this Project in 6 schools in Ri Bhoi District. It also had a chain of collaborations with different organizations, institutes and individuals in initiating various programs. The staffs of the organization worked as resource person on programs related to issues such as child sexual abuse, Personal Safety Education Program, life skills programs and other issues addressed by the organization. Just a snippet, the organization collaborated with institutes like the Fernando Speech and Hearing Centre, Holy Cross Higher Secondary School, Nora Evelyn School, Lawei Ba Phyrnai Boys Homes, SOS Village and St. Margaret Higher Secondary School, Shillong and organizations like the North East Network, Reach Shillong Ministry, Meghalaya State Women's Commission and World Vision along with renowned individuals working together for the betterment and safety of children in the state.

Faith Foundation even worked with communities namely Raitong, Syllei-U-Lar and Umsawriang to increase the awareness on child sexual abuse including legal instruments with the community members.

Project Personal Safety Education Program at its Best

The main highlight of the year is the immense execution of the Project Personal Safety Education Program being implemented and at the same time strengthening its importance in various schools and institutions. Over 1365 students were directly reached to through this program in 6 schools, with 96 teachers, 39 parents and 93 community members aware on the issue of child sexual abuse. In order to enunciate the importance of this program, the organization came up with communication and development learning tools that were used while conducting sessions with children. Workbooks were also printed and given to children. The organization was able to reach out to as many students as possible.



Fruition of Personal Safety Education Program with networks and communities



Sessions with Parents with SOS Children's Village

Faith Foundation carried out the PSEP Programs in various schools, institutions and communities in Shillong through networking organization like the North East Network, Ferrando Speech and Hearing Umbir, World Vision, Reach Shillong Ministries, SOS Children's Village and Meghalaya State Women's Commission . The organization reached out as a resource on programs related to issues such as child sexual abuse and life skill programs. Through the networks the organization reached out to 1477 children, 42 parents and 173 other stakeholders in schools, other institutions and communities in Meghalaya.

The organization worked actively in the villages in Ri Bhoi District; Raitong, Sylleiular and Umsawriang. Raitong village being one of the communities that have been very open and supportive to programs and the organization was able to reach out to many more children in schools located within this village.

Stumbling Blocks

- ✚ One of the major problems the organization face is the time constraint. This is with relevance to schools giving the organization limited time to prepare a strategic program for the students.
- ✚ Moreover, the staffs of the organization follows up pre and post test evaluation to measure student's level of understanding and awareness on particular sessions but the evaluation model is not accurate for the students due to space congestion in classrooms.
- ✚ Due to the lack of initiative by the school authorities to invite parents for programs organized by the organization, secondary beneficiaries such as teachers and parents are left unaware on Child sexual Abuse and the PSEP programs.
- ✚ A huge hurdle the organization comes across is the silence surrounding the issues of gender especially with the issue of child sexual abuse. Organizing programs on women and children's issue has been a challenge in communities where the turn- out of men is less to nil compared to women.