

FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE

Eucharistic Congress Building No. 3,5 Convent Street, Mumbai - 400 001

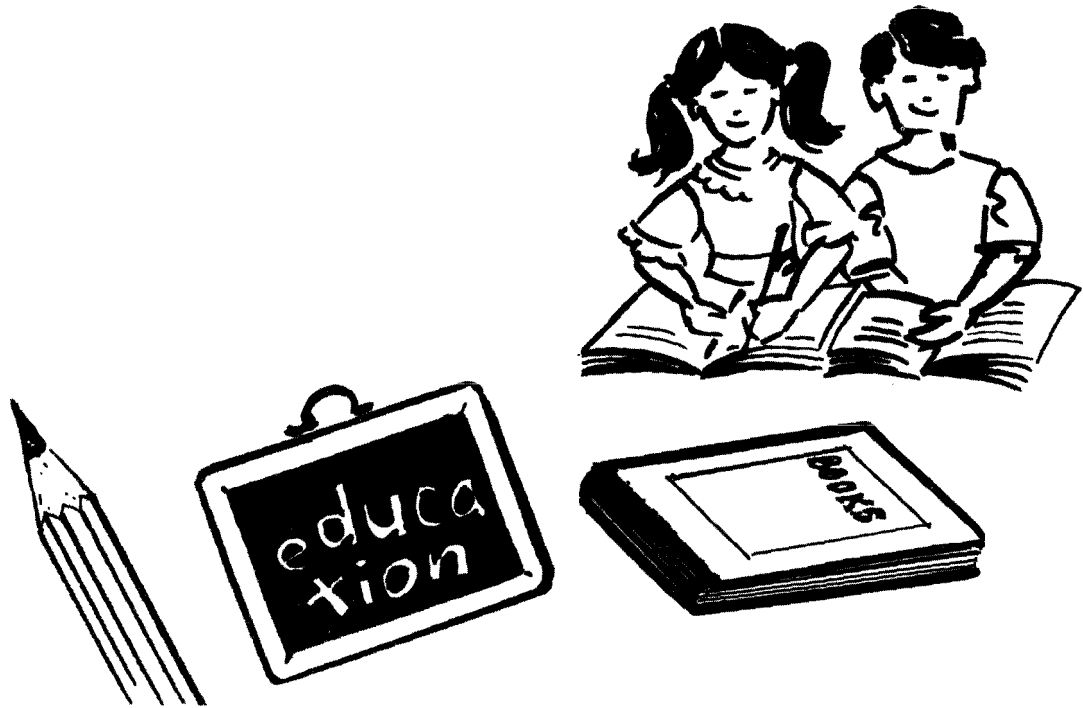
Family Service Centre is a voluntary organisation committed to preserve, promote and strengthen the family as a unit. The Centre strives to reach out to families in difficult circumstances through its various non-institutional and community- based programmes, namely, sponsorship, foster care, adoption and counselling. The ultimate goal is to empower the family, the core unit of society.

Founded in 1955, Family Service Centre is managed by professional social workers, under the professional guidance of the College of Social Work, Nirmala Niketan. The Centre believes that the socio-economic pressures in urban areas often result in family stress, disintegration and child destitution. Special interventions need to be evolved as a response to the needs of such families "at risk". A shift from the "welfare" to the "development" and from the "needs" to the "rights" approach is a significant change that the organisation is striving to achieve. This broadening of concern is reflected in intervention strategies that are non-institutional, community-based, family - oriented, preventive and developmental in nature.

The Centre has programmes for intervention in the urban slum communities for self - employment and income generation, family life education, health awareness, leadership training for youth groups, women's empowerment groups, school social work and other community development programmes.

SPONS4RSHIP

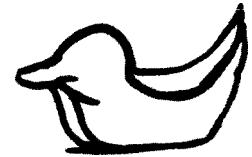
The sponsorship programme was initiated in 1963 to provide assistance to families who were unable to meet the educational needs of their children. The ultimate aim is to rehabilitate the family through education of their children so that the family can become self-reliant. Diligent and deserving students with average or fairly good performance are assisted under this scheme. With periodic assessment, sponsorship assistance is continued till the child has completed school education. Efforts are made to help the family to enhance their earnings by referring them to other community resources or by helping them to train in skills of their choice. A child can be sponsored for education with a contribution of Rs. 3600 - per academic year.





ADOPTION

There are many couples awaiting a child and many children awaiting a home. Adoption bring them together. The adoption programme of the Centre was started in 1962, with a commitment to promote adoption among Indian families. The programme offers counselling and rehabilitation assistance to young unwed mothers who may be compelled to relinquish their child due to socio- economic pressures. Family Service Centre undertakes counselling, home study preparation and placement for families who want to adopt children. Post-adoption counselling and support groups for families and grown-up adoptees is also an integral component of the adoption programme. Family Service Centre is committed to the promotion of adoption among Indians, as we believe that a child will integrate and develop best within his/her own socio - cultural milieu. Children relinquished for adoption are cared for by suitable foster families living in Mumbai. The foster homes are supervised by the social workers to ensure that the child is nurtured in a loving family environment until adoption. An Adoptive Parents Support Group has also been initiated by Family Service Centre, which seeks to bring adoptive families together to share experiences, discuss and deal with pertinent issues related to adoption. The Centre also co-ordinates and networks with other voluntary and Government organisations for policy formulations and development of the adoption programme.



FOSTER CARE

foster CARE

Foster care is an important non-institutional service for the child, whose biological family is unable to care for it, for a short or an extended period of time, due to illness, death, desertion or any other crisis situation. An alternate foster family is identified who will provide temporary or long term care for this child so as to avoid institutionalization. Foster parents are identified and approved after a detailed home study is undertaken. Foster parents may be either relatives, neighbours, or friends who are from a similar socioeconomic background. Family Service Center has been a pioneer agency in the field of foster care in the country. Currently the agency operates the Balsangopan Yojana which is the foster care scheme of the Government of Maharashtra. Foster Day care is another related service, where the children of single parents, working mothers are kept in foster families during the time the parent is at work.



COUNSELLING

Counselling is an integral component of all programmes of the Centre. Recognising the innate potential of each individual and family to help them-selves, the Centre helps families in crisis to cope with their life situations. The Centre also tries to reach out to more and more families in the communities who are "at risk" of breaking down by providing support and counselling. Counselling gives the clients the necessary emotional support in the period of stress. Families are helped to gain an insight into their problems and come to terms with them, and find an appropriate solution to the stressful situation.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Centre is involved in developmental projects in the urban slum pockets of Mumbai. Intervention in the areas of health, nutrition, education, women's employment in income generation projects, youth groups and Mahila mandals contribute in the overall development of the community.

PLACEMENT OF STUDENTS FOR FIELD WORK EXPERIENCE

The Centre has been serving as a field work placement for students of social work from Mumbai and other parts of India. The Centre provides a good opportunity for experiential learning for students so that they are able to apply their theoretical learning to practical situations.

Our Vision

Empowering the family, the core unit of society,

by creating an enabling and supportive environment, providing counselling, and imparting positive human values.

FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE

HOW YOU CAN HELP

By becoming a member - membership is open to all You can become a

Patron - by subscribing Rs.5000

Life Member - by subscribing Rs. 1000

- By giving us donations for our various projects.
- By helping us sponsor a child under our Sponsorship or Foster Care programmes
- Providing medical assistance for our babies awaiting adoption
- Recruiting more foster homes for adoption babies
- Helping our clients find employment
- Helping with medical aid like clothes, books, toys milk powder, medical supplies
- Contributions towards our running expenses
- Contributions towards our corpus fund



Yes

I would be happy to contribute Rs. to enable the **FAMILY SERVICE CENTRE** to carry out its various services. Payment enclosed (cheque, bank draft made payable to the Family Service Centre)

My Name

Address

Tel : Fax :

I would like you to send me more information on

Sponsorship Adoption

Foster Care Counselling

Family Assistance