

Annual Program Report - 2020

SEID

(Society for Education and Inclusion of the Disabled)

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Overview of SEID:

SEID was established in 2003 as a non-governmental voluntary development organization committed to promoting the rights of children and persons with disabilities. From its inception, the organizational efforts are mainly focused on children with autism, cerebral palsy, Down's syndrome and, intellectual disability commonly known as neuro-developmental disability (NDD) and, multiple disabilities (MD) as well.

Currently, SEID has a community-based therapy school in the capital's Kamrangirchar and an employment support service providing center in the Mohammadpur head office. Alongside the services, SEID runs rights-based advocacy and campaigns with different stakeholders ranging from policymakers, duty bearers, families and, communities through Self-Advocacy Groups of such persons with disability.

Legal Affiliation:

- NGO Affairs Bureau- Registration No: 2110, Year: 2006
- Department of Social Service under Ministry of Social Welfare- Registration no: Dha 08866, Year: 2011

Vision & Mission:

Social inclusion of children/persons with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities (NDD) especially Autism, Down's Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and Intellectual Disability as well as multiple disabilities (MD).

Objective:

- ❑ To protect the human rights of children/persons with disabilities especially NDD and MD by promoting justice, dignity, equality, equity and, participation at all levels.
- ❑ To remove the cultural barriers of children/persons with disabilities especially NDD and MD at all levels.
- ❑ To ensure sustainable employment and employment of people with NDDs.
- ❑ To obtain and maintain customized employment including training through providing suitable skill generation/capacity-building training, and to connect them with potential employers in their communities.

Organizational Approach:

To ensure the committed objectives directed towards the attainment of rights of the persons with such disabilities, SEID acts through the following approaches-

- Community-based service
- Advocacy and campaign
- Customized employment

Services:

SEID has community-based therapy schools located in different areas of Dhaka city. Underprivileged children with NDD and MD are provided with a school readiness programs covering primary assessment and screening, special and pre-primary education, pre-vocational training, food, transport facilities, cultural and recreational activities, therapeutic as well as referral services. SEID also provides vocational training and therapeutic services to adolescent and youth with such disabilities.

The beneficiaries of SEID community-based therapy schools generally come from different areas of Dhaka city namely Mohammadpur, Shyamoli, Kallyanpur, Adabor, Agargaon, Rayer Bazar, Hazaribag, Lalbag, Kamrangirchar, and Keranigonj area. The parents of such children belong to different professions such as rickshaw puller, day laborer, domestic worker or house-maid, etc.

Center-Based Services:

- Assessment & screening
- School readiness program
 - Special education
 - Pre-primary education
- Therapeutic service (physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech & language therapy)
- Assistive devices
- Pre-vocational training
- Vocational training

Customized Employment:

- Need Assessment (Assessing the interest and capacity of the persons/adolescents with NDD)
- Arranging for suitable training/internships
- Arranging In-house training/internships on Etiquette, Gesture/Posture, Interview Skills, Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR)
- Advocacy with employers for inclusive employment & reasonable accommodation for the persons/adolescents with NDD
- Connecting them with potential employers in their communities
- Providing job-coach services to help the persons/adolescents with NDD to adapt to the work and workplace
- Arranging different recreational programs and visit to different places, including restaurants and market, to increase their self-esteem and improve mental health
- Arranging for counseling to maintain their mental health and confidence

Referral Services:

- Assessment and Diagnosis
- Psychosocial Level
- IQ Test
- Medical Services (Such as Consultation, Diagnostic Tests, Medicine, Surgery, etc.)
- Job Linkage

Advocacy & Campaign:

To uphold human rights and establish enabling environment for persons with NDD and MD, SEID has diversified works including various advocacy and campaigns directed towards facilitating social rehabilitation and promoting the rights of children/ persons with such disabilities.

The main approaches of advocacy and campaigns are -

- Develop self-advocates and help to form self-advocacy groups
- Disabled Persons Organization (DPO) networking with self-advocacy groups and implementing collaborative advocacy
- Capacity building
 - Self-advocates
 - Caregivers & parents
 - Stakeholders & duty bearers
 - Staff
- Campaign for awareness
 - art competition
 - Documentary show
- Lobby for sensitization
 - Dialogue
 - Workshop
 - Seminar
 - Conference
- Information dissemination
 - Books
 - Leaflets, posters & stickers
 - Documentary etc.
- Research

The advocacy and campaigns are carried out all over the country and collaborate with the government agencies as well as the local NGOs, civil society organizations and development initiatives.

Activities & Achievements in 2020, with illustrations

In the year 2020, SEID has implemented the following activities-

Services

1. School Readiness Program:

The main objective of the school readiness program is the incorporation of the children with NDD and MD in mainstream schools and future development as skilled human resources for the society. The program included the survey and screening, primary assessment, special and pre-primary education, education materials, food, transport facilities, therapeutic and referral service, assistive device as well as pre-vocational and cultural activities. In 2020, SEID has provided such a school readiness program to 110 underprivileged children with NDD and MD. Due to COVID-19 these children are regularly followed up and provided necessary supports round the year by phone.

In 2020, a number of 06 CWDs were enrolled in mainstream primary schools.



**06 children
with disabilities
enrolled in
mainstream
primary school
in 2020**

The progress and development of the children with such disabilities were regularly monitored, evaluated, and followed up by field visits & phone.

2. COVID-19 Activities:

The SEID-SUMMIT Community Therapy School-Kamrangirchar was closed on March 17, 2020, in accordance with the government order.

On March 25, 2020, SEID has distributed necessary medicines, masks, and soaps to each family enlisted with SEID.



SEID has regularly monitored and motivated its enlisted students, self-advocates, and their families to make them better understand the reality of the pandemic and act accordingly. During the period of the lockdown, SEID communicated with them regularly via phone by following the track-sheet. SEID provided them counseling and other assistance, as per capacity.

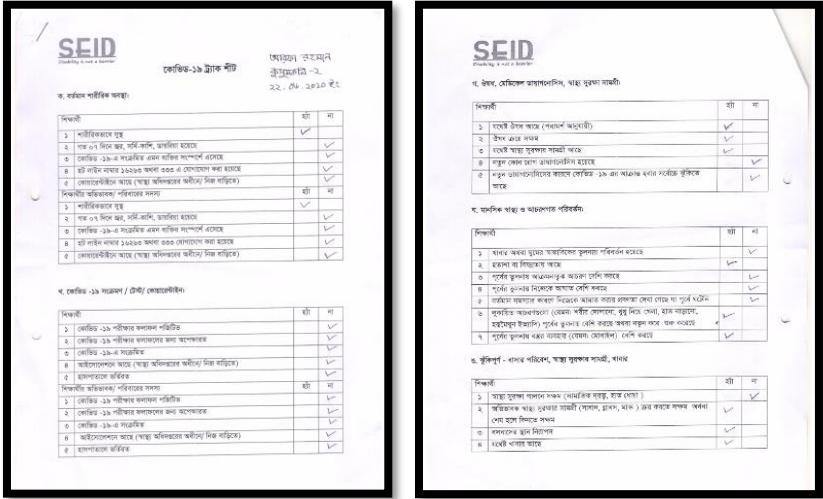


Image: Track sheets

SEID with the help of its vocational teachers and trainees has produced 1500 masks and distributed them among 150 beneficiaries. SEID has arranged food reliefs through advocacy and communication with different stakeholders and made distributions among 150 beneficiaries in five phases since after the lockdown.



The following link featured the activities of SEID during the pandemic:
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/feature/2020/05/14/children-with-disabilities-and-covid-19>

3. Vocational Training:

SEID is providing vocational training to adolescents and youth with NDD and MD in suitable trades like tailoring, hand embroidery, block batik, tie-dye. In 2020 a number of 34

adolescents with such disabilities got vocational training in the above-mentioned trades. SEID has reopened vocational training in August, 2020 with maximum safety for underprivileged children and adults.



4. Customized Employment:

The people/Adolescent/Youth/Adult with neurodevelopmental disabilities (Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down's Syndrome, and Intellectual Disabilities) are commonly deemed unproductive for their family and society. To develop the Adolescents/Adults with NDDs skilled human resources, SEID is providing capacity development training after assessing their potentiality and then connected with the job providers and job-oriented training institutions.

In 2020 a number of 22 adolescents with such disabilities were assessed their interest and capacity by need assessment. Among them, 15 were provided with training from outside institutions. All of them were provided in-house training like etiquette & manner, SRHR. Among them, one of the trained youths have involved in formal employment and the others are doing internship training in different organizations.

Need Assessment=22

In-house training=22

Internship training=15





5. Therapeutic & Referral Services and Assistive Devices:

The therapeutic services are provided by SEID free of cost to children and adolescents with disabilities. The service includes physiotherapy, speech, and language therapy. All the children and adolescents with disabilities are provided with the required therapeutic services. In 2020 a number of 130 children and adolescents with disabilities received the therapeutic services at least twice a week.

SEID has reopened physiotherapy in August, 2020 with maximum safety for underprivileged children and adolescents.



Therapy service
130 children with disabilities

Assistive device
05 children with disabilities

Referral service
15 children with disabilities

In required cases where the assistive device is necessary for the functional regaining process, SEID provided the assistive devices to the children with such disabilities. In 2020 a number of 05 children and adolescents received the assistive devices that included gaiter, wheelchair, and various orthotic devices like KAFO. 15 children from underprivileged families received referral services.

6. Recreational activities:

Sports and cultural activities refresh the mind, broaden the outlook and enrich the education in more joyful manner. All the children of SEID receive training in cultural activities like- music, recitation, dance, etc. The children frequently participate in international, national, and local programs like International Disability Day, World Autism Awareness Day etc. Like previous years the children of SEID performed in National Programs on World Autism Awareness Day and International Disability Day in 2019.



Shanta, a person with multiple disabilities has been awarded by the Honourable Prime Minister of Bangladesh for her drawing that was placed in the greeting cards issued officially from the office of the Prime Minister. It is to be noted that till 2020, a number of 11 children and adolescents with disabilities from SEID had received such award.

Munni and Sumona, two persons with multiple disabilities, got their drawing selected for the desk calendar of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). Md Siam, cerebral palsy, aged 15, got his drawing already featured on the calendar, published marking the New Year, 2020.



Munni and Shanta, two persons with multiple disabilities, were awarded 2nd & 3rd position respectively in Berger Paints Art Competition.

Campaign and Advocacy

Monthly Coordination meeting of the self-advocates on their rights for the persons with neurodevelopmental disabilities:

A regular monthly coordination training was organized for the self-advocates with neuro-developmental disabilities under the EPD Project-2019. The training was titled as 'Awareness program of the self-advocates on Disability Rights and Protection Act-2013 persons with neuro-developmental disabilities' that held at SEID Mohammadpur, Dhaka. The objective of the training was to develop awareness of self-advocates with their rights according to the Bangladesh Government.

The national laws and rules by the government, international commitments, and protection mechanisms that exist in Bangladesh were shared with the participants. They were also transferring their knowledge to capacitate others on this issue.

A total number of 20 participants attended the training session.



Advocacy Conference with Geneva Camp Leaders

SEID successfully has held a conference under the EPD Project in 2020 to make the Geneva Camp leaders aware of all the 20 rights stipulated in the Persons with Disability Rights and Protection Act-2013, all the five committees formed for the protection of the rights, and particularly the article-36 under which anyone can lodge complaints of discrimination and demand compensation.

The objective of the training was to encourage them to demonstrate stronger leadership in order to protect their community members with disabilities and to forge a stronger rapport between the leaders, and the guardians of persons with disabilities.

A total number of 40 participants attended the conference.



Human Chain

Under EPD Program, a human chain was organized at the Dhaka division to draw the attention of mass people along with the media.

SEID and its' Self-Advocates finally submitted a memorandum to the Dhaka District Committee and discussed some important issues in the light of "The Persons with Disability Rights and Protection Act-2003" on January 15, 2020.

