

**BLUE HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME AND SCHOOL
PROJECT PROPOSAL**

April 2010



**Three of our girls the day they arrived at Blue Haven (back row)
compared to a few weeks later (front row).**

In this life there is no better investment than to give hope to a destitute child.

TELLASIA
MINISTRIES INC.

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name: Blue Haven Children's Home and School

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Project Overview:

Blue Haven Children's Home and School is a project to establish and operate a fully self-sufficient home for 200 orphan and destitute children and an international-quality school for 500 students. This facility will be located in the Gangetic Plain of North India, midway between Delhi and Calcutta. This region is home to 35 million destitute children who are existing in misery. Some labor in fields and factories, others are forced into prostitution. The majority grow up illiterate, without a skill, doomed to a life of poverty and exploitation.

This project outlines a fully self-supporting children's home and school. Blue Haven Children's Home and School is a reproducible model that, once established, will be entirely independent of outside funding. Thus it ensures a bright future for thousands of children for many generations to come.

Please join us in providing a loving Christian environment, good food, and an excellent education to destitute children in the Ganges River Plain of North India.

Funds Still to be Raised - Construction of facilities and first year operation: \$376,111

Facility Size (Phase I): 13,674 square feet.

II. THE NEED

In the state of Uttar Pradesh in the Ganges River Plain area of North India there are an estimated 35 million destitute children. They are malnourished, have no opportunity to get an education, and are exploited in child labor and prostitution. Their parents are oppressed by the more educated classes, and have no way of escape. There are very few institutions or programs which are addressing this massive problem. Those that are addressing it are limited by dependency on ongoing funding from the West.



Were these children brought into a situation where they have a loving family environment, good food and an excellent education, the cycle of poverty could be stopped. From a generation of hopelessness, we can raise up a generation which will bring honor to its country and which will no longer live in poverty.

A. Malnutrition

A burgeoning population strains the resources of the nation of India, resulting in over 26% still living below the poverty line.

For physical growth, adequate nutrition is necessary during childhood and adolescence. This is a basic human right. Unfortunately here is the situation of children under three years old in India:

-	74.3%	Anemic
-	47%	Underweight
-	45.5%	Stunted
-	15.5%	Wasted

Malaria, tuberculosis, and common diseases of dehydration are major threats to children. They need at least a basic form of health care. The mortality rate of infants in India is 68%. The incidence of anemia among girls and women age 15-49 was found to be around 52%. This causes a high maternal mortality rate - which contributes to the large number of orphans. A lower socio-economic background, a history of poverty and socio-legal matters make life miserable for the children of these destitute parents.

B. Widows and Unwanted Females

Female children are often unwanted due to the (illegal) dowry system that is still in practice in India. Because of the tremendous financial burden one female child's dowry places upon a poor family, drastic measures are taken. Due to the large number of induced abortions of female children, the female population has become less. Due to this the government only recently imposed a law preventing doctors from revealing the sex of an infant when an ultrasound is done. This results in more female children being brought into a world that is hostile to their existence. They are often abandoned. There are even accounts of a female child which was buried alive shortly after birth (Himalayan News, May 2008). Of these abandoned baby girls, more than 60% will end up in the sex slave trade or as (4 and 5 year old) prostitutes in India's brothels. The rest simply don't survive their first few days of life.

Widows and females in India are among the most oppressed group of people in the world. Many widows are often relatively young, often with young children of their own. They are asked to leave the extended family home when the husband dies. At this point they become

homeless, begging in the street just for survival. These same widows find themselves forced to send their child out to beg as widows are generally looked down upon in India and are often thought of as “witches” with evil powers by the superstitious villagers. Since the child has a better chance of gaining some money, the child becomes the family’s breadwinner.

C. Lack of Education

One problem of the increasing population of these children is directly related to child bonded labor. The working population of India is 314 million people. Of that number child labor is nearly 11 million children, which is 3.58% of the total work force.



Statistics show that the last decade’s illiteracy rate in India has declined. However, the 2001 census of India revealed the illiteracy rate hovering around 35%. There is a push to improve education, but weak government policies and non-implementation of policies has deteriorated the situation. Many local schools have developed rapidly, but are compromising the quality of education for the sake of profits. Very few quality schools are available in the rural areas and urban schools are too far away. Bussing to and from school is limited to within about a 5 mile radius of the school, making it impossible for rural children to attend. More significantly, the good schools are far too expensive for the typical family to afford.

A high quality children’s home and school are desperately needed that will enable the poorest of the poor to receive an excellent education. Children growing up in this institution will develop proficiency in the English language and computer skills, both of which are essential on today’s world.

D. Child prostitution

Street children are one of the most vulnerable groups of children. Among street children there are three categories:

- Those who work in the streets but live with their families.
- Those who have only occasional contact with their families.
- Those who have no contact with their families.

This third group is at maximum risk. They can easily become exploited as child laborers and prostitutes. Among all rape victims in India, children below 16 years old constitute 19% of the victims. One statistic showed that during the year 2000, rape victims below age 10 increased by 1.8%. Estimates by NGO’s indicate that over 12% of all prostitutes are children. 40% of those are inducted into the profession before the age of 16. They are recruited from areas where conditions of poverty, ignorance and illiteracy prevail such as urban slums and rural and backward areas.

III. PROJECT PLAN

A. What We're Already Doing

In 2005 we initiated Blue Haven Childrens Home with 32 orphaned, semi-orphan and destitute children. Due to lack of facilities, we currently rent a large house in the city of Lucknow. Alok Srivastava, the indigenous director of our work in this area and his wife Ricky oversee the children's home. A husband and wife from Nepal are the live-in caretakers. They themselves were very poor and couldn't provide for their two children, but now they are bubbling with joy as they care for the children and see their own sons receiving good food and schooling. We also have two educated young ladies who look after the children and tutor them. Our 32 children range in age from four to fourteen years and are from as far away as Ladakh, high in the Himalayan mountains. Many would have grown up as beggars on the streets or as temple prostitutes. These once hopeless children now have a bright future and a loving family. They attend an excellent English-medium Christian school and most are now fluent in English. They even have their own little computer lab and are learning the essential skill of computer operation and typing.

B. Introduction

32 children is nothing compared to the need. Our vision is to rescue hundreds of children from all across the Gangetic Plain, Himalayan and Nepal areas. In order to do this, we feel it is necessary to develop a fully self-sufficient operation. The facility will be in the suburbs of Lucknow, a city of 4 million and the capital of the state of Uttar Pradesh. It is located in the densely populated Ganges River Plain between Delhi and Calcutta. This home will accommodate the highest-risk children from both urban slums and remote villages.

The future facility – Blue Haven Children's Home and School - will include a children's home, accommodation for widows who will also assist with the children, a school, and an industrial center. Persons assisted will be the most destitute children and widows, including widows having AIDS and children and/or orphans of HIV positive parents.

C. Land and Project

We will purchase land in a semi-urban area of Lucknow. The reason for the facility to be located in a suburban area is to obtain paying students in the school, thus covering a significant amount of the cost of maintaining and educating the residential children.

1.5 Acres or 54,450 square feet of land is required for a children's and widow's home to eventually accommodate 200 residents, a school for 500 students and an industrial center providing both vocational skills training and additional income to sustain the residents. We believe we have a pledge for the purchase of the land.

Phase I of the construction will cover 13,174 sq. ft. and will be operable within nine months of the purchase of the land. It is projected to attain 57% sustainability by the second year, whereupon we will expand to take in more children both in the school and the children's home. The facility is projected to attain 100% sustainability by the third year.

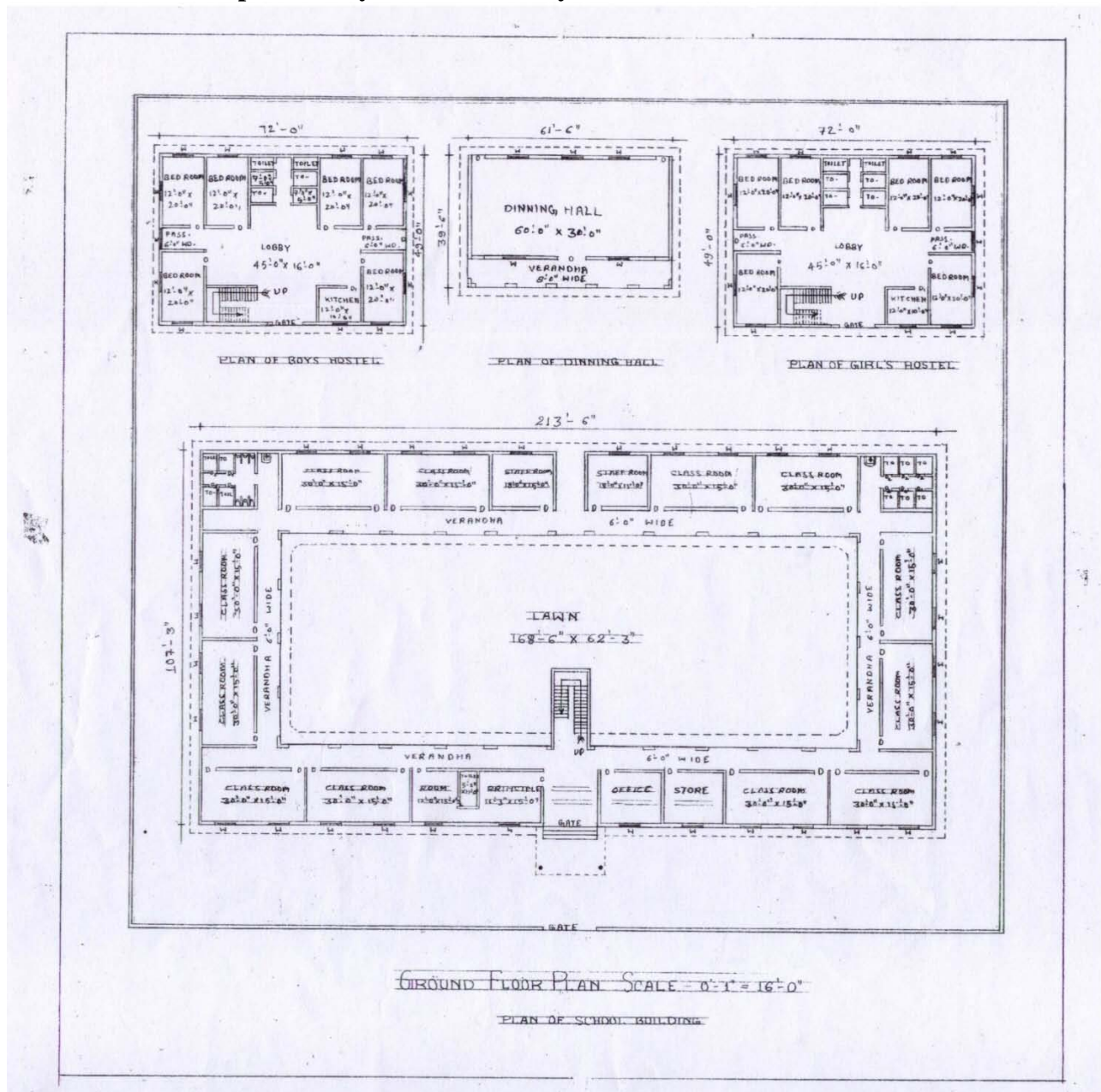
IV. METHODOLOGY

A. Phase I – Children’s Home and Grades K-5th

Phase I of the facility will cover 13,674 Sq ft. and will include:

- Children’s Home Facility to accommodate 100 children, including dormitories (3,300 sq ft), dining/prayer hall (1,500 sq ft), kitchen (800 sq ft), 10 bathrooms (150 sq ft), sick room (80 sq ft). **Total area of the Children’s Home Facility – 6,730 sq ft.**
- School K-5th Grades to accommodate 300 children, including six classrooms (3,000 sq ft), an office (500 sq ft), 12 bathrooms (144 sq ft), and a counseling room (300 sq ft). **Total area of the school – 3,944 sq ft.**
- Vocational Institute to accommodate 50 students, including two lecture halls (1,000 sq ft) and two workshops (2,000 sq ft). **Total area of the Vocational Institute – 3,000 sq ft.**

Below is one possible layout of the facility.



Operations in the facility will commence within nine months from the land purchase. These activities include:

- The current 32 children of Blue Haven Children’s Home will be moved into the new facility.
- Kindergarten through 5th grades will begin in the school.
- Vocational training will begin in the institute.

Some of the school teachers will also provide care and after–school tutoring for the residential children. Widows living at the facility will provide a large portion of the manual labor such as washing children’s clothing, helping in the kitchen, etc. This will cut down on operational cost of the children’s home. **For a full listing of staff for both the children’s home and school, see the Sustainability Budget below.**

The school will attain the highest accreditation available in the state of Uttar Pradesh, which is the CBSE Board accreditation. Our goal is that it will become the most sought-after school in Lucknow by offering the following benefits:

- Exceptional education combined with high moral standards
- English language taught and required in all classes and at all levels
- Computer lab provided and hands-on experience given to all students on a weekly basis.
- Volunteer teams from America, England and other English-speaking nations will provide special classes and interact with the students, affording them unique opportunities to develop international communication skills.

The first two years of operation both the school and children’s home will require outside subsidy. However by the third year the facility will be fully sustainable (see Sustainability Plan, below).

Examples of the types of vocational training and income generation activities that may be offered include:

1. Handicrafts
2. Tailoring
3. Carpentry
4. Screen Printing
5. Computer Repair
6. Electronics Repair

B. Phase II – More students and expansion of buildings

By the second or third year we expect that more classrooms will be necessary as enrollment in both the school and vocational institute grows. By Year Two, paying students in the school are projected to increase to 175 and some of our older children’s home kids will join the vocational institute and learn marketable skills. By the third year we project at least 300 paying students in the school and 75 paying vocational students and business income rising. Thus by the third year the facility will be fully sustainable (see Sustainability Budget below).

V. OUTCOMES AND EVALUATION

A. After 12 months:

- The 32 children of the current Blue Haven Children's Home will move into the facility thus automatically lowering current ongoing costs by 30% due to no further need to rent a facility.
- At least 50 paying students will be enrolled and grades Kindergarten through 5th will begin in the facility.
- The school will achieve UP Board accreditation, a prerequisite to CBSE Board accreditation.

B. By the 3rd year:

- 60 destitute and orphaned children will be resident in the facility and enrolled in the school.
- At least 7 widows will also be receiving care and housing and will be providing general assistance in the children's' home
- The school will have grown to 300 paying students.
- The industrial center will have 75 paying students and some income from products manufactured will fully offset all other expenses.
- Thus by the 3rd year, the facility will be entirely self-sufficient.

C. After 5 years the project will have achieved the following:

- A self sufficient residential facility providing a loving Christian atmosphere, nutritious food and an excellent education for 200 destitute children including AIDS orphans, and widows including HIV positive widows. This will be measured by intake medical examinations and other intake data to determine the individual needs (health or economic or both) of our residents and students.
- A reduction in the number of female children and widows that are forced to live in a high risk homeless situation being subject to further risks for sex slave trade victimization. This will be measured by our overall number of residents in the facility of both widows and destitute female children.
- A world class, fully enrolled, energy efficient school serving 500 students.
- An increase in academic skills of the children enrolled including proficiency in speaking English and in basic computer operation. This will be measured by intake interviews and tests within three days of admission and another test within one year of admission.
- An industrial center providing skills training for over 100 young men and women annually while also generating remaining funds necessary for the support of the facility.

VI. HISTORY AND TRACK RECORD

Since 1997 TellASIA Ministries has been transforming lives in North India. A few notable achievements include:

- A. **Rural Education Centers** are currently enabling 19,000 destitute children in over 60 education centers to learn to read and write and also to learn about Jesus. These children were either unable to attend any school or else their parents were so poor they could only afford a very low-quality government-run school. In these government schools, the teacher often doesn't appear for class and the children often don't even learn to read or write. Now these children have a brighter future. This project employs local teachers who also benefit by this small additional income.
- B. **The Vocational Skills Project** is currently providing 60 underprivileged young men a government-accredited certificate in a skill such as Electrical Wiring and Computer Repair. These youths were facing a future of continuing the cycle of poverty in which their parents were trapped. Apart from this training, they would have been forced to work unskilled labor jobs earning a below-subsistence wage of around \$50/month. With their new skill they will be able to earn between \$150 and 250/month. This income enables them to live comfortably and to send their children to a good school. Thus the cycle of poverty is broken.
- C. **Sewing Schools** in three locations equip average 80 girls per year with the skill of tailoring. Girls who have no skill are at the mercy of an abusive husband or may end up becoming beggars or prostitutes to survive. Having a skill ensures that she will never have to endure abuse or poverty. She can support herself if necessary, or can earn extra income for her family. The income from a wife who can sew may mean the difference between the family having three meals a day or going hungry. It may also mean the difference between her children being able to go to school or not.
- D. Our **Micro-Business Project** has so far set up 100 destitute families in their own business and provided goats to 150 families. Our favorite testimony is of Anjali, an AIDS patient with two small children. She was doing unskilled labor as a house maid and earned only \$15/month. But now we helped her start her own sewing business and now she earns \$150/month – a decent income by which she is also sending her children to school.
- E. 800 families devastated by the Tsunami were provided emergency relief and 7 family businesses restored.
- F. 150 victims of the Orissa persecution received emergency relief

VII. SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTION

This institution will become self-supported in the third year. Tuition and fees paid by children from middle-class urban families will provide much of the expenses for maintenance and education of the residential students who are orphans or from destitute families. Remaining expenses will be met through the Industrial Center.

A detailed Sustainability Projection is provided below:

SUSTAINABILITY PROJECTION FOR BLUE HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME AND SCHOOL												
	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3			
INCOME	Persor	\$/ea	\$/mo	Year 1	Persor	\$/ea	\$/mo	Year 2	Persor	\$/ea	\$/mo	Year 3
School												
Admission fee	50	11	556	556	175	11	1,944	1,944	300	16	4,667	4,667
Tuition	50	9	444	5,333	175	9	1,556	18,667	300	11	3,333	40,000
Orphan Children	32	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	70	0	0	0
Industrial Center												
Admission fee	0	18	0	0	50	18	889	889	75	22	1,667	1,667
Tuition	0	13	0	0	50	13	667	8,000	75	16	1,167	14,000
Business Income	0	0	0	0	1	67	67	800	1	133	133	1,600
TOTAL INCOME			1,000	5,889			5,122	30,300			#####	61,933
EXPENSES												
Children's Home												
Food (32 kids + 4 staff)	40	20	791	9,493	70	20	1,384	16,613	85	20	1,681	20,173
Salary-cook	1	67	67	800	1	67	67	800	1	67	67	800
House Maids and helpers (Widows)	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	7	0	0	0
Health and hygiene	32	3	89	1,067	60	3	167	2,000	70	3	194	2,333
Clothing-school and play	32	49	1,564	1,564	60	49	2,933	2,933	70	49	3,422	3,422
School books etc	32	18	569	569	60	18	1,067	1,067	70	18	1,244	1,244
Miscellaneous expense	32	4	142	1,707	60	4	267	3,200	70	4	311	3,733
Total Children's Home				15,200				26,613				31,707
School and Indust. Center												
Salary, principal	1	156	156	1,867	1	156	156	1,867	1	222	222	2,667
Salary, school teachers	3	67	200	2,400	5	67	333	4,000	8	67	533	6,400
Salary, vocational tchrs	0	67	0	0	2	67	133	1,600	3	67	200	2,400
School helper	1	33	33	400	3	33	100	1,200	3	33	100	1,200
Supplies	1	67	67	800	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333
General Operations												
Office assistant	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333	1	133	133	1,600
Communications	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333
Electricity	1	156	156	1,867	1	222	222	2,667	1	222	222	2,667
Water	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333	1	111	111	1,333
Guards	2	56	111	1,333	2	56	111	1,333	2	56	111	1,333
Driver	1	156	156	1,867	2	156	311	3,733	2	156	311	3,733
Petrol	1	89	89	1,067	2	89	178	2,133	2	89	178	2,133
Maintenance	1	111	111	1,333	1	167	167	2,000	1	167	167	2,000
Total School, Indust. Ctr. and Gen Op				16,933				25,867				30,133
TOTAL EXPENSE			4,633	32,133			8,040	52,480			9,431	61,840
BALANCE				-26,244				-22,180				\$ 93

VIII. BUDGET

BUDGET - PHASE 1 OF BLUE HAVEN CHILDRENS HOME, SCHOOL AND INDUSTRIAL CENTER

Item	#	area	\$/sq ft	\$
Construction of Children's Home Facility				
Dormitories - 3,300 sq ft (33 sq ft x 100 residents)	1	3300	22.22	73,333
Sick/First aid room area 80 sq.ft.	1	80	22.22	1,778
Kitchen - 800 sqft.	1	800	22.22	17,778
Dining /Prayer Hall - 1,500 sqft.	1	1500	22.22	33,333
Storage rooms - 3 rooms 300 sqft. each	3	300	22.22	20,000
Bathrooms - 10 x 15 sq ft. each	10	15	22.22	3,333
Total Construction of Children's Home				\$ 149,556
Construction of School				
Classrooms - 6 x 500 sq ft.	6	500	22.22	66,667
Offices - 500 sq ft.	1	500	22.22	11,111
Latrines - 12 x 12 sq ft each	12	12	22.22	3,200
Counseling & Guidance room - 300 sq ft	1	300	22.22	6,667
Total Construction of School				\$ 87,664
Construction of Industrial Center				
Classrooms	2	500	22.22	22,222
Workshops	2	1000	22.22	44,444
Total Construction of Industrial Center				\$ 66,667
Furnishings and Setup				
Kitchen - equipment/crockery/ refrig, stove etc.				4,444
School Classrooms - furniture - x 22	5	60000		6,667
Laboratory – equipment				2,222
Industrial Ctr Classrooms	2	60000		2,667
Industrial Ctr Workshops	2	100000		4,444
Offices – furniture				1,111
School buses	1	1		16,667
Staff vans	1	1		7,778
Total Furnishings and Setup				\$ 46,000
First Year Operational Expenses				
Salaries of School teachers and other school expenses				11,044
Food for Orphan Children and other children's home expenses				15,200
Total First Year Operational Expenses				\$ 26,244
Grand Total.....				\$ 376,111

IX. CONCLUSION

Our research shows that no self-sufficient children's home/school currently exists in North India. All are dependent on and therefore limited by the availability of perpetual donations from the West. Blue Haven Children's Home and School is revolutionary in that it is fully sustainable. In one of the most densely populated and impoverished areas of the world, a prototype facility will be in place that can be multiplied globally to stop the cycle of poverty in thousands of lives.

Thank you for being a part of making Blue Haven Children's Home and School a reality.



**Ricky Srivastava, Director of Blue Haven Children's Home,
with a slum child**

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