

## Shakti Milan Samaj

# Organization Profile



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## 01 - Name of Organization:

The full name/registered name of organization is "SHAKTI MILAN SAMAJ" the abbreviation is "SMS".

## 02- Background of Organization:

SMS is a non- governmental, non-profit, non- religious and non-political organization. It was established in 2006 by a group of HIV positive women, who were also victim of womentrafficking came together in 2003. who were highly motivated and committed for contributing their time, skills and energies for empowerment, care and support, advocacy and their rights of the women and children infected, affected, down trodden and vulnerable by HIV/AIDS. This organization has been working on the issues of HIV/AIDS, women's rights and violence against women, food and nutrition security and socio-economic development.

On the account of our historical background, we have been in affiliation with Shakti Samuha since its establishment. Shakti Samuha has been working for the survivors of internal and external trafficking, so we felt the need for the existence of a separate organization, which would deal with those women who were facing two kinds of violence, as some of the survivors had to go through the horror of being victims of trafficking and they contracted HIV infection. So the rationale of this organization was to work for such women. But now we have expanded our working to HIV positive women no matter if they are survivors of trafficking or not. The Nepalese society considers HIV positive women as immoral and on top of that if the woman has been infected after being trafficked, the situation is even worse in such case. The HIV positive survivors do not have a platform to speak up for their rights, and providing a platform to such women is one of the objectives of Shakti Milan Samaj.

#### 03- Legal Status:

Shakti Milan Samaj is registered under organization registration Act 2034 of Nepal in District Administration Office, Kathmandu (Regd. No. 13/063/064) and is affiliated with Social Welfare Council under section 13 of the Social Welfare Act, 1992, Nepal (SWC No. 20066) in Kathmandu

#### 04 - Nature of organization:

SMS "could also be labeled as an implementing organization which designs and implements various Empowerments, Income generations , Education and skills development , Care and Support , HIV/AIDS awareness , advocacy , campaign and Nutrion support project with the financial and technical support of International and National Donor agencies and the Government.

#### 05-Vision:

Just societies where women and their children living with HIV/AIDS are free from violence, stigma and discrimination and have access to quality health care, education and economic resources

#### 06 - Mission:

To facilitate health care and ensure access to resources, human rights of women and their children living with HIV/AIDS through advocacy, capacity building, care, support and referral service for treatment.

#### 07 -Goals:

To reduce Violence, stigma and discrimination, improve care and support for women and their children living with HIV/AIDS

## **08-Values and Principles:**

The agency's values and principles are interwoven with each other's, and one is derived from another and vice-versa. These include working together with be part of Influencing Network, Improved Governance, Enhance Capacity (Human capital), Adaptive management, neutrality, confidentiality, non-profit making, transparency, accountability, sustainability and professionalism.

## **09-Broad Objectives:**

Following are broad objectives of "SMS"

- 1-To raise awareness, to change negative attitude of people towards women living with HIV and AIDS and reduce the risk of HIV infection among women and children
- 2. To reduce stigma and discrimination among women and their children living with HIV and AIDS.
- 3 To ensure access to treatment and provide care and support for women and children living with HIV/ AIDS.
- 4. To empower women living with HIV/ AIDS with information about their rights including their rights to access and have full control over economic resources

## 10 - Strategy

Following are the key elements of SMS strategies

- Coordination and cooperation with all the developmental stakeholders, government line agencies, local level bodies, civil society and grass root stake holders
- Cooperation and coactions with Developmental Agencies and Organizations
- Advocacy, lobbying and Awareness Raising
- PHLIV Group formation, strengthening and mobilization including Child club member
- Strengthening and mobilization of Community Care Centre
- Research, publications and information dissemination
- Thematic Partnership
- Networking with HIV/AIDS agencies

## 11- Approach:

Following are the key approaches of SMS during program implementations process:

- ➤ Right based approach
- ➤ Need based approach
- > PLHIV Women's participation
- > PLHIV women's groups mobilizations
- ➤ Accountability and transparency
- ➤ Coordination, connection, collaboration, Networking and affiliation
- > Participation of Children affected by AIDS and Infected

### 12-System and Policies:

Sms has following system and Policies:

- ✓ Administrative policy
- ✓ Staff Management Policy
- ✓ Community Care Center Policy
- ✓ Financial Policy

## 13-Program



- •Interaction, seminar and workshop with stakeholder
- Conduct Campaigns
- Publication of posters, pamphlets and distribution
- •Coordination with media, organizations, ministry line agencies, policy makers and target groups
- •Discussion programmes with stakeholders, vulnerable community, entertainment workers, Injected drugs users and migrant workers.
- Documentation and publication



- •Skill enhancement and capacity building training to PLHIV women
- •Income generation support to PLHIV womens
- Skills upliftment training to CABA
- •Micro- Entrepreneurships mechanism program for CABA and PLHIV Women

CARE AND SUPPORT

- •Maintain and run emergency service centre or ccc for infected women
- ·Support in medicine, treatment and in nutrition
- •Educational support program for members , infected and affected children
- Counseling service
- Legal support
- Income generation and seed money support
- Community home based care support
- Referral to hospitals and treatments

## **14- Program Thematic Areas**

SMS's works include the following six program thematic areas:

#### **1 Community Care Center:**

Crisis Care Centre was established with an objective to provide care and support services to women living with HIV who are from and outside of the Kathmandu valley. Women and their children who are abandoned by their families and are in critical health conditions are provided with lodging, medical help, and counseling so that they regain their health and confidence and are reintegrated in their families after proper reintegration process. They are provided with psycho-social counseling, medical treatment including CD4 counts and Anti Retroviral drugs (ARV). The agency is doing feasibility study to expand the services to women with extreme household and community violence.

#### 2 Education and skill development:

The program is driven by the objective to make HIV infected women economically independent by providing them with various kinds of skill development training such as computers, 4 wheeler driving, sewing and knitting, bakery, hotel and tourism management, front desk office, agricultural and so on Similarly, the organization provides education support to the women who are involved in the organization and interested in having higher studies. The organization also provides education support for their children under its child support program. In addition, SMS is providing other trainings such as training on Community home based care (CHBC), HIV and AIDS management, Counseling for safe migration Gender based violence (GBV) and advocacy on Gender and Human Rights.

#### 3 Emergency Support funds:

The objective of emergency support fund is to save the lives of patients who are severely ill and needs immediate support for treatment. Since inception, SMS has been helping HIV positive women who are financially weak to access proper treatment facilities in the capital. Through this fund HIV affected women are supported for major surgery, PMTCT and other cases that require urgent medical attention. The funds are also mobilized for the welfare of women suffering from extreme domestic violence.

#### 4-Income generation:

With an objective to empower HIV infected women and affected families socially and economically, the agency designs and implements various kinds of income generation program activities. Some of the examples are seed money with technical support, Agro-and livestock farming, vegetable farming, fruit shop, street shop etc. Poverty is the root cause of many social and household problems, and once people are economically independent, they can initiate actions to address their problems themselves. Hence, the income generation program will focus on on-farm technical skills and input support for increased productivity and facilitate market linkages and access to credit to the vulnerable people. Priority will be given to the PLHA, early school dropped out youths and people living in absolute poverty.

#### **5 Advocacy and Awareness:**

Awareness and advocacy on women's right, violence against women, and HIV/ AIDS can tremendously help to make general as well as vulnerable people aware of this pandemic; create positive environment in the society for PLHA; and prevent further spread of HIV/AIDS. SMS organizes awareness program targeting schools going young students to equip them with knowledge, skill and resources to combat HIV/ AIDS. We believe that students can be instrumental at sensitizing the whole society on HIV/ AIDS related issues. As part of awareness and advocacy campaign, the agency organizes the street dramas on various themes such as awareness on HIV/AIDS and Sexually transmitted Infections (STI), safe-migration and other safe behavior including reproductive health care and personal hygiene and celebrates the World AIDS Day on regular basis .SMS priorities advocacy to protect rights of PLHA and their immediate offspring for dignified living; provide access to essential treatment and care services from Government of Nepal (GoN) and allocation of resources for HIV/AIDS at the local level.

#### 6- Women and Children Inclusion as Cross-Cutting Theme:

The inclusion of women and children infected and affected by HIV and AIDS and household and community violence stretches across all above program thematic areas. They are the central concern of the agency while designing and implementing the programs/ projects

#### 15 – Targeted Groups and populations:

Shakti Milan Samaj Targeted is on the HIV infected and affected, HIV downtrodden and vulnerable groups and population of women and children.

#### 16- Geographical Focus:

The SMS overall geographic focus is the province of Kathmandu.

#### 17-The Executive Board:

Designation	Full Name
President	Dayawati Sedhai
Vice –President	Sanja Maya Tamang
Secretary	Sahana Joshi
Treasure	Shova Bhohara
Member	Chandra Devi B.K
Member	Shova Mishra
Member	Rudra Kumari Rana Magar

#### 18 - Governance:

Shakti Milan Samaj is governed by its Board of Directors (BoD). The Board is the key Policy making and governance body of the Samaj and works independently. It Formulates and approves policies and organizational systems and evaluates the overall Performance of Shakti Milan Samaj on period basis .The BoD consists of (seven female) and is headed by its president. The Board works in the guidelines of the Board Policies Manual.

## 19- Management:

Shakti Milan Samaj is lead by its Executive Director who is the formal head of the Organization, The Executive Director reports to the president of the Board of Directors (BoD) and is responsible for the overall management of the organization. The Executive Director is supported by the Organizational Development Coordinator, program coordinator, Finance and admin officer, team of project coordination and different sections. They jointly form management structure for the Sms.

#### **20– Donors and Partners:**

Since its establishment in year 2006: Shakti Milan Samaj has remained honored in getting the opportunity to work with a number of diverse donor and partners who not only enhanced financial support for various project; but also adequately build the capacity of organization from different perception and perspectives.

SMS greatly values and acknowledges the support of its partners who provided their great and quality support to Sms for its

Previous projects these include:

- National Federation of Women Living with HIV and AIDS(NFWLHA)
- ➤ United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- ➤ Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Center (CWIN)
- ➤ Women Rehabilitation Center ( WOREC)
- ➤ Elton John AIDS Foundation
- > Save the Children
- Standard Charted
- > Shakti Samuha
- Action Aid

Current projects these include:

- ➤ National Association of People Living with HIV and AIDS in Nepal (NAP+N)
- South Asia Women's Fund (SAWF-Srilanka)
- ➤ MISEREOR, Germany
- Asia Child Support Japan
- ➤ World Childhood Foundation
- Direct Relief

## 21- Memberships & Affiliations:

Sms is a non-governmental organization, who believes that networking in national and international, team work, collective activities for HIV/AIDS issues, we feeling, exchange of information, helping hands, sharing of concept, vision, mission, knowledge and information is a key dimensions to the success as for addressing the HIV/AIDS issues and challenges are concerned, this facts are critically analyzed by Sms team; hence organization always tries to join all such forums and networks which directly link to its mission and objectives. In this regards; the Sms has joined the following important network formed at national levels.

#### National Association of People Living with HIV and AIDS in Nepal (NAPN)

National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Nepal (NAP+N) is a non-political, non religious, non-governmental, non-profitable, autonomous network of People Living with HIV/AIDS and as such, a platform for collaboration, cooperation, joint action and collective endeavor between PLHA and HIV/AIDS organizations in Nepal.

NAP+N is established in 2003 in order to combat this epidemic with the joint effort of PLHAs in Nepal. The common goal was "To unite all those living with the virus in Nepal and fight back". (http://napn.org.np/). SMS became member of NAP+N during 2006.

#### National federation of women living with HIV and AIDS (NFWLHA)

The National Federation of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (NFWLHA), based in Lalitpur, Nepal, is a network of 26 organizations committed to highlighting and responding to the needs of women living with HIV and their children. The network seeks to develop the capacities of its members through coordinated activities, communication and advocacy. The women of NFWLHA focus their efforts on HIV prevention, including voluntary counseling and testing, and the reduction of stigma and discrimination. The organizations also reaches out to marginalized groups and other organizations led by HIV positive women. Active in fifteen locations, the Federation advocates for national policy and legal reform, and acts to reduce social stigma in the community through the involvement of affected family members. (<a href="http://nfwlha.org/">http://nfwlha.org/</a>) .Sms became member of national federation of women living with HIV during 2011 A.D

#### Alliance against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN)

Established in 1997, Alliance against Trafficking in Women & Children in Nepal (AATWIN) has been working to raise the strong and collective voice against the human trafficking. From the very beginning it has been working for the policy change in local, national to international level. Besides it has made great effort for the conceptual clarity among the member organizations and people in general. (http://www.aatwin.org.np/) Sms became member of (AATWIN) during 2007 A.D

## 22- Departments:

Sms has established its various departments which help in smooth, well functioning and Systematic implementation of Shakti Milan Samaj interventions: These include:

- Organization Development Department
- Finance and Administration Department
- Program Department
- Project Department
- Counseling Department
- Community care management Department
- Community Home base care Department

#### 23- Financial Portfolio:

Sms implements its projects with the grants / funding from various National and international donors and government of the province where it works, these

Grants are usually time-bound and for specific project interventions. Sms has learnt a lot while managing grants of diverse donors and has well Developed its financial management capability, since its establishment in year 2006 till the end of 15 July- 2016; the organization has implemented about 13 projects in province of Kathmandu Geographic areas and in different sectors amounting to over 3,76,64,023.46 NPR.

#### 24-Human Resources:

Sms has a core team with various professional backgrounds such as management, finances, humanities, health and nursing, etc. In addition the Sms hires the project staff as and when required. The Sms also engaged volunteer and interns on need basis.

#### 25 - Review & Monitoring:

Monitoring is always considers as important and priority matters of SMS. Organizations has develops its monitoring mechanism and review for all the projects Sms implements .The process of review and monitoring helps Sms in achieving the project objectives in timely and smooth manner. Monitoring mechanism of project is monitored by the Executive Director, coordinators/ manger of the program and the board and management team of SMS.

#### 26 - Accounts & Audits:

SMS maintains its all accounts on Double entry system and FAMAS software. Sms developed various financial policies, system and formats etc. which help it in effective management of all its funds and maintaining a complete accountability in receipts and payments at all levels. SMS gets its accounts (receipts and payments) audited by the recognized charted accountants firms on the completion of projects or by the end of each financial year.

#### **27-Appreciations and Award:**

- Appreciation in collective fight against poverty and justice in Nepal by -Action Aid- 2007
- Appreciation in generous support extended for the benefits of people living with HIV/AIDS by –SAATH-2004
- Appreciation in Participation on 25<sup>th</sup> World HIV day by DACC-2012
- Awards Sharan Chhetri- by National HIV and AIDS federations Nepal -2016