



El Shaddai

Loving ~ Caring ~ Sharing

El Shaddai Charitable Trust

Volunteer's Information Guide



The El Shaddai Charitable Trust is a registered, non-profit, non-sectarian and non-religious Charity started by Anita Edgar and Matthew Kurian. El Shaddai operates in Goa and other States in India, implementing the Child Rights Act 2003/05 for orphans, street children, and children coming from economically desperate conditions.

Here the underprivileged children and destitute women are cared and provided with food, clothing, shelter, and education, for a better future. We have seven residential Homes, three Day Care Centres, three Community Centres, Destitute Women's shelter, Destitute Men's Shelter, four schools, and Cottages for seniors who are attending University, Colleges, Technical Institutions and Professional Training Centres & working.

We have Meals on Wheels, Manna Khana free food distribution programme running on a daily basis. Manna takeaway packets are provided for around 700 poor and needy children and adults living on the streets. We have a Community Sponsorship Programme for the financially challenged children. We have 39 slum schools and slum outreach programmes which provide educational facilities and community health camps for the slum children and women.

Our Vision

A childhood for children who have never had one

Our Purpose

To create a safe, secure and bright future for under-privileged children

Our Mission

To create homes, shelters, community centres and schools to transform children's lives

Our Values

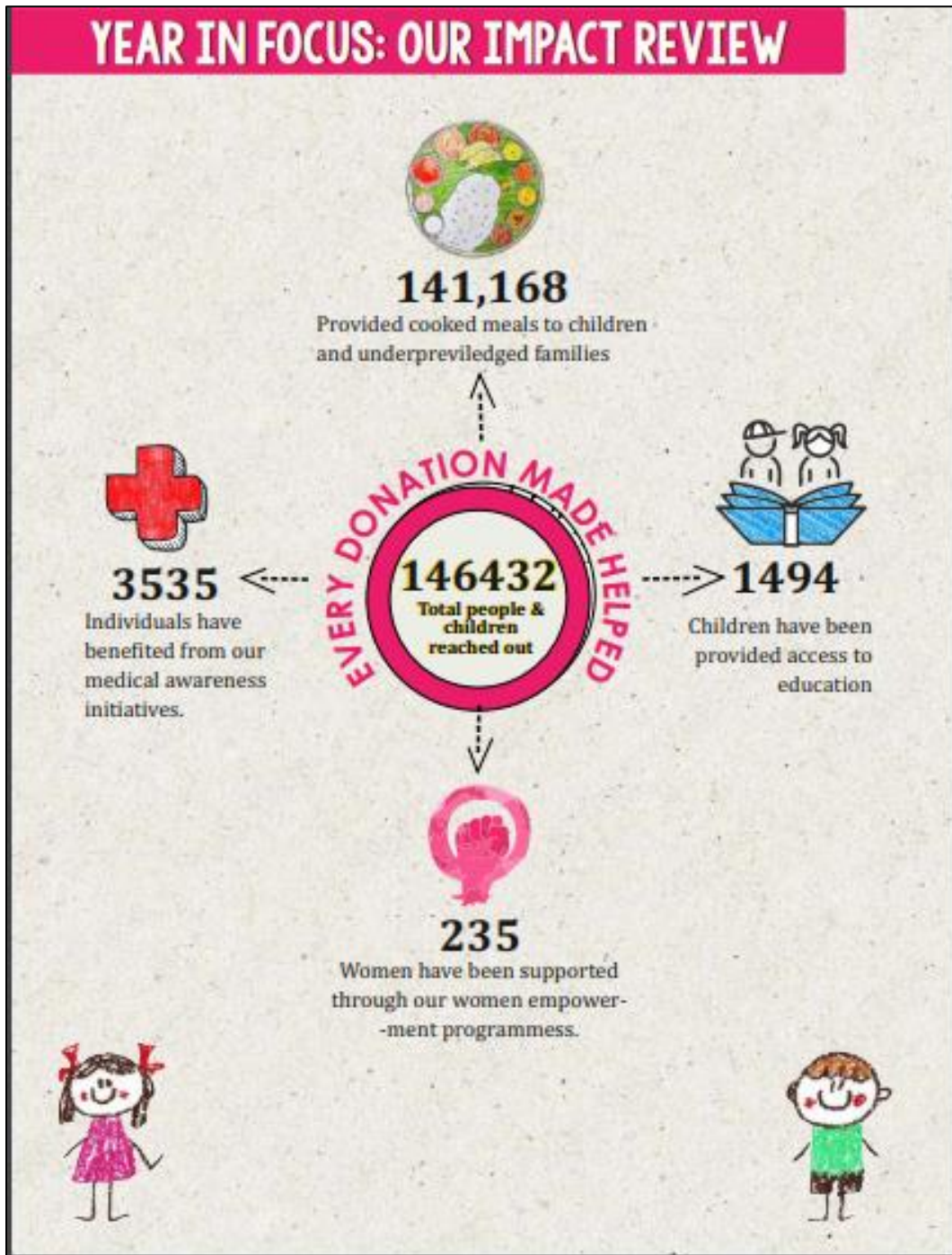
Loving – Love the ones that some people consider unlovable

Caring - Care for the ones that no one else cares for

Sharing – Share the goodness of people and God.

At El Shaddai, we are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to help with this worthwhile cause. As a volunteer, you will play a crucial role in helping us achieve our mission and raise awareness of our cause.

OUR IMPACT OVER 25 YEARS:



Why Volunteer?

Volunteering at El Shaddai holds immense importance, as this organization is dedicated to making a significant impact in the lives of children from challenging backgrounds such as the streets, slums, and railway stations. El Shaddai's mission is to provide these vulnerable children with love, care, education, and support, and volunteers play a vital role in fulfilling this mission.

Children living on the streets and in slums often face numerous hardships, including poverty, lack of access to education, and exposure to crime and exploitation. Many children on the streets and in slums endure traumatic experiences. Volunteers work wholeheartedly and giving free service contributing to the creation of a supportive community and serve as mentors and role models, offering guidance, emotional support, and a sense of belonging, which can significantly influence a child's personal development and future prospects. Volunteering involves selflessly giving your time, skills and passion to support our mission of creating a brighter future for underprivileged.

Whether you're a student, a professional, a retiree, or simply someone who cares about making a positive impact, you can join us. Your commitment and dedication are what matter most.

Volunteering with El Shaddai Charitable Trust is a chance to be part of a caring community that strives to provide a better future for underprivileged individuals. Join us in making a positive impact today!

How you can Volunteer

The role of volunteers is vital in providing individual attention to the children most in need.

1. **Hands-On Assistance:** Engage directly with the children and women we serve by volunteering at our schools, shelters, or community centers, eg: helping children in their studies, tuitions,
2. **Skill-Based Contributions:** If you have specific skills, such as teaching, healthcare, or administrative expertise, your talents can benefit our programs and operations. eg: helping teachers in arts, crafts, dressmaking, using healthcare and health educational skills, some help in sports, cricket, football and volleyball coaching. A great favourite is working in our slum school.
3. **Fundraising and Outreach:** Help us raise funds, spread awareness, and engage with donors to support our initiatives, eg; help at our stall at Wednesday Anjuna Flea market and our Saturday and Sunday beach programme.

What is expected from Volunteers?

- **Commitment:** Dedicate your time and energy as agreed upon.
- **Compassion:** Show empathy and respect for those we serve.
- **Teamwork:** Collaborate with our staff and other volunteers.
- **Adaptability:** Be flexible and ready to contribute where needed.

Spoken English is required in order to communicate effectively with us and children.

Charity Details:

Charity Reg. No (India)	9/Bk. IV/Vol.1
Charity Reg. No UK	1076768
Charity Reg. No US	501 (c) (3) US federal tax-exempt status
Charity Reg. No Germany	1065/0969
Charity Reg. No Norway	991137327
Charity Reg. No Sweden	802469-154

The Indian Charity was formerly certified to ISO 9001:2000 in 2005

Other Projects:

- **Education Centre** – Blooming Buds School in Mundgod (Karnataka)
- **Project Rena** - a project of El Shaddai based in Mumbai has been started to fight against victims of human trafficking
- **El Shaddai Sports & Cultural Club (Goa)**
- **SCAN India** – provides sustainable, comprehensive services for children who are abused, child in need of care and protection and children in conflict with the law
- **Loan a Goat:** Goat Project for underprivileged families and their children
- **Wells for Life:** Bore wells for underprivileged families and their children

Pre-requisites:

- **A DBS or Police check**
(We have a responsibility to ensure all volunteers who work with us have a clear police check, this is in line with our Child Protection policy).
- **A good level of spoken English**
(Most of our children and staff have a good level of spoken English, so to enable communication; a good level of spoken English is a requirement).
- **A willingness** to adapt to the culture, work hard, help and make a difference

We have decided to step back from volunteering responsibilities due to our existing workload and have entrusted GONSERVE Bethel Hospitality PVT Ltd agency with all volunteering - related matters. They will now oversee and manage our volunteering initiatives

Gonserve Bethel hospitality PVT Ltd

Camarcazana, Mapusa, Bardez. Goa.

Phone: 9529750193 Email: gonservebethel@gmail.com

El Shaddai Policy

It is mandatory to comply with the following:

Dress Code

- To wear your ID badges at all times on site (this will be provided when you arrive, during your Induction).
- Always wear suitable clothing whilst around our staff and children (cover your shoulders and knees).
- We will provide 2 t-shirts; these must be worn at all times whilst on duty with either three quarter or long trousers or skirt (not mini).
- When on beach duty, ladies should wear a top - El Shaddai t-shirt with shorts over your bikini/swimsuit. Men should wear swimming shorts, not trunks and a top - El Shaddai t-shirt.
- *Always remove your shoes when entering our Homes.*
- Smoking and/or drinking of alcohol is NOT PERMITTED when on duty.

Favouritism, Do's and Don'ts

It is often difficult during your time with the children not to have “favourites”. We always insist all children are treated in the same way, so please do not give anything to one child if you are not able to give to all the children in the Centre.

Please do not give any gifts or items to a child without first consulting the House In Charge or another member of staff in their absence. No gifts to staff or visits to staff homes as this may cause difficulties. Please be sensitive to local culture at all times – remember, if a single girl is left unchaperoned with a man, they are considered to have been defiled and the family may disown them or worse.

Goa is one of the most westernized States in India, as well as being a highly lucrative tourist area. English is widely spoken and many westernized values and ideas influence daily life. However, the majority of our children come from other States, which have not been exposed to many of the western values we take for granted. The same applies to many of our staff and we would always ask you to be respectful and sensitive to their views and culture at all times.

DO NOT offer to take the children anywhere or spend time alone with a child without a member of staff being present as this is against our Child Protection Policy.

We are always ready to listen to new ideas; should you have any suggestions, queries or problems during your stay, please write them down and put them in the suggestion box provided or contact your Volunteer Co-ordinator.

Please DO NOT discuss problems or complaints with the house staff or children as this may cause distress or start rumors. Please come directly to Matthew, Julia or Sponsorship secretary.

Obviously, we want you to remember the primary objective of your visit is to support the children and their welfare must always be your first priority. Please respect there are sometimes very different ways of doing things in India to where you may come from!

Towards the end of your Volunteer Services you will be asked to complete an '*End of Volunteer Questionnaire*' this will give you an opportunity to voice your opinions or any concerns you may have.

At the end of your Volunteer Service with us

We appreciate the time you have offered to help our children here in Goa and we hope your stay is a rewarding and fun experience. Please complete the 'End of Volunteer Service Questionnaire' which will be given to you by our Volunteer Coordinator. Handover your ID badge back to the co-coordinator and hand in your End of Volunteer Service Questionnaire.

We like to put our Volunteer's comments on our website so we would be grateful if you could complete the section where we ask you to write a small synopsis of your time with the charity in order to provide other prospective volunteers with your insights.

www.childrescue.net