PROFILE

YOUTH COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENT ALTERNATIVES-YCDA
INCEPTION
Year of establishment: 1993

YCDA was registered under Societies Registration Act and Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) in 1993 and 1997 respectively. Since the inception organization devotes its time, skill, knowledge and commitment towards development of oppressed masses in the society with a group of experienced and trained social workers.

The major thrust of the organization is to implement various demonstration projects for its target group in the area for bring change in the situation and initiate actions to replicate the best practices in other areas. We work in collaboration with Government, various statutory bodies and INGOs in reaching to the desired result.

VISION
Sustainable improvement in the socio-economic status and self-reliance of disadvantaged community

MISSION
To enable children and Young People of marginalized communities in Odisha for a sustainable future with improved socio-economic and family situation through a joint action with their communities and service providers

OBJECTIVES
To enable children to have access to quality primary education including life skills and livelihood skills

To empower children to feel safe and protected from discrimination, maltreatment, neglect and any forms of abuse

To strengthen families that will enable children and young people to grow in a safe, secure and economically stable community.
GOVERNANCE

YCDA is managed by a General Council which is regarded as the supreme policy making body. The general council meets in its scheduled norm and transacts various businesses. The executive council meets from time to time and discuss on the internal governance and broader organizational affairs. To implement various programme/projects and to achieve the targeted goals, we developed partnership with Government, UN bodies, corporate houses and national/international donors.

YCDA is governed by a set of policies developed in participatory manner and review periodically. HR policy, Gender policy and Child Protection Policy are some of the policies at present in practice. YCDA is also a member in Credibility Alliance and compliances its norms regularly.
STRATEGIES

DIRECT ACTION
Work with target groups like children, adolescents and individual Households in the community for ensuring direct services to reduce there sufferings as required.

STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY BASED GROUPS
Strengthen capacity of various groups/committees like, children club, Adolescent groups, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmers group etc. with an objective to develop their capacity and claim making power.

YCDA decides its priorities, key themes and strategies together with its stakeholders and partner organizations. It has adopted Right-Based approaches of development and strives to create alternatives and changing lives. Our approach is to work with the Government and other civil society organizations through a system strengthening way.

LOBBY AND POLICY INFLUENCING
Initiate action with other like-minded organisations and peoples group to translate policies into action, lobby for poor people’s policy and influence good governance practices in implementation.
Using a right & duty based perspective, YCDA works with a wide range of stakeholders to build an understanding of indivisible rights, capacity and accountability with both state and non state actors.

**STAKEHOLDERS**

**GOVERNMENT**
We have always taken the system strengthening approach in implementing projects.

**FUNDING PARTNERS**
Other than resources, we bring knowledge to obtain optimum results in our work.

**INDIVIDUALS & COMMUNITIES**
YCDA strongly believes in bringing change in individual users as well as communities as a process of sustainable development.

**CSO PARTNERS**
We closely work with partner CSO organizations in order to enhance their knowledge and capacities.

**Statutory Bodies & Policy Makers**
Bureaucrats, Anganwadi Workers, Statutory Bodies & Policy Makers, State Govt. & Local Representatives.
# FOCUS AREAS

Our focus area is driven by our mission to facilitate a sustainable society. We aim to support various vulnerable groups/individuals seeking justice and gain access to basic services. Our focus here is on communities facing prejudice, social and economic deprivation or everyday discrimination and exclusion.

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<th>1</th>
<th>CHILD PROTECTION</th>
<th>YCDA in collaboration with various statutory bodies like Child Welfare Committees (CWC) and service delivery structures like District Child Protection Units &amp; Child Line, have made numerous interventions with a focus to provide immediate services to the children who in need of care and protection and taken steps for lasting results. Formation of Children groups, Village Child Protection Committee (VCPC) and working closely with these groups in realizing the rights of the children are main drive of our interventions. Cross-cutting issues of Child Marriage, child labour, sexual abuse, child migration etc. are addressed with utmost priority. Through various interventions we empower children by building their self-esteem, increase skills, embracing individuality, and providing them with the tools necessary to strengthen their capacity.</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>FAMILY BASED CARE</td>
<td>Families are the heart of our solution. A safe and caring family is what gives a child the most stable start and equips the child to live a fulfilling life. We work to support families who are at risk of separation by providing with economic strengthening and good parenting skills. Researches have established that, residential care causes long-term negative effects on the children due to violence, abuse, exploitation. And when they leave the care, they are often ill prepared for leading an independent life which frequently results in unemployment, exploitation and homelessness, thus causing long-term costs to the society. We explore putting children in various family-based care options, which include Foster Care, Kinship Care, Aftercare, etc. as per the best interest of children. Apart from this, We work with families and Communities at risk to help them build their capacities so that the children are well cared and unnecessary family separation is avoided.</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>“No Child Left Behind and every child gets a good quality teaching” is our moto. Less involvement of teachers with the student, ill-suited Pupil-teacher ratio and lack of a good learning environment are few things which holds back development in education. Our programme focuses on early years learning experiences of young children by making interventions in Anganwadi and primary school level. We support the Government's efforts with an aim to ensure basic education to all the children in our focus area with smooth transition, 100% enrolment and retention through network with School Management Committees and other community group including Self Help Groups. Facilitating child friendly school environment where children feel welcomed is also one major intervention. We work in the framework of making schools beautiful, all children are learning and active community participation; thus making every school a “STAR School”</td>
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<td>ADOLESCENT HEALTH</td>
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<td>Adolescents represent the vibrant part of the society which consists of 20.9% of population in our society. A period of transition from childhood to adulthood is marked by rapid physiological and psychological changes. In order to prepare young people for life and cope in a rapidly changing world, it is extremely important to empower them with appropriate information and skills. YCDA’s comprehensive life skill based model mainly focuses at school and community level that assist adolescents in understanding a positive view of sexuality, provide them with information and skills for taking care of their sexual and reproductive health and help them make sound decisions now and in the future. The programme have strong components of Formation of Adolescent Groups, Safe menstrual Hygiene, Peer Module and Training to stakeholders on SRHR/CSE.</td>
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<th>LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION</th>
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<td>Livelihood is sometimes narrowly defined as “income generating activities”. The first step in understanding the livelihoods of the poor calls for a holistic perspective to understand the broader issues of development and the overall context of poverty. Our livelihood programme mainly focuses in making farmers, women and landless households aware of their rights and entitlements and existing Government schemes and subsidies. We support farmers to form Farmers-Producers Groups with objectives for production enhancement, value addition and appropriate marketing linkages. SHG based entrepreneurship; skill development programs for young adults are the core intervention practices of YCDA under livelihood promotion. For making all the members of a family productive, YCDA has adopted a community-based unique approach to identify and recognize mental illness in people and provide appropriate support to de-stigmatize and enable them to get treated, support their families, cope with the situation and recover from illness.</td>
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CONTACTS

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Direct Intervention
Intervention Through Network Partners

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