**ASHMITA**

**(A Web of Grass root level Organization)**

**CONTEXT**

The majorities of women folks in Jharkhand are illiterate and poor with minimal social support compounded by superstition which has resulted in increase in crime against women over the past decade (2001-2013) by a whopping 212% in the state. **ASHMITA** has been established as a network of grass root level organization to support those women who are facing gender based violence and related issues and difficulties to access justice by women, men, adolescent boys and girls.

**DISTRICTS COVERED**

**ASMITA** covers its 13 paralegal case workers covers 11 districts namely Dhanbad, Bokaro, Simdega, Hazaribagh, Lohardaga, Chatra, Deogarh, Ranchi, Giridih, Grahwa, Koderma within Jharkhand state to support the victims and survivors of violence and to access justice.

**STRUCTURE**

* **WING - Gender Resource Centre (GRC)** is one of the wings in ASHMITA. It is a State Level Gender Resource Centre that ensures availability and accessibility of information materials and evidences that promotes uniform understanding on issues of violence against women.
* **CORE GROUP –** The core group is formed for network coordination, forum representation and decision making. There are 3 key members in the core group which are as follows:-
* Jharkhand Gramin Vikas Trust, Dhanbad
* Ashray, Madhupur, Deoghar
* Srijan Foundation
* **POLICY MAKING –** The policies can be formulated by the collective grass root organization and propose to the government system.
* **NETWORK MEMBERS –** The role of network member is to organize campaigns, social intervention and social action.

**OBJECTIVES**

* To pursue Rights based intervention to eliminate factors that barricade women to access their rights.
* To also engage men and young adolescent boys along with women to address gender discrimination and violence.
* Collection, simplification and distribution of policies and laws relating to women and adolescent girls in local dialect in order to develop the capacity of the women at the grass root level.
* Develop synergy among NGOs/Institutions working on women issues for collective initiatives.
* Evidence based advocacy on women’s rights.

**ACTIVITIES**

* Provide a series of packaged training to develop a cadre of Para legal case workers working with women survivors / victims.
* Fellowship support to the paralegal case workers.
* Publication of IEC materials on laws, policies affecting women in local dialect.
* Legal intervention through casework and fact finding.
* Provide a platform for regular sharing, disseminating and converging actions of stakeholders & players working on the larger women issues and convergence point for promoting women’s right holistically keeping the human rights intact.
* Media scanning- collecting, scanning and compiling newspaper & journals articles for continuously keeping an idea and following the trend.
* To identify and provide training to local support group such as adolescent and Self-help group.
* Celebrating different Special days related to women under 16 days activism.