

MITRA -

**Collective of children of Sex
Workers
209-2010**

Children of sex workers: Mitra hostel

Supplementary Education for Children of Sex Workers is a program to help children of VAMP members rebuild confidence and reconstruct their identity so that they are able to deal with mainstream stigma and discrimination. The programme means to develop self-esteem amongst children of sex workers by providing opportunities to attend tuition classes outside of mainstream schools where they encounter intense social discrimination. While the children explore their individual talents, a sense of pride and dignity is instilled in them as opposed to shame and fear about being children of sex workers. Connected to this project is the Mitra hostel which caters to children of sex workers from five districts in North Karnataka and Western Maharashtra. The hostel hosts 34 children who are orphans, children of single mothers, or children of women with alcohol dependency or are too ill to care for their kids. Activities this year will focus around conducting advocacy and sensitisation workshops with schoolteachers and providing free educational material to the children.