Introduction

We are living in times of rapid social transformations. Amidst the change, turmoil and erosion of values and norms there still seems to be a desire to rekindle cooperation and build shared visions. Nations, societies, communities, families, and individuals are not immune to these overwhelming changes. While we live through these volatile times, some of us tend to pursue alternatives that work.

Development has also been the cause of several new social problems; as a result of which more people are experiencing income inequalities. Poverty, deprivation, malnutrition, powerlessness and violation of human rights are growing shadows of economic growth without development. With increasing development, more and more people and communities are subject to marginalisation and violation of human rights across the world. We witness ecological degradation and crises in terms of disasters affecting several nations in diverse forms. New forms of crisis—social, political, economic and ecological—is throwing large population into dependence on social safeguards, protection by state and collaborative efforts transcending boundaries of governmental departments, disciplines of knowledge, or nation states.

Increasing populations affected by involuntary resettlement, internally displaced people, refugees, migrants, orphaned kids and the frail aged, among others, demand attention of social scientists, human services, allied health, social work and humanitarian service agencies, both governmental and non-governmental including civil society groups.

Is the development paradigm of current times perpetuating the dichotomy, where the poor become poorer and the rich, richest?

In spite of such harsh scenarios, people and communities across the globe withstand crisis and demonstrate active hope regardless of the challenging circumstance and the absence or support of the state. What furthers such hope and is it possible to share and learn from the each other’s experiences?

What are the various social innovations, interventions and struggles of communities and civil society reflecting their vast knowledge and wisdom?

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The human creativity incessantly working out solutions ought to be acknowledged, celebrated. The conference aims at recognizing every innovation that occurs. We recognize that there are coping solutions just as there are resilience building strategies. For some, the will to never give up and the will to bounce back might be considered as resilience. This conference wishes to see resilience being explained in a fresh perspective.

**What if we added active hope into the equation? How would we build hope in our society?**

Resilience and coping efforts that enable people in crisis need focus to build knowledge and skills to empower society as a whole and at an individual level to redefine their individual and collective future. This is also necessary for revisiting their identities and ensuring state responses for protection of human rights and to create a social order that will curb the current crisis.

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**Thematic areas of the conference include, but are not limited to:**

- Best practices in Community Organisation and Women Empowerment through Self Help;
- Coping and Resilience perspectives in Public Health & Nutrition, Strength Based Practices in Health and Nutrition Promotion;
- Strengths based Interventions in child protection and child safety, elementary education- from early schooling to tertiary initiatives; re-schooling, mainstreaming of child labour;
- Conflict Resolution & Peace Building, empowering communities facing crisis and disasters, coping patterns in migration;
- Resettlement & Rehabilitation- coping patterns and resilience factors in involuntary resettlement, resilience of refugees

The International Conference on Strengths Based Practice 2014 aims to provide a forum for exchange of knowledge and experiences in addressing the challenges of societies in transition. It is a platform for sharing and learning knowledge and practices towards creating a global perspective that concern all communities and societies. The International Conference 2014, being held in the City of Hyderabad, India, provides unique space for interaction with fellow social work practitioners, scholars, professionals from different disciplines engaged in social service or social welfare, non-governmental agencies, policy makers among others.

**Call for Posters, Papers and Multi Media**

(Closes 30th July 2014)

Case studies, research notes and papers based on best practices, theoretical and critical perspectives of social work and human services practices, allied health related professional practices with individuals, with groups, with communities and organisations are welcome to this conference.

Completed abstracts and papers should be submitted bharath.sbp2014@gmail.com in Word files attached to e-mails.

Abstracts to reach by 30th July, 2014

Communication of acceptance will be informed by 10th September, 2014. Full papers of the selected papers will be published in an edited book.
Following streams for writing

Creative flashes—section
This stream carries 5 to 15 minutes presentations that bring your desires and ideas to flame. You can use multimedia presentations, conversations, songs, theatre art, mime and poetry.

Thoughts to reform—section
This is a peer refereed stream of conversations with a minimum of a PowerPoint and could include media or papers that are crisp and under 3000 words of text and references.

The best paper, conversation or media would be rewarded with return of the registration fee and if you were a scholarship holder with an appropriate certificate.

Referred stream—section
This is a double blind refereed stream of papers, conversations and research presentations with media and or minimal power point presentation. Full papers should be presented to the committee ninety days in advance so that they can be fully edited and brought to a publishable stage, either for inclusion into the volumes that are being considered for release or being included in the special journals that have been specially commissioned and synchronized with the conference.

Posters—section
Posters on a stand, made to order for which you are required to provide the text and photos. You have a choice to take the disposable display stand with you to your country or state. The conference poster group offers aesthetics, uniform elegance, and convenience and guarantees to showcase them in the poster session. As a rule, you would not be able to bring your poster.

Short Films-section
Registered participants may also bring their films in this category (5-15 minute films) that celebrates hope against despair and the theme of self-reliance. Exclusive films made for the conference themes and offered under ‘Creative Commons’ license will be encouraged and critiqued. The presenters will be suitably rewarded.

General Rules
All those who are submitting abstracts must clearly state the category into which they are being submitted for poster or for consideration as an oral presentation. This conference is utilizing subject experts in the particular fields to review your abstracts. Please indicate to the Conference Programme Committee if you would allow your presentation to be turned into either category (Paper to be converted into a Poster or Poster to be converted into a paper due to volume of presentations in a particular section).

Length of Abstracts for Posters and Papers
Abstracts must only be 250 words, line spacing 1.5, Arial font (12 size) for Posters or oral presentations of 10, 20 and 30 Minute presentations. The Conference Programme Committee will make that decision with you as to what would be the best way of projecting your idea to your colleagues and peers in the program. There will be a lot of correspondence between acceptance of your abstract and presentation.

Poster Preparation: (If you have chosen this medium of communication — Fantastic!)
Poster has become the most popular method for conferences these days. A great opportunity for networking and having meaningful small group conversations. Those abstracts and ideas accepted as Posters will be made in time and will conform to the conference, size, logistics, and specified word lengths which the conference will advise individually. We are utilizing a developing country printing press in the South Asian Region and will in effect assist a good cause of assisting quality entrepreneurship in the region and equally assure standard quality poster presentation.

Special Announcement:

All early bird registrations on or before 30 August 2014 will receive 3 star rating shared accommodation at a great venue on a first cum first serve basis. Once the venue is booked out, the Conference Manager will allocate nearby accommodations on twin shared basis.

Single person accommodation options exist in the city of Hyderabad and we encourage participants to book on secure internet websites such as www.booking.com. Hyderabad, the capital of newly carved out 29th state of India- Telangana, which was part of Hyderabad under Asaf Jahi dynasty, known as the city of pearls has a rich culture and heritage of more than 400 years. It is also popular as Miniature India for its cosmopolitan culture and blend of north and south and multi-religious plurality. It is a popular tourism destination with historic monuments like Charminar, Mecca Masjid, Golconda Fort, Falaknuma Palace, and scores of other attractions. Besides, a 19-metre tall Buddha statue adorns the Rock of Gibraltar in the middle of Hussain Sagar Lake. Hyderabad and Secunderabad, known as the twin cities, make up the New IT and Bio-Technology hub in India. Hyderabad is renowned for Hyderabadi Biryani (Mughalai cuisine) and pearls.
**Conference Convener:** Bharath Bhushan Mamidi. Secretary, Centre for Action Research and People’s Development  Email: bharath.sbp2014@gmail.com

**Conference Joint Convener:** Dr. Radha R Chada, Department of Nutrition, Kasturba Gandhi Degree and PG College for Women, Hyderabad. Email: chadaradha@yahoo.co.in

**Conference Secretary:** Subhash Chandra, Director, CARPED, email: carpedindia@gmail.com

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### International Program Committee

- Dr. Ndungi wa Mungai, Charles Sturt University, Australia
- Dr. Peter Binyon, Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice, Australia
- Dr. Richard Hill, The MindScience Institute, Gordon NSW, Australia
- Dr. Susana Marsical, University of Kansas, USA
- Dr. Tejaswini Patil Vishwanath, Charles Darwin University, Australia
- Dr. Tulshi Kumar Das, Dept of Social Work, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology, Sylhet, Bangladesh
- Kanchan Kharel, Yuwa, Nepal
- Dr Kalpana Goel University of South Australia
- Dr. Venkat Pulla, University of Sunshine Coast, Maroochydore, Queensland, Australia; Founder: Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice. Email: dr.venkat.pulla@gmail.com

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### Conference Payments at a Glance—Rest of the World (US Dollars

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<th>Registration Before 30 Aug 2014</th>
<th>Registration from 1 Sept 2014</th>
<th>Registration from 1 Nov 2014</th>
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<td>Accommodation Twin Share</td>
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### India Payment Options

- By Bank and By Direct deposit or NEFT
  - Payable to Centre for Action Research and People's Development
    - Central Bank of India, Kalyan Nagar Branch, Hyderabad
    - Account No 1017 2619 90
    - IFSC Code CBIN0282369
    - Postal address: "Kranthi Dhamam", 8-3-228/267, Rahamath Nagar, Yousufguda, Hyderabad - 500045, India

### Australia Payment Options:

- **CHEQUE** payable to Brisbane Institute of Strengths Based Practice (Inc)
- **DIRECT BANK TRANSFER**
  - Commonwealth Bank, 240 QUEEN ST, BRISBANE CBD, BRISBANE, BSB 064 011 Account No. 10132378
  - Account Name: Brisbane Institute OF Strength Based Practice (Inc)
  - SWIFT code: CTBAAU2S.
  - Postal Address: Treasurer Kerrie Wallis, 5 Mandell Close, Coopers Plains, Brisbane, 4108 Australia