Child Development Aide (CDA) Training Program

The CDA program provides training to workers in the community so they may assist with the pre-emption of disabilities, promotion of typical development, help families with early identification of disability, monitor children at risk, and empower communities that do not typically have access to professional health care. The Child Developmental Aide (CDA) can help parents promote their child's development to prevent at-risk children from developing full-blown disabilities. Early identification can ensure that intervention begins as soon as possible. The intervention may be simple ways of promoting the child's development in the areas in which s/he is delayed. Interventions are usually simple enough that they can be conducted by family members and are easily included in the family's daily routine. It is hoped this program will serve as a model that may be replicated in communities in India to ensure adequate availability of child care resources to less-than-privileged children and their families.

The training encompasses theory and practical fieldwork under supervision, with more emphasis on the later. This six month intense training is followed by another six months of mentorship at the parent organization of the respective candidates. Support is provided to the candidates through telephone calls and on-site visits by Ummeed's CDA team.

This one year certificate training program is divided into three phases.

Phase 1: Five month theoretical and practical training at Ummeed, including two days per week at partner organizations, working with children and families under supervision doing supervised practical training.

Phase 2: One month internship at Ummeed and partner organization.
Phase 1 and 2 will be full time 6 month training. The timings for the same are from 9 am to 4 pm from Monday to Friday. The training will be carried out at Ummeed.

Phase 3: Six month post-course mentorship program for ongoing education, peer support and professional review meetings.