

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19







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OUR VISION

“ An India where children lead a dignified life and achieve their full potential ”

ChildFund strives to ensure that deprived, excluded, and vulnerable children have the capacity to improve their lives and become young adults, parents, and leaders who inspire lasting and positive change in their communities. ChildFund promotes communities whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting, and advancing the worth and rights of children.

OUR WORK

ChildFund's Goals for Children and Youth at Every Age



AGES 0-5: Infants and young children are healthy and secure.

ChildFund ensures children start their lives in conditions that provide health, safety, nutrition and stimulation through responsive and loving caregivers.



AGES 6-14: Children are educated and confident.

ChildFund helps children build a foundation for lifelong learning and supports their safe transition through adolescence.



AGES 15-24: Youth are skilled and involved.

ChildFund empowers young people with life skills, higher education and vocational training so they can find safe and sustainable employment, make healthy choices and contribute meaningfully within their families and communities.

FOREWORD

BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As we step into the new financial year, we look back at what has been achieved and where we need to do better & more of. Over the years, ChildFund India has been growing from strength to strength, gradually spreading its footprint and impact. I am delighted to share that in the last year, we were able to reach 2.4 million children, young people and their families across the country.

As always, we strive to demonstrate the difference we have made in the lives of our children by being an effective facilitator and a catalyst.

Our key goal last year was to develop and implement innovative program models towards valuing and advancing child protection & development through our holistic interventions.

During 2018-19, ChildFund India saw many of its firsts - the world's first domestically funded Sustainable Development Goals Bond, titled as Women Holistic Empowerment and Enhanced Livelihood (WHEEL) was launched and now another first of its kind bond is being designed which will work towards improving the nutritional status and treatment of tuberculosis patients, initiated a unique campaign 'Khilta Bachpan' to promote Arts for Happy Childhood, developed and released Handbook for Ending Violence against Children in association with National Commission for the Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), and more.

And, the work continues. A country so vast, with the world's youngest population living in it, needs many hands to steer. The children of India are not just its demographic dividend but also its future leaders and changemakers. It is our



collective job to ensure that they are provided a safe, secure and healthy environment to thrive and lead the country towards an inclusive, united and prosperous future.

I take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the individuals, partners, corporates, institutions and organizations for supporting us in our journey of change. Together we have been able to make significant contribution towards achieving the SDGs 2030. In the coming year too, we hope to continue to work towards fulfilling our joint vision diligently and enthusiastically.

#WeBelieveWeCan

Onwards and upwards!

Yours truly,

Neelam Makhijani

HEALTHY AND SECURE INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

ChildFund India's health and nutrition programs are implemented in **14** states, benefiting **1.35** million children, mothers and community members.

ChildFund India works at the individual, community and system levels to develop innovative solutions to tackle the root causes of poor healthcare and nutrition challenges. The primary health goals include reducing morbidity and mortality in infants and children as well as in mothers by improving health and nutrition; enhancing the sexual and reproductive health status of adolescents; and empowering communities to ensure universal access to health.

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To address the multi-sectoral needs of children under 5 years and ensure the wellbeing of caregivers, ChildFund India designed a holistic program model – **MACHAN (Mother And Child Health And Nutrition)** that covers all the components of a nurturing care framework, including health, nutrition, Early Childhood Development (ECD), stimulation and protection for children.

The **Mentoring Mothers for a Healthy Nation** program identifies 'Mentor Mothers' in a community and trains them on child health, hygiene, nutrition etc., enabling them to act as change agents. To improve the nutritional status of all children

(age 6 months to 5 years), mentor mothers conduct door-to-door awareness drives as well as group sessions with mothers in their communities. In 2018-19, ChildFund India organized more than 2,000 such positive deviant sessions in over 200 villages in 9 states reaching more than 3,500 pregnant and lactating women and 10,000 children. Around 1,000 families were also supported to grow nutrition gardens. As per the baseline study conducted in 2018, over 3,000 children shifted from severely malnourished and nearly 2,000 children from moderately malnourished to normal nutrition levels. Anemia among 6–59 month-old children showed a drop of 5 per cent from a baseline study of 59 per cent.

The **Lalan Palan** project promotes nutrition and care of pregnant women, young mothers and children under 3 years by educating and supporting mothers on good child care practices and by strengthening village level health services. This project covers a population of 10,000 in Kaushambi District of Uttar Pradesh. The project capacitates mothers so they are better able to breastfeed and provide complimentary feeding. They are also made aware about immunization, hand-washing, hygienic food preparation methods, etc. by putting them in groups and organizing awareness sessions with their respective mothers-in-law. As a result of these initiatives, institutional deliveries have increased from 38.1 per cent in 2009 to 80.3 per cent in 2018. Around 97 per cent women registered themselves for antenatal care, 92.94 per cent of undernourished children improved their weight and 30 per cent children moved to the normal grade. Only about 7 per cent newborns reported low birth weight compared to 21 per cent prior to this intervention.

The **SNEH (Sustainable Nutrition, Education and Health)** project, supported by Moody's Analytics Knowledge Services, aims to improve nutrition in children by

focusing on the first 1,000 days of their life and supports them till they are 5 years old. Initiated in 2015, this project has improved the health of over 2,000 undernourished children and nearly 1,000 pregnant and lactating women in 33 villages in Jhabua district in Madhya Pradesh. In 2018–19, this award winning project successfully shifted over 70 per cent children with malnutrition to the normal category.

The **Urban Health Initiatives** program runs in urban slums of 7 metropolitan cities. The main interventions of the program are promoting institutional delivery, achieving complete immunization, enhancing positive health seeking behavior, and capacity building of women and adolescent girls. A major achievement of this program is the reactivation of 123 ward committees for better engagement of local communities in implementing this intervention. The program has identified nearly 2,500 potential urban Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHAs) as per the National Health Mission guidelines and supported health departments in quality service delivery. Over 1,000 Mahila Arogya Samitis (Women Health Committees) have been formed and have started taking ownership of sanitation, building awareness among pregnant women, health check-ups of children and immunization.

The **Model Anganwadi (Early Childhood Development) Centers** program supports children in the age group of 3 – 6 years to achieve better health, nutrition and all the developmental milestones. The program is active in 1,500 Anganwadi centers in 5 states and offers a combination of both home and center-based approaches. Home-based intervention includes home visits by trained community mobilizers who educate parents on practices and strategies that support early child stimulation and using child assessment cards to monitor the child's physical and mental development. ChildFund India has also equipped Anganwadi centers



with modern facilities like solar panels, LCD projectors and digital education material, early childhood care related training and teaching materials etc. in accordance with the Government of India's parameters. Through this program, 200 Anganwadi centers have been transformed into vibrant model Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers impacting more than 10,000 children. 90 per cent children are attending ECD centers regularly compared to 45 per cent earlier, thus getting them school-prepared before they enter into mainstream education system.

The **Anytime Water/ Water ATM** program sets up a community-owned and operated safe drinking water facility at the village level that mitigates water-borne health hazards. Started in 2017, the program is active in 9 districts of 6 states, benefiting more than 30,000 children and 65,000 community members. The Water ATM, an automated water purification system dispensing water 24x7, comprises a water treatment plant and a sanitary well that are set up with support from the villagers and Gram Panchayat members,

who are also responsible for maintaining it. In order to promote positive health seeking behavior, the program focuses on improving access to Water, Sanitation and Health (WASH) facilities, behavior change communication, and community-based monitoring systems for sustainability. External assessment of this intervention by Water Aid, Ekjut and UNICEF in 2018-19 showed an increase in access to safe drinking water from 60 per cent to 90 per cent. Waterborne diseases have also come down to 5 per cent from 11 per cent at the initiation of the program. In fluoride-hit coastal locations illnesses reported were reduced to almost half by the end of the program.

The **SWASH++ (School, Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health integrated)** program was initiated with the objective of making safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities available to deprived, excluded and vulnerable children in 65 schools in 7 states in order to improve their health and learning outcomes. This program promotes gender-separate toilets in schools, strengthens school management committees to advocate

83 per cent of children have become more aware about personal hygiene and were practicing proper hand-washing techniques, which resulted in a **5** per cent reduction in the school dropout rate.

for WASH and conducts outreach and advocacy under the government's school health programs. ChildFund India also started a hand-washing campaign, nutrition supplementation and encouraged imparting life skills education to children. Within one year of the intervention, children were studying in a cleaner and safer environment, especially girls who had earlier not been able to attend school during menstruation. By 2018–19, 83 per cent children had become more aware about personal hygiene and were practicing proper hand-washing techniques, which resulted in a 5 per cent reduction in the school dropout rate compared to the previous year.

ChildFund India has been the lead agency for the **Link Workers Scheme** supported by National AIDS Control Organization in 2,000 villages in Andhra

Pradesh and Telangana, to assist those at risk of HIV/AIDS. Key interventions include integrated centers for diagnosis, counseling and treatment; condom outlet boxes in villages; sensitization and engagement with Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) and self-help groups; and establishment of village information centers. In 2018–19, 91 per cent of high-risk groups were tested for HIV at integrated centers and primary health centers, with 91 per cent adherence to antiretroviral therapy. Around 211 villages were developed as model villages with high quality services and visible impact.

Other similar intervention, named as **Targeted Intervention** Project, is being implemented in 2 districts of Telangana reaching over 4,000 people with an aim to create awareness and prevention of STI/HIV/AIDS specifically among female sex workers and men having sex with men.

ChildFund India has also been working on a special **Nutrition project** for children affected and infected by HIV/AIDS in 84 high-prevalence areas in Vijaywada, Andhra Pradesh. The project interventions include counseling, awareness generation, treatment adherence, nutrition supplementation, education support to affected and infected children and livelihood promotion for caregivers. Through this integrated project, a total of 1,243 affected and 600 infected children are receiving benefits of nutrition supplementation, and 231 children are on antiretroviral therapy.

The **Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health (ARSH)** program, named as **Garima**, offers young people accessibility to sexual and reproductive health related information, counseling and services that bring about positive sexual behaviors. The aim is to reduce unsafe sex practices and protect adolescents and youth from RTIs/ STIs (Reproductive Tract Infection/ Sexually Transmitted Infection), HIV/ AIDS (Human Immunodeficiency Virus/ Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) and other sexual and reproductive morbidities. By addressing values,

attitudes and behaviors in individuals and providing basic facts, this program helps to make families, peers and communities more sensitive towards the issues of young people. The program is being implemented in 17 locations in 9 states, targeting 50,000 adolescents. It encourages adolescents and youth to practice healthy behaviors, form positive relationships and access essential services to live a life free from sexual exploitation and abuse. The program has engaged community level functionaries like families, teachers and Anganwadi workers and has advocated with the government to re-establish 18 adolescent friendly health clinics. Endline study in 2018 shows that 60 per cent young people have gained appropriate knowledge on sexual and reproductive health compared to 32 per cent in the baseline study in 2017. More than 62 per cent adolescent girls have reported improved menstrual hygiene management practices, and more than 320 parents have been trained in sexual and reproductive health through the 'Family Matters' Program promoting healthy communication between couples for adopting family planning measures.

The **Nutrition and Caregivers Livelihood Security** program aims to improve household food security through increased food production and provide livelihood security to mothers and caregivers of children under 5 years. The interventions of the program include hands-on skills in kitchen farming, income-generating diversification, increased financial savings on daily food purchases, and nutritional knowledge and skills. In 2018–19, the program trained over 1,000 caregivers on agro-based livelihood options, mushroom gardening, and goat and poultry farming. Around 560 caregivers were linked to NABARD and other social security schemes, and more than 1,000 mothers started earning Rs. 2,000 per month.





SUNITA'S FIRST STEPS

Till a few years ago, Hakku, a 30-year-old mother of five children, and her husband Kalu used to earn their livelihood through agriculture in Madhya Pradesh, but prolonged water scarcity forced them to migrate to Gujarat for eight months every year as construction laborers.

As a result of unhygienic living conditions and lack of proper nutrition, their children suffered from poor health. Sunita, their fourth child, would fall ill often, couldn't crawl properly and cried all the time. Hakku had to pawn her jewelry to pay for the doctors' fee and medicines, but no amount of medication would prevent Sunita from repeatedly falling ill.

During an awareness campaign on nutritional issues organized by ChildFund India under one of its Nutrition projects, Sunita was found to be severely malnourished and weak. Hakku, who was pregnant with her fifth child then, was counselled on how to not only improve Sunita's health, but also take care of her unborn child. She started incorporating locally available nutritious food and vegetables in the family's diet as well as, improving their environmental and physical hygiene. She also started feeding Sunita Nutrimix powder and taking iron and folic acid supplements herself. And despite rumors that discouraged villagers from vaccinating their children, Kalu and Hakku got all their children vaccinated after discussing it with the ChildFund staff.

Sunita's parents' joy knew no bounds when they saw their daughter taking her first steps. Her health had significantly improved, she had gained age-appropriate weight and was no longer in the red zone for malnutrition. A delighted Hakku said, "Sunita does not cry or fall sick like she used to. She has even started speaking a few words. Because of ChildFund's help, Sunita as well as my five-month-old Ankit are healthy. That makes us very happy."

EDUCATED AND CONFIDENT CHILDREN

ChildFund India's education programs benefit over **350,000** children across **15** states.

In the field of education, ChildFund India works towards ensuring quality education for children to reduce drop-out rates and improve enrollment. The main objectives include strengthening the government education system to foster quality, equitable and inclusive learning opportunities for all; assisting children in the target communities to develop relevant literacy, numeracy, cognitive and social-emotional competency for age-appropriate learning in schools; and encouraging supportive mechanisms for learning in children for a successful transition to a higher grade. ChildFund India's education programs benefit over 350,000 children across 15 states.

To achieve these objectives, ChildFund India has designed a comprehensive program model - **PENCIL (Protective, Effective N Context-based Initiation of Learning)** targeting children and young people between the ages of 3 – 18 years addressing education related needs from pre-school to higher education.

The **Model and Vibrant 'Anganwadi' (Early Childhood Development) centers** increased access to quality early childhood care and education services for 100,000 children in the age group 3-6 years through 1,500 Anganwadi centers in 5 states. We have been able to train more than 500 teachers to consistently

apply stimulating teaching learning methodologies. The interventions resulted in increased enrollment of children in schools, as well as improvement in children's health and nutrition.





The **Safe and Stimulating Anganwadi (SASA)** project, supported by Bernard van Leer Foundation, was able to provide a better quality of care and education to nearly 200 children aged 0-6 years. The project's objective was to develop and implement a comprehensive and holistic set of "child-friendly" guidelines within two pilot Anganwadis in the slums of Delhi. Both the Anganwadi centers have been equipped with the teaching, learning and play materials along with hygiene and safe water materials. The Anganwadi workers and parents have been sensitized about the importance of quality Anganwadi services and the role of parents in enhancing their children's learning ability.

The **Building Basic Skills (BBS)** program has been envisioned as a platform to expose children to the joys of an engaging learning process. Under this program, learning centers have been established equipped with various teaching aids and a pool of learning resources, including dedicated libraries with age-appropriate books, multilingual content and smart classrooms for interactive learning for all students. Bridging the learning gaps through child-friendly teaching as well as developing social-emotional skills in children remain the key goals of the program. Last year, ChildFund India has worked with around 13,000 children to help them access age-appropriate curriculum and better learning in 220 BBS learning centers, nearly 12,000 students in 52 government schools with smart classrooms, 23,000 children to benefit them from 348 libraries or reading corners and thousands of children by providing them access to reading materials through the solarized mobile libraries.

To ensure that children have access to quality education, increase the retention of children in school and enable easier transition to a higher grade, ChildFund started **Community-led Advocacy for Improved Education**. The program

works towards strengthening school governance by engaging the community and School Management Committee (SMC) in monitoring and advocacy. Special support classes are conducted to help students transition to a higher grade and financial support is provided to those students who dropout due to financial constraints. These interventions have improved the percentage of children who attend the school regularly.

ChildFund India assisted the **Centre for Early Childhood Education and Development (CECED)**, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi, in developing "**Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS)**". Based on the pilot study results, that was done last year, learning outcome assessment tools have been standardized in three states – Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. The standardization exercise was taken up by CECED and ChildFund India supported in data collection from these three out of the nine, from where the data was collected. This exercise was aimed at developing national level early learning and development standards for Indian context as till now, the country did not have a set of early learning development standard that was based on it's own context.

PACE (Promoting Access and Continuity in Education) project was implemented in five villages of Kotada Block of Udaipur district in Rajasthan, with support from Barnfonden. This intervention served as a supplementary basic education facility for children within their own communities before getting mainstreamed to formal schooling system. Under the project, five Community –Based Learning centers were established with more than 300 children enrolled, who were either out-of-school or were experiencing difficulties in attending school regularly. Out of these, nearly 200 children have been mainstreamed to nearby government schools, and nearly half of these are attending school for the first time.

ISTAR - Improving Success through Academic Readiness project, supported by Jindal Steels Limited, addressed the learning needs of 200 children aged 3 – 5 years in pre-schools and 150 children in the age group of 6-14 in the centers established under the project, in Jajpur district of Odisha. The project supported the development of school readiness in the children through the developmentally appropriate play way approach by implementing early childcare education interventions improving their school preparedness levels. In addition to working on early childhood education, the project also worked with children in the age group of 6-10 years to support in developing their literacy skills. Moreover, the centers also organized activities for advocacy, awareness generation and involvement of parents and community, while paying special attention to children with special needs.

ChildFund recognizes that children are social and economic actors of the future whose decisions influence the development of society. The objective of the program **Social Financial Education of Children** at 10 selected schools of Jharkhand is to develop social and financial skills among children of grades 4th to 7th. This program is being done in association with MELJOL organization. Adapting the Aflatoun model, the

program exposes children to institutions like banks and other enterprises to enhance their practical understanding and interest as well as, strengthens their capacity by imparting knowledge on gender equality and other child rights. Collaboration and cooperation is sought from School Management Committees (SMCs) and parents to support the children in this learning process. There are 553 children in 14 Aflatoun clubs who hold monthly meetings to discuss various issues and implement projects.

Splendid Platform of Learning Art towards Sustainable Happiness (SPLASH) project, supported by Technicolor India, is being implemented in Bangalore urban settlements and government schools. The SPLASH project seeks to create spaces within schools and communities to facilitate the development of artistic skills as a tool of personal empowerment. The project has been able to establish strong networks at community, district and state levels to ensure community engagement for effective implementation of Right to Education Act. In addition to introducing Art forms, the project brings digital learning component within the school structure to enhance the learning and reading capacities of children with special learning modules.

With an aim to provide **education support** in the form of materials and scholarships for children to continue their education when financial reasons become barriers, around 1500 children were enabled to continue their education and transition smoothly into higher levels of education without dropping out.

In its first year of implementation, **Urban Udaan** project, supported by ChildFund Deutschland, has extended scholarship support to 34 girls from the poorest of poor households in Bangalore city for pursuing professional courses. Life skills training is being imparted to over 400 high school and Pre-University Course (PUC) students from 5 schools and colleges.



SMART CLASSES FOR BHARANI

Nine-year-old Bharani from Anantapuramu district of Andhra Pradesh studies in 4th grade of a government school. Her father and mother are daily wage laborers, bringing home an income of Rs. 6,000 per month. Bharani's younger brother studies in grade 3 and the family lives in a two-room house.

The government school in her village lacked good infrastructure and there was a dearth of child-centric and activity-based teaching and learning methodologies practiced by teachers. This led to children feeling demotivated, not achieving class-appropriate academic standards and dropping out due to lack of interest in studies. With 60 per cent of the parents in the village being illiterate, education was not considered important. As a result, parents and communities didn't feel the need to involve themselves in school development activities. Neither did they support their daughters to get any education in particular.

After ChildFund India's introduction of the Smart Class Program in the school, there has been a marked improvement in children's learning levels. The school is equipped with a computer, television, library, tables, benches, cupboards, colorful walls, drawing charts etc. E-learning, visual teaching and development of appropriate teaching material has helped teachers hold children's interest in education, leading to an improvement in their academic capabilities. Construction of separate toilets for boys and girls has been especially beneficial for the girls, leading to a reduction in their dropout rate.

According to Bharani, "Earlier, we used to learn lessons as per the syllabus with old methods of teaching and learning, which used to be time consuming. We would often forget lessons quickly. But now subjects are more clearly understood. So we are able to remember things for a longer period of time. We also learn about other issues of importance that are outside the syllabus and increase our awareness." Bharani wants to study MBBS to become a doctor when she grows up. With the new smart classroom at her disposal, she is on the path to achieve her dream.



SKILLED AND INVOLVED YOUTH

ChildFund India's livelihood and empowerment programs benefit more than **70,000** people across the **15** states where its programs are being implemented.

ChildFund India believes that improving the economic, social and physical well-being of youth reduces poverty and enables them to become robust change agents in their families and community. Therefore, ChildFund India has initiated the comprehensive **3E (Employment, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment)** program model which aims to promote employment and entrepreneurship opportunities through skill development and placement support; empowerment of youth collectives through life skill development; and youth engagement and leadership development to bridge the knowledge gap, ensure protection mechanism and community empowerment.

This integrated model caters to the needs of the youth by encouraging them to acquire knowledge, skills and experience that are necessary for safe, sustainable, gainful and non-exploitative employment and other livelihood activities. Career counseling and linking youth with appropriate types of employment are key to the program. The program has also enabled successful entrepreneurship by helping youth from deprived, excluded and vulnerable families understand the business framework, use market surveys

and develop a business plan. ChildFund India's livelihood and empowerment programs benefit more than 70,000 people across the 15 states where its programs are being implemented.

To strengthen the government initiatives on youth and skill development, ChildFund India, through its partner organizations and direct implementation, has been working in 15 states by providing employability and entrepreneurship training that combines market-based skills training, entrepreneurship development, financial literacy and life skills training to underprivileged youth. This intervention to **Build better future through skill development** is helping make youth resilient to cope in distress situations as well as contributing to a significant increase in the overall family income. During the last year, nearly 1500 youth were trained in market-based skills from different training institutes and approx. 800 youth were counseled and provided pre-placement support, out of which almost all got placed in suitable jobs. More than 4,500 youth attended regular soft skills sessions through youth resource centers, nearly 2,000 youth and families set up their own business including small agriculture and allied business after

receiving the training and around 900 youth were trained in financial literacy.

In 2018-19, **YUVA** project educated the youth living in Bhagwanpura slum in Delhi in job-oriented courses, skill development, and enable them to actively engage in social and community developmental processes. It empowered 140 deprived, excluded and vulnerable young people with adequate skills that gave them access to gainful employment as well as provided avenues for entrepreneurship in welding and motor driving. While 203 students completed the Information Technology enabled services course, more than 120 young women completed the garment making course.

ChildFund places special emphasis on enhanced skills and training in agriculture and allied services to help women and youth become confident, responsible and self-reliant. Some of the key interventions to promote **Livelihood and Food Security through Agriculture and Allied Services** are adoption of appropriate agriculture practices; increased cultivation of commercial crops; promotion of high value crops; group sale of commercial produce to get fair returns; increased

access to government funds to conserve soil and water for agriculture; technical training of farmers in commercial crops (oil seeds, vegetables); organic cultivation; capacitating youth for entrepreneurship and agro-based business; engaging family, farmers groups and Community Based Organization (CBO) leaders in agro-based business; and developing linkages with livelihood service providers for accessing the services. Under this initiative, ChildFund India has supported around 2,000 youth and their families.

Under **SLDP (Sustainable Livelihood Development Program)**, youth and women from Deprived, Excluded and Vulnerable (DEV) families who display an interest and the enthusiasm to start their own business were identified and supported to initiate their micro-enterprises in the areas of agriculture, animal husbandry, poultry farming, small trade enterprises including tailoring, cosmetology and handicrafts. Last year, nearly 400 business plans were developed by approx. 800 youth and their families.

ChildFund India's **Poultry farming initiative** transformed over 4,000 young women





As a result of the Poverty to Prosperity - phase II project, more than 90 per cent of the self-help group members have opened individual savings bank accounts.

into entrepreneurs by supporting them with trainings and resources to set-up their own poultry farming business. The **Poverty to Prosperity Project (P2P)**, supported by Citi Foundation, in its Phase I successfully created 1,000 new enterprises by training tribal women as entrepreneurs in three selected districts namely, Jhabua, Dhar and Alirajpur in Madhya Pradesh. Recognizing the success of the first phase of the project, the learnings were replicated in Phase II of **Poverty to Prosperity (P2P)** project in Mahad block, Maharashtra which benefitted 700 tribal women aged 18-35 years living below the poverty line. As a result of the project, more than 90 per cent of the self-help group members have opened individual savings bank accounts. A poultry producers' company called 'Mahad Mahila Poultry Farming Producers' Company' has been formed. More than 100 members earned handsome profit by selling around 50 mature chickens. The women groups with the support from the Producers' Company have planned to start outlets for directly selling the chickens and accessing other services for expanding their business.

A similar project - the **Women Holistic Empowerment and Enhanced Livelihood (WHEEL)**, world's first domestically funded Sustainable Development Goals Bond (SDG Bond), has been initiated in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra to improve livelihood opportunities of nearly 2,000 women from self-help groups through chicken rearing. The intervention made

them economically empowered with annual income of nearly Rs. 20-30,000. This initiative is supported by Grameen Impact Investments India.

Another poultry farming initiative - **'Poultry for Profit'** has been initiated with support from Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) benefiting 270 underprivileged tribal women to become entrepreneurs through poultry farming in Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh. The project initiated self-help groups formation as well as other activities such as training on poultry farming and procurement of chicks for rearing etc.

Swabalamban – Self-reliance redefined project, supported by ACCIONA, aims to increase employability of youth and women by making them more adaptable to the changing demands of the labor market. The project strives to bridge the gap of leadership & entrepreneurship skills by developing and transforming the minds of young people for positive change and social impact through their empowerment process. The project has established Youth Resource Centers offering market-based courses and providing entrepreneurship training to the youth. More than 70 per cent of the trained youth are employed or engaged in self-employment. Covering 12 villages in Karnataka, the project has trained 181 youth in four vocational skills and 160 in leadership skills.

Youth Empowerment and Livelihood Project has successfully trained 848 youth through DAKSH centers in Daltonganj



in Jharkhand and Dhar, Jhabua in Madhya Pradesh in developing their skills, participation, creativity and experimentation by finding employment in entrepreneurial ventures.

E-Saksham project, supported by State Street Corporation/ Give2Asia, is a Youth Resource Center set up in Bangalore's urban area that equips 100 young people with technical and life skills, helps them identify a career path and become self-reliant.

Youth Civic Engagement (YCE) is one of the major components in ChildFund India's programming. The youth collectives are strong forces involved in social movements and their active and responsible engagement with the community is crucial for social change. Across India, ChildFund works directly with 728 youth collectives consisting of over 15,000 active members. In 2019, 626 youth clubs raised their voice against child marriage, unsafe migration, poor drinking water facilities, school safety issues, while 436 youth acquired knowledge on disaster risk reduction and are now transforming their knowledge into action

through community awareness and mitigating disaster risks in their respective areas. To bring about policy changes that spread from village level to national level, ChildFund India has been encouraging youth participation in the gram sabhas (village assemblies). In 2019, the youth club members presented their charter of demands and action plan to their gram sabhas to bring about policy change. They are now involved in advocacy with panchayats to get the charter of demands implemented.

Through **Disha Program**, ChildFund India has formed 20 youth clubs in 20 urban localities. Along with Pragati Yuva Trust, a youth federation formed under the program, the clubs conduct awareness programs in the community to help them access different government schemes. One of the awareness initiatives by Youth Clubs is Suchana Choupal, a platform to bring service providers and communities together to strengthen service delivery and demand additional services from the state as per local needs. Under this program, rallies, meetings and home visits are organized every month and are benefiting nearly 4,000 families.

A SECOND LIFELINE

Shahinaj belongs to a village in Maharashtra. Her association with ChildFund India has been a long one. She received educational support from the organization till she completed 10th grade, after which she was unable to study further due to her family's grim economic situation. A few years later, she learnt tailoring, bought a second-hand sewing machine and started working as a ladies' tailor from home. But she was hardly able to make ends meet.

Two months into her pregnancy Shahinaj's husband abandoned her and she returned home to her parents. A few years later her father left for Saudi Arabia to find work as a construction worker leaving Shahinaj as the sole breadwinner of her family. She continued to stitch clothes and worked as an agricultural laborer during the harvest season. Sometimes, her mother would help her in the farm. Shahinaj's 70-year-old grandmother often needed to be taken to the hospital in the city for treatment, which was a huge drain on their meagre resources.

When ChildFund India organized a village awareness meeting on poultry farming, Shahinaj showed interest in getting associated. After adequate training and infrastructural support from the organization she started running a poultry farm in her backyard. She has already sold a few for a profit of Rs. 1,000. She says, "ChildFund India has given me a second lifeline. If I can run the poultry farm well, perhaps our days of struggle will be over soon. I will educate my son so he doesn't have to struggle in life like I did. Hopefully one day he will have a good job and a good life."



SAFE AND PROTECTED CHILDREN

ChildFund India reached to over 70,000 beneficiaries including children, community members and government stakeholders, through its child protection related interventions.

Poor socio-economic conditions coupled with lack of safe and secure environment make children vulnerable to all kinds of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect. Failure to provide children protection from various types of violence impacts a child's physical, social, mental and psychological development.

Creating an enabling and protective environment for children requires effort at local, district, state as well as national levels. ChildFund India has been committed to protecting children and helping them lead happy and healthy lives with dignity and self-confidence so that they can become young leaders that bring about lasting and positive changes in their communities. ChildFund India is working hard to build strong and effective child protection institutional mechanisms at the community level, strengthen stakeholders' knowledge and capacities on child protection to enable effective community-led advocacy initiatives and engage and enhance stakeholder collaborative efforts for child protection at national and state levels, by implementing various interventions.

Last year, ChildFund India reached to over 70,000 beneficiaries including children, community members and

government stakeholders, through its child protection related interventions.

In 2018-19, ChildFund India piloted the **Community-Based Child Protection Mapping (CBCPM)** methodology to identify the risks and harm that children face and the protective mechanisms available to address them. Insights on the issue of child protection were obtained mainly from children, parents and other community stakeholders. Based on the findings of the CBCPM exercise held in selected partner locations, broad action points have been identified for all communities which will be developed into detailed Community Action Plan during the fiscal year 2020. The action plan will be implemented through community support and by leveraging on existing government resources/schemes.

Mukti Project supported by ChildFund Deutschland is being implemented in West Bengal through a local partner. The project promoted educational and other rights of migrant children of families working in brickfields in Kolkata and their native locations.

The second phase of **Combating Child Trafficking through Sustainable Livelihood Development** project, funded by BMZ and ChildFund Deutschland, has been



implemented in 15 selected villages of Jhadol and Kotada Blocks of Udaipur in Rajasthan to support 17,000 people by improving the socio-economic conditions of families. This was done by creating alternative livelihood opportunities/ training, motivating parents and children to re-enroll in school and raising awareness. Last year, eight Community Development Forums (CDF) were formed covering all the Gram Panchayats. Through SOCEO, technical agency, the Basic Entrepreneurship Training, Advanced Training: Agro-Pastoral Entrepreneurship Development Training and Technical Assistance for Modern Agro-Pastoral Practice was provided to community members and farmers. They were trained on how to increase the productivity using the traditional methods of farming.

Khilta Bachpan is an innovative campaign by ChildFund India to provide children aged 6–18 from underserved communities access to art education, in order to promote their social and emotional learning, encourage creative expression and build self-confidence. Various amateur and professional artists have been working with children to help them get in touch with their emotions through self-reflective activities like self-portraits, group mandalas, color therapy, storytelling, exploring Indian traditional

art forms, street plays and theatre. In 2018-19, the project was implemented in 28 government primary schools and 10 government secondary schools in Delhi, and reached more than 25,000 beneficiaries including children, parents, School Management Committees (SMCs) and school administrations. Art corners were established in government schools and equipped with art material for children to access freely. Through this, children were also provided a different platform to express their talents. The project aims to reach 100 more schools across the country besides 60 schools in Delhi by 2020. Through the Child Led Child Protection initiative under the campaign, 100 children were trained as child advocates who were capacitated to address child protection issues in schools.

PEACE (Protective, Enabling, Accountable and Child Friendly Environment) project, supported by Barnfonden, is being implemented in 50 villages of Gogunda block of Udaipur district in Rajasthan. The overall goal of the project is to reduce risks and incidences of violence against children by creating safe and secure environment for children at home, school and community through awareness, knowledge and capacity building on child protection, of the rights holders and duty bearers in the target communities.

SEEMA'S STORY OF CHANGE

Eleven-year-old Seema lives in Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh. Her father, a mason, was an alcoholic and struggled to meet the needs of his family. Seema's formative years were confined to her house, where she was taught housework and faced severe poverty and domestic violence.

Seema's parents fixed her marriage with a 13-year-old boy from Firozabad itself. As wedding arrangements got under way, they came to the attention of Jaya, a child reporter who was part of the community-based child protection system set up under ChildFund's Program. Jaya discussed the issue in the child club's monthly meeting and also informed the members of Child Protection Committee (CPC).

Jaya and other child reporters visited Seema's parents at home and tried to convince them to postpone the wedding by counseling them on the risks and dangers of child marriage, but in vain. They then decided to call the Child Helpline. The helpline team reached Seema's home and explained to them the legal ramifications of the wedding for the family under the Child Marriage Prohibition Act' 2006. The case was also brought to the notice of the Child Welfare Committee at the district level, which then asked the parents to come for a counseling meeting. The media was also engaged to spread awareness on the consequences of child marriage, community initiatives and the role of the Child Helpline, and to build pressure on the family and community to stop child marriages. At the meeting with the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) the parents agreed to postpone the wedding.

Soon after this incident Seema's parents enrolled her in school. They want to continue her education and Seema is happy at school too. Seema's story has inspired other parents in the community to think about the negative effects of early marriage and why it's important to educate children, especially girls, instead of getting them married at a very young age.

DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT

Under Disaster Risk Management program model, **ChildFund** India is covering six states in India benefiting a population of over **20,000** including **8,000** children.

Empowering children and communities in managing and reducing disaster risk is the primary goal of ChildFund India's Disaster Risk Management program model. Covering six states in India and benefiting a population of over 20,000 including 8,000 children, the program uses a three-pronged intervention to carry out its mandate.

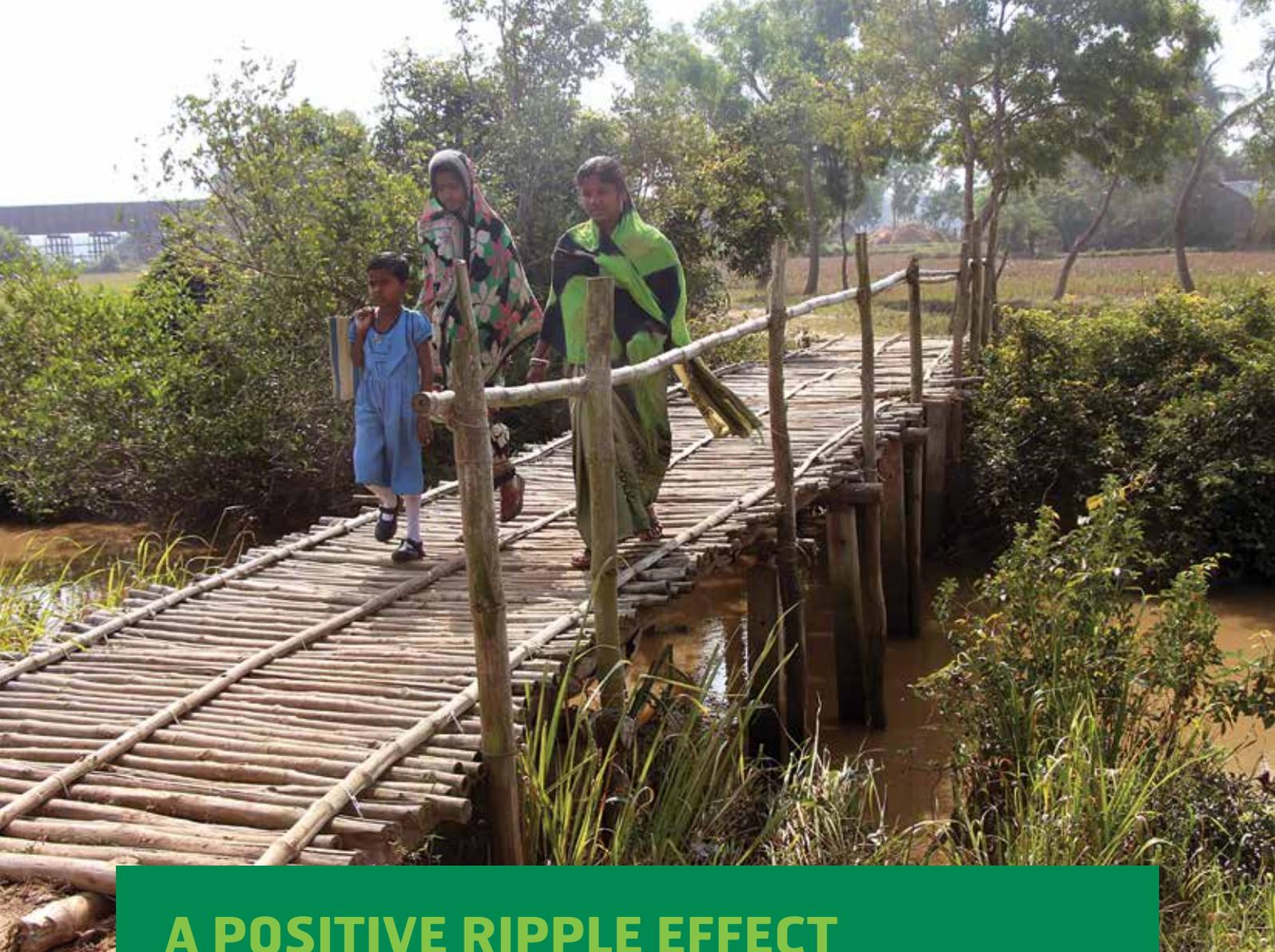
The **Child - Centered Disaster Risk Reduction (CCDRR)** intervention undertakes a systematic approach to identify and reduce disaster risks as well as mainstream village-level disaster risk reduction plans into panchayat development plans. It builds village-level preparedness and response capacity to deal with emergencies with the active engagement of children, youth and parents. The CCDRR intervention

ensures children's leadership alongside adults in risk reduction planning and implementation.

Humanitarian Assistance focuses on saving the lives of disaster-affected children and population with a specific focus on child protection in emergency. The key aspects of ChildFund India's disaster response program include establishing and managing child-centered spaces; providing education kits to children to help them continue their education after a disaster; providing non-food items which help affected families return to normalcy with dignity as soon as possible; and prioritizing the restoration of damaged WASH infrastructure as well as raising awareness on safe water, sanitation and personal hygiene. During 2018-19, ChildFund responded to many disasters such as, Cyclone Gaja in Tamil Nadu and Puducherry and floods in Kerala, with support from several organizations, corporates and individuals.

School Safety intervention aims to increase the safety of children for better educational outcomes. It empowers children to take on leadership roles in school risk assessments, planning and preparation of school safety plans and their implementation with support from School Management Committees (SMCs).





A POSITIVE RIPPLE EFFECT

A small village in Mahakalpara block of Kendrapara district in Odisha is surrounded by creeks, rivulets and rivers. Commuting is a big challenge for the villagers as they have to cross water bodies each time they want to travel out of the village. Though the usual mode of transportation is boats, for narrow creeks those are not an option. Earlier, villagers used to place wooden logs or broken electric poles across the creeks to cross them. This would put children's safety in a precarious situation as many would lose their balance on the logs and poles on their way to or back from school, resulting in them losing their books, sustaining serious injuries and missing school.

Through the CCDRR program, ChildFund India involved the youth, community members and community-based organizations like Child Protection Committees (CPCs), self-help groups and Village Development Committee to address the safety and security needs of the children. Under ChildFund India's guidance, the villagers came together and made a plan to fix the problem. With the organization's financial support and with their own time and wages, the villagers constructed a wooden bridge across the creeks. Now the children are able to travel to and from school safely.

The construction of the bridge has not only helped the community to reduce risks while crossing the creeks, the community has also taken a step in the right direction towards child rights and protection. This has inspired neighboring villages to undertake similar projects and construct bridges in their own village through collective effort and support from local government bodies.

RECOGNITION AND ENGAGEMENT

Last year, as one of the leading voices in the area of child development, our work to protect and nurture children was recognized and appreciated at various platforms. Through the year, we spearheaded conversations and discussions, engaging experts, partners, governments and corporations. Here's a glimpse:



The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) in association with ChildFund India, developed a "Handbook for Ending Violence against Children", which was released in New Delhi.

ChildFund India was honored with the "Pralhad P. Chhabria Memorial Global Award" for outstanding contribution to Child Development by Priyadarshni Academy's Global Awards Advisory Committee.



ChildFund India was felicitated for its work in supporting the Tibetan community in Karnataka at "Thank You Karnataka" event organized by Central Tibetan Administration.



The CEO of ChildFund India, Neelam Makhijani participated as one of the speakers at the AVPN Summit 2018 "Facing the Future Together", and shared her valuable ideas on "Innovative Models in Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE)".

ChildFund India's SNEH (Sustainable Nutrition, Education and Health) project, supported by Moody's Analytics Knowledge Services, was awarded with Special Jury Commendation-FICCI CSR Award in New Delhi at the 17th FICCI CSR Award, under the Health, Water and Sanitation for Private Sector Companies category.



ChildFund India participated in the 16th Tata Mumbai Marathon with the support of the employees of Michelman India, who ran the 5.4 kms Dream Run at the marathon and raised Rs. 135,000 for our pan India campaign – Khilta Bachpan to bring transformative change in the lives children and their families affected by urban poverty issues.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Child Fund India
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2019
 (All amounts in ₹, unless other wise stated)

	Note	As at 31 March 2019	As at 31 March 2018
Sources of funds			
Unrestricted funds			
Corpus fund	1	439,037	439,037
General fund	2	77,467,436	70,683,098
Restricted funds			
Project fund	3	37,824,720	93,016,471
Loan funds			
Secured Loans	4	40,000,000	-
Current liabilities and provisions			
Current liabilities	5	16,270,469	8,198,153
Provisions	6	1,316,930	1,010,761
		173,318,592	173,347,520
Applications of funds			
Fixed assets	7	3,517,851	4,201,422
		3,517,851	4,201,422
Current assets			
Cash and bank balances	8	165,173,051	164,548,755
Loans, advances and deposit	9	4,627,690	4,597,343
		169,800,741	169,146,098
		173,318,592	173,347,520
		-	-
Summary of significant accounting policies, notes on accounts and other explanatory information	14		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

For MARK D'SOUZA & CO.
 Chartered Accountants
 Firm Reg. No. 0020145

MARK D'SOUZA
 Proprietor
 M.No: 027542
 UDIN: 19027542AAAAA18838

Date: 26th August 2019
 Place: Bangalore

For and on behalf of Child Fund India

S. Philip Lewis
 Dr. Philip Lewis
 President

J A Martins
 J A Martins
 Treasurer

Neelam Makhijani
 Neelam Makhijani
 CEO

Bincy Antony
 Bincy Antony
 Finance Director



Child Fund India

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2019

(All amounts in ₹, unless otherwise stated)

	Note	Year ended 31 March 2019	Year ended 31 March 2018
Income			
Grants and donations allocated from Project Funds	10	297,658,118	263,977,488
Other Income	11	8,342,432	8,660,722
Total		306,000,550	272,638,210
Expenditure			
Grant expenses	10	114,454,652	95,691,943
Other grant expenses			
Relief of the poor- children	10	147,109,724	133,532,148
Relief of the poor- designated fund for children	10	18,424,657	17,323,722
Employee benefit expenses	12	13,431,883	11,741,096
Administrative expenses	13	5,111,724	4,520,861
		298,532,640	262,809,770
Depreciation during the year		947,223	1,167,718
		299,479,863	263,977,488
Total		6,520,687	8,660,722
Excess of income over expenditure transferred to general fund			
Summary of significant accounting policies, notes on accounts and other explanatory information	14		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

For MARK D'SOUZA & CO.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No. 002014S

MARK D'SOUZA
Proprietor
M.No: 027542
UDIN: 19027542AAAAAI8838

Date: 26th August 2019
Place: Bangalore



For and on behalf of Child Fund India

S. Philip Lewis
Dr. Philip Lewis
President

Neelam Makhijani
Neelam Makhijani
CEO

J A Martins
J A Martins
Treasurer

Bincy Antony
Bincy Antony
Finance Director



We acknowledge our partners, supporters and donors who make all that we do possible. In 2018-19, many government departments, corporation and institutions came forward to strengthen our work. We are immensely grateful to all of you.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP AND SUPPORT

ChildFund India's supporters include,

- ChildFund International
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development – BMZ and ChildFund Deutschland (Germany)
- Moody's Analytics Knowledge Services
- Citi Foundation / United World wide
- Dr Ambedkar University, Delhi
- Tupadahalli Energy/ ACCIONA
- Bernard van Leer Foundation
- Jindal Stainless Limited Foundation
- Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden)
- ChildFund Australia and Australian Government
- National AIDS Control Organisation and State AIDS Control Society, Andhra Pradesh
- National AIDS Control Organisation and State AIDS Control Society, Telangana
- Britannia Industries Limited
- Charities Aid Foundation India/ Philips
- ChildFund Korea
- State Street Corporation/ Give2Asia
- Technicolor India Pvt Ltd
- R.R. Donnelley
- Goodera
- Roca
- Barclays plc
- Grameen Impact Investments India
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)
- Michelman India
- AirAsia India
- Facebook, Inc.
- Mindtree Limited
- Salesforce.com, Inc.
- Cleartrip



ABOUT CHILD FUND INDIA

ChildFund, a child development organization registered in India in 1984, has been working with underprivileged children, youth and families from the most remote, extremely backward and hard-to-reach areas, with a vision to build “an India where children lead a dignified life and achieve their full potential”. ChildFund in India works in the rural belts of the country, now slowly expanding its focus to urban poverty where child protection issues and violence against children are prevalent. Its programs provide comprehensive support to children from their conception until they reach 24 years of age by integrating health, nutrition, sanitation, gender equality, disability, education, skill training, livelihoods, child protection and humanitarian relief work.

ChildFund annually reaches millions of children, youth, and their families across the country, through its long and short-term programs.

ChildFund's unparalleled longstanding community presence in India, long-term partnership with grassroots NGOs and relations with relevant stakeholders ensure that its holistic interventions foster an enabling environment where children can grow to their fullest potential.



REGISTERED OFFICE

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