

Annual Report 2020-21





ChildFund
India

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About ChildFund 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 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. We integrate health, nutrition, sanitation, gender equality, disability, education, skill training, livelihood, child protection and humanitarian relief work.

ChildFund annually reaches lacs 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.



Our Mission

To help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children living in poverty, develop the capacity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change to their communities.

We promote societies whose individuals and institutes participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children.



Message from the Chief Functionary

As we move into the second year of the pandemic and the devastation COVID-19 has left in its wake, the collective fight to stay alive, well and healthy has been one of sheer strength and will power. Our determination and resilience have been tested at every turn, and it is not over yet. When I look back, with the strength gained I am determined to carry on through these challenging times and rebuild in the 'new normal'.

By developing a model of support and care for marginalized children, that is responsive to the unique needs of every child, ChildFund India challenges the perpetual cycles of inequality and inequity that exist today, creating lifelong learners who can be the leading change makers in their homes and in their communities.

This year with a concerted effort of ChildFund India, the partners and grassroots workers, through our various programs in 85 districts across 15 states in India, served and reached more than 30,00,000 children and community members.

The need of the hour over the last year has been healthcare and hygiene and ChildFund India has

risen as the leading voice in providing support whether it be from creating awareness about vaccinations, providing basic necessities and toiling to provide medical care to vulnerable people. I am grateful to the efforts of all the members for their collaboration to fight against the pandemic.

The power of ChildFund India comes through a large army of dedicated staff, volunteers, community mobilisers, contributors, partners and its donors who passionately believe in our shared mission. ChildFund's dream for children and the community continues to grow with a commitment to ensure good health and wellbeing, education and safety for all. As the world moves forward, I'm sure through the strength of the people, we will overcome any challenge that may come in our way and accelerate our action to achieve SDGs 2030.

Here's to resilience and strength in the coming times!

Yours truly,

Dr. Nirja Mattoo



Health and Nutrition

ChildFund India's Health and Nutrition programs identify the root causes of poor health and nutrition and work towards solving these issues by developing and implementing innovative solutions at the individual and community level, and at systemic levels.

This is achieved by strengthening comprehensive health and nutrition services for children, women, and girls and making them easy to access. ChildFund India helps communities to ensure adequate and appropriate nutrition and 'Water, Sanitation and Hygiene' (WASH), promotes safe motherhood and protection against life-threatening childhood illnesses and supports sexual and reproductive health awareness for adolescents. Communities are empowered to ensure universal access to health.

Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MACHAN)

The Mother and Child Health and Nutrition (MACHAN) program was initiated to address the diverse needs of children from birth up to the age of five years. It focuses on preventing malnutrition and improving nutritional status. This holistic model works to ensure that infants and young children are healthy, nourished and nurtured through basic health care, nutrition, stimulation and protection.

MACHAN was implemented across 12 states, with a service reach of approximately 1,10,000 children. The interventions under MACHAN are community based and have been designed to achieve better early childhood care and development in rural and disadvantaged areas.



ChildFund India's health and nutrition programs were implemented in 15 states, with a service reach of more than 22,00,000 children and community members.





Mentor Mothers for Healthy and Nourished Children: Under this intervention, women from the community, called mentor mothers, are trained in healthcare and nutrition to mentor and educate other mothers in the community about the best parenting practices and support sustainable rehabilitation of underweight and malnourished children.

First 1,000 Days of Life: This intervention trains mothers, families and healthcare workers in better child and maternal healthcare practices and focuses on the first 1,000 days of a child's life. The child is supported up to the age of five years.

Positive Deviance Plus: A peer-influencer intervention which identifies mothers, who are 'positive deviants' (individuals whose exceptional behaviors or practices ensured better results). They are encouraged to spread awareness about successful local solutions and practices for child-rearing in the community.

Saving Lives - Safe Motherhood: Under this intervention, the staff of ChildFund India counsels mothers about safe motherhood and helps link pregnant women along with mothers to institutional deliveries and service delivery sites.

Nutrition and Caregivers Livelihood Security:

This intervention trains hundreds of caregivers in agro-based livelihood options. It links them to several social security schemes to prevent food insecurity in their households through increased food production thereby providing livelihood security to mothers and caregivers of children under five years.

Sustainable Nutrition Education and Health Project (SNEH):

The SNEH project has been implemented at Alirajpur Block, Madhya Pradesh since July 15, 2019. It is funded by Acuity Knowledge Partners (formerly known as Moody's Analytics). The first phase of this project ended on August 14, 2020; the second phase was initiated in December 2020 and concluded in December 2021.

Key Interventions

The key interventions undertaken through this project are communicating behavior changes at various levels from the community to the service providers. The identification and referrals of pregnant mothers and under-nourished children to Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers (NRCs) along with identification of migrant families and tracking and providing antenatal & postnatal care (ANC/PNC) and other health services through government service providers, Thereafter, outreach and follow up of the beneficiaries/caregivers; and providing guidance for positive parenting. Steps were taken to make the communities aware of COVID-19 appropriate behavior in coordination with government line departments.

Through the Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth Plus sessions, an additional 563 children were included, bringing the total coverage to 1209 children. A strong rapport was established with block level health and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) officials, who paved the way to a smooth implementation of the project.



Through the SNEH Project, from July 2019 to August 2020, we successfully reached

-  **646 malnourished children**
-  **274 pregnant women**
-  **882 lactating mothers**

A number of family members were rendered jobless during the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The effect of this was especially severe on migrant families and children, who had to return to their native villages from other states. To help mitigate this situation, nutritional food baskets were distributed among 548 malnourished children, who were not otherwise entitled to receive them. Another round of nutritive food baskets was provided to 590 malnourished children.

And Nutrimix supplement was distributed among 646 Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) children. Vegetable seeds and organic manure was distributed among 1230 families with malnourished children or pregnant or lactating mothers, so that they could cultivate healthy food crops and thus

address food insecurity. Health check-up camps and Positive Deviance (PD) Hearth Plus sessions were conducted with support from Accredited Social Health Activists (ASHA) and Anganwadi Workers (AWW).

Frontline health workers, such as ASHA and Anganwadi workers, were trained during this period. Group meetings with the Panchayat Raj Institutions and community members had made them more aware about nutrition and health. Besides, community-based management of acute malnutrition among children has been established through the SNEH project, thus paving the way to better child health.

The second phase of the SNEH project, which is being implemented since December 2020, aims to reach 3100 beneficiaries directly and indirectly.



Garima: The Dignity Model

ChildFund India's program 'GARIMA', meaning dignity, was implemented across 11 states. It aims to improve knowledge among adolescents about reproductive and sexual health (ARSH) and their health status. GARIMA encourages adolescents to practice healthy behaviors, form positive relationships, access essential services and prevent sexual exploitation and abuse.

GARIMA has a service reach of approximately 1,05,000 people, primarily adolescents.

 **The intervention provides skills to parents to initiate conversations on sensitive, and often taboo topics such as gender-based violence, social norms that increase risks of unsafe sex and its negative health impact on adolescents.**

Reproductive and Sexual Health:

The Reproductive and Sexual Health intervention works through peer educators and adolescent groups. One peer educator works with a group of at least 10-15 adolescents on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH). This intervention provides access to easy-to-comprehend, high-quality, evidence-based, comprehensive health information.

'Reproductive and Sexual Health' through School Health:

This initiative supports WASH practices and pushes for gender-separated facilities and handwashing campaigns in schools. It also provides nutrition related interventions for adolescent girls and boys.

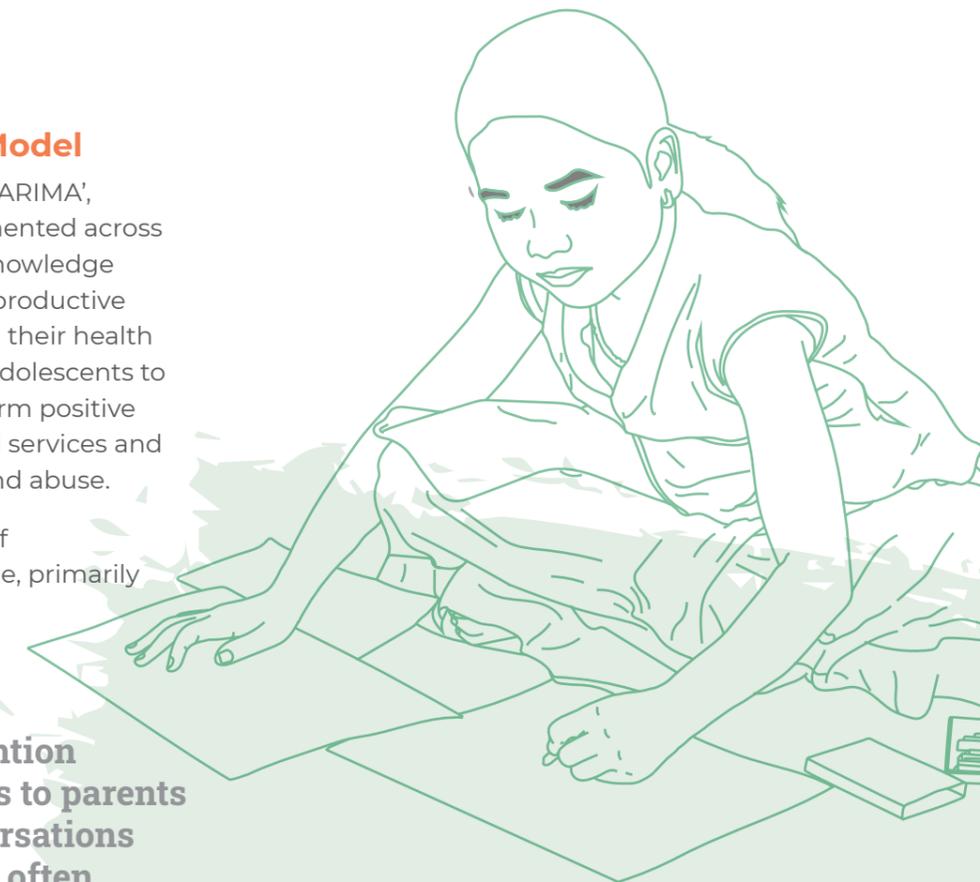
Adolescent Friendly Health Services through Jigyasa Centers:

Jigyasa centers provide adolescent-friendly health services and engage community level functionaries such as families, teachers and Anganwadi workers (AWW) to support adolescent-friendly health clinics.

Family Matters!: This community level intervention works with parents to emphasize on positive parenting and effective parent-child communication on sexuality and sexual risk reduction. The intervention urges parents to initiate conversations on sensitive, and often taboo topics such as gender-based violence, social norms that increase risks of unsafe sex and its negative health impact on adolescents.

Menstruation Hygiene Management (MHM):

There are several myths and taboos about menstruation. So, the MHM intervention addresses such harmful beliefs through awareness and training sessions that focus on the importance of menstrual hygiene.



Link Workers' Scheme (LWS)

The Link Workers' Scheme has an overall service reach of 15,00,000 people in the community.

ChildFund India's objective in implementing the link workers-HIV/AIDS project is to enhance HIV prevention, care and support among high risk behavior groups.

Since April 2017, ChildFund India has also implemented 'Targeted Interventions' (TIs) in 11 locations and 119 hotspots. The aim is to build a rural community model that can address the complex needs of rural HIV prevention, care and support and reach out to vulnerable rural populations in a non-stigmatized, enabling environment. The project intervention includes awareness generation among the general population and HRBG (High Risk Behavior Group). It is aimed at providing better access to information materials and commodities (condoms, needles/syringes) through collaboration with the nearest targeted intervention or government health facilities, testing and treatment services, while ensuring there is no duplication of services or resources. This intervention focused on improvement in linkages to other social and health benefits provided by other line departments according to local norms and regulations. As a result, in the year 2019-20, 93% of HRGs (High Risk Groups) were tested for HIV at ICTC /PHCs (Integrated Centers for Testing and Counselling /Primary Health Centers). Besides this, 3,389 meetings were conducted with Panchayat Raj Institution members and SHG in 11 districts, 1,200 VIC (Village Information Centers) were established in 1,300 villages, 411 model villages were created across states, and 3,000 condom outlet boxes monitoring systems were developed by the volunteers and RRC members in respective villages.



In coordination with National AIDS Control Organization (NACO), this project is being carried out in 20 districts of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It has benefitted more than 5,000 CSWs (commercial sex workers), 1,989 MSMs (men having sex with men) and the general population of 2,000 villages.

Poor and Vulnerable Communities Access to Improved WASH Facilities and Services to Contain the Spread of COVID-19

ChildFund India implemented the WASH-COVID-19 response project, with support from UNICEF in Krishna and Chittoor Districts (60 villages in each district), Andhra Pradesh, from July 2020 to March 2021. The objective of this project was to reach 2,50,000 people and capacitate 2,000 front line workers in WASH & COVID-19 prevention. This was done in collaboration with relevant departments at district, Mandal and Gram Panchayat level from selected villages of Krishna and Chittoor Districts.

As a result of this program, a total of 2,50,000 individuals participated in various Information Education and Communication (IEC) and Behavioral Change Communication (BCC) initiatives of hand washing demonstrations. Forty-three foot operated hand washing stations were installed across village secretariat and panchayat offices as part of the promotion of sustainable hand hygiene behavior in the community. Six posters and 30,000 pamphlets on COVID-19 preventive measures were created, 13,000 hand hygiene materials like soaps, sanitizers, and masks were distributed among 2010 people, and 20 displays of wall writings/hoardings were made at communities and schools.

A digital van campaign on COVID-19 prevention and a vaccination drive were undertaken across the 120 operational villages there. The campaign, organized at village and mandal level, reached out to the vulnerable communities with messages on COVID-19 appropriate behaviors. Nearly 630 frontline workers from Green Ambassadors, ASHA and ANM attended the orientation camps, and Global Hand Washing Day, World Toilet Day, National Children's Day, etc. were all observed. 2,010 front line volunteers were capacitated in infection prevention and control.



Reduction in Anemia through Normative Innovations (RANI): Adolescent Anemia Project

ChildFund India implemented “The RANI Project” (Reduction in anemia through normative innovations) in 4 states. The objective was to improve nutrition and hemoglobin levels in adolescent girls in the intervention areas. The principle focus of the program was to identify adolescents and educate them about nutrition, seasonal foods and food diversification, and the management of anemia at the home/ community/institution level. Peer educators and recovered adolescent girls acted as local/ community change agents to improve the nutritional status of all anemic adolescents.

The program provided holistic benefits – basic care, health & nutrition, behavior change practices and community awareness. It established and strengthened Adolescent Groups, conducted school awareness sessions and quizzes, health camps, and encouraged community leadership towards behavior change, worked towards identification, referral of anemic cases and established community-based monitoring systems.

The RANI project also highlighted the importance of regular supplies of Iron, Folic Acid (IFA) and deworming tablets from the

government, essential for the program to succeed on a larger scale. The project reached more than 5,693 adolescent girls

through counselling and supplementation and more than 5,122 girls were supported with Nutrition Garden. More than 500 adolescent groups were trained to recognize the importance of nutrition for adolescents.

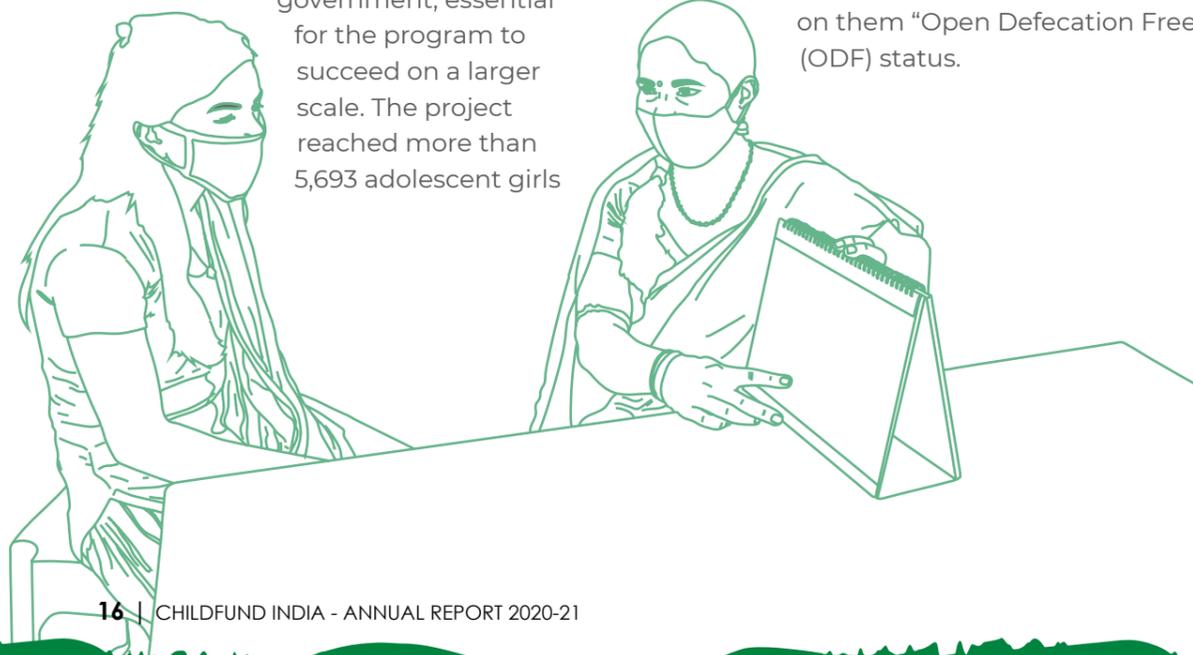


The major achievement of the project was that at the end of the year 2020 more than 73% adolescents had normal HB level as compared to only 30% before the intervention.

Under WASH Initiative: Community Led Total Sanitation Project (CLTS)

Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) is an approach used to improve sanitation and hygiene practices in a community. The project focuses on spontaneous and long-lasting behavioral change in an entire community. ChildFund India implemented this project in 67 villages and three districts in two states in India. The goal was to end open defecation. Local governments

rewarded communities by conferring on them “Open Defecation Free” (ODF) status.



CLTS used community led methods, such as participatory mapping and analyzing of pathways between feces and the mouth (fecal-oral transmission of disease), as a means of teaching the risks associated with open defecation under the WASH Initiative. Community members constructed 513 toilets with Gram Panchayat grants. More than 90,000 people benefitted from CLTS, as a result of which there was marked reduction in open defecation and an increase in latrine coverage in 87 rural communities.

Seventy nine villages were declared “ODF Villages” (Open Defecation Free) by the

Ministry of Rural Development, which attests to the success of this program.

SWASH ++ Program: School Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health Integrated Program

WASH has been a sporadic intervention in schools to spread awareness of hygiene, but in 2019, ChildFund India launched a well-designed model, the SWASH++, together with 11 local partners in seven states. It aims to improve health and learning outcomes of school children. The program also aims to enhance access to safe drinking water, sanitation, health and hygiene for deprived, excluded and vulnerable children in selected Government schools. The beneficiaries of this 3-year program are 99,000 school-going children, in 156 schools. The major interventions included behavioral change campaigns with children and parents along with training sessions with teachers and school management committees. A very critical part of the program was to mobilize support for Government provisions on



gender separate toilets and WASH points, as well as access to clean drinking water, nutrition supplements and health check-ups.

Out of 456 schools in the areas ChildFund is working, 199 have child friendly hand wash and toilets points. A change of more than 49% (KAP study 2020) has been observed in the current hygiene behavior of the children, resulting in improved attendance and learning in schools. Soon after the project was implemented, more than 78% (KAP study) children, who have had access to a cleaner and safer environment, are healthier and are performing better in school, indicating the success of the program.

Children Infected and Affected by HIV/AIDS: Health, Nutrition & Livelihood Integrated Model for HIV/AIDS (CABA) Children

ChildFund India implements a special nutrition project for children affected and infected by HIV and AIDS in 84 high prevalence urban slums of Vijayawada and Kakinada districts of Andhra Pradesh.

When children are affected or infected by HIV/AIDS, their families and their right to parental care and affection are also affected. As part of the continuum of care and support, the project interventions empowered children, parents and caregivers through counselling, awareness generation, adherence to treatment, nutrition supplementation and educational support to affected and infected children along with livelihood promotion of caregivers. A total of 2,100 affected and 1,700 infected children benefited through nutrition supplementation. As a result of district advocacy meetings, 334 children are receiving the 'Anti-Retroviral Therapy' services and 71 children processed the



health referrals for opportunistic infections, and more than 1,400 children from the two projects have been sensitized about better health and hygiene practices and provided with hygiene kits.

Urban Health and Nutrition Project: Improve Health and Nutrition Status of Slum Dwelling Children

ChildFund India, as part of its strategic shift in recent years, has expanded its interventions to 219 urban slums in the metropolitan cities of Mumbai, Hyderabad, Mysore, Vijayawada, Firozabad and Chennai. As per NFHS-5 (2019) data, Under Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) among the urban poor is 62.7, a number that is significantly high.



More than 84,000 children (birth – 21 years) benefitted through Urban Health and Nutrition project in year 2020.

This project complements the health initiatives of the Urban Health Mission. Due to implementation and scaling up of effective outreach interventions and innovations, there is an increase in demand for and access to cost-effective, as well as quality, sustainable health services.

Community volunteers from urban communities are engaged through this program to facilitate the promotion of institutional delivery, complete immunization and enhancement of health seeking behavior in the community. The program also envisages the formation and strengthening of women's and adolescents' groups so that the base of health promotion efforts at the community level are expanded. Sensitization of adolescent girls through life skill education, Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) education and building of a sustainable community process of health initiative are also promoted through this program.

The major achievement of this project is the reactivation of 356 ward committees. Ward committees consist of community members, ward members and other stakeholders from the location, who listen to the voices of children. ChildFund India has become a member of five District Health societies (chaired by the District Magistrate and other health officials). The urban health action plan, which is prepared yearly and





needed mental health support and critical intervention. Resilience coordinating groups (councils) were formed in each of the 701 villages to develop and implement mental health and psychosocial healing interventions. ChildFund India has used the online platform and digital media of IEC and BCC to spread awareness about mental health issues and to impart information, education and a sense of community to 4,000 young people. Five thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine community members have been linked via helplines to get better support and deal with the mental health implications of the pandemic.

MUKTI – Developmental Impact Bond: Innovative Financing for TB and Nutrition

ChildFund India, in partnership with USAID and India's flagship innovations in financing platform, PAHAL, had structured the world's first Impact Bond in 2019. It was to improve the nutritional status, treatment and cure of tuberculosis (TB) patients. An Impact Bond is a non-traditional means of financing development interventions. It is a pay-for-performance instrument that brings operational and financial efficiency and accountability in social programs by strengthening incentives for investors and ensuring that the target outcomes are achieved in a time-bound manner.

ChildFund India has been implementing this Impact Bond in Dhar and Jhabua districts. The aim was to increase the cure rate for 1,000 patients in 12 months, using a patient centric approach of treatment support.

At the end of a pilot project for six blocks of Dhar, 45% people were cured in the intervention site as compared to only 37% in the control site. More than 85% patients gained more than 4 kgs in 6 months in phase 1, as compared to only 20% in the control site.

reviewed quarterly, is incorporated into the existing PIP (project implementation plan) of the Government through community engagement. The project has identified 540 potential urban ASHA workers, as per the health mission guidelines, and supported the health department in quality service delivery. Six hundred and twelve Mahila Arogya Samities were formed and have started taking ownership for sanitation, making pregnant women aware of health issues, promoting the health check-up of children, immunization etc.

COVID-19 Pandemic and Mental Health: Community Health System Based Initiatives to

Prevent, Heal Mental Health & Psychosocial Problems

ChildFund India had implemented a COVID-19 mental health and response intervention in all 32 districts and 15 states with the objective of providing mental health support, counselling and referrals during the pandemic. As per the Indian Psychiatric Association, there is a 30% increase in mental health problems among children. ChildFund India has trained more than 1900 frontline workers (ASHA, AWW, ANMs, Mentor Mothers) in counselling, identification and referral for neurotic and psychiatric illnesses in the community, including among young people. ChildFund India reached out to families who



STORY

Raghu's journey overcoming TB to spreading awareness and hope

An estimated 10 million people are infected with active tuberculosis (TB) each year and around 1.6 million die from the disease. India has the highest incidence of TB in the world, making it one of the country's most significant health threats.

Amidst a nationwide lockdown in May 2020, Raghunath, a 34-year-old man from the Dhar district of Madhya Pradesh (MP), was diagnosed with Tuberculosis (TB). His weight dropped to 34 kgs, he was bedridden and his health deteriorated so rapidly that his family abandoned him. Only his elderly parents were left to take care of him. With the pandemic raging across the country and no jobs to support the family's needs, they could not step out even to get Raghunath's medicine. Moreover, the fear of ostracization prevented the family from revealing his disease in the community. Afraid and clueless about their next steps, the parents looked after their son as best as they could with their meagre resources. But, Raghunath's situation was grim.

Luckily for him, during a routine house call under the Mukti Project, ChildFund's cluster coordinator learnt of the seriousness of his situation. The Mukti Project, better known as the Mukti – TB and Nutrition Impact Bond, is ChildFund's initiative in MP along with USAID and IPE Global to improve the nutrition status of TB patients in the Dhar district.

The ChildFund team ensured that Raghunath received all the prescribed medications, even through the lockdown. While antibiotics are the cure for TB, the



Mukti project emphasizes that full recovery is only possible with a holistic approach that includes guidance, counseling, support and nutrition.

Over the next six months, ChildFund staff provided Raghunath's family with food baskets that contained protein-rich, nutritious food items and monitored his response to the treatment. They regularly counselled him and his family on eating habits, hygiene and other health-related issues. After eight months, Raghunath recovered fully and weighed 42 kgs and was rapidly gaining more weight.

"When my family had given up hope and we had no money for treatment, ChildFund's staff provided us support, nutrition and counselling. They cared for me as if I was their family member. Today, I am completely healthy and ready to take care of my needs

and those of my family, thanks to them!" says Raghunath.

Life hadn't always been kind to Raghunath; he was born with a disability and lost his wife soon after marriage. Extreme poverty meant he has almost no education and the menial job he had was lost due to the pandemic. But with this second chance at life, Raghunath has embraced the present. He has invested in milch cattle and is doing steady business now.

He has also become an advocate for TB awareness. Though his family kept his illness a secret due to fear of ostracization and stigma, Raghunath now openly speaks about TB, its causes, and prevention to raise awareness in the community and to encourage more people to talk about it and seek timely diagnosis and treatment.



Education

The focus of ChildFund's India education initiative is on ensuring quality education, improving enrolment and reducing drop-out rates amongst the most disadvantaged and marginalized children.



The education programs were implemented in **14 states** in India with a service reach of approximately **2,80,000 children and adults**.

Pencil (Protective, Effective N Context-based Initiation of Learning)

ChildFund India's 'PENCIL' is a comprehensive education model that targets children between the ages of 3 -14 years to improve their learning competencies. The program assesses and addresses the learning needs of children through an activity-based pedagogical approach. It focuses on context-based experiential learning and multilingual, scientific teaching-learning methods to create appropriate learning plans and conducive learning environments.

Under the PENCIL model, ChildFund India has a systemic change approach. It works actively to enhance the community's engagement in supporting child learning, strengthening local school governance and ensuring access to quality education for all

children through community led advocacy and networking. The program, therefore, employs a three-pronged approach: building the capacity of School Management Committee (SMCs) members, creating awareness about the Right to Education (RTE), and facilitating village, block, district and state level advocacy through the RTE forum and network.

Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is fundamental to healthy human development. It equips children and young people with the skills required to become aware, navigate and manage their emotions in a positive manner, develop a larger understanding of self and society. It helps them develop all the required competencies for building resilience and forging respectful relationships.

To ensure SEL is imparted well in schools and communities, ChildFund India engages directly with the children as well as the significant adults in their lives such as teachers and parents. There are specially

curated sessions with the children using a module and a kit which includes a set of SEL board and card games, activity booklet, parental guidance material and so on.

The work with teachers and parents includes coaching master trainers and sensitizing both. They are taught to recognize behaviors, as well as pedagogical and parenting approaches that can be supportive to the social and emotional development of children. They are also empowered to promote their own SEL and use various approaches for doing so with children.

Children are taught SEL through different engagement platforms and activities such as multilingual libraries, Child Learning Centers, classrooms, Child Parliaments, Children's Club, Baal Sabha, etc. It helps them to express their ideas and emotions.

Child-friendly multilingual school and community libraries: Under this initiative, vibrant and active reading spaces are created where there is constant active engagement between children and books, as well as children and their communities,



parents and peers. The books in the libraries are attractively displayed by age and level specific arrangements, and the displays are frequently changed. Books are available in all the languages spoken by the children. There are reading activities and projects to engage children. Parents and community members are encouraged to develop an interest in reading themselves and to learn the skill of reading out to their children. They are also taught activities that will help them promote reading skills in their children.

The libraries serve both, the development of reading skills, as well as fostering a love for reading. They have been built in areas where the literacy competencies of children have not been appropriately developed due to lack of opportunities and underperforming schools. Therefore, through reading activities in libraries, facilitators help the children develop reading skills. Once they acquire this skill, an interest in reading is cultivated and catered to by making available a wide range of books in different genres.

Inter-generational Coping and Learning Intervention

In April 2020, ChildFund India rolled out an intervention called “Inter-Generational Coping and Learning (IGCL)”. This intervention supported children and their families in coping and in home-based learning. It was implemented across the project areas in 15 Indian states.

Inter-Generational Coping and Learning Intervention was essentially a blended approach. It included a wide array of approaches, especially designed home based learning material (printed as well as offline game material and so on). There were periodic connects phone calls/home visits, weekly plans, supporting families in maintaining daily routines, loudspeaker sessions, a cycle library and community radio transmission as well as some online solutions. The key component was a kit

containing offline home learning and coping materials like workbooks, library books, stationary, parental guidance material, specially designed social and emotional learning support activity booklets and so supported the progress of children and parents. IGCL emphasized that families spend quality time together while learning, creating and interacting with each other for an emotionally healthy and invigorating atmosphere at home. A working group was formed within the organization at a national level that convened weekly to track and tweak the IGCL kit according to feedback and thus ensure progress.

Neighborhood Learning Classes: As life slowly crawled back to normalcy after the initial pandemic lockdown, primary grade students still awaited the reopening of their schools. Marginalized students were left in the lurch. Field experiences brought to light the fact that it was imperative to add elements of face-to-face learning to the IGCL intervention. Thus, the Neighborhood Learning Classes intervention was created.

Across the country, our facilitators, along with a network of government teachers and active community members, organized neighborhood classes where 10-15 children of a neighborhood gathered in an open space close to their homes. They worked with the

specially created Neighborhood Class Kit. Several neighborhood learning spots were identified within the community and the sessions were conducted on a rotation basis.

The easy-to-carry Neighborhood Class Kit was designed to enable interactive and fun learning sessions for multi-grade and multi-level learning, and to promote age appropriate competencies, particularly in literacy and numeracy. The kit included books, worksheets, a folding black/white board, stationary and most importantly, multilingual teaching materials like word cards, poem posters, story strips, etc. that the facilitators used to create their lesson plans for various grades.

The classes were held for two hours at least 2-3 days a week. It was ensured that physical distance was maintained. The children looked forward to this creative learning with their friends and teachers.

Smart Classes: SMART classes addressed the need for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education by providing digitally interactive learning material in schools for children in grades six and above. It aided robust critical thinking and problem-solving, and inculcated an attitude of innovation. Besides this, science and math laboratories were also set up to develop practical knowledge and understanding of the subjects.



IGCL reached out to more than **1,00,000** parents and children, supporting their academic as well as social and emotional learning.



High School Education Program: This program helps children make a successful transition from elementary to higher education by strengthening school governance and providing them with special support to access quality education. It also addresses the high percentage of school dropouts. ChildFund India reached out to youth through counseling sessions under the program to spread awareness, gave career guidance, and conducted life skill sessions across various target locations to help children transition back to mainstream education, which included the children who had dropped out of school.

Open Education Program: In collaboration with NIOS and SIOS, ChildFund India facilitates Open Education for school dropouts and children with learning difficulties .



Special Support for School Retention and Transition: Special support classes were held to help children improve their academic performance, assistance was given to students who faced financial constraints and were unable to pay school admission and examination fees. Necessary educational materials like notebooks, guidebooks and sample test papers were distributed to children in need.

Promoting Continuity of Learning and Livelihood Regeneration Assistance to COVID 19 Affected Families and Children: This project was funded by United Way of Mumbai. The objective was to provide continuity in learning and education for children during the COVID-19 crisis. It was implemented in eight slums in Chennai, Tamil Nadu and New Delhi, and it helped

1,800 children to continue their education. The Inter-generational Coping and Learning (IGCL) kits were distributed among them and it helped the families of the children to cope with the immediate psycho-social impact of the pandemic. It also helped them to strengthen the web of relationships within families, so that children could cope better and continue to learn in spite of not going to school due to the COVID-19 situation.

Assistance to Children Studying in Government Schools at Bangalore through Learning Kits: Kurlon Enterprise Limited funded this project, which endeavored to 'create an enabling environment for the children studying in government schools towards continuing their education and development of

socio-emotional skills affected by COVID-19 pandemic'. Learning kits consisting of school bags, notebooks, stationery, masks, water bottles and geometry boxes were distributed among these government school children. This greatly eased the financial burden on parents, who did not need to buy these essentials.



The project directly benefitted nearly **2,200** children in **11** government schools in Bangalore's urban and rural districts.

Assistance to Children Studying in Government Schools in Delhi through Learning Kits

This project was funded by Johnson Matthey Chemicals India Private Limited. It was aimed at creating an enabling environment for children studying in Government schools, so that they could continue their education. It also helped in the development of socio-emotional skills, which were adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A total of 3,500 government school children in Delhi were given a Learning Kit each consisting of a school bag, notebooks, stationery, masks, water bottle and a geometry box.

The project objectives were 1. To equip 3,500 children with the required learning kits to continue their education and to reduce the number of dropouts from school;

2. To build awareness about COVID protocols/safety measures among teachers and students so that the risks of a COVID-19 outbreak were reduced.



HCL-UDAY – Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Project: This project had started being implemented in the slums of Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh and Chennai in Tamil Nadu since October 2019. It is funded by the HCL Foundation.

The project aims to ensure quality ECCE services and nutrition to the children in the age group of 3-6 years is provided. It ensures that teachers consistently use child friendly, stimulating and play based teaching methods. Communities and parents are encouraged to provide stimulation to the children at home and to advocate for

the presence of functional government Anganwadi centers (AWC/mini AWC) in the program areas. Communities are also supported to engage with the governance of the ECD centers.

At Perumbakkam, Chennai, growth and vaccinations of 125 children were regularly monitored by our facilitators. Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) identified 15 malnourished children, who were provided with additional nutrition. There was extra care and special counselling for the SAM & MAM children's parents. ChildFund India provided the growth monitoring equipment

like weighing machines, height measuring machines and infant meters for five ICDS centers. Similar activities were conducted at Vijayawada for 213 children.

PEACE – Protective, Enabling, Accountable and Child Friendly Environment Project

This was a project funded by FORUM SYD through Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden), from February 2019 to December 2021. It was implemented in the Gogunda Block of Udaipur, Rajasthan. The project sought to provide gender inclusive parenting skills to parents and caregivers; create inclusive learning spaces in schools and community-based forums; initiate the 'Life Skills' program for adolescent girls and boys; and support women farmers from resilient households. Campaigns were organized to address socio-cultural barriers pertaining to gender inequality and child protection.

Promoting Effective and Context based Initiation of Learning for Life (PENCIL 2019)

This project was implemented in Bangalore, Karnataka and is being funded by the HCL Foundation since October 2019. Its focus is on strengthening government school Infrastructure and includes building capacities of teachers, SDMC members and other stakeholders in relevant areas. It also engages with children to enhance their soft skills simultaneously enhancing the capabilities of the teacher. Existing resources were mapped out and infrastructural provisions, such as setting up art corners and libraries to maximize the learning outcomes of the children, are undertaken. Community mobilization with the larger community and building capacity of local leaders and active members to ensure sustainability is an important part of the project.

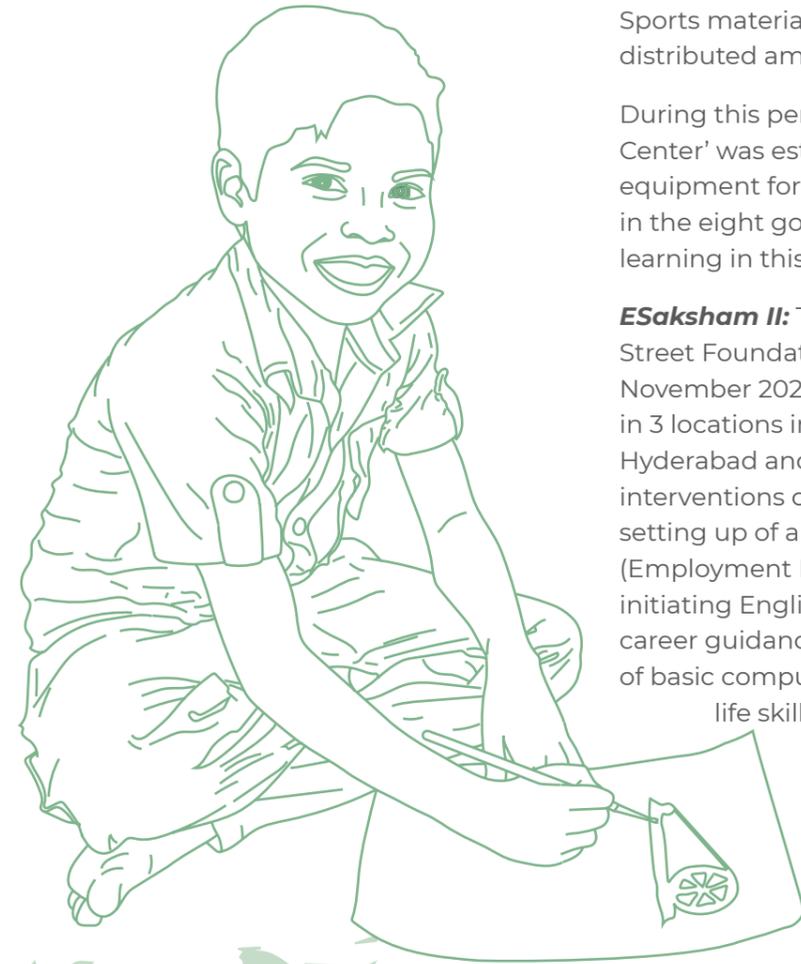


A total of **226 members** from **10 schools** participated in the SDMC training. Science labs and libraries were established in eight Government Schools in Anekal Taluk. Practical sessions were held in the lab. **239 Art and Crafts** classes were conducted in **12 government schools** and around **2,742 children** benefited through these activities.

A COVID awareness program was conducted for children and community members who received a food kit, a hygiene kit and bedsheets.

A key achievement of the project was that eight art centers had been established and the Block Education Officer (BEO) had approved the engagement of 15 schools in this Project.

SPLASH-PENCIL Project: This project was funded by Technicolor to cater to 2,700 children in eight Government Schools of Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District. The purpose of this project was that 'At least 60% of the 2,700 high school children in the selected grades from eight schools show improved learning competencies and at least 50% of these 2,700 children achieve socio-emotional skills for learning'.



Sports materials and educational kits were distributed among the children.

During this period, a 'Child Resource Center' was established with necessary equipment for the children. The children in the eight government schools enjoyed learning in this way.

ESaksham II: This was funded by State Street Foundation from October 2019 to November 2020. It was implemented in 3 locations in the slums of Bangalore, Hyderabad and Mumbai. The key interventions of this project were the setting up of a 'Youth Resource Center' (Employment Hub) within the community, initiating English communication and career guidance courses, organization of basic computer training courses; life skills along with soft-skills training programs and coordinated community level seminars for networking and exposure.

A total of 415 youth benefitted from the e-Saksham projects (179 at Hyderabad, 156 at Bangalore and 80 at Mumbai). The youth resource center (employment hub) was successfully established and equipped with computers, wi-fi etc. The young children received necessary guidance from the project team related to training, preparing for job interviews, team work, etc. All the youth attended the employability skill training -- spoken English communication, career guidance, basic computer training, community-based entrepreneurship, job oriented vocational training, tailoring, beautician's course and driving.

The e-Saksham program is currently being implemented in Mumbai and Hyderabad (since January 2021) to engage and guide more youth.

The project enabled the children to express their views and values through various forms of art. It sought to ensure that the children had equal access to all levels of education. The quality of primary and secondary education was strengthened, so that it led to relevant and effective learning outcomes.

Psychosocial training was conducted for three days and covered eight of the target schools in Devanahalli area. SDMC members were trained in the SDMC process with its role and responsibilities. A menstrual health awareness program was conducted in seven Government High Schools which benefited both, the girls and the teachers.

STORY

Full Marks for Harini in English!

Harini, a 15-year-old girl from Hyderabad, lives with her parents in a small makeshift house with a thatched roof. Her parents barely earn enough to survive, but their house is clean and beautifully decorated with flowering plants. They dote on their healthy and smiling daughter.

Last year, Harini, a student of a local government school, struggled to find support during her preparation for the board exams. The pandemic and lockdown had shut down schools and even her tuition classes had closed down. Her board exams were coming up and she could not find help anywhere. "I was stressed and anxious because I couldn't reach out to my teachers or friends to help with studies and clear doubts. Schools have been closed since March 2020. I used to attend private tuitions to improve English and study other subjects, but even they had shut down due to the Covid 19 pandemic." recalls Harini.

Education was essential to Harini as she dreamt of having a stable job and supporting her parents. "I want to learn technical skills like computers and fashion designing in future, get a job and build a beautiful house for my parents," she said. Therefore, not being able to prepare well for the exams affected her deeply. "I was depressed because I couldn't see any way out of the situation and I didn't know how I could do well in my exams."

When Harini learned about ChildFund India's eSaksham project and that it helped young students like her to continue education through app-based online training modules on PlayAblo, she approached us. The team



helped Harini get the app, oriented her towards the course, and regularly helped her resolve her doubts.

Harini secured 100% marks in English in her board exams! She is now a 1st-year student at the Intermediate Commerce College.

ChildFund India, with support from the State Street Foundation, implements the E-Saksham project amongst youth in Bengaluru, Hyderabad, and Mumbai to equip them with skills that enable them to find gainful employment and act as agents of positive change in the community.

Livelihood and Youth Civic Engagement

ChildFund India always strives to nurture youth into skilled individuals, support them to achieve improved economic, physical, social well-being and help them grow into change agents within their families and community. A comprehensive 3E (Employment, Entrepreneurship and Empowerment) program has been developed that helps achieve these objectives and empowers youth collectives.

This initiative acknowledges and addresses the aspirations of young people and assists them in developing entrepreneurship and leadership skills, facilitates their engagement in social development and civic processes, thus also raising their employability.

A sustainable livelihoods center called 'DAKSH' provides vocational training and coaching in personality development, spoken English and entrepreneurship to youth, so that they have better job opportunities. It also promotes and provides a national platform for youth and Self-help Group federations.

Sustainable Livelihood Development Program: The intervention aids youth and women in starting micro-enterprises across various sectors such as agri-business, poultry farming, animal husbandry, handicrafts, etc.

E-Shaksam: Youth Resource centers (YRC) were established in the slums of Bangalore, Hyderabad and Mumbai to

cater to the needs of disadvantaged youth. A total number of 415 youth from covered under this initiative. Youth members had an access to all the facilities created in the centers along with support through activities such as career guidance, spoken English, basic computers, life skills and job oriented courses. These activities have helped them to build their level of confidence and also for aided job preparedness.

Institutional Linkages for Livelihood Support-SHG: ChildFund India has supported Self Help Groups (SHGs) to develop institutional links with the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

Agriculture and Allied Livelihoods: Issues of poverty and food insecurity are addressed through this intervention, with a focus on smart agricultural practices, market support services and linkages with government programs in order to promote diversified livelihood options.

Poultry for Profit Project

This is a project funded by Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and implemented in Dhar, Madhya Pradesh from March 2019 to August 2020. Women who can engage in poultry farming are selected



within a community. They are then trained in poultry management and construction of poultry sheds and are given chicks to start their farms.

Poultry sheds were set up in the backyards of the homes of the selected 270 women, with 75 chicks each. The poultry farming group members and its leaders were trained, vaccinations were given to the chicks, bank accounts opened, necessary linkages provided and handholding guidance from government line department established, so that they could become successful entrepreneurs. They are also taught to form Poultry Producer Company (PPC) and to establish market linkages to generate income.

270 Below Poverty Line (BPL) tribal women between the age of 18-40 years from 10 villages of Dhar District, Madhya Pradesh have been equipped with entrepreneurship (poultry management) and financial inclusion skills.

Women's Holistic Enhancement & Empowerment Livelihood (WHEEL)

Women's Holistic Enhancement & Empowerment Livelihood (WHEEL) Project is funded by HSBC from January 2020 to June 2022. It is being implemented in Mahad, Maharashtra and Dhar, Madhya Pradesh. Under WHEEL, 1,000 beneficiaries have been provided poultry, feed, medicines and poultry sheds and they have been trained in poultry farming and management. Market linkages through Poultry Producer Companies (PPC) have been provided.

Strengthening Civil Society Organizations Towards Fostering Women's Empowerment in Eastern Uttar Pradesh

This is a project funded by the European Union from January 2020 to December 2022. It is being implemented in 150 villages

(10 blocks in 10 districts, covering 35 Gram Panchayats) in the Faizabad District of Eastern Uttar Pradesh, one of the most disadvantaged regions there.

The project seeks to address the issues women face by strengthening the capacities and accountability of 10 selected CSOs and the local authorities.

The project capacitates CSOs and works with Women Farmer Groups (WFGs) to promote gender equality, make them climate-informed, help to develop a business environment that can create opportunities for women. The CSOs train the WFGs and help in the formation of 'Climate Informed Farmer Producer Groups' by the Women Farmer Groups.

DISHA - Preventing Child Labor: DISHA promotes sustainable community-based strategies to prevent child labor in Firozabad, a small industrial town in Uttar Pradesh, famous for over two centuries as a glass-making hub. Unfortunately, the small, informal bangle-making workshops commonly run by families in slums routinely use child labor. DISHA brings such children out of labor by providing health, educational and livelihood support within the communities.

Four model centers have been established to provide integrated child development



A sustainable livelihoods center called 'DAKSH' provides vocational training and coaching in personality development, spoken English and entrepreneurship to youth, so that they have better job opportunities.

services (ICDS) to the children of these slums. It also promotes and provides a national platform for youth and Self-help Group federations.

Under DISHA, selected children from the Firozabad slums were trained as child reporters to help identify child protection issues in their communities, write stories and demand letters to concerned authorities such as police officials, Bal Mitra thanas, local leaders, School Management Committees, Panchayati Raj Institutions, etc. to encourage responsiveness and action by the authorities. This program has reached over 20,000 children.



STORY

Start the Ball Rolling

Manju is a small farmer and share-cropper living in Alhadadpur village in Sultanpur District. Her husband is a driver and therefore, is away from home most of the time. She is poor and lives in a mud house with her 5 children, who study in the village school. Manju and her family basically depend on agriculture for their livelihood. This year, she has rented out 1.85 acres for share-cropping in the Rabi (winter) season. Farmers in the Manju's village use the traditional method of wheat sowing. Modern agricultural practices are largely unknown in the area.

Manju is associated with the Sita Women Farmers' Group, of which she is now a very active member. She heard about a new

method of sowing when she attended the community mobilization activity under the project "Strengthening CSO Toward Fostering Women's Empowerment" started by GVSS with the support of EU, Barnfonden and ChildFund India. The technology was unknown to the group members, so many of them refused to adopt it. But Manju understood the benefits and took the risk of adopting this new technology, although her land holding was very small.

"I did not have prepare the fields manually, and that saved me a lot of labor," says Manju. The sowing of wheat was done in her fields by the zero tillage machine. "I have been told that I can also expect a better harvest," she adds with a smile.



Child Protection

Children in India face several issues such as sexual abuse, child labor, child marriage, trafficking, discrimination, neglect, etc. This is, despite India having put in place a fairly comprehensive policy and legal framework to address the wellbeing of children. However, gaps in the implementation of these policies, laws/schemes, limited capacities, strained infrastructure/financial resources and low accountability make the most deprived and excluded children especially vulnerable. ChildFund India is deeply committed to the protection of children and works with communities to sensitize them to such issues. The Child Protection initiatives seek to create a safe environment for children and also help them through the psycho-social impact of the pandemic.

ChildFund India's Child Protection Program (CPP) seeks to ensure that 'Children live in a protective and enabling environment, free from abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence (ANEV) in the target villages/communities.'



The Child Protection initiatives were implemented in several locations in India with a service reach of approximately 3,80,000 children and adults.

Strengthening Community-based Child Protection Mechanisms: ChildFund India forms and keeps functional several Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) like Child Clubs, Parent Groups and Village Level Child Protection Committees. This initiative develops capacities of these CBOs on issues of child protection, supports them in identifying the risks and issues children face, aids in mitigating and addressing them with periodic interactions, so that these bodies play significant role in prevention of child abuse in the community and report/respond to any reported abuse case.

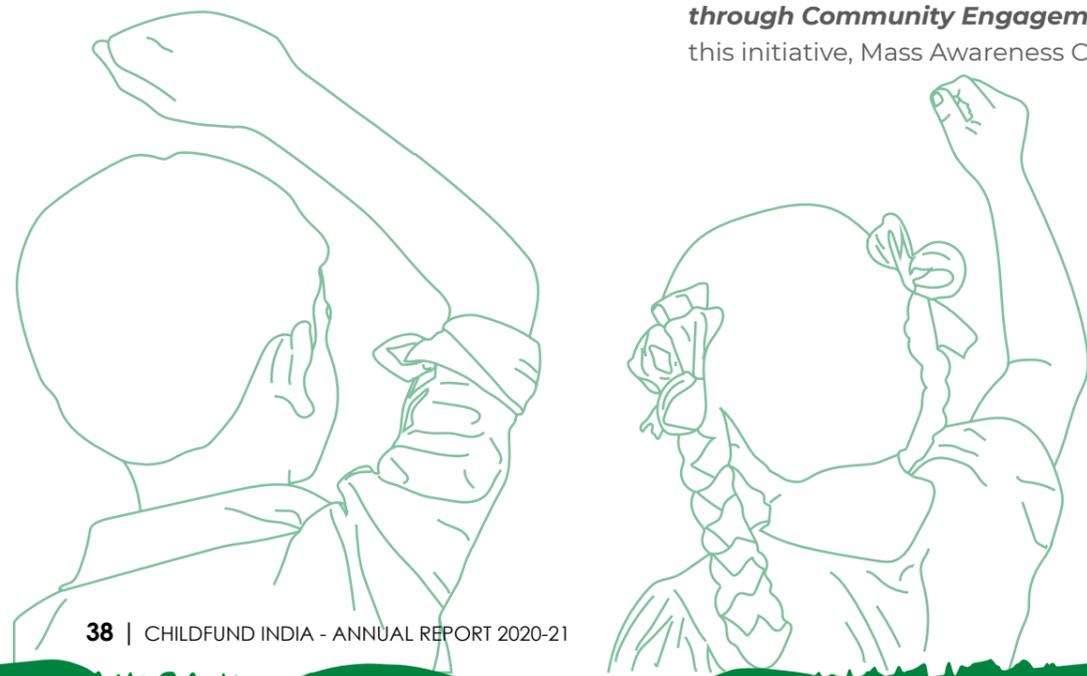
Creating Child Friendly Environment through Community Engagement: Under this initiative, Mass Awareness Campaigns

were organized for different stakeholders to sensitize them on issues that children face, laws that govern child protection and systems and services available for child protection at community, block and district level. The campaigns were successful in educating the community people on the subject, along with making them aware of the issues and laws so that they are sensitive about child rights and protection issues, have a supportive attitude, be responsive and provide healthy/cordial environment to the children.

Strengthening of People's Leadership on Child Protection: Under this intervention, community members, such as parents, children, youth, Child Protection Committee (CPC) members, village and community leaders participated in stakeholder meetings to discuss topics like the risks children face, laws and referral pathways to address and mitigate them so that children are protected.

Reinforce and Safeguarding Policy Compliances: ChildFund India ensures that all employees understand the issue, need and mechanism of child safeguarding. Therefore, ChildFund under its child protection program conducts compliance trainings to emphasize the need to adhere to safeguarding protocols/procedures and internal reporting mechanisms. This helps to ensure that incidents of child harm/abuse are reported.

Delhi Urban Child Development Project: After successfully implementing programs in rural India for the past seven decades, ChildFund India has brought its expertise to urban locations and metro cities to address urban poverty and improve the lives of children. Through the Delhi Urban Child Development Project, ChildFund India works in eight slums of South and South East districts of Delhi and reaches over 4000 children.



STORY

More than 100 child reporters are changing the district of Firozabad with their words and actions.

Sita* is unlike a normal fifth grade student from a little slum in the Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh (UP). Just 11 years old, she and her friends have been instrumental in preventing the marriage of her friend Pooja, also 11 years old.

"I heard that Pooja was getting married soon" Sita says. "She is only 11 years old like me! So, my friends and I went to reason with Pooja's mother. We tried to explain to her that she is too young to get married and that her studies are important. But she wouldn't listen to us. So, we called ChildLine 1098. The officials came and convinced Pooja's mother, only then did she finally call off the wedding."

Thanks to Sita's courage, Pooja can live her childhood and attend school.

According to UNICEF, more than 15 million child brides in India aren't as lucky.

Sita is not alone. There are 119 other brave and motivated boys and girls just like her, ready to step up, speak out and take action to improve the state of child rights in the Firozabad district.

Since late January 2020, ChildFund India and Saarthi, the local partner in Firozabad, have trained 120 selected children, aged between 7-14 years, to be child reporters. The children were encouraged to express their thoughts and observations. Through a combination of play and knowledge, the children were introduced to the basics of how to write a report, identify child rights issues, the relevant laws and mechanisms related to child-protection issues.

Eight months after the training, the children feel more empowered, have improved communication skills, are aware of their rights and are determined to be proactive towards societal changes.



Disaster Risk Management

In any emergency or disaster, conflict or displacement children are the most vulnerable. For ChildFund India, empowering children and communities in managing and reducing disaster risk is the primary goal of its Disaster Risk Management (DRM) program. Another goal of the program is to provide humanitarian response to the affected at the right time with the right kind of support towards their recovery and rehabilitation. ChildFund India's Humanitarian Response focuses on saving the lives of disaster-affected children and population with a specific focus on child protection in emergencies. The key interventions include the provision of essential relief materials to affected children, families and communities, creating child centered spaces to give children a safe place for activities crucial to their recovery from the trauma of emergencies, and promoting education on disaster preparedness.

Under the aegis of humanitarian relief, the following initiatives were undertaken with a service reach of approximately 13,000 children and adults.

Humanitarian Response - Response to the cyclone Amphan in West Bengal:

Less than halfway through 2020, West Bengal, reeling under the pandemic, was battered by a new calamity. Cyclone Amphan left a trail of destruction and cast already marginalized families into further uncertainty with no opportunities for work, no food nor any kind of support in sight. Since May 2020, ChildFund India has been supporting these affected families in the state to get back on their feet.



In South 24 Parganas of Sunderbans, as an immediate support, 1,808 families (small farmers, returned migrant workers, and other vulnerable groups) were given hygiene and sanitation kits, tarpaulin, mosquito nets and ration worth 15 days.

Soon after that, ChildFund India started the 'Livelihood Restoration' intervention. More than 830 families in Patharpratima and Namkhana blocks of South 24 Parganas district received livelihood support, depending on their expertise – agricultural



support in the form of climate-suitable vegetable seeds and organic manure for farmers, support-kit to help betel-growers to construct cultivation huts, poultry and fishing support, and non-agricultural support in the form of labor kits for workers.

Livelihoods Assistance to Cyclone Amphan affected families in South 24 Parganas of West Bengal:

This project was funded by Give India. The aim was to restore the livelihoods of small farmers, migrant workers and other vulnerable families affected by cyclone Amphan and COVID 19 pandemic. ChildFund India, with financial assistance from HSBC, provided livelihood restoration assistance to affected families in 33 villages/hamlets of Patharpratima and Namkhana Blocks of South 24 Parganas, West Bengal.

Different kinds of livelihood assistance was provided to 830 families (4,135 population).

Seeds of vegetables such as potato, brinjal, cauliflower, tomato, bitter gourd and chili were distributed to 350 small and marginal

farm families. Organic manure, such as SSP, MOP and mustard cake was also given to help them cultivate local organic vegetables and supplement their income. The seeds distributed among 350 families benefitted 1,745 people.

Betel vine is one of the major cash crops of the Sundarbans region. These crops were completely destroyed by the cyclone. This project helped to revive betel farming through initial aid. 55 families were supplied lathis, GI wire, spray machines with drum, ropes, etc. These aids helped the beneficiaries to rebuild the betel vineyard, cultivate the betel vine and sell the product in the local market. Approximately 265 people from 55 families benefitted through this intervention.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, many migrant families from the Sundarbans area have returned to their villages. These families found it very hard to get employment based on their skill sets and the jobs available in the local market. Through the Amphan response project,



 Under this project, **150 families (755 population)** were assisted with 20 chicks each, **30 kg of poultry feed, medicines** which helped them rear poultry in their backyards.

livestock, including poultry, and sheds were completely damaged. The backyard poultry assistance has helped families to establish an income that will meet their day to day expenses. Kuroiler (the locally accepted breed) is a bird that is good for both meat and eggs.

ChildFund India aided 150 migrant families (benefitting 750 people) with labor tools that could be used in unskilled manual labor, thus, enabling them to find work locally on a daily wage basis. They no longer had to hire tools from other families, granting them a degree of independence. The assistance was given in three categories of labor work: general category, masonry and carpentry.

A majority of the community there depends on fishing as their primary livelihood. These families use small wooden boats without any motor, fishing nets and anchors. The Amphan cyclone, destroyed or damaged their boats, nets and anchors, depriving them of their source of income. Through this project, fishing nets (5kg), anchors (20 kg), and ropes were given to 125 families to get them back on their feet.

This project has also identified and helped landless and migrant poor families. Due to Amphan, many families lost their



STORY

Rebuilding lives and vineyard, one step at a time.

Gopalnagar is a hamlet in Pathar Pratima block of 24 South Parganas district in the backwaters of Sunderbans. The saline water here is home to abundant fish and helps vegetable and betel vine production flourishes in the fertile soil.

Namita and Tapan Das are a middle-aged couple with two children living in north Gopalnagar, who had struggled to improve their lives. The couple and their under-age children worked as laborers in the district to earn a living. However, a few years ago, Tapan decided to take up betel leaf farming on the small piece of land they own. With a loan from a local Self-Help Group (SHG), he set up a betel vineyard in 1/5th acre of land and started earning a stable income that was just enough to feed his family and educate his children.

Then came COVID-19 and the lockdown that followed. It became difficult to sell their produce in the markets. They were barely coping with it when cyclone Amphan ravaged their region.

When the cyclone had come, Tapan and his family took shelter in a relief camp. Later, they returned home to find that their kuccha house had collapsed and so had their vineyard. Everything that they had built was in shambles. There was no electricity and for several days and they they lived in darkness. Finally, they gathered courage and decided to start over. They took a loan from an SHG to rebuild their house but didn't know how they would earn a living.

They were contemplating going back to being daily-wage laborers, when ChildFund,

with the support of HSBC, reached out to the family. They were assisted to rebuild their betel vineyard with tools such as bamboo lathis, agricultural spray machine, cleaning tools, wires, etc.

Thanks to the kit, the couple has once again set up the vineyard and it is full of beautiful, green betel leaves.

"Earlier most of our income was spent on the maintenance of the betel vines. But this time, thanks to the support of ChildFund India, we have rebuilt the vineyard and this has given us some relief," says a happy and hopeful Namita.

As they get their livelihood back in order, the couple plans to increase the area of the vineyard and when they have enough money, build a pukka house.



COVID-19 First Wave Response

ChildFund launched its response to the COVID-19 crisis on a national level and had a service reach of over 2,57,353 people. ChildFund India distributed food baskets and hygiene kits to the most vulnerable families to ensure food security and family safety. ChildFund India also worked closely with the local district administration and ensured the safety of frontline workers through a front-line worker's kit.

In its initial response, ChildFund India collaborated with community leaders and local authorities to ensure that only correct and adequate information regarding COVID-19 reached communities so that they would not panic. ChildFund India also supported the government by tracking people with relevant travel history in their locations and advised returnees to self-





quarantine. In case of suspected COVID-19 infection, necessary support was provided to the child and family. ChildFund India's field staff provided remote educational support to children and youth through online apps,

telecommunication and connected families with government schemes related to this emergency.

To help children from marginalized communities to continue their education and learning despite the digital divide, ChildFund India rolled out "Inter-Generational Coping and Learning (IGCL)" across operational regions in India. The kit focused on home-based learning and helped children and their families to cope with the crisis. It helped families spend quality time together while learning, creating and interacting with each other to build an emotionally healthy and invigorating atmosphere at home.

While the Indian economy gradually strengthened post the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, many vulnerable families, mostly marginal farmers and unskilled labour, still struggle to find economic stability. We are supporting such families to recover their livelihood by providing seeds, organic manure, tools for farming and other assistance,



such as training in poultry farming, so that the families can get back on their feet.

Project To Support Children And Families Affected By The COVID-19 Pandemic

This project, funded by ChildFund Korea, was implemented from June 2020 to December 2020 in 56 villages in four blocks of Jhabua and Dhar Districts of Madhya Pradesh. The aim of the project was to relieve suffering and restore normalcy for children and communities affected by COVID-19 through comprehensive relief and rehabilitation interventions.

Household hygiene kits were distributed to 1000 families and their use was demonstrated. A total of 886 families were covered in the first round and 669 in the second round of demos. 150 frontline workers were given hygiene kits and trained in their use during the initial period of the project.

Besides this, 61 wall paintings were made in 49 villages and posters and two types of leaflets were printed and distributed amongst key beneficiaries. Fifteen hundred posters were distributed amongst Panchayati Raj Institution (PRI) members, schools/ECD centers and 4000 leaflets were distributed to children, parents and other key stakeholders. Two of the posters carried CP (Child Protection) messages that exhorted adults to stop physically and emotionally punishing and humiliating children. Other posters spread awareness of COVID 19 and encouraged hand washing during the pandemic. Information, Education & Communication (IEC) material on Child Protection (CP) was distributed among the panchayat level CP committees for their information and display in the Panchayat offices.

A total of 30 schools and 41 Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers which had no

hand washing facilities were identified and provided with child friendly hand washing stations. The project team identified 1500 children between the ages of 4 to 14 years and distributed the inter-generational coping and learning kits to them. Three rounds of sensitization meetings were held with children and they were made aware of COVID-19 and the appropriate protocols of hand washing and wellbeing. A total of 3,012 children participated in these meetings across all the project villages. A van was engaged, which carried posters, jingles and audio clips on CP risks and COVID-19 prevention and management.

ChildFund India organized a district level consultation and workshop with local officials (DPO, CWC, DPC, Labour Department, WCD etc.). Seventeen NGO representatives participated and 45 participants attended. The District Child Protection Officer conducted the workshop where issues of Give India were discussed and a coordination plan was considered. The district officials offered guidance and cooperation for this initiative.

A total number of 6,990 families (covering a population around 31,305 people) whose livelihood was impacted due to COVID 19 were provided with seeds and organic manure to undertake Khariff and Rabi crops (in 2020) timely. The agricultural assistance was provided to aid marginal farmers with less than 2.5 acres of land. ChildFund India distributed 40kgs of wheat and 40kgs of organic manure to 250 beneficiaries and 30kgs of gram (pulses) and 30kgs of organic manure was distributed to 100 beneficiaries. This had helped them ensured food security for the family.

To promote the livelihoods of 250 landless households, 30 poultry chicks were given to each beneficiary along with 25kgs of feed and medicines. As a result, they did not need to migrate out of the state for their livelihood.

STORY

Padmavathi, a 31 year old housewife, resides with her husband and three children in a suburb of Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh. Her husband works as daily laborer. She is a mentor mother.

She says, "The pandemic brought great hardship and many challenges to our lives. We lost our livelihoods and starvation stared us in the face. For people like us, no work means no food. My husband worked in terrible conditions to earn some money."

Padmavathi says that most of the people in her area received at least one dose of the vaccine. But it was not easy. "My

family and I declined vaccination in the beginning. We heard from friends and on social media that the vaccines caused infection, had long term ill effects and even caused infertility. But then, ChildFund India explained to us the seriousness of Covid-19 and reassured us about the safety of the vaccine. I understood that it was the vaccine that would protect me and my family. So, we got the first dose of the vaccine and I have convinced many of my friends and neighbors to take it too. I try my best to convince all the villagers to take the vaccine. I am grateful to ChildFund India for dispelling our fears and explaining to us how the vaccine would be good for us."



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BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST, MARCH, 2021			
	SCHEDULE	F.Y. 2020-21	F.Y. 2019-20
SOURCES OF FUND			
I. FUND BALANCES:			
a. General Fund	[01]	731,18,728	669,61,085
b. Asset Fund	[02]	80,28,582	51,60,474
c. Project Fund	[03]	395,99,050	742,95,130
d. Corpus Fund		4,39,037	4,39,037
TOTAL Rs.		1211,85,398	1468,55,726
APPLICATION OF FUND			
I. FIXED ASSETS	[04]	80,28,582	51,60,474
II. INVESTMENTS	[05]	569,24,049	650,18,682
III. CURRENT ASSETS, LOANS & ADVANCES:			
a. Loans & Advances	[06]	31,46,433	98,90,677
b. Other Current Assets	[07]	26,03,292	36,71,587
c. Cash & Bank Balance	[08]	601,36,198	709,73,567
	A	658,85,923	845,35,831
Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES & PROVISIONS:			
a. Current Liabilities	[09]	96,53,156	78,59,261
	B	96,53,156	78,59,261
NET CURRENT ASSETS	[A - B]	562,32,767	766,76,570
TOTAL Rs.	[I+II]	1211,85,398	1468,55,726

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts [17]

The schedules referred to above form an Integral part of the Balance Sheet.

For & on behalf :
S.Sahoo & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FR No. 322952E

CA. Subhajit Sahoo, FCA, LLB
Partner
M No. 057426

Place : New Delhi
Date : 21.09.2021

For & on behalf :
Child Fund India

Neelam Makhijani
Member

Bincy Antony
Finance Director

Nirja Mattoo
Treasurer



Child Fund India

2nd Mezzanine Floor, B Section, 26, Okhla Industrial Estate, Phase III, New Delhi - 110020

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31/03/2021			
		Amount in INR	
SCHEDULE	F.Y.2020-21	F.Y.2019-20	
I. INCOME			
Grants	[10]	3741,66,158	2764,08,218
Donation		203,60,529	45,54,830
Interest Income	[11]	64,38,465	95,23,228
Other Income		-	1,51,136
		4009,65,153	2906,37,412
II. EXPENDITURE			
Expenditure on objects of the society			
Relief to the Poor Projects	[12]	1944,80,520	1917,13,400
Livelihood Projects	[13]	577,41,955	90,80,466
Education Projects (Non-Formal)	[14]	362,57,613	219,55,735
Preventive Healthcare Programme	[15]	568,35,018	548,81,856
Operating Expenses	[16]	444,50,446	170,62,287
Non Recurring Expenses		50,41,956	29,32,168
Depreciation	[04]	21,73,848	12,89,545
Depreciation transferred to Asset Fund	[04]	21,73,848	12,89,545
		-	-
		3948,07,509	2976,25,912
III. EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	[I - II]	61,57,644	-69,88,500
IV. EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE TRANSFERRED TO GENERAL FUND		61,57,644	-69,88,500
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts	[17]		

The schedules referred to above form an Integral part of the Income & Expenditure Account.

For & on behalf :
S.Sahoo & Co.
Chartered Accountants
FR No. 322952E

CA. Subhajit Sahoo, FCA, LLB
Partner
M No. 057426



For & on behalf :
Child Fund India

Neelam Makhijani
Member

Nirja Mattoo
Treasurer

Bincy Antony
Finance Director



Place : New Delhi
Date : 21.09.2021

Audited Financial Statements F.Y. 2020-21

Thank you for your Partnership & Support

This year presented a whole lot of challenges and situations which seemed unsurmountable. But as they say, no problem is unsolvable. It takes perseverance, courage and fortitude to fight for the way out. The issues ChildFund India (and the world at large) faced have been unprecedented, but together with its staff and supporters ChildFund India was able to

work through them. There is a whole list of people, community members, organizations and stakeholders who have been supporting us in serving the community and are passionate about our mission. Helping the community could not have been possible without the help of our team, supporters and the community.

ChildFund India's supporters include

European Union

- ChildFund International
- Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd. (HSBC)
- Bernard Van Leer Foundation
- Give2Asia
- ChildFund Korea
- Barnfonden (ChildFund Sweden)
- Give India
- Praxier India
- State AIDS Control Society
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.
- HCL Foundation
- Acuity Knowledge Partners
- Reckitt Benckiser India Private Limited
- Kurlon Enterprise Limited
- Johnson Matthey
- UNICEF
- United Way of Mumbai
- Other Donations Including Individual Giving

PROGRAM OFFICE

Plot No 1, 1st Floor, Deen Dayal Upadhaya Marg,
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