



Impact Assessment Report

YEAR - 2023 - 2025

**FAMILY STRENGTHENING & FAMILY BASED
ALTERNATIVE CARE (FS-FBAC)**

INDORE DIVISION, MADHYA PRADESH



Report Prepared By:

AARAMBH EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY

INDORE & BHOPAL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Under the better Family Strengthening mechanism protective factors are conditions in families and communities that, when present, increase the well-being of children and families. They are attributes that serve as buffers, helping parents who might otherwise be at risk of abusing their children to find resources, supports, or coping strategies that allow them to parent effectively, even under stress. For years, AARAMBH- MP have been studying both the risk factors common among families experiencing abuse and neglect and those factors that protect families who are under stress.

Through our effective approach, we have been succeeded in increasing Child and family wellbeing in the districts like Dewas, Raisen, Jhabua and Alirajpur by our successful approach in inculcating growing interest in understanding the complex ways in which these risk and protective factors interact, within the context of a child's family, community, and society, to affect both the incidence and consequences of abuse

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful completion of this Impact Assessment Report.

First and foremost, we thank the communities, children, youth, and families who opened their homes and hearts to share their stories, experiences, and insights. Your voices are the foundation of this report and the true measure of our collective efforts.

We are deeply grateful to the local leadership, Panchayat, government departments, and allied systems whose consistent cooperation and support have strengthened our work at the grassroots level. Your collaboration has been instrumental in making meaningful change possible.

We would also like to acknowledge the unwavering guidance and support of the leadership team at The Miracle Foundation India Team and Aarambh Education and Development Society. Their vision and encouragement have been the driving force behind this Impact Assessment.

A special note of appreciation goes to the field staff and case managers whose dedication, hard work, and attention to detail have been critical in gathering and analyzing information for this assessment.

Lastly, we recognize the contribution of every stakeholder who played a role—directly or indirectly—in shaping this report and the impact it captures. This report is not just a reflection of work done, but a testament to what is possible when communities and organizations come together for children's protection, development, and empowerment.

With sincere thanks,

The Impact Assessment Team

Aarambh Education and Development Society

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Background / Introduction

Aarambh has been committed to the well-being and protection of children for over 33 years across Madhya Pradesh. In Indore, our journey began with supporting street-connected children through a Child Care Institution (CCI) model, offering care and protection to some of the most vulnerable. However, in 2019, we undertook a transformative shift in our approach—moving from institutional care to a Family-Based Care (FBC) framework, driven by the core belief that **a family is the most nurturing environment for a child’s holistic development**.

With the active support of our partners, Aarambh successfully reunified all 36 children from our Child Care Home with their biological families through a structured, child-sensitive reunification process. This milestone redefined our practices, encouraging us to pilot **Alternative Care Models** tailored to the individual needs of children and families, ensuring their safety and well-being within a familial setting. Our focus has been on **sustainability, prevention, and system strengthening**.

Recognizing that more than 80% of children in CCIs have a living family—as highlighted by both domestic and international studies—we questioned the assumption that poverty alone should justify a child’s separation from their family. This insight, aligned with the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2021**, and **Mission Vatsalya**, inspired us to initiate the **Family strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care (FS-FBAC) Project in August 2023**. The project adopts a **preventive approach**, engaging deeply with highly vulnerable communities to reduce the need for institutional care and actively supporting other CCIs in transitioning children to family-based care—either through reintegration or alternative family care arrangements.

In close partnership with the **District Child Protection Units (DCPUs)** and **Child Welfare Committees (CWCs)**, Aarambh’s Centre for Excellence in Family-Based Care has taken on a pivotal gatekeeping role across the Indore Division.. This involves **preventing unnecessary family-child separation, supporting safe reintegration**, and building a **responsive, child-centric protection ecosystem**. Through this collaborative effort, we are committed to ensuring that **every child grows up in a safe, stable, and loving family environment**.

Districts of Indore Division

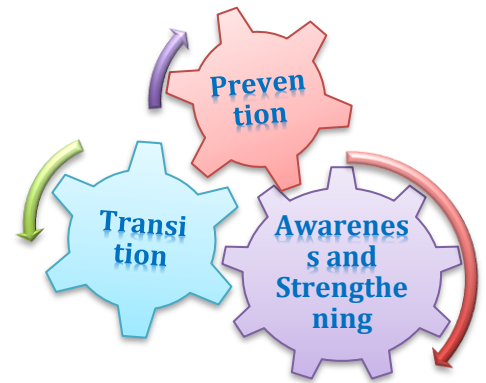


Indore Districts

1. Indore
2. Khandwa
3. Barwani
4. Jhabua
5. Alirajpur
6. Khargone
7. Dhar
8. Burhanpur

Key Components

- **Prevention** of Children from separation of families provides the all resources and the supports so children can feel safe and obtain all the resources.
- **Transition** of children from the CCI to their families through case management process.
- **Awareness and strengthening** the communities and all the stake holders for the child rights and child protection, Support to the Baal panchayat and village level child protection committee system to make attend all concern related to the child right and protection and ensure the child welfare on village level.



Communities-

- Sanavadiya Panchayat- Indore
- Gitti Khadan, Bhavsinghpura Panchayat- Khandwa
- Umariya, Utavad Panchayat- Khargone
- Chikli- Shivniyapani Panchayat- Barwani
- Semlani Panchayat- Alirajpur

Child Care Institution

- Rajkiya Baalgraha- Indore
- Shradhanand Baalgraha - Indore

The **Family strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care (FS-FBAC) Project** was launched following the successful reintegration of 36 children from Aarambh's Child Care Home back into their families. Building upon the insights and learnings from this transformation, a community-based approach was initiated in **August 2023**, expanding the FBAC program to **five high-risk communities and two Child Care Institutions (CCIs)** in Indore Division. Through this expansion, **470 children from 205 families** were identified as being at **high risk of separation** and were enrolled under the **preventive care model**. The assessment, based on five key risk indicators—**social relationships, household income, unsafe living conditions, education, and health**—revealed the complex, interrelated challenges these families face.

To address these vulnerabilities, a **multi-dimensional support strategy** was implemented. This included linking families with **government welfare schemes**, strengthening access to **social protection systems**, and raising awareness at the community level about child rights and protection. Efforts were made to create a **child-friendly environment** by establishing **Baal Panchayats**, activating **Village Level Child Welfare and Protection Committees**

(VLCWPCs), and re-engaging children in **formal education**. These collective actions aim to ensure that children remain safe, nurtured, and supported within their families, reducing the reliance on institutional care.

The primary objective of this Impact Assessment is to evaluate the effectiveness and outcomes of the **Family strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care (FS-FBAC) Project**, which was initiated following the successful reintegration of 36 children from institutional care into their families. Building on this model, the project expanded in **August 2023** to five high-risk communities and two Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in Indore Division, focusing on **preventing child-family separation** and strengthening community-based care systems.

Why the Impact Assessment

Conducting an **Impact Assessment** is a critical component of any development initiative, especially in complex and sensitive areas such as child protection and family-based care. It provides a systematic and evidence-based evaluation of the outcomes, effectiveness, and sustainability of the interventions implemented.

1. Measures Real Change

Impact assessment helps determine whether the project has made a tangible difference in the lives of the target population—such as improvements in child safety, education, health access, and family stability. It goes beyond activities to assess actual change on the ground.

2. Identifies Strengths and Gaps

Through rigorous data collection and analysis, it highlights what worked well and where challenges remain. This enables project teams to build on successful strategies while revising or discontinuing ineffective ones.

3. Enhances Accountability

It ensures accountability to donors, government stakeholders, communities, and beneficiaries by transparently reporting on outcomes achieved versus planned objectives. This builds trust and credibility among all stakeholders.

4. Informs Future Planning

Findings from impact assessments provide critical insights for scaling up, replication, or policy advocacy. They inform future program design by grounding decisions in real evidence and community needs.

5. Strengthens Learning and Innovation

Impact assessments create opportunities for continuous learning. They encourage reflection, adaptive programming, and innovation, especially in dynamic environments like tribal or rural communities.

6. Supports Policy Engagement

Well-documented impact data strengthens advocacy for policy change, funding allocation, and systemic reform. It enables civil society actors to influence decision-makers with proven results.

Objectives of the Assessment

The **Family strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care (FS-FBAC) Project** was conceived as a progressive step towards strengthening the child protection ecosystem in Indore Division, following the successful reintegration of 36 children from Aarambh's Child Care Institution (CCI) into their biological families. The success of this transition reinforced the understanding that families, when adequately supported, provide the most nurturing and sustainable environment for children. Recognizing the need to prevent unnecessary child-family separations and promote alternative care rooted in the community, the FBAC project was expanded in August 2023 to **five high-risk communities and two CCIs**, with a focus on preventive, family-centered care.

This **Impact Assessment** aims to:

1. **Evaluate the overall effectiveness of the FBAC model** in reducing risks of separation among vulnerable children and promoting safe, permanent, and nurturing family environments.
2. **Assess the multi-dimensional vulnerabilities** of 470 children from 205 families enrolled under the prevention model, through the lens of five critical risk domains—**social relationships, household economic status, living conditions, educational access, and health status**.
3. **Analyze the role of integrated support systems** including linkages to government welfare schemes (such as education, health, livelihood, and social protection programs), and assess how these contributed to stabilizing family conditions and enhancing child well-being.
4. **Examine the outcomes of community-based child protection mechanisms** like **Baal Panchayats** and **Village-Level Child Welfare and Protection Committees (VLCWPCs)**, and how their activation has fostered a child-friendly and protective environment at the grassroots level.
5. **Understand the effectiveness of reintegration and transition planning** within CCIs, and the ongoing support structures established for children and families post-reunification.
6. **Gauge the level of community awareness and participation** in child rights and protection, and explore how capacity-building initiatives have empowered families and communities to take active roles in safeguarding children.
7. **Identify existing gaps, challenges, and opportunities** for strengthening the FBAC model further and suggest strategic directions for replication, scale-up, and policy integration in alignment with the **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2021** and **Mission Vatsalya**.

Ultimately, this assessment seeks to not only reflect on the achievements of the last two years but also to serve as a guiding document for improving policy and practice toward creating **safe, resilient, and empowered families and communities**—where every child can grow with dignity, care, and opportunity.

Methodology

The Impact Assessment of the Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC) Project was conducted using a **mixed-method approach**, combining both quantitative and qualitative data to gain a comprehensive understanding of the project's outcomes, challenges, and community-level impact.

1. Tools and Techniques Used

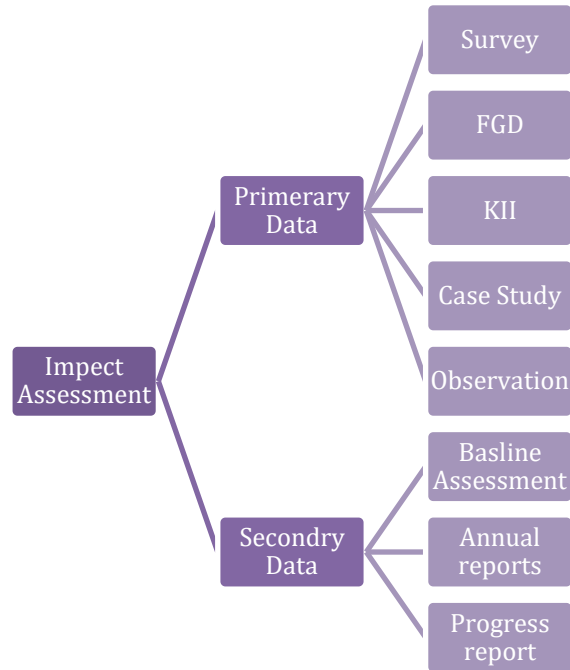
- **Household Surveys:**
Structured questionnaires were administered to all 205 families enrolled under the FBAC prevention model. These surveys focused on assessing key indicators such as:
 - Current household income status
 - School enrollment of children
 - Access to and utilization of health insurance schemes
 - Present living conditions of the family
 - Quality of social relationships within the family and with the community
- **Focus Group Discussions (FGDs):**
Conducted separately with children, parents, youth groups, and key community stakeholders to capture qualitative insights into the changes observed since the implementation of the project. A total of 10 FGDs were held across the five target communities.
- **Key Informant Interviews (KIIs):**
Interviews were conducted with Anganwadi workers, school teachers, and Panchayat representatives to understand institutional perspectives, coordination mechanisms, and the challenges faced during project implementation.
- **Observation and Field Visits:**
Project team members conducted routine visits to families, schools, and community spaces to directly observe behavioral and environmental changes in children's wellbeing, family dynamics, and overall community engagement.
- **Case Studies:**
A total of 10 detailed case studies were compiled to highlight the most significant changes experienced by children, families, and the wider community in response to FBAC interventions.

2. Sample Size

- **Families Surveyed:** 205 families
- **Children Covered:** 470 children (100% of total enrolled under FBAC)
- **Stakeholders Engaged:** Over 60 individuals including PRIs, VLCPC members, Anganwadi workers, school personnel, and Baal Panchayat representatives across five communities

3. Timeline of Data Collection

- **Primary Data Collection:** March 2025 to April 2025
- **Secondary Data Review:**
Existing baseline assessments, child and family profiles, project documentation, and monthly/quarterly progress reports from August 2023 to December 2024 were reviewed to supplement and validate the field-level data.



Establishing Process

The successful implementation of the **Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC)** project between **August 2023 and April 2025** was rooted in a carefully phased and participatory establishment process. This foundational phase focused on identifying the most vulnerable communities and families, building local trust, and developing a robust understanding of risks that could lead to child-family separation. The establishment process laid the groundwork for all future interventions by ensuring strong community ownership and data-driven targeting.

1. Community Establishment

Date/Period: August 2023

Activities:

The first stage of the project involved identifying and entering communities where children were at significant risk due to poverty, poor service access, and systemic neglect. The steps included:

- **Identification of Target Areas:** Five vulnerable communities were selected based on indicators such as high rates of child malnutrition, school dropout, child labor, and poor access to basic services. Two Child Care Institutions (CCIs) were also included for reintegration support.
- **Transit and Rapport-Building Visits:** Field teams conducted initial visits to each community to initiate dialogue and build rapport with residents, frontline workers, and community influencers. This was essential in tribal and marginalized settings where external interventions are often met with skepticism.
- **Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement:** Early engagement involved key figures such as **Panchayat leaders, Anganwadi and ASHA workers, schoolteachers, religious leaders, youth, and women's group representatives**. Their involvement was crucial to gain acceptance and support for the project's goals.
- **Baseline Information Collection:** Teams gathered qualitative and quantitative data on the major child protection issues, socio-economic vulnerabilities, and institutional access challenges through home visits and informal discussions.
- **Community Mapping:** Participatory mapping exercises helped visualize the community's geography, available services, risk zones (such as unsafe water sources or poorly lit areas), and locations of key stakeholders. This also helped identify disconnected or underserved hamlets.
- **Focus Group Discussions (FGDs):** Conducted with children, parents, youth, and service providers to explore perspectives on safety, education, health, family dynamics, and aspirations. These discussions revealed deep-rooted beliefs and practices, including those related to early marriage, migration, and institutional care.

Purpose:

To initiate a relationship of mutual trust with communities and systematically identify high-risk families and child protection concerns. This step was essential to inform planning under

the FBAC Prevention Model and develop a contextualized approach to family strengthening and child well-being.

2. Family Identification and Risk Assessment

Date/Period: August – October 2023

Activities:

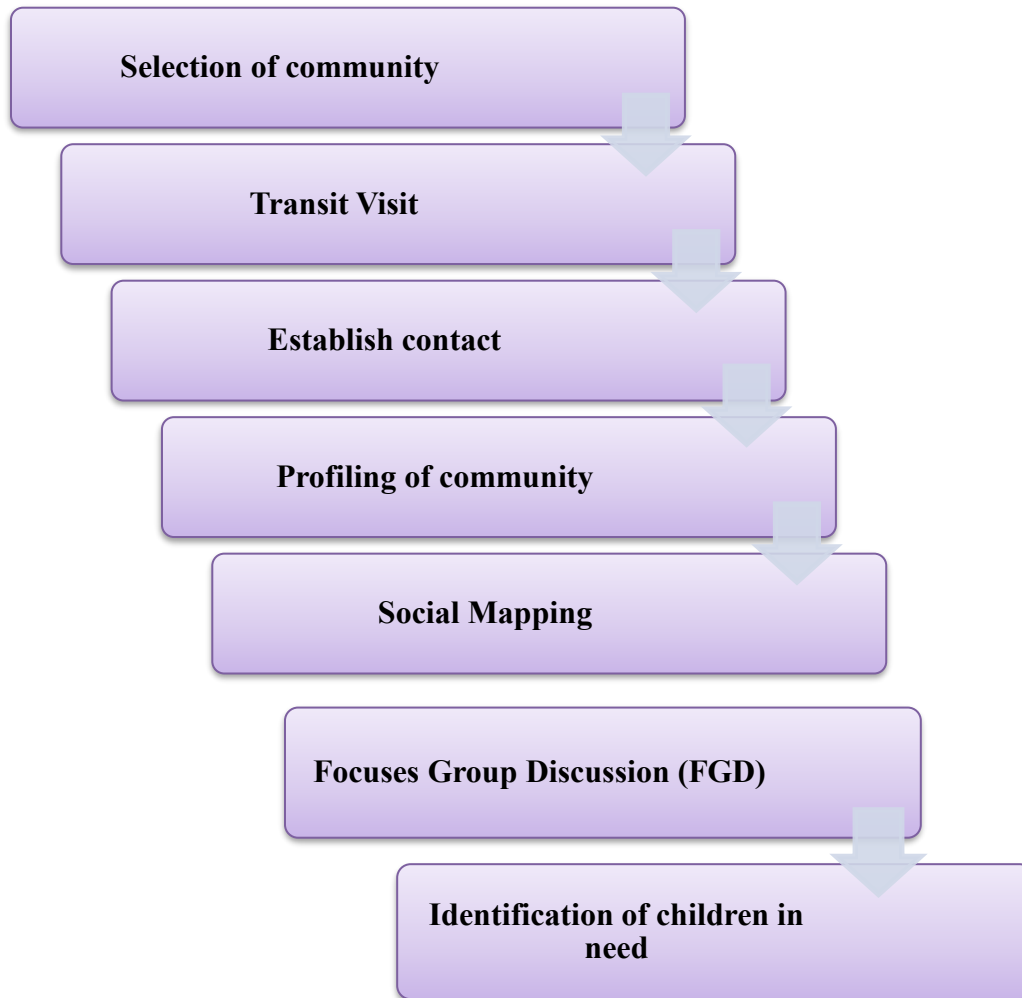
Following community establishment, the project moved toward household-level engagement. This included:

- **Household Visits and Child Listings:** In-depth household visits were conducted across all five communities and two CCIs. A total of **470 children** from **205 families** were identified as being at risk of separation or institutionalization.
- **Use of Red-Flag Indicators:** Families were assessed using five core vulnerability indicators:
 1. **Income instability** (e.g., irregular daily wage, no savings)
 2. **Health concerns** (e.g., chronic illness, malnutrition, disability)
 3. **Education barriers** (e.g., dropouts, irregular attendance, learning gaps)
 4. **Living conditions** (e.g., kutchas, overcrowding, lack of toilets)
 5. **Social isolation/conflict** (e.g., single-parent households, migration, substance abuse, domestic violence)
- **Prioritization of High-Risk Families:** Families facing multiple overlapping risks were prioritized for enrollment under the Prevention Model. These households were mapped for tailored support interventions—ranging from documentation assistance to mental health support, educational access, and livelihood linkage.
- **Referral and Service Planning:** Based on the assessment, a family care plan was initiated to guide further interventions under FBAC. This ensured that support was need-based, relevant, and time-sensitive.

Purpose:

To generate a data-driven profile of family vulnerabilities and risks of child separation. This helped ensure that prevention and reintegration efforts were **targeted, equitable, and responsive** to the unique challenges each family faced.

- **Process of Implementation**



Vulnerable situation identified- (*The Baseline Data*)

Children and Family under Prevention-

Vulnerable situation identified- (*The Baseline Data*)

To visually represent the vulnerabilities identified in the 6 intervention communities, let's create an analysis focusing on key indicators: **Social Relations, Household Economy, Living Conditions, Education, and Health**. The percentages and distribution of these factors across families and children can be represented using graphs for a clearer understanding of the vulnerabilities faced.

1. District-Wise Vulnerability Breakdown

A comparative bar chart can be created to show how each district fares across the identified vulnerability factors.

S N	District	Number of Families identified	Children identified Under Preventio n	Read Flag Identified				
				Social Relation	House Hold Economy	Living Condition	Educa tion	Health
1	Alirajpur (Semlani)	47	109	89	107	93	76	107
2	Barwani (Chikli)	51	122	50	122	116	75	116
3	Indore (Sanavadiya)	35	61	39	55	61	29	59
4	Khandwa (Gitti Khadan)	40	89	54	88	79	26	26
5	Khargone (Umariya)	32	89	14	89	62	39	87
	Total	205	470	246	461	411	245	395

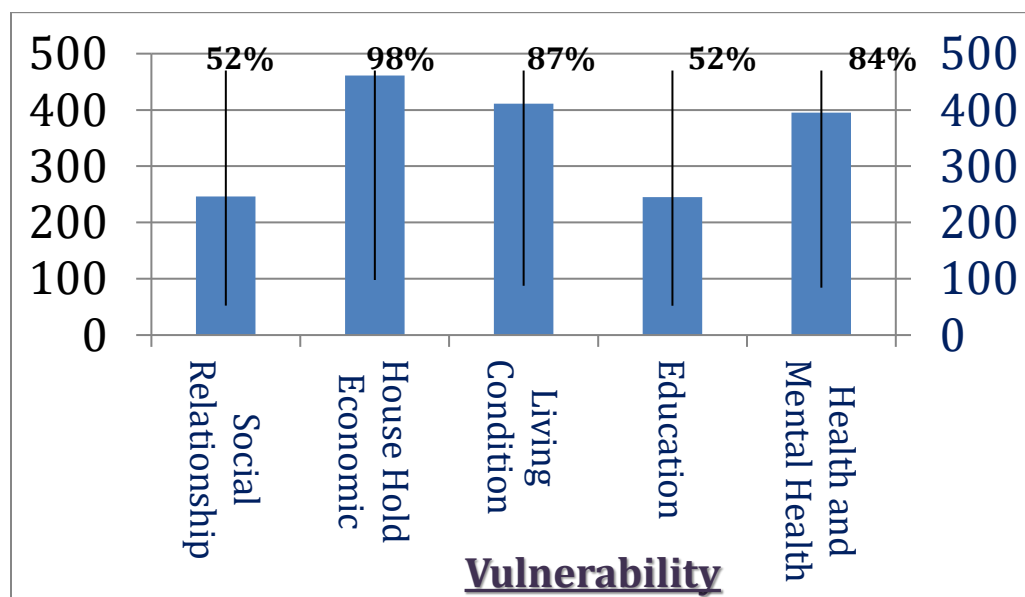
***Social Relation-** Child have no Basic Identity Documents, **House Hold Economy-** Family Income is less than 1lkae per annum **Living Condition-** Family is homeless or staying in unsafe Kaccha House **Education-** Child not enrolled in school or not getting education **Health and Mental Health-** Child suffering with any chronic illness or mental health or Family not have Health Insurance.

- **Analysis:**

- **Barwani (Chikli)** has the highest vulnerability in terms of **Household Economy, Living Conditions, and Health**, with over 75% of the families facing economic and living challenges.
- **Alirajpur (Semlani)** is highly affected by **Social Relations** (lack of basic identity documents), **Living Conditions**, and **Health** issues.
- **Khargone (Umariya)** has lower numbers in **Social Relations** but still faces significant challenges in **Household Economy, Health, and Living Conditions**.

2. Overall Vulnerability Distribution (Red Flags Identified)

A bar graph can depict the total number of issues identified per vulnerability factor across the 6 districts



3. Percentage of Families with Multiple Red Flags

A pie chart can show the percentage of families facing multiple vulnerability factors simultaneously.

Number of Red Flags	Percentage of Families Affected
Families with 3+ Vulnerabilities	78%
Families with 2 Vulnerabilities	15%
Families with 1 Vulnerability	7%

- **Analysis:**
 - 78% of families are grappling with three or more vulnerability factors, showcasing the multi-dimensional challenges they face, particularly related to household income, unsafe living conditions, and health.
 - Only 7% of families face just one type of vulnerability, which indicates that most families are dealing with intersecting issues.
- **Conclusion Based on Figurative Analysis:**

The analysis highlights that most families in the targeted communities face multiple, interconnected vulnerabilities, with the key challenges being **Household Economy**, **Living Conditions**, and **Health**. These issues significantly impact children's well-being.

The **CFE Project** has made progress by establishing **CBCPMs**, **Baal Panchayats**, and **VLCWPCs**, bringing structure to child protection efforts. The focus on **youth development** and **reintegration of children** from CCIs is commendable.

However, critical gaps remain in **social services**, **education**, and **health**. Continued efforts to improve family incomes, housing, and access to education and healthcare are essential to uplifting vulnerable families and children.

Key Activity

Linkage to Government Schemes and Services

- **Date/Period:** November 2023 – March 2025
- **Activity:**

In the initial stages, many children and their families lacked awareness about legal identity documents and the various government welfare schemes available to them. These schemes have the potential to significantly improve living conditions and contribute to the overall development and protection of children. To bridge this gap, awareness campaigns were conducted across the communities. Regular home visits were carried out to educate, motivate, and guide families on the importance of documentation and the benefits of government schemes. This was followed by direct support in preparing essential legal documents such as Aadhar cards, birth certificates, ration cards and etc. Once the necessary documentation was in place, eligible families were assisted in applying for relevant schemes based on their needs and eligibility criteria.

- **Purpose:** To enhance family stability and access to safety nets.

Between November 2023 and March 2025, a focused and community-driven intervention was implemented across five key locations. The initial baseline showed a critical gap in the awareness and access to identity documentation and government welfare schemes among children and their families. Through consistent home visits, awareness sessions, and personalized support, we empowered families to access legal identity documents, thereby establishing a foundation for social security and inclusion.

Outcome:

A total of **722 legal and identity documents** were facilitated, including birth certificates, Aadhar cards, Samagra IDs, and more. In parallel, **123 families were linked to economic welfare schemes**, and **232 children received support to improve their living conditions** through housing and gas connections. Education-related assistance was extended to **244 children**, ensuring their enrollment, retention, and support in schools. Moreover, **852 benefits under health and insurance schemes** were accessed, dramatically improving families' safety nets.

This comprehensive intervention has not only strengthened family stability but also paved the way for long-term child protection and development. However, there remains significant scope for future work, especially in increasing uptake of educational scholarships, vocational training, and digital identity documentation for both children and adults. Sustained engagement and institutional partnerships will be crucial to bridge the remaining gaps and build resilient, well-informed communities.

Community Mobilization and Awareness Campaigns

- **Date/Period:** December 2023 – March 2025
- **Activity:** Conducted street plays, door-to-door campaigns, and IEC material distribution on child rights, education, child protection, and importance of family-based care.
- **Purpose:** To build community ownership for child protection and reintegration.

Parents Session Initiative

To build a more supportive environment for children, focused efforts were made to increase awareness among parents about child rights, health, and care. Counseling sessions were organized on key issues such as drug addiction, financial literacy and savings, and general health awareness. These sessions were conducted in two formats: small-group sessions at the *faliya* (hamlet) level and larger, village-level sessions led by specialized resource persons.



District	Alirajpur (Semlani)	Barwani (Chikli)	Indore (Sanavadiya)	Khandwa (Gitti Khadan)	Khargone (Umariya)	Total
Number of Session	2	13	10	9	8	42
Number of Parents Attended	33	211	213	245	149	851

These initiatives led to notable positive changes in community behavior and thinking. Parents became more conscious about their children's education and well-being. As a result, school attendance increased, instances of domestic violence reduced, and a shift in priorities was observed—some of parents began considering savings and responsible financial habits instead of spending on alcohol or other addictive substances.

Medical Camp

In collaboration with a local NGO and the Government Health Department, three medical camps were organized across the communities to provide essential healthcare services. A total of **365 individuals** benefited from these camps, which included both general health check-ups and specialized tests. Services offered included **Tuberculosis (TB) screening**, **Sickle Cell testing**,

Hemoglobin (HB) tests, Blood Pressure (BP) monitoring, and distribution of necessary medicines.



Location	Number of Camps	People Benefited	Additional Services Provided
Umariya (Khargone)	1	112	HB tests for 13 children
Chikli (Barwani)	2	135 + 120 = 255	General check-up, TB, Sick Cell, BP, and HB tests
Total	3	365	

Baal Panchayat & VLCPC

Formation and Activation of Community Structures

- **Date/Period:** January 2024 – April 2025
- **Activity:**
 - Formation of **Baal Panchayats** in all five communities
 - Activation of **Village Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs)**
 - Engagement with **Youth Groups and PRI members**

Purpose: To build local child protection mechanisms and child-friendly governance.

The Baal Panchayat initiative was launched to empower children as active participants in their communities, especially in matters related to education, child rights, and protection. Through regular meetings and activities, Baal Panchayat members not only build their leadership skills but also take real action to bring about positive change in their villages. Many activities were organized to increase children's participation and learning around child protection, and to strengthen their skills in raising their voices for their rights and against abuses. To support this, the *Saapsidi* game — specially designed for Baal Panchayat children — was introduced to enhance their knowledge and awareness in an engaging and interactive way. The following data highlights the progress made through their dedicated efforts.



S N	District	BP Meeting	BP Activity	Numbe r of Membe rs in BP	Associated Children With BP	Baal Panchayat Achievements
1	Alirajpur (Semlani)	7	5	16	26	School enrollment Increased due to awareness by children of BP.
2	Barwani (Chikli)	15	11	16	47	BP children monitor mid-day meals, their voice become reason of teacher appointment in school, 100% school admission.
3	Indore (Sanavadiya)	9	11	16	24	Reduced school dropout rate and raised awareness of child rights.
4	Khandwa (Gitti Khadan)	15	14	16	33	Achieved 100% school enrollment through door-to-door visits and peer discussions.
5	Khargone (Umariya)	10	11	16	38	Identified 44 dropouts with reasons; working to re-enroll them.
Total		56	52	80	168	

Baal Panchayat Trainings and Learning

1. Exposure Program:

Baal Panchayat training sessions and exposure visits to Panchayat offices were conducted with children from the Baal Panchayats of Chikli, Gitti Khadan, and Umariya. During these visits, the children explored their respective village Panchayat offices and interacted with the Sarpanch (Village Head) and Sachiv (Secretary). Through this engagement, the children learned about the structure and functioning of the Panchayati Raj system and became more familiar with the roles and responsibilities of village leaders.



2. Learning Exchange Program:

As part of the Learning Exchange Program organized in Indore, 8 children from Umariya Baal Panchayat and 11 children from Chikli Baal Panchayat, along with representatives from four Baal Panchayats of Dewas district, actively participated in the event. This

initiative offered a platform for cross-district interaction, allowing children to share their experiences and understand the functioning of Baal Panchayats in different regions. They also gained important knowledge about child rights, government schemes, and the child protection mechanism. Furthermore, the children had opportunities to interact with administrative officials and social workers, which enhanced their understanding of governance and strengthened their commitment to child welfare in their communities.



VLPCP Initiative

To strengthen child protection systems at the village level, the Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLPCP) initiative was introduced across various communities. The main objective was to create an accountable and responsive mechanism involving Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), frontline workers, and community representatives to identify, prevent, and respond to child protection issues. Through regular meetings, trainings, and coordination with stakeholders such as the Police Department and Women and Child Development (WCD) officials, the VLPCPs have become active platforms where local issues like school dropouts, child labour, child safety, and access to services are openly discussed and addressed. The following table presents an overview of the progress achieved through the VLPCP initiative.

SN	District	VLPCP Meetings	VLPCP Trainings	Number of Members in VLPCP	VLPCP Achievements
1	Alirajpur (Semlani)	5	3	15	Police and WCD Department participated; all stakeholders understood their roles clearly.
2	Barwani (Chikli)	6	1	15	Mid-day meal started; awareness raised for school admissions; multiple concerns raised in meetings.

3	Khandwa (Gitti Khadan)	6	0	15	Issues of child abuse and child safety initiated and discussed.
4	Khargone (Umariya)	3	2	15	In collaboration with Baal Panchayat, working on issues of child labor and school dropout.
Total		20	6	60	

The VLCPC initiative has proven to be a critical step towards building stronger child protection mechanisms at the grassroots level. By involving key stakeholders, ensuring regular dialogues, and focusing on accountability, VLCPCs have begun addressing major child protection concerns such as child labor, school dropout, safety, and access to services. The active participation of Police and WCD departments in meetings further reinforced the seriousness and collaboration needed for protecting children's rights. Moving forward, continuous capacity building, strengthening coordination with Baal Panchayats, and regular follow-ups on identified issues will be essential to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of VLCPCs across the villages.

Life Skills Education and Psycho-Social Support

- **Date/Period:** February 2024 – April 2025
- **Activity:** Conducted PSS sessions with children on mental well-being, emotional expression, and resilience. Life Skills Education sessions were also conducted.
- **Purpose:** To strengthen the psychosocial development of children and prevent distress.

Life Skill Education With Children and Youths

Life Skills Education plays a crucial role in shaping the personality and mindset of children and youth. Through these sessions, participants become more conscious of their life challenges and learn practical ways to overcome them. The skills acquired—such as decision-making, problem-solving, communication, and self-awareness—empower them to grow confidently and prepare for a better future.



We conducted Life Skills Education sessions for children in the community, youth groups, and also for children residing in Child Care Institutions (CCIs). These sessions were tailored to their age, needs, and environment, focusing on real-life scenarios and building essential soft skills. The reach of our Life Skills Education initiative is as follows:

District	Sessions Conducted
Alirajpur (Semlani)	2

Barwani (Chikli)	6
Indore (Sanavadiya)	3
Khandwa (Gitti Khadan)	5
Khargone (Umariya)	6
CCI	2
Total	24

These sessions have brought visible changes in children's and youths' confidence, communication, and ability to manage emotions and relationships effectively.

PSS Support

Psycho-Social Support (PSS) sessions were conducted to help children cope with psychological challenges and build resilience, especially those who have experienced trauma. Many children residing in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) are found to be dealing with emotional and mental distress due to separation from families, abuse, or neglect. These sessions aimed to provide a safe space for emotional expression, healing, and personal growth.

A total of 10 PSS sessions were conducted at *Rajkiya Baal Graha* (CCI) to support children in overcoming trauma and fostering emotional well-being. Additionally, one session was organized in the Sanavadiya community (Indore), focusing on improving the parent-child relationship and helping the child adjust better in the family environment.

Location	Number of PSS Sessions
CCI (Rajkiya Baal Graha)	10
Sanavadiya (Indore)	1 (with 1 family)
Total	11

These sessions have shown positive outcomes in the emotional stability and social adjustment of children, enabling better integration into family or institutional environments.

Youth Program

- **Date/Period:** November 2023 – March 2025
- **Activity:** Conducted PSS sessions with children on mental well-being, emotional expression, and resilience. Life Skills Education sessions were also conducted.
- **Purpose:** To strengthen the psychosocial development of children and prevent distress.

Youth Program is very important part of the program, Youth, the adolescent or young person whose age ranges from 18 to 25 years, plays a vital role in the development of individual and community. The main goal of this project is to establish the importance of youth in the community, placing them in a unique and positive role in social structures. Through this project, we aim to provide guidance to youth in finding solutions to issues related to their livelihood.

This will assist them in areas such as employment, entrepreneurship, and self-sustainability. An essential objective of the project is to ensure the active and positive participation of youth in the organization and development of communities. This will provide them with opportunities to engage in decision-making processes within society. Youth are powerful and innovative. Through this project, we will inspire the community to be led by youth and be established as a developed community through their leadership.

Involving youth in community development activities not only addresses societal challenges but also harnesses their potential to become leaders and contributors to the development of a progressive community.

Empowering Youths: A Youth Training Initiative (1.1 & 2.1)

Recognizing the pivotal role that youth play in shaping their communities, a two-phase training initiative titled "**Empowering Youths**" was launched to build awareness, leadership skills, and a deeper sense of responsibility among young individuals from underserved communities. This initiative aimed not only to enhance their knowledge and confidence but also to enable them to contribute actively to **child protection, community development, and personal growth**.

Phase 1.1: Center-Level Youth Training – Indore (December 2023)

The first phase of the youth training was organized at the **center level in Indore** in December 2023, with participation from **51 youths** representing three intervention communities: **Chikli, Gitti Khadan, and Sanavadiya**. The session focused on equipping youth with a foundational understanding of personal values, social responsibility, and the importance of community engagement.

The key topics discussed included:

- **Importance of Family in My Life**
- **Role of Youth in Community Development**
- **Understanding Child and Child Protection**
- **Youth as Community Child Protectors**
- **Cyber Safety and Digital Awareness**
- **Career Planning and Setting Life Goals**
- **Introduction to Financial Literacy**
- **Concept of Youth Ambassador**
- **Communication Skills and Their Role in Leadership**

The training was designed to be interactive and reflective, using role plays, group discussions, and real-life examples. The session emphasized the **role of youth as protectors and advocates** for children's rights in their communities, while also highlighting the potential of youth-led initiatives to bring about positive change.

Phase 2.1: Community-Based Youth Training – Chikli & Gitti Khadan

Building on the momentum from Phase 1.1, the second phase of training was conducted at the **community level in Chikli and Gitti Khadan**, ensuring greater accessibility and local engagement. These sessions were tailored to **local realities** and focused on activating youth as **community leaders and protectors of children’s rights**.

Key highlights of the community-based training:

- The session began with an **introduction by Ms. Anamika**, setting the tone for youth empowerment and participation.
- Youths reflected on the **importance of families** in a child’s life and their own experiences within their homes and communities.
- Through group discussions, participants identified **key issues in their schools and villages**, such as dropout rates, poor infrastructure, and lack of child protection awareness.
- A creative activity titled “**Model Village**” allowed youth to envision an ideal community with adequate education, safety, hygiene, and opportunities. **Group 4’s presentation was recognized as the most innovative.**
- The concept of **Youth Ambassador Program** was introduced to inspire proactive leadership. As a result, **10 youths** expressed interest and were selected for further **training and mentorship**.
- To facilitate **continuous coordination and peer learning**, **community WhatsApp groups** were established for each youth group.
- The event ended with **closing remarks from facilitators and participants**, where many expressed their enthusiasm for sustained engagement. This was followed by **refreshments and informal networking**, further strengthening peer relationships.

Impact and Way Forward

The “Empowering Youths” initiative has ignited a strong sense of leadership, responsibility, and purpose among young participants. Youths now better understand their **role in community development**, particularly in **child protection and education advocacy**. The **Youth Ambassador model** is poised to create a pipeline of local leaders who can continue mobilizing their peers and supporting community-led change.

In the upcoming months, follow-up activities will include:

- **Advanced leadership training** for selected Youth Ambassadors.
- **Micro-projects** led by youth on community issues.
- **Regular mentoring and peer-learning sessions.**
- **Involvement of youth in Baal Panchayat and VLCPC activities.**

The initiative marks a critical step in **nurturing a generation of socially aware and action-oriented young leaders** who are committed to building safer, healthier, and more inclusive communities.



Youth Meetings

We organize a youth meeting minimum once a month in each community, focusing on planning and implementing the *Ideal Village* concept. Youth play a vital role in spreading awareness through various programs, campaigns, and innovative ideas. They actively participate in supporting families with legal documentation and accessing government schemes. Additionally, we conduct Life Skills workshops for the youth, where they learn essential soft skills such as communication, problem-solving, leadership, and teamwork.



Youth Day Celebration

The Youth day is very special day and organized many sports activity for community youth. This celebration will serve as a platform to attract new participants, foster collaboration among youth, and activate existing youth groups for long-term involvement in community progress. Promote Active Participation: Involve youth in planning and executing events. Foster Collaboration: Build connections among youth across communities. Raise Awareness: Empower youth as advocates for child rights and protection. Develop Leadership: Identify and train potential leaders within youth groups. Expand Youth Groups: Engage new members through interactive activities like sports.



Career Counseling

Students from Class 9 onwards often struggle with career-related confusion due to a lack of awareness and proper guidance. To support them in making informed decisions, specialized one-on-one career assessments and counseling sessions were organized through a professional outsourcing agency. These sessions focused on identifying each youth's interests, strengths, and aptitudes, helping them explore suitable career options. The initiative provided a safe space for open discussion, encouraged self-reflection, and cleared many doubts regarding future education and career paths. As a result, the participating youth gained confidence, clarity about their goals, and a roadmap for their academic and professional journey ahead.

Community	Number of Youth Associated	Number of Participants in Youth Training	Number of Youth Meetings	Number of Youth Participant in Youth Day Celebration	Number of Youth participants in Career Counseling
Chikli	79	47	26	92	23
Gitti Khadan	49	34	11	-	5
Sanavadiya	35	-	13	42	6
Umariya	28	-	18	63	6
Semlani	19	-	7	47	2

Education Support and School Re-enrollment

- **Date/Period:** August 2023 – March 2025
- **Activity:** Identification and re-enrollment of out-of-school children;
- **Learning Center mitigate age appropriate learning gape**
- **Purpose:** To ensure every child remains in school and receives quality education.

Learning Centre: Caching Support

Community and Children:

- **Umariya-** 24 Children
- **Chikli-** 37 Children
- **Sanavadiya-** 28 Children

During the course of the intervention, it was observed that children were dropping out of school not solely due to a lack of resources, but also because they faced significant **learning difficulties** and had gradually lost interest in their studies. Many of these children felt disconnected from the classroom environment, lacked basic literacy skills, and were unable to cope with the academic expectations at their grade level. This disengagement often led to absenteeism and, eventually, school dropout.

In response to this critical issue, **three community-based learning centers** were established in August 2024. These centers were designed to provide **targeted remedial support** to children who were either out of school or irregular in their attendance. A dedicated **tutor was appointed at each center**, with the responsibility of working closely with a small group of children—particularly two "bachas" (children) at a time—ensuring individualized attention and instruction based on their unique learning needs.

A **baseline literacy and numeracy assessment** was conducted at the onset to identify learning gaps among the children. Based on these assessments, a **customized Basic Literacy Module** was developed, which included age-appropriate content and focused on building foundational skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. These modules were not only aligned with school curricula but also included child-friendly activities to make learning engaging and enjoyable.

The tutors provided **regular remedial classes**, motivating children, building their confidence, and helping them overcome school-related difficulties. Progress was monitored periodically through assessments and feedback sessions. Over time, a positive transformation was seen: children began to regain their interest in learning, became more regular in school attendance, and actively participated in class. The tutors played a crucial role in **bridging the gap between the children and the formal education system**, acting as both mentors and motivators.

As a result of these consistent efforts, a significant number of children reconnected with the education system, showing improved academic performance and renewed enthusiasm for learning. These centers have become a **safe and supportive space** for children, especially those who were previously disengaged, helping to ensure their **right to education and long-term academic success**.



Capacity Building and Training

- **Date/Period:** Multiple sessions across 2024

- **Activity:**
 - Training for Social Workforce, Social Workers, and Partner Staff on Alternative Care and JJ Act
 - Exposers Training of Staff
- **Purpose:** To build capacity for family-based care and child protection.

District Training

The social workforce plays a critical role in ensuring child protection and promoting family-based care. Recognizing this, a series of specialized training sessions were organized in collaboration with district-level government departments across five districts: Alirajpur, Burhanpur, Jhabua, Khandwa, and Khargone. The primary aim of these trainings was to build the capacity of frontline child protection actors by strengthening their understanding of Mission Vatsalya, Family Strengthening (FS), and Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC). A total of eight trainings were conducted, reaching 470 participants, including District Program Officers (DPOs), Assistant Directors (ADs), Child Welfare Committee (CWC) members, Juvenile Justice Board (JJB) members, ICDS Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs), Anganwadi supervisors, Child Care Institution (CCI) staff, and representatives from like-minded NGOs.

The sessions focused on shifting the mindset of the child protection workforce towards the understanding that a family is the most appropriate and nurturing environment for a child's overall growth and development. Key themes discussed included the importance of family-based care, alternative care options such as kinship and foster care, the reintegration of children from institutions into family settings, and the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in facilitating this process. The trainings also emphasized that institutional care should be considered only as a last resort, and efforts must be made to prevent family separation through effective family strengthening.

In addition to increasing technical knowledge, the sessions provided a valuable platform for cross-sector collaboration, where participants engaged in dynamic discussions, shared their experiences, and explored practical strategies for implementing FBAC within their districts. The involvement of diverse stakeholders led to strengthened coordination among government departments and civil society organizations, ensuring a more integrated approach to child protection.



Districts	Alirajpur	Burhanpur	Jhabua	Khandwa	Khargone	Total
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Number of Trainings organized	2	1	2	1	2	8
Total Training Participants	134	70	124	55	87	470

Staff Capacity Building

Staffs capacity building is an necessary for the success of the project, the success of the project is based on the Skills of the implementing persons and the leader. During the year we organized four different staff training programs.



1. Youth Program Training- By Ms. Anamika
2. Refresher Training Session- By Ms. Ritu
3. Orientation on Child Safeguarding Policy- By Mr. Kapil, Mr. Anup Sahay
4. Learning and Sharing Session- Exposer Training- By Mr. Anup Sahay, Mr. Vijay Yadav and External resource person

Transition of Children

The reintegration of children residing in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) with their biological families is a critical component of our child protection and alternative care initiative. This process not only ensures that children return to a familiar and emotionally supportive environment but also aligns with the principle of family-based care being the most nurturing and sustainable form of care for children.

Through our consistent efforts, counseling, and coordination with families and authorities, a total of **20 children have been successfully reintegrated** with their families. Among them, **5 children are from Khandwa District, 2 from Khargone District, 1 from Uttar Pradesh, and 12 from Indore District**. Each reintegration was conducted after thorough assessment of the child's readiness, family situation, and safety conditions, ensuring that the return is in the best interest of the child.

In addition, **74 children currently residing in CCIs are under active assessment** for reintegration. This includes evaluating family conditions, conducting home visits, and preparing children and families through psychosocial support and counseling. These efforts aim to strengthen family systems and ensure long-term stability and care for the children.

The project remains committed to placing every child in a safe, loving, and permanent family environment.



Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

To ensure effective implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the **Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC)** project, a clear set of **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** was developed. These indicators helped track progress, measure outcomes, and inform decision-making throughout the project lifecycle.

KPIs were aligned with the project's core objectives—**preventing unnecessary child-family separation, promoting safe family reintegration, and strengthening community-based child protection systems**. Both quantitative and qualitative indicators were used to capture results at the **family, community, and system levels**.

1. Child Protection and Family Stability

KPI	Definition	Purpose
1.1 % of children prevented from institutionalization	Number of high-risk children who remained with families after intervention	To assess success of the prevention model
1.2 % of children reintegrated from CCIs to family-based care	Children reintegrated into family care (biological/kinship/foster)	To evaluate the effectiveness of reintegration efforts

2. Access to Services and Scheme Linkages

KPI	Definition	Purpose
2.1 % of children with legal identity documents (Aadhaar, Birth Certificate, Samagra)	Out of total enrolled children	To measure legal inclusion and access to entitlements
2.2 % Support to Economic Schemes (Financial Stability)	With minimum 1 direct scheme which financially supporting	To reduce the read flag Economic Condition
2.3 % of families improve Living Condition	Linked with Scheme or direct support to improve living condition	To Provide Protected and comfortable living condition
2.4 % of children regularly attending school	Verified through school visits and school record	To assess educational continuity
2.5 % of families accessing health services	Based on referrals, insurance and scheme availing	To evaluate health access and insurance coverage

3. Community and System Strengthening

KPI	Definition	Purpose
Number of Baal Panchayat and VLCPC meetings conducted	Tracked monthly in each target village	To monitor community-led child protection engagement
% of stakeholders trained (PRI, CWC, Teachers, AWWs, etc.)	On child protection and FBAC principles	To evaluate institutional capacity-building
% of youth engaged in community development or leadership roles	Participating in trainings, campaigns, or local planning	To measure long-term civic engagement

Findings / Observed Changes

1. Child Protection and Family Stability

1.1. % of children prevented from institutionalization-

The percentage of high-risk children identified through red-flag indicators who, despite severe vulnerabilities, remained in family-based care rather than being placed in institutional settings. From the five target communities, **470 children** were identified across **205 families**. Among them:

- **92 children** were either living with single parents or were parentless and cared for by extended family members.
- **78%** of the total children exhibited **three or more red-flag indicators**, indicating a **high risk of institutionalization**, including extreme poverty, unsafe housing, lack of documentation, school dropout, or poor caregiver support.

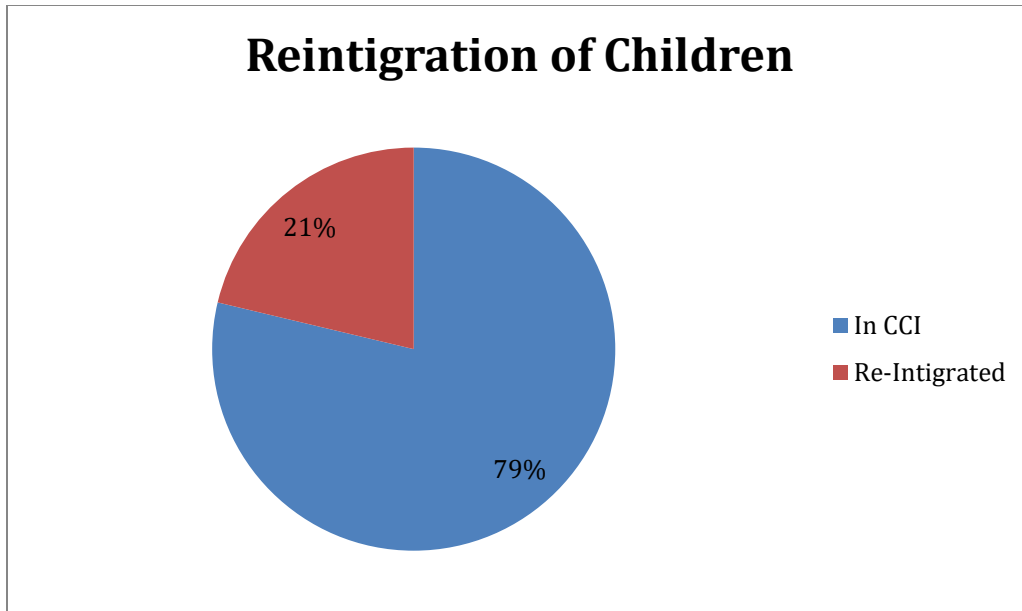
Through regular and intensive community-level interventions—including home visits, counseling, livelihood support, documentation assistance, and access to schemes—all high-risk children were **retained safely within their families or extended family networks**.

Result: 0 children were institutionalized in Child Care Institutions (CCIs) during the project period.

This outcome highlights the effectiveness of the **prevention model under FBAC**, demonstrating that with timely and family-centric support, children can be protected from unnecessary separation and institutional care.

1.2. % of children reintegrated from CCIs to family-based care-

Through our consistent efforts, counseling, and coordination with families and authorities, a total of **20 children have been successfully reintegrated** with their families. Among them, **5 children are from Khandwa District, 2 from Khargone District, 1 from Uttar Pradesh, and 12 from Indore District**.



Visual Summary

- The **pie chart** shows that we are 21% Success to minimize the need of CCI and children are now children have family.

2. Access to Services and Scheme Linkages

3.1. % of children with legal identity documents (Aadhaar, Birth Certificate, Samagra)

Birth Certificate, Aadhaar Card, and Samagra ID are essential documents for children to access government schemes and services. The team has made it a priority to support families in preparing these documents. Through consistent home visits and community meetings, the team has been actively guiding, motivating, and following up with families to ensure that each child is documented properly.

As a result of these sustained efforts, the documentation status across various communities is as follows:

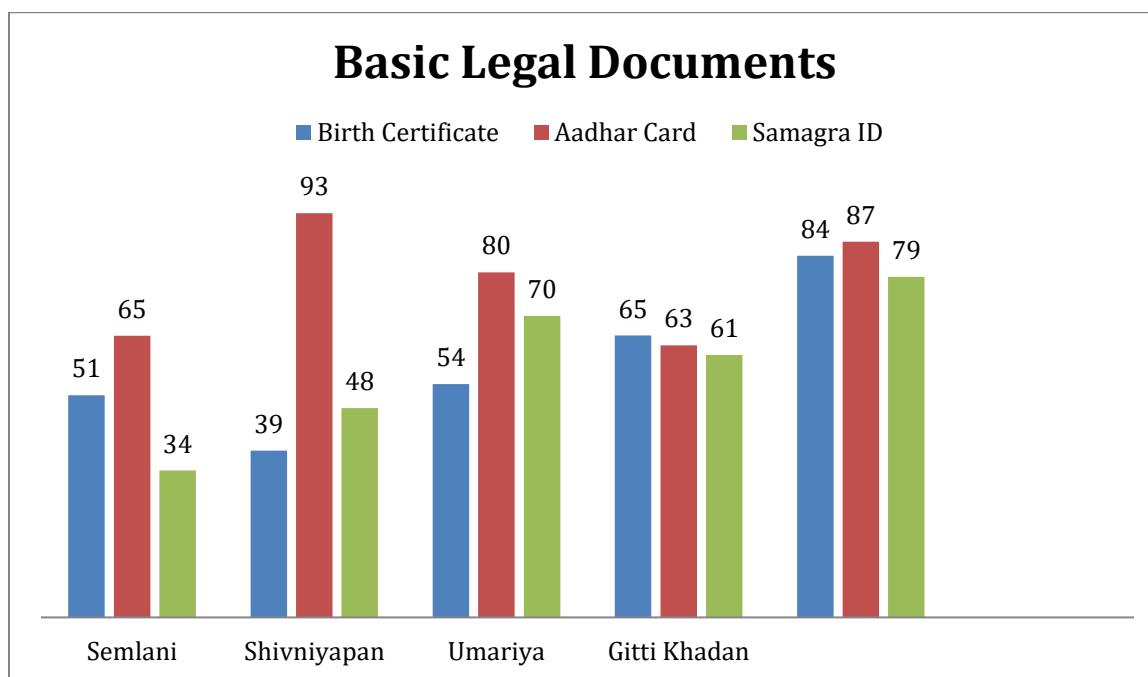
Support to Prepare the Legal Documents-

SN	Government Scheme Benefits to Identified Children and Their Family	Semlani (Alirajpur)	Shivniyap ani (Barwani)	Gitti Khadan (Khandwa)	Umariya (Khargone)	Sanavadi ya (Indore)	Total
Support Social Relationship							
1	Birth Certificate	19	33	30	2	12	96
2	Aadhar Card of Identified Children	29	54	14	33	21	151
3	EKYC Of Identified Children	0	12	24	8	14	58

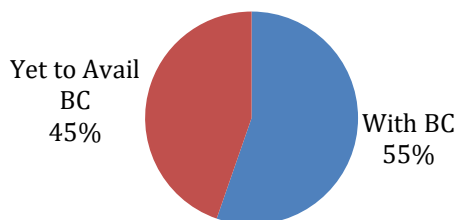
4	Samagra ID	5	23	17	28	16	89
5	Domicile/ Income/ Cast Certificate	4	20	3	4	3	34
6	Bank account of Children	8	19	4	3	6	40
7	Aadhar Card of Identified Family members	10	5	29	23	19	86
8	Death Certificate of Family Member	0	2	2	0	3	7
9	Samagra ID of Family Members	0	1	23	23	20	67
10	EKYC Of Family Member	17	6	16	19	23	81
11	Other	11	0	0	0	2	13
Total		103	175	162	143	139	722

Documentation Status by Community

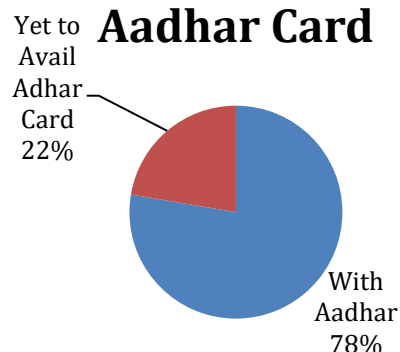
District	Birth Certificates	Aadhaar Cards	Samagra IDs
Semlani	56 (51%)	71 (65%)	37 (34%)
Shivniyapani	47 (39%)	114 (93%)	59 (48%)
Umariya	48 (54%)	71 (80%)	62 (70%)
Gitti Khadan	58 (65%)	56 (63%)	54 (61%)
Sanavadiya	51 (84%)	53 (87%)	48 (79%)



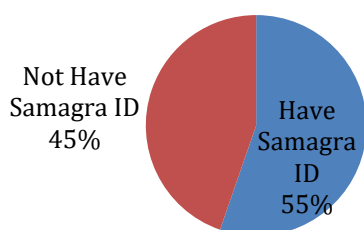
Birth Certificate



Aadhar Card



Samagra ID



Analysis:

- **Sanavadiya** shows the highest overall documentation coverage, with over 80% of children having all three essential documents.
- **Shivniyapani** has excellent Aadhaar coverage (93%) but lags in Birth Certificate and Samagra ID.
- **Gitti Khadan** and **Umariya** have maintained relatively balanced progress in all three documents.
- **Semlani** currently has the lowest percentage in Samagra ID (34%), highlighting a need for focused follow-up in this area.

3.2. % Support to Economic Schemes (Financial Stability)

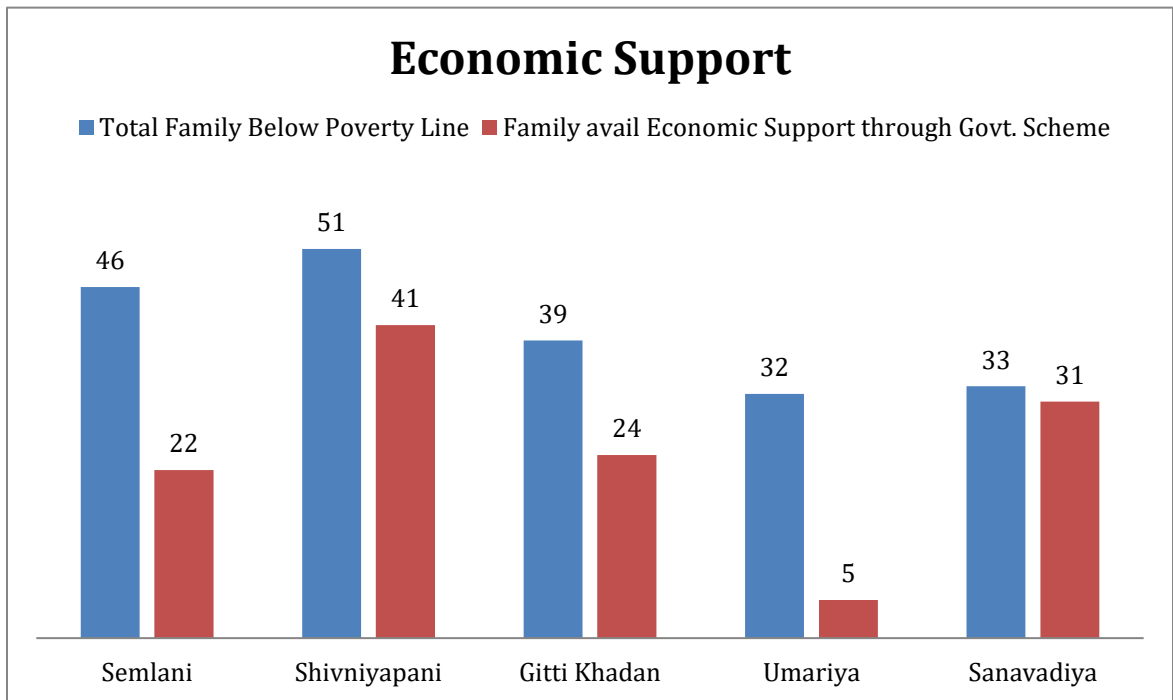
Economic Support to the identified Family

Low income is a major challenge for families in meeting the basic needs of their children. Most of these families rely heavily on labor work and seasonal (rain-fed) farming. To support them, we have linked several families with government schemes that provide direct financial assistance. Additionally, we have conducted **financial literacy sessions** and **de-addiction awareness programs** to help families reduce unnecessary expenses, manage their household budgets effectively, and develop savings habits.

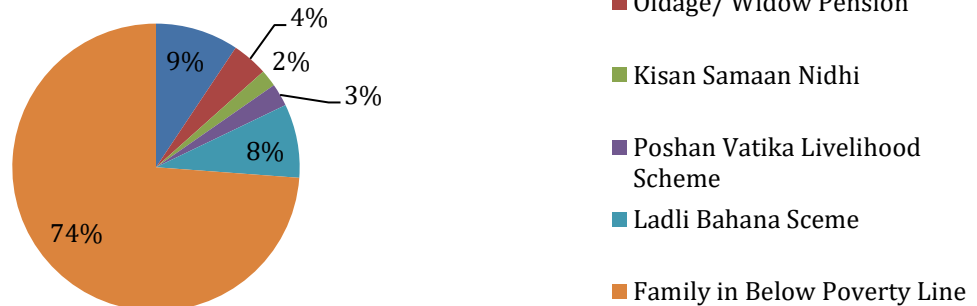
One of the key strategies we introduced is the "**Gullak (piggy bank) concept**"—children are encouraged to save small amounts in a piggy bank marked with their names. These savings are later used to support their education and personal needs, helping to instill financial responsibility from a young age.

Below is the data showing the government schemes availed by the family:

SN	Government Scheme Benefits to Identified Children and Their Family	Semlani (Alirajpur)	Shivniyapani (Barwani)	Gitti Khadan (Khandwa)	Umariya (Khargone)	Sanavadiya (Indore)	Total
Economic Condition							
1	Ladli Laxmi Scheme	3	5	6	0	30	44
2	Oldage/ Widow Pension	16	2	0	0	1	19
3	Kisan Samaan Nidhi	3	1	0	5	0	9
4	Poshan Vatika Livelihood Scheme	0	0	12	0	0	12
5	Ladli Bahana Sceme	0	33	6	0	0	39
Total		22	41	24	5	31	123
Total Number of Family below Poverty Line		87	81	65	84	30	347
% of Family Supported		20%	34%	27%	6%	51%	26%



Family with Minimum Financial Support Scheme



Visual Summary

- The **bar chart** highlights support was distributed across communities—Shivniyapani and Umariya showed the highest engagement.
- The **pie chart** shows that the proportion of interventions support of schemes and the 74% family are still not enrolled with any direct financial support and 26% are with economical support.

3.3. % of families improve Living Condition

Pakka House to Family (Living Condition)

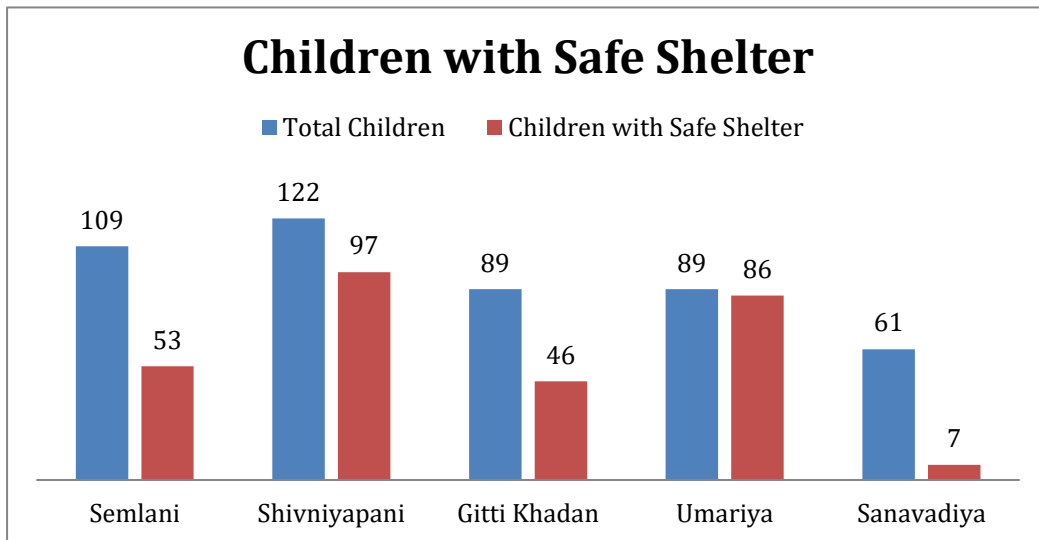
Access to **safe and secure housing** is one of the most fundamental human needs, and it plays a critical role in ensuring the **protection, health, and overall development** of children. A stable shelter provides not only physical safety from environmental hazards but also emotional security that allows children to grow, learn, and thrive with dignity.

In our community, a significant number of children were previously living in **unsafe kaccha houses**, which are typically built with mud, bamboo, or thatch and offer little protection against extreme weather, animals, or intrusions. Some families were even **homeless**, residing in temporary shelters or open spaces. In these conditions, children were highly vulnerable to **health issues such as respiratory infections, skin diseases, poor sanitation, and psychological stress**, as well as **risks of abuse, neglect, and exploitation**.

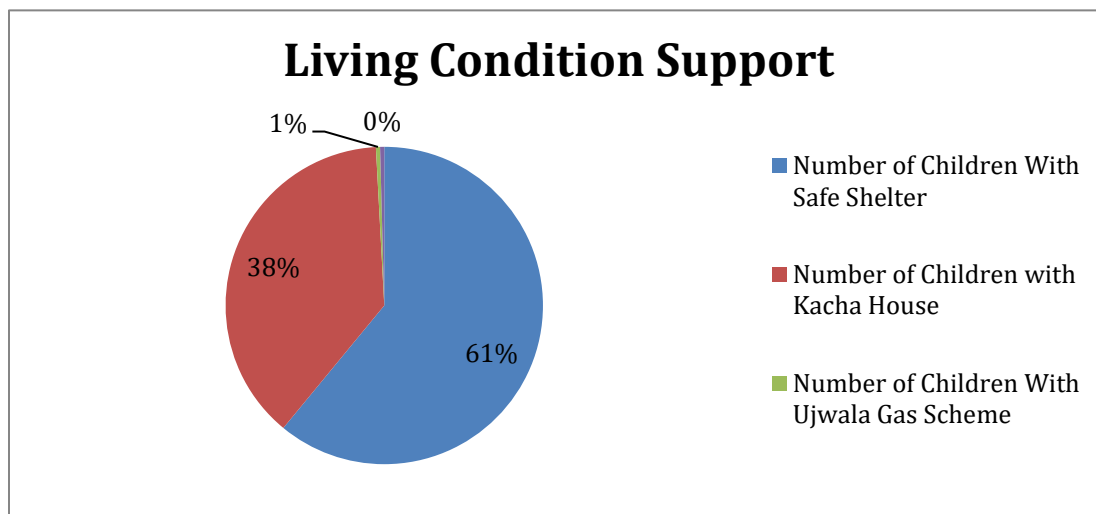
According to the initial assessment, **87% of children** were found living in either **dilapidated houses or without any proper shelter**, while only **5% of families had access to permanent (pakka) housing** made of durable materials like bricks, cement, and concrete. The remaining families lived in **semi-pakka** structures with partial improvements, but still lacked complete safety and sanitation.

Recognizing the urgency of this issue, our team actively **advocated with the Panchayat and local administration** to prioritize the housing needs of these vulnerable families. Through persistent follow-up and assistance in documentation, **multiple families were successfully linked to the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)**—a flagship Government of India scheme that provides financial assistance for the construction of permanent houses for the rural poor.

SN	Government Scheme Benefits to Identified Children and Their Family	Semlani (Alirajpur)	Shivniyapani (Barwani)	Gitti Khadan (Khandwa)	Umariya (Khargone)	Sanavadiya (Indore)	Total
1	Ujwala Gas Scheme	0	0	0	2	0	2
2	Support to House Construction	0	0	2	0	0	2
1	Total Identified Children in Community	109	122	89	89	61	470
2	Previously Children with unsafe shelter	93	116	79	62	61	411
3	Children Covered Pakka Hous under PM Awas Scheme	37	91	36	59	7	230
4	% of children in safe shelter	49%	80%	52%	97%	12%	62%



As a result of these efforts, **230 children across five districts** (Semlani - Alirajpur, Shivniyapani - Barwani, Gitti Khadan - Khandwa, Umariya - Khargone, and Sanavadiya - Indore) are now living in **permanent, pakka houses**. This shift has brought a remarkable improvement in their safety, health, school attendance, and overall quality of life. Community-level data shows that **62% of children are now living in safe housing**, with some areas like **Umariya (97%) and Shivniyapani (80%)** showing exceptional progress. Ensuring safe housing not only improves living conditions—it creates an enabling environment where children can feel secure, stay healthy, and pursue their right to education and development without fear or uncertainty. Safe homes are not just shelters; they are the **foundation of a safer, stronger future for every child**.



Visual Summary

- The **bar chart** highlights support was distributed across communities—Semlani, Shivniyapani, Gitti Khadan, Umariya and Sanavadiya showed the highest engagement.
- The **pie chart** shows that the proportion of interventions support of schemes and the 61% are now in Pakka House with PM Awas scheme support and one family directly supported for house construction.

3.4. % of children regularly attending school

Education Support

Literacy is the foundation of an empowered community, and children's education is the seed from which a better future grows. However, our baseline assessment revealed a concerning reality: **only 48% of children were enrolled in school**, while **52% were either school**

dropouts or had never been enrolled. These alarming numbers were not due to a lack of interest alone but stemmed from multiple complex and interlinked barriers that made school access difficult for many children. 245 children were in red flag out of 470, who was to be enrolled or not attending the school.

Through comprehensive analysis and community engagement, the following key challenges were identified:

1. **Lack of Basic Documents** – Many children lacked essential documents such as Aadhar cards, birth certificates, and Samagra IDs, which are mandatory for school enrollment.
2. **Seasonal Migration of Families** – Short-term migration for labor forced children to accompany their parents, disrupting their education cycle.
3. **Inaccessibility to Middle/High Schools** – In remote areas, the nearest middle or high school was several kilometers away, discouraging continuation of education.
4. **Learning Gaps** – A significant mismatch between children's age and academic level created fear, low confidence, and a sense of exclusion.
5. **Safety Concerns for Girls** – Schools located in isolated areas posed safety risks, especially for girl children returning home alone.
6. **Child Labor** – Economic hardship led to children being engaged in labor, making education a secondary priority.

Our Multi-Dimensional Intervention Strategy

Recognizing that school enrollment alone would not resolve the problem, we adopted a **holistic and multi-pronged approach** to tackle the root causes and create a sustainable path for children's education:

- **Document Support:** Facilitated the preparation of **birth certificates, Aadhar cards, and Samagra IDs** for children, removing major administrative hurdles to school admission.
- **School Enrollment Drives:** Actively enrolled out-of-school children in nearby schools, in coordination with school authorities and education departments.
- **Community Mobilization through Baal Panchayats:** Engaged children's groups to conduct **door-to-door campaigns**, peer motivation activities, and local awareness drives on the importance of education.
- **Awareness Activities:** Organized **education awareness rallies, creative learning events, and street plays** to promote positive community attitudes toward schooling.
- **Bridge Learning Support:** Established **Learning Centers** to address age-appropriate learning gaps, offering remedial and foundational literacy sessions.
- **Parental Engagement:** Conducted **parent counseling sessions** to build awareness, reduce harmful practices, and encourage long-term commitment to children's education.
- **Transport Support:** For children facing distance and safety issues, **school transport facilities were arranged** in collaboration with community leaders and government schemes.

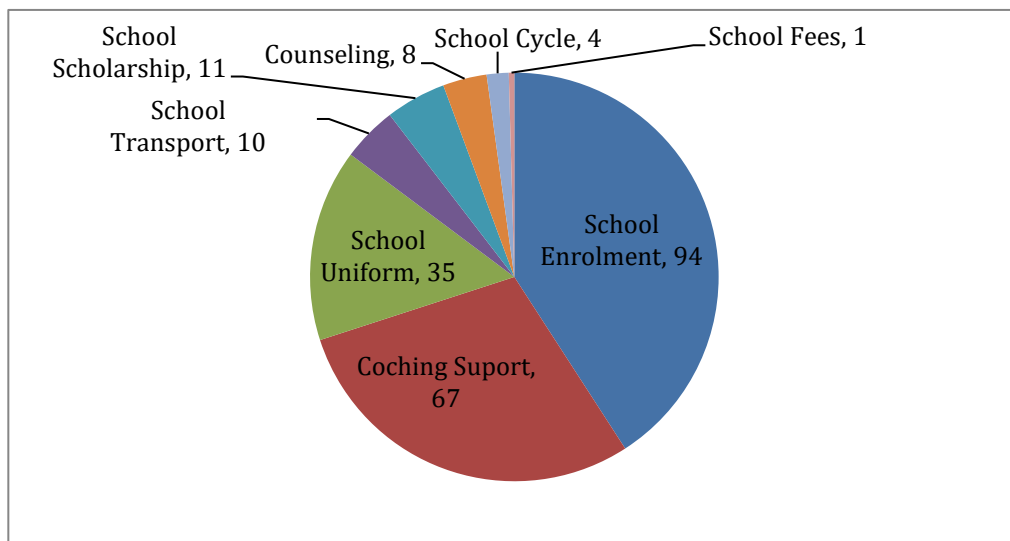
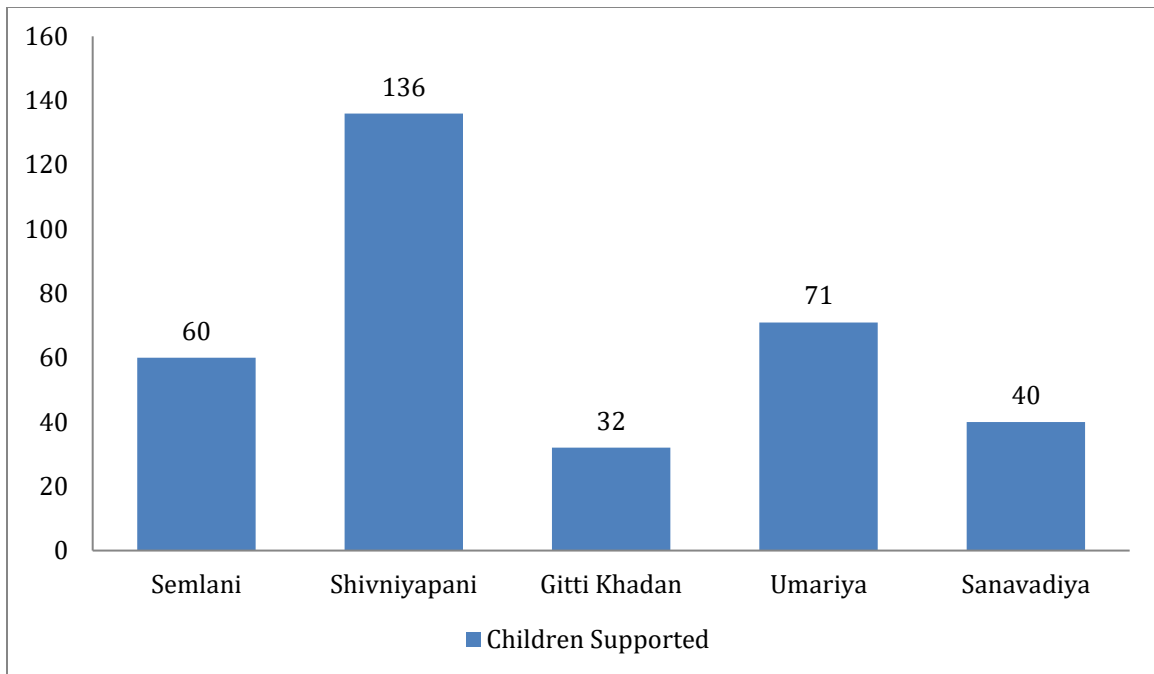
- **Case-Based Interventions:** Held regular **Baal Panchayat and VLCPC meetings** to identify, discuss, and resolve issues related to **school dropouts, child labor, and safety** on a case-by-case basis.

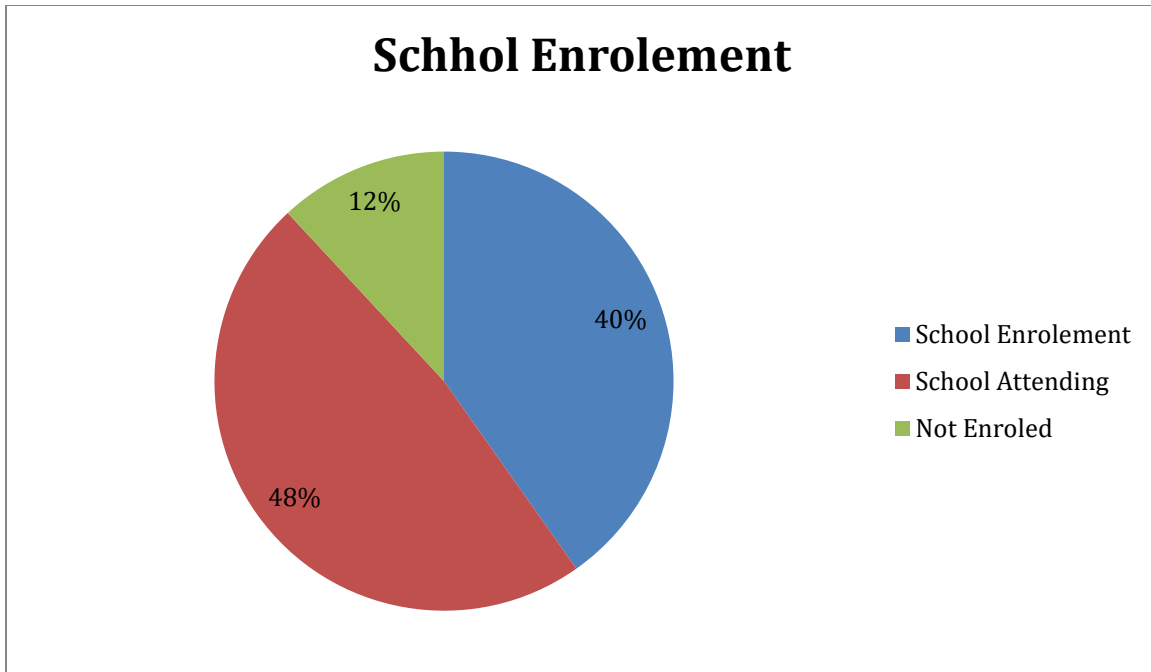
SN	Government Scheme Benefits to Identified Children and Their Family	Semlani (Alirajpur)	Shivniyapani (Barwani)	Gitti Khadan (Khandwa)	Umariya (Khargone)	Sanavadiya (Indore)	Total
Education Support							
1	School Admission or re enrolment	56	66	26	23	18	189
2	School Scholarship	1	6	0	0	4	11
3	School Cycle Scheme	3	1	0	0	0	4
4	Support of School Uniform	0	25	3	7	0	35
5	Support for School Transport	0	10	0	0	0	10
6	Education Fees Support	0	0	0	1	0	1
7	Support School Stationary	0	3	3	6	2	14
8	Caching Support	0	20	0	31	16	67
9	Counseling Support	0	5	0	3	0	8
Total		60	136	32	71	40	339
Children Not Attending School		20	9	0	16	11	56
% of Children in School		82%	93%	100%	82%	82%	88%

At the start of the intervention, 245 out of 470 children (52%) were identified as either never enrolled or dropped out of school. Through a multi-pronged strategy that addressed systemic, social, and logistical barriers, significant progress was achieved in enhancing children's access to education across five communities.

Key Results

- **94 children** were newly admitted into school. And 95 re admission were done.
- **67 children** received coaching support to bridge age-appropriate learning gaps.
- **35 children** received school uniforms, promoting dignity and regular attendance.
- **10 children** received transport support, ensuring safer access to distant schools.
- **14 children** were supported with school stationary items, reducing financial burden.
- **11 children** received school scholarships.
- **8 families** received counseling support to prioritize children's education.
- **4 children** benefited from school cycle schemes for mobility.
- **1 child** received direct educational fee support.





Visual Summary

- The **bar chart** highlights support was distributed across communities—Semlani, Shivniyapani, Gitti Khadan, Umariya and Sanavadiya showed the highest engagement.
- The pie chart 1- shows the total proportion of interventions support of schemes and education support to children
- The **pie chart 2-** shows that the children are not enrolled in school and proportion of school attending children.

Cumulative Outreach:

- **Percentage of Red-Flagged Children Reached: ~100% of identified cases had at least one intervention.**
- **100% Children are attending school in gitti khadan.**

This impact underscores the power of coordinated community action, backed by Baal Panchayats, VLCPC, schools, and local administration, to bring vulnerable children back into the fold of education and unlock their potential for a better future.

3.5. % of families accessing health services

Health Support

A significant lack of health awareness and cleanliness was observed in the target communities. Additionally, access to health insurance or any form of social security was extremely limited. Data collected from the field revealed that approximately **84% of children** did not possess any health insurance. Furthermore, **most families lacked coverage under any health or life security schemes**.

Another key issue identified was the exclusion of many community members from the **Public Distribution System (PDS)**, leaving them without access to subsidized food grains.

SN	Government Scheme Benefits to Identified Children and Their Family	Semlani (Alirajpur)	Shivniyapani (Barwani)	Gitti Khadan (Khandwa)	Umariya (Khargone)	Sanavadiya (Indore)	Total
Health Support							
1	Aayushman Health Insurance Scheme for Child	11	78	26	12	31	158
2	Aayushman Health Insurance Scheme for family member	48	115	65	38	4	270
3	PDS Scheme add name in Card	24	45	1	2	4	76
4	Sambal Scheme	40	84	58	22	11	215
5	E Shram Card	0	4	23	22	4	53
6	Health Card (ABHA)	0	22		43	15	80
Total Support		123	348	173	139	69	852

In five target communities, a critical lack of health awareness, cleanliness, and access to government welfare schemes was observed. Approximately 84% of children and most of their families lacked health insurance or any form of social or life security coverage. Many families also remained excluded from the Public Distribution System (PDS).

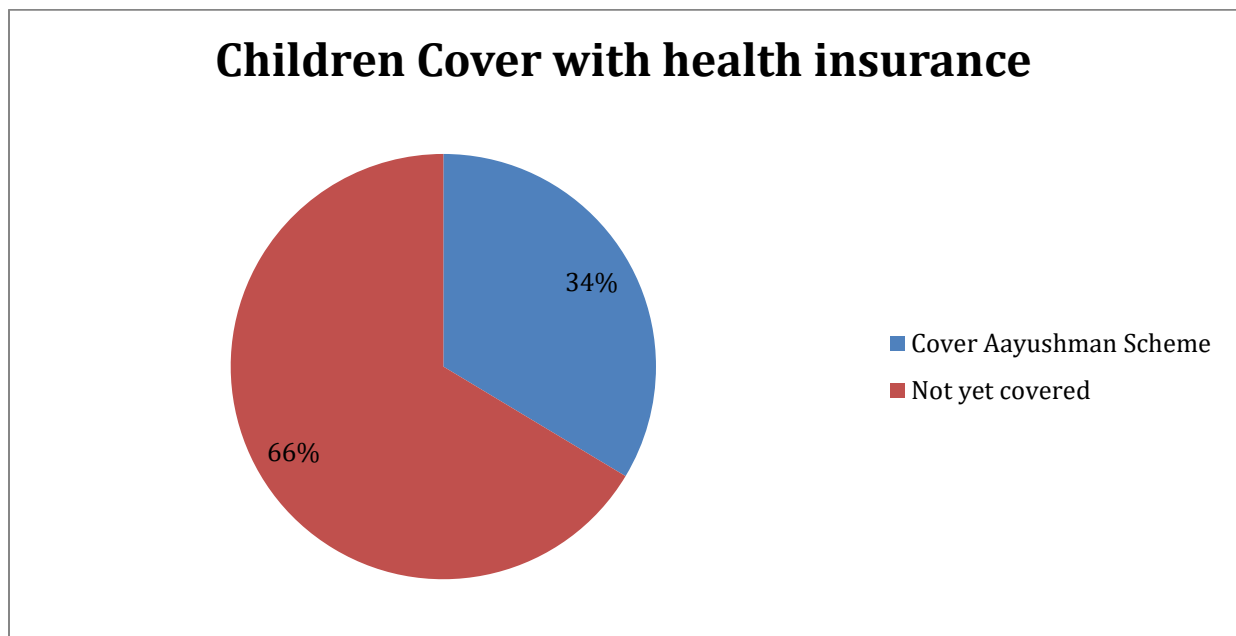
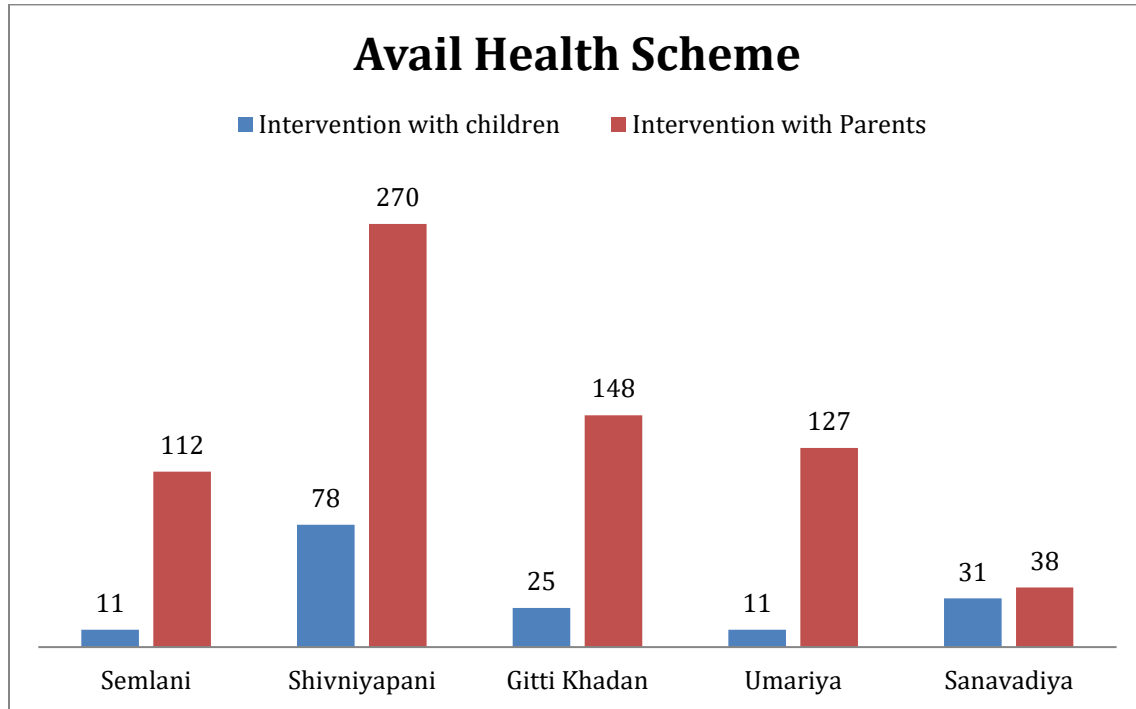
Interventions

To address these issues, the following government schemes were actively facilitated for children and their families:

1. **Ayushman Bharat - Health Insurance for Children**
2. **Ayushman Bharat - Family Coverage**
3. **Public Distribution System (PDS) – Ration Card Inclusion**
4. **Sambal Scheme – Social Security**
5. **E-Shram Card – Unorganized Workers**
6. **ABHA Health Card – Digital Health ID**

Impact Summary

A total of **852 scheme benefits** were successfully linked across all communities. The visualizations below illustrate the reach and effectiveness of these interventions.



Visual Impact Overview

- **Bar Graph:** Shows the total number of interventions conducted in each location with children and parents.
- **Pie chart:** Shows the children are cover with health insurance and many of are yet required

3.Community and System Strengthening

	KPI	Definition	Purpose
3.1	Number of Baal Panchayat and VLCPC meetings conducted	Tracked monthly in each target village	To monitor community-led child protection engagement
3.2	% of stakeholders trained (PRI, CWC, Teachers, AWWs, etc.)	On child protection and FBAC principles	To evaluate institutional capacity-building
3.3	% of youth engaged in community development or leadership roles	Participating in trainings, campaigns, or local planning	To measure long-term civic engagement

3.1. Number of Baal Panchayat and VLCPC meetings conducted

Baal Panchayat Impact

During the project period, **5 Baal Panchayats** were successfully formed across the five intervention communities. These platforms empowered children to take active roles in ensuring child safety, education, and rights awareness at the village level.

- A total of **80 children** hold leadership positions (President, Ministers, etc.) across these Baal Panchayats and regularly participate in community monitoring and advocacy.
- Baal Panchayat members conducted **door-to-door visits**, peer discussions, and school engagement activities, which significantly contributed to:
 - **Increased school enrollment** rates.
 - **Reduction in school dropout** cases.
 - **100% school enrollment** achieved in some villages.
 - **44 dropout children identified**, with causes documented (e.g., migration, child labor); re-enrollment efforts are underway.
 - Awareness on **child rights, child labor, and substance abuse** improved through regular Baal Panchayat meetings and campaigns.

“Children leading change”: Baal Panchayats are now recognized as crucial voices in community-level decision-making and advocacy.

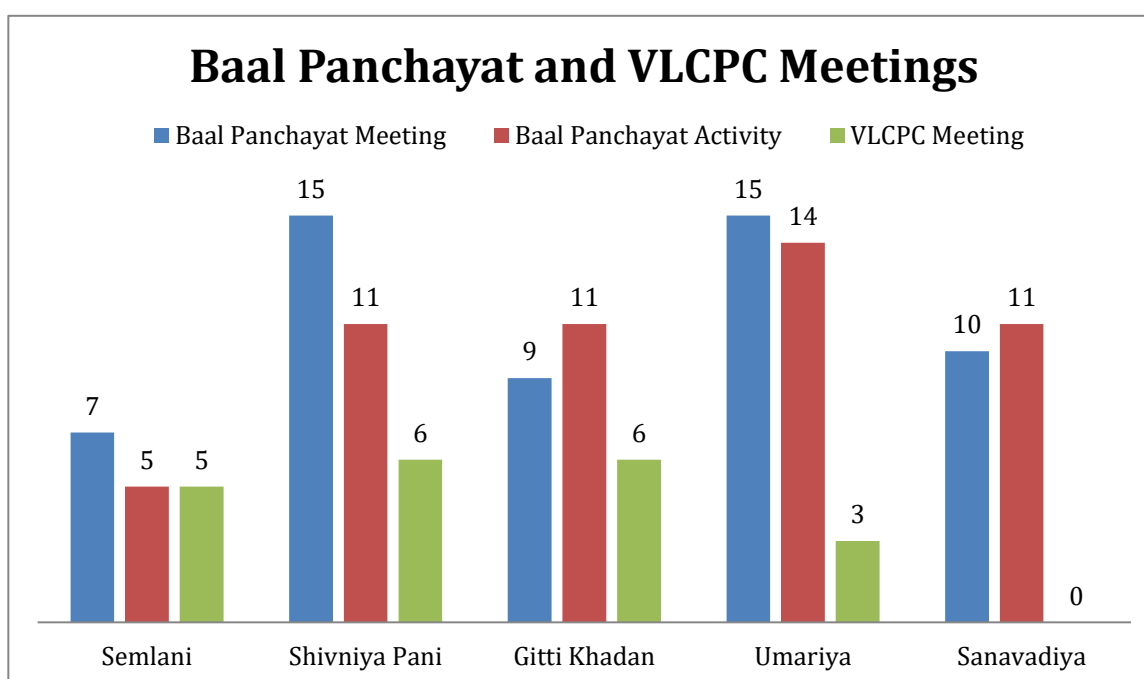
Village Level Child Protection Committee (VLCPC) Activation and Achievements

Out of the five target communities, **4 VLCPCs** have been **reactivated and made functional** through capacity-building sessions and consistent engagement.

Key accomplishments include:

- **Police, WCD Department, and local institutions actively participated** in VLCPC meetings, enhancing inter-departmental coordination.
- Stakeholders demonstrated a **clear understanding of their roles** in child protection response and case management.
- **Mid-Day Meal programs were restarted** in certain schools after VLCPC intervention.
- Awareness campaigns led to **increased school admissions and regular attendance**.
- **Issues such as child abuse, neglect, and unsafe migration** were raised and discussed for the first time in some villages.
- **Collaboration with Baal Panchayats** strengthened efforts to identify and prevent child labor and address school dropouts.

The formation and activation of Baal Panchayats and VLCPCs significantly contributed to a **community-owned child protection system**. These bodies not only increased **awareness and accountability** but also promoted **children’s participation** as central to the solution-building process. The synergy between children, community members, and institutional stakeholders has led to sustainable and replicable practices that safeguard children’s rights at the grassroots level.



Visual Impact Overview

- **Bar Graph:** Shows the total number of interventions conducted in each location with.

3.2.% of stakeholders trained (PRI, CWC, Teachers, AWWs, etc.)

Strengthen the Stake Holders

To strengthen child protection and promote family-based care, eight specialized training sessions were conducted across five districts—Alirajpur, Burhanpur, Jhabua, Khandwa, and Khargone—in collaboration with district authorities. These sessions reached **470 participants**, including DPOs, CWC and JJB members, CDPOs, Anganwadi supervisors, CCI staff, and NGO representatives.

The training focused on **Mission Vatsalya**, **Family Strengthening (FS)**, and **Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC)**, emphasizing the family as the most nurturing environment for children. Key topics included kinship and foster care, reintegration of institutionalized children, and preventing family separation. The sessions also fostered **cross-sector collaboration**, enhancing coordination between government and civil society for more effective child protection.

Impact

The impact of the trainings was notable. Many participants reported a shift in perspective, acknowledging the importance of keeping children within family environments whenever possible. The presence of district officials and grassroots workers in the same training space also enabled better alignment and communication across departments. Furthermore, the training sessions helped to identify local champions who could lead future initiatives and facilitate follow-up capacity-building efforts.

Key Themes Covered

- Introduction to **Mission Vatsalya** and its goals.
- **Child rights and development** within the family setting.
- Importance of **Family Strengthening** to prevent unnecessary separation.
- Understanding and implementing **Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC)** models such as:
 - **Kinship care**
 - **Foster care**
 - **Community-based foster homes**
- **Roles and responsibilities** of different child protection functionaries.
- **Reintegration strategies** for children transitioning from institutional to family-based care.

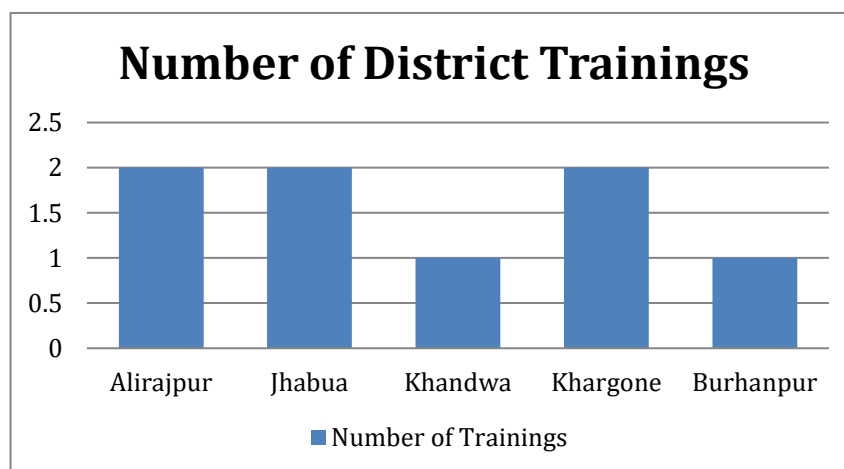
Impact and Outcomes

- **Mindset Shift:** Participants acknowledged the critical need to move from institutional responses to family- and community-based care solutions.
- **Knowledge Building:** Many participants expressed increased clarity on FBAC mechanisms and their own roles in enabling family strengthening.
- **Inter-agency Coordination:** The presence of varied departments and actors in each training enabled cross-sector dialogue, facilitating better coordination and convergence.
- **Commitment to Reform:** The sessions inspired renewed commitment among officials and CCI staff to explore sustainable, child-centric care solutions.

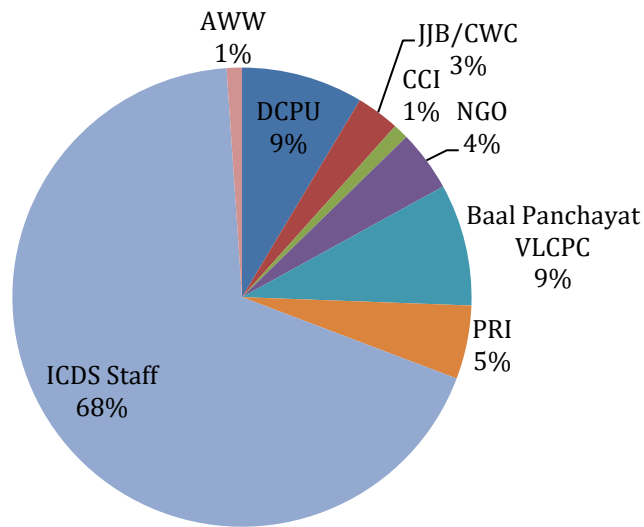
Overall, this initiative marked a significant step forward in building a child protection ecosystem that prioritizes family-based care over institutionalization. By equipping stakeholders with the right knowledge, tools, and mindset, the program laid a strong foundation for sustainable reintegration practices and the long-term well-being of children across the participating districts.

Stakeholders are trained in different District and Village Level Trainings

DCPU	JJB/CWC Members	CCI staff	NGO	VCPCs	Bal Panchayat	AWW	PRIs	ICDS Staff	Total
48	17	6	24	62	48	6	29	381	621



Number of Stakeholders Trained



Visual Impact Overview

- **Bar Graph:** Shows the total number of training conducted in each location.
- **Pie chart:** Shows the Proposition of Stakeholders trained .

3.3. % of youth engaged in community development or leadership roles

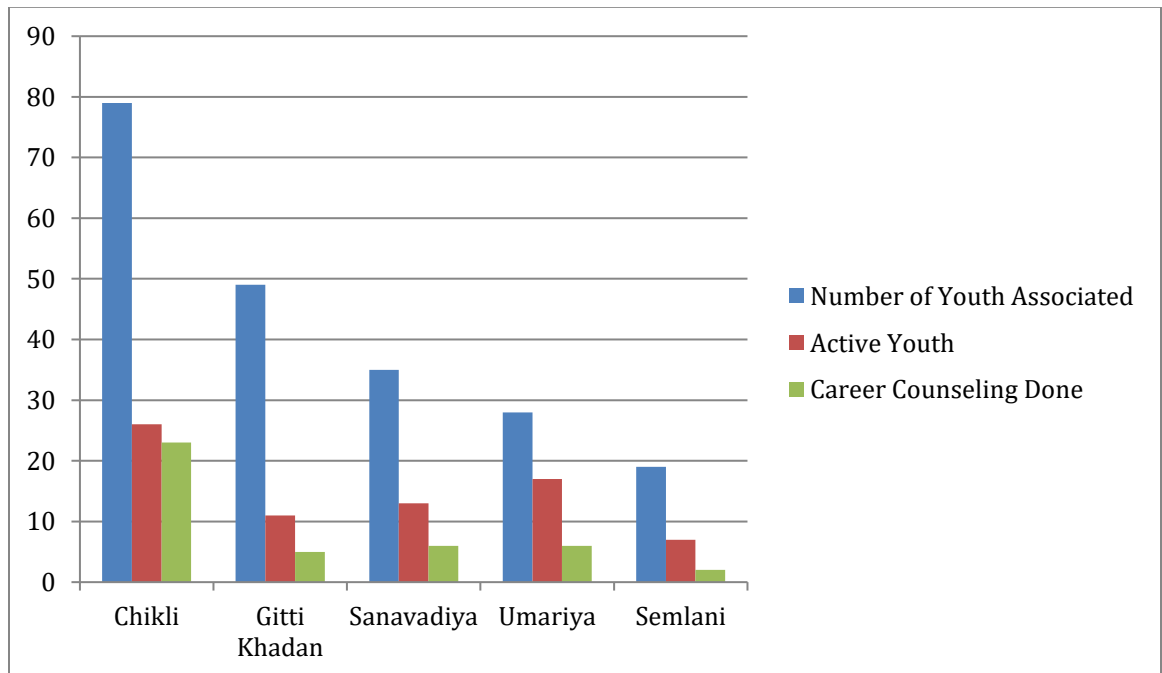
Youth Engagement

Youth play a critical role in shaping resilient and progressive communities. Recognizing this, the project actively engages **young people aged 18 to 25** in leadership roles, community development, and decision-making processes. The aim is to empower youth as **agents of change**, capable of addressing social challenges and leading sustainable development initiatives.

The **Youth Program** focuses on enhancing their skills in **livelihood, entrepreneurship, and self-sustainability**, while also promoting their participation in community planning and governance. By creating platforms for **youth-led actions and innovation**, the initiative helps young individuals find solutions to local issues and take ownership of community welfare.

Through regular mentoring, exposure sessions, and leadership training, the program ensures that youth are not just beneficiaries but **active contributors to development**. Their involvement inspires others and reinforces the idea of a community driven by the vision and energy of its young leaders.

Community	Number of Youth Associated	Active Youth	Number of Youth participants in Career Counseling
Chikli	79	26	23
Gitti Khadan	49	11	5
Sanavadiya	35	13	6
Umariya	28	18	6
Semlani	19	7	2
Total	210	75	42



Visual Impact Overview

- **Bar Graph:** Shows the total number of youth on role and number of active youth.

Case Studies / Stories of Change

Scheme Benefit changed life of four children

Village: Chikli-Shivniyapani

District: Barwani

Background:

Mohan, a daily wage laborer, lived in a remote village with his wife, four children, and elderly mother. The family resided in a small mud house, vulnerable to collapse during heavy rains or strong winds. Their livelihood depended on a small piece of farmland with no irrigation facility, making them reliant on rain-fed agriculture. With Mohan being the sole earner, it was difficult to meet even the basic needs of the family.

Two of Mohan's children had dropped out of school because the nearest school was far, and there was no transportation. Another child was enrolled at the local Anganwadi, and one was in Class 2. Due to Mohan's work burden, he was unable to support his children's education or focus on their overall development.

Challenges Faced:

- Unsafe and temporary housing structure made of mud.
- Lack of accurate basic documents like Aadhaar, Samagra ID, and ration cards.
- Children's education was disrupted due to distance and poor financial condition.
- No access to government welfare schemes due to document errors.
- Sole dependence on manual labor with no alternative livelihood support.

Intervention and Support:

With the support of our organization and coordination with local government departments, several steps were taken to support Mohan's family:

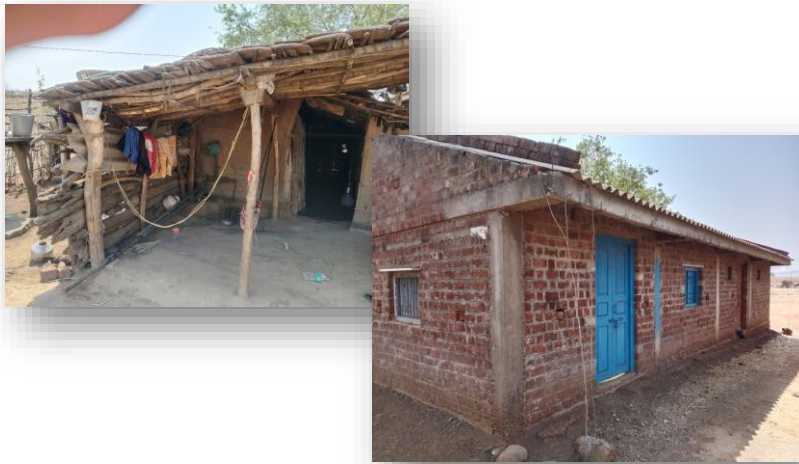
1. Legal Documentation:
 - Corrected errors in Aadhaar cards for all family members.
 - Completed e-KYC and linked all members to the Samagra ID system.
 - Included all children's names in the ration card, ensuring food security through the PDS Scheme.
2. Government Scheme Linkages:
 - Applied for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) – the family received the first installment and began building a safe, permanent home.
 - Enrolled under Ayushman Bharat Yojana for access to free health services.
 - Applied for Sambal Yojana and e-Shram Card for labor welfare benefits.
 - Initiated the process for PM Kisan Samman Nidhi for additional income support.

3. Education Support:

- Arranged school transportation for the two children who had dropped out.
- Successfully re-enrolled them in school and coordinated with teachers to track their progress.
- Engaged with the Anganwadi to ensure regular attendance and care for the youngest child.

4. Livelihood and Future Planning:

- Counseling sessions were held with Mohan and his wife to explore skill-based livelihood options.
- Linked the family to job training and livelihood promotion schemes.



Impact:

- The family now lives in a safe, newly constructed house that protects them from rain and storms.
- All four children are now enrolled in educational institutions and regularly attend classes.
- The family receives monthly grain rations for all members under the PDS scheme.
- Access to health services has improved through the Ayushman card.
- Mohan now has a formal identity as a laborer under the e-Shram scheme and is eligible for multiple labor welfare benefits.
- The family's income stability and dignity have increased with growing access to government programs.

Conclusion:

Mohan's story reflects how coordinated efforts, timely support, and access to government schemes can transform a family's life. From a vulnerable mud house to a strong concrete home, from school dropouts to active learners, and from dependency to self-reliance – this journey shows the real power of community-led change and holistic family empowerment.

Hardship to Success Ms. Radha Bai

Introduction: In the heart of Gitti Khadan, District Khandwa, Ms. Radha Bai, a determined single mother, has faced numerous challenges with unwavering resilience. Her story of perseverance and the transformative impact of support exemplify the profound difference that targeted intervention can make.

Background and Family Struggle: Ms. Radha Bai and her two children endured severe hardships daily. They lived in a fragile and unsafe dwelling, barely protected from the elements. Ms. Radha Bai's meager daily wages were insufficient to meet the family's needs, leading to severe economic strain. Their living conditions deteriorated further during adverse weather, forcing them to seek temporary refuge elsewhere. To ensure her children had a roof over their heads, Ms. Radha Bai was often compelled to send them to other care institutions.



Intervention Proposal: Recognizing the urgency of their situation, we proposed a comprehensive intervention to alleviate their suffering. Our primary objective was to provide a secure room with a shade and cemented walls, offering safety and comfort during emergencies.



Support: During our visit, we learned of Ms. Radha Bai's dream of building a permanent home. Despite her difficult circumstances, she had been diligently collecting bricks and saving funds towards this dream. Based on a thorough needs assessment, we offered to support the construction of a pakka house. The estimated cost for this development was ₹65,200, with an initial financial aid of ₹25,000 proposed, and the remainder to be contributed by Ms. Radha Bai. She agreed to this proposal with great enthusiasm.



Outcome: With the support of our organization and her efforts the dream of a pakka house became a reality. The entire village rallied around her, contributing labor and resources to complete the construction. The new house not only provided a secure and stable home but also restored hope and dignity to Ms. Radha Bai and her children.



Celebration and Gratitude: Ms. Radha Bai graciously invited us to see her new home. When we arrived, we were met with a warm welcome and a radiant smile. Her gratitude was heartfelt as she expressed her appreciation for the organization and team members who made this transformation possible. The joy and relief in her eyes were a testament to the profound impact of our intervention.



The success of this initiative has significantly improved the living conditions of Ms. Radha Bai and her children, preventing further separation and providing them with hope for a better future. This story highlights the importance of community support and the difference it can make in overcoming adversity. Together, we have created a meaningful change in their lives, offering them a brighter and more secure future.

Case Story: From Crisis to Confidence —

The Journey of Pramod and Deepak Jambekar

Name of Children: Pramod Jambekar and Deepak Jambekar

Ages: 23 years and 20 years

Education: BBA in Hotel Management, B.Com

Date of Admission to CCI Aarambh: 29 March 2009

Age at Admission: 8 years (Pramod) and 6 years (Deepak)

Village: Musakhedi, Sahin Nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh

Background

In 2009, Pramod and Deepak faced a life-altering tragedy — the loss of their father and a mother who was battling mental illness. Left vulnerable and without stable support, the two young boys found temporary shelter with their uncle. However, financial constraints and the lack of basic educational facilities in their village threatened to strip them of any chance at a better future. The children had never attended school and were on the brink of being forgotten by the system.

Recognizing the urgency of their situation, they were admitted to **CCI Aarambh**, where a new chapter of their lives began.

Life at CCI

During their 12-year stay at CCI Aarambh, both children showed exceptional growth and transformation. Pramod, in particular, stood out for his creativity and energy. From a young age, he displayed a keen interest in kitchen activities — a spark that would later shape his career path. His academic journey began with curiosity and a hunger to learn, eventually propelling him to pursue a degree in Hotel Management.

Deepak, equally motivated, embraced education with discipline and determination. He pursued commerce and aspired to build a career in accounting.

Reintegration through Family-Based Alternative Care (F-BAC)

In 2019, as part of Aarambh's **Family-Based Care (FBC)** initiative, Pramod and Deepak were successfully reintegrated with their extended family. The process involved:

- Adding their names to the family's **ration card**.
- Providing **parenting skill training** to caregivers.
- Conducting sessions on **child rights, child protection, and positive social relationships**.

- Offering **life skills education** to both children for their personal and social development.

Economic Empowerment and Household Stability

To strengthen the family's financial foundation, Aarambh provided **livelihood training**. Over time, this contributed to the family's improved economic condition:

- **Pramod** now runs his own **catering business**, which thrives especially during wedding and festive seasons.
- **Deepak** is employed in a **reputed accounting firm**, demonstrating both skill and dedication.

Support in Education and Health

Education continued to be a priority even after reintegration:

- **College fees** were covered to ensure uninterrupted learning.
- During the **COVID-19 pandemic**, both brothers were equipped with **tablets** for online education.

In terms of **health and mental well-being**:

- Sessions on **health, hygiene, and nutrition** were held for the family.
- The family was linked with the **Ayushman Bharat health insurance** scheme.
- Their mother received consistent **PSS support** and treatment through government hospital linkages. Her mental health has significantly improved and is now stable.

Present Situation (2025)

Today, **Pramod and Deepak represent a story of resilience, transformation, and success**:

- **Pramod** is a confident young entrepreneur managing his own catering business. His work keeps him so engaged during the season that he rarely finds time to return home — a testament to his business's success.
- **Deepak** works diligently in an accounting firm and continues his higher education, shaping a stable and secure future.

The story of Pramod and Deepak is a powerful example of how **timely intervention, consistent care, and strategic support** can turn adversity into opportunity. From vulnerable children at risk to empowered young professionals, their journey reflects the success of **child-centered care and reintegration through F-BAC**.

They are not just survivors — they are thriving individuals shaping their own destinies.

Success story on Transition of Child-

Rekha (Name Changed), a young girl, found herself in a tough situation. She had run away from home twice because of personal and family issues. Things got worse when her mother refused to bring her back, creating a big gap between them. Rekha was on the edge of being separated from her family, and the case needed quick and careful action.

On the order of **CWC Khandwa in charge**, we took up Rekha's case to stop the separation and help the family come together again.

How We Helped Rekha and Her Family

Starting

the

Process:

With help from the **One-Stop Centre**, we began counseling sessions to find a solution that would keep Rekha safe and bring her closer to her family.

Counseling Sessions:

- Rekha and her mother had both individual and joint counseling sessions.
- We explained to Rekha why family is important and how being away from home could put her in danger.
- Her mother was guided to understand her role as a parent and how her care and support could change Rekha's life.

Helping the Mother Understand:

- The mother was told how leaving Rekha alone in an unsafe environment could harm her future.
- She was encouraged to approach the situation with patience, love, and understanding.

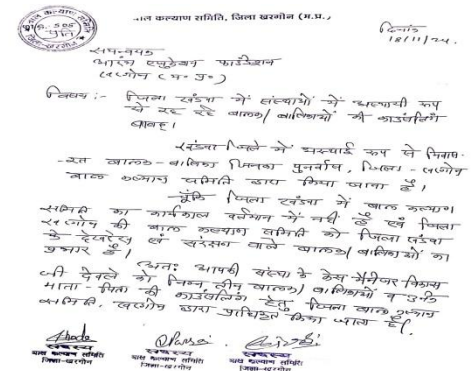
Giving Time and Support:

- The mother was given four days to think about her decision, while Rekha was provided with temporary care in CCI and emotional support to help her feel stable.

A Happy Ending

After four days, Rekha's mother decided to take her back home. Rekha realized her mistakes and promised to never leave her family again. The family also committed to giving Rekha the extra love and attention she needs.

This story shows how understanding, patience, and the right support can solve even difficult problems. Rekha's family is now reunited, and she is safe at home.



Challenges Faced

While the FS-FBAC project achieved considerable success in improving child protection outcomes, several practical and systemic challenges were encountered during the course of its implementation. These challenges highlight critical areas that require continuous attention, policy support, and cross-sector collaboration.

1. Documentation and Identity Barriers

A significant number of children and families lacked essential legal identity documents such as Aadhaar cards, birth certificates, and Samagra IDs. The absence of these documents not only delayed access to government welfare schemes but also complicated school enrollment, health service utilization, and financial inclusion. In some cases, errors in documentation further stalled progress. Biometric fingerprint changes due to labor work and frequently changing mobile numbers made eKYC and document correction challenging and time-consuming. Additionally, documentation centers were often located far from villages, leading to high transport costs and loss of daily wages, especially when repeated visits were required. This discouraged many families from pursuing essential legal processes.

2. Low Awareness and Literacy

A significant challenge in community development, particularly in tribal and rural areas, is the low level of awareness and literacy among parents and caregivers. Many families lack understanding of fundamental child rights and child protection principles. As a result, emotional, social, and developmental needs of children are often overlooked.

In households where both parents work, children are frequently left unattended for long hours, exposing them to increased risks of neglect, abuse, and unsafe environments. This lack of supervision has led to concerning trends, including older children mimicking abusive behaviors towards younger ones and the early use of addictive substances such as tobacco, local intoxicants, or inhalants.

3. Housing and Infrastructure Gaps

In districts like **Alirajpur** and **Barwani**, many families live in unsafe, temporary housing structures made of mud, thatch, or other fragile materials. These inadequate shelters expose children and families to significant health risks, physical insecurity, and heightened vulnerability during adverse weather conditions such as heavy rain or strong winds. During such events, families face emergency situations, often requiring immediate evacuation or support due to the collapse or flooding of their homes.

Although government schemes like the **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY)** aim to address housing insecurity, several barriers persist. Delays in the sanctioning process, mismatches in documentation, lack of awareness, and resource constraints often prevent families from transitioning to safe and permanent housing in a timely manner. These structural

issues continue to compromise the safety, dignity, and overall well-being of vulnerable children and their families.

4. Migration and Transitory Populations

Seasonal migration in search of work disrupted continuity in children's education and family engagement. Families moving frequently for labor could not follow through with regular school attendance, scheme applications, or counseling sessions, weakening the impact of preventive care models.

5. School Dropout and Learning Gaps

Although school enrollment improved, children struggled with grade-level learning due to past absences and a lack of foundational literacy. Many children expressed low self-esteem and reluctance to return to the classroom, highlighting the need for more robust bridge education support.

6. Limited Health Coverage

Access to health insurance schemes like Ayushman Bharat was uneven across districts. Several families lacked awareness or faced rejection due to technical errors. Many children and adults suffered from undiagnosed or chronic health conditions without systematic medical follow-up.

7. Gender-Specific Challenges

Girls faced distinct barriers, including early marriage pressures, safety concerns during school travel, and lack of menstrual hygiene support. In some areas, families prioritized boys for education or benefits, making it harder to implement gender-equitable interventions.

8. Coordination with Institutions and PRIs

While structures like **Village-Level Child Protection Committees (VLCPCs)** and **Baal Panchayats** have been formed in many communities, effective coordination among key institutional stakeholders—including schools, Anganwadi centers, Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), and child protection committees—remains a persistent challenge.

To ensure a child-friendly and protective environment at the village level, **regular coordination meetings, clear role definition, and ongoing capacity-building** for members of Baal Panchayats and VLCPCs are essential. Strengthening inter-departmental linkages and accountability mechanisms will also be crucial in achieving sustainable impact.

9. Youth Engagement Limitations

While youth programs showed promise, sustaining youth participation was challenging due to competing livelihood priorities and migration for work. The initial enthusiasm sometimes waned without structured follow-up or income-generating pathways.

10. Systemic Capacity Gaps

The child protection workforce—especially in rural and tribal areas—lacked regular training and exposure to family-based care models. Government functionaries often remained institution-centric in their outlook, requiring ongoing mindset change and orientation on FBAC principles.

These challenges underscore the need for a more integrated, resilient, and responsive ecosystem. Addressing these issues will require both bottom-up community strengthening and top-down policy reforms. The next chapter outlines specific recommendations to overcome these barriers and scale the FS-FBAC model sustainably.

Recommendations

Recommendations and Next Steps

Based on the practical and systemic challenges encountered during the implementation of the FS-FBAC (Family Strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care) model, the following recommendations aim to address gaps, reinforce existing efforts, and enhance the sustainability of child protection outcomes:

1. Strengthen Documentation and Identity Access

- **Set up periodic documentation camps** at the village level in coordination with government departments to reduce travel time and cost for families.
- **Deploy mobile documentation services** for remote or high-migration areas to provide doorstep eKYC, Aadhaar updates, and corrections.
- Establish **Help Desks in partnership with Panchayats** to handle follow-up on errors and scheme-related support. Provide guidance for all govt. schemes and process.

2. Community-Based Awareness Campaigns

- Develop **localized IEC (Information, Education, Communication) materials** on child rights, child protection laws, and positive parenting in tribal languages and formats (audio-visual, street plays).
- Conduct **regular parent engagement sessions** in communities and workplaces, especially for migrant laborers.

- Introduce **child safety modules** in school and Baal Panchayat meetings, with peer-led activities to reduce substance use and abuse among children.

3. Improve Housing Security

- Collaborate with PRIs to **prioritize vulnerable families** in PMAY beneficiary lists and track applications through local committees.
- Advocate for **simplified documentation processes** and grievance redressal mechanisms at the block level for housing schemes.
- Providing the **emergency relief support** to families as the family are not eligible criteria of PMAY scheme.

4. Address Migration Challenges

- Create a **migrant tracking database** at the village level with details of children and families migrating seasonally.
- Coordinate with labor contractors and employers to **facilitate temporary educational access** (e.g., mobile schools or bridge centers) at migration destinations.
- Ensure **portability of entitlements** like ration cards, health cards, and school documents through linkage with Samagra or One Nation-One Ration systems.

5. Educational Reintegration and Learning Recovery

- Implement **remedial and bridge education centers** in collaboration with government schools to help children regain foundational skills.
- Train youth and community volunteers as **learning mentors** to support out-of-school and dropout children in home-based learning environments.
- Use **play-based and activity-oriented methods** to re-engage reluctant learners and build confidence.

6. Expand Health Access and Insurance Coverage

Improving health access and awareness is essential for child and family well-being, especially in remote areas. The following steps are recommended:

- **Organize Ayushman Bharat Enrollment Drives** Partner with the health department to conduct village-level drives, ensuring families are prepared with required documents.
- **Establish Health Follow-Up Systems** Involve ASHAs and caseworkers to track malnutrition, chronic illnesses, and ensure timely follow-up care.
- **Promote Health Screening in Schools and Anganwadis** Conduct regular check-ups to detect early signs of illness, growth delays, or deficiencies in children.
- **Hold Community Health Camps and Awareness Sessions.** Organize periodic health camps offering free check-ups and pair them with awareness sessions on hygiene, nutrition, and common diseases.
- **Improve Health Literacy** Use simple IEC materials, community media, and local outreach to educate families about health practices and available schemes.

7. Promote Gender-Responsive Interventions

- Introduce **girls' safety and empowerment modules** in schools and Baal Panchayats, focusing on rights, hygiene, and leadership.
- Ensure **gender parity in scheme access** by actively monitoring beneficiary lists and consulting mothers and adolescent girls.
- Advocate for **menstrual hygiene support programs**, including supply distribution and awareness sessions for both girls and their parents.

8. Institutional Convergence and Capacity Building

- Facilitate **monthly convergence meetings** among PRIs, VLCPCs, Anganwadis, and schools with clear agendas, action items, and accountability tracking.
- Roll out **training modules on FBAC, child rights, and case management** for frontline workers and PRI representatives.
- Establish a **child protection resource center** at the district level to provide ongoing technical support to committees and community workers.

9. Sustain Youth Participation

- Link youth engagement programs with **livelihood training, internships, and leadership development** to ensure continued motivation.
- Form **youth collectives with rotating leadership** to distribute responsibility and maintain long-term interest.
- Promote **youth-led social action projects** on local issues, supported by small seed funds or incentives.

10. Build Government System Capacities

- Conduct **joint training workshops for district-level officials** on family-based care, deinstitutionalization, and preventive casework.
- Recommend creation of a **dedicated child protection cell** within Panchayats to institutionalize FBAC activities at the grassroots.
- Advocate for **policy revisions to integrate FBAC models** into state-level child protection frameworks and budgets.

11. Monitoring, Learning, and Scaling

- Establish a **real-time data monitoring system** for tracking child protection indicators and service delivery outcomes.
- Document and share **best practices and success stories** across districts for peer learning.
- Partner with academic institutions for **impact evaluation studies** to build an evidence base for scaling the FS-FBAC model statewide.

These recommendations are designed to not only address current bottlenecks but also to lay the foundation for **systemic and sustainable improvements** in community-based child protection. Cross-sectoral commitment, resource investment, and community participation will be essential to advance the vision of **every child growing up in a safe, nurturing, and family-based environment**.

Conclusion

The FS-FBAC project has made meaningful strides in strengthening community-based child protection systems and promoting family-based care as a sustainable alternative to institutionalization. Through a combination of family support, community mobilization, institutional coordination, and access to government schemes, the intervention has improved the safety, stability, and overall well-being of vulnerable children across multiple districts.

Key achievements include increased awareness of child rights, improved school enrollment, access to legal identity documents, and better linkage with health and social protection schemes. The formation of Baal Panchayats, VLCPCs, and youth groups further fostered child participation and community accountability.

However, the impact assessment also highlights critical challenges—ranging from documentation delays and unsafe housing to migration, learning gaps, and systemic capacity limitations—that require sustained attention. These findings reinforce the need for stronger convergence between government departments, regular training of stakeholders, deeper community engagement, and policy-level commitment.

In conclusion, the FS-FBAC model demonstrates that with targeted support, community involvement, and institutional alignment, even the most marginalized children can thrive in safe, nurturing, and family-based environments. Scaling this model, with appropriate adaptations and resources, holds great promise for strengthening child protection systems across rural and tribal India.

Annexures-

Appreciation Letter from DPO on training program.



कार्यालय जिला कार्यक्रम अधिकारी,

महिला एवं बाल विकास, जिला बुरुहानपुर म.प्र.
नवीन संयुक्त चलेक्टर संकुल प्रथम तल बहदुरपुर रोड जिला बुरुहानपुर 450331
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क्र./मबावि/मिशन वात्सल्य/2024/ 1868

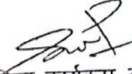
बुरुहानपुर दिनांक- ०५/१०/2024

प्रमाण - पत्र

बुरुहानपुर जिले में संस्था मिरेकल फाउंडेशन इंडिया एवं संस्था आरंभ के के संयुक्त सहयोग से दिनांक 03 और 04 अक्टूबर 2024 को "परिवार सशक्तिकरण और परिवार आधारित वैकल्पिक देखभाल कार्यक्रम" के विषय पर आयोजित दो दिवसीय प्रशिक्षण कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया गया। जिसमें महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग, स्वास्थ्य विभाग, किशोर न्याय बोर्ड, श्रम विभाग, आदिवासी विकास विभाग, पुलिस विभाग, सामाजिक न्याय विभाग, जिला पंचायत विभाग, शिक्षा विभाग, जनसंपर्क विभाग, मीडिया एवं अन्य विभाग के अधिकारी कर्मचारियों की सहभागिता इसे सफल और सार्थक बनाया।

इस प्रशिक्षण के दौरान आपके द्वारा तत्परता और समर्पण के साथ अपने अनुभव साझा कर प्रतिभागियों को बच्चों से जुड़े कानून एवं अन्य जानकारी प्रदाय की गई।

आपके द्वारा किया गया कार्य प्रशंसनीय है। बाल कल्याण, परिवार सशक्तिकरण और बच्चों के लिए वैकल्पिक देखभाल व्यवस्थाओं को मजबूत बनाने की दिशा में यह प्रशिक्षण एक महत्वपूर्ण कदम है।


जिला कार्यक्रम अधिकारी
महिला एवं बाल विकास
जिला- बुरुहानपुर

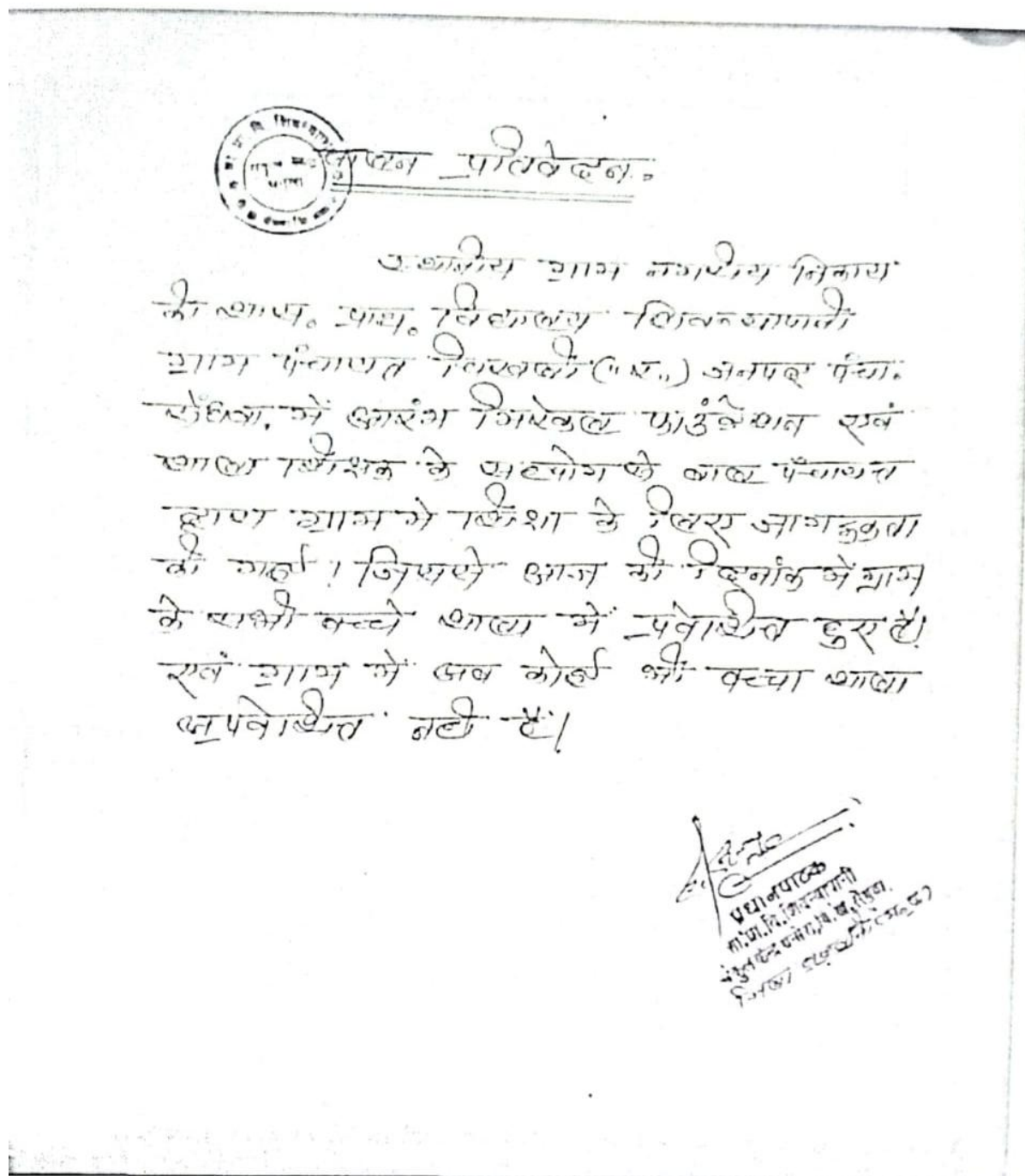
**Appriciation Letter by Village Serpanch on Exposer Training Program for Baal
Pancayat Children -**

ग्राम गिररी खदान में आरंभ और सिरकल
काउंटेजान के सहयोग से बाल पंचायत
द्वारा ग्राम में शिक्षा के लिए
जागरूकता की गई जिसमें आप की
दिनांक में ग्राम के सभी बच्चे शाला
में प्रवेशित हुए हैं। एवं ग्राम
में अब कोई बच्चा भी बच्चा शाला
अप्रवेशित नहीं है।

—र-धान- गिररी खदान
दिनांक - 6/9/2024


ग्राम.अध्यक्ष
नवीन प्र.श.गिररी खदान बाबलिनपुर
फाईल कोड : 23290702102

Appreciation by School on 100% School enrollment of children through Baal Panchayat activeness.



Notification by Panchayat on formation of Baal Panchayat and VLCPC

कार्यालय ग्राम पंचायत

भावाण्डा

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जनपद

जिला

क्रमांक 20/मा.पं./2024



दिनांक 20/03/2024

ग्राम पंचायत - उटावद

तह. कसरावद - खरगोन

सरपंच

श्रीमती मनीषा छितर माड़गे



निवास
ग्राम उटावद
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जिला-खरगोन (म.प्र.)
पिन कोड 452001
संपर्क- 9340572224

दिनांक... 03/07/2024..

प्र.

प्रति,

बाल विकास परिशोजना अधिकारी
बाल विकास परिशोजना
महिला एवं बाल विकास विभाग
कसरावद (खरगोन) जिला-खरगोन (म.प्र.)

विषय - ग्राम स्तर पर बाल संरक्षण समिति के गठन
की सूचना एवं बाल पंचायत का गठन किया गया।

महोदय, सावेनय निवेदन है कि, किशोर न्याय अधिनियम
2015 के सिद्धांतों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मिशन वाटलन्स
के तहत ग्राम उमरिया पंचायत उटावद में आरंभ संस्था
और मिरेकल फाउंडेशन के सहयोग से ग्राम स्तर पर
बाल संरक्षण समिति और बाल पंचायत का गठन किया
गया।

उपरोक्त समिति संलग्न सूची आपकी ओर सादर
प्रेषित है।

प्रतिलिपी - जिला कार्यक्रम अधिकारी खरगोन।



[Signature]
साधु
ग्राम पंचायत - उटावद
खरगोन

मनीषा
सरपंच
ग्राम पंचायत, उटावद
खरगोन

निवास - ग्राम उटावद, तह. कसरावद, जिला खरगोन पोस्ट बोरावा (म.प्र.)

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