



**MIRACLE**  
FOUNDATION  
-INDIA-



A family for every child, in our lifetime

# ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20





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## Message from our CEO

2019 was a big year for Miracle Foundation India. We focused on our two core initiatives of ensuring that children thrive while also preventing children from entering the system in the first place. This year we can say that we've improved the lives of more than 15,000 children and impacted almost 300 child care institutions. We've also seen a 20% reunification of children with family.

To make such an impact, we've leveraged technology and utilized our proven Thrive Scale Methodology™, ensuring that children get everything they need across 14 well-being domains. These indicators include a right to a family, a safe and nurturing environment, nutrition, healthcare, education, clean water, and a sense of belonging. The children in our care continue to thrive. Many have entered secondary education and some are now in the workforce.

2019 was also a year where we doubled down on collaboration; training government officials and working with community partners to identify and support at-risk children and vulnerable families long before child placement in an orphanage becomes a necessity. We began our partnership with UNICEF across 4 states in India to ensure all actors in the child care domain are working towards a common goal.

Our belief that prevention is the key to the orphan crisis remains steadfast, which is why Miracle Foundation India is now part of a global network of non-profit organizations leading the worldwide movement to end the need for child care institutions by 2040.

As we take a look back at 2019, know how grateful we are for your dedication and support. Together, we can ensure a family for every child.

- Leslie Beasley, CEO





## Message from India Country Head

I am pleased to share the annual report for 2019-20. It has been an eventful year for Miracle Foundation India!

We improved the lives of 15,000+ children, we built capacity and impacted 300 child care institutions and we successfully reunited 20% of the children with their families. We are truly fortunate to work with our partner organizations whose alignment with our vision, mission & philosophy encouraged us to move forward. With the use of technology, our Thrive Scale Methodology™ we were able to measure the impact and ensure that the rights of the child are fulfilled!!

All through the year our focus continued to be on the education and healthcare for the children; we ensured and worked to fulfil the children's right to their family. I am happy to share the impact of our work through this report.

We began our work in four states (Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar and Jharkhand) in partnership with UNICEF India to build their capacity DCPUs (Govt official) for family strengthening and gatekeeping.

We are part of a global network of non-profit organizations leading the worldwide movement to bring sustainable change that reduces the need for child care institutions. We are committed towards this and will continue to ensure that every child is in a family.

My team joins me in expressing our gratitude to our donors, our partners, our expert consultants and above all the children who gave us an opportunity to work with all of you. We step into 2020 with new challenges and look forward to your being with us

Thank you all.

- Nivedita DasGupta

# Our core initiatives



Our work in the past was grounded in helping orphaned and vulnerable children to have a better quality of life but has evolved to also ensure that every child has an opportunity to grow up in a family.

In order to accomplish our goal of a family for every child, we work to:

- **Prevent children from entering the system in the first place.**

Every day around the world, social workers, caregivers, and government officials make decisions that impact millions of vulnerable children. Partnering with UNICEF, we provide highly specialized training and educational resources for these “boots on the ground” workers in the childcare ecosystem.

Through this collaboration, Miracle Foundation India has trained 108+ government officials and caregivers and partnered with community programs that identify and support at-risk children and vulnerable families long before child placement in a child care institution becomes a necessity.

- **Ensure that every child thrives.**

All children are entitled to an education, nutrition, health, and protection. Over the past twenty years, we have developed the proprietary Thrive Scale™ Methodology, based on the UN Rights of the Child and using this we are currently working with various child care institutions to improve the lives of more than 1132 children.

The child care institutions we directly support see a 47% increase in Thrive Scale™ scores and 116 children have been reunified with their families.



# Our focus in 2019-2020



2019 was a wonderful and happening year at Miracle Foundation India as our partnership with UNICEF was established. 4 State teams (Bihar, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Maharashtra) consisting of 21 qualified and trained professionals were hired and onboarded.

108 District Child Protection Unit (DCPU) officials were trained in Family based & Alternative Care for Children. The training capsule consisted of two intensive classroom trainings, one immersion visit to a Miracle mentored CCI, with remote follow-up sessions by Miracle team spread over the entire training capsule.

Through our learnings in this process, we identified the need to activate and strengthen the Village Child Protection Committees (VLCPC). This will help us address the issues of child care and protection in a lasting, proactive and sustainable manner.

Majority of the participants from Gujarat felt that sessions pertaining to Understanding Children Demographics (UCD) tool were very useful. After completing the First classroom training, participants from Jharkhand undertook UCD of seventeen Child Care Institutions (CCIs) in eleven districts of the state. The data collected was of 348 children and was an eyeopener for many. They realized that 63.5% of children living in these CCIs have either a single parent or both parents alive. As a similar data finding led to Miracle shifting focus to finding a loving family for every child, this has been further used by the state and UNICEF for their meetings with the Judiciaries.



Miracle Foundation India has partnered with Deepak Foundation in a pilot community intervention program. An initiative on family strengthening, it is aimed at prevention and gatekeeping in the community in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

A two-day in person orientation with the Deepak Foundation team was completed by the Miracle team in December. Profiling of the community and identification of potential families at risk was initiated from January 2020 onwards in both sites. In Gujarat and Maharashtra, Deepak foundation team implemented various activities relating to community mapping, family identification and initiating the process of need assessment.

The Miracle team has also developed a Community Case Management Tracker for baseline data analysis as well as for follow up throughout the project period with the children.





## Our Impact in 2019-2020



**127**

Vulnerable and at-risk  
Families identified in  
Gujarat and maharashtra

**39**

CCIs trained under  
Centre For Excellence  
(CFE) initiative

**1250**

Children supported  
under CFE initiative

**1132**

Children reached  
so far this year

**116**

Children placed in  
back to their family

**1015**

Children are receiving  
life skills education

**702**

Children trained  
in WASH ( Water,  
sanitation and hygiene)

**406**

Children trained in  
computer literacy

**166**

Children went for higher  
education and  
vocational training

**64**

students availed scholarship  
in higher education

**598**

Children trained in  
child protection

**81**

Children completed an  
English speaking course on  
the app English Bolo

**54**

Children received aptitude  
testing and career counselling  
by Master Trainers under CFE initiative



# Accomplishments



**Celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Rights of the Child and worked with 256 organizations to pass a resolution making it inclusive of children without family**



**Successfully completed 1st year of our partnership with UNICEF**



**Invested in technology to capture real time data from the field and be a pioneer in the space for data collection and analysis**



**Created our Youth Ambassador program to cultivate young leaders in the child care institutions and selected 12 amazing candidates from the Child care institutions we support**



**We now have offices in 6 states - New Delhi, Pune, Chennai, Gandhinagar, Patna, Ranchi**

## Introducing Our Youth Ambassadors

Our Youth Ambassador (YA) program aims to enable orphaned and vulnerable children share their personal experiences and ideas to affect change in the childcare system through various media and advocacy channels. They represent the millions of orphaned children living in institutions across the world.

- Meeting of Champions organised in July 2019 for 12 shortlisted Youth Ambassadors in Mumbai.
- Caroline's session with YAs to motivate them and a general catch up
- 4 YAs - Absalom, Bramhadev, Kalpana and Rajashree - are being coached by a specialist
- One of our YAs had the opportunity to participate in a forum "Transforming Care for Children" in Bellagio, Italy in February 2020.





# Centre For Excellence - A Success Story

The goal of the 'Centre for Excellence' initiative is to disseminate the Miracle Foundation Method widely to as many CCIs as possible across the state of Maharashtra. The aim is to empower them to upscale the quality of their child care & development as well as streamline their governance and operations. Strategically, Miracle Foundation India is scaling and expanding the implementation of its method through this model.

- CFE Phase 1 - 1 CCI trained 22 CCIs in Maharashtra, supporting 750 children
- CFE Phase II - 17 CCIs trained and supported 500 children
- Meeting with the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) in Beed and Aurangabad to represent the Miracle Foundation India work
- Vaccination completed of 500 children from 14 CCIs
- Career talk with 111 children and aptitude testing & career counselling of 54 children by the trained Master Trainers
- 12 participants from 6 CFE CCIs visited a base model CCI for the exposure on standards of care and FBC initiative
- Total 17% progress on the thrive scale throughout the project duration.





## Advocacy

Sandhya Mishra, Director of Programs, represented Miracle Foundation India as one of the core members of India Alternative Care Network (IACN) and contributed in its formation this year.

In September 2019, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed a very crucial and important resolution on the rights of the child which is directly connected with the work that Miracle Foundation India is doing. The UNGA resolution focuses on preventing unnecessary family-child separation, providing appropriate alternative care, and recommending specific actions to strengthen care reforms globally. Miracle Foundation, along with 200+ other organisations (globally) have signed and followed the recommendations.

As a thought leader in the space, Miracle Foundation India was invited to a Learning Exchange/State consultation on Alternative Care, Bihar-UNICEF in June 2019. As a panelist, we shared our Family Based Care initiatives with the policy makers and the practitioners

Miracle Foundation India participated in the National Consultation on Alternative Care by the Supreme Court in New Delhi in December 2019.

Learning exchanges in the pilots at Aarambh and Gokul were fruitful. Periodic meetings are held with the State departments, CWCs and district authorities. Through linkages and meetings with NGOs across all programs, we have built a platform to learn from each other in the sphere of FBC and alternative care.

## Collaboration and network

This is one major accomplishment for the organization. Miracle team members participated in more than 22 workshops, training, conferences, and round tables mainly in the area of FBC, Alternative Care, Evaluation etc. because of strong linkages and networking.

The Miracle Foundation India team visited ECHO (Empowerment of Children and Human Rights Organizations), YCDA (Youth Council for Development Alternatives), and CRS (Catholic Relief Services) to see their wonderful work in the area of Foster Care, Family Strengthening, Community Based Child Protection Mechanism.

Collaborations with Leher, Family for Every Child, Udayan Care, PRATYeK has enabled us to join a network of like-minded organizations.

### Knowledge enhancement trainings

Family Based Care and Alternative Care, Formation of Child Protection Committee

Mental Health Needs of Children in Out-of Home Settings

Experience Sharing Consultation on Competency-based Training for ICPS Functionaries, Innovative Approach in Evaluation



# India Board of Directors



**Ranjeet Dugar**  
(Chairman)



**Chandra Iyengar**  
(Board Member since 2016)



**Shalu Jindal**  
(Board Member since 2012)



**Subhash Mittal**  
(Board Member since 2018)



**Shalini Puchalapalli**  
(Board Member since 2019)



**Indy Sarker**  
(Board Member since 2018)



# Our Corporate Partners



## ● Corporate Social Responsibility



## ● Engaging Employees to Raise Funds



# Our Program Partners



St. Stephen's Hospital

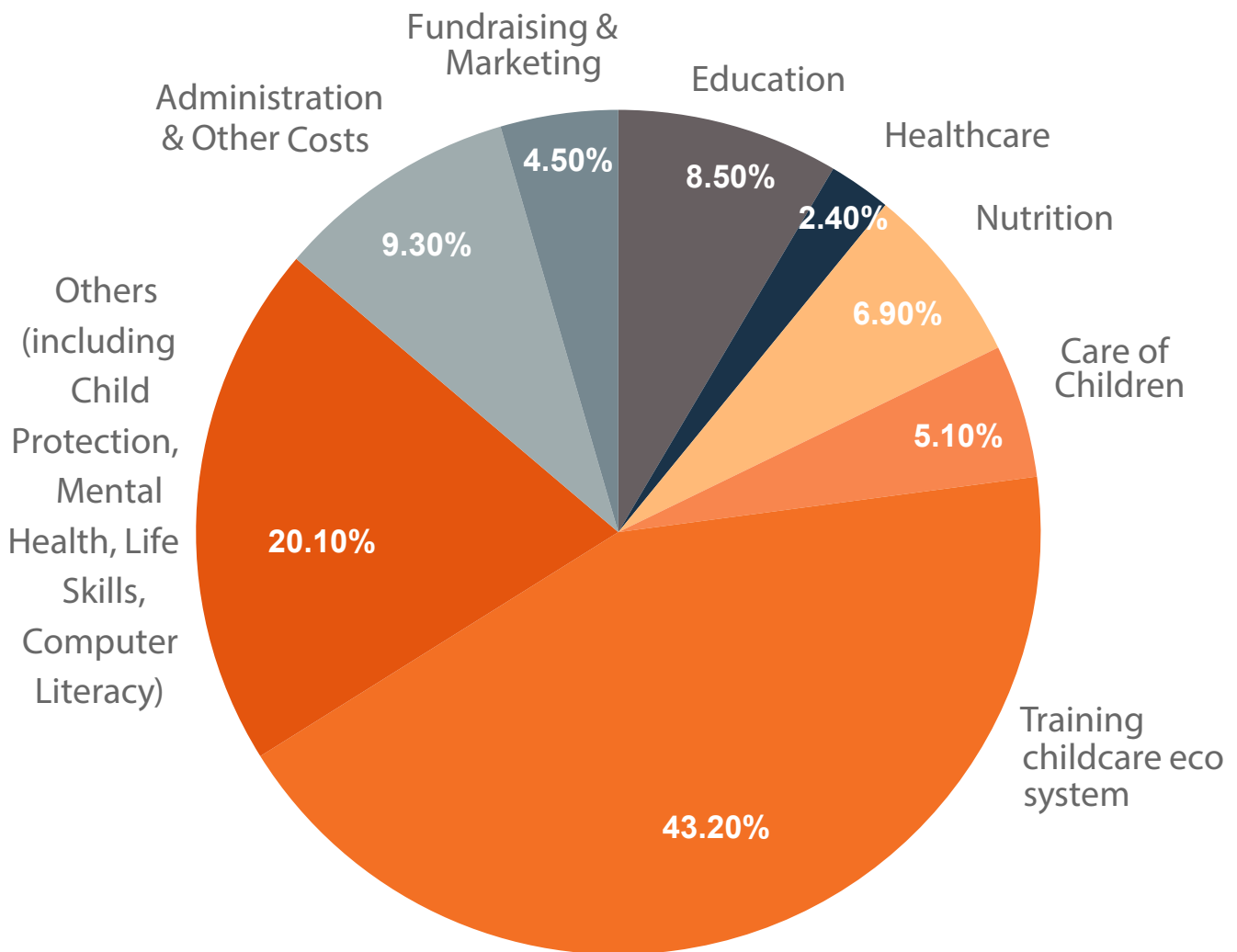


## ● Our Implementation Partners

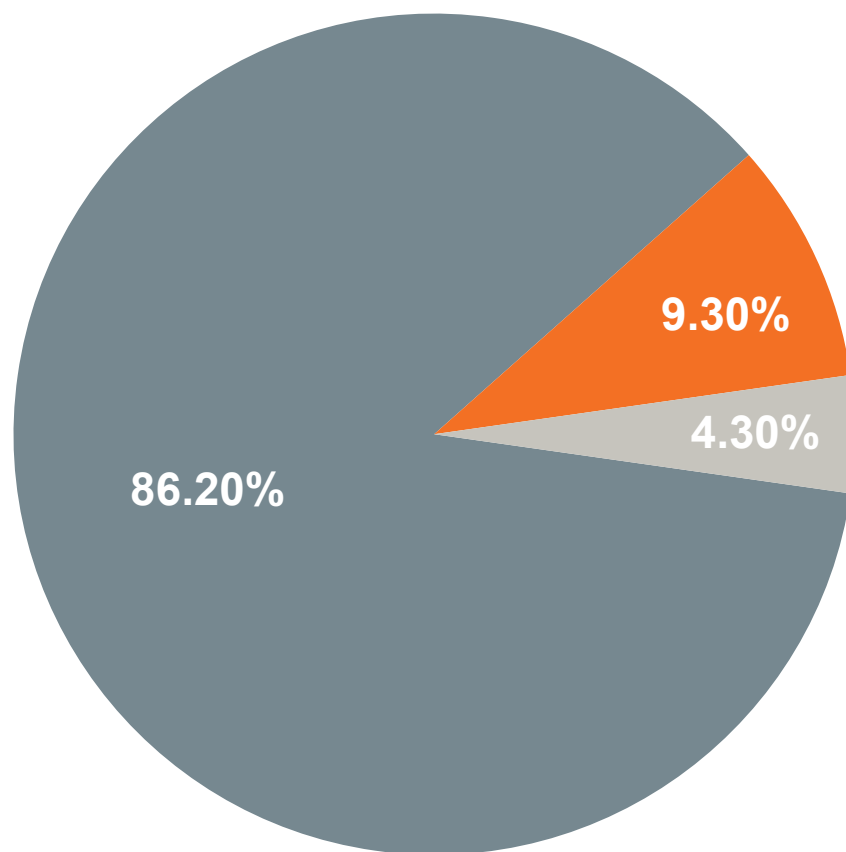
- Voluntary Health Association of Tripura
- Aarambh Education & Community Development Society
- Jeevodaya Society
- Anbarasi Social Action
- DKSHA
- S M S S Hindu Mahila Mandiram
- Kovai Auxilium Salesian Sisters Society
- Erode Auxilium Society, Marialaya
- TOUCH
- Matru Mandir Devrukh
- Rural Foundation
- Parivartan Mahila Sanstha
- Socio Economic Development Trust
- Mahesh Foundation
- Social Action for Manpower Creation



**We are supporting orphans to have a better quality of life while bringing about sustainable change that reduces the need for Child Care Institutions.**







- Program Implementation 86.20%
- Fundraising & Marketing 4.30%
- Administration & Other Costs 9.30%

**85% of funding goes directly to programs**

**We remain top rated on the charity watchdogs.**





# Testimonials from CCI and children

- "It was so wonderful to have Manish back at home. Whenever I return from work, he hears the sound of my bike and comes running to open the door."  
- Manish's father, Tripura
- "I feel grateful for the help and support received from Miracle Foundation India. I am happy that I can continue my studies. I aspire to be a social worker and serve the poor and the needy."  
- Priya, Tamil Nadu
- "I willingly contribute to household work and I am not facing any difficulties in my studies. My parents are very supportive of me continuing my education after class 12. I am very happy that my entire family lives together again."  
- Shreya, Madhya Pradesh
- "AARAMBH is proud to be a part of Miracle Foundation India Family that supports children in need of care and protection very genuinely. In the six years of our professional partnership, we have learnt a lot about developing a great impact in the lives of several neglected children. We look forward to many more years of our mutual association and wish Miracle Foundation India the success that they deserve in transforming the life of children. AARAMBH values your continuous patronage over the years and believes in our healthy partnership. Thanks again!"  
- Anup Sahay, Chief Functionary of Aarambh-Reach Project, Madhya Pradesh
- "The SMSS Hindu Mahila Mandiram is a century-old prestigious institution that has been run in accordance with the highest goals of compassion and philanthropy. However, our association with Miracle Foundation India which began in 2015 has been a game changer. It introduced us to new methods of structuring and organizing care. We became aware of scientific ways of monitoring and improving the health and education of children. The Foundation helped the administrators, the staff, the house-mothers as well as the children themselves - with a greater awareness of the socio-legal aspects of child-rights, life skill education and mental health awareness. Thus in many important ways, Miracle Foundation India revolutionized our outlook and practice of the very work that we were doing. We are supremely grateful to the leaders of the Foundation for their contribution to Mandiram."  
- Meena Ramesh, Chief Functionary of Hindu Mahila Mandiram, Kerala
- Children in CCIs and their families live through a challenging life. They come from very difficult situations and have trouble fulfilling even their basic needs. We are proud to be working towards supporting these children and families, and our association with Miracle Foundation India has truly been transformative. Through our successful collaboration with them, we look forward to ensuring the best interest of every child. We thank you for all your guidance and support!  
- Sandeep Patil, Chief Functionary of Rukhmabai Balika Ashram, Maharashtra





# Thank you!



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