

**Programme Impact Overview  
2019 - 2022**

# A Loving Family for Every Child: Transforming Institutional Care towards Family Based Care



## **In Partnership with**

Dept. of WCD Maharashtra, Dept of Social Justice & Empowerment Gujarat,  
Dept. of Social Welfare in Bihar, Dept of WCD Jharkhand

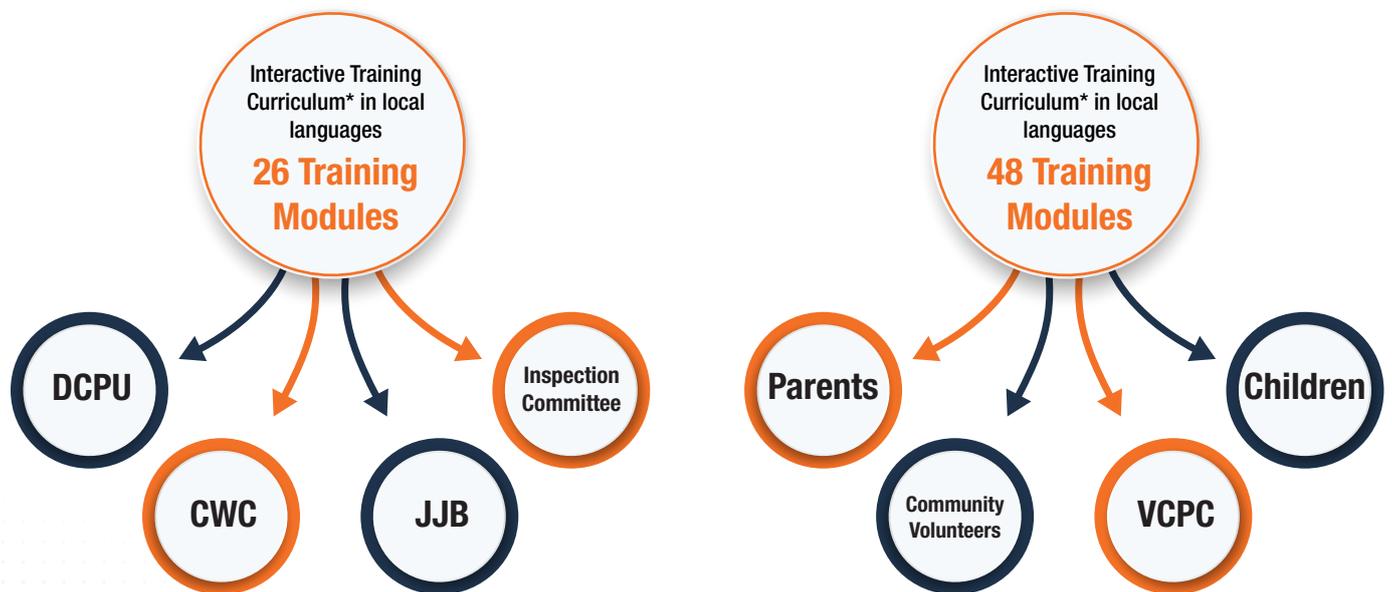
Anchored in the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) of Children Act 2015, Miracle Foundation India's work is premised on the vision of a family for every child. The program has been a cherished opportunity for Miracle India to contribute towards transformation of institutional care towards family-based care across the four states; Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand & Bihar in partnership with UNICEF India & the respective State Governments.

We present here a snapshot of the footprints created for the period January 2019 to December 2022. Though the journey will continue till our life time...

## The Program Focus

- ♥ Fortifying the child protection functionaries to positively impact the lives of children in need of care & protection through specialised training:
  - Quintessential case management methodology, tools (ICP, SIR, Thrive Scale™) for safe & permanent reintegration of children with families, family-based alternative care options
  - Gatekeeping and prevention mechanisms by focusing on the family strengthening approach to prevent children from entering the Juvenile Justice system in the first place
- ♥ Develop a scalable and replicable model of family strengthening, prevention of child separation through a community led child protection mechanism in selected villages and ward.

## Specialised trainings that touch the heart of the Juvenile Justice System



\* Based on the concept of 5 Steps of deinstitutionalization given by Hope & Homes for children

## Capacity Building Structure



## Response to Covid-19 challenges during the program

- Remote training facilitation guidelines
- Short duration sessions of 90 minute each
- Online technology practice sessions for participants
- Special approach of Expedited Case Management (ECM) towards sustainable reintegration of children with their families during Covid-19 pandemic.
- Case management videos
- IEC material for district, blocks, wards, village level workforce, communities
- Case management toolkit - with data driven tools to systematically measure and improve all aspects of a child's well being
- Remote followup, mentoring sessions with participants

## Spotlight of the Program

### The Master Trainers



**MAHARASHTRA**  
31

**GUJARAT**  
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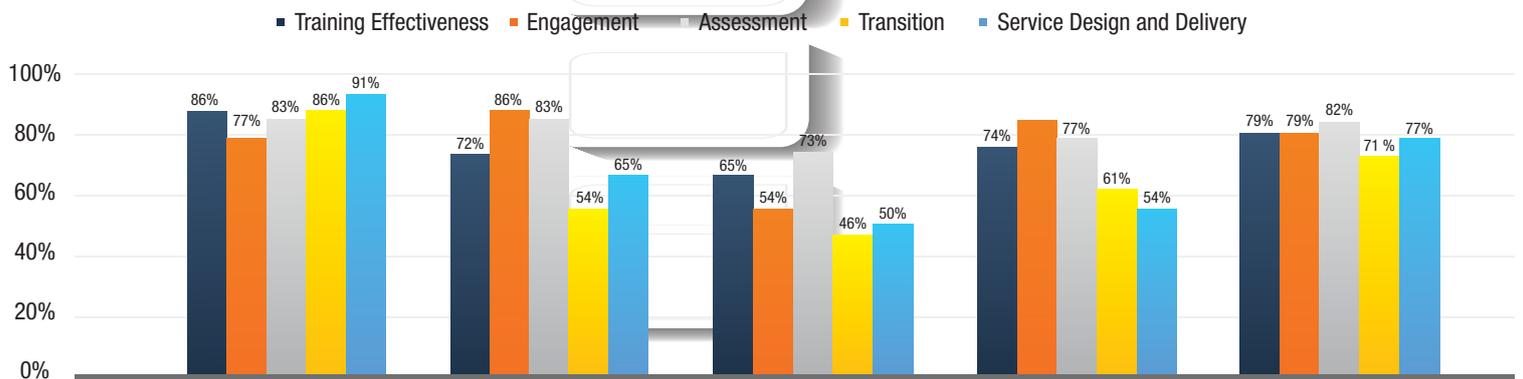
**BIHAR**  
23

**JHARKHAND**  
25



## Post Training Strides taken by DCPUI officials

Training Effectiveness Across States - 463 DCPUI officials



77% -convergence, linkages of families with social protection schemes, activate CPCs, F-BAC services

71% practiced child & family preparation towards safe & permanent reintegration

82% used assessment tools - needs of children,families, prepare individualised growth plans

79% focused on active engagement with CCI staff, CWC, JJB, children, parents, education department etc

Post training, the DCPUI officials were found to be engaged in capacity building of stakeholders, using assessment tools to understand the vulnerability, preparing families & children for reintegration and liasioning with allied govt depts for prevention and gatekeeping.

## Case Stories

### Convergence is the Key

Behan Sarita, POIC, Gumla shared about four children from Chundri Village of Gumla district, who lost their parents recently. Their father died four months ago, and mother passed away recently. Children have their grandfather and uncle. It was very important to link the children with kinship care to prevent the children from moving into CCIs. It was found that children have their grandfather and uncle, but there were risks associated with keeping the children with their uncle, as he was seasonal employed and was working in a brick kiln. So, the responsibility of children was given to their grandfather.

DCPU has taken initiatives by coordinating with Childline and ASHA for the assessment of the situation. They also coordinated with Mukhiya and Block Development Officer (BDO) for seeking essential support. Mukhiya supported the family with rations and also provided some economic support. BDO also supported the family with economic support. DCPU is assessing their needs and is planning to link the family with the Sponsorship scheme. DCPU team is also making efforts to link them with relevant government schemes and is exploring support from NGOs and institutions, so that the eldest child, who is a 16-year-old girl, can be linked with skill development/vocational training which will enable her to support the family in future.

It can be seen that POIC rightly implemented the learnings from the training on FBAC and focused on kinship care and convergence mechanism by analyzing the strength of the community. DCPU team is making all the efforts to prevent the children from entering into CCIs, by realizing that 'Family is the best place for the child'.

### Right Assessment helps in taking right decisions

"The approach and process of preparing Individual Care Plan (ICP), particularly the reference points specified in Miracle India's addendum of ICP, was a hands-on useful guidance". This is a comment from DCPU participants within the realm of assessment tools they learnt and practiced during the training. In the steps of transformation towards family based and alternative care, child and family assessment play a significant role. The addendum to ICP & SIR forms by Miracle India have drawn considerable attention not only from the DCPU training participants but others as well.

This ICP addendum was referred by the Department of Women and Child Development, Maharashtra for developing guidelines on ICP. This was referred by one of the UNICEF partner organisations, Udayan Care, working on aftercare in Bihar, as they put together the approach of ICP for children in the 15 to 18 years of age group.

## Family and community strengthening Initiatives in Gujarat and Maharashtra

### The Focus

- Identification of vulnerable families and children, at risk of family separation.
- Assessment of needs and required support interventions are categorized across five well-being domains of the Thrive Scale™: Education, Physical & Mental Health, Family & Social relationship, Household Economy and Living Conditions.
- Detailed intervention plans are created for each milestone that needs attention and progress is tracked by using Thrive Scale™.
- Strengthening community-led child protection mechanisms in order to create a safety net on child protection in the community.
- Support interventions for holistic development of children, family strengthening through the community eco system – CPCs, Community Volunteers, Bal Panchayat.

### Location

- Four villages of Chhota Udepur district of Gujarat – Jaloda, Gungawada, NaniDumali, MotiDumali
- Ramnagar slum community in Pune district of Maharashtra

## Partners

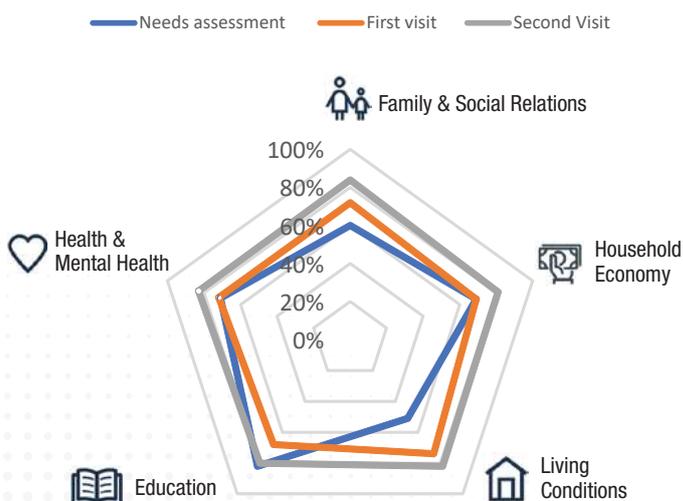
Miracle Foundation India is steering this initiative on ground in collaboration with implementing partner Deepak Foundation, technical support partners icall<sup>1</sup>, Leher<sup>2</sup>, Sauhard<sup>3</sup> and MARAG<sup>4</sup>

## Milestones Achieved

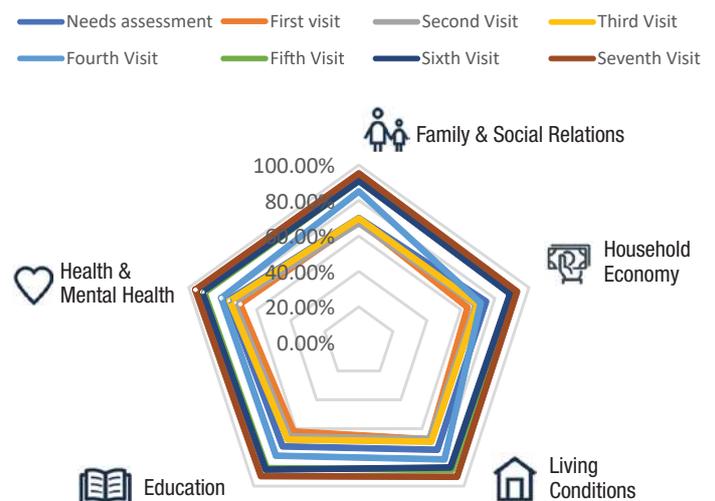
Major Milestones Achieved	Numbers
Identification of family at risk	151
Functional Child Protection Committee	4 (53 members)
Bal Panchayat	6 (65 members)
Volunteers	49
One window awareness camp	9
Community event	5
Thrive Scale™ form filled of identified families for progress tracking	every 3 months for 151 families
Parents trained on parenting skills	254
Volunteers trained in life skills, psychological, mental health, first aid and personal hygiene	51
Teachers trained on TLM	15
Children trained on Life skills	502
Families identified at risk linked with Social Protection Schemes	76
Family in community (Other than identified at risk) linked with social protection schemes	371

## Progress over the period of 3 years on Thrive Scale™ done with children and families

### Thrive Scale progress- Maharashtra



### Thrive Scale progress- Gujarat



1. iCall (Tata Institute of Social Sciences): Building capacity in reinforcing the mindset, approach of the community volunteers to address the psychosocial needs of individuals, enabling the Miracle and Deepak teams to learn to provide a facilitative space.
2. Leher: Technical support in strengthening VCPC. Building capacity of Miracle team and Deepak Foundation team in community led child protection mechanism with a predominant role of Village/Ward Child Protection Committee
3. Sauhard: Sauhard is a non profit working towards empowering youth to play a role in creating better future through Conflict Transformation,
4. MARAG: Is a non Porfit working towards building capacity of children for thought leadership and team building.

Linkages with the social protection scheme is one of the critical interventions to provide social security to family leading to improvement in overall wellbeing domain.

### 1107 families

During the Covid-19 pandemic, these families from villages of Chhota Udepur, Gujarat and Ramnagar slum in Pune were given ration kits

### 100% teachers

trained have applied learnings in their class to improve child participation and retention in the classroom

### 93% of volunteers

have demonstrated good self-efficacy and resilience. 34 volunteers are trained and mentored as master trainers on Life skills Education (LSE) who will eventually train children in their community on life skills.

### 56% Bal Panchayat members

are actively participating in meetings, expressing their voice on child rights issues, connecting with V/WCPC members and taking initiatives related to child protection.

#### Initiatives taken by the VCPCs & WCPCs towards family strengthening and addressing child protection issues.

- Identified 1107 families in Chhota Udepur, 195 families in Ramnagar for family strengthening
- 50 people underwent health check-ups in the drive organised by CPC members & volunteers in Chhota Udepur
- Networked with Care India Team and provided livestock to 3 family in Chhota Udepur location
- One child marriage was prevented by V/WCPC members in both locations
- Survey for Anganwadi formation in Ramnagar location
- Awareness on Covid home care guidelines and covid prevention and vaccination by WCPC members in Ramnagar Community

#### Initiatives taken by Bal Panchayat for addressing child protection issues

- Role-play for creating awareness on child labour, child marriage in the community
- Awareness rally child rights, cleanliness and waste management In Ramnagar, Bal Panchayat members visited a child-friendly police station Poster presentation on COVID awareness in the community by Bal Panchayat members, Ramnagar



## Case Stories

### Solvable: little steps towards Psycho-Social Support (PSS)

Aaryan, a 12-year-old child was living under the fear of dusk and dark. A childhood incident of preying on a wild animal has left a fearful corner in his mind which has deep-rooted in his day-to-day activities. The child had stopped playing with friends in the evening and isolated himself from friends.

This story was unearthed during a training of Psychosocial support to Bal Panchayat volunteers when they were asked whether they have seen any child in the community alienated and left behind. One Balpanchayat member shared about Aaryan. The case was supported by mental health expert from the Miracle Foundation India and trained community volunteers for PSS.

Trust was built with Aaryan and allowed him to share his fears with Neerja (a Bal Panchayat member, a girl in a neighboring house). She slowly started talking to him, discussed his fear factors, prepared a safety net around him, and brought him out in the evenings to play with other children. The children started playing late evening and Aaryan didn't realize that he is out of home when it was too dark. Supporting counseling was done with Aaryan and his parents by the volunteer and now the child is playful and has understood that he is safe.

## Testimonies

*"I didn't have any source of livelihood but Volunteers from Deepak Foundation provided me an opportunity and linked me with the stitching course. Through this course I will be able to earn money and will be able to support my family." - Manisha Laxman Shirsat, Beneficiary, Mahatma Phule Chowk, Pune, Maharashtra*

*"Training on LSE has helped me a lot, after the training, I am encouraging other children who have dropped out of the school and also convincing their parents to allow their children to continue their education as through education they can build a bright future for them". Niru Ravjibhai Rathva, participant of LSE training, Motidumali, Chhotaudepur, Gujarat*

*"I have created WhatsApp group of teachers, sarpanch, village revenue officers and VCPC members and through this, they have identified 300 orphan children from their district. The district collector was impressed with their work and passed orders to immediately link children with Mukhyamatri Bal Seva Yojana and also told various departments to support the children in case they require support in availing of documents for scheme linkages, a total of 36 children have been linked with the scheme" - DCPO Sabarkantha, Gujarat*

*"Post training, I have engaged the children at the CCI in various fun and learn activities and implemented learnings from the DCPU trainings into the CCI. I have conducted micro sessions on activities with children like pressure cooker activity, Khushi ki potli etc. I have taught the Legal cum probation officer how to fill the ICP using the Miracle addendum ICP. I have completed the SIR of 16 girls and has now recommended the CWC in the reunification of the girls with their respective families"- POIC Koderma, Jharkhand.*

*"We have engaged with stakeholders like CCI staff, CWC members, Police, PRIs, CHILDLINE and created awareness among them regarding Family Strengthening and family based alternative care. We are currently working with the VCPCs to identify and strengthen vulnerable families in the community. As a part of family strengthening, we have linked children with the skill development initiatives. "- DCPO Purnea, Bihar.*