



Welcome to our monthly update for November 2024!

Through this edition, we're pleased to share inspiring stories of transformation driven by the dedication of our social workforce, and the effective collaboration between governments, social workers and communities. Together, we're creating brighter futures for children and families, one step at a time!

As we celebrate this season of gratitude, I want to thank you for your continued solidarity with our mission. Your support has been instrumental in driving impact on the ground, and empowering children and families in need - with hope, resources, and the opportunity for a better future.

Kusum Mohapatra
CEO & Regional Director
Miracle Foundation India

Transforming Children's Lives through Family Strengthening



Miracle Foundation India is dedicated to preventing the separation of children from their families by addressing the root causes that often push them into institutional care. Sometimes, the issue can be as simple as not having a secure home or access to essential resources.

For Rita, a single mother from Khandwa district, Madhya Pradesh, this was her reality. Living in a fragile, makeshift shelter that offered little protection, she struggled to provide her two sons the security they deserved. Her earnings as a construction worker barely covered daily needs, and harsh weather conditions often forced them to seek temporary refuge elsewhere. These circumstances brought her to the brink of separation from her children, compelling her to consider sending them to care institutions for their safety.

Recognizing Rita's urgent need for a safe home, our team, taking a family-focused approach, provided her some financial support. Combined with her savings and community contributions, this helped construct a concrete house, ensuring her family's safety and stability. Besides, personalized counseling sessions were facilitated that helped address her concerns and rebuild her confidence in her parenting abilities. Complementing this emotional support, she participated in financial literacy sessions provided by the Care Collective team, which eventually empowered her with the knowledge and skills required to manage resources efficiently.

This transformation was not just about building a house; it was about laying the groundwork for long-term family strengthening. Regular follow-up visits were conducted to monitor her progress, address emerging needs and provide personalized assistance in obtaining essential documentation that was previously unavailable. These visits ensured her successful linkages to vital government programs, including the *Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana* for healthcare and the *Public Distribution System* for food security.

Rita is now being guided towards enrollment in a *Self-Help Group* that prepares mid-day meals for schools, thereby ensuring a steady and reliable income source for her. These initiatives aim to promote her financial independence and stability, creating a secure environment for her children. Meanwhile, her older son has begun helping the family by taking up small earning opportunities in the village while the younger son is studying in Class X.

Now isn't this a powerful reminder showing how timely support can help children stay with their families and thrive in a loving environment!

Celebrating Mukul Kumar



At Miracle Foundation India, we honor the incredible social workforce whose committed efforts help bring our vision to life. This month, we celebrate the work and achievements of Mukul Kumar who is working as a Child Protection Officer in Patna, Bihar.

For the past seven years, Mukul has been dedicated to child protection. Since 2019, he has been associated as a Master Trainer with Miracle Foundation India, strengthening his expertise in family reunification and family-based alternative care, including facilitating placements of children in kinship care and adoption with a more structured approach. Mukul has been actively spearheading regular meetings of Child Protection Committees across all 23 blocks in the Patna district, focusing on the prevention of child separation and gatekeeping. Under his leadership, his team identified and supported 1,260 children who lost both parents during the pandemic, also completing their *Social Investigation Reports*.

Additionally, Mukul has supported 591 children in accessing the benefits of the *Sponsorship Scheme* in Patna. His team's efforts enabled around 70 children to find permanent homes through adoption, 13 of whom were between 14-16 years old, a rare thing to happen for this age group. Besides, Mukul and his team successfully enrolled 143 out-of-school children in school by coordinating with District Education Officers.

Mukul also organized Aadhaar-linked biometric authentication camps, which enabled him to trace the families of nearly 30 children from Gujarat. After eight years, these children were joyfully reunited with their families, marking an unforgettable milestone!

Immersion and cross-learning trips to other states of the country have brought Mukul first-hand insights into childcare practices there, helping enrich his approach towards supporting children in institutions.

A big shout-out today to Mukul!

From Care to Leadership: Youth Ambassadors Making an Impact



Miracle Foundation India's Youth Ambassadors, drawn from Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and local communities, play a vital role in raising awareness about the importance of a family for every child and driving meaningful impact. This month, we celebrate Loudya Chowhan Somnath Nayak from Telangana who joined our Youth Ambassadors' Program in January 2024.

Originally from the *Lambada* tribe in Telangana, Somnath faced the heartbreaking loss of his parents at the age of seven. He found support and care in a CCI where he was subsequently raised. Currently pursuing a B.Sc. in Nursing and gaining hands-on experience as an Operation Technician intern at Agur Prime Hospital, Mahabubnagar, Somnath is deeply committed towards making a lasting difference in his tribal community.

Somnath's commitment to social change is deeply rooted in his personal journey and empathy for children at his CCI, which over a period of time evolved into broader community outreach initiatives. He has previously conducted impactful training sessions on sexual and reproductive health, and gender equality. Also associated as an intern with the *Shri Ram Charitable Trust*, Hyderabad, Somnath facilitates sessions on gender equality in government high schools.

As a Youth Ambassador, Somnath is eager to enhance his skills, particularly in communication. He is determined to inspire and mobilize youth from his area, encouraging them to stand up for their rights. His dedication to creating a more informed, empowered community is a testament to his belief in the power of education and collective action.

World Mental Health Day Observed in Maharashtra



On the occasion of *World Mental Health Day*, Miracle Foundation India facilitated a series of activities for children in Child Care Institutions in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, from October 2 to October 10. These sessions were aimed towards alleviating stress among children and enhancing their mental well-being. Comprising engaging activities such as yoga, fun games, poster-making and movie screenings, these sessions not only lifted children's spirits but also emphasized the importance of mental health and self-care in their overall development.

Together, we are fostering nurturing environments where every child can thrive, reflecting Miracle Foundation India's vision for all children to grow up in a loving family, supported by the emotional and mental well-being they truly deserve.

Miracle Foundation India at VDHM 2024



The Miracle Foundation India team participated in the *Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon* (VDHM) on October 20, 2024, in New Delhi. Keeping the vision of 'A Family for Every Child' (front and centre), our incredible team of runners faced up and took on the VDHM 2024 to make a difference in the lives of children. We're honored to have run for a cause, inspiring a community to support a safe, healthy and happy childhood for all children!

Additionally, our young intern, Rania Sarker, passionately championed our mission. Her efforts raised significant awareness about the importance of children growing up in loving, nurturing environments, and helped raise nearly ₹1.25 lakh towards this crucial cause. Thank you, Rania!

Donor Testimonial



"Supporting Miracle Foundation India has been one of the most fulfilling experiences of my life. Knowing that my contributions help children reunite with their families and grow up in a safe, nurturing environment brings me immense joy. The transparency and dedication of the organization stand out —they ensure every rupee makes a real impact. It's inspiring to see how they focus on empowering families, building resilience, and creating long-term change. I am proud to be a part of their journey and would encourage others to join this incredible mission to give children the love and opportunities they deserve."

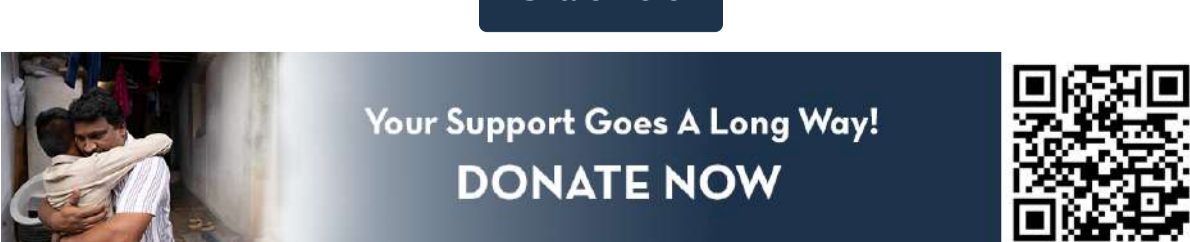
- Amit Kumar

Resource Links

- [2024 State of the Social Service Workforce Report](#)
- [Supreme Court issues comprehensive guidelines for effective implementation of Prohibition of Child Marriage Act: A detailed breakdown](#)
- [Sexual violence: UNICEF DATA](#)
- [Launch of India's first Foster Family Network](#)
- [Thematic Brief: The Role of the Social Service Workforce in Children's Care and Care Reform](#)

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