



Program Impact Overview

A LOVING FAMILY FOR EVERY CHILD:
TRANSFORMING INSTITUTIONAL CARE
TOWARDS FAMILY BASED CARE



ABOUT MIRACLE FOUNDATION INDIA

Miracle Foundation is a nonprofit that helps children in vulnerable situations to find a safe, stable, and permanent family. Whether in a Child Care System or at risk of separation, our vision is a family for every child in our lifetime. The "Child First" strategy of the Miracle Foundation is comprehensive, team-based, and rooted in the local community. For the past 22 years, Miracle Foundation has improved the lives of more than 164,000 children — but this is just the beginning. Today, Miracle Foundation is a worldwide leader ending the need for Child Care Institutions by 2040. To achieve this, Miracle Foundation is actively uniting children with families, partnering with Governments, training the social work force to prevent children from entering the system, and the foundation is creating technology to easily scale its work.

Founded in 2000, Miracle Foundation has earned the highest rating by the US-based Charity Navigator, an organization that evaluates charities for effectiveness and financial transparency.

Miracle Foundation India has three primary ways to achieve their vision of a family for every child in our lifetime:

To prevent children from entering Child Care Institutions (CCIs): The Foundation intends to give child protection professionals highly specialized training and educational tools, highlighting alternatives to institutional care and enabling them to spot at-risk kids and support them long before it becomes necessary to separate them from their parents.



To re-integrate children with families: The organization seeks to reintegrate children permanently, securely, and safely into families. It prioritizes prevention in addition to nurturing these kids and focuses on the best strategies to keep the children with their families from the start. Miracle makes sure that every child receives a nurturing, safe environment, has a sense of belonging, and that their development is tracked and evaluated.

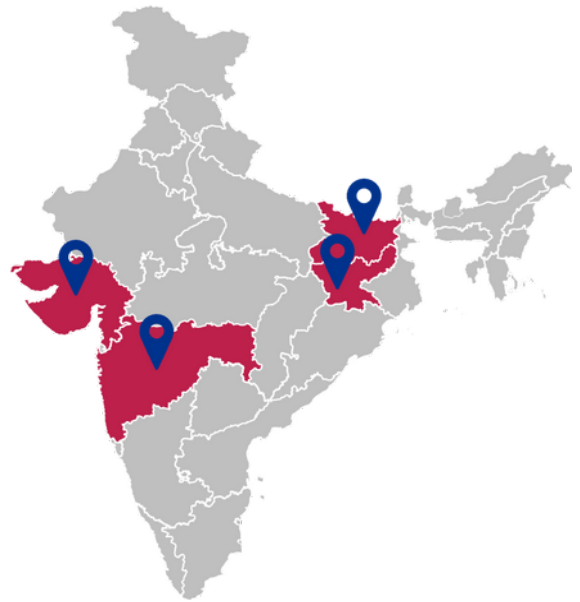
We enable young people and care leavers to live meaningful and productive lives: The foundation work with young people (15-25 yrs.) to provide them the right skills and support to move them into employment to live a meaningful and productive lives as well as make them resilient to manage life challenges. The aim of the foundation is to provide special support to ensure they have access to sustainable livelihoods and mitigate their vulnerabilities.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

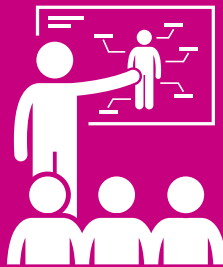
Miracle Foundation India has emerged as a sector leader in Family Strengthening (FS) and Family-Based Alternative Care (F-BAC), helping to reintegrate children with families, and working at the local level to prevent separation of children from families.

This program is a model public private partnership (Miracle Foundation India, UNICEF & State Governments) aimed at transforming family based / alternative care for children across Four states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Jharkhand & Bihar



The project runs across 4 states in the country – Maharashtra, Gujarat, Bihar & Jharkhand. The key objectives of this project are as follows:

To build capacity of government officials working in the sphere of childcare and protection at the state and district level in standards of family based & alternative care across all four states



To build the capacity of CCI functionaries across different districts of the state in standards of family based & alternative care in two states of Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Development of the capacity building curriculum in standards of family based / alternative care for government officials at the state and district level as well as the CCIs, delivered through a train the trainer (TOT) cascade approach

Family and community strengthening pilot in select demonstration sites in two states of Maharashtra and Gujarat - as a measure of gatekeeping and prevent separation of children from families and ending up in CCIs / child protection system (Juvenile Justice System under the purview of the Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection) of Children 2015.



PROGRAM OVERALL COVERAGE

The program has been functional in the states of Maharashtra and Gujarat for the past three years whereas in Bihar and Jharkhand it has been running for two years. Miracle Foundation India works very closely with the government to equip the latter with necessary knowledge and capacity to work with children in need of care and protection. They do this through regular capacity building trainings and workshops. Apart from this, Miracle Foundation India engages community members to enhance their awareness on issues related to children as well as rights of children and do so by engaging local NGO's as well as community volunteers.

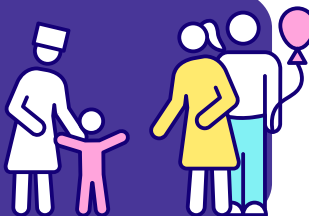
Further, to enhance strengthening of the child protection system at state and district level and Miracle Foundation India has built a cadre of Master Trainers across the 4 states as an expert on FS and F-BAC.

Project Stakeholders and Result Areas

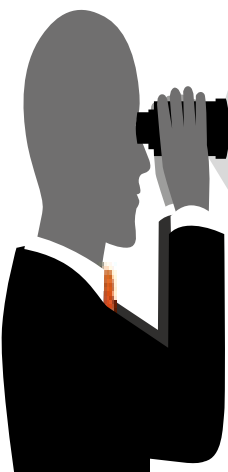
Result Area 1: Capacity of Child Protection functionaries (DCPU, Inspection Committees, CWC and JJB) is enhanced in family strengthening and family-based alternative care (standard of care in CCIs, restoration, case management etc.) across all four states



Result Area 2: Capacities of targeted CCI functionaries across four states of Maharashtra, Gujrat, Bihar and Jharkhand is enhanced in family strengthening and family-based alternative care (standard of care in CCIs, restoration, case management etc.) through Master Trainers.



Result Area 3: A scalable and replicable pilot model of family strengthening and activating community network in selected demonstration sites (slums and villages) in states of Maharashtra and Gujarat. Stakeholders of result area 3 include community volunteers, Bal Panchayats, V/WCPC, teachers, families identified at risk and children from these families.



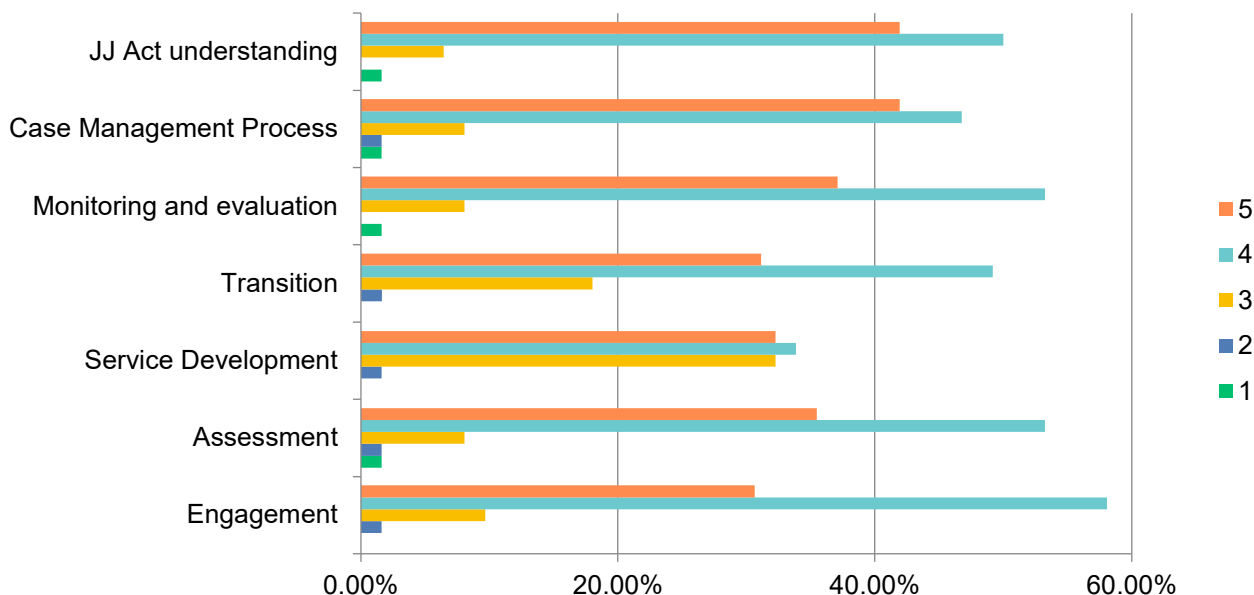
POST TRAINING STRIDES TAKEN BY DCPU OFFICIALS

Change in Understanding of FS and FBAC after Miracle's training

For officials engaged in child protection, knowledge and awareness on various steps involved in F-BAC is essential. In order to understand the impact of the training provided by Miracle Foundation India, self-assessment survey was undertaken with the DCPU's in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Maharashtra. According to the collected data, most of the DCPU's rated their knowledge to be satisfactory and above, also highlighting scope for improvement through future trainings

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

Knowledge on Family-Based Alternative Care (FBAC) process

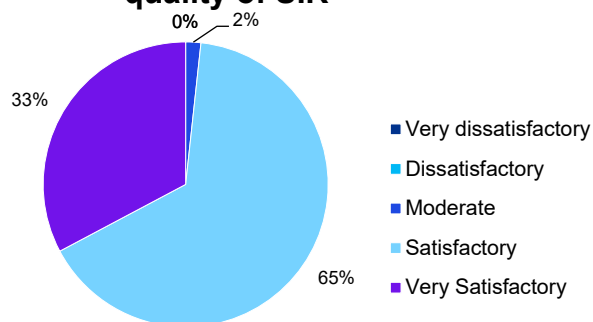


*5 = Very Satisfactory, 4 = Satisfactory, 3 = Neutral, 2 = Dissatisfactory, 1 = Very Dissatisfactory

Change in Perception and Knowledge of FS and FBAC after Miracle's trainings

Post training, the DCPU officials were found to be engaged in capacity building of stakeholders, using assessment tools to understand the vulnerability, preparing families & children for reintegration and collaborating with government departments for prevention and gatekeeping.

Capacity of the DCPU to ensure the quality of SIR

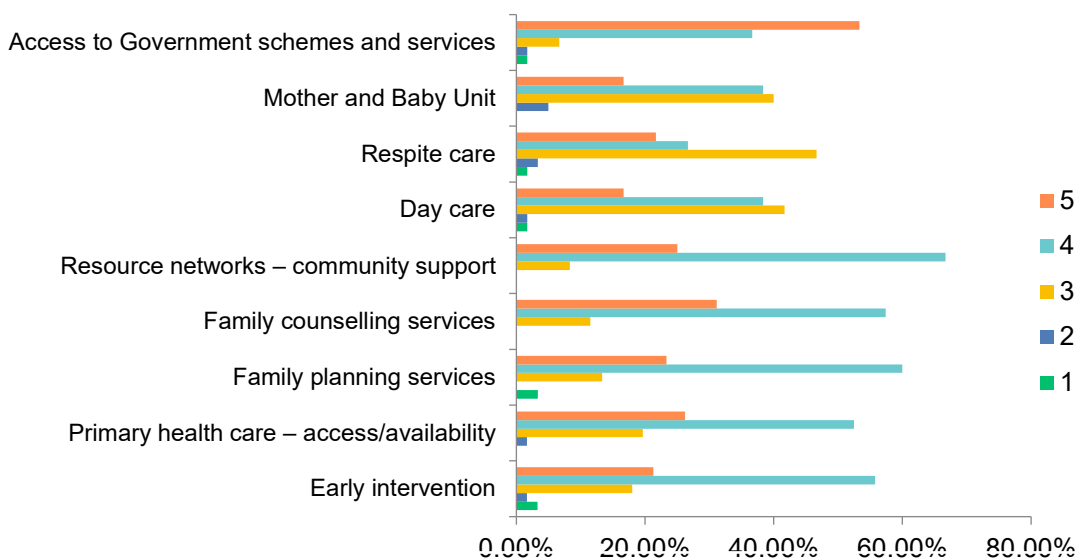


Child safety net and Gatekeeping Mechanisms

One of the primary duties of child protection officials other than reintegrating children into families, is to prevent separation of at-risk children and families by implementing gatekeeping and preventive measures. They were asked to self-evaluate their awareness regarding the elements of prevention and gatekeeping.



Self assessment of understanding of training abilities of elements of gatekeeping for prevention of separation



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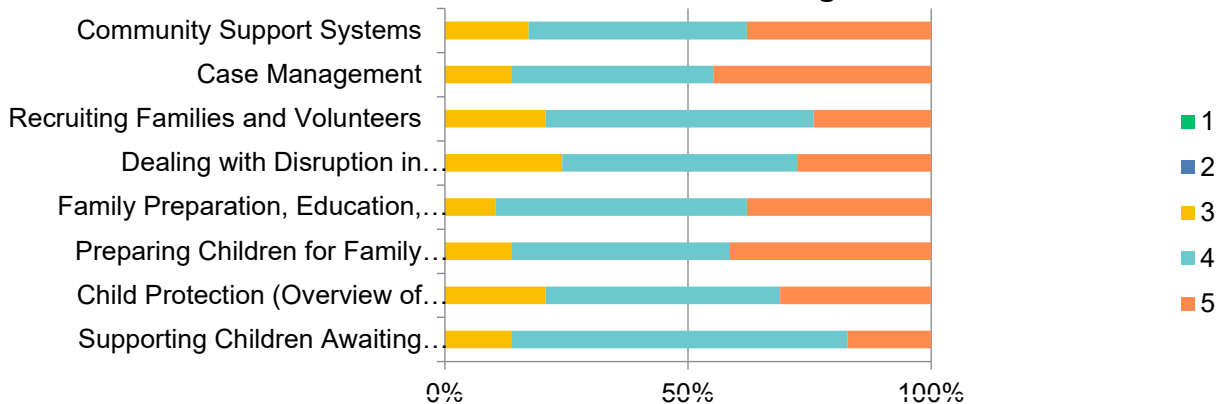
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Master Trainers: Improvement in Training Ability



The project has identified and trained a total of 107 Master Trainers. Out of the total surveyed DCPU's 63 per cent across all the states were selected as master trainers.

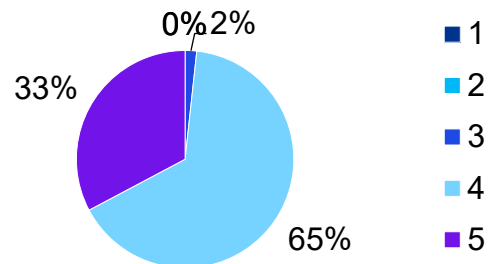
Self assessment of training abilities of Master Trainers after Miracle Foundation's training



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Master Trainers & Quality SIR

Case management, working with the community support systems, child protection, preparing children for placement and working with families to strengthen family-based care emerged as areas of strength



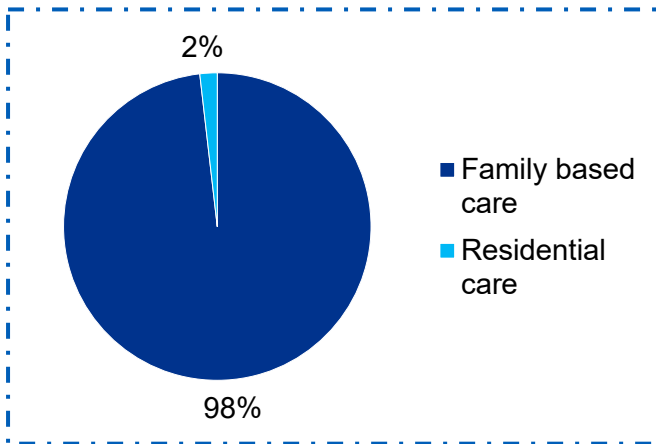
Self assessment of training abilities of Master Trainers on different thematic areas post Miracle Foundation India's training.

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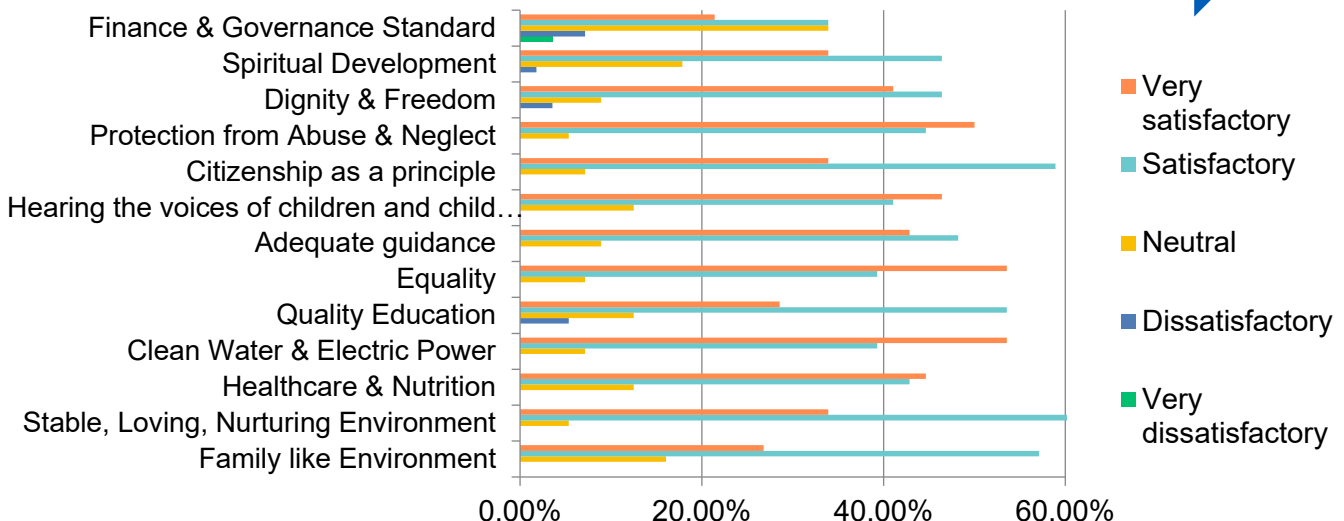
POST TRAINING STRIDES TAKEN BY CCI STAFF

The quality of the CCI in giving a family like, stable, loving, nurturing environment to the children is essential. A physical environment that readily provides them with good healthcare facilities, looks after their nutritional intake and education, always provides clean water and electricity, provides guidance to children, and protects them from abuse and neglect. The CCI staff, from Bihar, Jharkhand and Maharashtra, was surveyed about the standards of equality maintained in the CCI wherein the children can freely express themselves, participate, have dignity and freedom along with spiritual development.

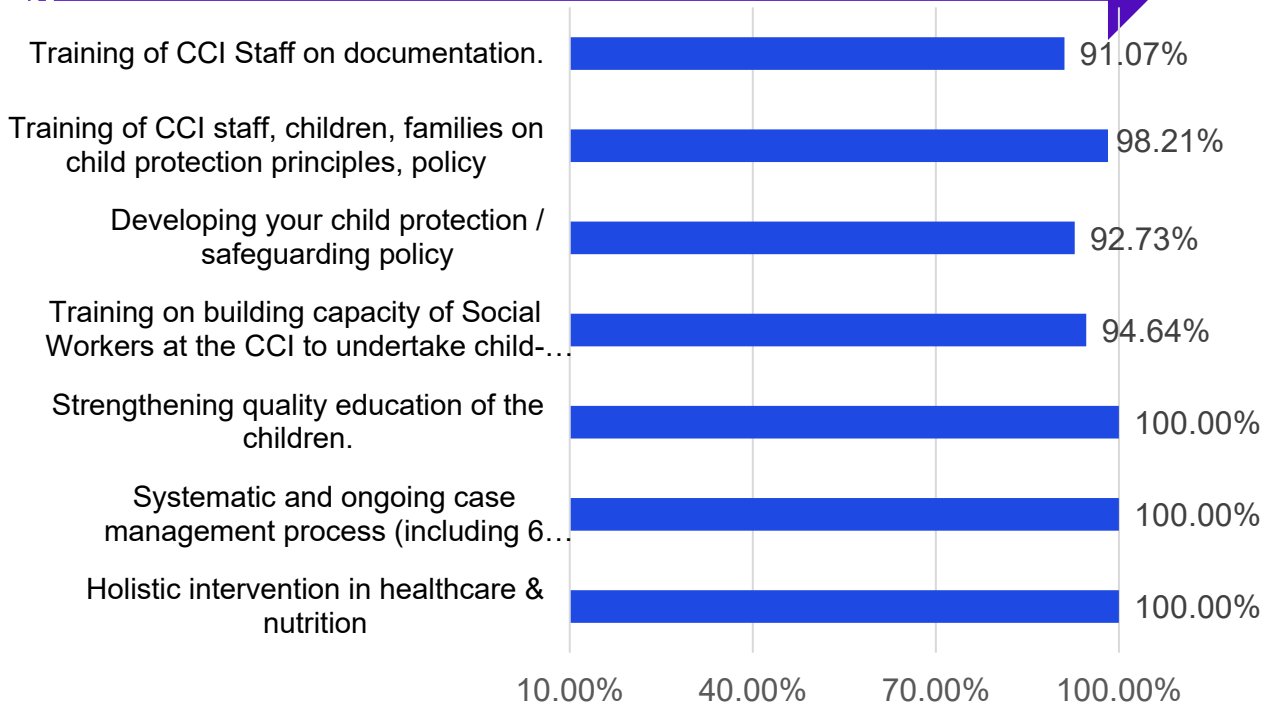
Perception Of CCI Staff On Best Option Of Childcare



Quality Of CCI Maintained By CCI Staff Basis The Elements Mentioned In The CCI Thrive Scale



Steps Undertaken By The CCI Staff To Uphold The Quality Of The CCI



CCI staff lays utmost importance to the education and nutritional aspects. They ensure that children take a nutritious diet on a regular basis. They have allotted certain hours of the day, which children put in finishing their homework and revise the classwork. They also highlighted that since the admission of the child in the CCI, they focus on the documentation aspect of the child.



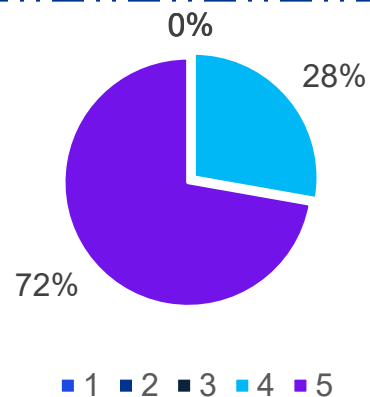
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EFFECTIVENESS OF TRAININGS FOR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND V/WCPC

Miracle foundation conducted trainings for strengthening a group of community volunteers and Village/Ward Level Child Protection Committee (V/WCPC), to develop functional community child protection network. The trainings helped enhancing the capacity of community volunteers and V/WCPC to ensure a safe environment for children.

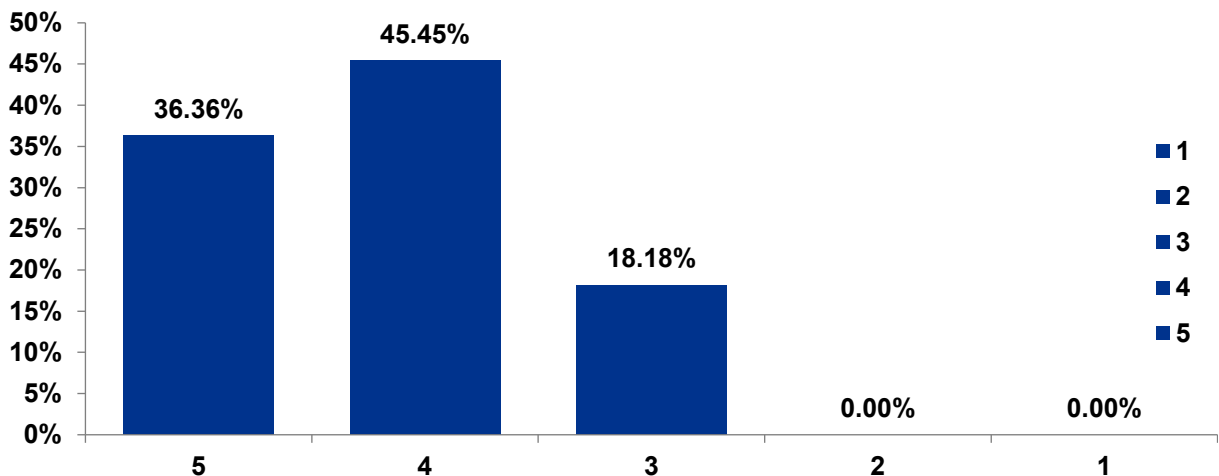


*Self assessment of the overall impact of the training provided to the Community Volunteers through the project.



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The respondents have observed positive changes in the community. They have observed that there is increased sense of awareness in the community regarding the rights of children. Parents are now more supportive their children in achieving their goals and aspirations. The respondents also observed that children in the community are now more ambitious, and cases of child marriage is also reducing in the community.



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Snapshots From The Field



Community Volunteers were trained on various aspects of child protection, gatekeeping, and providing further trainings to other stakeholders by Deepak Foundation in collaboration with Miracle Foundation. Trainings focused on basic introduction to life skill education (LSE), life skills and child rights, self-awareness, prevention of sexual abuse, stress management, nutrition, etc.

Impact On Families Identified At Risk

Most trainings undertaken for the families focused on parenting skills and importance of family. The aim of the trainings and counselling was to strengthen families.

They have imbibed certain activities in their daily schedule to improve their relationship with their children. These include an increase in their communication with the children and strengthening of their interpersonal relationships. For example, some of the families attempt to discuss the child's day at the school to provide them with a safe space to confide in.

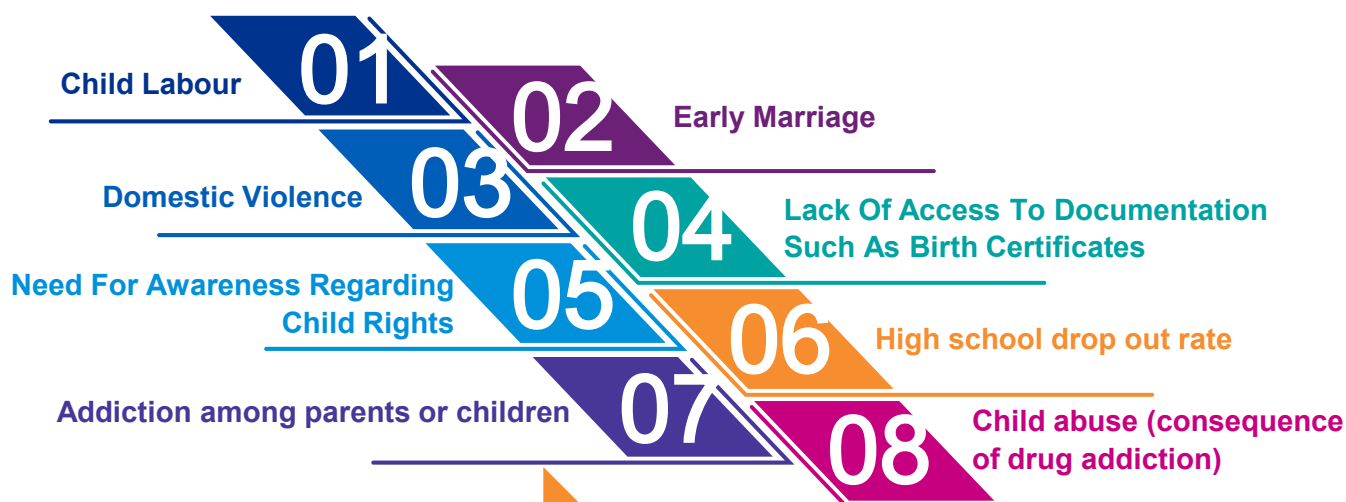
The trainings have also assisted the parents in identifying various underlying problems which were being ignored before. This includes identifying how the patriarchal structure of the families gives lesser freedom to women and girl children, drug abuse and alcohol problems led to domestic violence and mistreatment with female children, specifically, negative consequences of dowry and early marriages.

IMPACT OF TRAINING ON V/WCPC

According to the Integrated Child Protection Scheme, it is mandatory for to form child protection committees in all districts and villages in India. In the initial need assessment study conducted by Deepak Foundation in collaboration with Miracle Foundation India in 2020, absence of child protection committees at community level was identified. This moved Miracle Foundation India and Deepak Foundation, to create a Ward level Child Protection Committee (WCPC) in these districts.

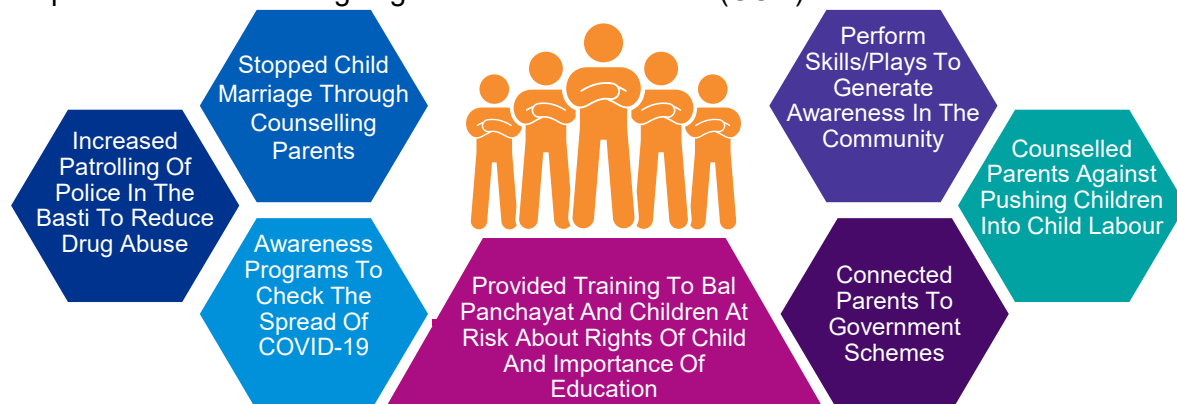
Issues identified by V/WCPC

Since the inception of the V/WCPC, the V/WCPC has identified various issues pertinent in the community basis their frequent interaction with the community members.



Actions Undertaken by V/WCPC

The WCPC is about identifying issues of the children and solving them in an agile manner. To address issues of children they are taking various steps at the community level for child protection and to prevent children from going to childcare institutions (CCIs).



IMPACT OF TRAINING ON BAL PANCHAYAT

To promote children's participation in governance for their own development, some Panchayats in various regions of India have adopted the UNICEF-supported Bal Panchayat (children's Parliament) programme. This paradigm of child or teenage participation is founded on the idea of giving children a suitable democratic forum to interact with adult duty bearers directly in order, to get their attention and prompt action on problems that matter to them. The concept of Bal Panchayat was advocated for by the program in Maharashtra and Gujarat.

Issues identified by Bal Panchayat

Miracle Foundation India through its implementing agency provided training to the members of the Bal Panchayat on the concept of Bal Panchayat and how the Bal Panchayat needs to be approached to solve any problem in the community. This included teaching about unique ways to solve a problem, develop patience and thirst for knowledge, cooperativeness, etc. Their trainings also included aspects of understanding their rights and identifying the risks in the community and the children at risk.

Basis the trainings provided by the project; the Bal Panchayat identified the following issues:

1 Child Labour

2 Child Marriage

3 High School Dropouts Rate

4 Missing Children

5 Addiction Among Children

6 Inadequate Street Lighting.

Actions Undertaken by Bal Panchayat

Written letters to local authorities to highlight the issue of missing children, lack of streetlights and distance between community and school.

Role-play for creating awareness on child labour, child marriage in the Community.

Awareness rally on child rights, cleanliness and waste management.

Bal Panchayat members visited a child-friendly police station to raise their concerns, primarily about security.

Poster presentation on COVID- 19 awareness in the community .



SUCCESS STORY

Mr. Sanjay Prasad has been working under the Child Protection System since 2013 and is currently serving as the DCPO for the Hazaribagh district in Jharkhand. He participated in approximately 30 days of trainings conducted by Miracle Foundation on FS and F-BAC in the district and was also selected for the role of a Master Trainer. Master trainers were provided additional trainings on FS and F-BAC and were encouraged to further train other stakeholders in their district. As a Master Trainer, he provided trainings to the CCI staff, DCPU unit staff, members of the child line, members of voluntary organizations, staff of observation homes, staff of adoption agency and paralegal volunteers among others. Mr. Prasad was specifically impressed with the addendums of the ICP, and SIR developed by Miracle Foundation India as they were of great support in improving the quality of the ICPs and SIRs reports that were being filled for the children in Hazaribagh. Earlier there was no training on ICP and SIR and there was lack of details in the ICP and SIR form, making it difficult for the interviewer to get nuanced details of the child and the family. Trainings on ICP and SIR have been helpful in having line by line discussion, free flowing conversations on the challenges of filling them up which led to easier resolution. Further, the forms are being filled properly and quality information is coming in a better manner which helps in ease of planning for the child's case. He has recommended that Miracle should continue the trainings, and staff of NGOs and volunteer organizations working in the district should be trained regularly due to a frequent change in human resources. His recommendations also include taking the program to other districts across the state and India to facilitate in the strengthening of the child protection system and provided a loving family for every child.



SUCCESS STORY

Mr. Om Prakash has been working as a CCI In-charge (Superintendent) of Bokaro CCI for over four years. He had attended three virtual trainings facilitated by Miracle on the subjects of case management process and Family Based Alternative Care options. The trainings have strengthened his understanding of case documentation, counselling of children with love and care, maintaining a homely atmosphere in CII for overall development of children. In his work, he emphasizes on the importance of a family in children's life and advocates for reintegration to the original family or F-BAC options like sponsorship, kinship care, after care, foster care and adoption. He has been playing an active role in ensuring that children are reintegrated into the society in their respective family systems and has taken numerous steps to increase the rate of follow ups post reintegration of children to their families. Post the trainings, he refers to the ICP and SIR addendums provided by Miracle due to their effectiveness, ease of understanding and objectivity they offer.



Thank You!



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