

Wishing you a very Happy New Year.

As we step into the year ahead, we look forward to working together with renewed purpose, deepening collaboration with communities and government, and advancing lasting, family-based solutions so that every child grows up safe, supported, and in a family environment.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership. Reflecting on the progress made and the lives touched, we are reminded that meaningful, lasting change is possible through collaboration and care. We look forward to continuing this journey with you and building a safer future for children.

Warm regards,  
Kusum Mohapatra  
CEO & Regional Director  
Miracle Foundation India

### Transforming Children's Lives through Family Strengthening



Preetha (name changed) and her sister, Megha (name changed), are now working as nurses at a private hospital in Neyveli, Tamil Nadu. For a family that once struggled with food insecurity, unsafe housing, and interrupted education, this represents not just economic stability but the restoration of dignity and family unity.

After losing their father early in life, the sisters, along with their elder sister, were raised by their mother, Mariammal (name changed), under fragile conditions. With irregular income from informal work, the family moved frequently, disrupting the children's education and raising safety concerns. In 2017, when these pressures became unmanageable, their mother approached the Child Welfare Committee for support. The sisters were admitted to a Child Care Institution (CCI) as a temporary step to stabilise them while the family worked toward safe reunification.

During this period, the sisters continued their education. They participated in life skills sessions, career guidance, and counselling. At the same time, their mother was supported in securing a job at a scrap shop in Kerala and in saving to build a permanent home. Extended family members, including an aunt and cousins, were also contacted and guided, who also helped prepare the family for reintegration.

In 2021, after nearly 4 years of preparation, the sisters returned home. Their elder sibling enrolled in a B.Com programme, while Preetha and Megha pursued nursing diplomas after completing tenth grade. Support after reintegration continued, which helped reduce vulnerability and prevent re-separation, including assistance with completing their home, financial planning, educational expenses, and access to government schemes like PDS ration cards, the Chief Minister's Health Insurance Scheme, and scholarships. Preetha and Megha benefited from the *Pudhumai Penn Scholarship*, while their elder sister received the *Post-Metric Scholarship*.

Mariammal initially stayed with her daughters to support the transition before returning to Kerala to work and save further. During her absence, the extended family provided consistent care and emotional support. Today, the family lives together in their own home, with the daughters contributing to the household income and Mariammal managing the household and working occasionally. This reflects how timely reintegration, continued family support, and access to opportunities can bring lasting change for children at risk.

### Celebrating Veer Abhimanyu



At Miracle Foundation India, as we work to help children stay with their families and reach their full potential, we honor the remarkable social workforce that makes this mission possible. This month, we are pleased to celebrate the efforts, achievements and dedication of Veer Abhimanyu, a Child Protection Officer for Non-Institutional Care, Arwal, Bihar.

Veer is driven by a simple yet powerful belief: every child deserves to grow up in a safe, nurturing family. Associated with Miracle Foundation India since 2019 through the Family-Based Care Program, Veer has strengthened his practice with practical tools that help translate policy into real outcomes for children.

One of Veer's key priorities today is strong documentation for every child in need of protection and care. Along with his team, he goes beyond recording basic details to carefully document each child's health, education, interests, and hobbies. This holistic approach ensures that every child's story is fully understood, enabling caregivers and officials to see children as individuals with unique strengths, needs, and aspirations, and to make informed decisions in their best interest.

Arwal has no Child Care Institution (CCI), but the opening of a specialised adoption centre in March 2024 marked an important step forward. Veer and his team proactively survey vulnerable families to prevent unnecessary separation and strengthen family care. As a result, 68 children in the district currently receive sponsorship support, with approvals secured for 116 more. In the absence of education support, children are often institutionalized. Scholarships and basic assistance help prevent this by enabling children to continue their education within their families.

One case in particular reflects the heart of Veer's work. A young girl was brought to the adoption centre after being handed over at a police station. During counselling, she shared that she had been living with her mother and maternal grandparents after her father remarried. Feeling unhappy, she eventually ran away. Through careful follow-up, Veer and his team traced her family and facilitated structured counselling with the mother and caregivers, helping them address the concerns that led to separation and strengthen their capacity to care for the child. Once the family was assessed as safe and prepared, the child was reunited with her mother. Efforts are now underway to link the family with sponsorship support to ensure sustained care and stability.

For Veer, cases like these reaffirm his conviction that every child has a right to a loving family, biological or chosen. He believes that successful reintegration depends not only on tracing families but on counselling, preparedness, and coordinated action among all stakeholders to safeguard every child's dignity, safety, and long-term well-being.

### Empowering Youth, Shaping Confident Futures



Strengthening youth preparedness for education, employment, and independence, Miracle Foundation India, in partnership with the Women and Child Development Department, Maharashtra, hosted a Youth Engagement Event in Solapur on December 30, 2025, bringing together children and youth from CCIs and the community. Interactive sessions on goal-setting, financial literacy, and skill development supported participants in identifying career pathways and building confidence. The District Child Protection Unit, along with the Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Department, oriented youth on free skill courses, government schemes, and employment card registration, followed by an overview of the Miracle Foundation India Youth Ambassadors Program and its enrollment process.

The event reinforced the power of government-NGO collaboration in equipping young people from vulnerable communities with the skills, information, and confidence needed for a secure and independent future.

### From Systems to Families: Advancing Child-Centric Care in Karnataka and Gujarat



Strengthening district-level systems to keep children safely within families is central to Miracle Foundation India's work. Building on this approach, the team partnered with district-level child protection systems in Bagalkot, Karnataka, and Chhota Udepur, Gujarat, to advance Family Strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care.

In Bagalkot, 32 district stakeholders, which included the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Child Welfare Committee (CWC), Juvenile Justice Board (JJB), Childline, and government and private Child Care Institutions (CCIs), engaged in focused capacity-building on December 19–20, 2025. Guided by a UNICEF Child Protection Specialist, the engagement deepened understanding of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, child rights, safeguarding, prevention and gatekeeping, effective case management, and quality documentation.

In Chhota Udepur, the focus shifted toward strengthening system leadership and coordination. 50 key functionaries from the DCPU, CWC, JJB, Special Juvenile Police Unit, and CCIs came together on December 18–19, 2025, to strengthen collective understanding of Family-Based Alternative Care options and reinforce role clarity and accountability for key functionaries in child protection and child-centric decision-making. The discussions emphasised leadership, accountability, and coordinated action across systems.

Together, these district-level efforts advance Miracle Foundation India's Family-Based Care programme by reinforcing prevention-led, rights-based systems and fostering collaboration that leads to safer, family-centred outcomes for children.

### Community-Led Parent Engagement for Child Protection in Maharashtra



Strong parent-child relationships are central to safe, nurturing families and effective child protection. Guided by this spirit, Miracle Foundation India, in collaboration with the Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi team, facilitated a parent awareness session on December 24-25, 2025, in Sonerangi and Salhe villages of Gadchiroli district, engaging 38 parents in dialogue on communication and spending quality time as critical pillars of child well-being.

Through community-led discussions and local examples, parents reflected on reduced family interactions and on children's excessive mobile phone use. They explored how strengthening communication within families can help protect children from neglect, addiction, and other risky behaviours. The session created a safe space for shared learning and exchange, with parents expressing that such discussions were both timely and valuable. Many shared that this was the first opportunity to discuss such concerns collectively and acknowledged the need to change existing practices at home. It concluded with parents committing to active listening, meaningful engagement at home, and nurturing family environments, reinforcing a family-first approach to child protection and holistic development. Aligned with Miracle Foundation India's vision of a family for every child, the session reaffirmed that investing in parental awareness and connection is essential to building resilient families and ensuring children grow up protected, heard, and cared for.

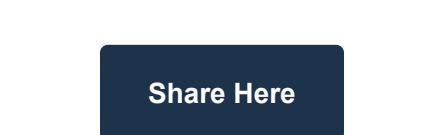
### Resource Links

- [Adaptation of Case Management Tools Under the Juvenile Justice System for Disability Inclusion](#)
- [INCLUSIVE CARE REFORM IN INDIA: Analyzing States' Readiness & Responsiveness](#)
- [Disability and Child Protection in India: A Study of the Juvenile Justice \(Care and Protection of Children\) Act 2015 and Disability Laws](#)
- [Presence Of A Capable Parent Excludes Application Of Child In Need Of Care & Protection Under JJ Act: J&K&L High Court](#)
- [Over 65,000 govt schools have fewer than 10 students, 5,149 operate with zero enrolment: Ministry data](#)
- [Guidelines for Child Welfare & Protection Committee under Mission Vatsalya, Issued by the Department of Women and Child Development & Social Security, Jharkhand Government](#)

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