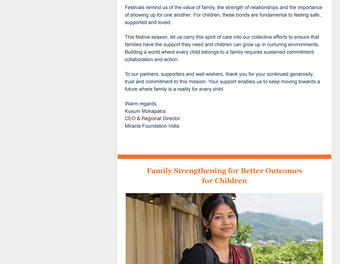
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Festivals remind us of the value of family, the strength of relationships and the importance of showing up for one another. For children, these bonds are fundamental to feeling safe, supported and loved.

This festive season, let us carry this spirit of care into our collective efforts to ensure that families have the support they need and children can grow up in nurturing environments. Building a world where every child belongs to a family requires sustained commitment, collaboration and action.

To our partners, supporters and well-wishers, thank you for your continued generosity, trust and commitment to this mission. Your support enables us to keep moving towards a future where family is a reality for every child.

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

Family Strengthening for Better Outcomes for Children

Miti Biswas (name changed) is in Class 11 and hopes to become a police officer. Her younger brother, now in Class 8, is continuing his education too. For their mother, making sure both children can stay in school and pursue their ambitions has become a driving force as she works to rebuild the family's financial security.

After her husband's death, she was left to manage household expenses and raise two children without a stable source of income. The financial strain placed the siblings at risk of institutionalization, highlighting the need for timely support to help the family remain together.

The family came to the attention of the team through an Anganwadi worker's village-level outreach. Home visits and coordination with the Gram Panchayat helped identify the family's needs and explore ways to strengthen its livelihood, improve access to social protection and secure better housing. One important step was helping Miti's mother access a job card, enabling her to take up wage employment. She used part of her earnings to buy two goats. Over time, the herd grew to nine, creating an additional source of income for the household. What began as a small investment has become one part of her effort to support her children and manage household expenses.

Alongside livelihood support, the team helped the family navigate access to government schemes and essential documentation in coordination with the Gram Panchayat. Scheduled Caste certificates, ABHA cards and Ayushman cards were secured for the mother and children, and the family's ration card was updated. Documents for her labour card application were submitted through a Common Service Centre. She has also been receiving a widow pension for the past year.

Together, these livelihood opportunities and social protection linkages have contributed to a substantial change in the household's finances. The mother's reported monthly income has risen from approximately ₹2,500 before the programme's intervention to ₹10,000 today, giving her greater capacity to meet household needs and support her children's education. The family's living conditions are also set to improve. With housing assistance accessed through the Gram Panchayat under the *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*, construction of a new home is underway. For the family, this marks another step towards a more secure living environment.

Both siblings continue their studies and have received educational materials through the programme. Sponsorship applications were submitted for them two years ago. According to information received from the District Child Protection Officer, the application for Miti's brother has been approved, and he is expected to begin receiving ₹4,000 in sponsorship assistance shortly.

Miti's ambition to become a police officer remains her own to pursue. What has changed is the support available around her: her mother has additional sources of income, access to social protection has improved, and a new home is taking shape. These changes are helping the family look ahead with greater stability while the children continue growing up with their mother.

The family's experience illustrates how timely identification, stronger livelihoods and access to existing government services can help address the circumstances that place children at risk of separation. By working with families and local systems, prevention efforts can help create the conditions children need to remain in parental care and continue building their futures.

Youth Ambassadors as Partners Driving Change Across Communities



In September, Miracle Foundation India's nine Youth Ambassadors across Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Telangana continued strengthening child protection and creating opportunities for children and young people to thrive. From facilitating sessions on human rights, gender-based violence, and self-defence to engaging with Child Protection Committees and Bal Panchayats, they helped bring conversations on safety, rights, and youth participation into communities.

In Nagpur, Suhani Ingle organized creative and recreational activities for 15 children at a disability school, fostering inclusion and self-expression. In Pune, Simran Irfan Khan mobilized interest from 20 young people in a proposed communication and English-speaking programme, while Anitha and Somnath in Telangana engaged with care leavers and young people on employment, skill development and educational needs. Alongside these initiatives, the team supported mental health discussions, encouraged young people to share their perspectives, and strengthened their own communication skills. Together, these efforts demonstrate how youth-led action can build confidence, amplify young people's voices and contribute to safer, more supportive communities.

Celebrating K.Narayana



At the heart of Miracle Foundation India's work are social workers who stay connected with children, families and communities, build trust, recognize concerns early and help bring the right support closer to those who need it.

Today, we celebrate K. Narayana, a Case Worker with Miracle Foundation India's Family Strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care Community Prevention Programme in Narayanpet district, Telangana. He is also part of Operation Mercy India Foundation (OMF). An M.A. B.Ed. qualified social-sector professional, he brings 18 years of experience in the sector. Working across Pulimamidi and Uttoor villages in Narayanpet district, Narayana brings strong grassroots experience to his role. He has previously worked with women and communities facing difficult circumstances, gaining valuable experience in community-based work.

Much of Narayana's work begins at the community level, through home visits, community mobilization and regular follow-up. He engages with families, children, schools, Anganwadi centres and community stakeholders to understand their circumstances and respond to emerging needs. As part of this work, he uses ThriveWell by Miracle Foundation®, Miracle Foundation India's family and child wellbeing assessment tool, to understand wellbeing across areas such as family relationships, health, education, household economy and living conditions. So far, he has assessed 99 families and 102 children.

These interactions have enabled Narayana to connect families with social protection, livelihood, education and child protection services, including *Mission Vatsalya* sponsorship, *Indiramma Illu (housing support)*, *Rythu Bandhu (farmer support)* and old-age, widow and disability pensions. His education-focused work has supported around 10 children who had dropped out to return to education, while around 20 children have been enrolled in government residential schools.

For Narayana, prevention also means helping children plan their futures. Through life skills education, career counselling and awareness sessions on child rights, child marriage, POCSO, child labour and the importance of education, he equips children and adolescents to make informed decisions. He works closely with Panchayats, government departments, Anganwadi centres, Child Welfare Committees and the District Child Protection Unit. As a member of the Sponsorship and Foster Care Approval Committee in Narayanpet, he also helps identify children and families needing additional support and connects them with appropriate child protection authorities.

Through these grassroots relationships, Narayana helps families access support, communities recognise risks early, and children grow up safe and connected to their families.

National Conference held on Family Strengthening and Family-Based Care



The National Conference on Family Strengthening and Family-Based Care, co-organized by Miracle Foundation India in collaboration with UNICEF India, the India Alternative Care Network (IACN), Prerana, Dasra and Don Bosco Yuth Forum, was held from September 23-25, 2026, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. It brought together over 170 delegates from 21 states, including government representatives, civil society organizations, practitioners, researchers, academia, CSR and philanthropic representatives, and people with lived experience.

Over two and a half days, participants engaged in policy dialogue and exchanged experiences on advancing prevention, family strengthening and Family-Based Care in India, aligned with the objectives of Mission Vatsalya. Discussions explored community-based prevention, gatekeeping, family resilience, family-based alternative care, and pathways for rehabilitation, reintegration and social reintegration for both Children in Need of Care and Protection (CNCP) and Children in Conflict with Law (CICL). The deliberations also drew on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, as it completes ten years, reflecting on the continued importance of strengthening implementation, improving coordination across systems and ensuring better outcomes for children and families. Participants shared promising practices and examined opportunities to strengthen policy and practice across states and districts, alongside greater public, CSR and philanthropic investment.

The discussions culminated in a set of emerging priority areas to advance Family Strengthening and Family-Based Care in India, calling on stakeholders to take action through their respective roles, expertise and capacities. Read the emerging areas of priority here.

Miracle Foundation India Participates in the National Consultation on the India Alliance for Family Reunification (IAFR)



Miracle Foundation India participated in the National Consultation on the India Alliance for Family Reunification (IAFR) in Delhi, convened by Keystone Human Services India Association, together with Keystone Human Services International and supported by Rural India Supporting Trust, in Delhi on September 1-2, 2026. The consultation brought together practitioners, experts, caregivers, people with disabilities and people with lived experience of care to explore deinstitutionalisation, family strengthening, family reunification and community-based support.

Representing Miracle Foundation India, Subroto Chatterjee, Associate Director (North & East) – Program, shared insights from our work on early identification of family risks, preventing unnecessary separation, preparing children and families for reunification, and providing follow-up support to sustain family care. He also highlighted the importance of collaboration among government systems, frontline workers, communities and civil society organisations.

Discussions explored family beyond biological relationships, the importance of support across the lifespan, and how intersecting factors shape people's experiences of care and access to community-based services. A key outcome was the unanimous decision to establish a network spanning the continuum from preventing institutionalisation to sustainable family reunification and community-based support. The network will provide a platform for organisations to strengthen collaboration and advance more inclusive approaches to care.

Miracle Foundation India looks forward to contributing to this collective effort towards a future where every child can grow up in a safe, stable and nurturing family environment.

Resource Links

- SNEH : Supporting, Nurturing & Enabling Happy Families: A Compendium of Perspectives & Practices on Family Strengthening and Family-Based Alternative Care from the Governments, Practitioners & Stakeholders, Volume 2: 2026

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